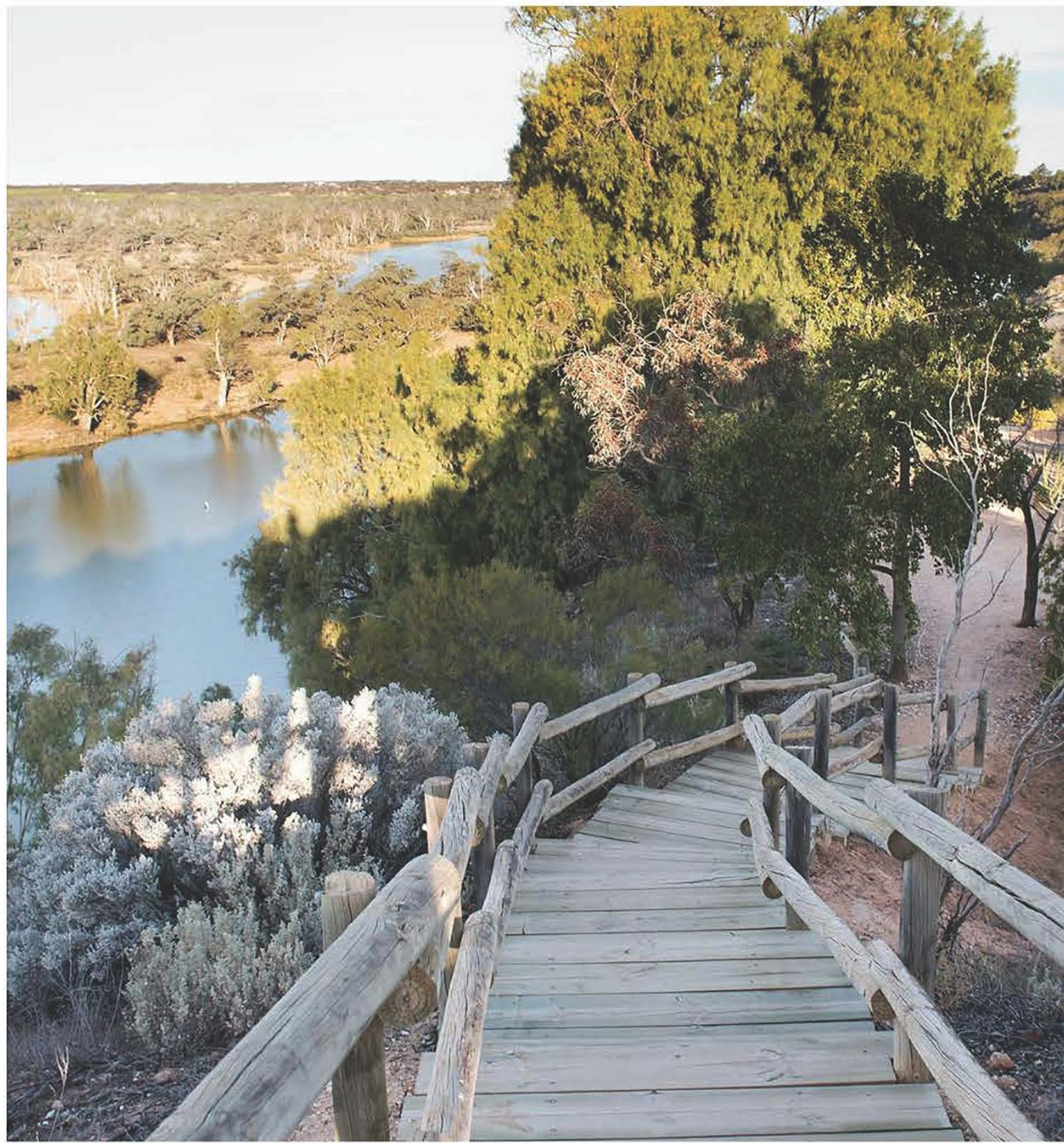


Waikerie and Ramco Town Beautification Plan 2020-2025

Endorsed: 18 December 2020



Influencing today...shaping tomorrow



WAIKERIE AND RAMCO DISTRICT BEAUTIFICATION PLAN 2020-2025

Revised by the Waikerie Ramco Recreation Grounds Committee

DOCUMENT CONTROL

VERSION	DATE MODIFIED	PURPOSE	MODIFIED BY
1	11-8-15	First draft for introduction and commence development by WRRCC	Frances Simes, Sarah Kuchel

Contents

The Area of Waikerie & Ramco District 2

The Committee 2

Scope of the Plan 3

Background to the Plan..... 3

Objectives of the Plan 4

Implementation/Action Plan 4

Summary and ongoing review 13

The Area of Waikerie Ramco

The Waikerie Ramco area is situated on the banks of the beautiful Murray River, within the Riverland region, and is only 175 kilometres from Adelaide. The Waikerie Ramco area includes the districts and surrounds of Waikerie, Ramco, Sunlands, Golden Heights, Ramco Heights, Holder, Taylorville.

Waikerie and Ramco settlements were established in 1894 when its first settlers arrived by paddle steamer. The name of Waikerie is said to mean 'many wings' after a month called 'wei kari', the name given by the local indigenous community. The name Ramco is derived from an Aboriginal word "Bogorampko", where 'bogo' means dead, a spirit or a giant from mythology and 'rampk' referring to the route used by mythical creatures to get to the river for water at night.

The Waikerie Ramco area is a great place to live and visit and boasts an excellent riverfront precinct. It is home to one of the largest stretches of accessible riverbank in South Australia. With several scenic viewing points overlooking the river. Waikerie's weather and landscape lends itself to be a great place for outdoor activities including the use of walking and riding trails, playgrounds, water sports and recreation. It is particularly popular with river orientated tourism during the holiday periods. It is also becoming an attractive retirement area due to the peaceful lifestyle whilst continuing to develop and maintaining health and shopping facilities.

Waikerie is the second largest township with the District Council of Loxton Waikerie. The Waikerie Ramco district includes the following population;

POPULATION	2715
<i>Males</i>	<i>1329</i>
<i>Females</i>	<i>1386</i>
<i>Median Age</i>	<i>44</i>

The Committee

The first Waikerie Beautification Plan 2016-2020 was initiated by Waikerie Ramco Recreation Grounds Committee, a Section 41 Committee of the District Council of Loxton Waikerie. The 2016-2020 plan was presented in April 2016. The Committees roles and membership have since been expanded to include the adjacent areas of the Waikerie township and has evolved into the Waikerie Ramco Recreation Grounds Committee (WRRGC). The WRRGC was established in 2019-20 with its first meeting held 3 December 2019

The purpose of the WRRGC is to assist the Council in relation to recreation grounds and facilities under the care control and management of Council within the Waikerie Ramco area, specifically to;

- Provide recommendations to Council for their long term strategic management and development
- Undertake the development and coordination of identified community projects
- Provide a conduit to Council for the community

The Waikerie Ramco Beautification Plan review was an initiative of the Waikerie District Community Committee with the aim to assist the Committee (& now the WRRGC) fulfil its purpose as well as to assist the Council to prioritise projects and service delivery through its Annual Business Planning processes

Scope of the Plan

The Plan refers to any exiting land and associated facilities used for recreational purposes and reserve dedicated for recreational use within the geographical boundaries of the townships of Waikerie and Ramco within the area contained within the 80 kilometre speed limit postings.

Recreation grounds and facilities also extend to include the Waikerie and Ramco Cemeteries. Median strips, road verges & footpaths are to be considered only as they relate to the vegetation, planting management and strategy purposes of the Committee.

Background to the Plan

The Plan aims to ensure Council and the Committee capitalise on the many achievements already accomplished with regard to the amenity and character of Waikerie and surrounding townships. Some achievements of Council include;

- *upgrade of Pioneer Park with new gardens, lawn, footpath & restoration of the pump*
- *completion of Waikerie sporting precinct with new clubrooms, extension to Recreation Centre, additional courts, playground and sporting facilities*
- *Upgrade of the George Elliot Reserve at Ramco Heights*

In conjunction with the initiatives identified in this Plan. Council staff will continue to maintain the parks and gardens, ovals and reserves, throughout the town by meeting the service levels set by the Council and will always aim to present the town in the best condition possible within current resource and budgetary constraints.

Objectives of the Plan

The objectives of the plan align with the objectives of the Committee, and include:

1. Develop, review & recommend to Council an annual business plan outlining actions & measurable outcomes to the Committee purposes

2. Preparation of a long term vegetation management & planting strategy for the areas within the management scope of the Committee
3. Preparation of walking trail/bicycle trail(s) strategy
4. Encourage & foster the continued history of community involvement in the presentation of Waikerie, including but not limited to the involvement of schools & other community based organisations in the development & ongoing management of identified areas
5. Consider other plans & strategies from complementary projects into the committee's strategies (i.e. Riverfront Development Masterplan, CBD Revitalisation Project)
6. Preparation and review of strategies to enhance the visual appearance of all entrances to Waikerie and Ramco
7. Initiate proposals for the improvement of the amenity of the Waikerie Ramco Area
8. Develop a waterproofing / water saving strategy for the areas under the management of the committee
9. Encourage & foster the continued history of community involvement in the presentation of the towns, including but not limited to the involvement of schools and other community based organisations in the development & ongoing management of identified areas
10. Preparation & review of a long term development, management & rationalisation strategy for playground facilities
11. Preparation & review of a long term management strategy for the recreation grounds & facilities under the management of the committee
12. Develop a 5-year operational and implementation plan for the Waikerie & Ramco cemeteries

Implementation/Action Plan

It is noted that the majority of projects listed in the Implementation Plan will require a risk assessment, in particular for projects that will be reliant on volunteers and service clubs, to ensure all relevant work, health and safety requirements are met

The following table includes the key projects & activities that have been identified by the Waikerie Ramco Recreation Grounds Committee, council & the community that are priorities for the beautification of the township of Waikerie

PROJECT	ACTIVITIES, TASK, OUTCOMES	RELEVANT OBJECTIVE	POTENTIAL PARTNERS	TIMEFRAMES	PRIORITIES	ACTIONS AND COSTINGS	COMMENTS
Parks and roundabouts in the area to be developed (such as Federation Park, Civic Centre Parkland, Ifoud	Complete improvements and improve amenities of parks e.g. with installation of lighting, storm	1 2 4	Service clubs, schools, historical clubs, Waikerie Markets				Develop improvements required. Attach as an appendix to Beautification Plan

Park, Jennings Park, Ramco)	water requirements, seating & other facilities within current budget allocation Improve roundabouts						
Street Tree Planting Plan	Implement a street tree planting program	2	Local business adjacent to planting Residents of community	Ongoing (subject to funding)			Include appendix to this plan which includes the streets & types of trees recommended
Historic Plaques	Complete historic plaque project in 16-17. This project has been ongoing for several years	4	Historical society	Time frame in last plan 16-17			
Township Entrances	Install lighting for existing welcome walls	6	Service clubs	Time frame in last plan 16-17			
Township Entrances	Install welcome to Waikerie signage on approaches from Ramco and Taylorville	6		Time frame in last plan 16-17			Noted DIT signs installed Goyder Highway near Devlins Pound Road turn off
Township Entrances	Improve amenity and attractiveness of intersections to Waikerie on Sturt Highway	6	DIT	Time frame in last plan 17-18			

	<i>(Note- these intersections are controlled by DIT so any improvements will require their approval)</i>						
Township Entrances	Improve amenity & attractiveness of roads entering Waikerie – such as Ian Oliver Drive	2 6	Businesses eg Nippy's, Schill auto, Garden centre, Suttons	17-18 2021-2022			Note 10 planter boxes & tuckeroo trees installed at Ian Oliver Drive 2020 with 10 more to be installed
Township Entrances	Support a signage strategy for the entrances & within the township of Waikerie <i>It should be noted this may require an overall strategy for the entire council district & link with state wide signage initiatives. Council has adopted a Hierarchy of signs policy & a Finger Posts signs policy & has endorsed the SATC Roadside sign</i>	6	DPTI SATC Destination Riverland CBD Revitalisation Project Waikerie Prosperity Strategy	Dependant on Council			Appendix of signs strategy for information

	<i>guidelines to align with state wide standards and to assist with any dictions regarding new signs</i>						
Cycling & Walking Trail for district e.g. from Ramco Point to Maize Island, recreation grounds, Ramco Point to Maize Island	Develop a waling & cycling trail plan involving identifying existing paths/trails, areas where existing paths & trails need improvements, proposed new connection routes to link walking trails as well as street furniture, signage & seating along the walking trails	2	Walking & cycling clubs/individuals Service clubs Landcare Schools	16-17			Appendix - existing plans for information
Cycling & Walking Trail for district e.g. from Ramco Point to Maize Island, recreation grounds, Ramco Point to Maize Island	Implement the walking trail plan/strategy <i>Note this will likely need to be done over several stages & may take 5-10 years to complete</i>	2 4	Walking & cycling clubs/individuals Service clubs Landcare Schools				Plan to be developed & added as appendix to this document
Cycling & Walking Trail e.g.	Develop brochures &	2	VIC Tourism				

from Ramco Point to Maize Island, recreation grounds, Ramco Point to Maize Island	information promoting the walking & cycling trails						
Continued implementation of the Waikerie Riverfront Masterplan	Implement further improvements & facilities to improve the amenity of the riverfront & to ensure a caravan park remains a part of the riverfront development <i>Note – this may complement current plans by the Waikerie & Ramco football clubs to develop a masterplan for the sporting precinct portion of the riverfront precinct</i>	5	Waikerie & Ramco football clubs Service clubs	ongoing			Appendix existing plans
Review the location of street furniture, in particular seating, across the township and	Many seats have been placed around the town due to the generosity of service clubs. It is prudent to assess	1	Service Clubs Businesses Sporting groups	ongoing			Committee to consider style of street furniture & keep it consistent across the area

at sporting precinct	the location of all seating and street furniture to determine if some should be relocated so they are in more appropriate locations Improve the amenity of the precinct with the installation of seating & other facilities to encourage use & enjoyment of the park						Provide committee with current locations of street furniture
Waikerie CBD Revitalisation	Keep informed of the progress of the CBD Revitalisation project & identify any opportunities where the WDCC may be able to complement the project in other locations in Waikerie	1 5	Waikerie CBD Revitalisation Project	ongoing			Request report from Waikerie Delivers following any meetings they hold where this is discussed
Unightly Properties	Support a strategy that encourages the community to ensure unsightly properties, in	6	Rate payers assoc Tenants				Consider this to be operational for Council to deal with - Remove from the plan? (Committee has ongoing opportunity to

	particular those on the approaches & entrances to the town are tidied up by landowners <i>Note – Council has some legislative powers to do this to an extent but this strategy/project is more about pride in how the community presents itself</i>						report issues to council at any time.) Discuss during information gathering period
Swimming Pool	Support a long term strategy for the future of a swimming pool in Waikerie	1 5	Recreation centre management committee	ongoing			
Rubbish Bins for Towns	ORANGE bins and other bins. Establish type of bins to be installed & location		Local businesses				Replacement program + purchasing for these bins Set up partnerships/sponsorship
Strangman Road beautification							Plan to be sent to DIT
Flag Pole Lighting top roundabout Waikerie						\$3,500 quote received	Install power to enable flag pole lighting as per flag pole policy
Lighting of gum trees northern side of River							Investigate funding opportunity within recent funding received.

Street Planter Boxes							Investigate costs with Loxton RCG for planter boxes for towns.
Visitor Information parking bay	Upgrade/beautify in line with entrances to town upgrades		VIC Tourism Service Clubs				
Street scaping	For entrances to towns and within townships						
Waikerie Cemetery	New ashes wall		Waikerie Cemetery Committee	5-yr cemetery plan.		Approx. \$20,000 for rendered brick. Quotes	Continue with plans & quotes to complete new ashes wall at front of cemetery as planned with Wk stone pillars & rendered brick in between for ashes of sandstone including garden/trees/paths etc around wall.
Waikerie and Ramco Cemetery	Seating		Waikerie Cemetery Committee Service clubs	5-yr cemetery plan			
Waikerie and Ramco Cemetery	bins		Service clubs	5-yr cemetery plan			
Waikerie and Ramco Cemetery	Electronic system installed at pergola listing names of all buried at cemetery (including section # & row #)		Waikerie Cemetery Committee	5-yr cemetery plan			Aim is for an QR code to be established for this system
Waikerie Cemetery	Entry sign – Waikerie Cemetery		Waikerie Cemetery Committee	5-yr cemetery plan			WAIKERIE CEMETERY lettering to be added to both entrance gates

Waikerie Cemetery	Improve roads in cemetery by bitumising		Waikerie Cemetery Committee	5-yr cemetery plan			
Waikerie Cemetery	Kerbing to be installed			5-yr cemetery plan			
Waikerie Cemetery	Still born baby section – upgrade fencing & improve area			5-yr cemetery plan		Approx. \$1,000 to \$1,500	.
Waikerie Cemetery	pathways			5-yr cemetery plan			
Waikerie Cemetery	Existing ashes wall Render & add butterfly iron art work for plaques on back of rendered wall. Possibly some plantings around this wall. WRRGC render wall			5-yr cemetery plan			
Waikerie Cemetery	Storm water drainage			5-yr cemetery plan			
Waikerie Cemetery	Entrance gates x 2 Render			5-yr cemetery plan			
Waikerie Cemetery	Unmarked graves – place marble plaques on unmarked graves			5-yr cemetery plan			
Waikerie Cemetery	Row Numbers to be upgraded			5-yr cemetery plan			

Waikerie Cemetery	Wall under new sign to match ashes wall			5-yr cemetery plan		Approx. \$3000 quote 2-years old.	
Ramco Cemetery	Signage, irrigation, trees		Ramco Cemetery Committee Service Clubs	5-yr cemetery plan	May need to be staged over 2 financial years	\$5,000	

Summary and ongoing review

The implementation of this Plan will rely on broader Council priorities, budget constraints & Annual Business Planning processes as well as the engagement of relevant community stakeholders such as local schools & service clubs.

The Plan will be reviewed each year by the Waikerie Ramco Recreation Grounds Committee at their meeting in February to not only assess the implementation of the Plan but to also identify & ensure any emerging priorities or opportunities are inserted into the plan for future consideration by Council. The outcomes of the review will be reported to Council.

STRATEGIES & PLANS TO BE INCLUDED AS APPENDICES

- Signage Strategy
- Recommended Tree Species for area
- Street Tree Plan
- Ageing Well Strategy
- Disability and Access inclusion Plan
- Waikerie and Ramco Cemetery 5year plan (being developed)