



SWIFTS CREEK FUTURE - PROJECT UPDATE

February 2025

Value-Add Primary Industry

Project Update: Recent Developments

- Consultant Proposals: Proposals from various consultants have been received and are currently under evaluation. Following the selection process, an application will be submitted to the Community Development Fund for potential project funding.
- Agribusiness Survey Report: The findings from the Agribusiness Decision-Making Survey are in the process of being compiled. A detailed report will be released shortly, providing valuable insights for future planning and strategy.

Nature-Based Recreation and Tourism

Project & Initiative Updates

- TRC Tourism Draft Report: The TRC Tourism Draft Report is currently under review by the Innovation Working Group (IWG). The final version will be made available to the public in March, ensuring transparency and community engagement.
- New Subgroups Formed: Several subgroups have been established to advance important initiatives. Notably, efforts are underway to create a static display of the Crossley Engine in Ensay and to develop the Jirnkee Water Race as a scenic trail.

Education and Skills

Study & Pilot Project Updates

- Consultation Phase Complete: The consultation phase of the study has now been successfully completed. The draft report, along with the findings, will be presented to the working group in March for further discussion and review.
- Pilot Project Proposal: A proposal is currently under consideration for an exciting new initiative: a "This is Swifts Creek" picture book project. This initiative aims to bring together several tertiary facilities in collaboration with Swifts Creek P-12. The project will focus on fostering literacy skills, building learning networks, and exploring the theme of "What's Outside the Window" in Swifts Creek, providing valuable educational benefits to the community.

Overall Project Updates

- Local Development Strategy: The draft of the Local Development Strategy has been submitted to the Leadership Group for review and approval. We are targeting a potential release and launch of the strategy in April or May.
- Project Manager Position: The application period for the Project Manager position has now closed. Interviews are scheduled to take place in March, and we look forward to selecting the ideal candidate for this important role.

We look forward to sharing more details as these initiatives move forward



SWIFTS CREEK FUTURE - EXTERNAL LOCAL PROJECT UPDATE

February 2025

If you have an update for a project you're working with and would like us to share, please email kiria@egipps.vic.gov.au

Omeo Justice Precinct Activation Project - Update

The Omeo Justice Precinct Activation Project is funded by the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry, and Regions' Tourism Investment Fund. Aimed at transforming this historically significant site into a vibrant tourism hub, the project will identify commercial opportunities that celebrate Omeo's heritage while boosting visitation and local economic growth.

A consultant will be appointed in March 2025 to deliver the project, focusing on adaptive reuse of the Precinct's Victorian Heritage-listed assets, including Australia's most intact 19th-century police and court complex.

Project Objectives:

- Enhance the visitor experience and extend stays to complement Councils MTB product.
- Showcase Omeo's history and culture while preserving heritage.
- Develop a sustainable management and governance plan.
- Create a business case, master plan, and roadmap for future development.

Expected Outcomes:

- Increased year-round visitation and local economic activity.
- Adaptive reuse of heritage assets generating income for site upkeep.
- Establishment of the Precinct as a vibrant, accessible tourism hub



Ensay Hall - Update

We have completed the following aspects of our Hall Master Plan

- New kitchen with new appliances
- A newly constructed deck with accessible concrete entry ramp
- We are now in the middle of constructing new accessible toilets - awaiting flooring and painting

We have also applied for funding for reverse cycle air conditioners and still need fireproof doors and to paint internally.

Ensay Recreation Reserve - Update

The Ensay Rec Reserve is coming along nicely. Painting interior and exterior completed, Change rooms are being tiled at present. Building itself is at lock up stage.

The new building will have

- A coin operated laundry mat, and this can be utilised by the community when needed.
- An RV dump point incorporated near the existing toilet block.
- Reverse cycle air-conditioning has been installed and runs throughout the whole building.
- Large fully fitted out commercial kitchen,
- Large Meeting room with adjoining bar area.
- 2 change rooms,
- 1 disabled bathroom
- Large storeroom at the rear.
- A lovely alfresco area at the front of the building.

There will be flood lights for night events and or for the Helimed if and when the time arises.

All the Reserve will be under security surveillance.

Landscaping has been sourced and currently deciding on who to use. Multi-purpose sports court has started construction.

Extra storage tanks installed and now full of lovely fresh rainwater. Another tank to come for gravity feed from top of hill.

Angling Recreation Club completed with new roof, deck, painted and window installed.

We also are refurbishing the old Tennis Club storeroom shed. This will be brought back to life soon by High Country Homes, Omeo.

We are happy with how things are progressing and many thanks to everyone for their patience. We are on schedule to be fully completed by December 2025.

Camping is available now but only for fully self-contained vehicles/vans. As it is a construction site there needs to be care taken in and around the Reserve when there.

