

Summary of Questions & Answers from the Public Webinar Thurs 14 May

Please note this is not a verbatim record of questions & answers, but simply a summary of the main themes and responses. Responses are current as of Thurs 14 May.

Question/ topic	Summary Answer
What is Council's funding/investment and payback	The Riverfront Precinct has \$1.65M allocated from the Federal Govt, along with an \$850K contribution from Council rates. Applications have also been made to the State Govt. Grants from government do not need to be paid back. The contribution from Council forms part of Council's annual \$50M+ budget process, which is allocated each year between commitments to capital, operations and initiatives. This includes a discretionary capital works budget to go towards projects like this, which maintain and upgrade Council's assets. The \$850K allocation has been committed by Council in the 2019-20 budget.
Inclusion of stakeholder groups in CRG	Initial stakeholder mapping was undertaken prior to the CRG being formed for both the Riverfront Precinct & Sawyer Park/ City Oval precincts, which identified located stakeholders and adjacent stakeholders for both precincts. Specifically relating to the Wimmera Live Steam & Model Engineering Club, they will be part of the CRG for the City Oval/ Sawyer Park precinct as a located stakeholder. Additional note for clarity: The Caravan Park is represented on the Riverfront CRG because they share a significant border with the open space leading to the Rowing Club and won't be represented as a located stakeholder in the Sawyer Park /City Oval precinct.
Café siting based on historic use of site	The site has a number of constraints, one being there was an old rubbish tip on site and this has been brought up in the geo-tech report. The Cultural Heritage Management Plan (which is currently out for tender) will go into more detail about the history of the site. The location for the site of a café will be determined by planning and zoning conditions, rather than restrictions on the sites' past use.
What are the costings for Stage 1	Council has budgeted around \$2.5M for the infrastructure part of the project. The amount of work for the whole site will likely exceed the budget that we have at this stage. This is where the CRG and the community will inform what are the priorities for the Riverfront and how we stage the various components. Details about costings will become more apparent as we move through the design process. Part of developing the Concept Designs will involve a quantity surveyor providing costings for concepts. This is important to inform the CRG about how much things will cost, in order to make informed decisions about staging and priorities.
Café, has this been decided?	Feedback from last years' engagement for the City to River Master Plan, provided significant amounts of feedback about the Café. What will be decided for this precinct, is the most appropriate location or site for a future café, so it can be considered and tested. The CRG will work through a Concept Plan based on feedback provided from the various submissions received last year that explicitly relate to the Riverfront precinct. Informed by the CRG, the Concept Plan will be 'road tested' with stakeholders and the wider public.

<p>Adventure Island inclusion in planning for precinct 1</p>	<p>There has been some master planning done previously for Adventure Island, it is recognised it is adjacent to the boundary of the Riverfront Precinct. The planning for the Riverfront Precinct needs to inform what occurs on Adventure Island and vice versa, mindful of what is already on the island (including the pump track) and some of the constraints including car parking, toilet access and environmental impacts.</p>
<p>Commercial investment by Council in the cafe</p>	<p>Council will look to explore a number of financial models that limit risk including private investment. Council have yet to make a decision on how this will work. The Concept Plan will identify an appropriate location or site for a future café.</p>
<p>Will there be rate increases due to the project</p>	<p>Council is in a rate capped environment, so each year the State Govt determines how much rates increase, this also determines and limits how much rates can increase per year. In addition, Council sets its budget each year and considers how it best delivers its budget/ finances across all its various responsibilities.</p>
<p>Purpose of the log cabin, next to the rowing club</p>	<p>No current plan for this building exists at present, it previously acted as storage space for the Rowing Club, but is currently not used.</p>