

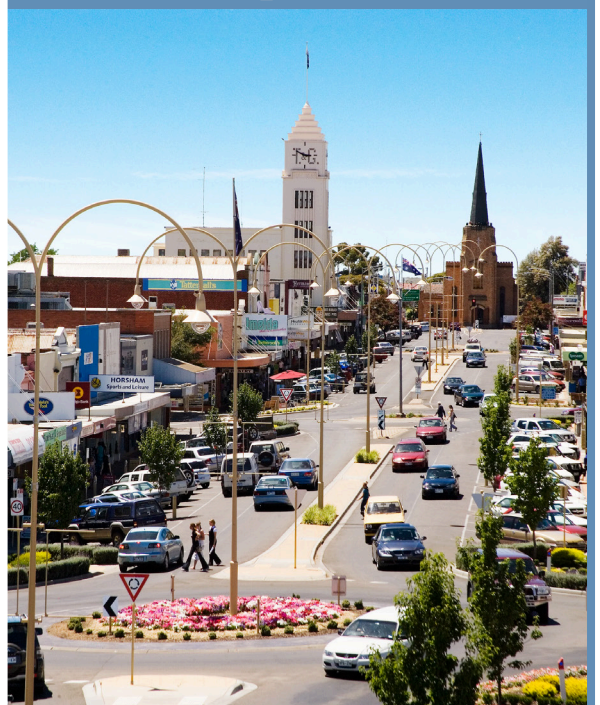


Horsham Rural City

Ahead of the upcoming Victorian State election, Horsham Rural City Council is calling on all sides of politics to support eight transformation projects for our city and region.

Horsham Rural City Council is the regional city at the epicentre of a significant period of economic transition, driven by major investment in renewable energy and mining. However, this growth is already placing increasing pressure on housing availability, enabling infrastructure, workforce capacity and local government resources.

Horsham has a clear opportunity to harness this investment to drive long-term economic prosperity, support existing industries and attract new business and workers to our city and region.



Population
20,429



Land Area
4,267km²



Workforce
61% Participation



Jobs
10,271



Economic Output
\$3.8B



Regional Exports
\$1.2B



Volunteering
22.6% Participation

- Key freight links to Melbourne, Adelaide and the Port of Portland
- Regional centre of the Wimmera Southern Mallee
- Strong agriculture, health, education and retail sectors
- Opportunity for strategic investment in light of possible emerging renewable energy and mineral sands opportunities

	<h3>Horsham Bypass</h3> <p>The Horsham Bypass is a vital regional project that will boost freight efficiency, improve road safety, and enhance liveability across western Victoria. Situated on the key Melbourne–Adelaide freight corridor, Horsham currently sees thousands of trucks pass through its CBD and residential streets each day.</p> <p>The bypass will redirect this heavy traffic, strengthening regional and national freight links while delivering a safer, more vibrant community for Horsham.</p>	<h3>What we are calling for:</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State and Federal funding for a detailed business case to get an idea of price • Commitment to progress as a nationally significant freight and safety priority • Investment in improved freight efficiency, safety and connectivity.
	<h3>Regional Sports Facility</h3> <p>The Regional Sports Facility will deliver a modern, accessible precinct designed to grow participation and attract regional and state-level events to Horsham.</p> <p>Current facilities no longer meet modern standards, limiting competition and event opportunities. This new development will support year-round indoor sport, expand programs, and strengthen pathways from grassroots to elite levels—boosting health, wellbeing, and community connection across the region.</p>	<h3>What we are calling for:</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$45m investment for a modern, compliant regional sporting precinct • Support to host regional/state events and grow participation • Indoor and outdoor facilities supporting sport and wellbeing.
	<h3>Horsham CBD CCTV Upgrade</h3> <p>The Horsham CBD CCTV system is ageing and no longer fit for purpose. A full upgrade is needed to maintain effective monitoring and keep the CBD safe and welcoming.</p> <p>The new system will deliver improved coverage, reliability and faster response, strengthening crime prevention and public safety. Council is investing \$300,000 over five years to support ongoing monitoring and maintenance, demonstrating a strong commitment to community safety.</p>	<h3>What we are calling for:</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$850k to replace end-of-life CCTV infrastructure • Improved coverage, reliability and public safety • Safer, better-monitored city centre.
	<h3>Aerodrome Upgrades</h3> <p>Horsham Aerodrome is a vital regional hub supporting emergency services, aviation operations and economic activity across western Victoria.</p> <p>Key infrastructure is ageing and no longer meets current safety standards, with the apron and lighting impacted by increased use from heavier aircraft.</p> <p>Targeted upgrades will ensure the aerodrome continues to operate safely, efficiently and in line with modern aviation requirements.</p>	<h3>What we are calling for:</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$1.06m total • \$600k to upgrade apron infrastructure and safety lighting • Compliance with aviation safety standards • Support for emergency, air ambulance and aviation services.
	<h3>Cameron Oval, Laharum – Community Facility</h3> <p>Cameron Oval at Laharum is a vital rural hub on the north-west edge of the Grampians (Gariwerd) National Park, supporting a strong local sporting community and playing a critical role in emergency response, including as a staging area during recent bushfires; this project will deliver a modern, multi-purpose facility for sport, education, broader community use, strengthening social connection, improving gender equity in participation, and enhancing emergency readiness across the region.</p>	<h3>What we are calling for:</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$1.7m total • \$1.275m for a multipurpose rural community hub • Support for sport, events and community connection • Strengthened resilience in a bushfire and flood-affected community.
	<h3>Horsham Railway Corridor Revitalisation</h3> <p>The Melbourne–Adelaide rail line currently divides Horsham, creating a physical and social barrier between Horsham North and the wider city. This project will reconnect the community by transforming the rail corridor into a safe, accessible, and appealing public space, anchored by a new compliant pedestrian underpass to replace inadequate crossings. By unlocking underutilised land and improving connectivity, the revitalisation will enhance liveability, strengthen community links, and support long-term urban renewal for Horsham.</p>	<h3>What we are calling for:</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$9.95m total. • \$8.2m for a new pedestrian underpass reconnecting Horsham • \$1.75m Council co-investment for landscaping and site activation • Improved pedestrian access and urban renewal • \$1.7m contribution to landscaping to match Council.
	<h3>A-Double Truck Readiness</h3> <p>Horsham is a key regional freight and logistics hub supporting Victoria’s agricultural and grain industries, but growing freight demands, including A-Double and B-Triple vehicles, are placing increasing pressure on local infrastructure. Several bridges, particularly across the Wimmera River, have load limits that restrict access for these higher productivity vehicles. In partnership with universities, Council is developing innovative, staged and cost-effective bridge upgrades to boost network capacity, maintain safety, and strengthen the region’s vital freight connections.</p>	<h3>What we are calling for:</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$5m total • \$2.5m matched investment for bridge upgrades to support A-Double freight • Strengthening of key river and freight crossings • Improved freight efficiency and network resilience.