

**From:** Patricia Murray  
**Sent:** Wed, 26 May 2021 15:25:41 +1000  
**To:** City of Wagga Wagga  
**Subject:** Comments on Draft 2021/2022 Operational and Delivery Program Plan  
**Attachments:** comment on the DraftOperationalPlan 2021\_pmurray.docx

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Please find my comments attached,  
Regards

Patricia Murray

*"The Greatest Threat to Our Planet Is the Belief That Someone Else Will Save It" - Robert Swan 2012  
(Antarctic and Arctic Explored)*

Thank you for an opportunity to comment on the Draft 2021/2022 Delivery Program and operational Plan.

I again feel that the document concentrates too much on growth and not about sustainability which is more than recycling plastics or composting green wastes. Focusing on these few items are short sighted and will not ensure sustainability.

Sustainability means not compromising future generations by our use of resources in the present generation – by having a mantra of development at all cost is not going to.

Sustainability should ensure food, water, employment and housing security. To achieve this emphasis needs to be on:

- ***Affordable housing as stated on p 14 of the document*** – 2016 data as mentioned in the document shows that 43% of Wagga Wagga households are classified as low income or earning less than \$650/week, with 33% of rental properties at \$200 to \$300/week that doesn't leave much money to cover other necessary costs. Affordable housing isn't or should not be about providing cheaply constructed housing but something that will reduce on-going cost – SUSTAINABLE. Wagga Wagga Council (WWCC) should ensure through its LEP and DCPs new affordable housing that is built along sustainable house principles such as house orientation and eaves that ensure the use of the winter sun to warm housing and shading to reduce summer heating, cross ventilation and solar panels to reduce electricity cost. This housing should be incorporated into local back up battery systems that could be installed in local community buildings or recreational areas. This would ease the burden on low income families and help WWCC reach a Net Zero Emission by 2040.
- ***Recognition of the health and safety risk of climate change***
  1. Ensure there is long term water security – for the present and proposed 100,000 people.
  2. Plans to ensure there are heat refugia for all people 24/7. This has implication for workplace safety as well if sleep is not possible during extended heat waves.
  3. More watering waypoints for people throughout the city, walking tracks and sporting facilities
  4. Wildlife refugia during extended heat waves
  5. Too much emphasis on sport and recreation for health, more recognition of natural environmental areas for mental health, not necessarily large parklands but interconnected small pockets that serve a dual purpose of supporting biodiversity but a mental refugia from mental stress – Victory Memorial gardens a good example. More parklands are needed in the new suburbs with easy safe access for young parents, not on busy roads.
- ***Reducing reliance on fossil fuels and reducing greenhouse gases*** – Net Zero for whole community by 2040. This will assist in reducing impact of climate change o
  1. Investigating on-site solar PV and battery storage opportunities at any new development whether commercial or housing. Liaise with necessary agencies to look at opportunities to reduce cost
  2. Invest in the use of EV cars and trucks for council operations
  3. Insure all new housing developments look at reducing the ongoing cost of running and electricity consumption through LEP and DCP insisting on sustainable housing designs and minimum PV cells installation and communal battery storage. Investigating with electricity provides how best to do it.

- ***Support carbon sequestration through vegetation management***
  1. Greater emphasis on protecting old mature trees and enhance their value through augmentation of native vegetation cover in surrounding area including native grasses.
  2. Enhance and increase native vegetation throughout the LGA rather than focusing on only a few areas like the Marrambidya Wetlands.
  3. Increase awareness events in rural sections of the LGA.
  4. Thank you

Patricia Murray