



TWONE Stronger together **CITIESCOMMUNITY**



COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN 2022-2025

AlburyCity and Wodonga Council acknowledge the traditional owners of this land on which we stand and pay our respects to their Elders past, present and future, for they hold the memories, the tradition and the culture of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People.

ALBURY CITY COUNCIL

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The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community is advised that the Two Cities One Community Strategic Plan may contain images of deceased persons.

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYORS

We're excited to be presenting an updated plan for the future of Albury and Wodonga, based on the priorities identified by our community during extensive consultation processes.

It's been pleasing to have our community help to shape this *Two Cities One Community (2C1C) Strategic Plan*, especially as the original 2C1C concept was an idea driven by the people of both cities.

As part of the review, the community was asked for updated views on the following four pillars.

- Our Economy
- The Environment
- Our Community
- Partnering in Leadership

The updated feedback is especially valuable in helping us to deliver the desired community outcomes.

Many of the regional priorities identified when the plan was first developed in 2017 remain key aspirations for many people. For example, the liveability that makes Albury and Wodonga such desirable places to live, work and play remains near the top of the priority list, while economic development, planning for growth, and infrastructure such as roads, drains and footpaths have also been consistently identified as ongoing priorities.

However, the review has also provided crucial information on the changing of priorities with the times. Health and health services, for example, were ranked fourth in 2017 and first in 2022, reflecting the growing need for a new hospital and associated services that our growing community needs and deserves.

The latest feedback will also help to fine tune our approach to a range of issues under the four pillars so that we can continue to work towards achieving the outcomes that the people of the border cities have identified as important aspirations.

Thank you to everyone who has provided feedback on this important process from its inception in 2017 to the highly calibrated document we have today.

The strength of our cross-border community is defined by its people and we greatly appreciate the opportunity to harness the passions, ideas and aspirations of our community as we continue to work together towards a bright, healthy and prosperous future.

Cr Kylie King, AlburyCity Mayor

Cr Ron Mildren, Wodonga Mayor



OUR MISSION

TWO CITIES ONE COMMUNITY

STRONGER TOGETHER

Our mission is to work together to achieve our community goals now and into the future. We understand that we are stronger together and can achieve more when working in collaboration. We will build on our current partnerships and shared values for the betterment of Albury and Wodonga.

ABOUT US

Albury Wodonga is recognised as Australia’s 20th largest city with a combined population of almost 100,000 residents.

(Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics)

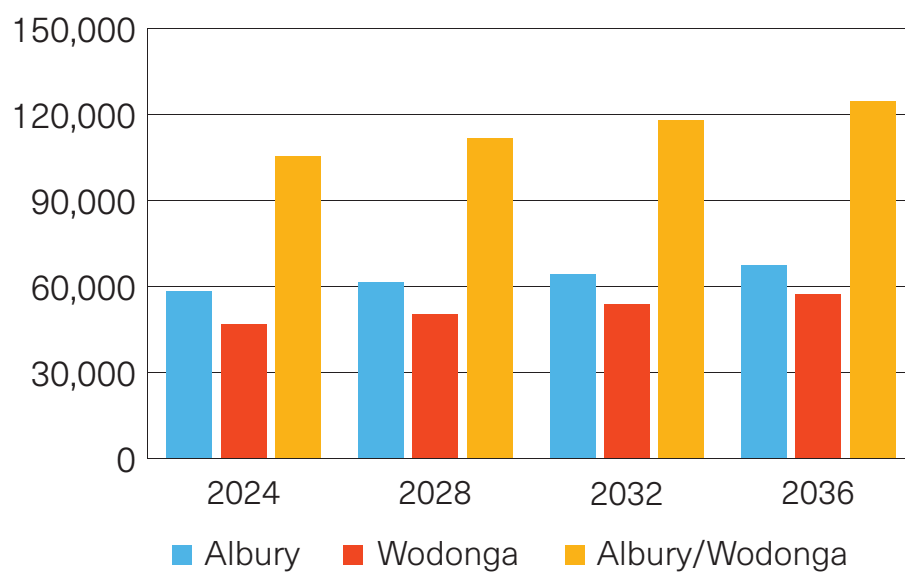
The cities are strategically located on either side of the Murray River approximately 300 kilometres north-east of Melbourne and 580 kilometres south-west of Sydney.

The Albury Wodonga economy is strong with both cities performing significant roles in the region. The combined gross regional product for Albury Wodonga is \$7.778 billion

(Source: December 2020 – REMPLAN)



Population forecast

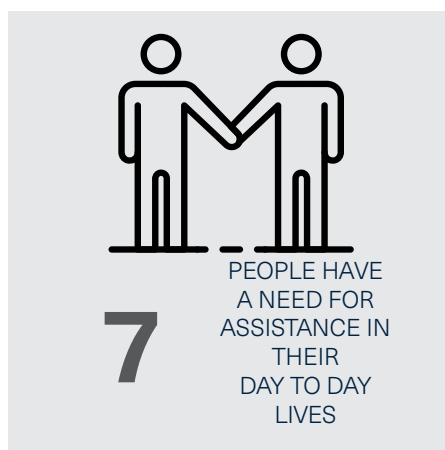
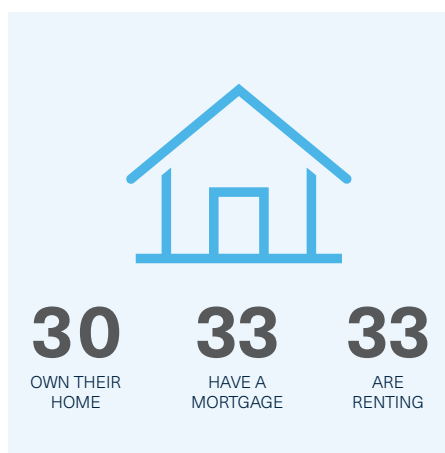
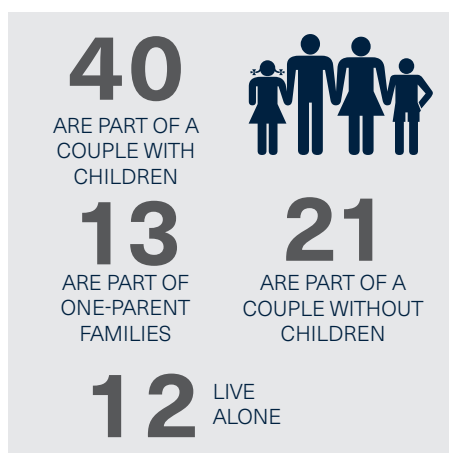
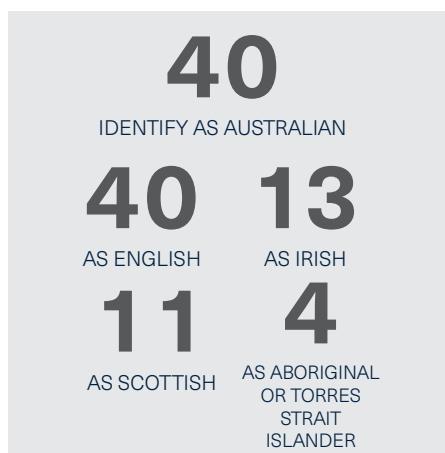
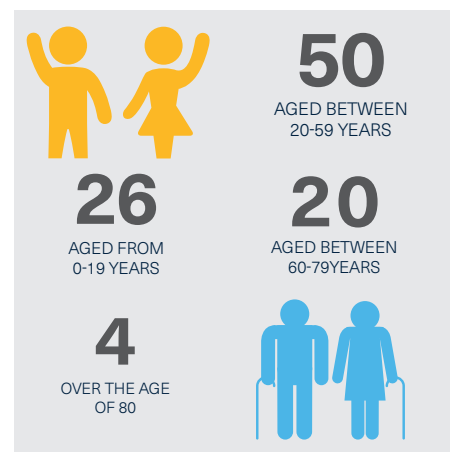
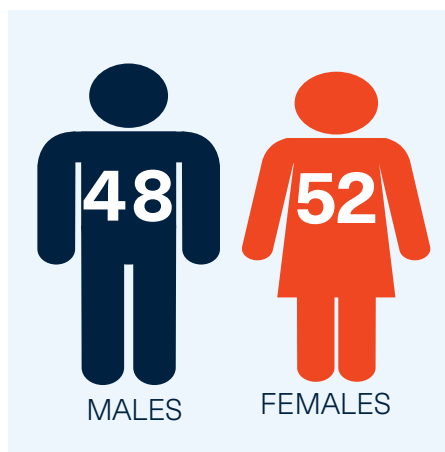
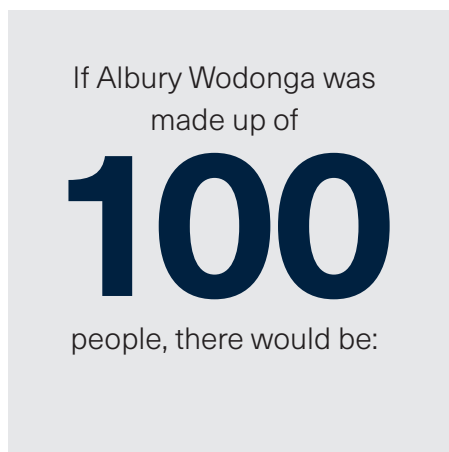


TOP 5 INDUSTRY SECTORS	BUSINESSES
Construction	1,635
Rental, Hiring & Real Estate	888
Professional, Scientific & Technical Services	750
Health & Social Assistance	626
Transport, Postal & Warehousing	510

(Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics)

TOP 5 INDUSTRY SECTORS	VALUE ADD
Renting, hiring and real estate	\$1,117m
Public Admin & Safety	\$988m
Manufacturing	\$709m
Health & Social Assistance	\$700m
Financial and Insurance	\$665m

(Source: December 2020 - REMPLAN)



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics.

The ancestry question was a multi-response question and therefore the total responses count will not equal the total persons count.

Not everyone responded to the language question, which is why the numbers do not add up to 100.

In households and homes, not all categories were included and hence the numbers will not add up to 100.

OUR COMMITMENT

Our two councils, through an historic partnership agreement, have pledged to work more closely together to plan, grow and develop the region. We've agreed to work co-operatively to deliver the Two Cities One Community mission.

PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT OBJECTIVES

1. Drive the achievement of community aspirations and ambitions as identified in Towards Albury 2050 and Wodonga 2033 Community Strategic Plans.
2. Adopt a holistic and innovative approach to regional planning and strategy to deliver value for money outcomes through a co-operative approach to design, funding and implementation of major infrastructure and facilities.
3. Advocate to all levels of government and partner with key stakeholders to benefit the local economy and the Albury Wodonga lifestyle.
4. Engage and consult our community to be well-informed in our decision-making.
5. Unlock productivity improvements through effective cross-border issue resolution.



WHAT YOU TOLD US

Through development of AlburyCity's Towards 2050 and Wodonga's Council Plan 2021-2025, the community has told us their key priorities for the future of our community.

The first Two Cities One Community (2C1C) Strategic Plan was developed in 2017 based on the results of 2016 consultation for Albury 2030 and Wodonga 2033

The 2C1C Partnership was renewed by both Councils in 2022 and prompted a review of the 2C1C Strategic Plan.

We asked our communities to consider the priority order of the aspirations from the original 2C1C Strategy under the four pillars and offer new suggestions.

This Community Strategic Plan reflects the feedback from a check-in with our community in 2022.

PRIORITY	REGIONAL PRIORITIES 2022
1	Health and health services
2	Liveability
3	Planning and managing growth
4	Infrastructure, including roads, drains and footpaths
5	Economic development, including investment and jobs growth
6	Natural environment
7	Public transport
8	Sustainability
9	Sport and recreation
10	Tourism
11	Water and water security
12	Education and training

WHAT YOU TOLD US ... COMMUNITY ASPIRATIONS

In talking with our communities while developing the Towards Albury 2050 Community Strategic Plan and Wodonga 2033 vision, we heard a clear message that the councils should work more closely together to achieve the following community aspirations.

OUR ECONOMY	THE ENVIRONMENT	OUR COMMUNITY	PARTNERING IN LEADERSHIP
We want Council to plan and cater for increased population growth	Preserve the beautiful area we live in	Improve the health, wellbeing and social outcomes of the community	Address regional priorities with an integrated approach
We want you to continue to promote business, investment and growth	Increase awareness in sustainability and environmental issues	Continue to provide facilities for all ages and cultures	Continue to work together to maximise opportunities that arise
We want improved public transport and parking	Be a leader in natural resource management	Foster a healthy, safe, equitable and inclusive community	Continue to provide opportunities for community engagement
More opportunities for development and jobs	Improve environmental infrastructure and services	Education, awareness and advocacy	Provide strong leadership and governance
	Built environment, rural feel	Improve connectivity to other cities	Promote civic participation
	Harmony with others and the environment		

GOALS

Based on what our community told us, we have developed the following long-term goals. This is where the community wants Albury Wodonga to be in the future. .

SECTION 1 : OUR ECONOMY

- 1.1 We have sustainably managed the growth and development of our community for the betterment of all
 - 1.2 We are a destination that offers a variety of experiences, attractions and events for all
 - 1.3 We promote business, investment and jobs including seeking to attract and retain young people
 - 1.4 Public transport and connectivity meets community needs including active transport, walking and cycling trails
 - 1.5 We are a destination of choice for new residents considering a 'city change'
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SECTION 2 : THE ENVIRONMENT

- 2.1 We have a high level of awareness of sustainability and environmental issues
 - 2.2 We preserve, experience and promote the beautiful and unique area we live in
 - 2.3 We are a leader in natural resource management of council-managed areas
 - 2.4 We are acting to ensure the sustainability of our environment through our land-use planning and management
 - 2.5 We will partner with and support our community to deliver on improved environmental outcomes
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SECTION 3 : OUR COMMUNITY

- 3.1 We will advocate for health services that fully meet community needs
 - 3.2 We are recognised as a cultural and creative region, that embraces equity, inclusiveness and celebrates diversity
 - 3.3 We are a liveable community, connected to our region and other cities
 - 3.4 Our community is caring, healthy and has a strong sense of wellbeing
 - 3.5 We will advocate for increased housing diversity including affordable and sustainable developments
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SECTION 4 : PARTNERING IN LEADERSHIP

- 4.1 Regional priorities and cross-border issues are addressed by an integrated approach
 - 4.2 Our community is well-connected, informed and engaged
 - 4.3 Our Councils continue to provide strong leadership and governance
 - 4.4 Our Councils collaborate with industry, other agencies and all levels of government
 - 4.5 Our Councils continue to work together and advocate to maximise opportunities as they arise
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Noreuil Park from The Crossing Place Trail

ACTIONS, MONITORING AND REPORTING

In 2022, AlburyCity and Wodonga Council endorsed a revised Two Cities One Community Partnership Agreement, reaffirming both councils' 2017 commitment to working together in planning, developing and growing the Albury Wodonga region.

This strategic plan combines the visions and common priorities of both communities and sets out long-term goals.

Annually, we will identify actions and resources that will work towards achieving the higher level, long-term goals of the plan. These actions are what we will base our joint planning and decision-making, and their progress will be reported back to the community.

There will be six-monthly reports to Council and the community on the progress of our stated actions and achievement towards our goals.

The Partnership Agreement encourages our teams to work together where collaboration leads to a beneficial outcome for our community.

The Two Cities One Community website at alburywodonga.gov.au will provide the community with a platform to learn more about the partnership agreement as well as provide updates on projects and joint initiatives. It will also enable community members to put forward their ideas for greater collaboration between the two councils.

