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VC37**LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT VISION**

The vision statement seeks to reflect the Shire Council and community aspirations for a desired future state of land use and development in Yarriambiack Shire. The land use planning and development vision for the Shire is as follows:

The Yarriambiack Shire Council, with the participation of the community, will engage in decision making and actions on land use and development of the Shire, which are ecologically sustainable to achieve the objectives of:

- *high agricultural productivity;*
- *an expanded agricultural and non-agricultural economic base,*
- *conservation of natural and built resources; and*
- *equitable access to services and facilities.*

for present and future generations, thereby ensuring a sustainable future and quality of life for the community.

To achieve this vision, the Shire will plan in partnership with the community for the development and conservation of the Shire based on the following:

- Protecting rural land for the purposes of agricultural production and value adding industries;
- Focusing urban growth and economic development in and around existing townships in the Shire, with priority given to identified townships with the potential to maintain threshold population and services;
- Ensuring that future urban development is planned on the basis of providing full infrastructure development and a range of social and community facilities sufficient to support the future population base of the community;
- Protecting items, places, and areas of natural and cultural heritage;
- Supporting sustainable economic development including agriculture and new industries based on the Shire's built and natural assets and locational advantages;
- Promoting preferred locations for industrial growth and development;
- Encouraging sustainable management of the Shire's natural assets and environmental features;
- Protecting and enhancing native flora and fauna to improve biodiversity;
- Supporting quality tourism development based on the Shire's natural and built features; and
- Reducing the impact of pest plants and animals on native species and communities.