

From: Lithgow City Council
Sent: Tue, 31 Mar 2020 10:00:08 +1100
To: Technology One Connect
Subject: FW: 2040 Local Strategic Plan : Submission
Attachments: Lithgow_StratPlan_20200331.pdf

#ECMBODY

[REDACTED] Records Officer

Records | Lithgow City Council
Phone: (02) 6354 9999 | Fax: (02) 6351 4259

From: Rob Paton [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 31 March 2020 9:51 AM
To: Lithgow City Council
Subject: 2040 Local Strategic Plan : Submission

Attention General Manager

Attached for your attention is a submission on the draft 2040 Local Strategic Planning Statement.

The submission suggests an additional area of business activity for inclusion in the Statement, along with the reasons.

Please contact me if there are any questions.

Rob Paton
[REDACTED]

This email has been scanned by the Symantec Email Security.cloud service.
For more information please visit <http://www.symanteccloud.com>

Draft Lithgow 2040 Local Strategic Planning Statement : Submission

Thank you for making the Council's draft Strategic Planning Statement 2040 available for public comment. Although I am a resident of Blackheath, my Great-Grandparents lived their lives at 40 Tank Street Lithgow and my Grandmother grew up there before her marriage. I therefore am interested to see Lithgow continue to do well.

Business activity (and the employment opportunities which it brings) are important for the continued well-being of Lithgow, its community and governance. It is pleasing to see that a substantial section of the Strategic Plan covers the development of future business activity in Agriculture, Commercial & Retail, and Industrial.

This submission suggests a fourth area of business activity for future development.

Care Services for Older Australians

Care services for older Australians, either in Retirement Living or in Residential Aged Care, is an area of business which should be prioritised by Lithgow. Reasons for Lithgow prioritising the provision of care services for older Australians include:-

1. Lithgow has sufficient existing infrastructure (eg shops, bus, rail, leisure, sporting, etc) to support older Australians, including a reasonably modern hospital; older Australians can enjoy Lithgow's existing clubs, bowling rinks, golf course, etc without any feeling of complexity or crowding present in other locations; Lithgow will provide a friendly and welcoming atmosphere for older Australians without any need for additional infrastructure to be built;
2. Lithgow has land available to develop new Retirement Living and Residential Aged Care facilities; current prices of vacant Lithgow land are materially less expensive than in the Upper Blue Mountains where large blocks of vacant land are generally not available;
3. Lithgow has a readily available workforce of both local women and men in the 50s and 60s, the ideal age for provision of caring services to older Australians;
4. Lithgow has an ageing population which needs care services; if those residents need to move away from Lithgow to receive care services, Lithgow's population will reduce; by contrast, if older residents of Lithgow remain in either Retirement Living or Residential Aged Care in Lithgow, and the increased employment which results will attract younger Australians to move to Lithgow, resulting in an increased population for Lithgow; and
5. Lithgow can provide a hub for the provision of care services to older Australians whose previous residences surrounded Lithgow including the Upper Blue Mountains; increasing the scale of the current care services will result in benefits of scale for the Lithgow-based services increasing the financial effectiveness for the providers of the services.

First Steps

If a decision is made to include care services for older Australians as a priority area for future business activity in Lithgow, the first steps will involve:-

1. building up a trained workforce and businesses for the delivery of care services for older Australians; and
2. developing a plan for the provision of such services, including setting aside of land, development processes, etc.

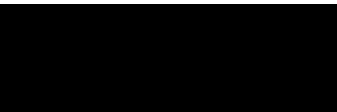
Lithgow City Council would be central to the development of such plans. Both the Federal and NSW State Governments should welcome a joint working approach with Lithgow City Council, because the provision of care services to older Australians in an efficient location such as Lithgow will be cost effective for the Federal Government, and will reduce the reliance of older Australians on the NSW Government funded public hospital system.

Summary

The expansion of Lithgow's existing care services for older Australians should be added as a fourth area of priority business development in the Council's 2040 Local Strategic Planning Statement.

Please contact me as below if there are any questions.

Rob Paton



31 March 2020

