Wodonga has experienced rapid growth over the past thirty years and will continue to grow at between 2 – 3% per annum. The City of Wodonga has addressed the need to plan for the future by completing the Wodonga Growth Strategy Plan, which demonstrates how Wodonga will cater for future urban growth.

Figure 1 titled Wodonga Growth Strategy provides an illustrative outline of how the City of Wodonga expects the urban area of Wodonga to grow in the future. As outlined in the demographic profile the Council must plan for a city of 54,500 by 2021. The MSS builds on the Growth Strategy Plan reinforcing how the growth can be accommodated in a socially and environmentally sustainable manner.

The MSS outlines how the city will plan for the next 15 years and beyond, however given Wodonga’s role as a major regional centre, it is important to take into account the long term future, and direction of the City. The MSS takes into account the bigger picture and includes strategies and major infrastructure requirements which plan for in excess of fifty years growth.

Figure 1 titled “Wodonga Growth Strategy Plan” provides an illustrative outline of how the City of Wodonga expects urban development to occur up to and beyond 2021.

Major themes and outcomes described in this strategy are summarised below:

- The plan will achieve high standards for new urban development and provide improved road linkages in accordance with the Wodonga Road Strategy Plan.
- Comprehensively planned residential areas including community facilities, open space, bicycle and pedestrian links, aimed at achieving a healthy city.
- Identified Low Density Residential and Rural Living areas in West Wodonga, East of Huon Hill, Bonegilla, Baranduda and Leneva.
- The protection of prominent hillsides which surround Wodonga and future urban areas from urban development and their inclusion in the Regional Parklands.
- The sustainable management and long term protection of rural land to encourage agricultural production and diversification of farming activities.
FIGURE 1: Wodonga Growth Strategy Plan
The development and implementation of several key infrastructure projects:

- The Hume Freeway
- The Rail project
- The Ring Roads project
- Wodonga Central Business Area upgrade
- Gateway Island project

Reinforcement of the role and improvement of Wodonga Central Business Area as the city’s major retail, civic, entertainment and community centre.

Provision of additional industrial land at Baranduda, West Wodonga Freight Node, and west of the Bandiana Army barracks and the technology enterprise park west of Latrobe University.

Protection and maintenance of environmental assets including Lake Hume, the Murray River and Kiewa River floodplains.

The Wodonga Growth Strategy Plan highlights the geographic constraints and shows that future residential growth will occur south east of Wodonga in the Middle Creek Valley.

Through the Leneva Structure Plan the Council has completed a plan for what is equivalent to another city accommodating 36,000 in the spectacular setting of the Middle Creek Valley.

In the long term Baranduda will form part of the urban area of Wodonga.

The Wodonga Growth Plan identifies sufficient land to cater for the residential, commercial and industrial development needs beyond 50 years.

These elements are key themes that are integral to Wodonga’s vision for the future.