21.12 INFRASTRUCTURE

The city will take a leading role in planning and facilitating the provision of infrastructure which satisfies the needs of a growing city. This strategy outlines a number of infrastructure projects planned or under implementation by the Council and other public sector agencies.

These projects reinforce the vision and land use strategy for Wodonga and include:

- The relocation of the Melbourne-Sydney rail line from the CBA, the closure of the Bandiana Rail line, the construction of a new rail/coach passenger terminal in Albury and a freight node at West Wodonga.
- As part of the Hume Freeway works, the construction of a second river crossing and the development of the Albury internal relief route Hume Freeway and redesignation of Murray Valley Highway outside the CBA of Wodonga.
- The provision of an inner and outer ring roads system, and roads projects in accordance with the Wodonga Road Strategy Plan.
- The upgrade of the Wodonga Central Business Area.
- The Gateway Island project.

21.12-01 Wodonga Road Strategy Plan (Refer to Figure 12)

The completion of the $23 million ring roads project and improvement of the major road network will improve the efficiency, safety and amenity of traffic movement in Wodonga. Traffic management works are a major component toward the improvement and revitalisation of the Central Business Area. The road strategy recognises roads are an essential element of the city and are best planned in advance of development.

Features of the Road Strategy Plan include:

- An inner ring road around the Wodonga Central Business Area which includes the diversion of through traffic away from High Street and the conversion of High Street into a carparking, shopping and pedestrian precinct.
- Feature roundabouts will be used as the preferred intersection treatment on the ring roads.
- Elgin Street will be redeveloped into a tree lined boulevard and realigned at High Street to link with Jack Hore Place and the eastern leg of the inner ring road.
The Murray Valley Highway will be redirected to the Hume Freeway via High Street, Osburn and Chapple Streets.

The Hume Freeway – Albury internal relief route provides strategic advantages for Wodonga, providing a second river crossing and improved access to and from Albury and Lavington.

As part of the Hume Highway Albury Internal relief route, a link to the Murray Valley Highway will be provided through the Bandiana Link Road. Main road connections will be provided to improve access to the Kendall Industrial Estate and will facilitate the development of East Wodonga.

Pearce Street will be upgraded to link with the Bandiana link road serving as an outer loop for North/South bound traffic travelling to and from Beechworth Road to Albury. This will provide a further relief to the CBA and address the traffic requirements resulting from growth in the Leneva (Middle Creek) growth corridor. Improved access to the Bandiana link road and Hume Freeway will provide opportunities for further light industrial development at the eastern end of Pearce Street.

Melrose Drive, Pearce, Osburn and Chapple Streets will serve as the outer ring road traffic routes. Osburn and Chapple Street will eventually be superseded by the use of the Bandiana link road as the eastern leg of the outer ring road.

Felltimber Creek Road, Parkers Road and Moorefield Park Road will continue to provide main road linkages to the outer ring roads, Hume Freeway and CBD.

Linkage from the Hume Highway to West Wodonga will be improved by the progressive upgrade of a link road from Drages Road to the McKoy Street/Hume Highway intersection. This new western link road will be provided in conjunction with the establishment of the Enterprise Park in West Wodonga.

Access to Baranduda will be upgraded through the construction of the Baranduda Boulevard, which will also serve to reinforce the Leneva as the principal growth corridor for Wodonga.
Yarralumla Drive will be extended to Beechworth Road to link West Wodonga to the Leneva growth corridor.

A major initiative of the Road Strategy plan is to beautify all major entry roads into Wodonga.

Main road classifications are to be consistent with the Road Strategy Plan.

21.12-02 Albury Wodonga Rail Facilities Upgrade

At an estimated cost of $42 million the rail project is a major initiative that the City of Wodonga is seeking Federal and State funding for. Figure 11 illustrates the major components of the rail project and the new alignment proposed for the rail line.

The project will be instrumental to the upgrade of the Central Business Area, removing the physical barrier and traffic delays experienced due to approximately 60 daily train movements, in addition to providing a large area of land for future commercial development.

Other benefits include:

- Reduced costs for the Hume freeway project.
- Removal of speed restrictions by eliminating the slowest bend between Melbourne and Sydney.
- Reduced travel times.
- Increased efficiency of freight movement.
- Business opportunities for West Wodonga Activity Node.
- Provision of first class facilities for rail and coach passengers at the Albury station.
- Promotes employment opportunities.

The City of Wodonga will continue to work in partnership with the state and federal governments to plan for and maximise the opportunities arising from this project.
21.12-03 Water and Waste Water Services

The regions water and wastewater services are managed by North East Region Water Authority (NERWA) who have a shared approach with Council to the future growth and servicing requirements of the City of Wodonga.

Water

North East Region Water Authority operates a modern water purification plant located at East Wodonga with it’s intake located at the Wodonga Creek. The plant has sufficient potential capacity to be upgraded to meet future growth requirements of the City of Wodonga. The only constraint on the provision of water services to the City of Wodonga is the difficulty the current system has in servicing elevated land. Present limitations exist at the 225 metre contour, which is an additional re-enforcement to Council’s desire to protect the hillssides from prominent forms of development.
Waste Water

This shared approach to the planning of infrastructure is evidenced by the commissioning of a joint study investigating waste water options for the Leneva, Middle Creek and Baranduda growth area. Currently Wodonga is serviced by 3 waste water plants located at Wodonga West, Howard Street Wodonga and Baranduda. The major capacity exists at Wodonga West which, with progressive upgrading in line with loading requirements, has the potential capacity to service long term residential and industrial growth demands. In the short term the Howard Street plant is to be de-commissioned and the Baranduda plant will have a minor role in meeting waste water service demands.

These actions and strategies are addressed in the following reports:

- Wodonga Waste Water Treatment and Disposal Strategy Report on recommended action, timing and cost, November 1997, Gutteridge Haskins and Davey. This report summarises treatment capacities to comply with EPA requirements and future growth scenarios for the City of Wodonga.


Both reports are based on the growth scenarios expressed in the Wodonga Growth Strategy Plan.

21.12-04 Developer Contributions and Community Facilities

To ensure the timely provision of infrastructure and fair apportionment of infrastructure costs amongst the public and private sector, the Council will prepare a Developer contributions plan for the City of Wodonga.

The plan will apply a charge for physical infrastructure and community facilities and relate to all urban and future urban areas.

Components of the Developer Contributions Plan will apply to specific areas and charges will vary depending on the location and infrastructure requirements.

All future growth areas will be affected by the Developer Contributions Plan, including but not limited to:

- The West Wodonga Enterprise Park
- West Wodonga Residential Areas
- The Huon Creek Valley
- East Wodonga
- Defence Authority land South of Pearce Street
- Baranduda Industrial and Residential Areas
- Bonegilla
- The Leneva Growth Corridor.

Industrial land adjacent the Bandiana Link Road and existing Kendall Estate.

The Developer Contributions plan will be completed by the year 2000.