



# COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE

## CONSTRUCTION OF A PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE OVER THE KILMORE CREEK

*Mitchell Shire Council is seeking a commitment from the State Government to build a pedestrian bridge over the Kilmore Creek in Kilmore to link the town centre to industrial and commercial employment areas.*

### THE ASK

**\$750,000** for the construction of a dedicated pedestrian bridge over the Kilmore Creek and associated footpaths that will link the town centre to industrial and commercial employment areas located at the Northern end of Kilmore.

### THE BENEFITS

The construction of a pedestrian bridge over the Kilmore Creek will provide a safe path of travel for visitors and residents of the Kilmore Caravan Park. It will also provide a pedestrian connection from the centre of town to the Northern suburbs of Kilmore, including employment opportunities in the industrial estate.

### CURRENT SITUATION

Kilmore is Victoria's oldest inland town, and has a current population of approximately 9,500 people. It is expected to grow to over 25,000 in the next 20-30 years, which is a growth of almost 11,000 people<sup>1</sup>.

As Kilmore is strategically located on the peri-urban fringe of northern metropolitan Melbourne, and afforded with a range of infrastructure, character and landscape advantages, it is well placed to accommodate this additional growth. Kilmore offers quality education facilities, with three primary schools and two secondary schools, including a private and catholic secondary school. It also offers a well equipped hospital, large golf course and a leisure centre with indoor pool.

Although Kilmore boasts many benefits, pedestrian and cycle connections throughout the town are limited and often unsafe. For example, the existing vehicle bridge on Sydney Street over the Kilmore Creek at the northern end of town does not have any facilities for pedestrian movement. Pedestrians and cyclists using the current vehicle bridge are forced to share limited road space with cars and trucks on one of Victoria's key regional freight routes.

As the Northern end of the Kilmore township is undergoing significant change, with a number of retail and commercial developments recently completed or currently planned, the lack of safe pedestrian and cycle connectivity will only become more problematic. Without safe pedestrian and cycle connectivity along this bridge, liveability in the area will be reduced and the potential for accidents along the bridge will increase.

1. Kilmore Structure Plan (2016), Guiding the Growth of Kilmore, Mitchell Shire Council