

Building Safe Communities: Neighbourhood Renewal in Latrobe Valley



Victorian Safe Communities Network Nov 2004

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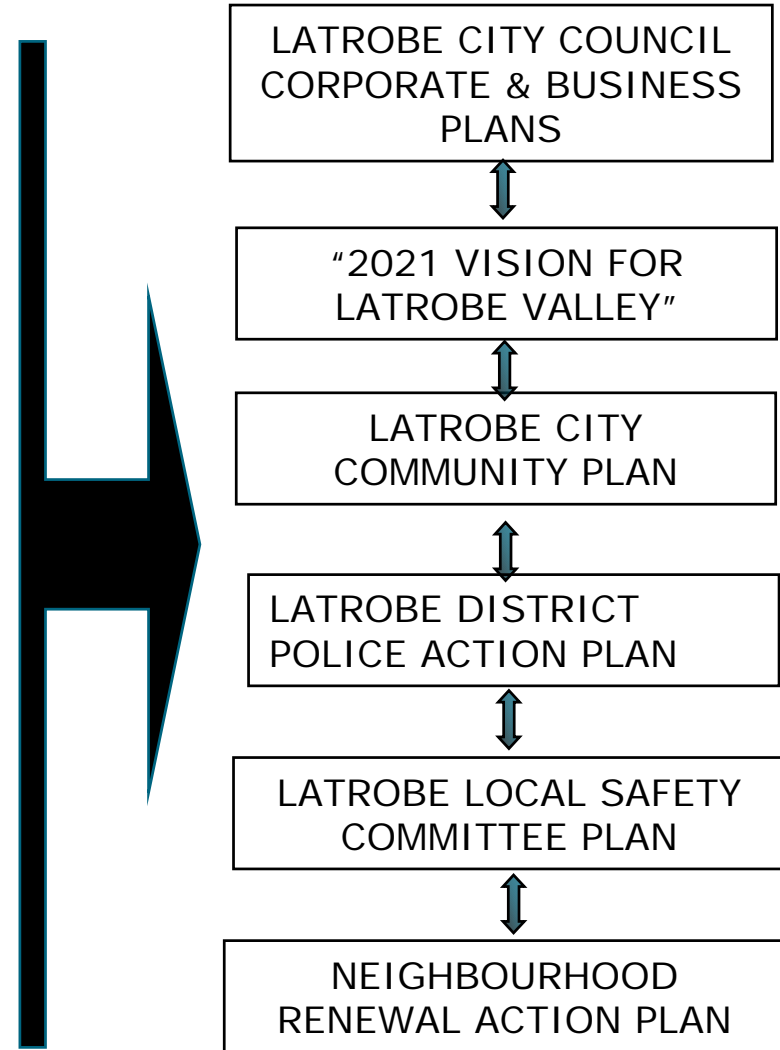


Social Justice Strategy

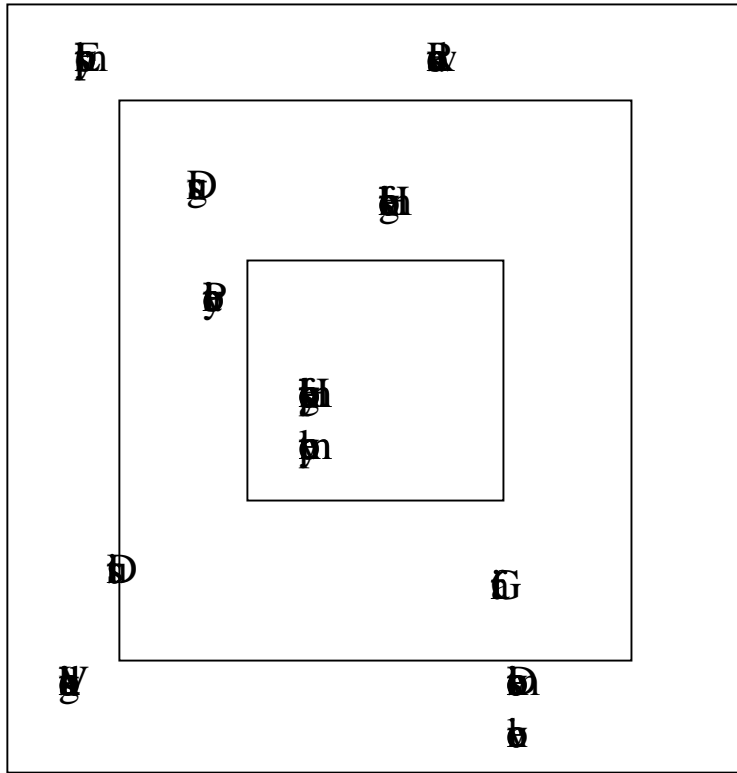
- Neighbourhood Renewal - funded through Victorian Government - Latrobe Valley Ministerial Taskforce, June 2001
- \$17m over 4 years
- Targets areas with high concentration of public housing
- 4 sites
 - Morwell East
 - Moe Heights
 - Traralgon East
 - Glendonald Estate in Churchill

Objectives of Neighbourhood Renewal

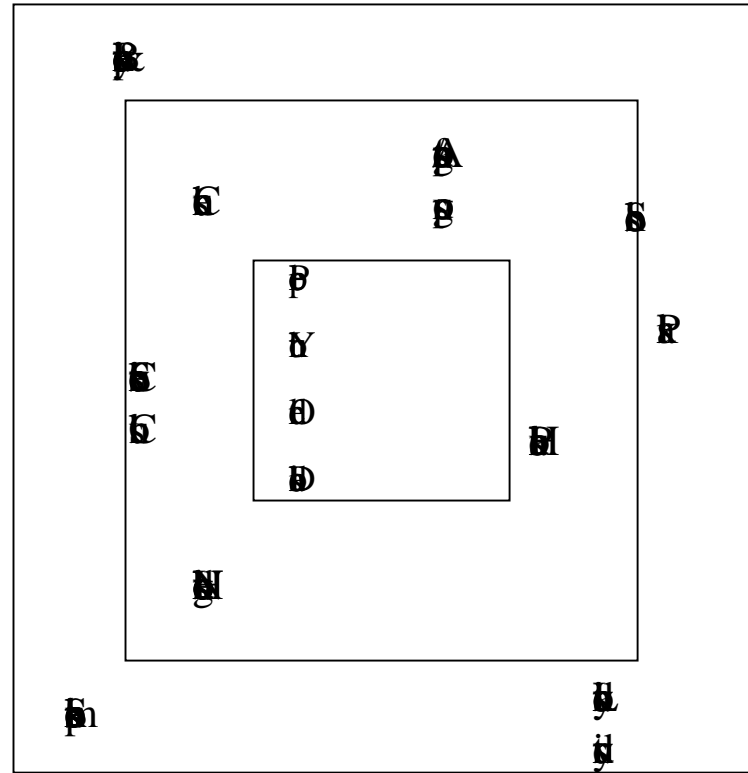
- **Increase pride & participation in community**
- **Enhance housing & the physical environment**
- **Lift employment, training & education opportunities & expand economic activities**
- **Improve personal safety & reduce crime**
- **Promote health & wellbeing**
- **Improve local service delivery & the way government services respond**



Community Needs vs Assets

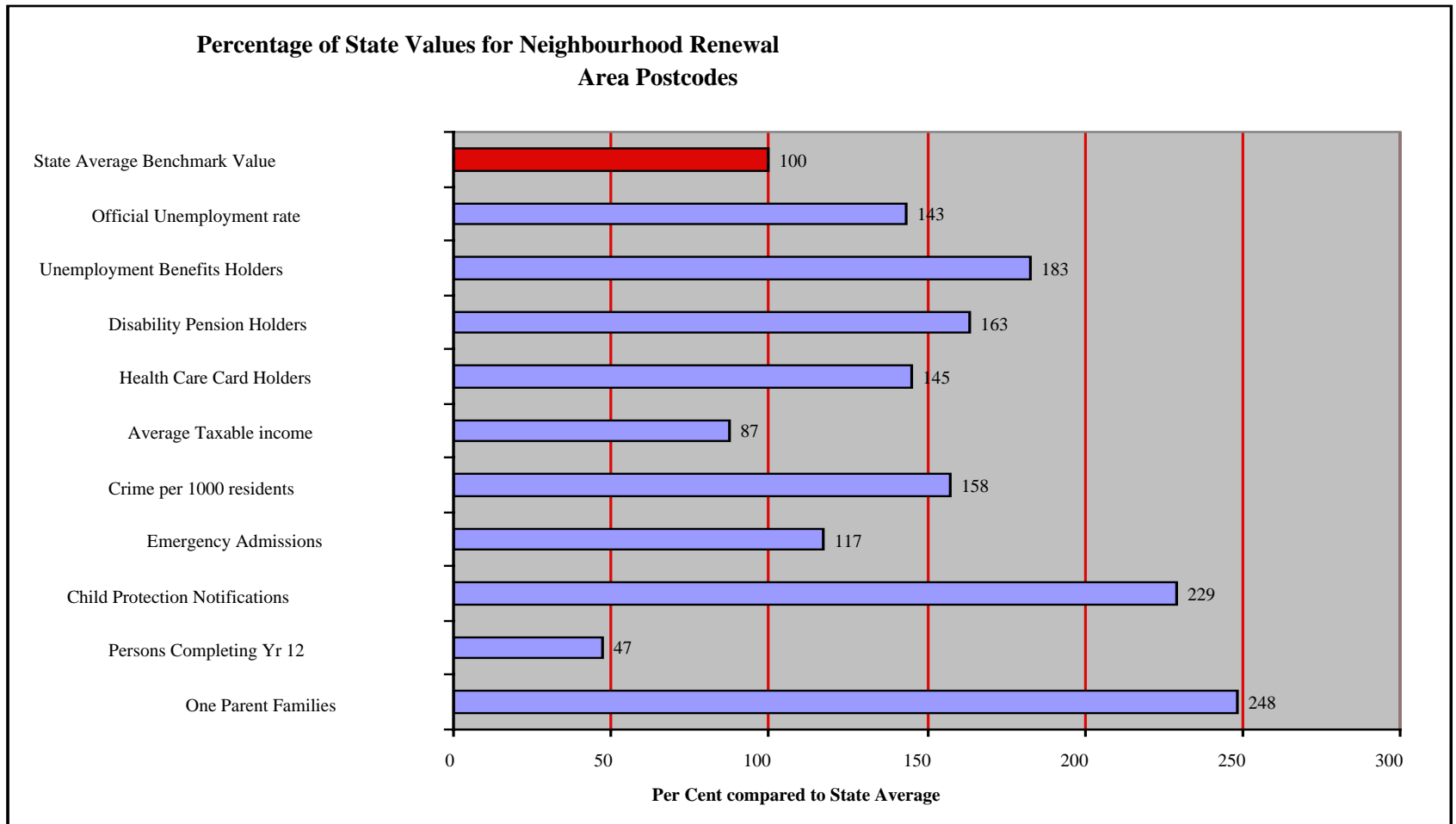


Deficits map



Assets map

Indicators of Disadvantage



Involving Key Stakeholders

(MERA Park Morwell East)

STATE GOVERNMENT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dept of Human Services • Dept for Victorian Communities • Dept of Education & Training • Dept of Infrastructure • Dept of Justice • Dept of State & Regional Development 	STATE GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Police • Schools • Latrobe Regional Hospital • Gippsland Water • West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority • VicRoads 	LOCAL GOVERNMENT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Latrobe City Council COMMUNITY BASED ORGANISATIONS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quantum Support Services • Gippsland Aboriginal Health & Housing Cooperative • Youth Services
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Centrelink • Dept of Family & Community Services • Dept of Employment Science & Training • Dept of Employment & Workplace Relations • Gippsland Area Consultative Committee 	COMMUNITY BASED ORGANISATIONS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School parent committees • Latrobe Community Health Service • Try Youth & Community Services • Community Housing Limited • RecruitNet Career Skills • Primary Care Partnerships • Anglicare • Resident Groups & Committees 	TRAINING & EDUCATION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group Training organisations • Monash University – Gippsland Regional Information Service (GRIS) • Central Gippsland TAFE • Swinburne University • Neighbourhood Houses • Job Network Providers
PRIVATE BUSINESSES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Real Estate Agencies • Painting & decorating • Nurseries • Landscape architect 	PRIVATE BUSINESSES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Architects • Local contractors • Local suppliers of building materials • FMSA construction managers 	PRIVATE BUSINESSES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local shops in neighbourhoods • 'Wood & Wire' • 'TRY Wood' • Media

Built Dimension – Improving Public Open Space



Beattie Cres Morwell – Before Improvements



New playground/park development



Opening Day
at Morwell
East
Residents
Achievement
(MERA) Park



Police Perspective - Policy

- Government Policy
 - Safe streets, homes & workplaces
 - Reduce offending & re-offending rates
 - Enhance confidence of personal safety & reduce fear of crime
 - Reduce Victoria's road toll and the incidence of road trauma
- Victoria Police Business Plan
 - Reduce crime
 - Reduce road toll and road trauma
 - Increase levels of community perceptions of safety
 - Increase levels of customer satisfaction

Police Initiatives in Partnership

- Increase visible police presence
- Action Plan/Community Safety Plan
- Walking School Bus
- Crime statistics database
- Meetings
- Liaison Officers
- Local Laws & police working together



Police/youth interaction

Churchill Experience

- Enhanced communication with police
- Community confidence in reporting crimes & anti social behaviour – swift action
- 22.7% decrease in crime in Churchill (641 down to 497)
- 41% decrease in crime in NR area (173 down to 92)
- Personal relationships have enhanced interaction
- Increase in confidence in police

Traralgon East Policing Initiatives

- Partnering - building relationships in a marginalised community
 - Door to door survey – perceptions of safety
 - Safety audits in streets & neighbourhood
 - Increased visible presence
 - Youth trips (fishing in East Gippsland)
 - Basketball teams established – under 14's
 - Youth mentoring – young people 16 & under not in school
 - Police Officer attending Youth Action Centre



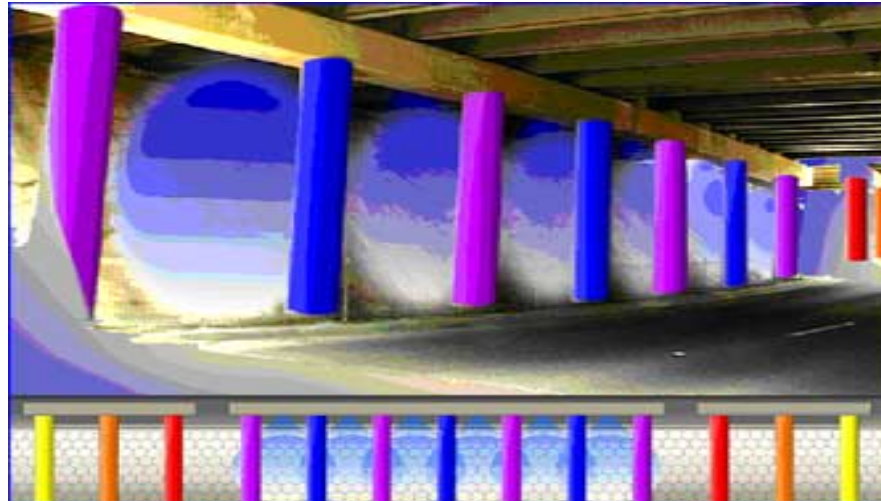
Open Day at
Traralgon Police Station

Improving Safety & Amenity - Wirraway Street Underpass in Moe Youth “Next Wave” Art Project



Underpass preworks – unsafe, poor amenity

Improving Safety & Amenity -Wirraway Street Underpass in Moe Youth "Next Wave" Art Project



Artist's
impression
of night
lighting

Improving School Connectedness & Attendance



Walking
School Bus
Churchill
Primary



School Breakfast Club
Morwell Park Primary

Partners

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| * Schools | * Council |
| * Police | * Quantum |
| * Neighbourhood Renewal | |



Sustainability Through Local Ownership & Control



Family fun day in the park – getting people together to plan for park development – Traralgon East



Residents consulting with Council officer



Opening of Traralgon East Community Hall July 2003 – community driven development

Neighbourhood Renewal Learnings

- **Neighbourhood Renewal has been a catalyst sustainable change in disadvantaged communities:**
- Needs strong commitment of partners
- Find local solutions & by genuine engagement
- “Joined up Government”, for example Police/DHS working together, Local Government & school involvement
- Joint funding of projects gets best result
- We must deliver on promises, cannot be piecemeal, must be a real commitment
- Empowers people to be involved in designing creative & unique services that best suit them