

# Bunya Mountains Community Association Inc

## Operational/ Work Plan (2023 to 2026)



### Goal 1: Enhance Community Liveability, including safety aspects, for residents and visitors

Objectives:	How will we do it	By When	Who
a. A Community meeting/ gathering place and place of refuge (in disaster), is established for social interaction, meetings, resident and visitor cultural and environmental education, forums, and workshops and for use in times of disaster emergencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete the Feasibility Study</li> <li>Prepare other documents as required to seek Council commitment to allocate land: Concept Plans and Potential profit and loss statement</li> <li>Make formal presentation to WDRC and seek commitment to provide/ lease the land</li> </ul>	Dec 2023	BMCAI Executive
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepare other documents as required to apply for infrastructure grants and co-payment grants:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Project Management Plan, including Gantt Chart, Land Tenure documentation, Operating Management Plan and Budget documents</li> </ul> </li> <li>Search for suitable funding and co-funding sources and prepare and submit applications</li> </ul>	June 2024	BMCAI Executive
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to liaise and work collaboratively with BPAC to progress the concept of the “Mowbullan Cultural Precinct”</li> </ul>	Ongoing	BMCAI Executive
b. The Bunya Mountains Local Disaster Management Sub-Plan is kept up to date and ready to be implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Actively participate in Quarterly Bunya Mountains Local Disaster Management Sub-Group meetings</li> </ul>	Ongoing	Liaison, Deputy Liaison & Reps
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In collaboration with the Sub-Group, examine the exercise findings and develop and implement solutions to improve the efficacy of the Sub-Plan</li> </ul>	2024	Liaison, Deputy Liaison
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annually review and update the BM Ring Around Warning System to ensure accuracy, currency and readiness in case it is needed</li> </ul>	Ongoing	Liaison, and Deputy Liaison
c. Public amenities are provided, and maintained to appropriate standard and commensurate to visitor population numbers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitor local parks and report any issues to the relevant Council</li> <li>Continue to lobby for improved facilities in the Bunyas</li> </ul>	Ongoing	BMCAI Executive

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Objectives:	How will we do it	By When	Who
d. Community social events are delivered to enhance social connection, cohesion and build resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support the Social, Events and Fundraising Subcommittee to enable the Subcommittee to arrange and deliver social inclusion activities that reduce social isolation, build community capacity and improve resilience.</li> </ul>	Ongoing	BMCAI Executive
e. A data set of housing/ accommodation, visitor & population numbers by type, trends / peak periods, are available for advocacy and grant application processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Utilise the information that was gathered for the Feasibility Study and prepare the data set as a stand-alone document (digital and ready for use as necessary).</li> </ul>	Dec 2023	Secretary
f. Access roads are safe and fit for purpose for the level and types of traffic using the roads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WDRC area- Locals contact Stephen Whyatt (0400477009) if they became aware of blockages/ road maintenance issues.</li> </ul>	Ongoing	Members
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SBRC area- Contact Allan Govan (46683115) for road blockages; South Burnett Council for maintenance issues.</li> </ul>	Ongoing	Members
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review each major access road (that is, Kingaroy, Maidenwell, Dalby. Toowoomba) in terms of driving comfort and safety</li> </ul>	Ongoing	BMCAI Executive
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to lobby and prepare and submit relevant communications to local and state governments to improve the safety of the access roads</li> </ul>	Ongoing	BMCAI Executive
g. Telecommunications infrastructure is enhanced to ensure accessibility and reliability and meets community expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitor telecommunication issues</li> <li>Share any updates/ opportunities to improve connectivity</li> </ul>	Ongoing	BMCAI
h. An EV Charging Station is established in Dandabah for electric vehicles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support the Project Team to progress the development and installation of a Charging Station in the Bunya Mountains</li> <li>Liaise with local government and relevant agencies to progress this strategy</li> </ul>	Ongoing	Secretary, Project Team members

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**Goal 2: Encourage authorities, with the assistance of BMCAI, to establish a natural environment monitoring regime to assist in the management of the impacts of visitors/recreational users/ residents**

<b>Objectives:</b>	<b>How will we do it</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Who</b>
a. Whilst promoting visitation, ensure that future development proposals do not negatively impact upon the natural environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitor for development applications that may not be consistent with Goal 2.</li> </ul>	As required	BMCAI Executive
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide feedback re appropriateness of any proposed development</li> </ul>	As required	BMCAI Executive
b. Promote the best use of public lands (excluding national park) and advocate to ensure that the public has safe access to those areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tourism signage, including Indigenous titles, for the Bunya Mountains is developed and installed</li> <li>Liaise with SBRC to develop the Allan Stirling Memorial Park to an accessible and functional public Park for locals and visitors</li> <li>Rifle Bird Park- assess post installation of Mountain Bike Track whether the same strategy as above can be developed with WDRC</li> </ul>	2026	BMCAI
c. Inform the membership and broader community about the current risks and ways to manage risks associated with the natural environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage members to notify of risks/ issues/ concerns</li> <li>Seek and encourage professionals / experts of topics of concern/interest to attend BMCAI quarterly meetings and provide presentations about those topics, respond to, and provide advice about how best to manage the concern/ issue.</li> <li>Utilise the Quarterly Newsletter to keep all members informed (as not all members can attend the meetings)</li> <li>Follow up where necessary</li> </ul>	Ongoing	BMCAI
d. Liaise with, and build partnerships with, the Bunya Peoples Aboriginal Corporation and explore options for cultural awareness, education and participative activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work collaboratively with BPAC to promote, build understanding of Indigenous Heritage Cultural history and contemporary Care for Country concepts via joint activities, for example: bush foods education, cooking classes, and care for country strategies etc</li> </ul>	Over the life of the plan	BMCAI Executive to engage with Indigenous stakeholders

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Objectives:	How will we do it	By When	Who
<p>e. Celebrate the unique cultural and ecological environment and all it offers with an emphasis on nature interpretation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Utilise Allan Stirling Memorial Park and Rifle Bird Park to provide environmental and cultural awareness / education eg identify trees, yarnning circle, natural play area for children etc</li> <li>• Request heritage assessment from Qld. Government's Heritage Branch during the life of this plan</li> <li>• Promote local birds, animals, vegetation etc through features in the quarterly newsletters</li> </ul>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>BMCAI engage with Qld. Government's Heritage Branch</p>
<p>e. Engage in/ and /or coordinate local events and activities that keep the history alive, support opportunities to learn about the environment and enhance cultural consciousness/ awareness</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engage with QPWS, NHA, Qld. Museum, BPAC and local residents with regard to nature interpretation opportunities (for example, Night Sky stargazing and nature slide talks, other suitable /relevant activities)</li> <li>• Monitor for opportunities to support and deliver activities to promote this strategy.</li> </ul>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>BMCAI Executive</p> <p>Social, Events and Fundraising Subcommittee</p>

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### Goal 3: Create, develop and support communication and collaboration to address issues and plan for the future

Objectives	How we will do it	By When	Who
a. Develop an effective working relationship with local and regional businesses, regional advisory bodies, and all levels of government, via effective consultation and feedback mechanisms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make use of any opportunity that arises to introduce BMCAI and connect with advisory bodies, regional community organisations and any new government body that may have the Bunya Mountains in their regional, state or federal area of responsibility</li> <li>• Maintain existing relationships with local businesses, local councillors, local State and Federal Government Parliamentary representatives using all modes of communication as appropriate such as newsletters, record of BMCAI minutes, regular face to face meetings and provide invitations to participate in meetings, projects teams, working groups as relevant and appropriate.</li> </ul>	Ongoing	BMCAI executive
b. Develop trust and connection with property owners in the Bunya Mountains, so that advocacy is representative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain relationships with property owners through a range of communication tools (newsletter, website, emails)</li> <li>• Encourage membership in the Association so that feedback, input, decision-making and advocacy with external agencies is representative</li> <li>• Regularly inform all members about Social, Events and Fundraising Subcommittee updates, Working Group/ Project Team progress</li> <li>• Seek member feedback and input regarding strategies/ projects as appropriate</li> <li>• Be open to receiving suggestions, complaints, advice and provide timely dialogue, responses, interaction for resolution when and where necessary</li> </ul>	Ongoing	BMCAI Executive
c. Tap into skills, experience and knowledge within the membership to develop the most effective and efficient way of achieving the Association's goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase membership participation in projects and tasks by informing members of upcoming tasks and activities and seeking their input and assistance</li> </ul>	Ongoing	BMCAI Executive

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Objectives	How we will do it	By When	Who
c. Encourage informal participation and volunteerism, with benefits for all	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Social, Events and Fundraising Subcommittee will develop a Calendar of events for each calendar year (number and scale of activities is dependent upon the number of subcommittee members available and offers of assistance from members)</li> <li>• The Subcommittee will facilitate the agreed calendar of events within their capacity</li> <li>• Communicate interesting information and inform members of upcoming events (of which BMCAI has been made aware) occurring on Bunya Mts, for example, upcoming events of interest, new research outcomes of topics relating directly to the Bunya Mts environment etc</li> </ul>	Ongoing	Social, Events and Fundraising Subcommittee  Secretary
d. Keep the community informed and engaged	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regularly distribute Newsletters and circulate interesting information about Bunya Mts.</li> <li>• Monitor and utilise the Associations Facebook Page and Website to inform the broader community</li> </ul>	Quarterly	BMCAI Secretary
e. Work collaboratively with other organisations within the Bunya Mountains Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support local organizations, NHA, BMRFB, BPAC, and work collaboratively on projects and</li> <li>• Maintain regular links with other organizations via communications.</li> </ul>	Ongoing	BMCAI

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### Goal 4: Ensure the long- term operation and sustainability of the Association

Objectives	How we will do it	By When	Who
a. Ensure Management Committee and association members are supported to continue the work required to achieve the goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide resources to Management Committee and Members by maintaining a healthy budget and provide adequate support to members undertaking projects</li> <li>• Encourage and support members who assist by volunteering on a committee of the Association's planned activities and/ or by donating to the Association's fundraisers</li> </ul>	Ongoing	BMCAI
b. Encourage membership of the Association from both resident and non-resident property owners, so that BMCAI is sustainable into the future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop strategies to encourage new property owners to consider membership of BMCAI</li> </ul>	Ongoing	BMCAI

Signed:.....

Date:.....

**President**

Signed:.....

Date:.....

**Treasurer**

Signed:.....

Date:.....

**Secretary**

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### Addendum

#### **Background Information: The Bunya Mountains Community Association Inc.**

##### **A Brief history of the Association**

The Bunya Mountains Community Association Inc was formed in 2016, to provide a platform for local representation to governments to address the very low levels of infrastructure development and maintenance on the Bunya Mountains (despite it being promoted as the “jewel in the crown” for tourism activities). A group of local residents met to discuss pertinent issues affecting the community and went on to compile those concerns into the first Community Plan.

In 2019, the Bunya Mountains Community Association became an incorporated association, made a concerted effort to connect with property and business owners and engage local and state government elected representatives to progress some long-standing issues that required immediate responses (although most take an extended time and extensive resources to resolve).

By the July 2023, the Association comprised 105 financial members and 3 associate members.

##### **How does it operate –**

The Bunya Mountains Community Association Inc comprises a membership of Bunya Mountains property owners. Those owners may be full time or part time residents or owners who primarily rent their properties for holiday accommodation. The members pay an annual membership fee and the membership meet quarterly to discuss current issues and determine options to resolve the issues. The Association also elects a Management Committee, which at the time of preparing this document, consists of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and two committee members. The Management Committee meet between quarterly meetings as required to progress the business on hand and deal with any organisational issues (for example, acceptance of new members, invitations that might require a response before the next meeting and emergent issues etc).



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The Social, Events and Fundraising Subcommittee was created in June 2021, to develop and facilitate a social calendar of activities to enhance social connection and build community resilience and capacity. The range of activities also includes activities whose primary purpose is to raise funds for a future Bunya Mountains Community Centre, for example the Bunya Mountains Dinner Under the Stars, 2021, 2022 and 2023.

### **What has it achieved to date (June 2023):**

- Incorporation of the Association to formalise and professionalise the organisation to enhance activity facilitation and lobbying
- Improved communication and sharing of information with the community and across the regions
- Development of effective working relationships with all levels of government
- Designated walkway/footpath on Bunya Avenue to enhance pedestrian safety
- Critical remedial work for the Bunya Mountains Road, local roads such as Bunya Avenue and Mowbullen “streets” and local parks including Fishers Lookout, Allan Stirling Park and Rifle Bird Park
- Established WDRC contact to gain timely response to unplanned road blockages
- AED acquisition and installation at the local store
- Community Street Library installation and operation at the local store
- Development and printing of a new Bunya Nut Recipe Book
- Liaison for Emergency Response activities, facilitated meetings to develop the Bunya Mts Community Disaster Management Sub-Plan
- Reviewed Community Plan and endorsed Community Plan 2 in 2020 and Community Plan 3 in June/ July 2023
- Created a Social, Events and Fundraising Subcommittee to arrange and facilitate activities for local residents to support social connections and enhance community capacity and resilience, and broader regional social and fundraising activities.
- Sought grants and sponsorship of various types and amounts to facilitate the above activities
- Engaged Estate Analytica to (pro bono) prepare a Feasibility Study for a future Bunya Mountains Community Centre
- The Social, Events and Fundraising Subcommittee raised \$40,000 in two years to contribute to the costs of constructing a Bunya Mountains Community Centre.
- Arranged an Interagency Meeting (SBRC, WDRC, BPAC, QNPWS and BMCAI) to discuss an issue arising with Dingoes roaming in residential areas. This group has developed a draft Bunya Mountains Dingo Management Plan.
- Created a Project Team to arrange for the installation of Bunya Mountains EV Charging Station.

For a small organisation, BMCAI is punching well above its weight!