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'BRIGHT IDEAS FOR SEYMOUR' - COMMUNITY BRAINSTORMING EXERCISE

Below are the 'Bright Ideas for Seymour' submitted by local community members between 1/10/11 and 21/4/12 via suggestion boxes, Facebook and at a Planning Day.

This brainstorming initiative sought positive, creative ideas for Seymour - big, small, inventive.

It was not a poll seeking the most popular idea - purely a brainstorming exercise.

Submitters ranged in age from 5 to 86 and were mostly Seymour residents. Some ages have been included below where it was felt the age was pertinent.

NB Some suggestions have already been addressed by the community and local organisations.

Some ideas could be placed under a number of headings - the most appropriate heading was chosen for this summary list.

1. IMAGE, LOOK AND FEEL OF SEYMOUR

1a STREETSAPES AND ENTRANCES

Trees and Avenues

Would love to see more trees planted on the main streets. For their shade and beauty.

Bury all powerlines/phone lines etc on Tallarook Street and make it an avenue to be proud of. Plane trees have been wrecked by continually hacking away from powerlines.

Restore the avenue of plane trees in Tallarook St and promote as a tourist attraction in autumn

Replace the missing Plane Trees in Tallarook Street so it is always full with them. It is Seymour's most pretty street and should be maintained.

Love Tallarook St and the plane trees - hate the butchering of them by electricity line - put underground. Love the plane trees in Station St.

Put plane trees into the gaps in Anzac Ave as the gums die

Planting of street trees on nature strips all along Anzac Ave from end to end - an Avenue would look fantastic

Anzac Avenue - more understory planting

High St - put more trees in the verges like plane trees in Tallarook St

Victoria St - beautify with plane trees

Shade!! It is the most tree-less town! It is very non-pedestrian friendly in the summertime. There is no tree-lined streets. It is depressingly barren!!! Trees on nature-strips create a lovely and more ambient town. You could get residents to 'adopt' a tree – water the one outside their house if it could be organised to plant them.

Entrances to Seymour

Beautify the entrance to the town

It would be great to see the entrances into Seymour beautified. First impressions make a huge impression.

Clean up entrance to Seymour south side - median strip cleaned up of trees and weeds. Plant native shrubs. Look heaps nicer.

Do up the entrance to Seymour from Yea. Seymour sign near Hume & Hovell monument could have a garden bed around it similar to Emily St.

Have a vision on how Emily St should look to appeal to all the visitors who arrive from this side of town. Currently, its an ugly hotch potch!

Street Plantings

Make the street gardens more attractive

Get service clubs to service garden areas e.g. Goulburn Park

Fruit trees & vegetables planted in public spaces for people to harvest and eat themselves

Instead of replanting flowers at Station St roundabout every few months, create a pattern with different coloured stones or tan bark. It would look good and doesn't require water or much maintenance.

Misc Ideas

Waterfall/water feature in old convenience stop area on corner of Tallarook and Station Sts

A monumental clock at the roundabout near the bridge at Anzac Ave/Station St

Continue or re-instate the Tidy Town/Tidy Street Award i.e. help stimulate tidiness and pride in streetscapes

Transform Seymour's old laneways into bike/walking/animal corridors that have food and native plants growing

Arcade from Station St to Safeway to be covered with transparent roof, brick blocks removed and open air dining area to have metal folding chairs at either end to be closed at night (see Bendigo station area)

Roof the Mall and continue this with a covered walkway to Safeway

Review blocks which are eyesores - Cnr Wallis/Emily Sts; dyeworks; Mobil site; old Steptoe's in Tallarook St; town entrances from Yea, Shep, Melb

1b TRACKS AND TRAILS

General

Series of bike/walking/bridle paths in and around Seymour linking townships and parks

More walking tracks

More bridle paths for ponies and horses [14 year old]

Tracks - Western Side of Seymour

A seat at the end of the walking track at the spot where it meets the Seymour/Pucka road.

Continuation of the Goulburn River walking trail on to the Tallarook to Yea rail trail

Develop the walking track along the Goulburn River to join with Goulburn Park

A bridge over the river at Goulburn Park

Change name of 'Multi-purpose trail' to 'River Walk' or 'Koala Trail'

To complete the walking track from Lions Park around to Goulburn Park

Track linking Goulburn Park to Light Horse Park along river (Crown land)

Phase one - Pushbike track to run from Puckapunyal to Seymour - would require extensions to lefthand side of bridges on the way into Seymour and is to link onto existing track along the Goulburn River. This would also allow pedestrian access to and from town.

Tracks - Eastern Side of Seymour

Phase two - Pushbike track to run from Seymour to bridge over Goulburn River (on the way to Trawool). Approx 5.7kms. This track is to link onto rail trail from Tallarook to Trawool and is to include separate pushbike/pedestrian access over the Goulburn.

Walking track to join river track - along Whiteheads Creek to High St

A trail that leads from the junction of Goulburn River and Whiteheads Creek to Chittick Park and on to the Bushland Park

To have a walking/bike track that goes from Seymour to Trawool so people can access on foot/bike - bushland park, lighthorse park/golfcourse and Trawool Valley. Safe option. [edited]

Build a bike/walking track to Seymour Golf Course and Light Horse and Bushland Parks

Extend the walking track to Whiteheads Creek then continue it along Whiteheads Creek to South Creek then via South Creek to the Light Horse Memorial Park.

Would link Seymour by a walking track.

A walking/bike track from the top of Anzac Ave out to the Lighthorse Park, golf club and Bushland Park. Great for fitness, families, fun and access to local rec reserves.

Develop a connection between Bushland Reserve and Lighthorse Park.

Cycling Tracks

I would like to see more push bike trails

More bicycle tracks around Seymour

I would like to see bike paths in Seymour - High St is great now.

More bike paths and connection to Tallarook Rail Trail; to promote healthy activities and community connections

Bike friendly access to welcome people to Seymour over Goulburn River before some cyclist is injured

Bike tracks particularly in Pucka

Rail Trail

Make the rail trail suitable for ponies and horses as petitions in 2006 requested

Campaign for funding to extend the rail trail from Tallarook to Seymour

Link rail trail to Seymour

1c PARKS

New Parks

Nature park on High St at Whiteheads Creek

Develop Inland Botanic Gardens on Granite Park site with restaurant/cafe, gift shop, plant sales, links to nearby parkland

Make a park at the Old Bridge site

Develop the Seymour billabongs along Emily St with walking paths, picnic area, perhaps a bird hide...

A 'garden park' - trees and flower gardens

Goulburn Park

Fill up old swimming pool at Goulburn Park (with water). Have fishing comps twice a year - people supply own bait.

Revamp Goulburn Park

Goulburn Park is so naturally beautiful but seems very underdeveloped. Creative imagination could do it.

Redevelopment of Goulburn Park (more frequent mowing, watering) maintenance of the tiered area adjacent to the Esplanade to expose original paths and garden

Goulburn Park beautified and made more of feature of the town.

Lions Park

Restore Lions Park and all along river

Restoring & expanding the Lions park and walking track to 'better' than its former beauty with promotion of the Goulburn River (picnicking, fishing, walking)

Lions Park is naturally beautiful but very underdeveloped.

Light Horse Memorial Park

Light Horse Memorial Park. Needs a designated and signed walking tract from visitors' carpark to lookout. Currently confusing for first-timers. Distance indicated on sign. [edited]

Light Horse Memorial Park. Vehicle access to the lookout (Anzac Hill) for elderly/infirm/those without time to walk/visits in hot or inclement weather. [edited]

Bushland Park

Expand Bushland Reserve and enhance its signage and tracks.

General

Visit Seymour's Parks

Protect Parks from adverse developments and activities

To keep plenty of native bush areas

Shelters in parks to protect seats from rain and sun

1d HERITAGE

Bridge

Restore the bridge! Restore the Bridge!

Reconstruct Old Goulburn River bridge

Repair the old Goulburn Bridge and connect it to the Rail Trail

Old Wooden Bridge reopened

Military

Tallarook War memorial/honor roll of everyone - even non-Christians

To remove brick wall and reposition memorial plaque from Lesley St. This is unsightly and dangerous.

World War 2 memorial for those killed in action

Station Street

Station Street - restore heritage facades and verandahs

Extend Station Street's heritage theme to the walk through the viaduct.

Rail

Upgrade the Railway Heritage Centre and make it a real tourist attraction for the town with regular steam train tours

Renovate all rooms in our rail station to (catering) heritage standards and create a local rail museum to compliant our significant town history. Therefore this means pushing through Vline blocking!!

Development

Encourage/mandate for new buildings/extensions to be sympathetic to the heritage of Seymour (e.g. just look at how well Yea presents its main street)

An active lobby group to oversee/challenge development plans. For example, so many historic buildings have been destroyed and hideous structures have been built e.g. Coles/Target/KFC - no effort to beautify it e.g. trees/gardens [edited]

Misc

Renovate other very old buildings but preserve other important old buildings

1e MURALS & PAINTING

Railway Underpass in Station Street

Paint/improve the sight of bridge train underpass through the town

Paint or better still 'employ' graffiti artists to paint the underpass from Station St to Anzac Ave

Station Street subway - paint murals of Seymour

Spruce up/paint and clean the railway underpass in Wallis St/Anzac Ave

To have the bridge at Anzac Ave/Station St painted or decorated to match with the existing bluestone and brickwork.

Mural on brick wall entrance to viaduct on roundabout side - depicting local interests, industries, etc

Goulburn Park Sound Shell

Goulburn Park sound shell - murals need to be painted over and add new ones

The mural on the Goulburn Park sound shell looks very tired. It certainly needs to be painted over and a new one commissioned or simply a solid colour background

Bridges

Paint the bridges on the way into town colours

Paint the two bridges in Emily St, one near Tierney St and over Dry Creek near Seymour Industrial

1f PUBLIC SAFETY INFRASTRUCTURE

Pedestrian

A pedestrian-friendly town!!! A pedestrian crossing is needed at the roundabout (Wallis and Station Sts) on all 3 sides of the roundabout. It is dangerous when crossing with a pram.

Pedestrian crossing at roundabout to protect pedestrians especially elderly and those riding. The motor vehicles coming out of the underpass they have no protection.

Pedestrian crossing opposite Seymour South post office

Pedestrian crossing - Anzac Ave near Anglican Church

Pedestrian crossing between Goulburn St and Guild St Seymour

Pedestrian crossing in Anzac Ave near Railway Place. If situated opposite the VRI Bowling green it would be far enough from the two closest intersections (with Guild & Goulburn St) so would not hold up traffic

Road

Tarcombe Rd/High St/Oak St intersection to be made safer. Dangerous when approaching it from Oak St to go to Tarcombe Road. Can barely see cars coming from High St

Traffic blocking Station St roundabout heading to Crawford St. Make Station St a one-way street up to the roundabout - heading to Tallarook St [edited]

Signs to let drivers know there are traffic lights ahead in Anzac Ave

Grant St traffic light in Anzac Ave are in the wrong place. The south side of Anglesey St has large number of children and senior citizens cross at this place

Avenel Road - turnoff to Old Hume Hwy is dangerous with bus stops. Change limit to 80kms past turnoff

More speed humps installed in residential areas

Light Horse Park entry is dangerous - off 100km/hr road esp. right turn

Play areas

Shading for all play areas

Children need a shade sail over the playground at the Black Train

Fence around old black train playground to stop children running to road

Fence the park at the Old Black Train

Put a gate between the skate park and playground at Chittick Park to be able to look after children in both places

Signs

Signage to hospital from Emily St to be made bigger/clearer - difficult to see in fog and rain (missed it when coming from Nagambie)

Sign in High Street / Wallis Street roundabout pointing to hospital needed

Lighting

Lights over the path between the bridge and railway station past the Black Train playground are broken and need replacing

Misc

Move the skate park to the corner of Kings Park opposite the police station (less of everything bad)

Fix railway crossings and footpaths

Area at end of Victoria St next to Rail Heritage Centre. First section of tunnel serves no purpose now and needs to be removed. Area is a mess and the tunnel is rather 'spooky' and in disrepair.

Seal the area currently used as car park between front entrance of VRI Hall and Railway subway entrance. This area is dusty or muddy (depending on the weather), uneven mess.

Boat ramp in Lions Park is in an unsafe position with fast running current and snags. Re-locate 230m upstream at fishing platform.

Cleanup and maintain camp ground across river at Old Goulburn River Bridge

Shelter on taxi rank

1g MAINTENANCE & SAFETY ISSUES

Trimming and Mowing

Council to whippersnip river bank of long grass or poison it - safety reasons. Goulburn Park.

Have all trees hanging over the fences on private property cut back off footpaths so I can walk on footpaths.

Trees cut back from all footpaths from private property

Encourage residents to keep their bushes off the footpaths

Trees to be cut back from parking bays e.g. Visitors Centre, Chicken Feed roadway

All trees cut back from all street signs

Trees cut back from all signs, in and around town. Esp. tree on corner of Sinclair Cres from Clark St. Cannot see cars coming when turning left or right into Sinclair Cres.

Parks and parkland need grass cut more than every 2 weeks when grass is growing in Springtime -snakes

Access to the riverwalk (very unsightly)

Mower men council (should) use a pickup tool to pick up rubbish along side of mower instead of mowing over cans, rubbish, lolly papers etc

Roads

Fix the pot holes in the road quicker instead of taking months to do it

Having the white lines on the roads renewed more often.

Road - need premix fill in holes - Visitors Centre outside toilets need filling up with crushed rock then gravel

Fix High St railway crossing overpass

Footpaths

Footpaths to be fixed that are broken or on an angle to be replaced

All footpaths in Seymour are uneven, on an angle unable to walk on them, plus footpaths have lifted up to trip us up

Cats

Cats should be kept inside at night time

Cats - should be kept inside at night time

Gutters and Pits

Clean out all drainage pits of sand and rubbish in Seymour

Gutters cleaned out Public Toilets Visitors Centre

Misc

BBQs to be cleaned up regularly - on the ground below BBQs at Goulburn Park near playground - who wants to stand in grease while cooking.

Tallarook St needs tidying up - weeds, packaging, sticks, glass

Walking track back of Goulburn Park Caravan Park is a tip - cans and stubbies on river bank and in river.

When a business vacates a premises that the advertising be removed (Seymour Tandoori) etc

That some of the businesses clean up their nature strips (taxi service etc) and car parks e.g. Coles, Safeway

Encourage people to clean up after their animals; there is animal poo on footpaths and nature strips everywhere! Provide plastic bags for cleaning up after them.

River walking track needs more regular maintenance to the track surface and mowing of the grass.

2. WHAT'S HAPPENING IN SEYMOUR

2a SPORT & RECREATION

Movies/Cinema/Picture Theatre

Movies [9 year old]

Movie cinema/theatre (Multiple entries) [ages 10 to 76 years]

Need a picture theatre within a hall once a month.

Use the Loco St Hall for a picture theatre

Movies, youth night, family night's

A movie night once a week watching a DVD on a projector in a hall. We have a projector if you would like to borrow it (ph no supplied).

Outdoor Movies/ Drive-in

During daylight savings have an open cinema at Goulburn Park like they did for the military weekend

Mobile movie theatre - Broadford community

Outdoor theatre - Lions park

Drive-in theatre

Seymour Sports & Aquatic Centre

Allow children to still use the equipment especially after a class (at SSAC?) [5 year old]

A water slide at the pool [12 year old]

Expanding Seymour Sports and Aquatic Centre's gym facilities.

Bigger gym at indoor stadium (Multiple entries)

Upgraded gymnasium/aerobics centre

Seymour Sports & Aquatic Centre to offer an evening childcare session so working parents can attend a workout session

A gym that is open later than 6pm

Extend hours of operation past 6pm for pools (open till 8pm twice a week) so city workers can use these facilities

For the Seymour indoor pools to be open all day on the weekends

Bowling Alley

Ten pin bowling centre (Multiple entries)

Entertainment Complex

Entertainment for all ages for example Cinema, bowling alley

Cinema and bowling alley complex - jobs, social [edited]

Entertainment complex with cinema, bowling, kids party place, shops, eateries, etc. Population of Seymour and surrounding towns is big enough and for employment.

Water-based Activities

More activities around the river

Facilitate use of the river - provision for launching small boats, make river safe (at least in parts) for rowing, kayaking, general boating

Use the river as other towns use theirs e.g. Nagambie has dragon boat racing and rowing. Seymour has added interest in that the river does a half circle of town from Goulburn Park to Lions Park. Short adventures and day trips. Seymour Canoe Club perhaps? [edited]

Promote water based activities on 'our' river. Fishing - canoeing - boating - other water based activities e.g. triathlon and parkland development for day picnickers!
= \$

A sandy or pebbly beach that is cleared and maintained for us to share enjoying swimming in this beautiful river of ours, perhaps manned over summer.

Boat place like Studley Park Boathouse in Kew where people can hire out canoes, kayaks etc [14 year old]

Seymour needs a boat park

Use the billabong at the outskirts of Seymour for canoeing (near Redbank Road and Shep Rd)

Skating

The same design skate park as Shep - older students and younger students - concrete and not metal (Year 8 skaters) [edited]

Skating rink [17 year old]

Roller skating rink

Development of a new concrete skate park similar to Rampfest Melbourne or Shepparton

Dog-friendly Park

Fully fenced dog park with poop facilities!

Dog park - fenced off specially for dogs only - by the river in town

Dog friendly park - would be great fenced off - maybe near the river area so they can have a swim

An enclosed area for walking dogs off lead -- Chittick Park has a large unused area - and bins for cleaning up after dogs.

Equestrian

Indoor equestrian centre

Horse events at Light Horse Park

Misc Ideas

A basketball ring with a half court at the Goulburn Park [12 year old]
Abseiling and rock climbing area [14 year old]
Re-open Speedway Track
Midnight basketball' (like the Bendigo programme) for youth to participate
Indoor cricket
Restore/rebuild CFA training track at Kings Park
Table tennis centre similar to Coburg's
More sport options for kids [13 year old]
Mini golf [9 year old]
Kings Park shared more.
Build top class golf club on river flats near Emily St
Over 25s night club
We need an arts and crafts place - many people would come
Goulburn Park - Jazz concerts
Community music groups

2b YOUTH

Youth Groups/Clubs

Some new group activities such as a youth group to resolve bullying/peer pressure. [9 year old]
School fishing club/contest - Seymour College [14 year old]
A youth group for 13-17 like they once had in Yea - comfy lounges, snacks, cards, gaming, hot chocolates, there are many ideas.
Youth targeted program around what they are interested in from 8-12 yrs., fun and games. More activities.
Youth centre/activities aquatic centre/afterschool activities
More appropriate public space for youth perhaps a funded youth centre
Move Youth and Fitness Gym to the Indoor Pool complex or fund a gym complex next to the Indoor Pool for the young people [edited]

Current Playgrounds

Improved playground on corner of Sinclair Ave and Graham St as no access to school playground. Even a basketball court and play equipment.
More bright modern children's equipment for playground at Goulburn Park

Indoor Playground

Giggle kids playground for younger kids

Kids jungle place where they have a ball pit and large slides and kids parties

Activities for young children e.g. Jungle for kids (like in Wallan)

Indoor playground for kids

An indoor play centre

Indoor play centre called kidspace-jungle and 1-4 space area. You have to be 5-13 to go on the jungle bit. [9 year old]

Entertainment Centre

Zone' entertainment centre like at Bendigo - at Chittick Park

Place like 'Zone' in Bendigo - outdoor paintball, go-karts, maze, minigolf, cafe, indoor jungle play area, arcade games, laser tag, roller skating rink (Tourism, jobs, recreation) [edited]

Seymour needs something for the youth - arcade, etc...

Cinema/bowling alley and arcade for kids

Cinema - see also 2a

Seymour should have a cinema for the young kids instead of them hanging on the streets.

We need a cinema or something for younger kids as well as older people. Alexandra is smaller than Seymour and it even has one.

To have a cinema built in Seymour so we have somewhere to go watch movies & more things for young people to do

Misc

Youth leadership training, more youth support, youth compact

Early childhood dance/music & rhythm sessions, for children aged 6months to 5 years. Just a fun, low cost experience for children. Not based on competitions

Small theatre where kids could hangout

More social /community activities [12 year old]

Youth Events - see 2c below

2c EVENTS

Family Events

More family oriented activities [12 year old]

My family events/Day outs like a portable BIG movie screen - buy/hire it & put it at Kings Park. Big blow up screen! screen up to 200 people or more. Gold coin donation, Lions Club sausage sizzle! [edited]

Have a family day by the Goulburn River. Possibilities are Scouts could provide activity (e.g. rope climbing), Lions BBQ/food, Football Club handball competition, Netball Club goal shooting comp, Guides, music, pony rides, dog obedience, nursery farm etc (edited)

Youth Events

Underage youth events (i.e. Concerts)

Music festivals and battle of the bands

A 'step by step' game/race for teens 16-18yrs - per driving road rules at the Christmas Town evening.

Community Events

More community events that are better organised than the one's we've got. Better Seymour Show, more street stuff, a Halloween Party.

An annual fair where there are rides and all sorts of sports and arts competitions [13 year old]

Encourage Ag Society to 'grow' the Show - use back oval for horses

Examine opportunity for community events e.g. triathlon, games day, swimming

Old fashioned bushmen's market incl family and team games such as sheaf toss, gumboot toss, tug of war, cow poo lotto, shearing comp, retrieve the tag of the cow, etc

Have an art show every year where people display their art on exhibition to be sold. Seymour can get 15% of the profits. [15 year old]

Community event - voices around the campfire to share skills & ideas, history, culture

An aboriginal arts festival featuring visual and performing artists (possible name - 'Dreamweavers Festival') during NAIDOC week in July

More education or celebration days for cultures

Shakespeare in parks

Theatre

Major Events - Tourism

Event Management Committee - 3-4 events per year

4-5 Festivals each year

Link Alternative Farming Expo to town businesses

Parking away from the city centre for the Alternative Expo

An attraction that brings crowds more than once a year like the expo

Major Events - Tourism

Annual Equine festival

Busker competition - we need something to put Seymour on the map

More local quality events like Tastes of the Goulburn showcasing local produce

Rail festival with steam train rides, mini-train rides, model railway displays, rail history exhibition in the train station, rail 'swap meet' stands...

Rodeo

River Festival at Goulburn Park - food, wine, music, crafts, etc

Twilight River Festival - music, stalls with exotic items, food, entertainment - magicians, illusionists, fire eaters

An Easter festival incl live music, parade, market, fireworks

An Easter Show

2d COMMUNITY ARTS CENTRE

Where is the Movie theatre we were promised at Seymour Performing Arts Centre

To utilise the performing arts centre more. Maybe pictures on a regular basis. Such a wonderful venue that could be used a lot more.

Better use of Seymour Performing Arts Centre - seems like a very under-used facility - potential cinema?

Use the performing arts hall more often - movies, plays, musicals, something instead of watching TV at home

Professional entertainment at the Performing Arts Centre/ more use for general public

More use of performing arts facility at Anglesey and Loco St

Committee of management at CAC

Movies at the Seymour Arts Centre

3. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOWN PLANNING

3a TOURISM

General

Identify Seymour's history & market the positives through tourism. (railway, army, river, bike and walking track) Seymour has a great range of accommodation.

Anything that is a tourist attraction

Clean up Seymour and make it a tourist town

A main entry to Seymour which is enticing to visitors [edited]

Township Branding

Need new township branding for all entrances.

Develop 3 themes to promote the town. The river and our environment; the railway; and military heritage

Use of the word 'YES' in SEYmour as a positive 'description' as the word is. (Graphic designer could do it - three letters in Seymour can be spun around/reversed whatever to result in something like 'Yes - Seymour, Seymour - Yes')

Sell our town e.g. 'See More in Seymour'. 'The Hub of Victoria' - I pinched this from Martindale's book but it is based on truth

Event Promotion

Advertise it more in out of town papers, on radio etc i.e. write to Red Symons on 774 when events are coming up

No 1: town notice board for events on Station Street (tall cylindrical stainless steel capsule)

Promote Mitchell markets in brochure for city rail users

Goulburn River

Development of the Goulburn River to encourage tourism and events. We should be using our assets as a drawcard to our community

Use the river for tourism with bike tracks to Pucka and cafe and gym equipment along the river. We have a great river - USE IT.

Boardwalk at Goulburn River - ice-cream trucks, kiosk (ice-cream trucks only licensed to visit river not town)

We have a great river. But no canoes to hire out to tourists. Goulburn Park has 3 canoes for hire from private people.

Open up the river for campers

Make Emily St and the river the focus of Seymour. Make it attractive - industrial business move to new industrial park and get land back for people and tourists

The river from the Old Bridge to the Royal Hotel to be converted into a fishing village with piers and huts and houseboat moorings

Some sort of markings/mileposts along the Goulburn River so canoeists know where they are along the River i.e. distance from Seymour/Trawool or other significant landmarks.

Use the river for tourism with bike tracks to Pucka and cafe and gym equipment along the river. We have a great river - USE IT.

Utilise the Goulburn River waterfront. Something like a function centre or complex to bring people to the area/Goulburn Park or Lions Park would be ideal.

Railway

Throughout the town and on the more important streets place railway signals as street signs or tourist directive signs

Refurbish Railway Station Dining Rooms and promote Seymour's Heritage as a Railway Town - Pucka is an army town

Tidy up and re-do the Railway Station cafe (it looks sad and depressing and makes a terrible statement about the town)

Would love to see the old railway station restored and utilized - a good restaurant, wine bar, antiques for sale. It's such a shame now - could be something fantastic worth coming to Seymour to see.

Upgrade the station so it is an attractive welcome and tourist attraction (e.g. plants/flowers, tourist stand, cafe to be light & attractive, large photo of Goulburn River

Rail Trail

Have a competition for an innovative crossing over Goulburn River at Trawool Bridge to link to rail trail. EG flying fox with bicycle attachment between 2 big hills. Tourist attraction. Get rail trailers to Seymour.

Parking at Tallarook end of rail trail for caravans

Promote local links to rail trail - through Light Horse Park and out to Trawool Bridge

Rail trail should bring money into townships. [edited]

Environmental Tourism

Work on making Seymour a native animal friendly environment. Area of little use agriculturally or horticulturally or touristy. Consider koala habitats, reforestation, attract visitors. [edited]

A permanent alternative energy community/farm/garden complex (eco tourism)

State park in Tallarook Ranges

Toilets

Toilets at Black Train

Public toilets at the Old Black Train

Need a toilet near old black train for local park users and tourists using GV Hwy. Could be near BBQ area in Progress Park near Elliot Reserve.

The toilets at the Visitor Information Centre are not nice. It would be a good thing for the town to have them upgraded.

Lions Park desperately needs a new toilet block

Toilet block urgently needed at Lions Park (today again asked by visitors where the toilets are!!)

Tourist Information

Use/buy Somerset Restaurant as a Visitor Info Centre/cafe/gallery/local produce store. Rent out the vineyard to recover some costs or lease it to TAFE/local school for ag studies. Great location by river and main road.

Visitor Information Centre in Station Street during events and Seniors Week - near train platform

Local tourism info into Vline rooms for day trippers

Pocket timetable for local bus services into Vline (co-ordinate) - Safeway, Coles... More tourism info in lots of places

Support redevelopment /relocation of VIC to a better location

Tourism Signage

Signs on Hume Hwy both ways promoting Seymour - 10km, 8km, 6km, 4km, 2 km, 1000m, 500m, 100m. These could be visually stimulating and promote something about Seymour.

Signage re taking scenic route to Melbourne on GV Highway and Hume

Signage on town gateways - great coffee stops in Seymour

Better signage on freeway promoting Seymour - not just train and army - to get people to turn off the freeway into town [edited]

Improve signage to VIC around Seymour

Tourism Events - See 2c

Misc Ideas

Make Emily Street a tourism zone

Completion of shared path that runs from the Old Goulburn Bridge east to Goulburn Park. This would be a great tourist attraction.

Develop access/facilities to take advantage of views over Goulburn Valley /Seymour from Tallarook Ranges e.g. at Meadows Hill and Pulpit Rock for locals and tourists

More statues around like at info centre, hospital, library, police station. Could belike the Shep cows only better. Tourists can play 'find the statues'.

Fibreglass horses to represent equine industry in much the same way as the cows in Shepparton

We need more businesses open on weekends to encourage visitors to relax, enjoy their stay and also to return

Horse yards - great for tourism.

Promote our military heritage i.e. Vietnam Memorial, tank museum, more displays. Our military connections set us apart from most other towns.

Having guided historical walks with someone to tell the history of our beautiful buildings with maybe a picnic on the river at Lions Park etc?

3b EMPLOYMENT

General

Develop our workforce - keep our town young!

Hard looking for work in Seymour. Here nothing job. [edited]

Work opportunities.

Employment

Employment. Big business.

We need more industry for employment

Get some industry back for jobs

The government could stimulate regional industry - like they did with the Ansett Knitting Mills

General cont

Bring in more commercial businesses (create more jobs). Seymour is central to Melb, Shep, Yea, etc

That we find an industry/industries to retain our young people and people in general

More jobs available for teens - afterschool part-time jobs [16 year old]

Specific Ideas

Enlarge racehorse training centre

A solar panel manufacturing plant - we need industry and have great road/rail access and cheap factory rental.

Entertainment complex with cinema, bowling, kids party place, shops, eateries, etc. Population of Seymour and surrounding towns is big enough and for employment [edited]

We have an Entertainment Centre i.e. movie, etc. This could create employment for young people as well as offer entertainment.

New business e.g. warehouse outlets i.e. similar to DFO

More local food production to promote food sovereignty and new local employment

To encourage industries to Seymour by providing incentives such as cheap rates and low cost real estate

Do a small audit for local people. See what they would like done to change or improve town employment-wise. Town going backwards, Wallan and Shep going ahead.

3c RETAIL

Premises

Hungry Jacks (multiple entries) [ages 13 to 23 years]

I'd like to see the Somerset Crossing Place turned into a bushtucker restaurant and art gallery

More restaurants [10 year old]

Internet cafe [10 year old]

Arcade centre

Malls for Seymour because others are going to other places which have big malls [9 year old]

More shops and bigger town [10 year old]

To have a good shopping centre like Epping Plaza so we don't have to travel to big shops.

To build more 'big name' shops to bring more people from lower Mitchell in to Seymour and increase tourism

More shopping complexes [16 year old]

A shopping plaza

Big W because there is not much to do in Seymour [11 year old]

Big W (multiple entries)

Premises cont..

Big W in Tallarook St in old Mobil yard.

To have a Big W store and K-mart because we need more retail outlets... Saves travelling.

Kmart (multiple entries)

K-mart or Big W

Get a 24 hour K-mart

K- mart and plaza

More clothing shops for teens [16 year old]

Rejuvenate shops near IGA

An indie store that sells non mainstream things [15 year old]

Proper coffee shop open on Sundays or weekends

Services

To have a fish market here at Seymour just like other towns

Wi-Fis for all buildings in stay connected to the world [10 year old]

Drycleaning service at train stations- this business is being taken to Melbourne due to lack of access at weekends. Many business people work in Melb - suits cleaned regularly. [edited]

Business enterprise centre - business incubator

Opening Hours

Post office open on Saturday morning

Opening hours extended - shops/library, etc

Cafes open at weekends

24hours services in Seymour [9 year old]

3d CUSTOMER SERVICE AND THE SHOPPING EXPERIENCE

Customer Service and Awards

Flash someone a 'Seymour smile' to win a prize

Encourage shop attendants/business people to be bright, warm and friendly (they can have music in shops too).

Train shopkeepers and business people and their staff in the art of customer service, courtesy and a 'can do' attitude

Better service in shops

Shopkeeper of the month' promotion - support local business to promote this, display prize related to events

Customer Service and Awards cont..

Business person of the month?

Yearly competition - 'Best weekend coffeepplace in Seymour'

Have an annual award for 'friendly service' - attendants/business

Misc

Some businesses in Station St etc need their front windows de-cobwebbed

Anzac Village improvement

Address silo mentality in businesses

3e PLANNING & HOUSING

Planning and Development - General

Protect vital river flats for agriculture in the world of 7 billion. Do not cover farmland for the future.

Increase awareness of implications of peak oil and climate change and promote local strategies to build community and business resilience

To increase more public buildings but not like Footscray that it's like controlled by other countries [13 year old]

To have more school and hospitals and other buildings but will not erase the beautiful nature of Seymour [11 year old]

Detailed landscaping included in building approvals on main roads. Aesthetics are important. Degrading visual amenity is a negative from an economic development point of view. (edited)

Planning scheme illogical - need to work together to resolve problems e.g. 22 acres zoned farming but too small to farm, can't build house, farm zone min is 200 acres

Planning for building on a block - currently can't build shed before house to store gear

More residential blocks of land in Seymour - standard size

Planning and Development - Specific Issues

Turn Station St into a paved mall with shade structures and incorporate the railway platform this would allow for an area for markets and events. Parking to the rear of the shops to be developed for increased parking e.g. multilevel

No windfarm in Cherry Tree range

Explore viability of local wind power

No jail for Seymour - we have enough of an 'image' problem as it is

Build a prison

Retirement Housing

Desperately need a privately run retirement village with separate units, hostel and nursing home!

Seymour needs a retirement village. Small towns such as Kilmore has two, and also Nagambie. Seymour has none.

A decent large settlement of SMALL dwellings for retirement. Government owned for rent.

Build retirement and lifestyle villages - modern comfortable homes for 'baby boomers' and seniors

Retirement housing - very short supply in Seymour

Please could we have a retirement village in Seymour. We have been to meetings of two interested firms some years ago. Unfortunately our council seems to put all sorts of hurdles in the way rather than be encouraging.

Retirement village

Public Housing

Keep public housing for local people - not imports

Request Department Human Services - Housing Division to tidyup and repair their housing

Sell off public housing in Chisholm Crescent, demolish and build quality houses/flats.

Flood Overlay and Levee Bank

Get rid of the flood overlay so people can build new homes and businesses

Must change the planning scheme to see growth - levy bank a must, more industrial sites, better zoning

Levy bank which doesn't make flooding from creeks worse - flash flooding can kill

Do a cost benefit analysis on levee bank proposal - including environmental and social benefits (and costs)

Industrial and Commercial Land

Promotion and development of Lighthorse Industrial Park to re-invigorate this area into the major industrial hub for Seymour - too many industrial areas in Seymour.

Dyeworks turned into offices and business park. There is no office space to rent.

4. SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE OF SEYMOUR – THROUGH COMMUNITY SERVICES

4a PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Educational Transport

Youths over 18yo who are studying (TAFE, apprenticeships) allowed on school buses

Over 18s students allowed on buses for education e.g. TAFE

Transport cost support for any students regardless of age

Mitchell Shire only bus to LaTrobe Uni and Melb Uni. Changes to North Melb station will affect students travelling to these campuses. We are losing too many young adults to the city.

Medical Transport

More transport to Melbourne/Shepparton for medical appointments e.g. dialysis

Medical practitioners briefed personally on transport options for patients requiring treatment outside Seymour so they can tell their clients.

Transport to Melbourne, Shepparton for medical appointments

Community Transport

Community transport (bus, cars) - medical, social, help isolated e.g. Pyalong

Transport to Shepparton and Bendigo

Transport to Shep and Bendigo by 8.30am and return after 5pm - education and employment [16 year old]

Transport early in the morning to Shepparton and Bendigo - to arrive well before 9am (education, work)

Rail Service

Morning train from Melbourne (8.41am) arriving a few more minutes earlier

Shuttle rail service Seymour to Shepparton

Rail XPT (intercity) should be stopping in Seymour. The platform is not an issue now.

To have the XPT train stop at Seymour railway station platform which was built for it.

Investigate XPT stop for Seymour to go north

Not enough parking at railway station - carpark fills up early in the day. Is land on Albury side of station available to use?

Bus Service

Bus to meet Melbourne train for the monthly market

Buses to run on a Saturday arvo would be nice - due to market, etc. After 1.30pm Sunday run would also be good.

Telebus - demand response bus service like in Melbourne

Wider area covered by bus service [18 year old]

Increased service availability e.g. transport, more consistent bus services between towns and around Seymour

Currently no buses on weekends to get to events - difficult if you don't have a car. [edited]

General

Transport to come to and leave Seymour

To have an international airport here at Seymour so we will not go to nearest international airport just to transport [11 year old]

4b HEALTH

Fitness

10,000 steps signage on walking trails around Seymour - sponsored by Health organisations

Have fitness activities along the riverside walking track e.g. bars for chin ups, step ups, lunges etc

Seymour Health

Videolinks for medical appointments and treatments for Seymour Health (also for medical consultation)

Videolinks for medical appointments and treatments for Seymour Health

Make the hospital a better place [edited]

More after hospital care

Seymour Health engaging in environmentally friendly projects in the community. Need to develop Seymour Health's environmental footprint!

Seymour Health provides annual health checks for the community. Open up the hospital to the public to conduct the checks - opportunity to showcase services available to the community

Ensure the future of health care in Seymour by a proper and systematic analysis of the problems with Seymour Hospital, its Board and CEO.

Hydrotherapy Pool

Hydrotherapy pool

Hydrotherapy pool 12x6m

Seniors

More people caring for the elderly after hours and more on offer so they can feel special

In-house packages for older people

Respite care for elderly on weekends

After hours senior care because people are left alone when something happens, like a fall.

To have Home Services for seniors so they can be called on when nothing else is open. For home help, companion.

Misc

Incorporation of Medicare office into the Centrelink office

Well being community centre, reflexology, massage, shiatsu, etc

Greater co-ordination of all helping agencies

More support for young mothers, young mothers with kids at school

To the north of Seymour (Shep) the Commonwealth is trialling a number of welfare reform programs (in particular Income Management) - Seymour could provide a contrast population, adding to capacity building support programs, rather than punitive approaches.

More child and family services and activities

Utilise our health service

4c LIFELONG LEARNING

General

Promotion of education pathways for all sectors of local community.

Develop partnerships with local schools/GOTAFE

Engagement in education

Pathways to Lifelong Learning

Literacy

Community effort to have all children reading. Reading is so important and it would be fantastic to have a goal of everybody being literate.

Reading support for all ages - babies to adults with literacy problems

Instead of losing weight as a community - see if we can have all children and adults improve in reading - a literate community

Local schools

Promote our schools. We only have two now - St Marys and Seymour College. St Marys hardly needs it but Seymour College would benefit from big promotion, and then so would the town.

School as a positive experience not a dictatorship and focus on important things

Support for people with financial need at school

Language studies at primary school

TAFE

Seymour TAFE need to teach more on the takeaway side of Hospitality like sandwiches, wraps, pies and scones, healthy options etc more for quick easy meals for the soup kitchen scenes

TAFE - support to promotion

University

Building university

University campus - if you link to UNSW will probably pick up all Puckapunyal's tertiary students. If you link to Monash, probably pick up the Asian students from Kilmore International School

Video conferencing/online hub for uni/tertiary education

U3A

U3A community centre - very useful for increasing membership to have central place to attend and also for storage of equipment

Purpose built facility for the use of U3A and other groups

U3A home

U3A home

Misc

An elementary school [10 year old]

Training enterprise centre to teach the trades Cert 2- 4

Develop an integrated adult learning centre with U3A and the Community House next to the back of the library. This means pushing through the Community House underactivity at the present time. A real partnership and shared management!

Men's Shed - better promotion of Men's Shed to youth, community project e.g. pizza oven, show pathways, partnership with TAFE

Wi-Fi the town!

Eye testing and hearing at Pre-school

Integrated learning centre

Use of Seymour radio as an educational tool e.g. present program

4d DISABILITY SUPPORT

For Children

More event and activities for Disability kids - they feel left out!!! As other groups forget to invite them too.

A special playgroup for children with disabilities that is supported by professional therapists e.g. physio, speech, occupational therapy

Early intervention centre/specialised playgroup and childcare.

An education program for students in Primary & Secondary with a disability i.e. autism/Asperger who is 'high-functioning' (i.e. not able to attend local special school due to higher IQ)

Infrastructure

More seating throughout Seymour - damage proof seats

Footpaths - have no access to other footpaths for walkers or for motor scooters to get on to footpaths - they use the road instead.

Disabled parking - who designs these? They are on hills, angles, down hills, confined areas to park into - Coles for example.

More logical siting of disabled parking spots making the sites disabled accessible

Access for elderly at Railway station - have to negotiate terrible ramps to centre ramp. Why couldn't all Sey/Melb trains leave and return to new platform in Station St. All buses and taxis are in Station St. Have a ticket seller half hour prior to departure. Albury/Shep trains as is. Electric trolley not always available.

Make Seymour wheelchair friendly. Road crossings - practical places are very rare, motel accommodation, shops/businesses with steps and heavily sprung doors.

Misc

Increase access to community transport for people with special needs

Home care scheme to do odd jobs for people unable to do it themselves or find a 'person' to do it. User pays.

4e RUBBISH

Bins

More rubbish bins in Tallarook Street - takeaway food rubbish [14 year old]

Can McDonalds pick up their rubbish in Tallarook St?

Rubbish bins along Anzac Ave

More bins in Goulburn Park closer to park tables.

More bins at the Goulburn park boat ramp.

More bins near the boat ramp at the Goulburn River

Hard Rubbish

Hard rubbish removal

Hard rubbish collection

Hard Rubbish run either once or twice a year for all households in Seymour

Hard rubbish run every 1-2 times a year for all households

Green Waste

For council to provide Green Waste Bins for residents who like to keep their gardens tidy and are not able to use the tip

To have 'green-waste' bins for those who want them. These could be emptied fortnightly and on alternate week to the emptying of the blue recycle bins.

Misc

Retain the local transfer stations for elderly residents who are unable to manage garbage bins.

4f LIBRARY

Misc

To have story time adventure in the outside garden of the library [8 year old]

Fewer detective stories in the library

More signage directing visitors to the Seymour Library.

Opening Hours

Library - more computers and open 9-5 every day

Library open more hours

Increase hours open at Seymour library - why does Kilmore open more hours?

4g CRIME PREVENTION

Police Presence

More police on duty to stop graffiti [13 year old]

More police patrol in unmarked cars to prevent bad behaviour [13 year old]

More police patrolling the streets on foot. To try and combat/get rid of pedestrians that walk around Seymour with alcohol in their hands.

Please can we have a police presence in our shopping areas? Foul language, dangerous skate boarding and drinking need to be addressed

For the river walk - a safe environment for single walkers (some people e.g. police to patrol the area)

Chittick Park needs to be monitored more.

Drug Use

Blue lights in all public toilets in Seymour - to stop needles being left for kids to pickup (especially IGA)

Toilets at shops at Anzac Village should be closed at night - and purple light - to deter druggies.

Get rid of all the druggos thanks!

No more drug addicts from Melbourne.

Less drugs

5. THE COMMUNITY OF SEYMOUR

5a MITCHELL SHIRE COUNCIL

Consultation

Communication improvements - street stalls, social media, pro-active election stuff, monthly talk on local issues

Start a Mitchell Shire/Seymour Facebook page to keep people up to date and get feedback

Is it possible for Mitchell Shire to consult residents before spending money: as traffic lights and Chittick Park? We live here and our Council reps: do they vote on all matters? Do they ask us what we want?

Hold Council meetings in Seymour (and other towns) so people can see what goes on

Council listening to residents

Boundaries

Realign Seymour to the Goulburn Valley and not Kilmore, Wallan

Realign Shire - Mitchell to join Strathbogie/Shepparton to form a Shire that is more rural

Seymour Shire should break away from the southern part of the Shire

Get out of the Mitchell Shire

Misc

Make Seymour a vital part of the Mitchell Shire NOT an addendum

More official recognition for small/medium rural regions (e.g. more library branches, Govt tourist information offices, railways might be a real possibility for tourism branch offices) Re-introduction of former Mechanics Institutes also.

Council to promote living in Seymour to encourage city dwellers to relocate and maybe travel to work in city

The return of town to a rural city status

I'd like to see the people of Seymour get behind an Aboriginal candidate on Council

New Councillors!

Forward thinking Councillors that are for Seymour!

5b COMMUNITY SPIRIT & DEVELOPMENT

General

Developing community spirit/info/inclusiveness

Welcoming New Residents

Alliance with estate agents - welcome packs, advice on Seymour - not other places

Welcome to/for new residents. Council/TSWW? Office of Housing especially. Residents' kits.

Social Inclusion

Integration/inclusion of less well-off. Problem of town planning/separation.

Interagency is proceeding but is not being communicated. Buddy system for social inclusion.

Community Groups

Clubs Corner' in local press and radio to advertise what's available

Community goods/equipment registers & contact phone numbers for borrowing between groups

Funding for a wide variety of groups that show effective participation from the community

Positive Promotion of Seymour

Promote Seymour better - promote what's happened in last 10 years

Recognize achievements of Community Plan so far (community grant?)

Future

Invite Peter Kenyon (Bank of I.D.E.A.S.) to speak to townspeople incl SB&T, TSWW, service clubs, U3A

Where does Seymour want to be in fifty/one hundred years? What legacy are we leaving for future generations? Is the Seymour We Want Committee thinking long term?

Misc

That The Seymour We Want change its name to something less demanding.

5c COMMUNITY HUB

General

Public Hall required. A multi purpose hall was moved by Council to be built on Vic Road site in High St when their lease ran out. It is next door to the council chambers.

We need a town hall/picture show/concert venue

A community drop-in centre that can be used by all age groups for little or no cost

Need a town square - central place/meeting place.

Specific Ideas

Bring the old dining/tea rooms at the station to life as a social/community hub

Create a weather proof meeting place/town centre (e.g. the Mall to be roofed, tables and chairs, music)

Relocate JR Carroll hall to an appropriate site for community use - feasibility study?

Chittick Park opportunities/Victoria St factory area?

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