



**Cr Geoff Porter**  
MAYOR  
HUME CITY COUNCIL

Hume City Council's vision is to build a prosperous, sustainable and vibrant city in partnership with our community. As part of the Community Renewal initiative we have worked with the people of Craigieburn to identify and put plans in place to address the community's economic prosperity, environmental sustainability and infrastructure needs. The extension of this program to 2013 is a result of its success and achievements and is a direct credit to the community volunteers who steer this project.

**Liz Beattie MP**  
STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP GROUP  
CHAIR

The Victorian Government is committed to creating strong communities that are active and confident. The extension to the Craigieburn Community Renewal initiative to 2013 will allow the community to build on the great work already achieved and ensures that we can continue to support communities to give people a say in their own futures. I look forward to continuing to work with the community and seeing the progress we are making toward creating a better Craigieburn for everyone.

**Carol Whitehead**  
RESIDENT & STEERING  
COMMITTEE CHAIR

As a result of dedicated work from local volunteers, the many projects and achievements of the Craigieburn Community Renewal initiative are becoming more visible to the community. Community Renewal provides a unique opportunity to work in partnership with government and community organisations and make a real difference in Craigieburn. I would like to thank current volunteers and also encourage more people to participate in the many and diverse range of activities outlined in this plan. Now is the time to get involved in this important community program.

## COMPLETED PROJECTS

### EDUCATION EXPO AND BOOKLET

The Inaugural 3064 Education Expo was held in October 2009. All pre and school age education providers exhibited and the 3064 Guide to Education booklet was launched.

### ENGLISH CLASSES AT DS AITKEN CLUB ROOMS

The Footy and Cricket Clubs now partner with Craigieburn Education and Community Centre to host English language classes in the club rooms.

### COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS TREE

The 2008 Community Christmas Tree grew in 2009 to include a Lighting and Carols event at the Craigieburn Leisure Centre.

### GRAFFITI BLITZ

Over 1,500m2 of graffiti was removed from public and private property between Jul - Dec 09, to the value of \$36,205.

### FUNDING FOR A MEN'S SHED

Funding was secured to construct a Men's Shed. Craigieburn Hall will be reopened in 2010 and will include the Hume Men's Shed, Craigieburn Boxing and Fitness Club, and other community uses.

### NEW BUS SHELTERS

Bus patronage surveys have paved the way for the installation of five new bus shelters in Craigieburn.

### IMPROVEMENTS FOR CYCLISTS

New cycling lanes were installed along Hanson Rd to improve links to public transport.

The Hume Bicycle Users Group (BUG) was established in November 2009 with regular group rides around Craigieburn.



## CURRENT PROJECTS

### CRAIGIEBURN LEARNING CLUSTER

Hume City Council will reinvigorate the Craigieburn Learning Cluster in 2010 to facilitate greater cooperation between learning institutions in Craigieburn.

### EMPLOYMENT MENTORING PROGRAM

Planning to provide assistance and mentoring to help Craigieburn residents achieve their employment and career goals is underway.

### GRAFFITI TRAILER

A volunteer-run Graffiti Removal Trailer is currently operating in Craigieburn.

### BEAR PROJECT

In 2010, Council will respond to the findings of the Business Expansion and Retention (BEAR) Project to raise the profile of local businesses in Craigieburn.

### SYDNEY ROAD GATEWAY PROJECT

Craigieburn's appearance along Sydney Road will receive a facelift in 2010, including new fencing and landscaping along Hamilton Street.

### FRIENDS OF AITKEN CREEK

The Friends of Aitken Creek will be re-established to facilitate greater community participation in improvements to the Aitken Creek Reserve.

### ACTIVE CRAIGIEBURN

Council commenced the Active Craigieburn initiative in 2009, focusing on making exercise more accessible to the residents of Craigieburn.

### SKATE AND BMX EXPO

A demonstration and participation day is planned to be held in Craigieburn to encourage young people to participate.

### COMMUNITY SHUTTLE SERVICE

Planning for a Community Shuttle Service targeting residents who have difficulty accessing transport is at an advanced stage.

### COMMUNITY GARDEN

Planning has commenced for a community garden in Craigieburn, where people of all ages can learn about gardening, exercise and meet new friends.

*"I've made lots of new friends and I really feel part of the community."*



## MAKE IT HAPPEN GETTING INVOLVED

Community Renewal continues to provide opportunities for everybody who lives, works, studies or plays in Craigieburn to participate. Due to the range and diversity of actions contained within this Local Action Plan, there are plenty of opportunities for your family, your club or group, and even your business to get involved.

Activities are undertaken by resident-led working groups. You do not need to have knowledge or experience in a particular field to be involved. Enthusiasm and time is all you need to help make a difference.

To find out about current and upcoming Community Renewal events and activities, or how you can be involved, contact Hume City Council's:

**COORDINATOR COMMUNITY RENEWAL**  
HUME CITY COUNCIL  
T: 9205 2200  
F: 9309 0109  
[www.hume.vic.gov.au](http://www.hume.vic.gov.au)

## HumeLink

Hume City Council's  
multilingual telephone information service.  
General enquiries: Telephone 9205 2200

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## HUME CITY COUNCIL AND THE VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT CRAIGIEBURN COMMUNITY RENEWAL

### REVISED LOCAL ACTION PLAN

FEBRUARY 2010  
[www.hume.vic.gov.au](http://www.hume.vic.gov.au)

## CRAIGIEBURN - no longer a village

Craigieburn is located 25 kilometres north of Melbourne's CBD in a designated urban growth corridor that has recently experienced significant growth. From 2006, Craigieburn's population is projected to grow by a further 150% by 2031. Due to rapid growth, the appearance and composition of the established neighbourhoods of Craigieburn contrast with the newly completed residential estates. 42% of Craigieburn's population is under the age of 25, and families make up 85% of households. Craigieburn is also a diverse community and becoming more multicultural, with people from a range of backgrounds, including: Turkish, Hmong, Filipino, Indian and Sri Lankan.

These characteristics and projections present their own set of unique challenges and opportunities to build a strong community.

*"Its exciting to see things changing in Craigieburn and it feels great to contribute."*



## CRAIGIEBURN COMMUNITY RENEWAL

is funded by the Victorian Government and brings together residents, government, organisations and businesses to plan, coordinate and deliver local responses to community issues, focussing on the pre-1980s neighbourhoods of Craigieburn.

This updated Local Action Plan prioritises improvements residents want to see in their neighbourhood, and builds on what has already been achieved by the Steering Committee and Working Groups.

Most of us can relate to at least one of the five themes of this Local Action Plan:

THEME 1:  
**EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING**

THEME 2:  
**IDENTITY AND IMAGE**

THEME 3:  
**COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE**

THEME 4:  
**ACCESS AND MOBILITY**

THEME 5:  
**COMMUNITY WELLBEING**

The most effective actions are those developed by the community working together. Craigieburn Community Renewal provides genuine opportunities for residents to be involved, shape decisions and contribute to lasting outcomes where they live work and play.



## EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

**COMMUNITY PRIORITY:**  
**To make Craigieburn a place of opportunity for all by enhancing existing and creating new education and business capital.**

**WHY THIS IS A PRIORITY:**  
Better links between education opportunities and the local labour market will improve pathways to employment.  
Efficient use of existing education and business resources will reduce barriers to educational opportunities.  
40% of parents participate in schools in the Community Renewal area, as compared to 67% for metropolitan Melbourne.  
Business prosperity in Craigieburn will result in increased jobs for the local community.  
Community owned and operated enterprises provide support to local communities.

**PRIORITY ACTIONS:**  
Foster partnerships to expand learning and participation opportunities.  
Respond to the recommendations of the Business Expansion and Retention project and Community Enterprise Feasibility Study. This may include the establishment of:  
> Craigieburn Traders Association or Chamber of Commerce;  
> Buy Local campaign;  
> Craigieburn Employment Mentoring Program;  
> Fresh fruit and vegetable market community enterprise.  
Facilitate the establishment of a Global Learning Centre style community facility.

**OUTCOMES:**  
Website promoting learning and participation opportunities.  
Promotion of early learning and schooling opportunities for families.  
Expansion and coordination of homework groups.  
Greater collaboration and coordination between education providers.  
Increased utilisation of existing education and community facilities.  
Expanded range of locally available further education opportunities.  
Improved relationship between the business community and residents.  
Sponsorship of groups and clubs by local businesses.  
More opportunities for social interaction.  
Improved motivation of residents to shop locally.  
Greater employment and training opportunities.  
Clearer pathways to employment and learning.  
Community participation in the planning of the Craigieburn Library and Learning Centre.

## IDENTITY & IMAGE

**COMMUNITY PRIORITY:**  
**To improve the image of Craigieburn and create a sense of pride in both the physical appearance and strength of community.**

**WHY THIS IS A PRIORITY:**  
Enhancing gateways and streetscapes in established areas will improve community pride and the image of Craigieburn.  
Reducing obvious visual differences between the established and the newer parts of Craigieburn will strengthen community connection.

**PRIORITY ACTIONS:**  
Improve the appearance and gateways of Craigieburn incorporating high quality and consistent signage and landscaping.  
Work with business and property owners to improve the appearance of the established commercial and industrial precincts.

**OUTCOMES:**  
Rejuvenated gateways that incorporate high quality and consistent signage and landscaping, including the replacement of the Cyclone wire fence along Hamilton Street.  
Greater opportunities for visual artists to produce and present their work.  
Cleaner and more attractive streets.  
Less noticeable transition between older and newer neighbourhoods.  
Local residents feel better about the neighbourhood they live in.  
An identity for Craigieburn that respects and acknowledges its historical, cultural and environmental assets.  
Improved appearance of established commercial and industrial precincts.

**To transform Craigieburn into a place to visit and recreate, renowned for its cultural diversity and natural assets.**

Making Craigieburn a more attractive place to live and enhancing family friendly recreational activities in the area will build community strength and cohesion.  
Celebrating community events and natural areas of open space will positively influence locals' and visitors' perceptions of Craigieburn.  
43% of residents in the Community Renewal area attended a community event in the last six months, compared to 53% for the Melbourne Metropolitan area.  
A diverse range of community events will showcase Craigieburn's cultural diversity and build community participation, learning and confidence.

Re-invigorate the Friends of Aitken Creek group.  
Work with the Craigieburn Market Management Committee to enhance and promote the market as a district attraction.  
Manage the design and display of Christmas decorations.  
Promote greater participation and diversity in events and activities.  
Support the participation of local groups at the Craigieburn Festival. This may include providing a community groups marquee.

Increased community activity in Craigieburn Gardens and Aitken and Malcolm Creek Reserves.  
Enhanced appearance and amenity of open spaces and reserves, such as Craigieburn Gardens and Aitken Creek.  
Increased popularity, relevance and sustainability of the Craigieburn Market.  
More opportunities and greater access to participate in cultural, recreational and sporting activities, for local residents and visitors.  
Local residents feel better about the neighbourhood they live in.  
Greater community participation and diversity in events and activities.  
More opportunities to experience diverse cultures.  
Greater social inclusion and sense of belonging for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Communities.  
A stronger network of volunteers and community groups.

## COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE

**COMMUNITY PRIORITY:**  
**To improve the quality, availability of and accessibility of sporting, recreation and entertainment facilities in Craigieburn.**

Participation in recreational activities improves community cohesiveness and people's health and wellbeing.  
Craigieburn is a growing community and it is vital for the improvement of community facilities to keep pace.  
64% of people in the Community Renewal area rate access to recreation and leisure facilities as good or very good, compared to 84% for the rest of metropolitan Melbourne.

Participate in the concept planning process of the Craigieburn Leisure Centre redevelopment.  
Facilitate the development of a co-located skate and BMX park.  
Identify and respond to key issues and barriers to social inclusion relating to existing and planned sports, recreation and entertainment facilities.

Community participation in the concept planning process of the Craigieburn Leisure Centre redevelopment.  
Improved sporting, recreational and community facilities, including a new skate and BMX park with associated facilities and infrastructure.  
An accessed use of facilities such as the Craigieburn Bowling Club and Craigieburn Hall (Cathouse Theatre).  
Opportunities for community groups to use and experience a range of facilities.  
Improved facilities that cater for the growing needs of sporting and recreation groups as well as the wider community at the D.S. Aitken Reserve precinct.  
Master plan for the DS Aitken Reserve precinct.  
The expansion of programs available to men, such as positive parenting activities.

**To improve the availability of social infrastructure in Craigieburn.**

43% of the population in Craigieburn is aged under 25.  
Craigieburn's population will more than double by 2031.  
Easy access to affordable entertainment and social support for young people will help reduce public order related offences and positively impact on the symptoms of social and family disengagement.  
22% of households in the Community Renewal area are rental properties while 45% are still being purchased.  
3.8% of mortgages in Craigieburn are in arrears by 30 days or more – a clear indication of financial stress.

Respond to opportunities identified by young people and families that will improve local access to suitable community facilities and infrastructure and which may include the development of a hub style youth facility.  
Investigate opportunities and procedures to maximise the use of existing community facilities, and identify future needs.  
Facilitate the upgrade of the D.S. Aitken Reserve precinct as the principal active recreation space for the residents of the Community Renewal site.  
Work with local service providers and Hume Men's Shed to establish programs and activities for all men.

## ACCESS & MOBILITY

**COMMUNITY PRIORITY:**  
**To promote the use and facilitate the improvement of sustainable modes of transport in Craigieburn to improve access and mobility and positively influence the health and amenity of local residents.**

An improved network of walking and cycling paths throughout Craigieburn will make access to essential services safer and more convenient.  
Improving access to suitable car parking in proximity to Craigieburn Railway Station will increase public transport use and decrease parking congestion in the local street network.  
Making cycling safer and easier in Craigieburn will increase the use of bicycles, relieve pressure on infrastructure and address community wellbeing needs.  
More accessible transport options for people with a disability and those that are disadvantaged will improve opportunities for everyone to participate in community life.

Increase the capacity for suitable bicycle storage at highly visited locations, such as Craigieburn Railway Station, Craigieburn Plaza and the new Craigieburn Town Centre.  
Investigate the creation of a community transport service providing regular access to community facilities, commercial precincts and health and social support services, for people who are dependent on and experience difficulties accessing suitable public transport.  
Establish and support walking groups such as those run by the 'On the Move' and 'Active Craigieburn' programs.  
Support the participation of Craigieburn residents in a Bicycle User Group.  
Assist local residents to access and utilise public transport, and create and promote alternative transport options including to and from the Craigieburn Railway Station.

**OUTCOMES:**  
Safer and more accessible cycling opportunities.  
Reduced congestion of car parks and local streets in proximity to the Craigieburn Railway Station.  
A community transport service for those most disadvantaged in terms of access to public transport.  
Improved access to health and social support services.  
Reduced social isolation.  
Greater capacity to advocate for cycling infrastructure.  
Production and promotion of coordinated route maps including walking and cycling options.  
Improved access to and use of public and alternative transport.  
Greater pedestrian and cycling connectivity to link local destinations along key routes such as Benston Street.

## COMMUNITY WELLBEING

**COMMUNITY PRIORITY:**  
**To ensure all residents of Craigieburn have convenient and timely access to essential health and social support services.**

Assisting current services to meet demand will reduce waiting lists and allow more residents to access essential social support and health services within their region.  
The proportion of people aged 50 years and over will increase by 2024.  
3.4% of people in the Community Renewal area require assistance with core activities.  
Provision of locally-based support services allows families to remain in their communities of support in times of upheaval.  
Expansion of the Metropolitan Ambulance Service operating hours in Craigieburn will reduce response times, benefiting community safety and wellbeing.

Contribute to the investigation of the establishment of a new approach to service delivery to improve access to health and social support services for residents.  
Improve the knowledge, capacity and access to first aid and emergency response in Craigieburn.

**OUTCOMES:**  
Community participation in the investigation and potential concept planning process for a Service Village in Craigieburn.  
Improved knowledge of and access to services, including those delivered by outreach mode.  
Increased range and scope of locally-based services such as provision of crisis accommodation support and services.  
Greater community awareness and participation in the provision of emergency response services.  
Improved facilities for Craigieburn Emergency Response Team.  
A locally-based 24-hour ambulance service.

**To increase actual and perceived levels of safety in Craigieburn.**

Positive perceptions of safety are low and many members of the community, including young people, are at risk of becoming isolated and disconnected.  
Increased activity and opportunities for natural surveillance of public realms improves community perceptions of safety and will positively impact on the day-to-day lives of residents.  
Building police and community partnerships will improve safety and community perceptions.

Conduct a community safety audit of the community and investigate innovative opportunities to respond to the findings.  
Create opportunities to improve the relationship between young people and police.

The completion of a safety audit and the development of an Action Plan to address issues identified.  
Identification of shared community values.  
Residents feel safer in public spaces.  
Greater trust and respect between young people and the police.

**To increase accessibility to and the incidence of community participation and volunteering in Craigieburn.**

Craigieburn has roughly half the rate of volunteering as metropolitan Melbourne.  
Mapping activities and creating links among community groups will increase opportunities to participate.  
Increasing awareness of opportunities to volunteer will benefit the community groups, the individuals involved as well as the wider community.

Facilitate networking, participation and social opportunities for Craigieburn groups and individuals.  
Investigate the development of a community garden and identify an agency to oversee day-to-day site operations.

Annual event to recognise the contribution of voluntary work and community participation.  
Assist groups to promote their projects and events with each other and the broader community through avenues such as the Hume Volunteer Gateway project.  
Contribute to welcome packs for new residents distributed by Council, Developers and real estate agents, including information on community groups and clubs.  
Increased access to volunteering opportunities, and improved support and development for volunteers.  
A stronger network of volunteers and community groups.  
Greater opportunities for social interaction.