

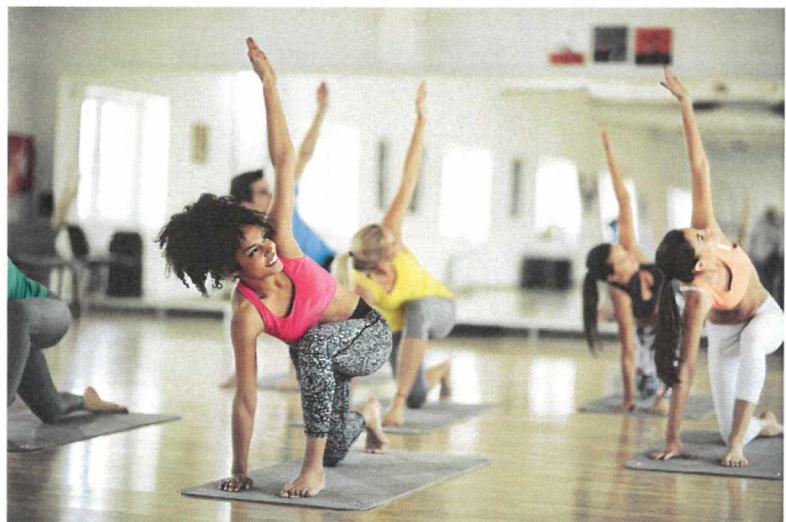
Mundaring Multi-purpose Community Facility

Despite current disruptions due to the impact of the COVID-19 virus, good progress is being made on planning for a Mundaring multi-purpose community facility (MPCF). The MPCF will house a modern library, meeting rooms and space for a variety of community activities and service providers. The new facility will complement the existing fabric and character of the town and support the creation of a civic and cultural heart in Mundaring.

Previous work on the Mundaring town centre, and activity centre planning identified the need to rationalise a range of civic and community facilities and to move towards a new MPCF.

This newsletter update provides feedback on community aspirations for the facility and outlines how you can be involved in the project as it moves forward.

Over the past eight months, the Shire and its consultant team have consulted the community through a survey, interviews, workshops and on-line comments portal what the MPCF could offer to the community, where it could be located and how it might “look and feel”.



What is Needed ?

When asked what facilities were needed respondents to the survey provided strong feedback that although the existing facilities in Mundaring are generally appropriate and well used, most require upgrading to cater for a broader demographic, particularly young people, children and families.

Housing for older adults and health facilities are needed. Access including bike facilities and public transport as well as safe pedestrian access, were also strongly identified as being required.

Meeting places and restaurants and cafes located in places of high amenity away from Great Eastern Highway were requested.

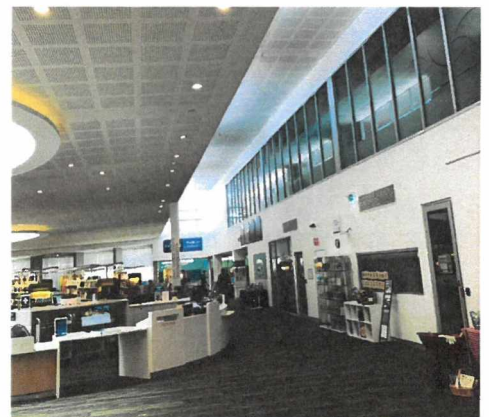
Fitness facilities including pump tracks, outdoor and indoor gyms and facilities for activities such as yoga, exercise classes and dance are needed.

Feedback also identified the need for a large space for concerts and events, shared multi-use spaces, facilities that are affordable to lease, build and maintain, co-located to form a precinct with outdoor spaces, having a "hills feel". That it should not duplicate existing commercial businesses.



“Look and Feel” of the MPCF

- It should be multi-generational and encourage interaction
- Attract locals and tourists
- Showcase environmental and sustainable development and living
- Integrated with the town centre and have a “natural feel” both through landscape and building style and materials
- “Future proof” for growth and adaptable in its use



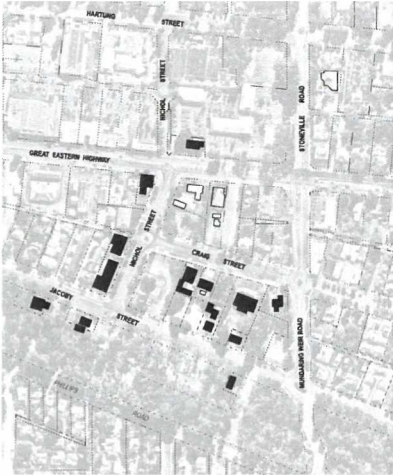
Where should the Mundaring MPCF be?

It was agreed by most respondents that the MPCF should be located south of Great Eastern Highway but not right on the highway. It should have high visibility and good access linked both to town centre and the Sculpture Park.

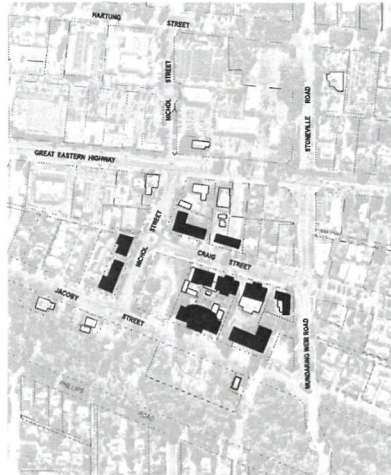
Linking to the commercial centre of town was important and might include a thoroughfare using the large block owned by the Shire currently used for RV and caravan parking and Nichol Street. The Mundaring Art Centre and the Mundaring Visitors Centre will need high visibility and to be accessible to passing tourists.

Preliminary Options (conceptual only)

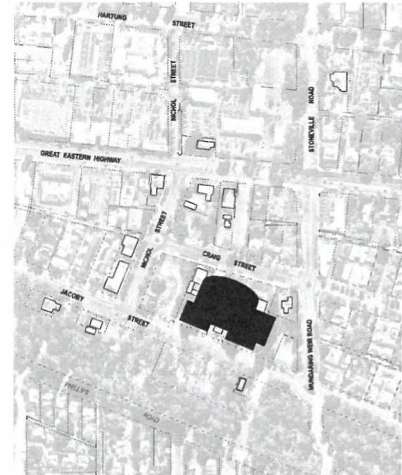
When considering three preliminary options, the community predominantly favoured a campus style cluster over a large stand-alone building but could see the merits in both configurations. There was little support for maintaining and upgrading the existing facilities, although the need for some re-purposing or rationalization was noted.



Option 1: Rationalise and Upgrade Existing Community Facilities



Option 2: Community Facility Campus



Option 3: Stand-alone Multi-purpose Community Facility

The MPCF should incorporate and build on the strengths of Mundaring including walking and cycling trails, night markets and the Sculpture Park.

A facility for young people featured strongly in all feedback as something the town needs. The Shire's young persons advisory group The Youth Crew, were asked what this might include. They were aligned with the general feedback but also added some insight into needs and ideas of young people. They suggested the facility include a large warehouse-like space that could include a range of activities and be linked to outside and a library as well. It could have an indoor play space for children, a "cool meeting space" with a lounge room – comfortable for "hanging out". This large space could also include a half-court for ball games, skate area, etc. "The feel" should be a place with an "artsy vibe", including shops aimed at the interests of young people, and a dining/entertainment precinct and a great playground for fitness and young people alike.

In summary, the engagement identified broad community support for the concept of a multi-purpose community facility located south of Great Eastern Highway. There was agreement that co-location of facilities would be beneficial and that this could be achieved either in a campus style development or a single large stand-alone building.

The "look and feel" of the facility should be consistent with a Mundaring hills style, built from natural materials and showcase sustainable development. Although there is existing provision of community facilities it was identified that many are in need of upgrading and that the needs of young people are not well catered for.

The opportunities from using land assembly to enable development of the town centre and provide a greater diversity of housing are supported. There is a recognised need to cater for local residents that may wish to down-size in retirement.





Next Steps

The next steps in the process are:

June/July 2020 – Council considers the consultant report on Needs Analysis and Land Assembly Options and Constraints and a decision framework to determine the type, location and make-up of the MPCF

August/September - Council considers the consultant draft report on a Property Strategy and Land Assembly Plan.

Need more information?

For more details on the project please visit the *Engage Mundaring* portal
<https://engage.mundaring.wa.gov.au/mundaring-multi-purpose-community-facility>

Wish to speak to someone?

If you would like to speak to someone about the Mundaring MPCF project please contact Marie Verschuer at Bodhi Alliance (0488 001 699) or Mike Pengelly at the Shire of Mundaring (08 9290 6635).

