



— JULY 2022

Miles Community Investment Plan

Refresh 2022+

Miles & District Community & Commerce





The refresh of the Miles Community Investment Plan has been led by the Miles and District Community and Commerce in partnership with local businesses and community. Thank you everyone who has participate in this process including attending workshops and providing ideas and feedback.

The Chamber also wishes to thank Western Downs Regional Council for their generosity in funding this refresh process.



Contents

| | |
|----------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Introduction + Background | 1 |
| Section 1: Project Context | 3 |
| Guiding Project Themes | 4 |
| Project Structure | 5 |
| Celebrating Milestones Achieved | 6 |
| Engagement Undertaken | 7 |
| Section 2: Projects of Interest | 9 |
| What does a future Miles Look Like? | 10 |
| How are we going to get there? | 11 |
| 01 Living Life in Miles | 12 |
| 02 Main Street | 15 |
| 03 Entrepreneurship | 17 |
| 04 Event + Activation | 19 |
| 05 Tourism | 21 |
| Next Steps | 23 |





Introduction & Background

In 2013, the Miles and District Community and Commerce in partnership with local businesses, residents, community groups and Western Downs Regional Council, commissioned consultancy Urbis to develop the Miles Community Investment Plan. The purpose of this document was to map out the town priorities for investment and develop a road-map for how these actions will be realised.

In 2022, the Miles and District Community and Commerce (Chamber) received further funding from Western Downs Regional Council which enabled them to commission a review of the plan. The objectives of this review exercise were three-fold including to:

- To provide a list of priority issues that can be developed into projects. This will enable the community to partner with investors to deliver the required projects and outcomes for the community.
- Review the projects which have been successfully implemented in the last 8-years allowing the project list to be updated accordingly.
- Identify and examine new or emergent issues and projects.

The review process included consultation with the Chamber, residents and businesses in the form of pre-session activities, a collaborative workshop and follow-up 1:1 discussions. Engagement activities allowed the group to assess which actions are still relevant and come to a collective understanding on the areas of focus for future investment.

This document summarises the outcomes from this review process aligned with the 5 project themes. The purpose of this document is to capture local aspirations, creating a road-map for future development and investment. It is also a great resource for pitching to project collaborators and funding bodies including private sector, Western Downs Regional Council (Council) or other governing authorities.

Community engagement and placemaking consultants Fourfold Studio were commissioned in 2022 to assist in the execution of the Miles Community Investment Plan review. Having worked closely with the Chamber and other stakeholders on the development of the Miles Community Action Plan, the Chamber believed Fourfold was well placed to take on this piece of work. This included integrating recommendations made in various documents into one go-to strategy outlining priorities for investment in Miles.

Actions identified within the plan are:

- Grounded in local aspirations.
- Unite local community, business and Council in a shared consensus in areas to focus investment.
- Focused to be delivered over the next 5-year.
- Focused on partnerships and collaboration to bring about positive change.
- About Miles identifying their own priorities for investment.

The key to great places is not just a matter of hardware; the physical aspects, but also one of software; the things that make a place unique, well used and ultimately loved. This document includes a range of recommendations including infrastructure change and master planning processes. However, amenity improvements are only one part of the story for Miles. This document complements recommendations for physical change with programming, event and activation ideas that have come to the forefront through this engagement process.

Document Navigation

For ease of interpretation this Plan has been organised according to the following sections:

Section 1 | Project Context: Background into works undertaken and achieved by the project to date along with community engagement outcomes facilitated through this process.

Section 2 | Projects of Interest: Detailed overview of projects participants are eager to see delivered over the next 5-years. Many of these projects may move beyond the proposed 5-year timeframe, however it is essential work begins immediately. This section also includes 5 catalyst projects which have strong support from the community to see implemented in the immediate future. To assist the Chamber in catalysing immediate action, these have been developed in greater detail.





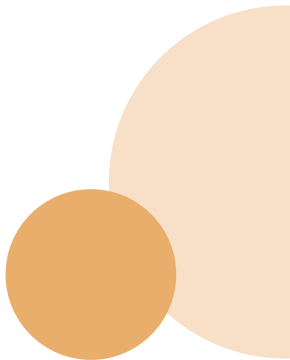
— SECTION 1

Project Context



Guiding Project Themes

Following the initial project engagement, 5 project themes have been identified to guide the development and implementation of subsequent projects within the Community Investment Plan. These original areas of focus continue to play a key role in the progression of this plan. Definitions and focus areas for each of the pillars have been tweaked following the most recent round of consultation. They have been defined as follows:

- 1. Living Life in Miles:** includes key facilities and amenities that can be provided in Miles that makes it a place people want to call home.
 - 2. Main Street:** Miles is at the intersection of 2 major inland highways. The main streets and surrounding streets including Pine and Dawson play a key role in the function of the township. Following the completion of the main street revitalisation, actions within this phase will focus on how the revitalisation can be extended, enhanced and activated to unlock their greatest potential and capture local and travelling business.
 - 3. Entrepreneurship:** this theme focuses on exploring how the Miles Chamber of Commerce and community can implement innovative ways to enhance the experience of Miles for locals and visitors alike. It is also about how small businesses and creatives can be supported. This theme incorporates how information can be collected and disseminated to residents, businesses and visitors. This will be a platform and vehicle for promoting everything happening in and around Miles.
 - 4. Events and Activations:** this focuses on short-term, one-off and temporary actions that enhance the experience of visiting and living in Miles. Actions include a balance between events and activations that attract locals and visitors alike. It also focuses on locally-led projects that allow community to see their fingerprints over the township.
 - 5. Tourism :** Miles has been coined by residents as the gateway to the outback, attracting visitors, particularly those travelling in RVs. This target area will focus on how we can get visitors to stop, spend time and in turn contribute to the local economy. It will focus on cementing Miles as a destination not just a place people pass through on their way to somewhere else.
- 

Project Structure

Projects noted within this document have been informed through engagement with the Chamber and wider community and respond to issues and opportunities that have been identified. Following the engagement period, projects were aligned with the overarching 5 themes. A 'catalyst project' has been identified aligned to each of the themes. Catalyst projects are those that the group believe need to be prioritised in the short-term. The process for project development has been identified in the adjacent diagram.



Celebrating Milestones Achieved

A review of the original Community Investment Plan and subsequent refresh document has highlighted that a number of projects originally identified have been achieved catalysing a significant amount of investment in Miles.

Some of the key highlight projects catalysed since the development of the Community Investment Plan Refresh 2019+ include:

- **Miles City Centre Revitalisation** including physical upgrades to the main street precinct and Anzac Park.
- **Miles Visitor Information Centre** architectural and landscape upgrades that have created a sense of arrival as people enter town from the East.
- Street planting, signage and co-branding with the **Historical Village** to lead visitors through the **Miles Heritage Trail to ANZAC Park** - a place they must visit.
- The continued funding and coordination for the **Back to the Bush Festival**.
- Delivery of the **Artesian Basin project**.
- Enhancements to the **Historical Village Museum** (referred to in various ways) to create a striking entrance to town.



Engagement Undertaken

As part of the project engagement the Chamber hosted a 2.5-hour collaborative visioning workshop at the Dogwood Crossing. The purpose of this session was to bring interested participants together to collaboratively develop and determine priorities for the delivery of projects in Miles over the next 5-years.

A range of stakeholder groups attended the session including the Miles High School captains. There was also a mix of local businesses and community groups in the room which ensured a diverse discussion.

Prior to attending the workshop, each of the participants were provided with an excel spreadsheet that outlined all of the projects identified in the existing Community Investment Plan, both actioned and un-actioned. This exercise was about getting participants to consider the suggestions included in the existing Community Investment Plan. This included both celebrating those that have been actioned over the last 10-years as well as assessing those that are yet to be actioned and to begin determining if they are still relevant areas of focus moving forward.

The in-person collaborative session focused on hands-on activities for participants to be able to share their ideas and aspirations for the future. This approach was three-fold and included:

01 Looking forward: The first activity of the workshop focused on getting participants to think about where they would like Miles to be in 5-years time. Each person in the room was asked to write a postcard to themselves as though they have just visited Miles in 2027. Key questions included: what sorts of things were you doing there? What did you see? Who were you with? The aim of this activity was to set the scene and encourage participants to think beyond right now, to inform future focused discussions throughout the remainder of the workshop.



02 Understanding Priorities for Delivery

Activity 2 focused on running through the outcomes from the pre-session activity including celebrating what has been achieved as well as understanding priorities for the next 5-years and beyond. From the long-list of yet to be actioned projects, participants determined which are still relevant and those that have been progressed beyond.

The second part of this activity focused on what was missing. Attendees worked individually to note potential projects or focus areas on individual post-its. The group then came back together to group ideas into similar projects of interest. During this part, actions were identified as either being short (12-month), medium (2-3 years) or long (4+ years) projects of interest.

03 Detailed Deep-dive

From the long-list of projects discussed during the activity prior, participants were asked to select a few projects they would like to develop in further detail. These projects will form the Catalyst projects that will be developed in greater detail within the Community Investment Plan.

To complement the findings gathered during the workshop, a series of follow-up 1:1s were undertaken with local businesses and interested community members the day following. Suggestions and ideas raised during these discussions have been integrated into the actions raised during the workshop the day prior.

Engagement Findings Issues + Opportunities



Project Themes

- 01 Living Life in Miles
- 02 Main Street
- 03 Entrepreneurship
- 04 Events + Activations
- 05 Tourism

Community Investment Plan Projects



Catalyst Projects

- 01 Affordable Housing
- 02 Don't forget to stop, Main Street Accessibility
- 03 Business Attraction + Retention
- 04 History + Heart
- 05 Dogwood Creek Upgrade

"What a difference to Miles in the last 15 years. I've just spent the last 3 days in town and had plenty of things to see and do. A visit to the Dogwood was fantastic - the walk from the Lagoon along the creek and around the back of the High School was very relaxing. The boardwalk and wildlife made for a pleasant journey. The exercise stations along the paths and memorial activities. "

~ Postcard activity response



— SECTION 2

Projects of Interest

What does a future Miles look like?

Activity 1 encouraged participants to think beyond the immediate needs of Miles and instead to the long term vision of what they would like to see happen over the next 5-years. There were key emerging ideas that came from this discussion including an emphasis on:

- Diverse provision of businesses including a range of retail, food and beverage.
- Continued greening of the township.
- Improved provision of amenities and facilities such as a heated pool, cinema and outdoor amphitheatre.
- Increase local tourism including RVs. This will be strengthened through the development of new recreational opportunities including the Dogwood Creek Masterplan and Weir 2 Weir project at Karingal Reserve and further consideration around RV parking.
- Extension of the Miles Historical Village. Opportunities have also been leveraged to greater embed this history into the main street and surrounds.
- Affordable places for people to live.
- Events and activities that appeal to a wide audience and keep everyone busy year-round.
- It is easy to find out what's happening around town through the newly developed 'What's on in Miles' app and notice board.
- There are lots of things for the towns young people to do as they have been actively involved in the decision making process and implementation of events and activities.





How are we going to get there?

The following section provides an overview of the long list of projects identified for inclusion in the Miles Community Investment Plan. It was evident, through the process of collating project suggestions, that there are opportunities for action integration where each project can leverage another to ensure best use of resources and maximum impact.

Each of the projects suggestions raised through the engagement have been developed in greater detail and include the following information:

- Project description
- Role of the Miles Chamber of Commerce (Chamber)
- Time frame - Short (<12 months), Medium (2-3 years) or Long (4 years+)
- Project stakeholders outside the Chamber
- Location
- Theme the project aligns to

Alignment with overarching themes will ensure similar ideas are grouped together and where relevant a sub-committee of interested parties could be established to drive progression and implementation of the project.

Additionally, within each of the themes, a catalyst project has been identified. Catalyst projects are those that the Miles Chamber of Commerce and wider community are keen to progress in the immediate future. The role of the Chamber differs across each of the catalyst projects. Some of the suggested projects sees the Chamber driving project inception and implementation, whilst others focus more on the Chamber advocating for the progression of project ideas.

Living Life in Miles Catalyst Project: Affordable Housing

Miles is a desirable place to live, however there is currently a lack of low cost, affordable housing available in town. This catalyst project focuses on how a greater diversity of housing can be created, that provides a place for everyone to call home. Within this project, the Chamber will be advocates, working closely with State Government, Council, not for profits and the Miles Community Centre to determine a collective road-map to move forward.

| PROJECT DESCRIPTION | ROLE OF THE CHAMBER | TIMEFRAME | ADDITIONAL PROJECT STAKEHOLDERS | LOCATION |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <p>Affordable Housing</p> <p>Miles offers residents a great lifestyle with lots of opportunities for employment. The Chamber has identified an existing gap being the provision of affordable housing. This catalyst project will focus on information gathering and advocacy for a greater provision of affordable housing within the Miles Township. Not only will this ensure greater housing provision, but it will be a way to attract people to live, work and play to Miles leading to positive economical flow-on effects.</p> <p>Key Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determine the best approach for ensuring greater provision of affordable housing in Miles. This may include assessing what has worked well in other regional centres as a benchmark for the project. | <p>Undertake greater investigation into what is required to provide affordable housing in Miles including liaising with relevant Local and State Government bodies.</p> | <p>Medium</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Western Downs Regional Council. Queensland State Government. Relevant housing providers and affordable housing bodies. | <p>Miles township and surrounds</p> |



Additional Living Life in Miles Projects

| PROJECT DESCRIPTION | ROLE OF THE CHAMBER | TIMEFRAME | ADDITIONAL PROJECT STAKEHOLDERS | LOCATION |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>What's on in Miles</p> <p>This project focuses on the digitisation of existing community information for promotion both to the community and for people new to the area. The two main vehicles for this are the development of a 'What's in Miles' app and corresponding data information board to be positioned in the main street. The app and corresponding board will include a range of information including: events calendar, business directory, town map, tourist attractions, history of the region, health services, accommodate providers, renewable energy sector and local schools. It will have something for those visiting Miles for the first time and new and long-time residents.</p> <p>Key Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 'What's in Miles' App inc. the digitisation of print material and other existing promotional material. Digital Notice board. | <p>It is proposed this project will be owned and coordinated by the Chamber to ensure the desired outcome is achieved. The group will also be responsible for coordinating and sourcing funding for the project. Avenues to explore include WDRC's grants program or the energy sector who distribute grant funding for local community groups and projects e.g. The Community Sponsorship Program by Origin Foundation.</p> | <p>Short</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Centre. Local businesses. Funding partners including Council or the resource sector. Software technicians to assist with the app build. | <p>The physical data board is proposed to be located out the front of the Senior Citizens Building.</p> |
| <p>Sports Facilities</p> <p>Sporting facilities are important assets for the community, not only for use by locals, but as attractors for people from further afar. This includes the local swimming pool, race course and other facilities. This action seeks to explore opportunities to work closely with Council to maintain and, where required, upgrade some of these facilities. It also focuses on showcasing and sharing with people from surrounds, the amenities available for use. The attraction of larger events will in turn mean more people spending time and money locally, positively impacting the local economy.</p> <p>Key Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work closely with Council to understand the future requirements for facility upgrades within Miles. Potential infrastructure includes the local pool, football and race course facilities. | <p>Advocate and work in close partnership with Council and other relevant organisations.</p> | <p>Short</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Western Downs Regional Council. Local sporting groups and relevant organisations. | <p>Relevant sporting facilities including the pool, football and race course. facilities</p> |

| PROJECT DESCRIPTION | ROLE OF THE CHAMBER | TIMEFRAME | ADDITIONAL PROJECT STAKEHOLDERS | LOCATION |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <p>Community Garden</p> <p>Community gardens present an opportunity for community and relevant stakeholders to come together to meet one another and spend time through active recreation. Suggestions have been made to explore the opportunity for a community garden to be developed in Miles. Although a preferred location has not yet been identified it will need to be located in a place that is easily accessible for a diverse range of stakeholders. It is also proposed an informal committee is established who will have ongoing ownership over the space to ensure it is well looked after and maintained. Also explore a partnership with the local high school to assist in the production of planters and ongoing maintenance</p> <p>Key Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake wider consultation with the local community and relevant stakeholder groups to determine if there is interest from the community in the development and ongoing management of a community garden. • Should it be determined that there is enough interest in a community garden being provided in Miles, the Chamber will work with Council and other relevant stakeholders to determine the best location for the facility and how it will be managed in an ongoing capacity. | <p>Project coordinators in the early phases to determine if it is a project the community and residents of Miles are interested to see progressed.</p> | <p>Medium</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local residents. • Relevant stakeholders including the local school. | <p>TBC</p> |
| <p>Miles Gym Extension</p> <p>The Miles Gym is currently at capacity with no current dedicated space for group fitness classes. Opportunities exist to either extend the existing gym building outside with a covered area, or explore alternatives around town including the Dogwood Master Plan walkway. This could include the provision of outdoor recreation and fitness facilities providing free options for Miles residents.</p> <p>Key Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore opportunities for the extension of the Miles Gym space, determining if it should be either an extension to existing facilities or providing new outdoor amenities. | <p>Advocates for the project. If it decided that outdoor equipment is the best approach, work with Council and other relevant stakeholders to determine the best location for these new facilities.</p> | <p>Medium</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Western Downs Regional Council | <p>To be determined</p> |

Main Street Catalyst Project: Don't Forget to Stop, Main Street Accessibility

The main street revitalisation has created a space that is inviting for people to stop and spend time, however suggestions have been made that reduced parking has restricted easy access to services. The major focus for this project is to develop an integrated parking plan for the whole town. It is also about changing behaviour of people who park their vehicles in the main street for the entire day as well as using wayfinding to direct people to alternative spaces including ANZAC Park.

| PROJECT DESCRIPTION | ROLE OF THE CHAMBER | TIMEFRAME | ADDITIONAL PROJECT STAKEHOLDERS | LOCATION |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Don't forget to stop - Main Street Accessibility</p> <p>This catalyst project focuses on the development of an integrated parking plan for the whole town. This includes assessing parking spaces best suited for a variety of users including local shoppers, RVs and trucks. This integrated plan will then allow for the prioritisation of sites for action. Short term opportunities also include the use of wayfinding to direct people to available carparking including ANZAC Park, Pine Street and Marian Street.</p> <p>There is also an opportunity to support further parking on the empty lot at 61/65 Murilla Street. Suggestions have been raised that this space could be designed as a mixed-use space to ensure it is also positively contributing to the public realm. This includes having planting and greening on the street interface, with access to the space proposed to come from Marian Street. The strategic location of the space will also allow it to house different activations and events. Additional suggestions to encourage increased dwell time in the main street precinct includes the installation of an Electric Vehicle Charging Station.</p> <p>Key Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake an independent parking assessment to determine the need for additional spaces in the main street precinct and across town for RVs, long and heavy vehicles, so there is an integrated plan for the town. • Increased parking, servicing businesses in the main street inclusive of longer vehicles and RVs. • Improved wayfinding encouraging people to stop and directing them to surrounding amenities and alternative parking areas. • Explore opportunities for the installation of an electric charging station. • Integrate with other projects such as the Dogwood Creek Master Plan, Historical Village and service stations. | <p>The Chamber will be key drivers of this project in the short term, including exploring avenues to accommodate more parking in the precinct and how it will be integrated across town. They will also be the group responsible for determining who will be required to drive this project including liaising closely with the owners of the land. If it is decided this project will not be a privately driven approach, then a partnership will need to be explored between Council and the Department of Transport and Main Roads.</p> | <p>Short</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Owner of the empty site/s. • Local businesses. • Western Downs Regional Council. • Department of Transport and Main Roads. | <p>Across the entire Miles township including the central business area.</p> |



Additional Main Street Projects

| PROJECT DESCRIPTION | ROLE OF THE CHAMBER | TIMEFRAME | ADDITIONAL PROJECT STAKEHOLDERS | LOCATION |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <p>Main Street Extension, 'End to End'</p> <p>The recently completed Miles main street revitalisation has beautified the core of the Miles CBD. This action seeks to explore opportunities to extend this project to encompass a greater area of the Miles Main Street from the Dogwood Bridge to the Historical Village. An initial design phase that focuses on integration of business, tourism and residential needs. It could then progress to a staged construction process.</p> <p>Key Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a conceptual plan for the entire street, improving liveability for locals and to encourage travellers to stop and look around. • Work with Council to explore the feasibility and opportunity to extend capital works further along Murilla Street/Warrego Highway and adjacent streets including Pine Street in line with an integrated plan. • Link with the development of the integrated parking plan. | Project advocates including ensuring consultation with the community. | Medium | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Western Downs Regional Council. • Queensland State Government as a potential funding partner. | Main Street precinct and surrounds. |
| <p>Pine Street Shared Space</p> <p>Pine Street is the food and beverage heart of Miles, with key attractors being the Creek Cafe, Windsor Hotel and Mace's Hot Bread and Coffee Shop. The Shared Space action looks to explore opportunities for this to become an 'eat street precinct' due to the concentration of food and beverage provisions. Opportunities to achieve this include traffic calming to pedestrianise the precinct, formalising the car parking and greater wayfinding directing people new to the area to the precinct. This will also be strengthened through the eventual implementation of abovementioned main street extension.</p> <p>Key Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore the potential to trial this concept through a temporary pop up to understand the interest from community and potential partners and help drive future investment. • Further investigation to understand local business, community and Council aspirations for the transformation of Pine Street into an eat street precinct. • Align with the development of an integrated parking plan. • Depending on the findings from the investigation further opportunities could include new wayfinding signage, formalised carparking and temporary or permanent traffic calming measures. | Project coordinators, liaising with all relevant project stakeholders. | Medium | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local business. • Western Downs Regional Council. | Pine Street |

Entrepreneurship Catalyst Project: Business Attraction + Retention

The local Miles businesses are the heart of the main street precinct, however there are currently a significant number of vacancies within the precinct. The focus for this project is 2-fold, to assess existing provisions in town to identify current gaps. The second part of the project will be to undertake a marketing campaign to actively encourage new businesses to open in the centre.

| PROJECT DESCRIPTION | ROLE OF THE CHAMBER | TIMEFRAME | ADDITIONAL PROJECT STAKEHOLDERS | LOCATION |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <p>Business Attraction + Retention</p> <p>The township of Miles presents a number of opportunities for new businesses including availability of land, places to lease at an affordable price, family friendly community and close proximity to local centres including Toowoomba, Dalby, Brisbane and the coast. This action explores opportunities to strengthen and retain existing businesses, whilst exploring opportunities to attract new businesses to the township.</p> <p>The approach to this project is two-fold. The first step will be to undertake a gap analysis of the main street and service precinct to identify what is missing from the centre that would make it a more prosperous place for people to visit, balancing the needs of both regular and one-off visitors. The second phase will be to develop a marketing campaign that highlights the benefits of setting up a business in Miles. Having the results from the gap analysis will allow targeted communication for businesses that would be advantageous to have in the township and that would provide a desirable mix.</p> <p>Key Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake the business gap analysis. • Produce marketing collateral to attract new businesses to Miles and surrounds. | Project drivers | Short | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economist or the like to undertake the gap analysis. May also require assistance from a marketing group to produce promotional collateral. | Miles township and surrounds. |



Additional Entrepreneurship Projects

| PROJECT DESCRIPTION | ROLE OF THE CHAMBER | TIMEFRAME | ADDITIONAL PROJECT STAKEHOLDERS | LOCATION |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <p>Amplifying the Voices of Young People</p> <p>Traditionally it is challenging to keep the young people of Miles, in Miles with many opting to move away post-school. This action explores opportunities to involve young people in the decision making process through the development of a Youth Council. This group will be coordinated through the local high-school with representatives sitting in on quarterly Chamber meetings to provide feedback on projects being discussed. There is also additional opportunities to work with local schools and other youth oriented groups to develop project ideas and assist in their implementation.</p> <p>Key Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trial of a Youth Council. • Partner with schools and other youth oriented organisations to assist in project idea development and delivery. • Development of youth leadership skills. • Encourage and support youth-led activities and activations leveraging suggestions made through other project actions. | Support the implementation and coordinate with the local school and other youth oriented organisations for the development and trial of the Youth Council. | Short | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local schools. • Sporting groups. | Miles township and surrounds. |
| <p>Community Arts Projects + Workshops</p> <p>There is interest from the community in exploring opportunities for small scale creative arts projects and workshops to be undertaken in Miles. Not only will this bring colour and vibrancy to different areas around town, but it presents an opportunity for creative storytelling e.g through murals. Larger events including a potential silo projection festival will be an attractor for people to come and visit Miles. It is proposed a sub-committee within the Chamber is coordinated to manage these projects, tying in with other projects happening around town including workshops at the Dogwood Crossing.</p> <p>Key Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link in with the local arts community who can progress and manage locally-led arts and creative projects in Miles. • Explore avenues for project funding including grants from Arts Queensland, Council or the resource sector. • Explore potential partnerships with Council and other active community groups. | Coordinate the project so it connects with the local arts community. | Medium | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interested community members and stakeholder groups including the Dogwood Crossing workshops. | NA |

Event + Activation Catalyst Project: History + Heart

The township of Miles has a long history of locally-led activities, events and activations. These actions present an opportunity to bring the community together, whilst breathing life into the streets and spaces between buildings. This project also encompasses embedding and integrating history into the main street.

| PROJECT DESCRIPTION | ROLE OF THE CHAMBER | TIMEFRAME | ADDITIONAL PROJECT STAKEHOLDERS | LOCATION |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <p>History + Heart</p> <p>With the Miles Historical Village as the gateway into town, history plays a key role in the identity of Miles. The main street project has begun to embed this history into the main street through interpretive elements, artwork and an audio storytelling trail. History and heart focuses on building and extending this work. It also includes the ongoing management of the Miles Wall of Greats, with a new local community member recognised annually.</p> <p>Key Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued extension of the Miles Wall of Greats on an annual basis. Explore additional opportunities to bring history into the main street and extend it down to the Miles Historical Village to strengthen this link and connection. Extend the storytelling trail to encompass a greater area of Miles. Explore opportunities to link historical aspects into the Dogwood Creek Master Plan project. | <p>Collaborating with Council and the Historical Village the Chamber will assist in identifying opportunities to further embed history through creative ways.</p> | <p>Short</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Miles Historical Village Local community and residents | <p>Main Street Precinct</p> |



Additional Event + Activation Projects

| PROJECT DESCRIPTION | ROLE OF THE CHAMBER | TIMEFRAME | ADDITIONAL PROJECT STAKEHOLDERS | LOCATION |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <p>Community-led Actions</p> <p>This action seeks to encourage this through one-off and regular events. Further opportunities to encourage locally-led action include to develop an events tool-kit that streamlines the process of running events in Miles including a how-to-guide and standard permit system. Additional suggestions for community-led action included the development of a local tour guide program. These volunteer groups will be responsible for undertaking walking tours and directing people to activities including the audio storytelling trail and Miles Historical Village. There are opportunities to align this action with the Visitor Information Centre.</p> <p>Key Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage and support locally-led events and activations. • Streamline the process of running events through the development of a how-to guide. • Local tour guides program. | <p>The Chamber will be the program champions and will be key advocates encouraging activity. They will focus less on the physical delivery on community-led actions and more on directing interested participants to the relevant resources such Council's grants program for local events. They will also be able to promote activities taking place through the relevant channels.</p> | Short | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Miles Historical Village • Miles Visitor Information Centre • Local schools • Local businesses • Local residents and community | <p>Miles township and surrounds</p> |
| <p>Light-up the Night</p> <p>It has been identified by the Chamber that lighting up Miles is an important step to improve local perceptions of safety and activation of the township in the evenings. It is also an opportunity to drive visitation during the summer, when it is too hot to be outside during the day and is much more pleasant of an evening. There are three potential options for lighting in Miles including: permanent wall lighting, annual projection week or light tours along Dogwood Creek. Further information on this action including case studies and indicative costs can be found in the Miles Community Action Plan, 2020.</p> <p>Key Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore opportunities to light-up Miles in both temporary and permanent approaches. • Advocate to Queensland Police Service and Council for the installation of CCTV in main business areas. | <p>Advocates and potential coordinators of this project.</p> | Medium | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Miles Historical Village. • Centre for Projection Arts. • Queensland Police Service. | <p>Miles township and surrounds</p> |

Tourism Catalyst Project: Dogwood Creek Upgrade

The Dogwood Creek is a major recreational attraction for Miles locals and visitors from further afar, particularly due to its close proximity to Miles main street. It also forms the gateway into Miles when travelling from the West and South. With a high-level master plan already developed, this project seeks to explore opportunities to progress this plan and positively contribute to the space through upgraded facilities and stronger recreational connections including walking and cycling trails.

| PROJECT DESCRIPTION | ROLE OF THE CHAMBER | TIMEFRAME | ADDITIONAL PROJECT STAKEHOLDERS | LOCATION |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Dogwood Creek Recreation Upgrade</p> <p>This project focuses on developing Moraby and Chinaman’s Lagoon Parks as rest stops for travellers and a picnic spot and exercise area for locals. It also involves further development of the pathway that links both parks along the Dogwood Creek. Currently at concept phase, this project will focus on the progression of the design process to detailed design and further to implementation.</p> <p>This project presents an opportunity to create a new destination in Miles that will encourage visitors to spend time through upgraded facilities and potential to accommodate overnight camping. Not only will this provide activities and facilities for visitors but will be an asset for locals through the extension of the Dogwood Creek walking circuit and provision of other recreational facilities.</p> <p>Key Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocate for progression of the project design process. • Provide strategic support and feedback as the project progresses. • Integrated with the Weir to Weir project that is championed by the fishing club. • Align with a plan for integrated parking. | <p>The Chamber are a key advocate for this project. Their role is to raise awareness and the profile of this project to attract funding for future phases. As the progress progresses into the next phase of the design process, the group will be a key asset for the project including retaining an open dialogue with project delivery partners and encouraging the community to participate in engagement activities.</p> | <p>Short</p> <p>Progression of this project is a priority in the short-term, with acknowledgment it is a large endeavor and will flow into the medium and long-term.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Western Downs Regional Council • Queensland State Government • Local businesses and residents • Fishing club | <p>This project focuses on the Dogwood Creek precinct, including Moraby Park, Central Zone / Historic Cemetery and Chinaman’s Lagoon.</p> |



Additional Tourism Projects

| PROJECT DESCRIPTION | ROLE OF THE CHAMBER | TIMEFRAME | ADDITIONAL PROJECT STAKEHOLDERS | LOCATION |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Rail Trail + Cycling Network</p> <p>Outdoor recreation is a major attractor for people visiting Miles and surrounds. Additionally it promotes a healthy and liveable lifestyle for both locals and visitors. This action looks to explore the potential feasibility and opportunities to create a stronger cycling network within Miles and surrounds. There is potential opportunity to develop a rail trail, aligned and connected with the Wandoan. Having Miles as a start or ending point on the journey will be beneficial in strengthening the local economy through meals and accommodation provisions. It will also be a mechanism for building greater awareness of Miles as a must-visit destination.</p> <p>Key Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further investigation into what is required to develop a Miles rail trail extension. This includes liaising with Council, State Government and Queensland Rail. • Further investigation on how to better connect cycle paths within town. • Further investigation into bike circuits outside Miles e.g. wildflower tour, link in with major festivals such as Back to the Bush. | Project coordinators, liaising with all relevant project stakeholders. | Medium | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local business. • Western Downs Regional Council. | Rail trail corridor. |
| <p>Weir 2 Weir Dogwood Recreation Area - Karingal Recreation Reserve</p> <p>Karingal Reserve is located approximately 6.5kms from the Miles CBD, just off the Leichhardt Highway and offers a range of recreational opportunities including RV parking, camping and BBQ facilities. Fishing competitions undertaken onsite are a major attractor for the local area. The Miles Fishing Group have been successful in securing funding for the Weir 2 Weir Dogwood Recreation Area. This includes the development and integration of a multi-use area and facilities between the two weirs along the Dogwood Creek including fishing club facilities, camping spaces and multi-use amenities to support activities including fishing, canoeing, and restocking the creek with native fish. Future opportunities also include the potential development of inland waterways information centre and research facility. This project is beneficial for Miles and surrounds as an attractor for visitors, with amenities for locals through recreation activities and will raise the overall profile of the Miles township.</p> <p>Key Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the progression the Weir 2 Weir and Karingal project, providing assistance where required. • Integrate with the Dogwood Creek upgrade. | Support project implementation and the fishing club through advocacy, awareness raising and participation where required. | Medium | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Miles Fishing Club. • Angler Force. | Karingal Reserve and surrounding Dogwood Creek area. |



Next steps

The Miles Community Investment Plan has been developed in close collaboration with the Miles and District Community and Commerce.

Following approval of the document, it will be presented at the Chamber Annual General Meeting (AGM) so other groups and members of the community are aware of its existence and are able to use it for project submissions. It will also be an opportunity to call on the community to get involved in the delivery of catalyst projects identified in the Plan.

Following official endorsement of the document by the Chamber, the first step will be to present the findings to Western Downs Regional Council who were responsible for fundings this review process. They are also a key stakeholder who will be able to assist in getting a lot of the projects identified in the plan off the ground. Additionally, the collective will be able to assess where there is overlap between projects proposed in the Community Investment Plans and projects in Council's existing pipeline. Understanding alignment between both groups will ensure complementary processes that leverage one another for the greatest impact.

The Chamber will also arrange meetings with industry bodies who may be able to assist with project delivery through the provision of grant funding. This document will be an important resource for these discussions demonstrating there is strong support and research for each of the projects proposed.

