Community update session

Eungella & Finch Hatton - February 7, 2021

PIONEER VALLEY MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAILS

Mackay REGIONAL COUNCIL

The opportunity

100 km of trails
26 individual trails
36 km adventure trail

15,600 international visitor rides

$8.8M - $13.6M construction cost

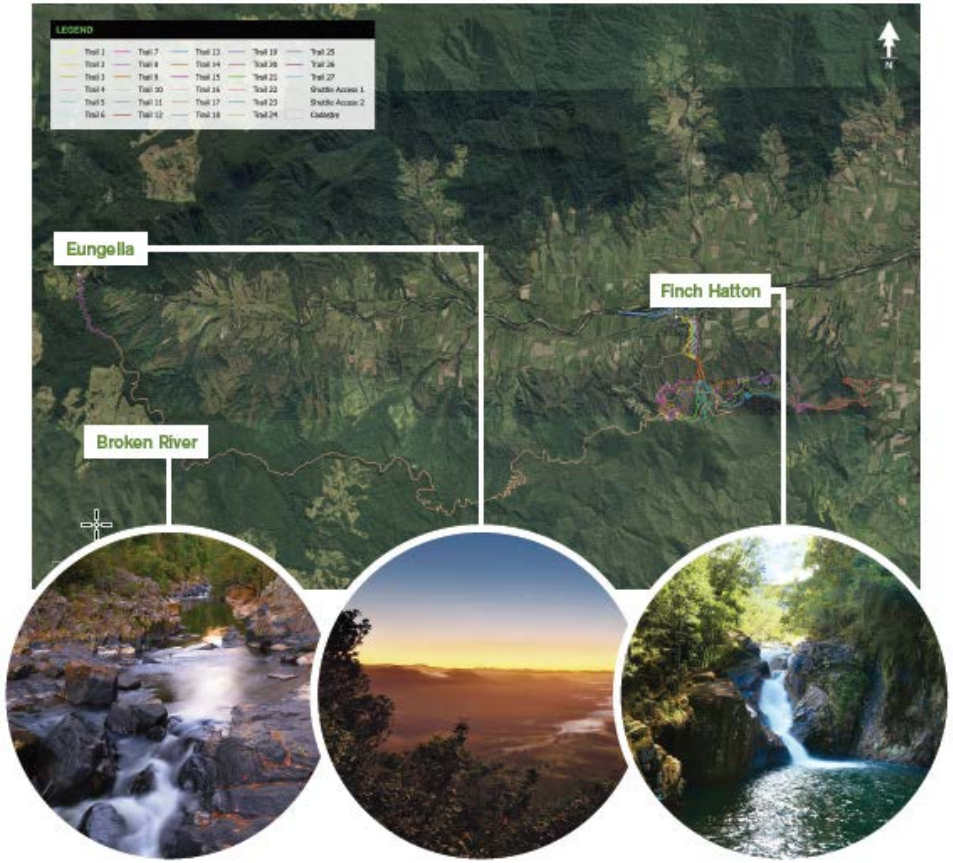
31,000+ new visitors

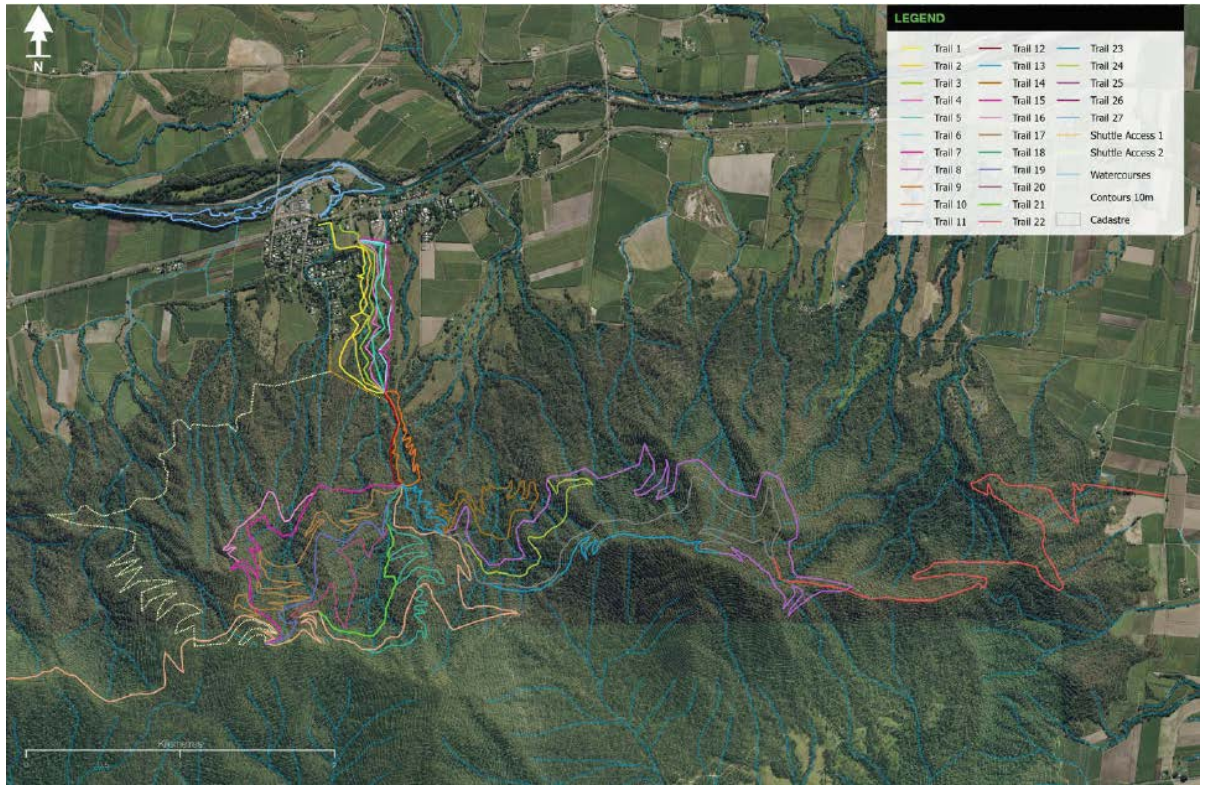
$18.1M visitor spending

110.4 FTE jobs

$300,000 annual maintenance cost

Proposed trail network





Project timeline

Business Case/ Concept

2020-2021

Land Acquisition

Native Title Negotiations

Masterplan for Trail Head

Environmental & Cultural Heritage Assessments

Local Area Planning Framework

Engage local community and tourism interests

Detailed Design

2021-2022

Relevant Agencies Approvals

Detailed Design of Access Roads and Trail Head

Seek Funding

Design & Construction

2022-2024

Commence Design & Construction of Trails

Project progress

Completed

- feasibility study
- local area plan - preliminary planning investigations

In Progress

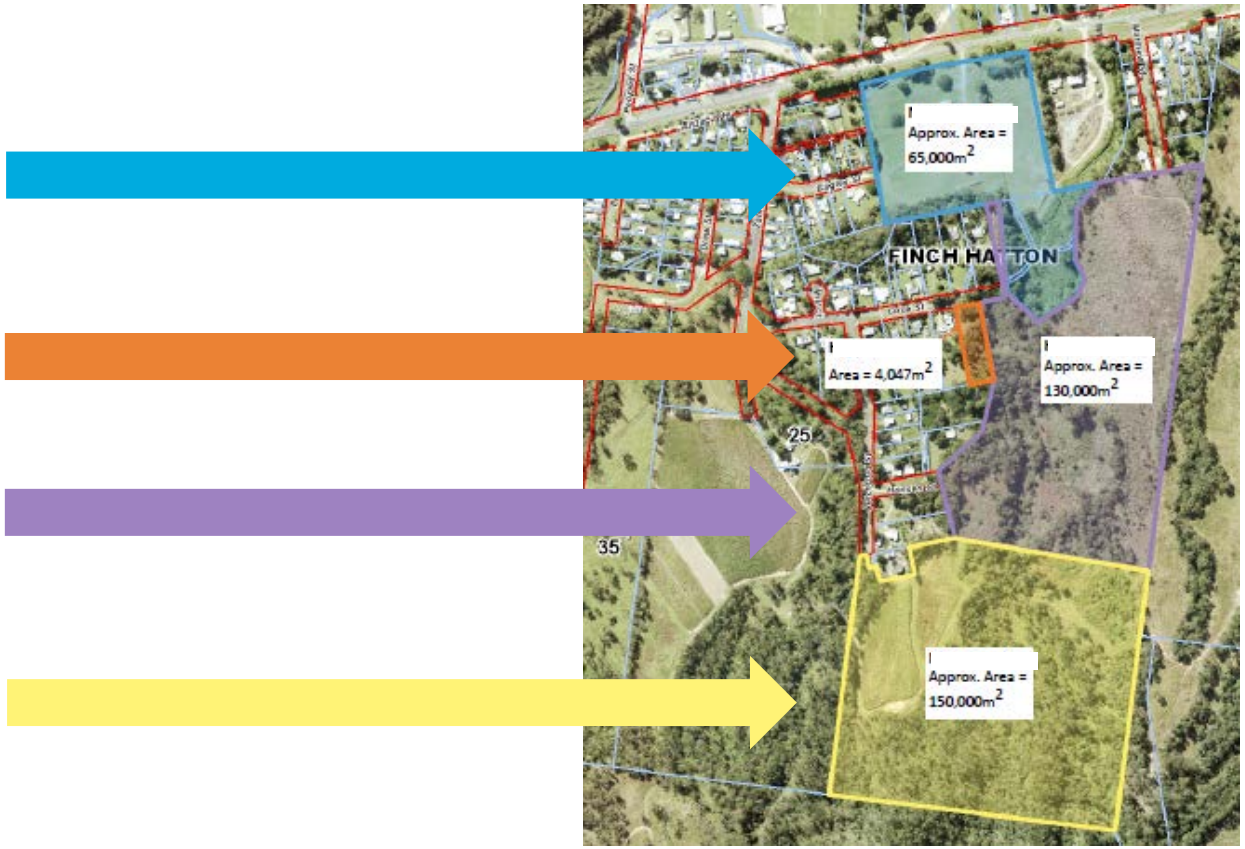
- native title negotiations
- master planning of Finch Hatton trailhead
- environmental and cultural heritage consultant engagement
- shuttle access road design
- local area planning framework recommendations
- tourism business development mentoring program

Next steps

- environmental field investigations and assessment report
- progress with detailed design
- seek approvals from relevant agencies
- planning scheme recommendations

Land acquisition

- 2 Anzac Parade
  - boundary to be realigned
  - settlement expected in March
- 16 Cook Street
  - settled
- 2 Matthew Street
  - settled
- 2 Zahmel Street
  - boundary to be realigned
  - settlement expected in March



Environmental and cultural heritage assessment

Stage 1

Desktop assessment and preliminary environmental assessment

Cultural heritage due diligence assessment

Stage 2

Field investigations and environmental assessment report

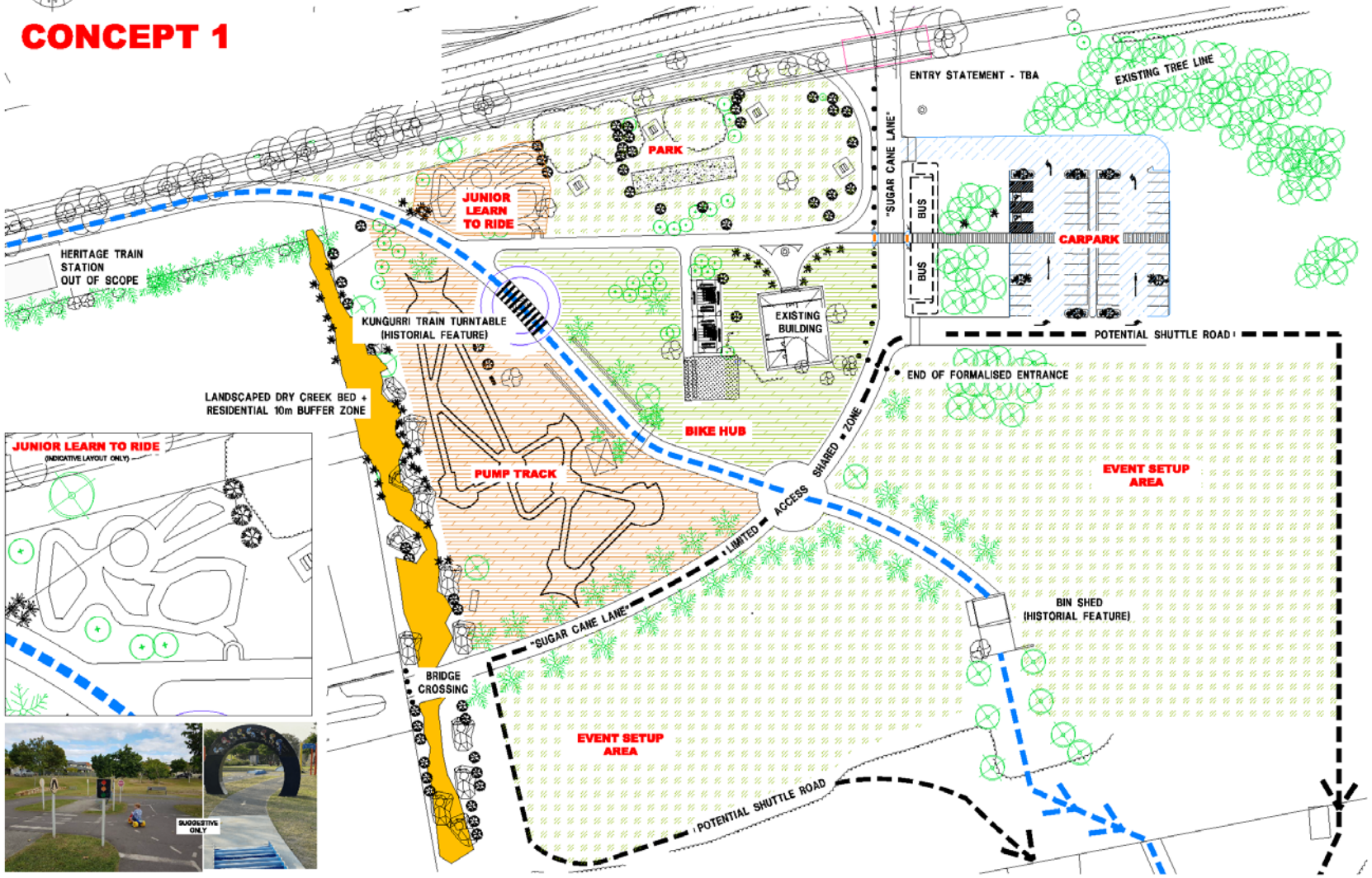
HOLD POINT

Stage 3

Environmental approvals

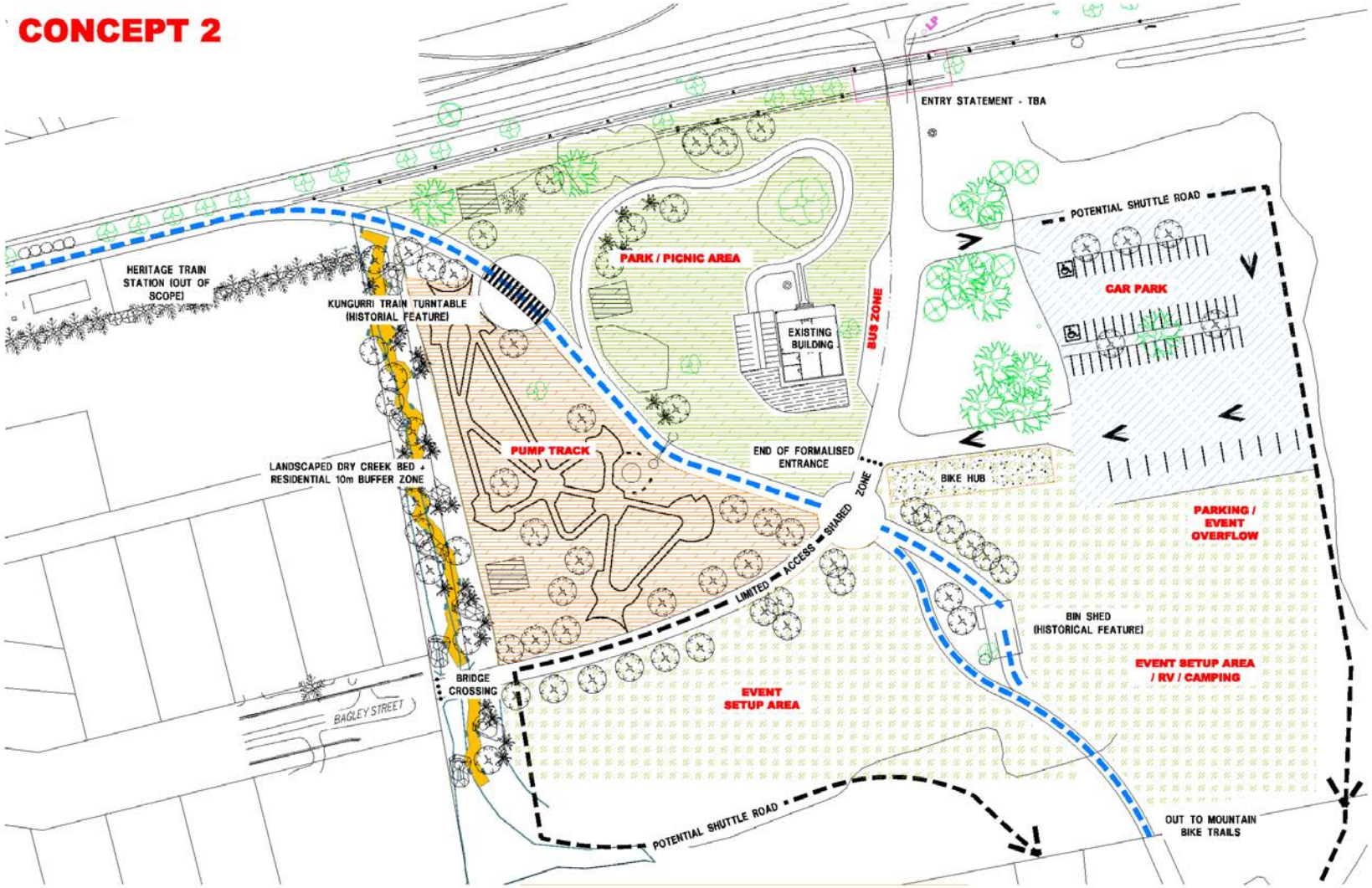
WELCOME TO : FINCH HATTON TRAIL HEAD

CONCEPT 1



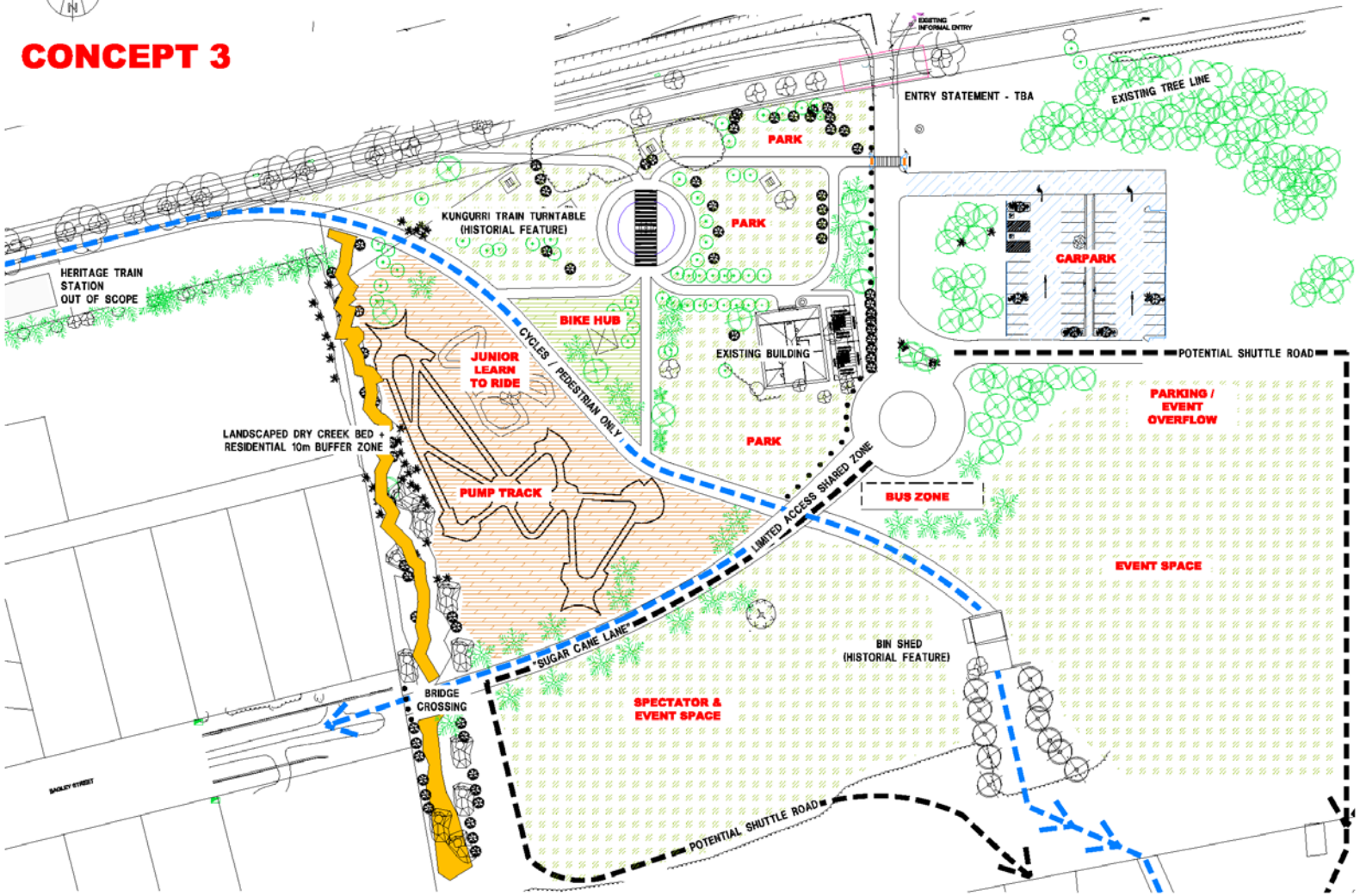
WELCOME TO : FINCH HATTON TRAIL HEAD

CONCEPT 2

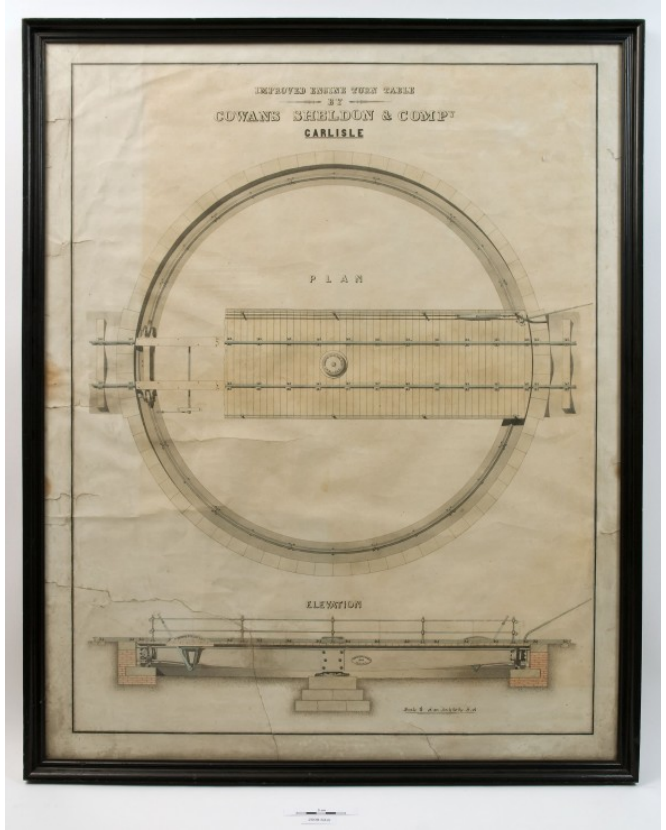


WELCOME TO : FINCH HATTON TRAIL HEAD

CONCEPT 3



Kungurri turntable



Cattle Creek Mill Administration Building restoration

PIONEER VALLEY MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAILS

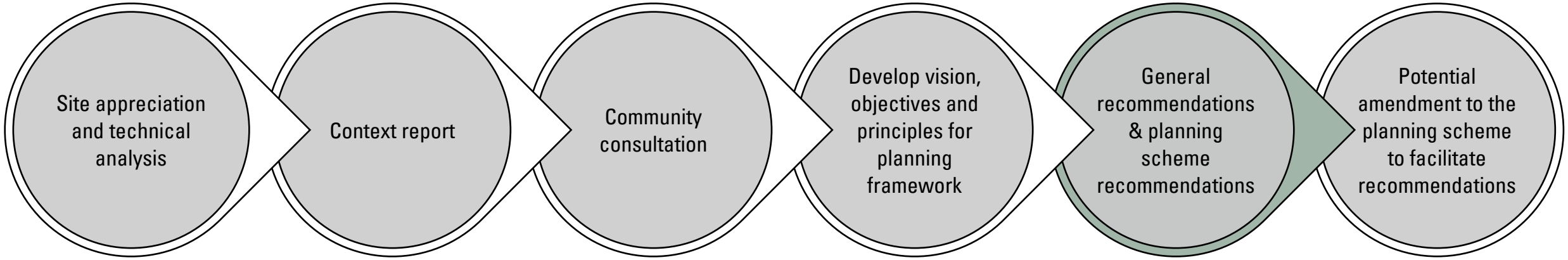
LOCAL AREA PLANNING PROJECT

CONTENTS OF PRESENTATION

- Introduction to the local area planning project & its role within the Mountain Bike project
- What is the general process of a local area planning project & why we are doing it?
- Preliminary planning investigations
- LAPF Community Consultation Results
- Finch Hatton local area planning framework
- Questions?

INTRODUCTION

LOCAL AREA PLANNING PROJECT PROCESS



WHY?

- Unlock development opportunities that support the mountain bike trails and job creation
- Rejuvenation of activity in the commercial heart of the township
- Identification of opportunities for public realm enhancements in key locations and movement corridors
- Ensuring facilitative planning regulations

PRELIMINARY PLANNING INVESTIGATIONS

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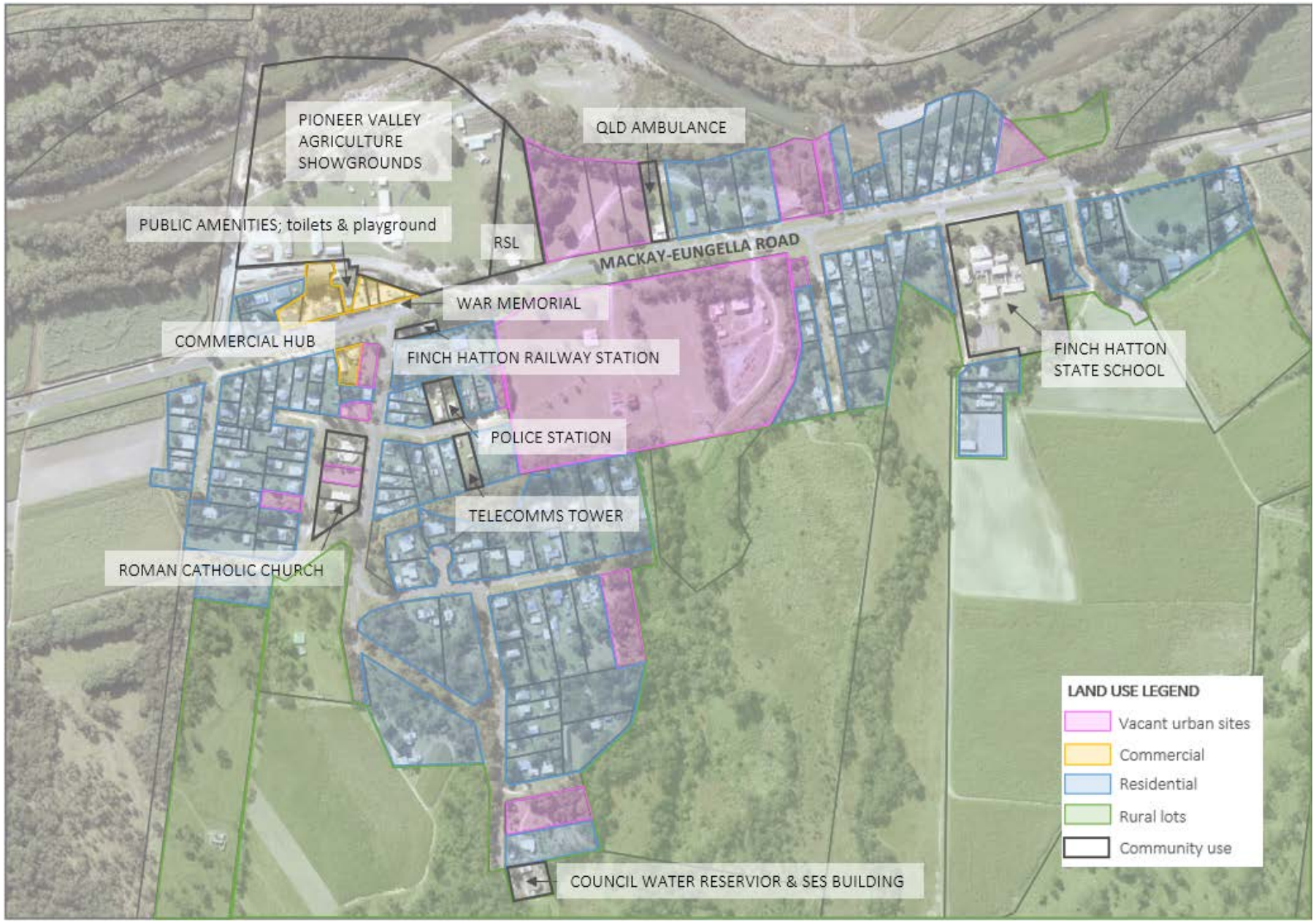
LAND USE ANALYSIS



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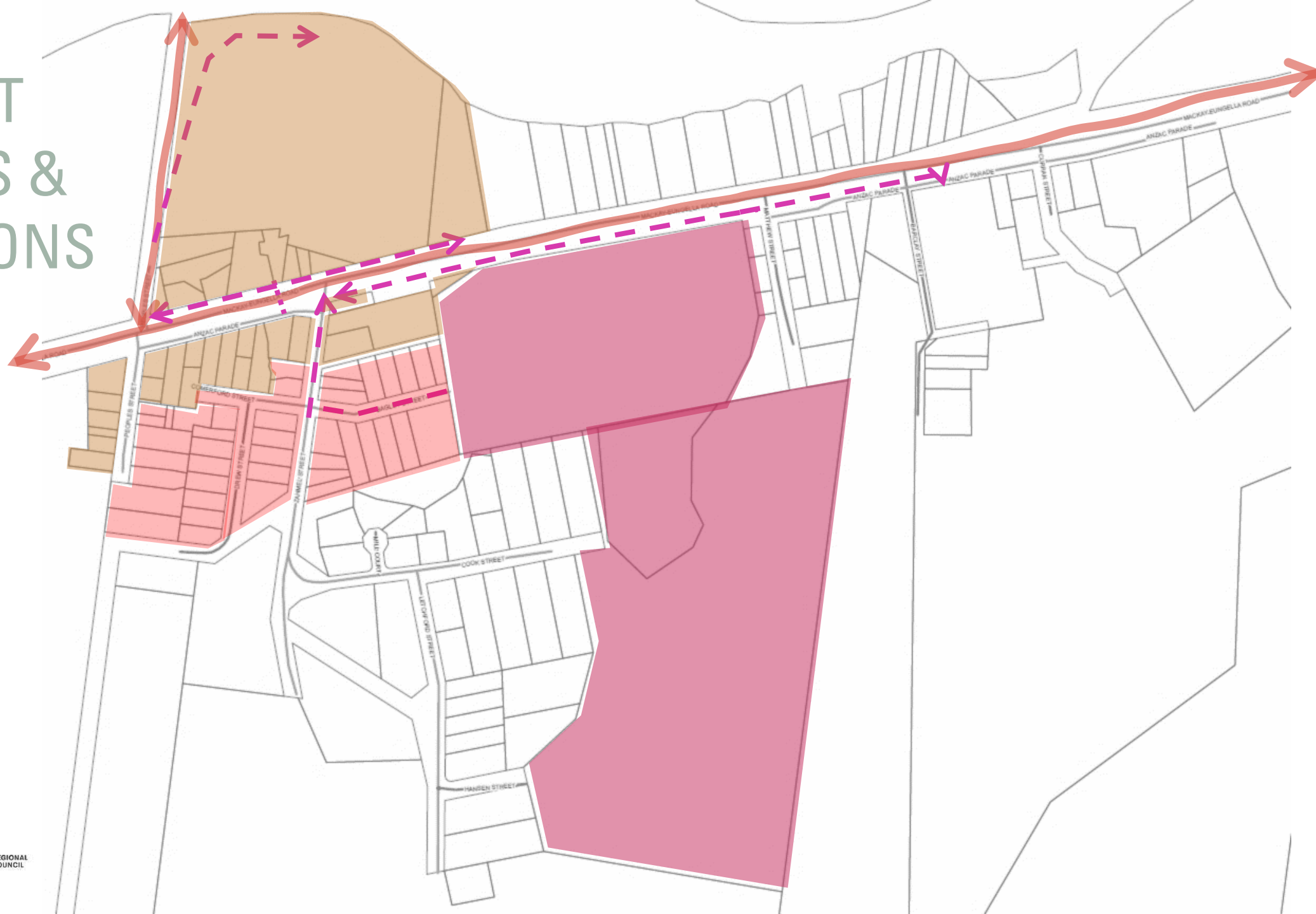
MOVEMENT NETWORKS & CONNECTIONS



Main vehicle routes

Pedestrian routes

Commercial Centre

Central township

Trail head

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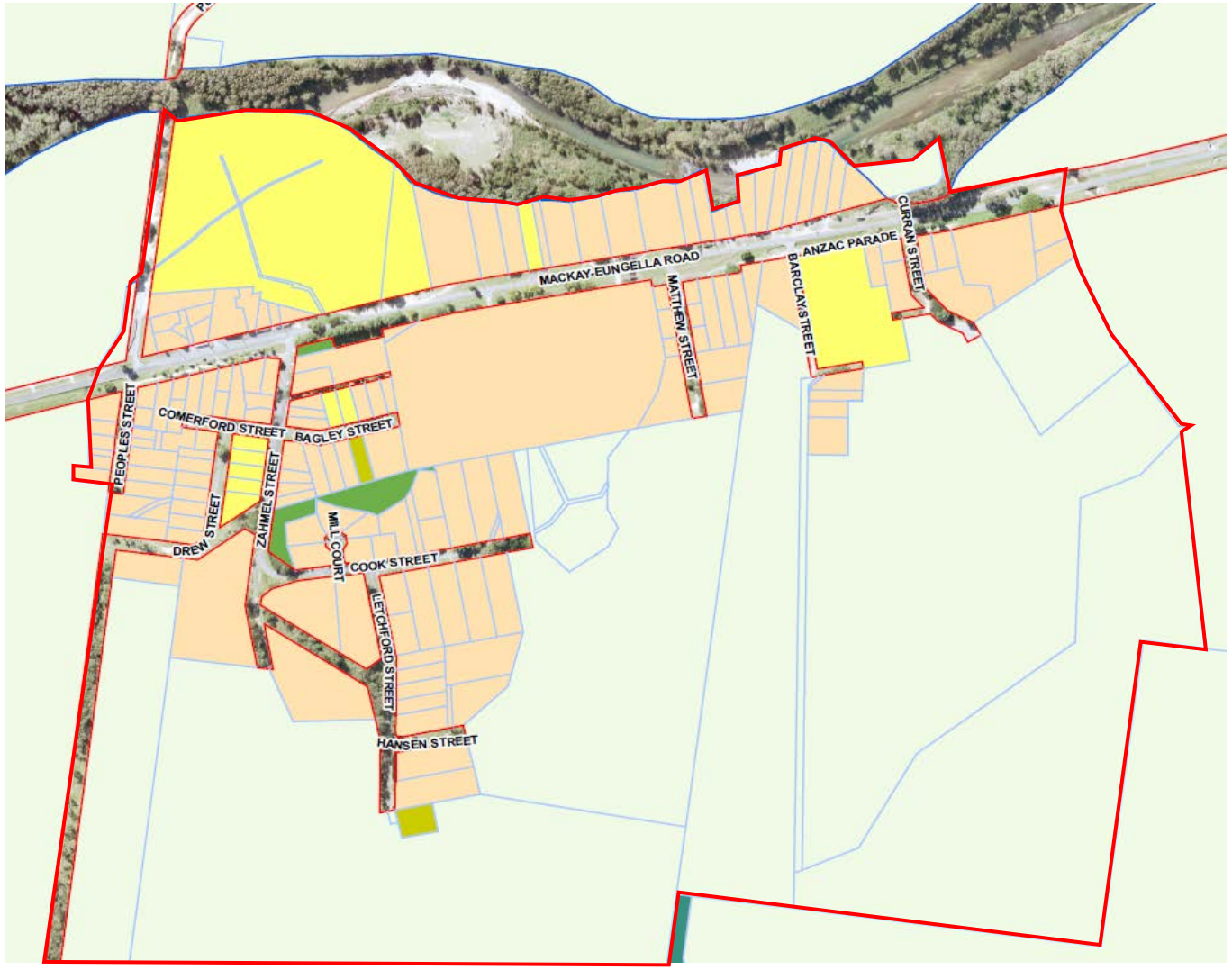

PLANNING SCHEME ZONING

- Township
- Community Facilities
- Open Space
- Special Purpose
- Rural

LAPF ONLINE COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

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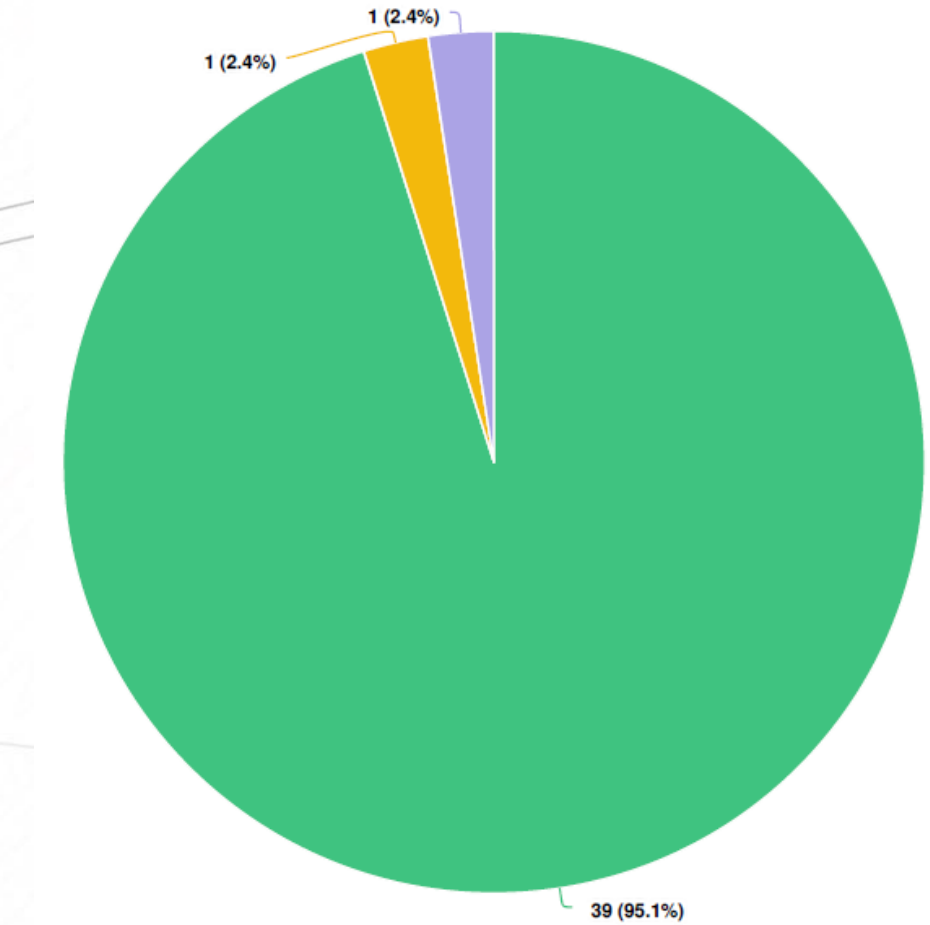
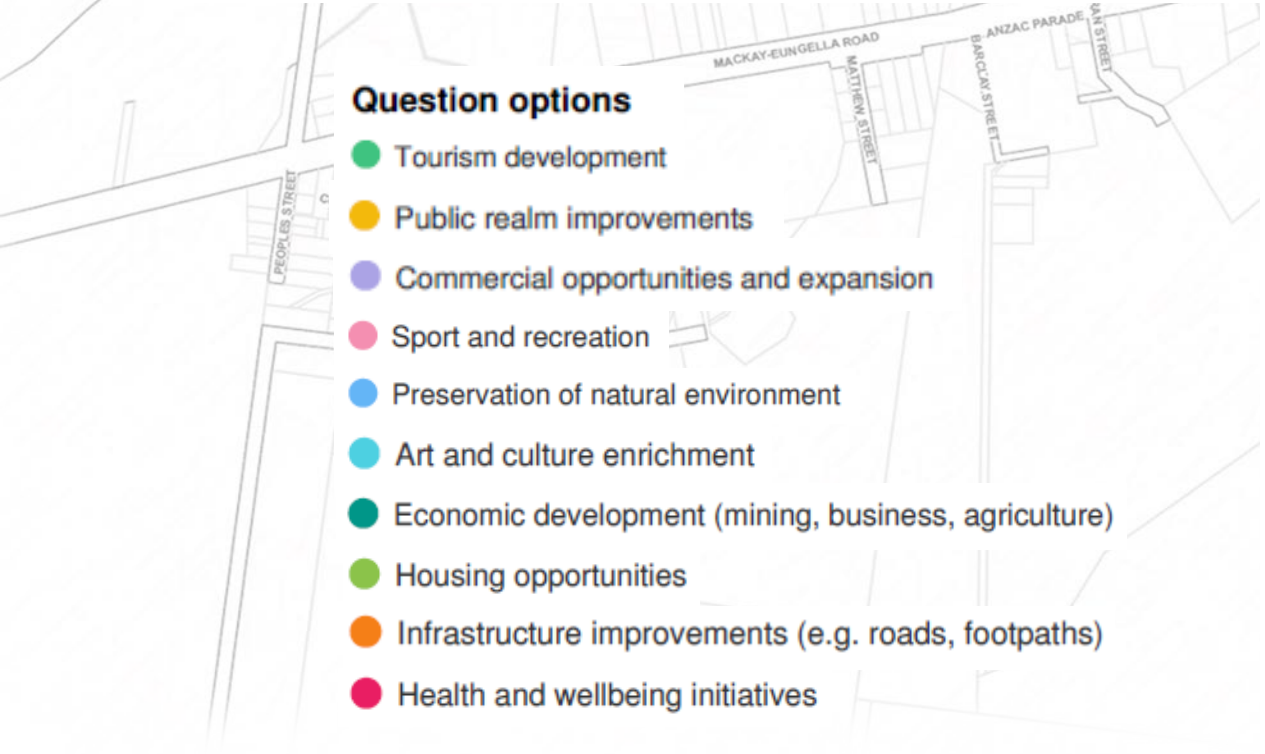
THINKING ABOUT THE PIONEER VALLEY MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAILS, WHAT IS YOUR OVERALL LEVEL OF SUPPORT FOR FINCH HATTON POTENTIALLY TRANSITIONING INTO A TRAIL TOWN TO SERVICE AND SUPPORT THE PROPOSED TRAILS AND OTHER TOURISM ACTIVITIES IN THE PIONEER VALLEY?

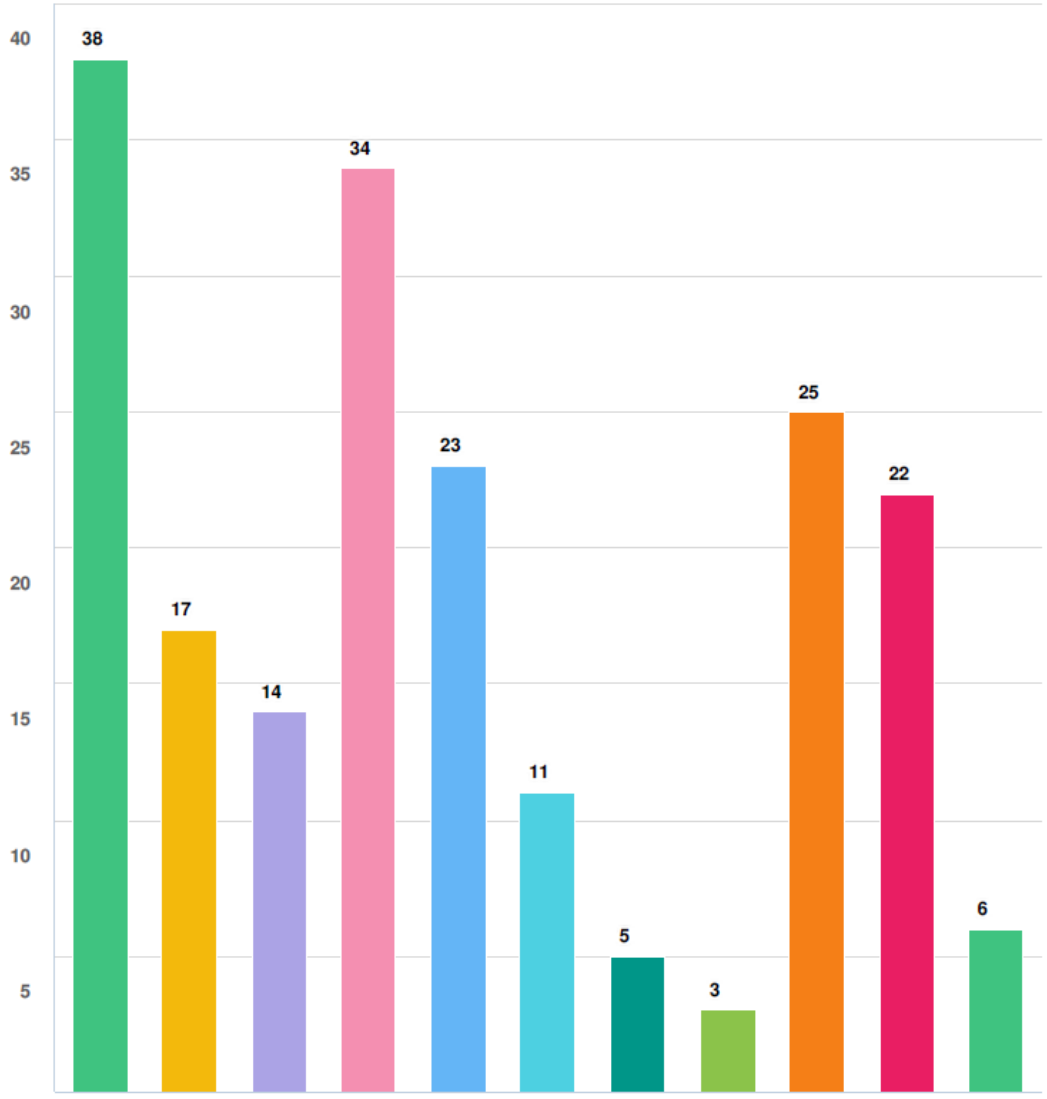


Question options

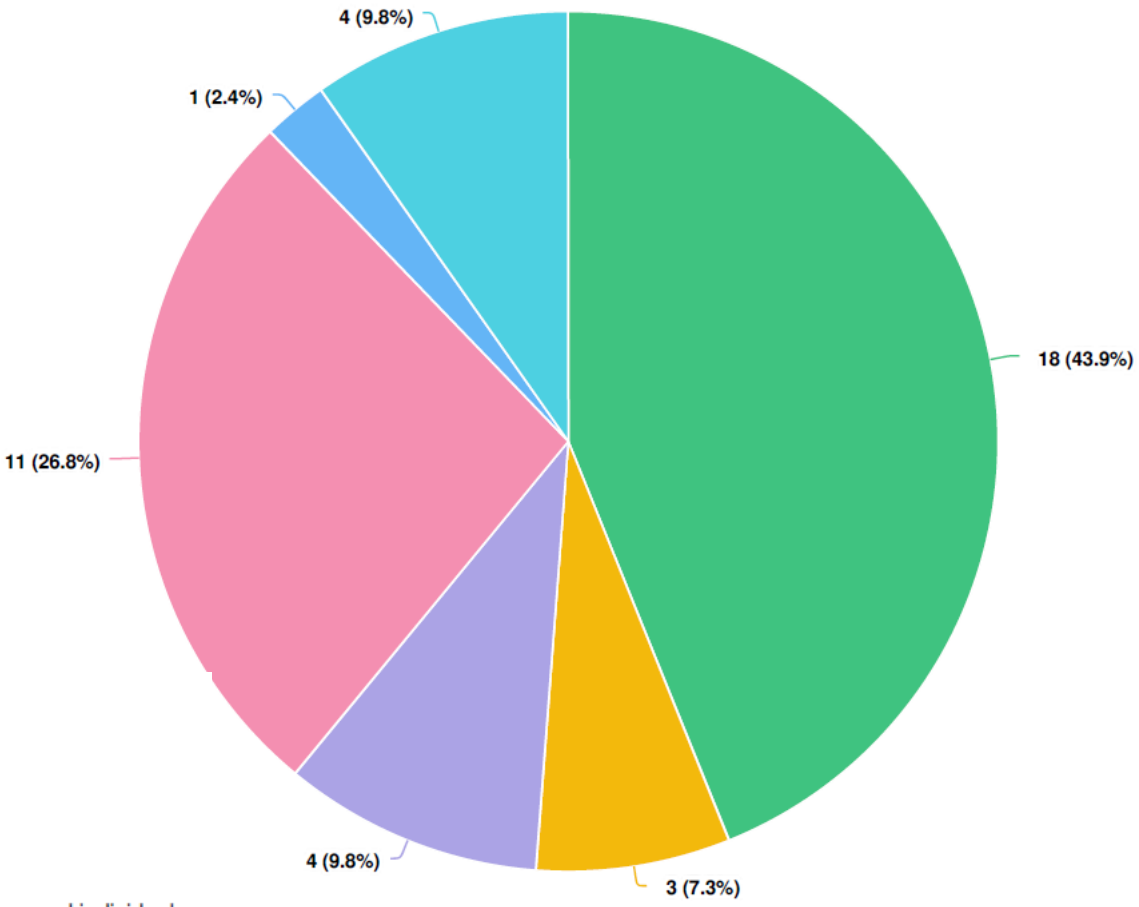
- Neutral
- Somewhat in favour
- Completely in favour

WHAT ARE YOUR TOP 5 PRIORITIES FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS, IN THE TOWNSHIP OF FINCH HATTON?





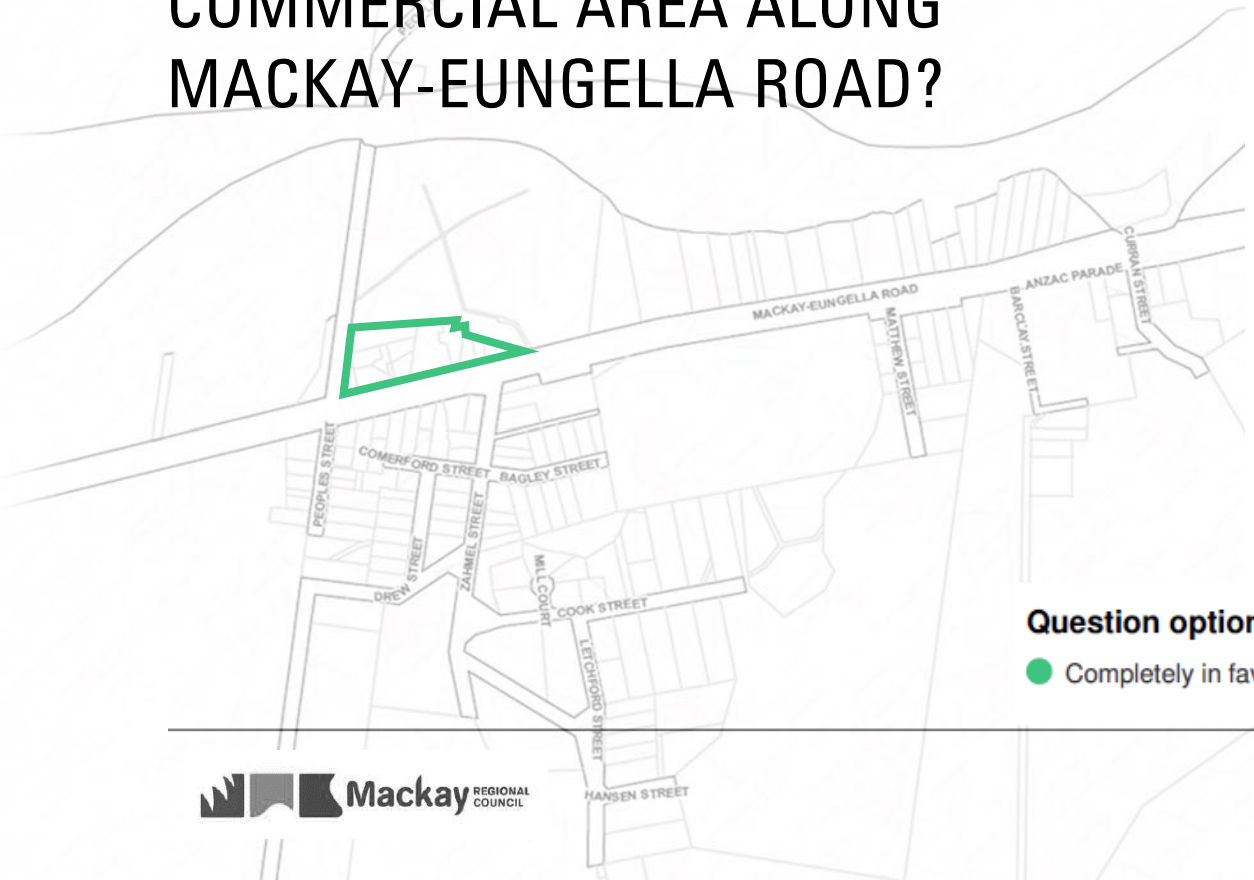
WHICH STATEMENT COMES CLOSEST TO HOW YOU WOULD DESCRIBE A SUCCESSFUL PUBLIC REALM?

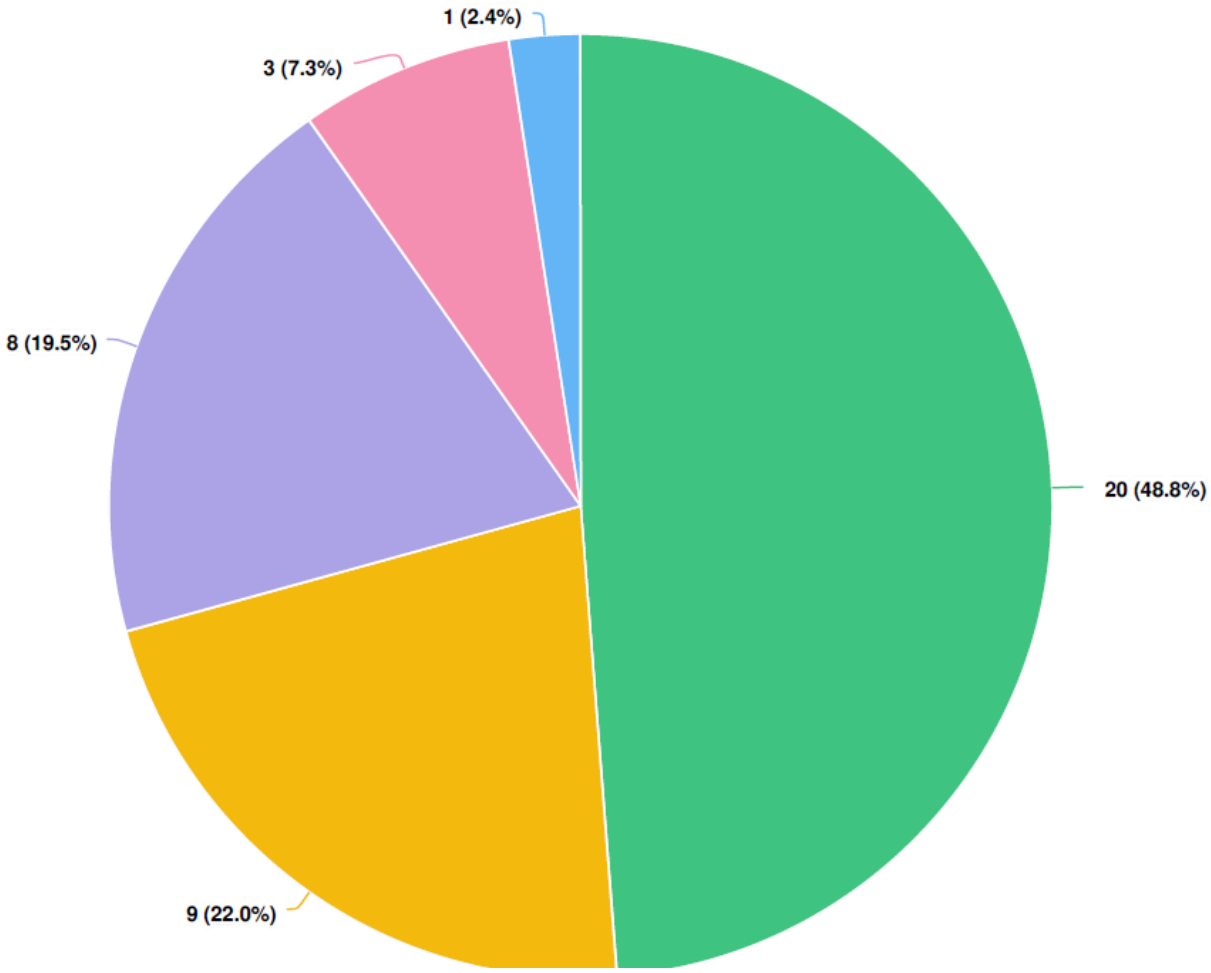


Question options

- A place that is accessible, well sheltered and serviced for family/ friends to gather for events
- Leafy green streets and lush tree covered areas
- A combination of natural features and public art that adds visual pleasure to the street
- An open space able to cater for interchangeable events, such as, live music, culture celebrations and markets
- Plenty of street furniture that services the interests of all ages (e.g. play equipment, exercise equipment, unique group and individual seating options)
- A pleasant place to sit and have a coffee or a meal and watch the street activity

TO WHAT EXTENT WOULD YOU SUPPORT COMMERCIAL USES OPERATING OUTSIDE THE FINCH HATTON TOWNSHIP'S EXISTING COMMERCIAL AREA ALONG MACKAY-EUNGELLA ROAD?





Question options

- Completely in favour
- Somewhat in favour
- Neutral
- Somewhat against
- Completely against

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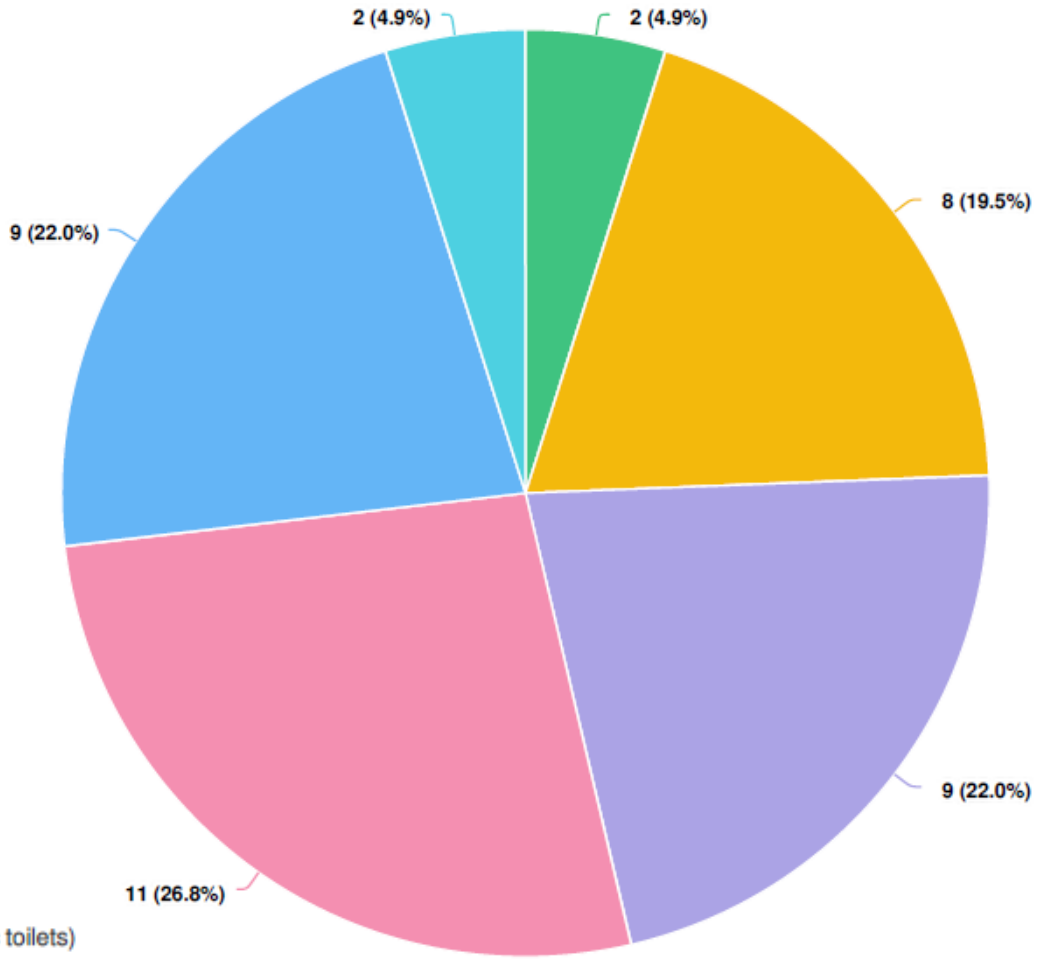
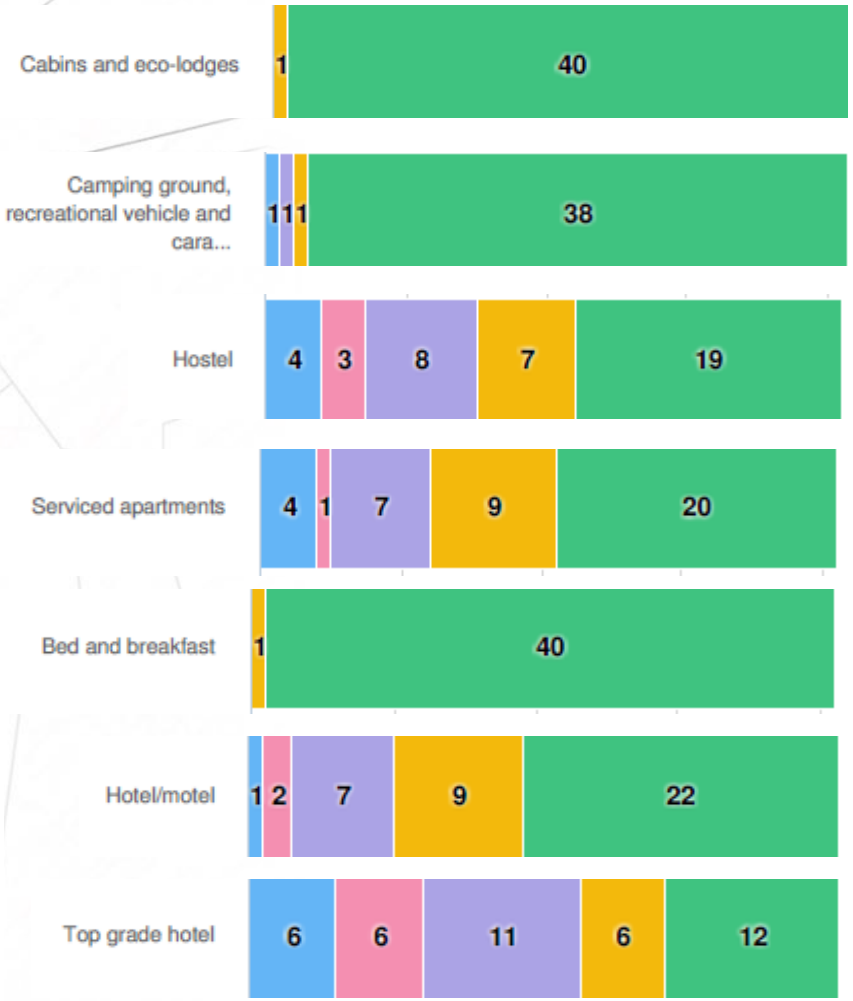
WHAT DO YOU CONSIDER TO BE THE KEY CHALLENGE IF MORE VISITORS WERE TO COME TO FINCH HATTON?



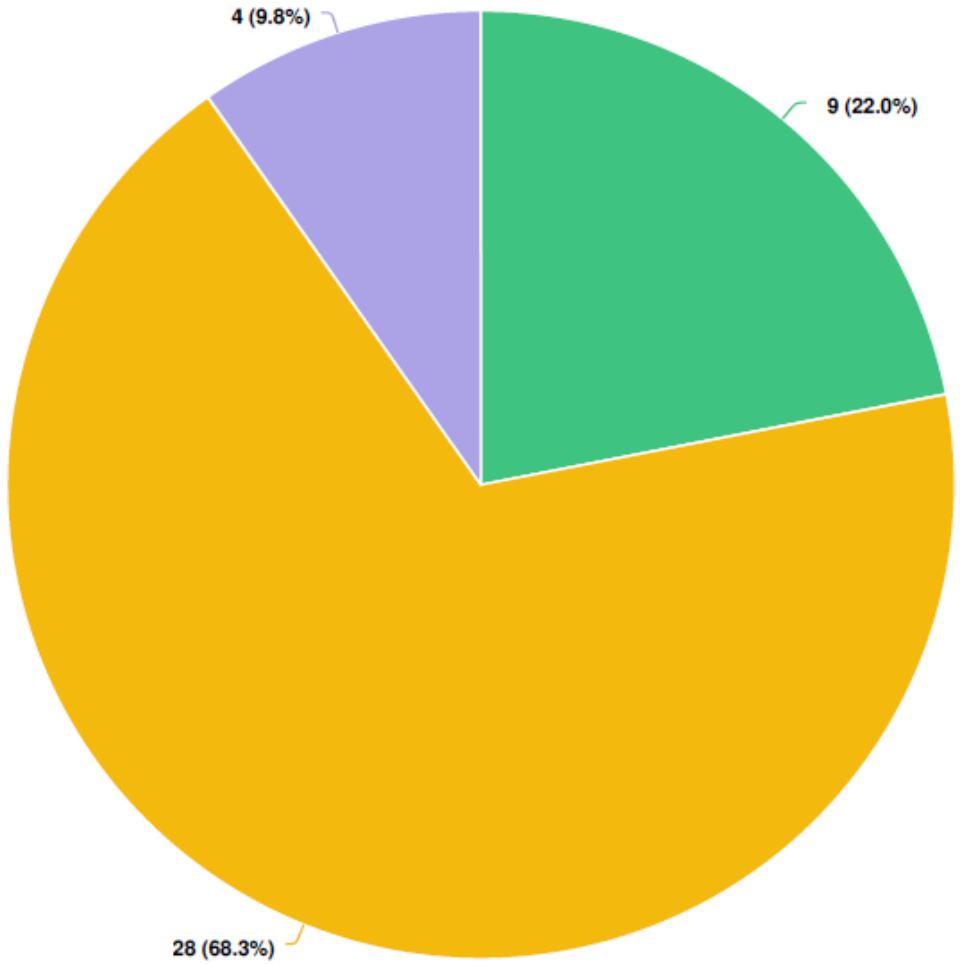
Question options

- Other (please specify)
- Not enough cafés/restaurants and commercial services to meet demand
- Not enough accommodation
- Increased strain on public infrastructure (e.g. roads, parking, footpaths, public toilets)
- Increases opportunities for new business and residential activities
- Loss of character and sense of amenity

TO WHAT EXTENT WOULD YOU SUPPORT ALTERNATIVE ACCOMMODATION OPTIONS FOR VISITORS COMING TO FINCH HATTON?



WHAT DO YOU THINK CONTRIBUTES THE MOST TO THE EXISTING CHARACTER OF FINCH HATTON?



Question options

- Other (please specify)
- The township's location in the foreground of Crediton State Forest and looking out to the mountains
- The mango trees on Anzac Parade

DO YOU THINK IT IS CURRENTLY EASY FOR VISITORS TO NAVIGATE THROUGH THE TOWNSHIP OF FINCH HATTON AND UNDERSTAND WHAT SURROUNDING TOURISM OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE?

IF NO, WHY?

- Historical art installations could provide information plaques, leading visitors to historical trails & visual attractions to complement the proposed bike trails
- Information about the area is not obvious to anyone who is travelling/visiting from outside of Mackay
- There is a lack of connectivity in public spaces in Finch Hatton and visitors are guided through town by the road
- More signage and an information centre with brochures and maps
- Needs a tourist hub

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DO YOU THINK IT IS CURRENTLY EASY FOR VISITORS TO NAVIGATE THROUGH THE TOWNSHIP OF FINCH HATTON AND UNDERSTAND WHAT SURROUNDING TOURISM OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE?

IF YES, WHY?

- The main road goes through the town, it's therefore easy to navigate town and tourist spots
- The businesses in the main street are well set up to advise travellers on points of interest in the area however a tourist map on a billboard would help
- There are currently limited tourism opportunities, I don't feel like there a lot to navigate or understand
- It's only a small township and everything is central in the town area
- Easy to navigate, but not enough promotion on what it can offer

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WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE MEMORY OF FINCH HATTON?

Reflecting at the war memorial

Cycling around the area

Buying a home and raising a family

Swimming in the creeks, gorges and waterfalls

A meal at the pub or ice cream from general store

Attending community events and the Pioneer Valley show at the showgrounds

Camping, bushwalking and hiking

Watching and living amongst the wildlife

THINKING ABOUT OTHER TOWNSHIPS IN THE PIONEER VALLEY (SUCH AS PINNACLE, EUNGELLA AND GARGETT), HOW DO YOU SEE THEM CONTRIBUTING TO THE SUCCESS OF THE PIONEER VALLEY MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAILS AND TOURISM IN GENERAL?

Gargett

- sport association could contribute to Friday night sports (bowling and tennis)

Eungella

- tranquil opportunities for tourists
- accommodation

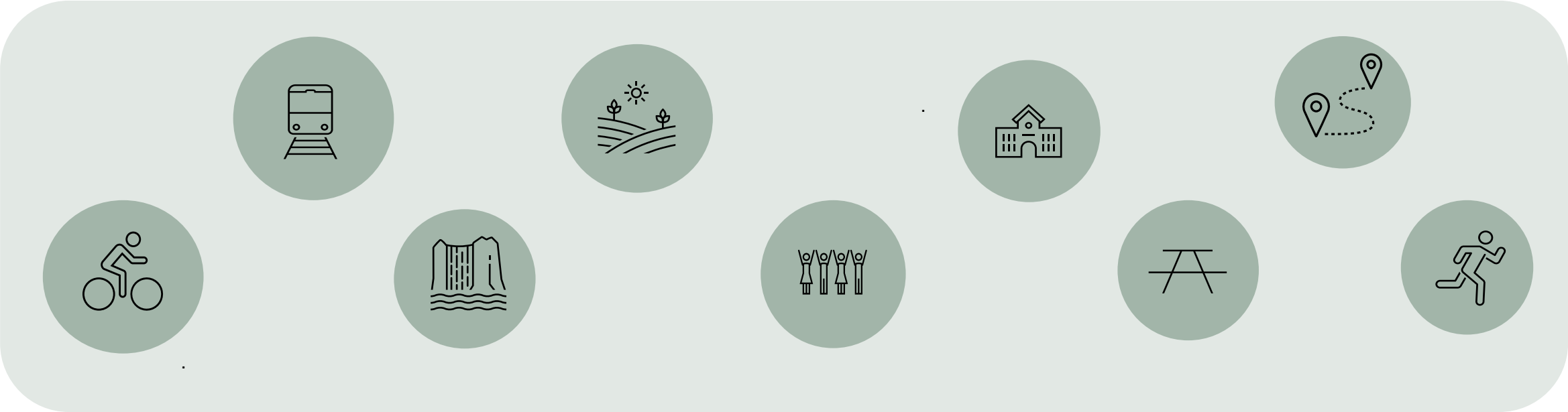
Pinnacle

- offer the most room for accommodation
- food
- museum

Whole valley

- A cycle route to the trails could be established to ride up the valley with Finch Hatton as the hub, but tourists spending 2-6 days in the valley
- Have a theme for each township and places to stop and take pictures
- Tourist facilities
- Each township offers meals from local produce unique to the area within café's and restaurants; local gastronomic tourism
- Airbnbs, farm stays, BnBs and camping
- Additional outdoor activities beyond the mountain bike theme; local tours

KEY FINDINGS



PLANNING FRAMEWORK

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WHAT THE FRAMEWORK WILL DO

- Develop strategic land use opportunities that support and promote the establishment of the mountain bike trail/s and Finch Hatton as the trail town
- Facilitate appropriate land uses and densities commensurate to infrastructure required to service development;
- Respect development/environmental constraints and infrastructure availability and requirements
- Strategic land use planning of key sites and areas to identify potential land use and key connections
- Develop placemaking (public realm) and wayfinding opportunities

Thank you for your time - Questions?

If you have further feedback or enquires please contact Nele Hahne (Economic Development) at Nele.Hahne@mackay.qld.gov.au or call 1300 MACKAY