

# TAWONGA AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION UPDATE SEPTEMBER, 2022

## Alpine Better Places Tawonga Detailed Design Survey

Alpine Shire have released a draft Concept Plan along with a survey on four key elements of the Plan for the ABP Tawonga project. Five rounds of community consultation have been conducted to inform the draft design. However this latest draft has again missed opportunities to address past feedback.

Please see below TDCA's suggested answers that may help you complete your survey. If you want to change your online answers, just email the Alpine Shire on [info@alpineshire.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@alpineshire.vic.gov.au) and say so. There is fuller reasoning on the later pages.

Now is the time for each individual to make their own voice heard.

Council have clearly stated "We will assume that anyone who does not share their concerns [with the Council] is supportive of [Council's] designs"

If you do not have access to a computer or a smart phone, a printed copy of the survey is available at The Old Tawonga Store for you to complete and place in Council's locked box. Please complete the survey otherwise your opinions will not be heard.

TDCA representatives will be available to speak with you on Saturday 24 September between 9-11am at the Old Tawonga Store should you want to share your views.

Thank you

Team Tawonga

### **3. Do you support the proposed location of the road crossing on the Kiewa Valley Highway (outside the Old Tawonga Store)?**

The Alpine Shire continue to tell the community that the road crossing should be directly in front of the Old Tawonga Store.

But did you know that the crossing results in the loss of car parks on both sides of the highway in front of the Store.

We are suggesting a site between the Store and the (new) Pioneer Park car park entrance.



Yes



No

If not, what would you like to see changed in this part of the design?

Close the current Park entrance. Move the road crossing north on KVH, connecting with the bus stops, a new Park entrance and a new path up to the toilets and on-site car park

**4. Do you support the proposed location of the pump track, at the top of Pioneer Park, above the playground?**

A great asset for young children and a great location beside the playground.

But we need a shelter and seats for parents and grandparents as they watch over their children at play. Put this in Q7 Other Feedback.

Yes

No

**5. Do you support the proposed use of the Scout Hall site as open space?**

The consultants proposed a museum, the community voted for a museum.

Why not honour our Tawonga forebears in Tawonga?

Yes

No

If not, what would you like to see changed in this part of the design?

The site (and site above toilet block) should be reserved for a new public display facility showcasing the history of the Tawonga area from the First Nations through to the more recent settlers.

**6. Do you support the proposed location and number of carparks?**

A great location – close to toilets, playground, pump track and the BBQ shelter.

But why Stage 3? The on-site car park is required in Stage 1 as part of the broad pedestrian safety solution. Put this in Q7 Other Feedback.

Yes

No

**7. Would you like to provide any other feedback?**

Replace the stand-alone seat on the new circuit track with a shelter and seating that can be used by carers supervising youngsters using the playground and/or circuit track.

On-site car parking should be in ABP Stage 1A not Stage 3, delivered with the other Stage 1A improvements focused on improved circulation and safety for pedestrians

## TDCA view on key elements of the Alpine Shire adopted concept plan

Council has asked the following questions seeking your feedback on four key elements of the draft design:

- The proposed location of the road crossing on the Kiewa Valley Highway
- The proposed location of the pump track at the top of Pioneer Park, above the playground
- The proposed use of the Scout Hall site as open space
- The proposed location and amount of car parking at Pioneer Park

Tawonga and District Community Association (TDCA) believe there are missed opportunities to deliver on community expressed needs on each of the above four elements, as well as issues previously raised not yet answered:

- Township entry signage – why do we need new?
- Extra tree planting – less trees, more open space
- Garden beds – bring maintenance issues

Funding for the ABP Tawonga project is not currently settled. It is likely to be sourced from Federal and/or State government grant(s) over several years.

### **Location of the road crossing on the Kiewa Valley Highway**

#### ***Vote “NO”***

Parking in front of the Old Tawonga Store is a major sticking point. Council has ignored the 171 people who signed a petition in 2021 asking that no car parking spaces be lost.

The Old Tawonga Store is both a retail café and it is the Tawonga Post Office. Community young, old, able and challenged must have convenient access with over 200 residents buying their supplies, a coffee and cake, or collecting their mail and parcels daily.

The 2021 census showed that retirees and the elderly made up the largest proportion of the Tawonga community and with no postal delivery service many of them expect to park in front or close to the store.

But parking can be a challenge. Already in front of the store is the reserved spot for the mail-truck. Passing trucks, buses, semi-trailers, caravans and visitors stopping to enter Pioneer Park via the entrance directly opposite the store to use public toilets compete for parking with locals.

The concept plan has kept the pedestrian outstands directly in front of the store, causing loss of car parks on both sides of the highway, making a bad situation worse.

The counter-proposal is that the pedestrian outstands and park entrance be moved north along the highway, returning car-parks in front of the store, whilst pulling traffic linked to toilet users away from the area in front of the store. This new location integrates with the school bus stops and includes covered seating. New park paths run up to the toilets and new on-site car parking. The current park entrance would be closed.

## **The proposed location of the pump track at the top of Pioneer Park, above the playground**

### ***Vote "YES"***

TDCA welcome the inclusion of the pump track for young children adjacent to the upgraded playground. The missed opportunity is there is no adjacent shelter with covered seating for the carers of the children using the playground and/or pump track.

The feedback suggested to Council is to replace the stand-alone seat on the new circuit track (Page 2 of the Plan) with a shelter and seating (Shelter 3), in line with the styling proposed for the new or retrofitted shelters that will oversee the play court area (Shelter 2 and Shelter 1 respectively).

## **The proposed use of the Scout Hall site as open space**

### ***Vote "NO"***

The TDCA and Kiewa Valley Historical Society jointly have proposed a new public display facility showcasing the history of the Tawonga area from the First Nations through to the more recent settlers with their history of dairying, the cattlemen, tobacco - all things rural. The display would provide locals and visitors an additional point of educational interest within the park, speaking to the town character.

The counter-proposal is that the Scout Hall site (and site above toilet block) should be green, open space for NOW until delivery of the new public display facility showcasing Tawonga history.

## **The proposed location and amount of car parking at Pioneer Park**

### ***Vote "YES"***

On-site car parking in Pioneer Park is included in the concept plan which will provide easy and safe access to the playground, pump track, toilets, BBQ and shelters.

The Pioneer Park parking also provides replacement parking for Tawonga Memorial Hall users, across the highway, which is losing car parks as part of its upgrade, expected for completion in early 2023.

The trouble is that car-park is to be delivered in the "no date specified", final stage (Stage 3) of the ABP Tawonga project.

The feedback suggested to Council is that the carpark should not be a Stage 3 deliverable but a Stage 1A deliverable together with the other Stage 1A improvements that are focused on improved circulation and safety for pedestrians





Reserved area for possible future historical displays

Park entrance, bus stop and bench seat

Road narrowing and outstand

Current park entrance closed

On-site carparking

Toilet

Fitness station

Resurfaced play space, rebound wall (mesh fence above) + basketball + netball hoops (separate)

Amphitheatre

Shelter #3 placed for carers overseeing Playground and Pump Track

Pump Track

New circuit path

Tawonga Pioneer Memorial Park Playground

Tawonga Licensed Post Office

Mount Beauty To Tawonga Walk

Kewa Valley Highway

Charles Street

PS524452

PS530816

CP161296

TP515022

PS530616

PS831577

PS500371

LP220055

LP213686

LP128385

LP21320