

From: contact@engage.vic.gov.au
To: [amendments](#)
Subject: Submission Form Form Submission
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Submission Form Form Submission

There has been a submission of the form Submission Form through your Engage Victoria website.

Name

[REDACTED]

Postcode

3331

Email

[REDACTED]

Write your submission

Hello,

I am writing to provide a response to the proposed Bannockburn Growth Plan.

Access & traffic flow

Multiple access points to the Midland highway need to be created to support the flow of traffic from the current and future developments in the Glen Avon estates. Currently all of this traffic is forced back into the township or onto Burnside Road, creating congestion. Allowing traffic to flow directly from Glen Avon Drive and Garonne Drive will significantly reduce this. The Midland Highway will require dual carriage way, turning lanes and traffic islands for crossing traffic.

Rail crossings:

It has been identified for one additional rail crossing to be included in the township, along with the upgrade to a roundabout at the existing crossing. An additional crossing should be considered between McPhillips Road and Stevenson's road. Not only will this redirect unnecessary traffic out of the town centre, it will also provide emergency access. Further emergency access crossing points should also be considered as part of the proposal, at McPhillips Road and Railway Terrace.

Communications

Currently reception for all telcos, including Telstra and Optus, are patchy throughout the township. Internet and phone reception are both affected. Consideration needs to be made as to how the existing infrastructure needs to be improved to address both the existing inadequacies and future demand.

Emergency Services.

There is a proposal to move the volunteer fire brigade and the co-habiting SES from its existing, CFA-owned property, to a block of land already leased by the Council on Clyde Road. Suggestions have also been made to move the station to a location on Burnside Road and Yverdon Drive. These locations have been identified by council and CFA has been informed but NOT consulted. CFA has continuously advised that not only are they not interested in moving, but the locations suggested are not suitable.

Both of these suggestions remove the fire station from the close proximity of other emergency services - police & ambulance - and extend travel times to the most vulnerable and high-risk infrastructure of the Midland Highway, catholic primary school, P-12 school, aged care facility, 3 fuel stations, shopping centre and industrial complex. There is also a failure by planners to consider that the fire brigade's response area is not just the township of Bannockburn, but extends all the way into the middle of Batesford, halfway to Inverleigh, Teesdale and Lethbridge. The station is also a local command facility (LCF) and as such is a management hub for the Anakie Group.

There are no allocated CFA funds for the removal/relocation of this station, and to attempt to do so would mean that other stations and brigades who have limited resources or stations that are unable to suitably service the needs of its members. Some of the brigades negatively affected reside within the Golden Plains Shire. It means that any attempt to move the current facility must be solely funded by Council and as a ratepayer, I object to this unnecessary spend.

No consideration in the plan identifies that the SES, which currently co-habitats with CFA, requires its own location - 2 of the agency's three appliances cannot be stored in the current facility. Also, evidence has shown that volunteer agencies that do not have main road frontage experience a reduction in membership. In a growing township and increasing risk profile, the visibility of the volunteer emergency services must be paramount.

The long term development of an actual emergency services hub, with police, ambulance, SES and CFA co-located in a specific area that supports all response zones should be considered, with ALL agencies consulted and engaged, rather than being directed.

Emergency response.

While grassfire has been identified as requiring management through the development of new estates, there is no reference to other risks such as the flooding that occurs every few years due to being on a flood plain, a major gas line, increased housing along the rail line etc. Consideration needs to be given to the estate development, with vehicular access by emergency services a concern in some areas of the township.

Industrial complex.

The current industrial complex on Holder Road at any given time is less than 2/3 full. There are multiple empty buildings. Rather than creating a second industrial complex - which also increases the risk profile of the township and the area of the township it's located in - the focus should be on increasing utilisation of the current complex. If expansion is required, it should be in the same location to create a business centre, rather than stretching things out. As a consumer, it is preferred that I only need to stop the car once to access all needs, rather than travelling to three different locations to make purchases. In this instance, I am more likely to travel further to find a location that services all needs in one.

Please do not refer to Inverleigh as a 'satellite' town of Bannockburn - not only are they viewed as very independent townships and have a significant geographical distance from each other, it fosters ongoing defensiveness in the smaller towns regarding their relationship with Bannockburn

With Regards,

██████████
██████████

I confirm that I have read and agree to the above conditions for making a submission.

Yes

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