

Traffic and Parking

Yarra Ranges Council is planning a world-class mountain bike destination in Warburton. Located around 70 kilometres east of Melbourne, the Warburton Mountain Bike Destination would feature more than 170 kilometres of trails across Mount Donna Buang, Mount Little Joe and Mount Tugwell.

Understanding how the project would work and interact with the existing road networkand parking was a key consideration of the assessment, with a focus on ensuring local transport and amenity needs are protected.

What we've heard so far about transport

We've been engaging with communities and listening to feedback since the project was first developed in 2013. Feedback was provided to specialists and addressed through the impact assessment process, including:

Concerns about the ability of existing local roads to cope with increased visitors and congestion

The impact assessment found that there is significant capacity across the road network to accommodate the forecast growth in traffic and parking demand.

Preparation of a traffic management plan, an independent road safety audit and improved signage would help mitigate the impact of the increase in vehicles expected as a result of the project.

Impacts to parking facilities

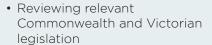
In response to feedback about impacts to parking facilities, the project was refined to include a further 120 car parks as part of the Wesburn Park trail head.

The alternative parking and trail access option would better distribute the flow of traffic and help to reduce pressure on roads and parking in Warburton.

More information about community engagement and what we have done in response to feedback can be found in Attachment III - Stakeholder Consultation Report

Assessing transport in Warburton

The transport study has been developed by industry experts, using stringent research and assessment methods, including:





Day visitors are expected to generate less than 230 vehicles in 3 years time

- Establishing existing conditions in the project area
- Review of traffic count data from studies completed by Yarra Ranges Council
- Assessment of traffic generating activities

The road network in the vicinity of the project was found to comfortably accommodate the anticipated increase in road use during the construction and operation of the project. While there would be increased competition for parking and busier roads in the area, these impacts are not anticipated to be significant.

Traffic on Warburton Hwy Capacity during peak periods







Managing impacts to transport throughout construction

The assessment found that with the implementation of appropriate mitigation measures, impacts from construction would not have a significant impact on the transport network in Warburton. Some potential impacts include:

Potential impact	Mitigation measure
Additional traffic during construction	The Road network has ample capacity to absorb the small number of additional vehicles.
Road and land closures would be required to facilitate safe and efficient construction of the project	This impact could be reduced by limiting construction periods to a few hours, and completing works and land closures during off-peak periods.
Construction activities may lead to an increase risk of vehicle and cyclist interaction	Road Safety Audits implemented prior to the commencement of construction would identify improved safety and connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists.

Parking

To manage any decrease in local parking availability, additional car parking has been proposed with an additional 185 car parks at the main trail head at Warburton Golf Course, and a further 120 car parks at Wesburn Park. Additional parking at Wesburn Park would also divert any increase in traffic away from the town centre.

Shuttle bus services will improve connectivity for cyclists to and from the trail network, and would help to reduce the amount of people driving and parking vehicles.

Overall, while there would be some increase to traffic and parking around Warburton, impacts to parking would be minimal and would be managed on an ongoing basis.

More information about managing transport impacts can be found in Chapter 13 and technical report C.

Find out more and stay involved

Community input is an important part of the EES process and the project's continued development.

- Sign up for project updates, find the latest information or ask a question on our website rideyarraranges.com.au
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