

## BRIEFING NOTE

**To:** The Hon Nola Marino MP and DITRDC  
**From:** RDA Murray NSW  
**Submitted by:** Edwina Hayes - DRD-CEO  
**Information Source:** RDA Murray and Murray Socio-Economic Activation Taskforce (MSEAT)  
**Date:** Friday 12 June 2020

### Recovery phase and what this looks like:

- MSEAT collectively supports the following infrastructure priority list focusing on Local Government driven projects, with wide ranging benefits, local procurement opportunities & maximum job creation. (These projects were prioritised from a list of over 100 potential projects, 57 shovel ready collated through RAMJO and RDA Murray)

	Project	Amount	Exceptional Impact	Jobs
1	Howlong Industrial; Park substation	\$750,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete/optimize larger project</li> <li>expand manufacturing</li> <li>increase exports</li> <li>improve efficiency of logistics</li> </ul>	20/50
2	Corowa Saleyards	\$9,000,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>improve efficiency and sustainability of NSW 4<sup>th</sup> largest sheep sales complex</li> <li>address 36% increase sales 2014-2019</li> <li>improve visitor and work healthy and safety</li> <li>improve animal welfare</li> </ul>	20/10
3	Lake Urana Aboriginal economic participation Tourism Development	\$9,104,500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>create significant Aboriginal economic participation</li> <li>create visitation, tourism</li> <li>protect and conserve Aboriginal and European Heritage</li> </ul>	127/23
4	Tocumwal Air Museum	\$300,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attract Events, visitation, tourism</li> <li>activate community groups</li> </ul>	11/4
5	Albury City WiFi Phase 2	\$250,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>raise minimum standards</li> <li>improve access to digital connectivity</li> </ul>	1/?
	Rangemore Road Jimaringle Creek Bridge	\$900,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>improved heavy vehicle and other freight efficiency</li> <li>allow faster flows of environmental and irrigation water delivery, reducing impact on productive land</li> <li>address MIL, NSW Gov: DPIE and NSW Water, CEWHO and landholder needs</li> </ul>	20/?



- RDA Murray is developing a proposal for a collaborative Infrastructure Database to enable interrogation for investor key issues. Collaborating with Canberra JO (Gabrielle Cusack and Jillian Kilby), RAMJO and RDAs in southern NSW
- Cooperative effort to address multicultural community needs
- Exploring COVID-19 specific opportunities eg. Digital Inclusion, residential and corporate decentralisation, cooperative/coordinated delivery of NFP Business support
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- NDIA delivery inconsistent communication with some people and amazing experiences with others.
  - small NDIS providers smashing it.
  - Larger providers having a lot more red tape and restrictions around “controlling” their participants meaning less choice and control for the people living with a disability.
  - Anticipating new price guide July 1 with more opportunities for small business.
- -Additional business advisors to help with drought, fires and COVID19 for the next 12 months covering tourism, hospitality, accommodation, retail and other SMEs.
- Seeking to do a program and analysis of the Tumba wine industry with stakeholders to help put it on the map and identify it as a wine and tourism destination... using available recovery funding.

#### **How recovery can be effectively implemented:**

- Through cooperative alliances creating critical mass across logical communities to effectively implement projects eg, RDA Network in the southern NSW Bushfire footprint
- Improved Digital Inclusion; more mobile broadband access, better rural affordability and higher digital literacy.
  - Case by Case information is being collated
  - Regional issues include Blackspots that are not identified on the map impacting major commerce routes
- Continuing to engage emerging business and corporate leaders, assessing impacts and opportunities to adapt, grow and develop markets, local suppliers etc
- cooperative/coordinated delivery of NFP Business support
- augmenting existing Business support rather than adding to competitive market

#### **What support may be needed.**

- HomeBuilder eligibility nuancing to make a difference in Murray; Small business operators and contractors looking for support for their core business of small jobs reduce \$150,000 reno threshold, Regional specific eligibility criteria
- Mobile Blackspot program target lowest Digital Inclusion areas eg Investment in mobile Blackspot access - Riverina Highway, Sturt Highway and Upper Murray
- Departmental investment sought to facilitate RDA Network proposal for Infrastructure Database to develop a collaborative infrastructure list (up to 800 projects)
- Augment ASBAS digital solutions through BEC in Bushfire and Irrigation drought affected areas.



**Business confidence across your region and the ongoing effectiveness of government interventions.**

- Retail, hospitality, and tourism warming up. Some permanent closures being announced.
- Construction, manufacturing, and exporters (Ag) are cautious and looking for security. Ongoing confidence in future orders are low.
- Construction companies and contractors are giving feedback that targeted Regional eligibility criteria focussed on small scale projects would be more effective
- Sport, recreation and arts communities beginning to emerge with clearer impacts being assessed this week
- Cross Border inconsistencies continue to frustrate.

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