

Planning Yass Valley Inc.

A non-profit Association seeking a better planning outcome for residents and ratepayers in Yass Valley.
planningyassvalley@gmail.com, ccepl.com.au

Yass Valley Council's "Towards 2042" Survey

Suggested Answers

These are suggested responses for the Towards 2042 survey questions. The online survey is slightly different to the survey sent out by email. These answers are for the emailed survey, but will apply to most of the questions in the online survey.

You can transfer these answers to the survey sheet that is included with this set of suggested answers or you can email this document to Council and include a note to say **"I agree with the answers given in this document"**.

You can also enter your response to the on-line survey (<https://www.yassvalley.nsw.gov.au/our-council/public-consultation/towards-2042-have-your-say/>).

| No. | Survey Question | Suggested Response | Comments |
|-----|---|--|---|
| 1 | Age | | |
| 2 | Gender | | |
| 3 | Which town or village do you live in or nearest to? | | |
| 4 | Do you live in a rural or urban environment | | |
| 5 | Do you identify as any of the following? | | |
| 7 | How do you feel about the vision in the Tablelands Regional Community Strategic Plan 2016-2036? That vision is: "To build and maintain sustainable communities while retaining the region's natural beauty." | <i>Select:</i> Unhappy | Tablelands Regional Plan was developed in conjunction with the Upper Lachlan and Goulburn Councils. It makes no sense for Yass Valley with it's proximity to the ACT to produce a vision with two very rural local government areas that are unconnected with the ACT. Goulburn doesn't even have a common border with Yass Valley. |
| 7 | What else would you like to tell us? | <i>Type:</i> I have marked 'Unhappy' for the following reasons: The Tablelands Regional Plan was developed in conjunction with the Upper Lachlan and Goulburn Councils. These are two rural local government areas that are unconnected to the ACT. Goulburn doesn't even have a common border with Yass Valley. | |

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| | | <p>Yass Valley is a peri-urban LGA and needs a vision specific to its peri-urban position.</p> <p>A joint vision statement with Queanbeyan Palerang council would make more sense.</p> <p>My suggested vision statement is:</p> <p>In 10 years' time, Yass Valley, in the peri-urban area of the nation's capital, will set the standard for a self-sufficient, sustainable, semi-rural community through a variety of land uses, which also achieves best practice environmental management for future generations.</p> | |
| 8 | Have you read the Tablelands Regional Community Strategic Plan 2016-2036? | | It is an irrelevant document for Yass Valley. |
| 9 | <p>Within the plan there are 5 high-level strategic priorities. The priorities are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our environment • Our economy • Our community • Our infrastructure • Our civic leadership <p>Do you agree with these priorities?</p> | <p><i>(Our sample response is 'Yes, some' because Civic Leadership should be at the top of the list.)</i></p> <p><i>Select:</i> Yes, some</p> | |
| 10 | Do you think we are on track with delivering the 5 high-level strategic priorities? | <p><i>Select:</i> Environment – No</p> <p><i>Type:</i> Environment: Very little, if anything, has been done to enhance the environment in Yass Valley. Approving the Parkwood housing estate was environmental vandalism.</p> | |
| | | <p><i>Select:</i> Economy – No</p> <p><i>Type:</i> Economy: No visible effort has been made to bring major projects to Yass Valley which would provide sustainable long-term employment.</p> | |
| | | <p><i>Select:</i> Community – No</p> <p><i>Type:</i> Community: Council's planning policies have split the community, by favouring development for one group (ACT Government at Parkwood) and preventing competing and better land use elsewhere in Yass Valley.</p> | |
| | | <p><i>Select:</i></p> | |

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| | | <p>Infrastructure – No</p> <p><i>Type:</i> There has not been any major infrastructure development in Yass Valley.</p> | |
| | | <p><i>Select:</i> Civic Leadership – No</p> <p><i>Type:</i> The teaming up with two unrelated local government areas to produce a joint community vision was one of the many major errors by the Councillors.</p> | |
| 11 | Is there anything missing from the Tablelands Regional Community Strategic Plan 2016-2036? | <p><i>Type:</i> Our environment – We have a Settlement Strategy that supports environmental vandalism at Parkwood, but no overall strategic plan for the environment.</p> | |
| | | <p><i>Type:</i> Our economy – Where is the economic plan for Yass Valley that takes into consideration our proximity to the ACT.</p> | |
| | | <p><i>Type:</i> Our community – Where is the community plan for Yass Valley that assists the community to benefit from its proximity to the ACT?</p> | |
| | | <p><i>Type:</i> Our infrastructure – Where is the infrastructure plan that encourages economic development in Yass Valley that is based on extending infrastructure from the ACT? E.g. train line from ACT.</p> | |
| | | <p><i>Type:</i> Civic Leadership – We have either corrupt or incompetent leaders. There no new ideas and a clear unwillingness to communication with ratepayers and residents. A good example is the small number of people notified about this survey.</p> | |
| | | <p><i>Type:</i> Other – I am concerned that the integrity of this survey is easily compromised by anyone submitting it multiple times to distort results.</p> <p>Insufficient effort has been made to gather the whole community's views. A better approach would be to mail out a hardcopy survey along with the rates and provide several reminders.</p> | |

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| 12 | What makes your community a great place to live? Please give top 5 options | <p><i>Type in 'Other (please specify)'</i>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rural environment • Proximity to employment and services in Canberra • Environment • Out of the clutches of the ACT Government • Freehold land | |
| 13 | What do you think are the main challenges facing our community? | <p><i>Type in 'Other (please specify)'</i>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of holistic planning (the Yass Valley Settlement Strategy is a disaster for Yass Valley residents and ratepayers) • Lack of leadership and vision • Economic pressures on residents (no local employment or services) • Uncontrolled development (Parkwood, Murrumbateman, Springdale Solar Farm) • Wholesale destruction of the environment (Parkwood, Solar farms) | |
| (14) | <p>Online Question</p> <p>What do you think is the greatest challenge facing our community?</p> | <p><i>Type:</i></p> <p>Lack of holistic planning (the Yass Valley Settlement Strategy is a disaster for Yass Valley residents and ratepayers)</p> | |
| 14 | <p>Where do we want to be in 10 years' time?</p> <p>What have you seen in another area/shire that you think would work well in your community?</p> | <p><i>Type:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An economic anchor such as the Canberra – Yass high speed rail and new international airport for Canberra between Yass and Murrumbateman. • Planned wildlife corridors and reserves • A variety of land uses and a reduction of minimum lot size to result in achieving the best use of the land particularly in the NSW ACT border area. • A borderless society where residents of Yass Valley and the ACT have the right of access to the benefits of both areas • Better representation of Local Needs through representatives from each of the 5 distinct areas in Yass Valley | |
| 15 | What is one thing you would like to see achieved in your community in the next ten years? | <p><i>Type:</i></p> <p>Election of councillors who will implement a community-agreed, Yass Valley-specific vision, and communicate with, and truly represent, the needs of all ratepayers and residents.</p> | <p>The Councillors are ultimately responsible for what happens in the local government area.</p> <p>Everything else we might want stems from good governance and people with vision.</p> |

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| 16 | What services or projects do you think YVC should be prioritising, or lobbying other levels of government for? | <i>Select in the multiple choice:</i> Governance Land use and planning Community engagement Economic development Environmental stewardship | |