



21 December 2020

Dear Community

The Federal community is going through a transformation. Increases in population, tourism, events, commercial and residential developments, traffic, and a changing demographic has put a huge strain on our already exhausted infrastructure.

The Federal Village Masterplan created through a community led planning process will be an adaptive plan for sustainable development in and around Federal village. The Masterplan created by the Federal community with extensive local consultation, will primarily support the objectives of a liveable, community-orientated village, and ensure a future that addresses the issues and requirements of its residents and the environment.

A Steering Group formed from members of the Federal Community Centre (Federal Park mob) and Federal School of the Arts Association (Hall mob) approached Council to allow us as a community to drive the process of a masterplan rather than have Council impose one upon us. Council agreed. This was formalised in a resolution at Council's meeting of December 10th. The resulting Masterplan will be adopted by Council as one of Byron Shire's Place Planning Strategies and feed into future statutory planning documents, such as an updated Development Control Plan (DCP). The process will take much of 2021 to complete.

The Steering Group will send out more detailed information in late January 2021, including an opportunity for another five persons to join the Group, and how individuals, groups and businesses can actively contribute. The Steering Group will then gather information of what the community sees as the major issues and come up with a Masterplan for the design of the heart of the village and approach roads.

The first and most pressing issue, ascertained through decades of involvement in the village and previous survey work, is a Federal Village Movement and Access Plan that is centred on people - not vehicles. Council is looking to fund a professional consultant from July 2021. In the meantime, we as a community need to gather all the facts and statistics to feed into the community discussions that will happen from February 2021.

As a valued community member, we ask you to please:

- Think about the problems in the village (and approach roads) right now. Specifically, around pedestrian, bus, parking, walking, cycling, speed issues rather than zoning or green space issues which will be dealt with as we progress with the movement plan.
- Join a group of volunteers beginning mid-January to help collect the stats, ideas, and thoughts as we head to community meets on the topic from February. The results will be at the core of the entire Masterplan.
- Take notes on and/or photos of the issues you notice, especially over the summer holiday weeks as our visitor numbers increase.

Email your thoughts, ideas, and your interest in getting involved, (get the family and neighbours on board!), to federalmasterplan@gmail.com

Thanks, and have a fabulous Christmas and New Year,
Federal Village Masterplan Steering Group

In association with
Byron Shire Council

