

The Wallan to Heathcote Rail Trail feasibility study begins

THE Wallan to Heathcote Rail Trail feasibility study has formally begun, with selected principle consultants RMCG meeting with the study's Steering Committee on February 22, 2016.

As the study advances, engagement with the community will take place to not only inform landowners, but also assist in seeking a better understanding of the various land ownership and use changes that have occurred since the former railway was recovered.

The study will also highlight engineering, associated road traffic, heritage and environmental matters that would need to be taken into

account when considering the trail proposal.

The study will conduct a full investigation of all related aspects concerning the proposed trail, plus possible linkages with other trails in the surrounding area.

The major funding for this study was provided by the current state government, in conjunction with contributions from the Mitchell Shire Council, City of Greater Bendigo Council and direct community input.

With selected consultants engaged by RMCG, a number of specialist companies including Communityvibe, Spire Consulting Group, Trafficworks

P/L and Biosis are also assisting with the project.

The Steering Committee's is made up of representatives from the Mitchell Shire Council, the City of Greater Bendigo Council, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, with community involvement from the Mitchell Bicycle User Group and the Friends of the Bendigo-Kilmore Rail Trail.

A final report for the feasibility study is expected later in 2016.

For more information on the Wallan to Heathcote Rail Trail visit bendigokilmore-railtrail.com/.