

Great Southern Regional Trails Master Plan

Stage 1 Update | July 2019

Achievements to date

Trails Audit

We completed an audit of designated trails that shows that there are significant gaps in the types of trails and trail experiences. The current trail supply is insufficient to meet the needs of both residents and visitors.

Current Supply

- Hiking 194kms
- Long distance hiking 179kms
- Off-road cycling 243kms
- Dual use 103kms
- Mountain bike 1.3kms
- Bridle 84kms
- Aquatic 81kms



Community Consultation

From March to May we conducted extensive consultation across the region.

- 15 community workshops (184 participants)
- Online user survey (367 responses)
- 220+ trail ideas

There is a strong desire for trails development from the community, but it requires collaboration and tenure agreements.

Trails are popular for active leisure and they bring social, economic and health benefits to individuals and communities.

“ The goal of the Regional Trails Master Plan is to position the Great Southern as a World Class Trails Destination. ”

Planning Principles

We want to ensure **sustainable** trail development

We want to **collaborate** not compete

We want to attract visitors from **outside the region**



We want to **disperse** visitors across the region

We want to develop a range of **different** trail experiences (terrestrial and aquatic)

We want to showcase our **unique landscapes**

We want to **build** partnerships across boundaries

We want to **cater** to different user groups **and** abilities

We want to provide an exciting array of experiences across the region that keep **visitors** in the **region** for **longer**



Trail Development Opportunities

Our work to date has identified the following trail development opportunities. These will be further explored in the next stage of the project.



- Trail Focus** ● Existing local trails
- Aim** ● Develop and enhance designated local trails to meet the criteria of becoming a trail network
- Investment** ● Low cost, many trails already exist, often managed by Local Government



- Community Ideas**
- Develop a drive or cycle trail using existing sealed and unsealed roads.
 - Enhance local town walks, or short cycling routes based on history, culture, or nature.



- Trail Focus** ● Develop trail linkages
- Aim** ● Develop trails to meet the criteria of becoming a trail network and or trail centre.
- Investment** ● Higher costs associated with new trail construction; relatively low cost for signage, mapping and interpretation.



- Community Ideas**
- Re-align or connect existing trails through short sections of purpose-built trail.
 - Extend trails and create loops for hiking.



- Trail Focus** ● Construct new nationally or regionally significant trail experiences
- Aim** ● Develop trails to meet the criteria of trail centre or trail town.
- Investment** ● Higher cost needed to leverage funding from all tiers of government.



- Community Ideas**
- Support the implementation of the City of Albany Trails Hub Strategy.
 - Purpose-built mountain bike parks offering a full range of experiences
 - Long distance road and off-road cycling, including rail trails
 - Medium length equestrian trails
 - Purpose-built trail bike riding area
 - Paddle and snorkel trails

“ The Great Southern Regional Trails Master Plan will create a short list of opportunities that can be delivered within a ten year time frame.