



You might be wondering . . .

Why do we need a new gallery?

Warrnambool City owns an incredible art collection of artefacts and artwork which have accumulated since Warrnambool's first gallery opened in 1886. The lack of suitable storage at the gallery means that residents and visitors, and even staff, can't easily access it or see it. The gallery also has great potential to be a landmark cultural tourism destination and to attract blockbuster exhibitions to the City. Increased tourism will benefit, retailers, accommodation and hospitality providers, and support employment. And the exposure to quality exhibitions and artists will support the development of our creative industries.

How would a new gallery be funded?

A new gallery would need to be predominately funded through State and/or Federal government. A Business Case is just a small step in a lengthy process.

What's the timeline on this project?

A project such as this could take up to 10 years or even longer. The new Warrnambool Library and Learning Centre was in planning for 10 years before State Government funding became available. Due to how long it takes to plan for these large projects it's important that Council starts planning for the future as early as possible.

Can a gallery that meets the needs of our growing city fit on the existing site?

Yes. The architects have come up with several options that will fit, and there are likely to be many more options. The concepts presented are 3100m² which will meet the needs of our growing city. For comparison the Library and Learning Centre is 2400m². An art gallery requires a lot of storage space for safe housing of the collection.

Why would Council consider a project like this when there are other possible priorities?

Warrnambool is a growing regional centre and we need to plan for the future. By 2035 it is predicted that our population will grow to 50,000. There is a risk that if Council doesn't plan for the future that Warrnambool will fall behind other regional cities in its liveability and also its ability to attract new investors, new industry and workers. Other Victorian regional cities have recently invested in art galleries with support from State and Federal Government and Warrnambool shouldn't miss out.

Will the size of the village green be reduced?



The current green is 1575m². The green space in the proposed concepts are 1950m² – 2300m².

Any future design would need to be able to meet the varied and expanded use of the Green.

Will there be parking?

While the concept designs do consider parking there is opportunity to increase the number of parking spaces in the basement in future design processes.