

# Community Voice For Hume



## **Brief Description of “Building Hume’s Future Together”**

### **Vision of the Tablelands Councils**

The Vision of Goulburn Mulwaree, Upper Lachlan and Yass Valley Councils is: “To build and maintain sustainable communities while retaining the region’s natural beauty”. The vision is stated in their joint Regional Community Strategic Plan.

The “Building Hume’s Future Together” program is intended to assist the Councils realise their vision. The program is planned to start in Goulburn Mulwaree and to be guided by their plans for: Social Sustainability; Regional Community Strategy; Climate Change Assessment and Adaptation and other related ones. The program is to be owned and driven by the community and, over a period of time, extended to the rest of Hume in a similar manner.

### **Background**

A number of highly significant events have demonstrated the fragility of our planet, economy, biodiversity and community. There is a pressing need to protect and strengthen them. These events were/are:-

1. The recent catastrophic bushfires of the summer of 2019/2020
2. The increasing frequency of serious drought and the rising temperatures
3. The Corona virus, COVID-19

# Community Voice For Hume

The Integrated Regional Vulnerabilities Assessment (IRVA) exercise and associated Enabling Adaptation Plan for the SE Region, that includes Goulburn, identified six key areas of vulnerability to climate change for the NSW South East:

- economic sustainability
- community
- land-use change
- regional infrastructure
- competition for water resources
- ecosystem function and services.

## **Purpose of the Program “Building Hume’s Future Together**

Purpose of the Program is to: build a community energy hub, using the Community Energy for Goulburn project as a foundation; reduce water use; regenerate private gardens, green spaces and bushland; grow the community; improve energy efficiency in homes and business premises; implement regenerative farming and improve the management of grazing lands. Where possible the disadvantaged are to be placed first. Additionally in recognition of COVID-19, plans to build food sufficiency and to manufacture essential products, e.g. face masks, to be a guiding requirement.

To support this, it is proposed that a Tablelands Research Institute be established by building on existing organisations, both local and otherwise. The program will drive: economic development; improve climate resilience, mitigation and adaptation leading to emissions reduction; increased carbon sequestration and reduced power prices and a reduction in social inequality.

The program will be led by the community through existing and new community groups and other involved organisations such as the Institute for Sustainable Futures.

## **Program Benefits**

- A sustainable and growing economy;
- Establishment of Goulburn Mulwaree (and Upper Lachlan and Yass Valley) as leaders in innovation in NSW;
- An energised and growing community;
- Improved mental and physical health;
- New business streams such as eco-tourism through the establishment of the likes of the Goulburn-Crookwell Rail Trail;
- Enhanced communities skills and cohesiveness and reduce social inequity;
- Evidence of the financial benefits of sustainability;

Please send your feedback to Bob Philipson, President CV4H. 0418 138 004