



# Community Engagement and Consultation: The Plan and the Record

August 2015 to February 2025



Figure 1: MRT Feasibility Study consultants on hand at Bredbo open session July 2019



Figure 2: MRT Inc information booth at Bombala February 2019



Figure 3: MRT Feasibility Study consultants on hand at Michelago open session July 2019



Figure 4: MRT brochures in shopfronts

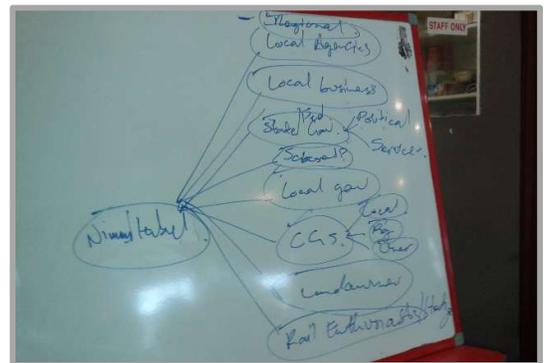


Figure 5: Stakeholder analysis Bredbo October 2015

## Document control

Major revision	Description	Date	Author	Approved date
1	Stakeholder matrix and elementary plan	October 2015	Andrew Carter Michael Daniel	October 2015
2	Re-branding and review by Communications Officer	July 2022	Andrew Carter Helen Jeffs	November 2022

The document is a living document.

A major revision is recorded as a new version in the table above. Major revisions are made following a substantial change in:

1. Stakeholders;
2. Support;
3. Sentinel consultations; or
4. The Decision-Making Framework.

At a minimum, the document is reviewed for currency quarterly by the Communications Officer.

Major revisions are reviewed and approved by the Monaro Rail Trail Committee.



## Table of contents

Context and purpose .....	4
Method .....	5
Stakeholder matrix.....	6
Decision-making framework .....	7
Consultation and communication channels and products.....	8
Community support – summary by numbers.....	10
Principal consultations.....	11
Engagement and consultation record .....	17
General.....	17
Key stakeholders.....	25
Meeting register - Landholders on the rail corridor Cooma to Bombala .....	25
Meeting register – Cooma Monaro Rail Inc.....	28

## Context and purpose

The Monaro Rail Trail (MRT) – a shared multi-use pathway – will be one of Australia’s longest rail trails, running 213km between Queanbeyan and Bombala along the disused NSW Government railway corridor. The corridor runs through Snowy Monaro Regional Council (SMRC) Local Government Area (LGA) and the Queanbeyan Palerang Regional Council (QPRC) LGA.

32km of the QPRC LGA corridor borders the Australian Capital Territory (ACT).

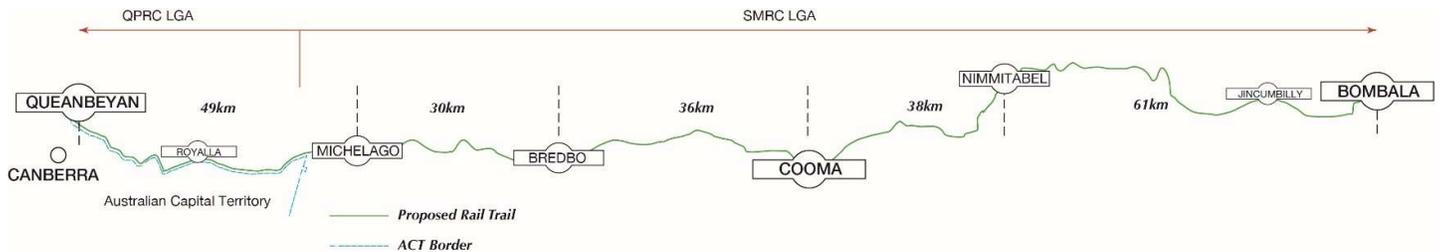


Figure 6 The MRT at a glance

The purpose of this document is to:

1. Guide community engagement for the Monaro Rail Trail (MRT) beyond October 2022;
2. Document consultation from October 2015 to the current date; and
3. Demonstrate evidence of community support.

The document sets out:

- Stakeholders interested in and/or impacted by the project;
- Consultation and communication products developed to engage stakeholders;
- The decision-making framework that determines when consultation or communication with stakeholders might or must take place;
- A record of consultation; and
- Evidence of community support gathered from principal consultations to date.

The document is supported by:

- *History of the Monaro Rail Trail* which describes consultations from the earliest discussions in October 2015 to June 2022;
- An evidence base of community support (emails, letters and online comments received from stakeholders from July 2015 to the present day);
- MRT Meeting Register; and
- MRT Member Register (individual, family, community groups and businesses)

## Method

Plan	Do	Review
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify stakeholders</li> <li>• Identify their degree of impact and influence on the proposal</li> <li>• Identify types of communication and consultation to satisfy stakeholder needs</li> <li>• Prepare tools and products to undertake communication and consultation</li> <li>• Prepare resources to allow development of tools and products</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Structure MRT Committee to have a Communication Officer</li> <li>• Undertake fund raising to support communications activities eg website, printed information sheets</li> <li>• Set up MRT social media</li> <li>• Create news items for media</li> <li>• Invite support via membership and sponsorship</li> <li>• Offer information and presentations to community groups</li> <li>• Engage and consult with specific interest groups</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does Plan meet NSW Govt framework?</li> <li>• Have stakeholder groups changed?</li> <li>• Is community engagement sufficient?</li> <li>• Is community input being adopted?</li> <li>• Is project progress being fed back to community?</li> <li>• Is the process being recorded and documented?</li> </ul>

## Stakeholder matrix

-Influence- ↑	<b>Maintain Confidence</b>	<b>Collaborate</b>
	Community Residents Associations: Jerrabomberra, Michelago, Bredbo, Bumbalong Road, Nimmitabel  Chambers of Commerce in Cooma, Bombala  Community groups -Lions, Rotary, Mens Sheds	Local politicians Federal and State  Snowy Monaro Regional Council (SMRC) Mayor & CEO  Queanbeyan Palerang Regional Council (QPRC) Mayor & CEO  NSW Government Transport NSW  NSW Government Destination NSW  NSW Government Regional NSW  ACT Government  Canberra Region Joint Organisation  Cooma Monaro Rail History Inc  Landholders adjacent to rail corridor  Rail History group Bombala
↓ -Influence-	<b>Monitor &amp; Respond</b>	<b>Keep Informed</b>
	Local residents (general)  Local business (general)	Local business to specifically benefit from the MRT  Community groups: cycling, running, walking  MRT members and followers
Low	Low	High
	-Impact / Risk- ➔	

<b>Influence</b>	The level of influence each stakeholder or audience group has on the project.
<b>Impact</b>	The extent to which the project impacts each stakeholder or audience group.

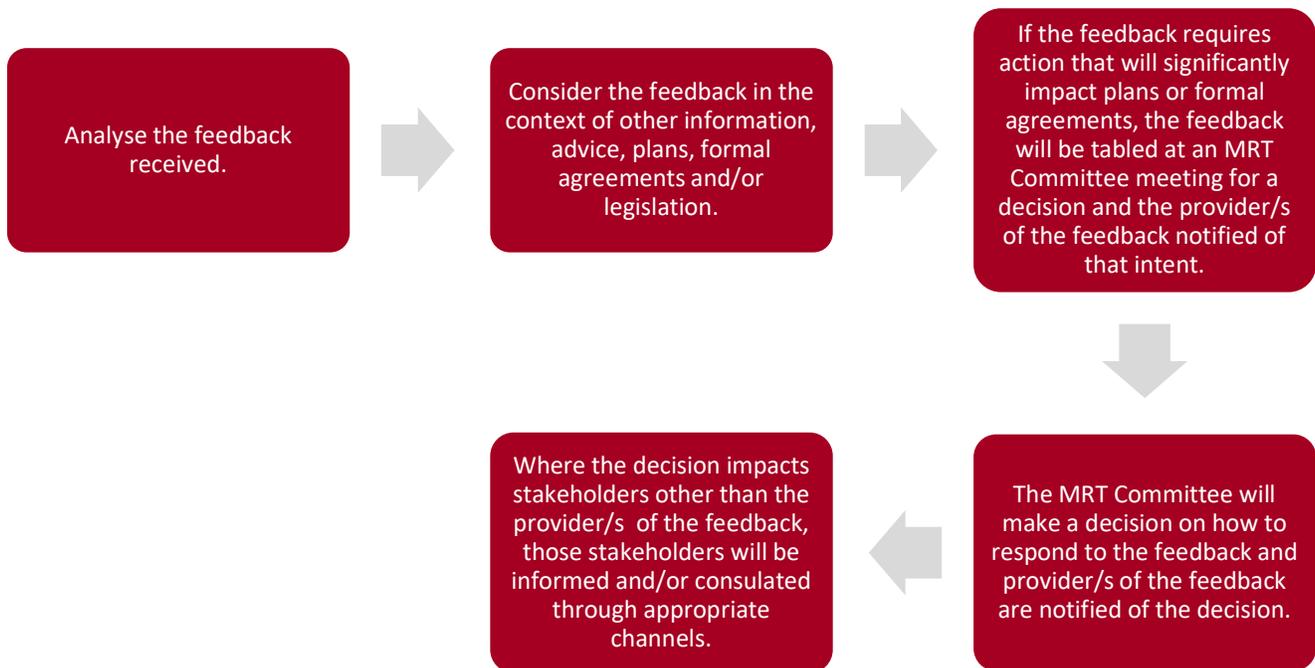
## Decision-making framework

There is a commitment from MRT Inc that it will respect the diverse range of interests and views which may exist around the MRT and make genuine attempts to elicit those interests and reviews, consider feedback and resolve conflicts, while recognising that it has the ultimate decision-making role.

MRT Inc gathers valuable feedback through its consultations—both specific to the issue under consideration and on related issues. Where resourcing and systems allow, MRT will capture, collate and analyse this data, and will aggregate and share this data with the community with stakeholders in accordance with the Stakeholder Matrix and Consultation and Communication Products and Channels described in this document.

This will help to build a database of knowledge about the views, needs and aspirations of the communities adjacent to the rail corridor and the users of the MRT and how those views, needs and aspirations evolve and develop over time.

Following consultation activities, MRT Inc will apply the following decision-making framework:



## Consultation and communication channels and products

Purpose	Product	Channel	Frequency	Status
Collaboration & consultation	Community workshops	In person, in communities	As required	Ongoing
	Information booths	Village markets, ag shows and other events	Very active in early years 2015 to 2018.	On demand - less need now proposal is well known
	MRT Ambassador Network Michelago/Bredbo – 1 ambassador Cooma rural – 1 Cooma township – 6 Nimmitabel – 2 Bombala – 2	Community based ambassadors engage in day-to-day MRT discussions, provide information and where necessary direct queries to the MRT Committee	Ad hoc	Ongoing
	Meetings with key stakeholders	In person or virtual	As required	Ongoing
	Presentations to community groups	Chambers of Commerce, Rotary and Lions, Garden Clubs	Very active in early years 2015 to 2018.	On demand - less need now proposal is well known
Information & Communication	Newsletters & President’s reports	<a href="https://www.monarorailtrail.com.au/newsletters">https://www.monarorailtrail.com.au/newsletters</a> and emailed to database of 530 people	Quarterly	Ongoing
	MRT reports, plans & studies	<a href="https://www.monarorailtrail.com.au/reports">https://www.monarorailtrail.com.au/reports</a>	As released	Ongoing
	Related reports, plans & studies (including case studies from other Rail Trails)	<a href="https://www.monarorailtrail.com.au/reports">https://www.monarorailtrail.com.au/reports</a>	As released	Ongoing
	Frequently Asked Questions (FAQS) for placement on MRT website		Six monthly review	Available on MRT website



Purpose	Product	Channel	Frequency	Status
	Brochures	Distributed through the Monaro community via business shopfronts in communities	One major distribution in 2016	As required
	Information sheets	Available at MRT information booths and community workshops	According to frequency of booth and workshops	As required
	MRT Project Snapshot	Emailed to membership enquiries Emailed to politicians, councillors and planners	As required	Ongoing
	Website with contact point	<a href="https://www.monarorailtrail.com.au/">https://www.monarorailtrail.com.au/</a> <a href="https://www.monarorailtrail.com.au/contact">https://www.monarorailtrail.com.au/contact</a>	As new info released	Ongoing
	Facebook page with message point for queries	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/MonaroRailTrail">https://www.facebook.com/MonaroRailTrail</a> established December 2015	Monthly, or as new info released	Ongoing

## Community support – summary by numbers

<b>MRT Paid Membership</b>	
Individual	344
Business	40
<b>Letters of support</b>	
Individuals	73
Business owners	35
Community organizations	9
Resident’s Associations	Jerrabomberra, Michelago, Bumbalong Road, Nimmitabel
Adjoining Landholders	6 plus 3 video interviews <a href="http://www.monarorailtrail.com.au/gallery/video-interviews">www.monarorailtrail.com.au/gallery/video-interviews</a>
<b>Facebook followers</b>	<b>3257</b>
<b>Newsletter subscribers</b>	<b>530</b>
<b>Petition signatures</b>	
Online MRT website August 2017 to March 2018	3000
Street collection Cooma, December 2019 to January 2020.	1100
Bombala Chamber of Commerce August 2023	150
<b>Crowd Funded MRT scoping study August 2018</b>	<b>130 donors for a target of \$12,500 achieved in 5 days.</b>

## Principal consultations

What	Targeted consultation: SMRC and QPRC
Why	The two councils will be lessees of the rail corridor and responsible for its management.
When	From conception of the MRT proposal and ongoing, currently as working group meeting fortnightly.
Who	Mayors, councillors and staff of SMRC and QPRC.
Where	Council chambers.
How	Initially presentations to introduce the proposal, then presentations to update and now meetings to progress the proposal. A working group of SMRC, QPRC and MRT Inc now meets fortnightly.
Outcome	As the proposal has developed, council involvement has increased. Councils have: funded the MRT Feasibility Study 2019, the MRT Trail Development Plan 2022 and signed an MOU with MRT Inc, in Sept 2022 applied for and received a \$272K grant from Regional NSW for business case development.

What	Targeted consultation: landholders part 1
Why	To ensure landholders with property adjoining the rail corridor were aware of the general MRT proposal. This is prior to feasibility studies and trail development plans.
When	2018 to 2021.
Who	Farmers with property adjoining the rail corridor in southern sections. See detailed record page 22.
Where	Cooma to Bombala.
How	Phone calls by resident MRT Ambassadors and in person discussions with MRT Ambassadors.
Outcome	Fifteen landholders from Nimmitabel to Bombala were contacted, these few own most of the land along the rail corridor. Most were positively supportive, some were neutral but would not oppose the rail trail, some wanted more information on specific impact on their property, only a few were opposed.

<b>What</b>	<b>Targeted consultation: landholders part 2</b>
Why	To ensure individual landholders with property neighbouring or dissected by the corridor had their concerns noted and discussed at the time of Trail Development Plan Stage 1.
When	January 2022.
Who	Landholders adjacent to rail corridor and in sections being assessed for the Trail Development Plan Stage 1 (TDP) were given the opportunity to meet the TDP consultants.
Where	Rail corridor from Tralee to Michelago and Jincumbilly to Bombala.
How	Landholders advised by SMRC and QPRC that the TDP consultants were available for a phone meeting or an in-person meeting when the consultants traversed the corridor adjacent to their land. QPRC issued 38 letters and SMRC 163 letters.
Outcome	Eight landholders took the opportunity for face-to-face discussions with the consultants and four used a phone consultation. The consultants' reported that all landholders were satisfied their concerns could be addressed.

<b>What</b>	<b>Targeted consultation: landholders part 3</b>
Why	To ensure individual landholders with property neighbouring or dissected by the corridor had their concerns noted and discussed at the time of Trail Development Plan Stage 2 and for the Biosecurity and Biodiversity Assessment.
When	September 2023.
Who	Landholders adjacent to rail corridor and in sections being assessed for the Trail Development Plan Stage 2 (TDP) were given the opportunity to meet the TDP consultants.
Where	Rail corridor from Queanbeyan to South Jerrabomberra and Michelago and Cooma.
How	Landholders advised by SMRC and QPRC that the TDP consultants were available for a phone meeting or an in-person meeting when the consultants traversed the corridor adjacent to their land. 62 letters issued by QPRC and 536 by SMRC.
Outcome	Fewer than 10 landholders took the opportunity for face-to-face discussions with the TDP consultants and four used a phone consultation. The consultants' reported that all landholders were satisfied their concerns could be addressed. Four landholders prepared written submissions to the Biosecurity consultants.

<b>What</b>	<b>Targeted consultation: landholders part 4</b>
Why	To ensure individual landholders with property neighbouring or dissected by the corridor had their concerns noted and discussed at the time of the Biosecurity and Biodiversity Assessment.
When	August to November 2023.
Who	Landholders adjacent to rail corridor and in sections being assessed for the Biosecurity and Biodiversity were given the opportunity to meet the consultants.
Where	Rail corridor from Queanbeyan to South Jerrabomberra and Michelago and Cooma.
How	Landholders advised by SMRC and QPRC that the consultants were available for written comment on the MRT proposal and biosecurity issues. 62 letters issued by QPRC and 169 by SMRC.
Outcome	Four landholders took the opportunity to provide written comment. Three commented on potential weed spread and one commented on riders alarming stock.

<b>What</b>	<b>Targeted consultation: Cooma Monaro Rail Inc</b>
Why	To investigate potential for a joint rail trail and tourist train on part of the corridor from Cooma to Nimmitabel.
When	August 2020 to current.
Who	MRT Inc, CMR Inc and SMRC. Recent meetings chaired by SMRC. See detailed record page 28.
Where	Cooma Railway Station and SMRC chambers.
How	Meetings. An initial series of presentations by MRT and CMR followed by discussions to find common ground that would benefit both groups.
Outcome	Agreement that both activities are synergistic. A business case is to be developed for the joint corridor on a section between Cooma and Bombala. In the meantime, advance the MRT proposal for northern sections of the rail corridor – Queanbeyan to Cooma.

What	Targeted consultation: Indigenous peoples
Why	To investigate potential for a tourism based rail trail parts of the corridor from Queanbeyan to Bombala.
When	October 2024
Who	sent to Local Area Land Councils inviting consultation
Where	
How	letters
Outcome	No response to date January 2025

<b>What</b>	<b>General information sharing prior to MRT Feasibility Study</b>
Why	To increase Monaro community awareness and understanding of the MRT proposal in the early days of the proposal launch.
When	Various dates as opportunities arise but started in October 2015.
Who	Members of communities impacted by the MRT proposal and or making up user groups.
Where	Queanbeyan/Canberra, Michelago, Bredbo, Cooma, Nimmitabel and Bombala.
How	Various tools – street information booths, market day information booths, website, presentations.
Outcome	Over 1000 brochures distributed, MRT online petition gathers 3000 signatures and street level petition gathers 1000 signatures and 450 subscribers to MRT newsletter.

<b>What</b>	<b>Consultation as part of the MRT Feasibility Study</b>
Why	To ensure the communities have sufficient understanding of the proposal and can determine whether they will support it. Support is a key measure of the feasibility of the MRT.
When	July 2019.
Who	Communities adjacent to the rail corridor.
Where	Bombala, Nimmitabel, Cooma, Bredbo, Michelago.
How	<p>‘Open house’ sessions were conducted in each of the above communities with the Feasibility Study consultants on site, supported by visual displays. Attendees were able to ask questions of the consultants.</p> <p>This series of consultations was advertised by a press release in addition to a letter mailed by SMRC to 500 landowners adjoining the rail corridor.</p>
Outcome	<p>Data available from the report shows attendance as: Michelago 35; Bredbo 12; Cooma 25; Nimmitabel 12; Bombala 10.</p> <p>The Feasibility Report indicates the vast majority of those attending were supportive of the MRT or satisfied after discussion with the consultants that any issues could be resolved.</p>

What	Consultation to seek feedback post release of the MRT Feasibility Study
Why	To test the integrity of the Feasibility Study prior to final draft.
When	December 2019 to January 2020.
Who	Residents in Snowy Mountains Regional Council LGA and the general public.
Where	SMRC website.
How	The SMRC <a href="#">Have Your Say</a> portal was updated to include the MRT Feasibility Study and was open to the public for December 2019 to January 2020.
Outcome	509 responses were recorded, of which 95.9% were supportive of development of the MRT, 3% were opposed and 1.2% were undecided.



## Engagement and consultation record

### General

Channel	Sub-channel (if applic.)	Target stakeholder/s	Release or Start Date	Close date (if applic.)	Comment
Community forum	Early discussion	Nimmitabel Advancement Group	1/07/2015		MRT - Michael Daniel, Will Jardine, Pauline Cook MRT Inc not existing at this stage, gauging support type meeting
Print media	The Monaro Post	General public	1/08/2015		General story on the MRT proposal
Print media	Cooma Monaro Express	General public	1/8/2015		MRT – Pauline Cook general story on the proposal
Community forum	Presentation	Bombala Chamber of Commerce	6/10/2015		MRT - Michael Daniel + Les Atkins, Councillor Dianne Hampshire
Community forum	Presentation	Cooma Cycling Club	6/10/2015		MRT - Michael Daniel Information giving
Field trip		Interested communities	1/12/2015		Field Trip for interested parties to Bredbo and Chakola bridges
Community forum	Presentation	Cooma Chamber of Commerce	6/12/2015		MRT - Michael Daniel Mark Herbert - letter of support
Council forum	Presentation	Cooma Council	11/01/2016		MRT - Michael Daniel, Will Jardine, Andrew Carter + Acting Mayor Dean Lynch, General Manager John Vucic, Stephen Molloy, Peter Smith, Linda Nicholson
Information stand	Michelago General Store	Michelago community	26/02/2016		MRT - Cate Spencer, Andrew Carter 20 interactions with public
Information stand	RT4NSW at Parliament House Sydney	General public	27/02/2016		MRT - Michael Daniel, Mary Walters, Andrew Carter Discussions with Angus Taylor at this function
Information stand	Nimmitabel Open Garden day with MRT banner	Nimmitabel community	30/03/2016		MRT - Michael Daniel, Mary Walters 100 interactions with public
Council forum	Presentation	Bombala 355 Heritage Committee	2/04/2016		MRT - Michael Daniel, Will Jardine + Mayor Bob Stewart, Dep Mayor, Councillor Dianne Hampshire, Karen Cash, Rob Cash (Lavender Cottage), Jennifer Tatham (Historical Society), Allen Simpson (Rail Heritage) plus others, key engagement with Anne and Charlie Maslin
Council forum	Presentation	Bombala Council	11/04/2016		MRT - Michael Daniel, Will Jardine, + Full Council, Karen Cash, General Manager, 1 member of public,



Community Engagement and Consultation: The Plan and the Record

Channel	Sub-channel (if applic.)	Target stakeholder/s	Release or Start Date	Close date (if applic.)	Comment
Information stand	Cooma Tourist Centre	Cooma community	20/04/2016		MRT - Michael Daniel, Mary Walters Banner in Tourism Centre for 1 month
Information stand	Michelago MayFair	Michelago community	26/04/2016		MRT - Andrew Carter, Richard Horobin, Michael Daniel 50 interactions
Information stand	Nimmitabel Garden Club	Nimmitabel community	1/05/2016		MRT - Michael Daniel, Mary Walters Garden Club Members and Guests - approx 50 people
Community forum	Presentation	Cooma Lions	3/05/2016		MRT - Michael Daniel + approx 50 Lions Club Members - key people, Luke Porter president, Roger Toole, Max Povey, Heath Wooley (SHL)
Community forum		Goulburn/Crookwell rail trail stakeholders	11/05/2016		Attended community engagement day (200 attendees) with NSW State Government in attendance
Community forum		Cooma Lions Club	11/05/2016		Presentation on MRT proposal
Community forum	Presentation	Cooma Rotary	21/05/2016		MRT - Michael Daniel + approx 40 members - President Neil (owns and manages land adjoining trail at Bunyan), David Byrne, Mark Cooper, John King concerned farmer
Community forum		Cooma Rotary Club	25/05/2016		Presentation on MRT proposal
Council forum	Presentation	SMRC Mark Adams - Council Planning	25/05/2016		MRT – Michael Daniel Progress of MRT submission to Settlement Strategy
Community forum	Meeting	Cooma Leos Club	2/06/2016		MRT - Michael Daniel A regular meeting with 40 plus members attending.
Community forum	Presentation	Cooma Leos Club	6/06/2016		Presentation on MRT proposal
Council forum	Presentation	Snowy LRC	7/06/2016		MRT - Andrew Carter, Cate Spencer + Four members of Snowy LRC, John Cahill, John Schumack, Peter Beer, Bob Frost, Dean Lynch
Information stand	Michelago Primary School on Federal Election Day	Michelago community	7/06/2016		MRT - Cate Spencer 40 signatures in support of feasibility study
Radio	ABC Radio SE	General public	7/6/2016		MRT - Michael Daniel radio interview with Joshua Becker
Council forum	Presentation	Bombala LRC	23/08/2016		MRT - Andrew Carter, Will Jardine + Four members of Bombala LRC, Steve Goodyer, Diane Hampshire, Gabrielle Rea, Paul Perkins, Dean Lynch
State/Territory gov forum	Informal street meeting	ACT Chief Minister	14/09/2016		MRT – Andrew Carter Introduce idea of the MRT and seek formal meeting



Community Engagement and Consultation: The Plan and the Record

Channel	Sub-channel (if applic.)	Target stakeholder/s	Release or Start Date	Close date (if applic.)	Comment
Community forum	Presentation	Probus Merimbula	26/09/2016		MRT - Michael Daniel, Andrew Carter 30 members in attendance
Council forum	Meeting	Queanbeyan Palerang Regional Council	26/09/2016		MRT - Andrew Carter, Jeff Ibbotson + Martin Darcy, Manager Economic Development and Business Liaison, QPRC
Council forum	Presentation	Cooma LRC	7/10/2016		MRT - Michael Daniel, Cate Spencer, Will Jardine + Craig Mitchell, Angie Ingram, Winston Phillips, Sandra McEwan, Dan Lynch. Outcome - DL to write to NSW Govt asking that a MRT feasibility study take place in conjunction with rail to Port Eden feasibility study
Meeting with politician		Mike Kelly MP Eden Monaro	8/11/2016		MRT - Michael Daniel, Cate Spencer and Will Jardine Briefing in office
Print media	The Canberra Times	General public	11/11/2016		MRT - Andrew Carter letter to editor protesting demolition of rail bridge at Michelago
Social media		Friends of Monaro Rail Trail	01/12/2016		3000 followers
Print media	The Monaro Post	General public	4/12/2016		Mary Walters with Gail Eastway (Editor) general article
Community forum	Public meeting	Micalago Rd Bridge Community Meeting	9/01/2017		MRT - Mary Walters, Andrew Carter + Michelago residents & Danielle Wilson - John Holland Group. Protest against bridge demolition.
Print media	The Monaro Post	General public	9/01/2017		General story on the MRT proposal, with image
Print media	The Australian	General public	19/01/2017		MRT - Will Jardine and journalist Sam Buckingham-Jones, general story on MRT, with image
Radio	ABC Radio Canberra	General public	20/01/2017		Interview with Genevieve Jacobs
State/Territory gov forum	Briefing	ACT Govt Visit Canberra	24/01/2017		MRT - Andrew Carter, Ryan Kelly and David Barker Introduce MRT and gauge interest
Council forum	Focus group for cycling tourism	Queanbeyan Palerang Regional Council	2/02/2017		MRT - Andrew Carter. Cate Spencer SMRC cycle tourism planning with consultants
Petitions	MRT website	General public	1/3/2017	1/3/2019	Calling for support from NSW Govt to fund a feasibility study. 3000 signatures.
TV	Win TV	General public	5/05/2017		6 pm News general interest interview with MRT President and Secretary on rail corridor at Mary Walter's property
Print media	The Canberra Times	General public	2/6/2017		MRT – Andrew Carter and Will Jardine, story on MRT



Community Engagement and Consultation: The Plan and the Record

Channel	Sub-channel (if applic.)	Target stakeholder/s	Release or Start Date	Close date (if applic.)	Comment
State/Territory gov forum	Input to Focus group	Visit Canberra and Destination Marketing.	02/06/2017		MRT - Andrew Carter, Cate Spencer MRT input into cycling tourism plan for CBR
Print media	The Canberra Times Tim the Yowie Man column	General public	25/11/2017		MRT - Andrew Carter, 2-page story with images.
Community forum	Presentation	Bredbo Community Progress Association	6/12/2017		MRT - Andrew Carter with Scherrie McMillan & Jasson Green Initial contact for introduction of MRT
Field trip	By invitation	Bredbo community	6/02/2018		Australia Bush Heritage organised fund-raising day (50 attendees) at Bredbo. Conducted field trip to inspect land conservation work adjacent to rail corridor.
Information stand	Cooma Rotary Markets	Cooma community	19/2/2018		MRT - Jack Clayton and Cate Spencer General information day
Radio	ABC Radio SE	General public	23/06/2018		MRT – Mary Walters, interview with Sophie Longden relating to crowd funding success
Radio	ABC Radio Canberra	General public	30/07/2018		MRT – Mary Walters, interview with Anna Vidot relating to crowd funding success
Print media	The Monaro Post	General public	15/08/2018		Story related to success of crowd funding for scoping study
Council forum	Tourism workshop	Snowy Monaro Regional Council	11/11/2018		MRT - Mary Walters, Michael Daniel Introduce MRT as part of new tourism
Information stand	Canberra lakeside information stand	Canberra community	11/11/2018		MRT – Andrew Carter, Julie Bassett Information booth for general awareness
Information stand	Bombala Rotary Riverside Markets	Bombala community	18/11/2018		MRT - Jack Clayton, Michael Daniel, Andrew Carter General information day
Print media	The Monaro Post	General public	24/11/2018		Mary Walters story on results of Feasibility Study
Radio	ABC Radio SE	General public	1/12/2018		MRT – Mary Walters, media story about Feasibility Study
Information stand	Tour De Etape registration day Crackenback Resort	Jindabyne community	3/12/2018		Market stall at event registration days, gained financial members from public and business
Information stand	Tour De Etape registration day Crackenback Resort	Jindabyne community	4/12/2018		MRT – Andrew Carter, Michael, Will & Carolyn, Cate, Jen Market stall at event registration days, gained financial members from public and business
Radio	ABC Radio Canberra	General public	5/12/2018		MRT – Andrew Carter, interview with Anna Vidot presenting Feasibility Study results
Council forum	Presentation	Snowy Monaro Regional Council	20/12/2018		MRT - Mary Walters Michael Daniel Presentation of feasibility study to councillors
Community forum	Consultation	Each community on rail corridor	1/9/2019	31/9/2019	Consultants to MRT Feasibility Study hold open 3-hour evening meeting in each community



Community Engagement and Consultation: The Plan and the Record

Channel	Sub-channel (if applic.)	Target stakeholder/s	Release or Start Date	Close date (if applic.)	Comment
On line media	Riotact	General Public	25/4/2019		General story on rail corridor use including MRT
On line media	Riotact	General Public	6/07/2019		Story informing readers of opportunities to engage with rail trail consultants doing the trail development plan
Print media	The Monaro Post	General public	27/11/2019		Story related to results of SMRC funded feasibility study
Consultation	SMRC website	SMRC communities	1/12/2019	31/01/2020	Snowy Monaro Regional Council "Have your say" online survey seeking comment on the MRT feasibility study, 509 responses (93% favourable)
Petitions	Street petition	Monaro residents	1/12/2019	31/1/2020	Conducted by MRT Inc and calling for indications of support for the MRT proposal. 1100 signatures Held in Cooma.
Online Media	Riotact	General Public	25/12/2019		Specific MRT story
Print media	About Regional	General public	24/12/2019		Story relating to outcome of the MRT feasibility study
Community forum	Presentation	Cooma Chamber of Commerce	17/01/2020		Presentation on MRT proposal
Meeting with politician		John Barilaro MP Monaro	26/06/2020		MRT - Ken Lister and Frank Bakker General briefing
Meeting with politician		Jim Molan Senato NSW	11/09/2020		MRT - Ken Lister and Rick Moor General briefing
Community forum	Presentation	Bombala & District Chamber of Commerce	10/11/2020		Presentation on MRT proposal
Community forum	Presentation	Cooma Rotary Club	11/11/2020		Update on MRT proposal
Community forum	Presentation	Cooma Rotary	11/11/2020		MRT - Dave Byrne Update on MRT
Print media	The Monaro Post	General public	9/12/2020		Story relating to business support for MRT
Print media	The Monaro Post	General public	30/12/2020		Story on Significant strides for rail trail
Community forum	Consultation 1:1	Landholders of adjoining properties	01/01/2021	10/01/2021	Consultants to MRT Trail Development Plan hold one-on-one meetings with landholders who chose to respond to letter sent by SMRC and QPRC advising of the opportunity.
Print media	The Guardian online Australian edition	General Australian wide audience	10/01/2021		General story on the MRT proposal with reference other RTs
State/Territory gov forum	Briefing	ACT City Services, Transport and Active Travel groups	19/01/2021		MRT - Andrew Carter, Fay Steward, Ken Lister General briefing on MRT
Targeted forum		GDH Consultants	9/02/2021		MRT - Andrew Carter gave presentation on MRT to inform Monaro Highway upgrade including how to link ACT to MRT



Community Engagement and Consultation: The Plan and the Record

Channel	Sub-channel (if applic.)	Target stakeholder/s	Release or Start Date	Close date (if applic.)	Comment
State/Territory gov forum		Department of Regional NSW	27/07/2021		MRT - Fay Steward, Andrew Carter Review and feedback of BLER application
State/Territory gov forum	Briefing	Director – ACT Govt Cabinet and Legislation	28/07/2021		MRT - Andrew Carter, Fay Steward Request from ACT Govt for briefing
Meeting with politician		Kristy McBain MP Eden Monaro	1/09/2021		MRT - Ken Lister, Carlo Botto, General briefing
Council forum	Working Group meetings	Joint Working Party SMRC, QPRC and MRT Inc	6/10/2021		MRT - MRT - Ken Lister, Frank Bakker, Rick Moor, Dave Byrne + Ryan Deebank (QPRC) Mark Adams (SMRC)
Meeting with politician		Nichole Overall MP Monaro	1/11/2021		MRT - Ken Lister, Rick Moor General briefing
Radio	ABC Radio Canberra	General public	6/12/2021		MRT – Ken Lister, with ABC presenter Lish Freyer – update on MRT and TDP
Print media	The Monaro Post	General public	8/12/2021		Peter & Rosanne Coumbis and John Sims update on MRT including visit from president of RTA
State/Territory gov forum		Regional Development Australia NSW	1/1/ 2022		MRT - Fay Steward Presented MRT Business Case
Council forum	Presentation to councillors	Snowy Monaro Regional Council	7/04/2022		MRT – Carlo Botto Update to new council on MRT business case
Online media	Riotact	General public	22/02/2022		Story on compatibility of tourist train and rail trail
Meeting with politician		Kristy McBain MP Eden Monaro	26/04/2022		MRT Inc, Bombala Chamber of Commerce Funding announcement of \$1M funding to MRT pre-election
Meeting with politician		Bronnie Taylor NSW MLC	26/04/2022		MRT - Mary Walters Informal meeting over coffee
State/Territory gov forum		Department of Regional NSW	28/04/2022		MRT - Ken Lister, Andrew Carter, Rick Moor, Daniel Murphy + Regional NSW - Megan Cleary, Steve Battle Notes to meeting available
State/Territory gov forum		Department of Regional NSW	2/05/2022		MRT - Ken Lister, Andrew Carter, Rick Moor, Daniel Murphy, Megan Cleary, Steve Battle Sought direction on MRT governance and corridor lease arrangements
Print media	The Monaro Post	General public	4/05/2022		Kristy McBain media release re Labor commitment of \$1m to MRT



Community Engagement and Consultation: The Plan and the Record

Channel	Sub-channel (if applic.)	Target stakeholder/s	Release or Start Date	Close date (if applic.)	Comment
Community forum	Meeting	Cooma Monaro Rail group	8/05/2022		MRT - MRT -Carlo Botto, Frank Bakker, Peter Coumbis, Ken Lister Working towards multi use of corridor
State/Territory gov forum		Destination NSW	10/05/2022		MRT - Rick Moor Input to new tourism management plan
State/Territory gov forum	Presentation	ACT Government Economic Policy Planning and Visit Canberra	11/05/2022		MRT - Andrew Carter, Ric Moor, Carlo Botto Bringing ACT into the proposal
Community forum	Presentation	Cooma Chamber of Commerce	17/05/2022		MRT – Carlo Botto Update on MRT with business case
Print media	The Monaro Post	General public	19/10/2022		General story of debate Train versus Trail Cooma to Bombala.
Radio	ABC Radio SE	General public	19/10/2022		MRT – Frank Bakker with ABC host Simon Lauder. Story on Bombala cycle trail.
Radio	ABC Radio SE	General public	22/12/2022		MRT – Carlo Botto with ABC host Simon Lauder. Story relating to recent announcement from Regional NSW of \$272k grant to MRT
Radio	ABC Canberra	General public	22/12/2022		MRT – Carlo Botto with ABC host Adam Shirley. Story relating to recent announcement from Regional NSW of \$272K grant to MRT
Print media	The Monaro Post	General public	28 /12/2022		Story on Regional NSW awarding SMRC and MRT the \$272K grant for business plan development.
Print media	The Monaro Post	General public	2/08/2023		Story on Bombala Precinct Trail developed by MRT with Boco Rock funding. Frank Bakker and Dave Byrne from MRT
Radio	ABC Canberra	General public	21/08/2023		MRT President Carlo Botto talking about the Trail Development Plan phase 2 and appointment of consultants.
TV	WIN News Canberra	General public	21/08/2023		Interviews with Cooma Monaro Rail, MRT and SMRC Mayor. Talking about a common thread of a multi purpose rail corridor
Print media	The Monaro Post	General public	30/08/2023		Story on Bombala community petitioning SMRC to actively support the MRT.
Print media	The Monaro Post	General public	13/09/2023		Letter to Editor from MRT President Carlo Botto. General explanation of benefits to Monaro from the rail trail.
Print Media	The Monaro Post	General public	25/10/2023		Letter to Editor from MRT President Carlo Botto. General story on SMRC decision to apply for \$1m grant to start MRT at Bombala.



Community Engagement and Consultation: The Plan and the Record

Channel	Sub-channel (if applic.)	Target stakeholder/s	Release or Start Date	Close date (if applic.)	Comment
Radio	ABC South East	General Public	24/10/2023		ABC presenter Floss Adams with MRT Inc President Carlo Botto General story on SMRC decision to apply for \$1m grant to start MRT at Bombala.
Print media	The Monaro Post	General Public	24/10/2023		Journalist Nathan Thompson gives a summary of the SMRC meeting in Bombala 19 Oct and the decision to apply for the \$1m grant originally committed by Kristy McBain MP in 2022.
Meeting with Politician		Steve Whan NSW Monaro	24/01/2024		MRT -Carlo Botto and Franki Bakker, update on the MRT and discussions on rail corridor lease and maintenance funding.
Community Forum	Presentation to Jerrabomberra Lions Club	Presentation to Jerrabomberra Lions Club	1/02/2024		MRT Andrew Carter presenting the concept of the MRT and Its application to the Queanbeyan Precinct Trail.
State Govt Forum	Networking	Destination Southern NSW	8/02/2024		MRT Frank Bakker, Dave Byrne, Bernie McDonald
Joint Local Council and Territory Forum	General presentation to local governments.	Canberra Region Joint Organization			MRT – Carlo Botto, Ric Moor
State Govt Forum	Briefing to senior staff	Destination NSW	18/04/2024		MRT – Andrew Carter, DNSW – senior execs.
Print media	The Monaro Post	General Public	17/04/2024		MRT Inc provides leading letter to editor and features comments on a motion to be put at the April SMRC council April meeting.
Print media	The Monaro Post	General Public	24/04/2024		MRT Inc provides comment on outcome of SMRC resolution to continue to seek funding to complete the MRT business case
Community Forum	Information Booth	Queanbeyan General Public	14/12/2004		MRT committee members, Peter& Rosanne Coumbis, Andrew Carter



Key stakeholders

Meeting register - Landholders on the rail corridor Cooma to Bombala

Date & Landholder location	MRT Ambassador	Landholder & response (landholder names withheld for privacy)
Various dates, 2020 -2021 phone conversations, property north of Bombala	Ken Lister *	Farmer A. Very keen supporter of MRT, has provided a letter of support.
July 2021 In person contact, property south of Nimmitabel	Charlie Maslin*	Farmer B, positive to the proposal.
July 2021 Phone contact, property south of Nimmitabel	Charlie Maslin	Farmer C, opposed to the proposal.
July 2021, Phone contact. Property south of Nimmitabel	Charlie Maslin	Farmer D, property management concerns (since resolved).
July 2021, In person contact, Property south of Nimmitabel	Charlie Maslin	Farmer E, letter of support.
July 2021, In person contact, property south of Nimmitabel	Charlie Maslin	Farmer F, supports the proposal.
July 2021, In person contact, Property at Jincumbilly siding.	Charlie Maslin	Farmer G. This land holder opposed to the proposal.
July 2021, phone contact, Property south of Jincumbilly	Charlie Maslin	Farmer H, positive response to the MRT proposal.
July 2021, phone contact, Property south of Jincumbilly	Charlie Maslin	Farmer I, very positive to MRT.
July 2021, phone contact, Property south of Jincumbilly	Charlie Maslin	Farmer J, supports the MRT.
July 2021, phone contact, Property south of Jincumbilly	Charlie Maslin	Farmer K, no opposition to MRT.
July 2021, phone contact, Property south of Jincumbilly	Charlie Maslin	Farmer L, in favour of the MRT.



Date & Landholder location	MRT Ambassador	Landholder & response (landholder names withheld for privacy)
July 2021, phone contact and Jan 2022 on site with TDP consultants, Property south of Jincumbilly	Charlie Maslin & Trail Development consultants	Farmer M, concerns discussed and now happy with MRT to proceed.
July 2021, phone contact, Property south of Jincumbilly	Charlie Maslin	Farmer N, mild concerns but accepting if issues resolved.
July 2021, phone contact, Property south of Jincumbilly	Charlie Maslin	Farmer O, some concerns to be discussed but not opposed.
Through 2018 to 2020 phone contact was made with land holders Cooma to Bombala.	Mary Walters* made initial contact then followed up by Charlie Maslin and or Ken Lister	Farmers contacted included; Farmer B, Farmer P, Farmer F (multiple properties), Farmer O (multiple properties), Farmer T.
17.11.2021. Property south of Nimmitabel. Meeting	Ken Lister - general discussion. Landholder given MRT Information pack	Farmer P, Landholder, very supportive.
9.12.2021 Property south of Nimmitabel. Meeting	Ken Lister - general discussion. Landholder given MRT Information pack	Farmer Q, concerns to be resolved when on site trail planning done.
24.05.2021 Property south of Nimmitabel. Meeting	Ken Lister- general discussion. Landholder given MRT Information pack	Farmer R- Landholder, concerns to be resolved when on site trail planning done.
27.1.2021 Property north of Nimmitabel. Meeting	Ken Lister- general discussion. Landholder given MRT Information pack	Farmer S, Landholder, opposed but waiting to see outcomes of MRT northern section when developed.
14.11.2020. Landholder off the rail corridor. Phone conversation	Ken Lister	Farmer T, Landholder, open to developing the proposal.



Date & Landholder location	MRT Ambassador	Landholder & response (landholder names withheld for privacy)
The MRT Ambassadors		
<p>*Charlie Maslin is a landholder near Bombala and whose property is dissected by the rail corridor. He is a very active supporter of the MRT and believes there are no issues for landholders that cannot be resolved.</p>		
<p>*Mary Walters is a landholder on the rail corridor between Cooma and Nimmitabel, a former president of MRT Inc and has been very open with her support of MRT.</p>		
<p>*Ken Lister at this time was president MRT Inc and a long- term Cooma resident.</p>		



Meeting register – Cooma Monaro Rail Inc

Activity	MRT and SMRC represented by	CMR represented by
Meeting: 18 July 2022 SMRC convened meeting of MRT and CMR	SMRC: Narelle Davis Mayor, CEO Peter Bascombe MRT Ken Lister, Carlo Botto, Frank Bakker	CMR - Gordon Strachan, Craig Moor Release Business plan to begin track construction at Bombala.
Document exchange 15 July 2022. From CMR to MRT.		CMR release draft Business plan for track construction Cooma-Rock Flat 2025, Rock Flat -Nimmitabel 2027, Nimmitabel – Bombala 2030
Meeting: 11 July 2022 SMRC convened meeting of MRT and CMR	SMRC Narelle Davis Mayor MRT Ken Lister, Carlo Botto, Frank Bakker	CMR - Gordon Strachan, Craig Moor
Document exchange: 27 May 2020 MRT emails business plan to CMR.	MRT Inc provides a copy of draft business plan Queanbeyan to Bombala.	
Meeting: 9 May 2022 SMRC convened meeting of MRT and CMR	SMRC Mayor Narelle Davis, CEO Peter Bascombe MRT Ken Lister, Carlo Botto, Frank Bakker, Peter Coumbis	CMR - Gordon Strachan, Craig Moor
Meeting: 22 January 2022 MRT and CMR Cooma Railway Station Both groups give general introduction of aims and vision	MRT David Byrne, Peter Coumbis	CMR - Gordon Strachan and Friends of Bombala Railway
Meeting: 11 December 2021 MRT and CMR Cooma Railway Station. Exploring a way forward to find common ground	MRT David Byrne and Peter Coumbis	Gordon and Ester Strachan, Craig Moore, Dave Rolfe, David and Katrina Healy



Activity	MRT and SMRC represented by	CMR represented by
Document exchange: 18 December 2020 letter of support from MRT to CMR which applied for BLER grant to fund rail to Rock Flat		
Meeting: 2 March 2021 Bombala Rail History Inc Cosmos Café Bombala	Ken Lister, Charlie Maslin	Alan and Faye Simpson
Meeting: 19 December 2020 Cooma Railway Station	MRT David Byrne meeting discussion on working together for joint tourism attractions	CMR Gordon Strachan
Meeting: 8 November 2020 Cooma Railway Station	MRT Ken Lister and Dave Byrne presentation to CMR group	CMR Gordon and Ester Strachan, Craig Moore, Dave Rolfe, David and Katrina Healy
Meeting 29: August 2020 Cooma Railway Station	MRT Ken Lister general introduction of MRT plan	CMR Gordon Strachan
Meeting :21 August 2020 Cooma Railway Station	MRT Dave Byrne to re-establish contact between MRT and CMR	CMR Gordon Strachan
Meeting 23 June 2018 Cooma Railway Station	MRT Michael Daniel to introduce MRT plan	CMR Gordon Strachan