



Council Gives Greenlight to MIRA

At its meeting on **25 March 2026**, the Bega Valley Shire Council gave its backing to the **MIRA project concept design**, alongside the Review of Environmental Factors (REF)—marking a major step forward for this community-driven initiative.

Councillors expressed strong support, noting their genuine enthusiasm for a design shaped by the community. The depth of consultation, combined with the dedication of the Pambula–Merimbula Lions Club, was widely recognised as a standout achievement.

MIRA is set to become a **leading example across regional NSW**—delivering accessible, multi-generational facilities that truly reflect the needs of the people they serve. It reimagines a long-neglected space in an underserved area, transforming it into something far more powerful: a vibrant place for connection, wellbeing, and belonging.

Designed for everyone—across all ages, abilities, and cultures—MIRA goes beyond infrastructure. It's about strengthening social ties, supporting ageing in place, and improving mental health and overall wellbeing. Crucially, it **creates a safe, inclusive environment** for people with disability and older community members—groups too often overlooked in traditional design.

The benefits extend beyond the social. Inclusive, accessible destinations attract visitors—particularly from the growing disability tourism market—bringing **year-round economic opportunities** to the region.

MIRA represents a **future-focused vision**: inclusive, equitable, and thoughtfully designed.

The **next phase** of the journey will focus on **securing funding** through grants, donations, and community fundraising, followed by detailed design development and, ultimately, construction. So, there is still lots of work to do for our Lions club.