

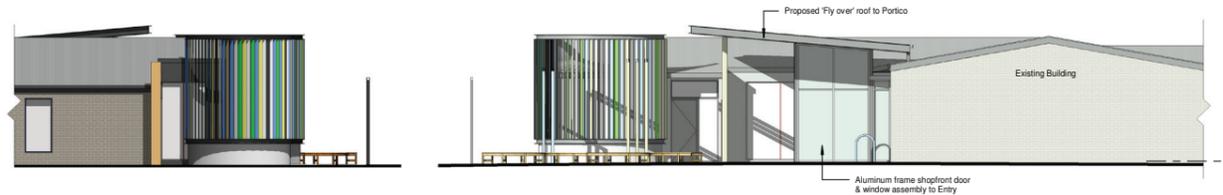
Relocation and redevelopment of the Kangaroo Flat Library

Community Bulletin No. 1

Kangaroo Flat Library is on the move in 2020



View from Lockwood Road



View from creek side

View from Helm Street side

How can I have my say about the types of services and programs offered at the Kangaroo Flat Library?

You can have your say about the services you currently enjoy or the services you would like to see offered at the Kangaroo Flat Library by completing an online survey at www.surveymonkey.com/r/W2MNY5C

When will the library move into the Lockwood Road site?

The library must vacate the existing site by June 2020 and we will be planning to move into the Lockwood Road site as close as possible to that date.

Will there be any disruption to library services in Kangaroo Flat when the current branch closes?

We will be doing all that we can to ensure that any disruption to service is well publicised and kept to a minimum.

How can I find out more?

Display boards are available at the current Kangaroo Flat Library. The plans can also be viewed online at www.bendigo.vic.gov.au/things-to-do/libraries

You can also attend an Open House at 21 Lockwood Road to check out the new premises and learn more about the renovations that will take place.

Open House sessions will take place at:

- 10am–11am, Saturday November 30, 2019
- 5.30pm–6.30pm, Wednesday December 4, 2019

What is in the works?

The following building works will take place at the Lockwood Road building:

- Improvements to provide a contemporary new building façade
- Construction of new entrance and automatic doors
- Upgrades to toilet facilities including installation of family change room
- Wall and door modifications
- Landscaping and pedestrian access treatments into the library
- Interior painting
- Upgrade power and lighting and electrical wiring for internet connection
- Installation of new carpet
- Provision of reading/social spaces and study/work space in childrens area
- Provision of multipurpose spaces to provide flexibility for library programs
- Installation of new benches



Artist's impression of Lockwood Road site

In June 2020, the Kangaroo Flat Library will relocate from its present address on High Street at the front of Lansell Square Shopping Centre to the former Senior Citizens building at 21 Lockwood Road.

The Lockwood Road premises will undergo a \$1.38M redevelopment to provide a 50 per cent larger, centrally located library facility to service Kangaroo Flat's growing community for many years to come.

The City is currently finalising detailed building plans with work set to commence on the building of the Lockwood Road premises in early 2020 for completion by June 2020.

The move to Lockwood Road is a strong commitment and investment by both the City of Greater Bendigo and Goldfields Library to provide improved and expanded library services to the community. While we understand that change may be difficult for some we have endeavoured to answer questions you may have about the relocation on the following pages.

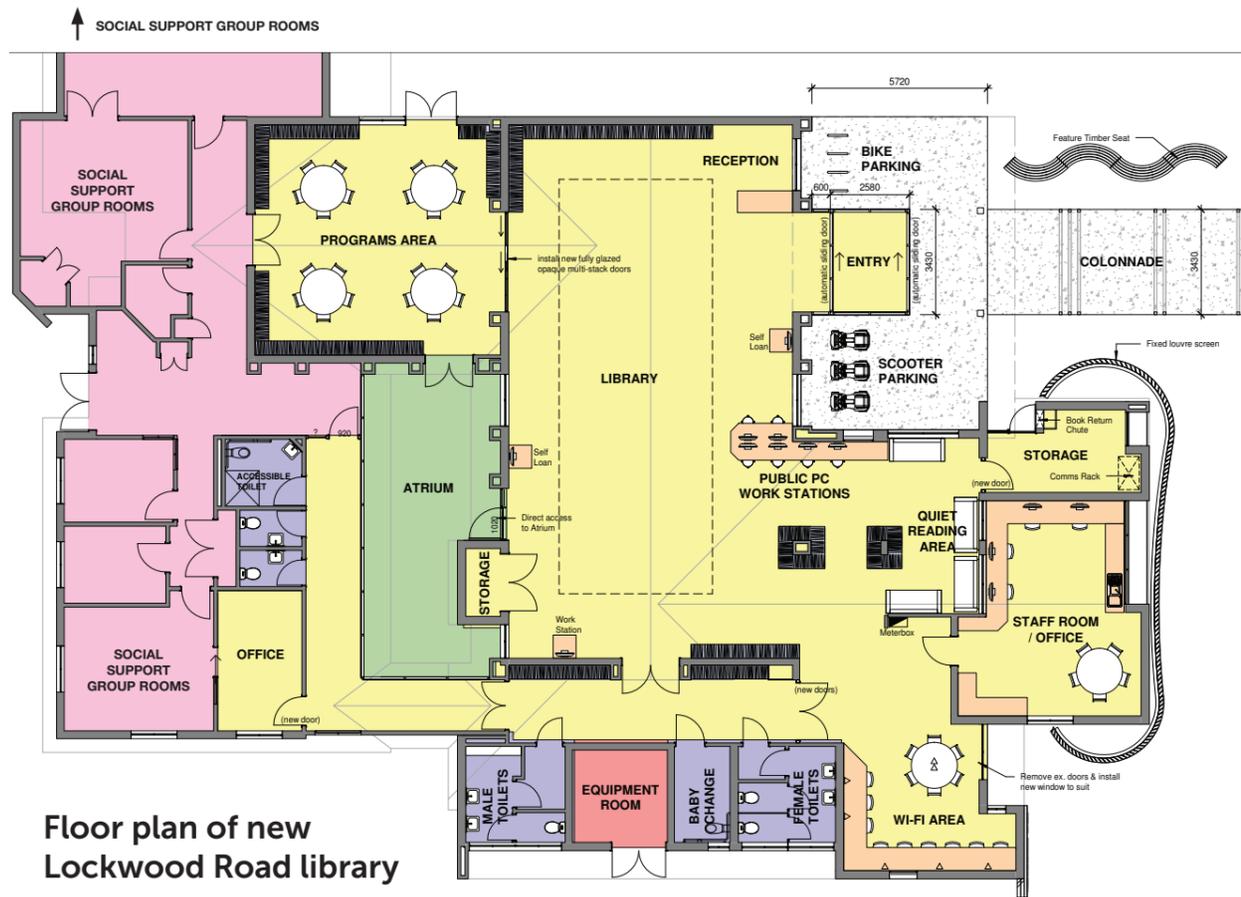
Attend an Open House session

We are holding two Open House sessions at 21 Lockwood Road to provide an opportunity for interested residents to check out the new premises and also learn more about the plans we have to renovate the facility. Open House sessions will take place at:

- 10am–11am
Saturday November 30, 2019
- 5.30pm–6.30pm
Wednesday December 4, 2019

Online Survey

Residents can also complete an online survey about the types of new services you would like to see provided at the new library facility. The survey is available at www.surveymonkey.com/r/W2MNY5C



Floor plan of new Lockwood Road library

Why is the Kangaroo Flat Library moving from its current home at Lansell Square?

The owners of Lansell Square Shopping Centre who own the Kangaroo Flat Library building, have informed the City that they want to repurpose the site. The library has until June 2020 to vacate the building.

Ongoing population growth in the Kangaroo Flat area in recent years has also resulted in additional demands on the library service. The continued growth has highlighted the inadequacy and small size of the existing library building.

What is the history of the Kangaroo Flat Library?

In March 1979 the former Shire of Marong and the owners of the shopping centre agreed to a 35 year, \$1 per year, lease agreement for the current Kangaroo Flat Library. The lease expired in March 2014 and since that time has been operating under the same terms and conditions as the original lease on a month by month basis.

While the shopping centre has offered a number of alternative sites within the centre, these locations are not fit for purpose and any ongoing lease arrangement would be on a commercial lease basis which would result in significantly higher annual rental costs than the current peppercorn rental of \$1 per annum.

Who runs the Library and what is the City of Greater Bendigo's role?

The Kangaroo Flat Library is operated by Goldfields Library Corporation.

The City of Greater Bendigo helps fund the operation of Goldfields Library Corporation through its annual budget and also by providing buildings for our local libraries to operate from.

Where is the Kangaroo Flat Library moving to?

After considering a number of other sites it has been determined that the Library will relocate to the former Senior Citizens building in Lockwood Road, Kangaroo Flat which is owned by the City.

What other sites were looked at?

The City looked at a number of sites in Kangaroo Flat as potential homes for the library.

These sites included a shop within Lansell Square Shopping Centre, JB Osbourne Theatre at Crusoe Secondary College and the Railway Shed near the Kangaroo Flat Railway Station. None of these sites were owned by the City, nor were they fit for purpose.

Only the City owned Lockwood Road building offered the opportunity to develop a new, larger library service that would cater for the future growth of Kangaroo Flat.



Artist's impression

Why has Lockwood Road been chosen as the new library site?

The former Senior Citizens building in Lockwood Road is a large building, owned by the City of Greater Bendigo that is currently under used.

While it is home to some social support groups for older residents, the Library will co-exist with the other services already located at the site.

The site is:

- Large enough to supply an expanded library service in Kangaroo Flat
- Close to public transport
- Close to the Kangaroo Flat strip shops
- Close to the Kangaroo Flat site of the Bendigo Community Health Service
- Close to local schools
- Has good access for all
- Has sufficient car parking on site and is in close proximity to other public car parking
- Has the Bendigo Creek walking trail running down the side of the site which provides good access for residents to the site by bike or foot
- The City also owns land on both sides of the site
- Has potential to develop into a new community hub

Where are the Senior Citizens moving to?

The Kangaroo Flat Senior Citizens Club disbanded in 2006.

Is the Lockwood Road site larger than the current library?

Yes it is considerably larger. In fact the Lockwood Road site will increase the size of the library by almost 50 per cent.

What work is required to make the Lockwood Road site a functioning Library?

A range of work to modernise and repurpose the building's existing hall area and front rooms into library spaces will be undertaken. A new entrance into the building will be created, services upgraded, repairs to the existing building structure undertaken and solar panels to make the building more sustainable will be installed.

Other work to improve and beautify the exterior façade of the building, formalise car parking and landscaping will also be carried out.

How much will it cost the City to make the Lockwood Road site suitable for use as a library?

The cost to refurbish the building will be approximately \$1.38M. The City of Greater Bendigo has applied for a Living Libraries Grant of \$750,000 from the Victorian Government to help undertake the work. Goldfields Library Corporation will contribute \$50,000 and the City of Greater Bendigo will provide the balance.

Will I still have access to the services currently provided at the library?

Yes you will and more. The Lockwood Road site is much larger than the existing library site and this will provide opportunities to expand the current services offered at the Kangaroo Flat Library.