

# COMMUNITY PROJECT UPDATE

## Prestige Mills Housing Infrastructure Project

### THE OLD CEMETERY SITE

Ararat Rural City Council recognises the deep historical and cultural significance of the former Ararat Cemetery site at the corner of Lowe and Basham Streets.

This site represents a poignant part of the town's early history, with records indicating that burials occurred between 1856 to 1865, including many local pioneers, families and children.

This history continues to be an important part of our collective story, and Council is committed to ensuring it is respected and remembered.

As part of planning for the area's future, Council has worked closely with Heritage Victoria to identify and map the confirmed cemetery site. A heritage overlay is now in place to protect it, ensuring any ongoing development or infrastructure works treat the area with the highest level of sensitivity and care.

Council's approach has been designed to balance community growth with respect for those who came before us, maintaining the integrity of the site while recognising its value to Ararat's social history.

Ararat's exciting new housing development at 87 Queen Street is powering ahead, marking a major step toward addressing the region's housing needs. Ararat Rural City Council has now drafted a subdivision plan for the former Prestige Fabric Mill site, transforming it into a dynamic new neighbourhood that will offer a mix of around 90 homes for families, singles, couples, and retirees.

### FACTS ABOUT THE DEVELOPMENT

- In a major boost for the community, 70 per cent of the planned dwellings will be dedicated to affordable housing, which means greater access to a variety of housing will be available to local residents.
- Residential lot sizes will average around 300-400m<sup>2</sup>, providing a wide range of housing options to meet diverse community needs.
- The land is owned by a private developer who will build and sell the homes.

### COUNCIL'S ROLE

Council has secured \$7.3 million from the Federal Government, under its *Housing Support Program*, to build crucial enabling infrastructure to support the development. Council will be responsible for building the internal roads, drainage, pathways, streetlights and utilities with the Federal funds.

### COMMUNITY

The site is zoned mixed use. For community members who are interested in viewing the draft subdivision plan, showing roads, driveways and utility connections, it will shortly be available on our Greenlight portal, and follow us on social media for updates.



Project budget \$7.3M



Works undertaken by ARCC



Demolition currently underway



Heavy works start early 2026

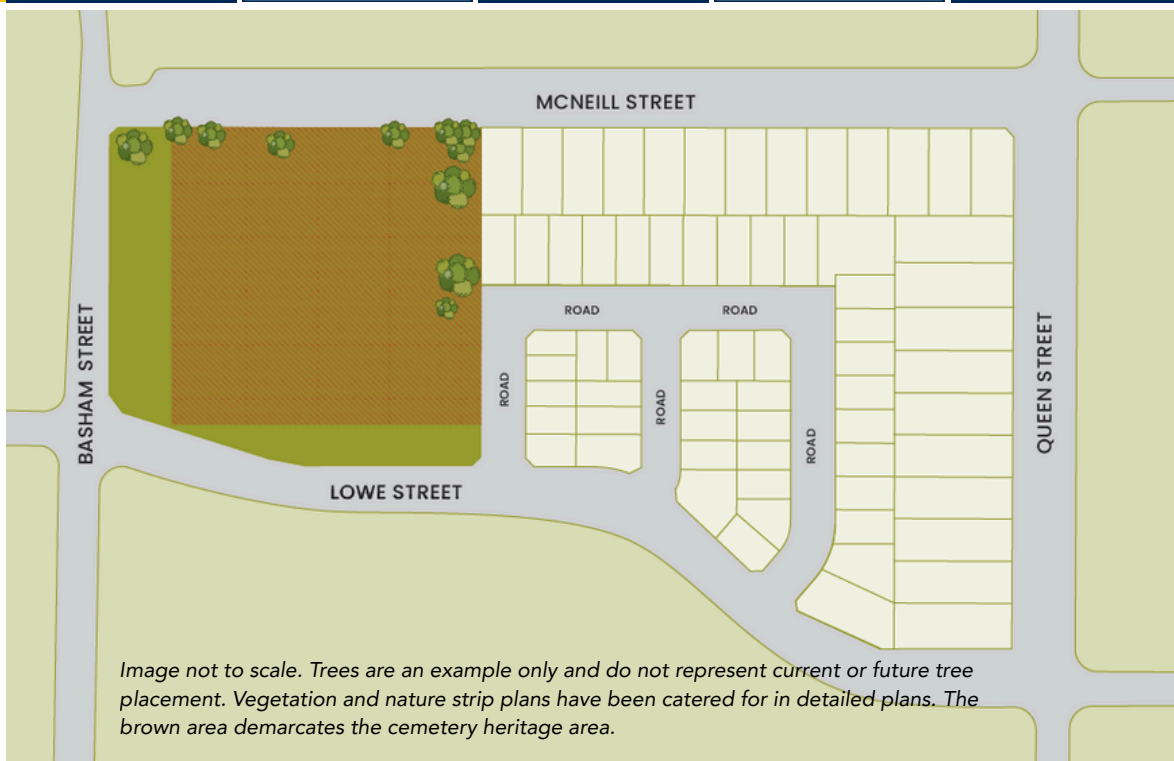


60+ sites and 85+ homes



This is an exciting development for the future of Ararat Rural City. It's taking a disused space near the centre of town and creating almost a hundred new homes. We're thrilled to support the growth of Ararat.

**Dr Tim Harrison, CEO, Ararat Rural City Council**



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