

→ Enabling Regional Investment

Circular Economy Precinct Materials Recovery Facility (MRF)

Project Cost: \$37.1 million



Overview

Establishment of a Circular Economy Precinct (CEP), anchored by a MRF, at the Ballarat West Employment Zone. The CEP will be a regional centre for businesses seeking to foster a sustainable approach to waste management, innovation and job creation.

The Ballarat Regional MRF will:

- Have capacity to sort up to 30,000 tonnes of recyclables annually
- Including kerbside recyclables from City of Ballarat and councils in the Grampians Central West Region, which takes in the area from Bacchus Marsh to the South Australian border
- Provide local opportunities for commercial and industrial commingled waste sorting and recycling.

Benefits

Economic

A CEP and MRF will:

- Ensure the value of recyclables is retained and enhanced locally
- Reduce transport costs and deliver cost efficiencies for residents and businesses
- Construction investment of \$37.1 million (excluding land purchase) expected to generate 266 full-time equivalent jobs (95 direct and 171 indirect) and \$27.8 million in additional local economy activity (\$9.6 million direct and \$18.2 million indirect)
- Once fully operational, the MRF is expected to generate a further 62 FTEs per annum (24 direct and 38 indirect).

Community

A CEP and MRF will:

- Provide social enterprise and partnership opportunities with community organisations
- Respond to community demand for an increased focus on sustainability and to increase recycling in the region.

Environmental

A CEP and MRF will support the establishment locally of waste management businesses and infrastructure, reducing the need for the transportation of regional waste to metropolitan areas for processing.

For Ballarat this will mean:

- Almost \$750,000 savings in transport cost
- Associated emissions savings of approximately 65t CO₂-equivalent
- Reduction in number of trips needed by waste trucks, equating to approximately 65,000 kms annually.

Regional

A CEP and MRF will:

- Address a well-recognised infrastructure gap in the region, providing cost saving opportunities for surrounding councils and making the region more self-sufficient in its waste management.



The Circular Economy Precinct will be a regional centre for businesses seeking to foster a sustainable approach to waste management, innovation and job creation.