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Werris Creek Freedom Camping Area

A Development Application (DA) has been prepared for the Werris Creek Freedom Camping Area and its preferred location on the western side of Single Street south of Poole Street. The proposed site was presented to and agreed on at the August meeting of the town's 355 Committee. The proposed site is on land owned by the Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC), the plan has been submitted to them and Liverpool Plains Shire Council (LPSC) is awaiting Owner's Consent before proceeding further with the plan. If consent is received, an initial 12 month trial will be conducted and if successful the area will be developed in two stages.

According to LPSC Mayor, Councillor Andrew Hope, a Freedom Camping Grounds are planned in the Shire for both Werris Creek and Willow Tree to complement the existing facilities at Wallabadah, Currabubula and Premer.

"These developments are an integral part of Council's long term plans to attract larger numbers of

tourists who are travelling in caravans and mobile homes to spend a couple of days looking around the Shire that stretches from the Great Dividing Range, down the slopes and across the plains taking in some of the most picturesque and productive rural areas of NSW. The proposal for Werris Creek Freedom Camping Area will assist travellers who'd like to take a day looking around

NSW's first railway town and its Rail Journeys Museum and Australian Railway Monument," he said.

"A draft Recreational Vehicle Strategy has been on public display for the past month, we will consider any submissions and it will be submitted to the August Council Meeting for formal adoption.

"We are determined to provide travellers with the opportunity to spend a couple of days enjoying what the Shire has to offer without it costing an arm and a leg. We've recently made a significant investment at the Wallabadah Camping Ground providing hot

showers and we have a sewage dump point in Quirindi for the convenience of travellers. It is our intention to make travellers welcome, to feel at home and to make it as easy as possible to check out things like the Kamilaroi a Highway and People display at the Visitor Information Centre at Willow Tree, the spectacular views from Who-A-Thought-It

Lookout at Quirindi as well as the Heritage Village, the Recreation Area at Quipolly Dam and the drive across the bountiful plains through Carroona, Spring Ridge and Premer," he continued.

"Already, word of mouth recommendations from travellers, who have noted our improvements, to others they meet on the road has seen visitor numbers increase. We

won't be resting on our laurels and will continue taking steps to promote what we have to offer," Councillor Hope concluded.



Proposed site for Freedom Camping Area in Werris Creek.

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Freedom Camping Ground at Premer, the western gateway to the LPS.

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Big opportunity for M'boro to become RV friendly: travellers

LSTQTR stands for "last quarter" on the number plate of Rob and Jan Eycken's Winnebago because they reckon that's where they are in their time of life.

Based in Maryborough for some of the year, they spent months off exploring Australia. Says Rob: "If we don't do it now we will never do it."

Like other RV owners based in Maryborough, they are strongly backing the

push by civic leaders to provide free short-term parking to bring self-contained travellers off the Bruce Highway.

The RV industry is reckoned to be worth more than \$3 billion and growing.

"It's no advantage to us but we have lots of friends out there who will come in to Maryborough for a few days if there was somewhere for them to park," said Rob.

Jan said they had seen

communities around Australia "really lifted" when they put out the welcome mat for RVs.

"Tasmania does it the best. It has RV Friendly towns everywhere. The rest of Australia needs to catch up."



Rob and Jan Eycken spend months on the road exploring Australia.