***Share your voice on the Gisborne Futures Plan to the Macedon Ranges Shire Council and the Victorian Government by making a written submission. Copy and paste our template below and add your own voice and details.***

***Email it to any or all of the parties below:***

**Macedon Ranges Shire Councillors:** mrsc@mrsc.vic.gov.au , adeath@mrsc.vic.gov.au, bwest@mrsc.vic.gov.au, gneil@mrsc.vic.gov.au, dbonanno@mrsc.vic.gov.au, rguthrie@mrsc.vic.gov.au, jpearce@mrsc.vic.gov.au, janderson@mrsc.vic.gov.au, mridgeway@mrsc.vic.gov.au

**Victorian Government Representatives:** jacinta.allan@parliament.vic.gov.au, tim.pallas@parliament.vic.gov.au, harriet.shing@parliament.vic.gov.au, harriet.shing@minstaff.vic.gov.au, sonya.kilkenny@parliament.vic.gov.au, gayle.tierney@parliament.vic.gov.au, officemintierney@ecodev.vic.gov.au, mary-anne.thomas@parliament.vic.au

[Insert name]

[Insert date]

Dear Councillors of the Macedon Ranges Shire Council,

I am writing to you with my concerns about the council’s Gisborne Futures Plan. ***(This should be an explanation of why you are writing)***

**Here is a summary of issues we have identified from the Gisborne Future’s plan that you might want to refer to:**

* Gisborne’s population is projected to grow from 14,222 to over 20,100 in the coming years.
* The Council’s Futures Plan is preparing for an increased population of 2.3% per year by building multi-level ‘shop-top’ apartment blocks in Gisborne’s town centre.
* This will bring increased cars and increased congestion into the town centre.
* The current Council draft structure plan intends to concentrate new housing via multi-level housing blocks in New Gisborne. DESPITE Council’s own Gisborne Futures Transport Review document advising RE: Station Road:
* road widening has a range of negative impacts that undermine the overarching vision for Gisborne.
* These negative impacts are significant and affect the very essence of what it means to live in Gisborne, including:
* Loss of majestic tree canopy
* Reduced safety for all road users
* Increased cost of living (from more car use and higher maintenance costs)
* Reduced pedestrian amenity.
* Less space for safe bicycle riding to schools.
* After five years and $750,000, the Council has not progressed in making any real decisions for the growth of Gisborne and ignored the previous feedback received from the community.
* The Futures Plan falls short in delivering on additional demand for school facilities, associated with residential growth. The Glen Junor site provides the capacity to address that shortfall by providing a school co-located with shops, community amenities and open space.
* The inclusion of Glen Junor to the Gisborne Futures Plan has overwhelming community backing due to its promise of delivering sustainable housing, without adding to the traffic congestion on Station Road. Moreover, it delivers community assets and infrastructure such as a school site, a community food garden, and 100 hectares of public open space, granting public access to Gisborne Gorge and extensive stretches of Jackson Creek.

I believe these are important considerations for Gisborne, to provide development that will serve our town now and in the future.

A review of the Gisborne Futures Plan 2023 to include Glen Junor would be of great value to all the communities in the Macedon Ranges Shire.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

***[insert name]***