



In March 2021, the Alpine Community Recovery Committee (CRC) developed a Community Recovery Plan (CRP) to support the aspiration:

‘Our communities are connected, they are prepared, they have the capacity to respond and recover, they are resilient. They are self-sufficient when needed and have the capacity to create the future they want while coping with adversities.’

WHO ARE WE?

The Alpine CRC is made up of representatives from across the Alpine Shire and Alpine Resorts to help give a voice to the broad views and recovery goals of local communities.

The Alpine region is working with federal, state, and local government agencies to plan recovery activities. The Alpine CRC provides a direct community voice to these organisations and structures, advocating for the community's recovery priorities and needs at all levels.

WHAT WE DO

- Advocate for our communities. We raise issues, plans, and actions to government and external agencies, as needed.
- Influence how things are done by liaising with community, local organisations and all levels of government to ensure our community's recovery needs are a priority.
- Support others to do things. We play a bridging role in how our communities recover.
- Enable those who are already resourced to facilitate our recovery priorities.

THE PURPOSE OF THE ALPINE CRC

- To advocate for community recovery programs, processes, services, and activities that genuinely reflect the needs of our local communities.
- To articulate recovery priorities that our community has identified via community engagement and consultation in a Community Recovery Plan (CRP).
- To use the CRP as an essential communication and advocacy tool with Council and other relevant government and non-government agencies.



E: info@alpinecrc.org.au

Read the Progress Review
by visiting www.alpineshire.vic.gov.au/community-recovery-committee

COMMUNITY RECOVERY PLAN (CRP)

The CRP (March 2021) was developed using a bottom-up approach, aligning known and proposed community projects with the priorities and needs identified in the community survey. This enabled the Alpine CRC to capture the granular detail at an individual community level. From here, the Alpine CRC developed a region-wide strategic view to identify issues of critical importance. This strategic approach led to the development of implementation pathways for recovery. Both approaches were structured around the four pillars of preparedness, response, recovery, and resilience.

It is important to the Alpine CRC that we advocate for action to occur. To do this we identified implementation pathways for the twelve region-wide strategic issues identified in the CRP (March 2021). For each issue we suggested flagship projects that could address the critical underlying issues that require a coordinated, region-wide response.

The Alpine CRC believes progressing projects that address the critical underlying issues in the near term will help our communities more rapidly towards being prepared, have the capacity to respond and recover, and have the internal capacity and resilience to cope with adversities when required.

AREAS OF ONGOING PRIORITY

The Alpine CRC believe the following areas require ongoing priority:

- **Increasing local preparedness**—a resilient community, one that is self-reliant while coping with adversities, requires planning and awareness of what is needed before an event happens.
- **Addressing the possible market failure of the insurance industry**—business viability is essential for local economic resilience. Advocacy on this issue has been an ongoing priority for the Alpine CRC and other organisations in the region.
- **Addressing the communication infrastructure gaps and blackspots**—the introduction of the VicEmergency app after earlier bushfires is a welcome improvement in communications, but it only works if you have reliable connectivity.
- **Advocating for firefighting equipment, training, and resources at a local level**—in an emergency the local volunteers are the front line of the community's response. It is essential they have the equipment, resources, and effective training to keep them and us safe.
- **Changing the focus on preparedness from information provision to action**—activities and resources are needed to better connect people who are unaware they need the information.

PROGRESS REVIEW

The actions the Alpine CRC has taken, and the preparation of this Progress Review, are aimed at enabling the community. The intent of this Progress Review is to capture examples of initiatives that increase the capacity of community to plan and respond to emergencies, therefore increasing community and individual resilience into the future.

Our objective in providing this Progress Review is to provide a reference for communities to develop their own preparedness and recovery activities and for agencies to use in the prioritisation of their programs.

NEXT STEPS

As the community transitions from the recovery stage of the Black Summer Bushfires 2019/20 to more business as usual, the Alpine CRC will be reflecting our ongoing role and purpose in 2022. Our current projects include exploring opportunities to improve access to timely and clear information so that our communities can prepare for and recover from emergencies.

This Progress Review will be made available to government agencies for reference and implementation where appropriate. It summarises what each community is doing and can be used for community strengthening, as well as a tool for community agencies to advocate for resources and support.