

An extract from the SMRC newsletter



Thursday 3 February 2022

HISTORY MADE: MONARO RAIL TRAIL AGREEMENT SIGNED

Representatives from Monaro Rail Trail Inc (MRT) and Snowy Monaro Regional Council (SMRC) met on Friday 28 January 2022 to sign the historic first formal agreement for the Monaro Rail Trail, a memorandum of understanding between SMRC, MRT and Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council (QPRC).

With the agreement signed, the two councils and MRT can now proceed to develop detailed plans for the rail trail, which is planned to run along the disused rail corridor from Queanbeyan to Bombala. Over 208km, the Monaro Rail Trail will run through Queanbeyan, Michelago, Bredbo, Cooma, Nimmitabel and Bombala.

A feasibility study, completed in November 2019, concluded that the Monaro Rail Trail is an extremely worthwhile project with a benefit to cost ratio of 8:1. The report indicated that this project will boost the local retail and hospitality economy from the top to the bottom of the region, with the total yearly economic gain estimated to be approximately \$25M.

Certainly a game changer in the tourism space.



Signing the MOU document are from left; Narelle Davis (Mayor Snowy Monaro Regional Council), Ken Lister (President MRT Inc), Peter Bascombe (CEO SMRC) and Frank Bakker (MRT committee)