



Good Neighbour Guide Neighbourhood Enhancement and Beautification Program

Meeting summary

Date: Tuesday 26 February 2026

Time: 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Location: Fosterville Gold Mine (FGM)

Attendees:

Neighbouring residents: 8

FGM representatives: 3

1. Introductions

The GNG Neighbourhood Enhancement and Beautification Program will be a co-managed program with a goal to enhance the immediate neighbourhood surrounding Fosterville Gold Mine's operations. The program will be a collaboration between Fosterville Gold Mine and neighbouring residents.

2. Project Updates

The following projects had been selected by neighbouring residents as their highest priorities for inclusion in the Neighbourhood Enhancement & Beautification program.

Water tanks

Installation of water tanks for emergency firefighting purposes, positioned at multiple strategic locations throughout the community.

Discussion was had relating to the tank specifications, number of tanks, refill requirements and potential locations for installation. It was agreed the group would focus on one initial location to ensure project was achievable, before installing tanks at additional locations.

Consultation with both the Axedale and Goornong CFAs will be required.

Next Steps

- Form a dedicated working group of neighbours and FGM to progress the project.
- FGM to assess which properties would be suitable for tank locations, with consideration of access requirements.
- FGM to assess their network of dams and pits for suitability as appliance refilling locations.

Further discussion focussed on additional opportunities for access to water for firefighting purposes including Campaspe River access points and mapped dams refill points. Consultation with private landholders, local CFA, North Central CMA, DEECA, and Goulburn Murray Water would be required to progress these opportunities and will be included as an action for the working group.

Roadside Clean ups

Regular clean up days along roadsides, including Huntly-Fosterville Rd, McCormick's Rd, Axedale-Goorong Rd, Sugarloaf Rd, Bill Mollison Rd, Ellesmere Dr etc.

FGM completes a roadside clean up of Huntly-Fosterville Rd and McCormick's Rd each year during Quarter 1. Feedback was requested on the best way to involve the community in these days, and the safety considerations required to complete this activity on busy roads.

Advice is to pick a day and proceed and let community members know. The Council organises clean up days, which FGM could coincide with to use their advertising, and they can also provide support with equipment.

Next Steps

- FGM will set a date, time and road for a clean-up, and communicate with the neighbouring community the opportunity to participate if available.

Roadside slashing

FGM requested to advocate for roadside slashing and the removal of fallen timber to improve safe pull over areas and enhance visibility for turning vehicles.

FGM engaged with the COGB regarding roadside slashing on the Huntly-Fosterville Rd and Axedale-Goorong Rd. FGM paid for the COGB contractors to complete a 4km stretch of the Axedale-Goorong Rd and 1.5km on the Huntly-Fosterville Rd. FGM will request this work be completed on an annual basis.

Waste and recycling program

FGM has investigated how we could assist neighbouring landholders recycling used tyres and oil.

FGM is not authorised to accept 'reportable priority waste' such as tyres and oil, which requires an EPA permit along with other permissions and approvals.

Short-term opportunities investigated by FGM included neighbours taking their tyres and oil to local transfer stations/businesses with FGM to covers the costs; or FGM organises collection day/s from properties by a relevant service.

To move forward with either of these options, FGM requires additional information regarding size and quantity of tyres, and the amount and type of oil and the receptacle type.

Due to the challenges and the small benefit this project would have to the neighbouring community, there was consensus to not pursue this project.

Nest Box Program

Installation of nest boxes along river corridors and on neighbouring properties, designed to support multiple species such as barking owls, other nocturnal birds, and arboreal mammals.

FGM recently installed 50 nest boxes in identified trees across the site. These will be inspected twice a year to gauge use and suitability.

Discussion was had regarding the species which have lost habitat in the area, consideration for the type of box and size of opening to ensure target species are not having to compete with others.

There are several groups who already have similar programs with good success and could assist with our local area.

Next steps

- Design a pilot program at a property, utilising the North Central CMA and other groups before offering to other properties.

Tree Planting Program

In the past FGM has offered landholders plants for screening and general property improvement, with the Company has completing all the works including groundworks, planting, tree guards, fencing.

A tree planting program could include one or a combination of the following:

1. Plantings for forest to river corridors
2. Plants for landholders
3. Plantings for visual amenity.

Pest animals

Licence conditions require FGM to control pest animals within the mining licence area. In previous years FGM has implemented 1080 baiting program for foxes and fumigation, and warren destruction for rabbits.

FGM offset blocks include conditions for managing each pest species. Pest species include foxes, European rabbit, European hare, feral cat, and feral honeybee. The described management methods include fumigation, trapping (soft jawed foot hold traps, confinement traps, pressure plate traps), live capture of bee hives.

Discussion was had about preferred methods used for pest management and the possibility of having traps which can be loaned to neighbouring landholders when required for specific species. When FGM complete pest management programs there could be an offer to extend the program to neighbouring landholders, this would include working with local agencies for the timings of their pest management programs (DEECA, NCCMA, Parks Vic). Species of concern Fox, Rabbit, Indian Myna, Cat.

3. Program name change

Feedback had been provided to FGM, requesting a new name for the Neighbourhood Enhancement & Beautification program. Discussion was had regarding what the name could be changed to with a survey to be sent out to neighbouring landholders to vote for their preferred name.

4. Next steps

The actions listed for each project will be implemented.

The next meeting will be held Tuesday 21 April 2026.