To the members of the Cittaslow Goolwa, Alexandrina Management Committee,

 Thank you for this opportunity to contribute.

 In response to the two questions posed to me, I suggest that *public place recycling* throughout Australia, is underpinned by an extensive range of excellent - International, Federal, State and Local Government papers and standards.

The Cittaslow philosophies and principles is a lifestyle concept that the Alexandrina Council previously embraced. As a long-time resident in the Council, I believe the Cittaslow Goolwa, Alexandrina Inc. is more aligned with a part of Goolwa rather than a Alexandrina Council-wide initiative.

 If I am wrong, I suggest that there may have been insufficient education of the whole Council Area, regarding the Cittaslow concept of a ‘shared community social responsibility with ongoing measurable projects on how to improve the quality of life, social justice and solidarity among people’.

Concerning strategies regarding recycling in public places, I believe that an audit might need to be done first, which could include:

•           Investigate the existing waste collection service;

•           Talking to staff about their attitudes to recycling and work practices;

•           Undertake an audit of the waste types collected;

•           Look at surrounding waste and recycling systems;

•           Are the bins made of material with recycled content?

•           Will the bins be easy to maintain?

•           Address occupational health and safety (OH&S) features;

•           What capacity are the bins?

•           How will damage and/or theft be minimised?

•           What are the bin openings like?

•           What is the position and configuration of garbage and recycling bins?

•           What materials will be collected?

•           Does the system address littering?

•           Will it include cigarette butt bins?

•           Are industry standard bin colours being used?

•           Are appropriate signage colours and designs being used?

•           Is the ‘moebius’ recycling loop included  in graphics?

•           Is there overhead signage?

•           Are waste disposal points adequately identified?

•           Is community access maximized?

•           Is there adequate service provider access?

•           Is the distance between bins sufficient?

•           What community education and promotion messages are there in place?

•           Are staff adequately trained?

•           What system performance monitoring is in place?

•           When will the next audit be?

A comprehensive audit will determine a range of strategies that are needed, and how/when they can be done.

Concerning, “what other recycling strategies I would like to see considered in the Council in the future”, I suggest that “I would like to see the community being consulted, in line with an education program of the Cittaslow philosophies and principles” in this regard. Perhaps, this consultation could be based on a Council options paper.

Kind regards,

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