

Draft Rotary Park Master Plan

Community Feedback

Community consultation was undertaken on a draft Master Plan for the Rotary Park Precinct from April to July 2022. A Master Plan providing a strategic direction for future development and investment in the park precinct and investigation for the inclusion of a youth space for young people.

This information has been prepared to share the community consultation key findings and to communicate the next steps in the development of a master plan for the Rotary Park Precinct with the community.

ENGAGEMENT & FEEDBACK

179

Engagement

Number of people who submitted responses through Have Your Say, who provided feedback at community consultation sessions or submitted feedback via mail and email between April and October 2022.



Female 72.2% Male 24.1% Prefer not to say 3.8%

264

Petition

Number of people who signed the 'Save Rotary Park: Keep it Green' petition urging Council to keep Rotary Park Green and specifically objecting to the proposed toilet and amenities, proposed skate park and the proposed extension of the Andy Arnold facility included in the draft master plan for the park precinct.

KEY THEMES

What activities do the community use Rotary Park for?



Relaxing
25%



Skate Boarding
11%



Walking Through
66%



Other
13%

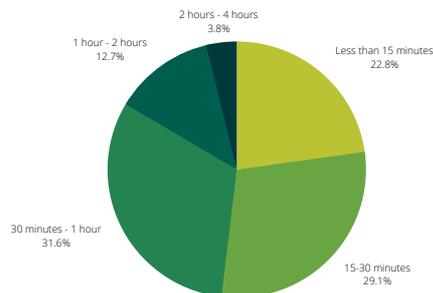


Informal Play
49%



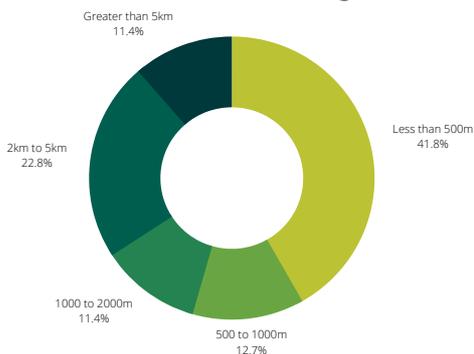
Picnic
14%

KEY THEMES

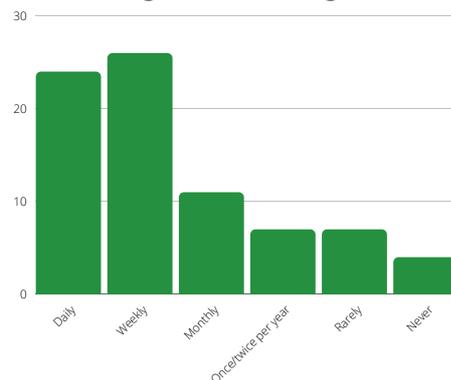


How long would you typically stay at Rotary Park for?

How far do live from Rotary Park?



How often do you visit Rotary Park?



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KEY THEMES



New Skate Park

Feedback indicates that community are interested to see the existing skate park renewed.

The community would like the location of a new skate park in the Bacchus Marsh township to be considered in future planning.



Expanded and upgraded playground

The community provided positive feedback regarding the proposed new expanded play space in the concept plan. Many people expressed that they would like the park precinct to be activated for the use of families.



Landscaping/Open Space & Amenities

Positive comments regarding potential landscaping and the suggested inclusion of an Active Aging garden.

Concerns that elements of the concept plan take up too much of the open space and could impact trees.

The proposed inclusion of toilet amenities located near the kindergarten was not supported by the community.



Current social impacts

Feedback advised that the current park use is of concern to the community. In particular, after hours use, cars accessing the site, noise, litter, suspected drug use and violence.

Many local residents expressed the feeling of being unsafe in or near the park.



Concerns

Feedback advised that the current use and upkeep of the park was of concern to both local residents and the wider community.

During consultation the community conveyed concerns that the proposed plan will increase the negative social impacts experienced by residents, in particular, on families living in neighboring homes.

PROPOSED YOUTH SPACE



The proposed additional room on the Andy Arnold facility for a Youth Space was not supported by the community.

The development of a designated Youth Space for the delivery of programs for young people in the Bacchus Marsh/Maddingly township was supported by the community.

NEXT STEPS

Based on community feedback the proposed next steps are:

Currently being actioned

Council is currently working closely with local schools, Victoria Police, local shops and community groups and services to develop strategies to address the current social issues impacting the precinct.

Scheduled to be actioned

Undertake identified garden and grounds maintenance within the park precinct.
Undertake renewal works to existing skatepark to ensure the facility is fit for purpose.

Scheduled to be actioned

Explore the use of the Andy Arnold facility for the delivery of programs and services for young people.
Consider alternative sites for a skate park in the Bacchus Marsh township in future strategic planning.

Draft concept plan to be completed December 2022

Develop a new concept plan for the precinct that includes an upgrade of the existing play space with the inclusion of additional play experiences for children, landscaping and connections.

Draft concept plan to be completed December 2022

Undertake further scoping for the future provision of kindergarten programs on an expanded Young Street site.

Report back to the community December 2022

Communicate the new revised concept master plan for the Rotary Park precinct to the community in December 2022.

PROJECT IMPACTS

In addition to the community consultation findings two significant changes have impacted this project and its future direction. These include:

Victorian State Government 'Best Start Best Life' Reform

The announcement that over the next decade, four-year-old kindergarten will transition to pre-prep. This will mean an increase in kindergarten hours from 15-hour a week to a universal 30-hour a week program of play-based learning for every four-year-old child in Victoria.

Impact: *In partnership with the State Government, Council needs plan for and investigate extending Young Street Kindergarten, to provide additional rooms and extended play space to meet forecast demand for places in line with the reform.*

Closure of Council's Aged & Disability Services

Earlier this year, Council determined to cease delivering aged and disability services as of 30 June 2022, in response to the Federal Governments aged care reforms. This has changed the usage of the Andy Arnold Centre.

Impact: *There is now available space within the Andy Arnold Centre, an extension to that building would not be required to provide programs for young people.*