

Engagement Summary Report

Bunyip Sanctuary BMX Track Renewal

February 2026

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Executive summary

The Bunyip Sanctuary BMX Track Renewal project aims to renew the existing track so it is safer, easier to maintain, and enjoyable for riders of all ages and abilities. The project forms part of the 2024–2025 Capital Works Program and is guided by Cardinia Shire's Skate and BMX Strategy, which identifies the Bunyip Sanctuary BMX track as the only appropriately scaled jumps track in the Shire and provides opportunities for more advanced riders.

The current track is valued for being close to home, providing space for social connection, and offering opportunities for skill development. However, community feedback highlighted several issues, including drainage problems, erosion, uneven surfaces, snake presence, and the need for better maintenance and updated features.

To ensure the renewal reflects community needs, Council undertook a two-stage consultation process. Stage One gathered information on how the track is used, rider skill levels, and what people like or dislike about the facility. Stage Two sought feedback on a draft concept design and asked for preferences around shade and other site features and to validate people's preferences in the park.

A strong theme in the feedback was the need for the track to suit both beginner and advanced riders. With 39% of respondents identifying as beginners, the final design now includes a dedicated beginner bypass route and a smaller pump track to allow riders of various ages and abilities to participate safely.

The community also expressed a desire for more shade and improved surface quality. In response, Council will add landscaping and tree planting while ensuring trees do not create safety risks whilst exploring coating high wear sections of the track, subject to budget availability.

Overall, the project balances technical improvements with community priorities. The renewed facility aims to provide a safer, more enjoyable, and more accessible BMX space that supports riding, social connection, and recreation for the Bunyip community.

Community Consultation

Objectives and purpose

The renewal of the Bunyip Sanctuary BMX Track is part of Council's 2024–2025 Capital Works Program and supports the ongoing delivery of Cardinia Shire's Skate and BMX Strategy. Since its adoption in 2016, the Strategy has guided improvements to skate and BMX facilities across the Shire, ensuring they remain safe, functional, and responsive to community needs.

Bunyip BMX Park is currently the Shire's only appropriately scaled jumps track and provides important opportunities for advanced riders to develop their skills. The site features a series of well-spaced box jumps and a looped run, complemented by a smaller pump track that caters to beginner riders and supports a wide range of ages and abilities.

While the facility continues to offer appropriate jump features and good flow, and there is scope to further improve rider and spectator experience.

To guide the design of the renewal, Council undertook community consultation to ensure the project reflects local priorities. The process sought to understand how people use the track, which features are most appreciated, and what improvements would make the facility safer, more enjoyable, and more accessible.

Feedback on track features, site use, and overall experience helped clarify the role the track plays within the community. Suggestions for amenities such as fencing, shelter, and seating will inform future upgrades, ensuring the renewed facility meets a broad range of user needs.

Engagement promotion

- Social media posts
- Promotional posters displayed on site and at various high traffic locations around Bunyip
- Mail out to residents local to the Bunyip Sanctuary Park
- The following community groups and associations were contacted directly and encouraged to contribute to the consultation process:
 - 1st Bunyip Scouts
 - Bunyip Bulls Basketball Club
 - Bunyip Connect Inc.
 - Bunyip Cricket Club
 - Bunyip Football Club,
 - Bunyip Netball Club
 - Bunyip News
 - Bunyip Primary School
 - Bunyip Recreation Reserve Committee of Management
 - Bunyip Soccer Club
 - Bunyip Tennis Club
 - Columna Catholic School
 - Lillico and District Pony Club
 - Moy-Yan Neighbourhood House

Engagement activities

The engagement process comprised two stages:

Stage One involved an online survey designed to understand how the park and track are used, the reasons people visit, and the BMX skill levels of users. Participants were asked what they like and dislike about the track, as well as which features they value most in BMX tracks generally.

The survey also sought feedback on the use of the junior track and community support for the proposed picnic table and shelter location. Respondents were asked whether they visit the junior track at Koolangarra Park and whether they preferred it to be retained or replaced with an improved junior track at Bunyip Sanctuary Park to ensure future plans for this park complements this project.

Stage Two comprised a second online survey in which a draft BMX track concept was presented, and respondents were asked whether they supported the proposed design. This survey also sought feedback on preferred shade options for the track and gathered further information regarding the community's riding abilities.

Email correspondence from community members was also received about the plans as part of the stage two consultation.

Who we heard from

Stage One

Out of the 48 survey respondents, 21 identify as male, 24 identify as female, and 3 respondents prefer not to disclose their gender. Additionally, 21% of respondents are aged between 30 and 34 years, 17% fall within the 40-44 age range, and 14% are aged 35-39.

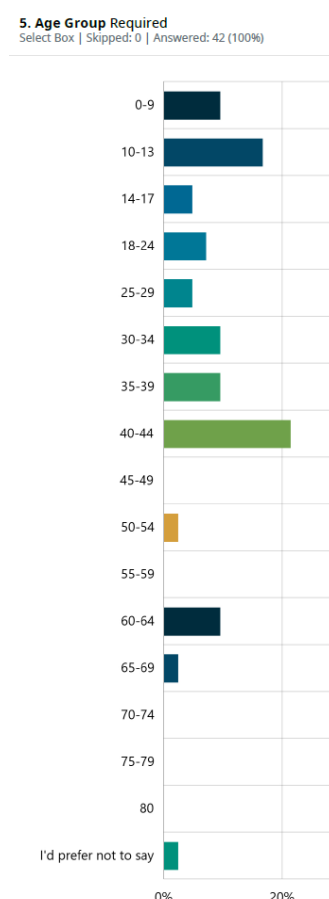
The survey has gained a strong response from the younger community members. 32% of the respondents are 24 years old or younger.

Most respondents, 87%, reside in Bunyip.

Stage Two

An overwhelming majority of respondents (79%) were male and lived in Bunyip.

Participants ranged widely in age, with the largest group being those aged 40-44. However, as with the Stage One results, we were able to engage a large percentage of those under the age of 25. See image on right.



Engagement findings

Stage One Survey Data

Questions in this stage were relating to understanding community use and preferences.

Use of current track:

- Of the 48 survey respondents, 33% visit on a monthly basis; 22% on a weekly basis; 27% every couple of days and 4% on a daily basis.
- An overwhelming number of respondents (66%) visit the site because it is close to home. 10% visits because it provides a place to socialise with friends and family and 4% visits because it is suitable for all skill levels.
- Of those who visit the BMX track, 45% are there to supervise young riders, 35% to ride their mountain bike, 27% for BMX bikes and 16% to hang out with friends and family.
- Of all the riders who use the track, 39% identified themselves as beginners, 25% as intermediate level and 22% as advanced.

Reflections on current track:

Likes

- Close to home.
- Variety of the track, it suits all abilities. A course for more advanced users and one for beginners/children. Manageable jumps for beginners to roll over and intermediate to gather speed.
- The track is in an open setting, plenty of space around it. Feels safe and welcoming.
- It's something different and provides somewhere fun for kids to be outdoors.
- Proximity to playground, provides alternative when kids want a break from riding.
- A great meeting space for young people and families.
- The track is good (e.g. height of jumps, big and variety), it offers challenges and fun. One respondent particularly liked the second jump on the main track.
- Often see kangaroos around for the kids to look at.

Dislikes

- The track needs to be longer.
- It is rutted and very bumpy.
- Uphill section at the beginning is too close to the end of trail.
- The run-in is poor.
- There's no air on the jumps, so I can't do tricks.
- It has not been maintained and is dangerous.
- Not enough variety.
- The jumps need to be bigger.
- The jumps are terrible; there's enough room for beginner, intermediate, and advanced runs.
- The layout, poor track design, basic features, and lack of maintenance. My young sons are quickly outgrowing the current track and features.
- The miniature BMX part is not maintained and is often overgrown.
- The kids' track is not smooth, floods easily, and has bull ants everywhere.
- The current surface sticks to bike wheels in wet conditions. Needs a better layout and a smaller track for younger kids.
- Could use a few more paths or jumps.
- The track requires a complete overhaul with more dirt and flow in the design. A small pump track (asphalt/tar) instead of the current junior track would be great to teach young riders bike control before advancing to the main track.
- Lack of jumps and unsuitable for MTB use.
- The track has only one turn.

Track Features (ranked from most popular to least)

1. Tabletop
2. Berms
3. Rollers
4. Whoops
5. Step-ups
6. Hip
7. Step-downs

Koolangarra Park

- Over half (56%) of the respondents visit the near-by junior BMX track at Koolangarra Park.

Upgrade options

- 45% of respondents prefer the separate junior track to be removed and incorporate beginner and intermediate skill level features into the main track, along with the ability to bypass some of the more difficult jumps/features.
- 25% prefers to spread the available budget across both the junior and main tracks to allow for improvements to the junior track and the main track.
- 20% prefers Council to focus on providing for intermediate to advanced riders at Bunyip Sanctuary and junior riders at Koolangarra Park.

Other Suggestions

Respondents were invited to provide other suggestions and they have been grouped into themes:

Track Design and Maintenance

- Redo and repair the track with bigger jumps.
- Smooth out the track and improve surface quality.
- Add asphalt or polymer glue to the track surface
- Maintain the area to keep snakes away.
- Enhance the BMX track and playground facilities.
- Address the drain issue and improve maintenance.

Mountain Bike and BMX Needs

- Build jumps and tracks for mountain bikers.
- Use dedicated BMX/MTB track designers.
- Incorporate a pump track for skill development.
- An asphalt surfaced pump track with kid friendly features
- Include some suitable stuff for young riders 4-6 year olds.

Stage Two Survey Data

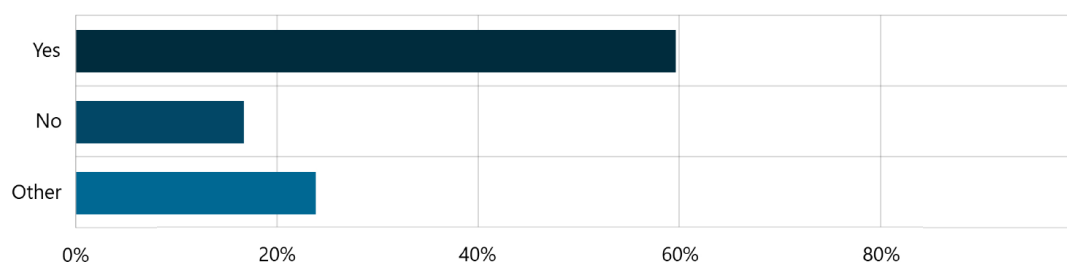
Questions in this stage were focused on collecting feedback on the developed design.

Support of the design concept

59% of respondents were supportive of the provided design. 23% selected 'other'
17% selected 'no'

1. Are you happy with the design? Required

Select Box | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 42 (100%)



Some feedback included:

- The advanced track design looks great
- An amazing initiative, but more kids ride mountain bikes, than BMX bikes in the area. A bmx track may be wasted due to the high level of difficulty.
- The pump track should be sealed.
- An asphalt surface pump track for the smaller kids learning would accommodate the kids that want to use a scooter or skateboard.
- When originally built, the jumps had to be lowered after community feedback. Consider jump height.

Preferences for tree shade

59% of respondents selected "Trees to keep it well shaded".

36% of respondents selected "Enough trees for some shade"

Some feedback:

- *You don't want too many (trees) as it will make the track slippery when it wet unless you have someone once a week cleaning and maintaining the track*

What types of bike tracks have you used in the last 12 months?

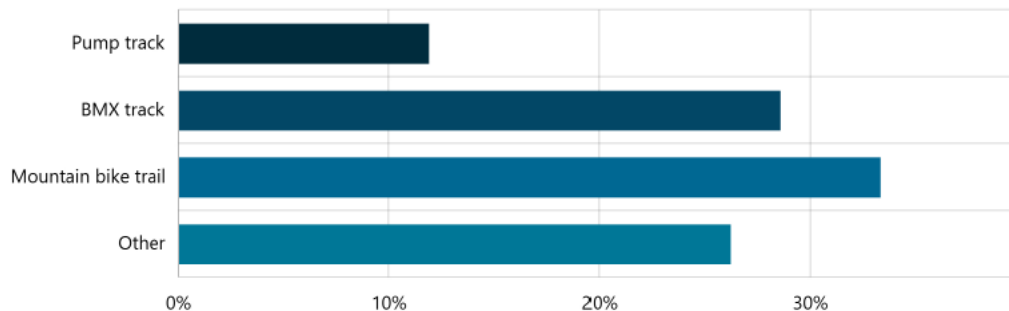
33% selected Mountain bike trail,

28% selected BMX track

26% selected 'other'

3. What types of bike tracks have you used in the last 12 months? Required

Multi Choice | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 42 (100%)



BMX Riding Skill

40% of respondents classed themselves as beginners

33% selected intermediate

26% advanced level

Decision making

The Bunyip Sanctuary BMX Track Renewal Project aims to renew and improve the existing track so it is safer, easier to maintain, and enjoyable for riders of all ages and abilities. The planned improvements include better drainage, a redesigned track layout, stabilised surfaces, a new shelter, and some minor planting and landscaping.

This project follows the *Cardinia Shire Skate and BMX Strategy*, which was adopted in 2016 to guide the development and maintenance of skate and BMX facilities across the Shire. Within this strategy, the Bunyip Sanctuary track was identified as a priority area for maintenance to ensure it meets current standards and provides a high quality experience for users.

The strategy also notes that Bunyip Sanctuary is the only track in Cardinia Shire that meets industry standards for an advanced-level BMX facility. It is currently the only formalised jumps and pump track in the area, with other sites offering only informal circuits.

Community consultation played a key role in shaping the project. Feedback from local riders and residents helped Council understand how the track is used, what people value about it, and what improvements they would like to see. This input guided the development of the project plan while still aligning with the broader strategy.

Evaluation

How the results shaped the outcome

The consultation results indicated strong community agreement that the BMX track requires maintenance, it floods easily and is dangerous. The track plays an important role within the Bunyip community, providing a place for young people to ride, socialise, and develop their riding skills.

Community feedback highlighted the need for the track to remain accessible to both beginner and advanced riders. Notably, 39% of survey respondents identified themselves as beginners. In response, Council has incorporated an integrated beginner route into the track design, allowing less experienced riders to bypass larger jumps. A smaller pump track has also been included in the final design to ensure riders of various ages and abilities can participate.

The community also expressed a preference for increased shade around the track. To address this, Council will incorporate landscaping and tree planting, while ensuring that tree placement does not compromise rider safety. The design also includes a shade structure with seating.

Additionally, respondents emphasised the importance of track surface quality. In response, Council is investigating the use of asphalt, or similar, in high wear sections of the track, subject to budget availability.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Stage One Consultation survey

1. What is your age?
2. What is your gender?
3. How often do you visit the Bunyip Sanctuary BMX track?
 - Everyday
 - Every few days
 - Weekly
 - Monthly
 - Never
4. Why do you visit this BMX track? (select all that applies)
 - Close to home
 - Good facilities and amenities
 - Well-maintained track
 - Suitable for all skill levels
 - Socialise with friends and family
 - Safe environment
 - Other (please specify)
5. What activities do you typically engage in at the BMX track? (select all that applies)
 - BMX bike
 - Mountain bike
 - Hang out with friends and family
 - Supervision of children
 - I don't use it
 - Other (please specify)
6. What level of rider do you consider yourself to be?
 - Beginner
 - Intermediate
 - Advanced
 - Other
7. What do you like most about the current BMX track?
8. What do you dislike about the current BMX track?
9. What features do you enjoy most in a BMX track? (Pick your top three)
 - Tabletop
 - Step-ups
 - Step-downs
 - Hip
 - Berms
 - Rollers
 - Whoops
 - Other
10. Do you use the current Junior track?
Yes/No
If yes, please explain why you use it.
If no, please explain why not.

11. The junior track is eroded and appears to be under-utilised. Should Council:
 - Fix the existing junior track
 - Remove the existing junior track and replace with a beginners slip (bypass) lane bypassing more challenging jumps on the main track.
 - Remove existing junior track entirely (no junior track and no slip lane) just make it flat with grass.
 - Remove existing junior track and develop track at Koolangarra Park in the future (subject to funding and approval from State Government)
12. Council is considering installing a small shelter with picnic table next to the track (refer to plan). Do you like the location?
Yes/No
If no, why and please suggest a preferred location.
13. Do you visit the junior BMX track at Koolangarra Park (at the corner of Railway Avenue and Hope Street) which is 2 mins away from this track?
14. We want to hear your thoughts for future consideration, which one applies?
 - Retain BMX track at Koolangarra
 - Remove BMX track at Koolangarra and have a better junior track at Bunyip
15. Other comments you would like Council to be aware of?

Appendix 2 – Stage Two Consultation Survey

1. Are you happy with the design?
 - Yes
 - No
 - Other
2. Preferences for tree shade
 - Trees to keep it well shaded
 - Enough trees for some shade
3. What type of bike tracks have you used in the last 12 months?
 - Pump track
 - BMX track
 - Mountain bike trail
 - Other
4. Describe your level of BMX riding skill
 - Beginner
 - Intermediate
 - Advanced
5. Age Group
6. Gender
7. Suburb
8. How did you hear about this survey?

Appendix 3 - Promotion of the engagement



^ Poster



^ Poster displayed at the subject site, adjacent to the Wattletree Road entrance



^ Poster displayed at a site, on the main entrance



^ Poster displayed adjacent to the bus stop near the High Street and Main Street intersection



^ Poster displayed at the High Street and Main Street intersection

Appendix 4 – Cardinia Skate & BMX Strategy

9.3.10 BUNYIP SANCTUARY BMX TRACK (BUNYIP)



Existing skate space assessment

LIST OF FEATURES	GENERAL CONDITION	SURFACE CONDITION	OBSTACLE/ PARK LAYOUT	AMENITY	MAINTENANCE
dirt track with jumps and berms	G	G	G	F	G
E = Excellent G = Good F = Fair P = Poor					

Description:

This is really the only appropriately scaled jumps track in the Shire and provides opportunities for more advanced riders to enjoy. The box jumps are spaced well and the looped run works well. There are some drainage issues however the track itself appears in a relatively good condition. There is also a smaller pumps track for more beginner use, thus provides for a more significant range of users.

Recommendations:

This track requires some ongoing maintenance with retaining the earth batter edges of the track and improving drainage however overall provides appropriate jumps and flow. Additional amenity/seating/viewing closer to the track could be considered for implementation.



Existing BMX jumps track



Existing drainage issues



View looking up at start ramp



Existing BMX pumps track

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11.5 Summary of sporting model strategic implementation

The following map shows a table and map of the proposed sporting model provision of skate & BMX spaces across the Shire.

NAME	ACTION
EXISTING SKATEPARKS	
1 Pakenham	retain & monitor with possible expansion over time
2 Garfield	retain & monitor with possible improved amenity
3 Koo Wee Rup	demolish and replace with new local facility
4 Lang Lang	retain & monitor with possible improved amenity
5 Cockatoo	retain & monitor with possible improved amenity
6 Gembrook	demolish and replace with new local facility
PROPOSED SKATEPARKS	
A Officer Regional	implement regional scale central skatepark in Officer Rec reserve in line with Masterplan
B Beaconsfield Local	implement local skate space as part of Holm Park Reserve MP.
C Pakenham Local	implement local skate space as part of James Bathe Reserve MP.
D Upper Beaconsfield Local	implement local skate space. Site to be investigated.
EXISTING BMX TRACKS	
7 Emerald	Pepis Land to be redeveloped to meet best practice
8 Upper Beaconsfield	UB Rec. Reserve to be redeveloped to meet best practice
9 Beaconsfield	Kath Roberts Res to be redeveloped to meet best practice
10 Pakenham	Toomuc Creek Res to be decommissioned
11 Pakenham	Atkins Road Res to be redeveloped to meet best practice
12 Pakenham	Homegarth Res to be redeveloped to meet best practice
13 Nar Nar Goon	NNG Rec Res to be redeveloped to meet best practice
14 Garfield	Garfield Rec Res to be demolished and removed
15 Garfield	Greenland Crt Res to be redeveloped to meet best practice
16 Bunyip	Koolangarra to be redeveloped to meet best practice
17 Bunyip	Bunyip Sanctuary to be maintained to ensure meets best practice requirements.
NEW BMX TRACKS	
E Cockatoo	Confirm site, consult, design and build new local jumps track.
F Gembrook	consider local BMX track as part of redevelopment of skatepark.
G Koo Wee Rup	consider local BMX track as part of redevelopment of skatepark.
H Lang Lang	consider local BMX track to complement skate park.

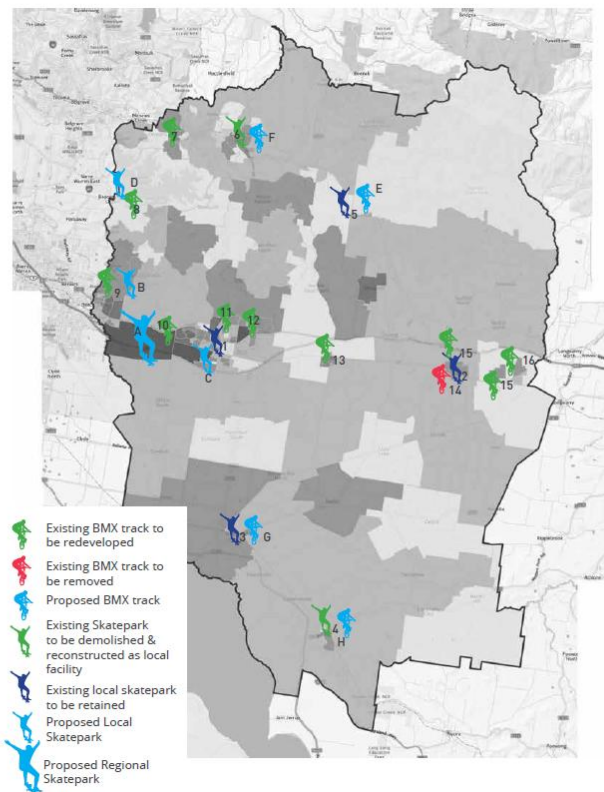


FIGURE 11.1 Skatepark & BMX implementation plan

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