

Regional Skate Park and Playspace Project – Grayden’s Reserve

Frequently Asked Questions

❖ **Why has Grayden’s Reserve in Newhaven been chosen as the location for a Regional Skate Park and Play Space?**

Grayden’s Reserve provides the following advantages over other sites investigated across Bass Coast:

- Currently used for play, skate and outdoor meeting and recreation
- High level of natural surveillance
- Suitable size
- Limited infrastructure constraints
- Close to public transport and shops
- Adequate car parking
- Existing amenities such as public toilets, shelter and BBQ
- Opportunity to stimulate local business community

Council adopted the Bass Coast Shire Skate Strategy in February 2018 which outlined the future of skate within the Shire. Since the adoption of the strategy, several skate parks including Cowes, Grantville and Corinella, have been completely re-developed and are utilised heavily by the locals within those townships.

One of the major initiatives of the strategy was for the construction of a regional skate park in the Newhaven/San Remo area due to its central positioning within the Shire. Council successfully obtained \$650,000 from the State Government to construct the skate park and incorporate a play space as part of the Project.

San Remo Foreshore was selected first as the most appropriate location, however due to site constraints, Grayden’s Reserve is now the preferred location.

❖ **Were other sites in and around Newhaven/San Remo considered for the project?**

Several other sites were considered and investigated throughout the selection process, including Newhaven Recreation Reserve, Lions Park in San Remo and San Remo Recreation Centre. Each of these locations rated lower than Grayden’s Reserve based on criteria required for the Project.

❖ **Is the project just a Regional Skate Park?**

The Project is not just a skate park. The project is intended to be a family recreation space, which includes play equipment and skate parks. It is intended that the Reserve is accessible for all and that it continues provide meeting and recreation space for the local community and visitors to Newhaven.

The play equipment will be significantly upgraded with a focus on nature play, whilst the skate park will be permanent and designed to blend in with the natural landscape of the Reserve. The upgrade to existing facilities such as car parking, toilet amenities, basketball ring and the Richard Grayden Memorial and will also be considered as part of the overall project.

❖ **What size constitutes a ‘Regional’ scale skate park and playspace?**

The skate component of a regional skate park and playspace facility is defined within the Bass Coast Shire Skate Strategy as a ‘purpose built facility providing ample space and components to enable a variety of different skilled users to frequent the space on a daily basis’. A regional skate facility for Bass Coast Shire is determined as;

- Approximately 1000m²
- Strategically located to service the whole Shire, tourists and visitors
- Capable of hosting competitions
- Enables skill development from beginner to advanced
- Allows for night time usage
- Provides further recreation provision (e.g. bouldering, climbing, kick about, basketball play space)

❖ **How big is Graydens Reserve?**

The space that Council is looking to utilise for a play space, open space and skate park is approximately 3500 square metres. This does not include the space around the perimeter of the reserve that is allocated for parking, or the area behind the existing toilet block.

❖ **Will the green open space at Grayden’s Reserve be reduced as a result of the upgrade**

Design consultants and Council officers are well aware of the importance the green open space is to locals and regular users of the Reserve. It is intended that the design for the upgrade of the Reserve will preserve the amount of open space that is currently available, ensuring visitors have ample space to socialise away from the play space and skate park.

❖ **What is a nature play space?**

A nature based play space utilises the natural environment to create areas of play for kids rather than using standard pieces of play equipment. Please see examples below:



❖ **What site investigations have been completed to determine that this location is appropriate?**

Council has met on site with designers Playce to determine that the site is suitable in size to accommodate a regional skate park and playspace facility. Further investigations indicate that the area will not be impeded by underground services.

❖ **How will the proposed installation of a roundabout at the intersection Phillip Island Road and Forrest Avenue in Newhaven affect the proposal at Grayden's Reserve?**

This project will not affect the construction of the proposed roundabout. Regional Roads Victoria (previously known as VicRoads) own Grayden's Reserve. Council has obtained in-principle support from Regional Roads Victoria for this and will continue to work closely with them throughout the design process.

❖ **Will trees need to be removed at the Reserve?**

An independent arborist has provided a report on the condition of the trees located at the Reserve. The report details the condition of the trees and provides a rating of their current health, as well as outlining restrictions surrounding any construction that occurs within their proximity. Trees that were identified as having significant importance and are considered to be of a good health rating will not be removed.

❖ **Will a Cultural Heritage Management Plan be undertaken on the site?**

Yes. Council has engaged a suitably qualified consultant to complete a Cultural Heritage Management Plan.

❖ **How will the community benefit from the upgrade to Grayden's Reserve?**

This Project will provide the community and visitors with a naturally landscaped, open space that caters for people of all ages, encouraging greater visitation that will then stimulate the local economy of Newhaven, San Remo and Cape Woolamai.

❖ **How can I get involved in the consultation process for this project?**

A community information session will be held at Grayden's Reserve on Tuesday, 22 October from 3.00pm – 7.00pm where residents can speak with Councillors, Council officers and designers from Playce, who have been appointed to complete the design of the Regional Skate Park and Play Space.

Community members who attend the information session will have an opportunity to be part of the 'Grayden's Reserve Working Group' that will work with Playce in designing the upgrade of the Reserve.

Should you not wish to be part of the Working Group, the concept design that is developed for the Reserve will be on public exhibition in March 2020 and open for community feedback.

❖ **What are the timeframes for progressing the project?**

We currently anticipate the timeframes will be:

- **October 2019** – Community consultation at Grayden's Reserve to discuss project proposal
- **December 2019** – Confirmation of location for Regional Skate Park and Play Space
- **November 2019 to February 2020** – Conceptual design developed with Project Working Group
- **March 2020** – Public exhibition of concept design for feedback

- **April 2020 to May 2020** – Detailed design completed
- **June 2020 to July 2020** – Council tender process for construction of the project
- **August 2020** – Contractor appointed for construction
- **September 2020** – Construction begins
- **December 2020** – Project complete