

Title	COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY REPORT ON THE DRAFT FRANKLIN MASTER PLAN STAGE 3 – SPORTING PRECINCT
Agenda Number	19.018/20*
Strategic Plan Reference	1, 2, 3 and 4
File Reference	22/309
Author	Community Engagement Officer
Responsible Officer	Manager Asset Planning and Processes
Reporting Brief	The Director Community Services presenting a report from the Community Engagement Officer on the Community Engagement Summary Report on the Draft Franklin Master Plan Stage 3 – Sporting Precinct
Attachments	A. Summary of Engagement – Draft Franklin Master Plan Stage 3 – Sporting Precinct B. Draft Master Plan C. Asbestos Report – M.E Curtain October 2009 D. Asbestos Report – E-Systems December 2009 E. Revised Master Plan for approval

Background

1. The Franklin foreshore area has been a focal point for rowing, cricket, football, cycling and other sports for many years and is strongly linked with the early history of Franklin's settlement and the development of the Huon Valley.
2. This master plan will allow Council to plan for future development of the area and will be able to seek funding when available.
3. The purpose of this project is to:
 - promote the use of the Franklin foreshore area and support measures to increase community access to the foreshore and create a sporting precinct that can be enjoyed by the community, recognising the history of the area.
 - improve pedestrian access from the existing walking track to the Franklin Oval.
 - Provide improved sports facilities including cricket training nets, handball court and tennis rebound wall.
4. Community engagement was conducted from Friday 1 May 2020 to Sunday 24 May 2020 at the "Consult Level" as outlined in the Council's Community Engagement Framework.
5. The purpose of this report is to provide Council with a summary of the feedback received and determine the next course of action.

Council Policy

6. The Council's Communication and Engagement Policy and Community Engagement Framework apply to this engagement process.

Legislative Requirements

7. There are no legal requirements for this matter.

Risk Implications

8. Community members and key stakeholders have volunteered considerable time to consider the project and provide feedback. It is acknowledged that due to opposing and diverse community views, there will be some community members who will disagree with the project design.
9. The Council's Communication and Engagement Policy ensures the final designs will consider the feedback received, the common themes raised, budget implications, broad community benefit, access and best practice design standards. The rationale for those recommendations will be shared with the community at an Inform level.

Engagement

10. Engagement was undertaken at Consult Level in accordance with the Council's Community Engagement Framework. The techniques included are outlined in the below table and detailed further in the Summary of Community Engagement Report included as Attachment A to this report.

Engagement Technique	Date	Reach
Huon Valley Council Website - Community Engagement 'Have Your Say' page	01 May 2020 – 24 May 2020	602 page views
Survey Monkey	01 May 2020 – 24 May 2020	89 online surveys completed
Facebook	01 May 2020 – 24 May 2020	6,052 People Reached 339 Engaged with post
Council eNewsletter	Emailed on: 1 May 2020 8 May 2020	Emailed to: 567 581
Paid advertising	06/05/2020 13/05/2020 20/05/2020	
Huon FM Radio	Included in the Mayors weekly radio interview	

11. Community members were invited to share their thoughts about the proposed master plan, their use of the area, their age bracket and what other elements they would like to see in the future. The survey also provided community members with an opportunity to be kept 'up-to-date' on this project by including their email address.
12. Due to the current COVID-19 restrictions Council was unable to provide hard copy surveys or conduct on-site meeting.
13. Community members received notification via email and the Council eNewsletter. A total of 1,148 recipients received the eNewsletter over the three-week period.
14. Council consulted with the Southern Tigers Cricket Club regarding a location for new cricket training nets. It was agreed that consideration would be given to the direction of the ball and sun direction and the location as per point 4 on the draft plan was identified.
15. The emailed submissions represented the following:
 - Franklin Bowls Club
 - Franklin Progress Association
 - 1 Private resident
16. This report summarises feedback received throughout the engagement period. A total of 89 responses to the request for feedback were received and three (3) submissions were received via Council email. Copies of each of the responses received are included in Appendix 1 of this report.
17. Following the Community Engagement period, the feedback received was compiled into the Summary of Engagement Report which is included as Attachment A to the Reports. The feedback was reviewed and considered by Council Officers responsible for the project.

Human Resource and Financial Implications

18. This master plan will allow Council to plan for future development of the area and will enable Council to seek funding when available. Funding is available to complete some elements of the Revised Plan in accordance with the current 2019/20 Asset Renewal budget allocation and the 2020/21 Asset Renewal Funding allocation.
19. Additional elements identified for future funding allocations will be scoped and costed where applicable to ensure they are shovel ready as funding becomes available.

Discussion

20. As outlined in the Summary Report attached, community engagement at the Consult level was conducted for a three-week period.

21. Responses to the feedback are detailed in the Engagement Summary Report included in the Attachments to the Reports. The following key themes were noted throughout this consultation:

Location of cricket nets

22. Council consulted with the Southern Tigers Cricket Club regarding a location for new cricket training nets. It was agreed that consideration would be given to the direction of the ball and sun direction and the location as per point 4 on the draft plan was identified.
- Direction of ball - this location would allow for the ball to be hit back into the oval and would not interfere with pedestrians and vehicles within the immediate area.
 - Direction of sun – cricket training nets should have a north-south orientation, or a maximum of 30 degrees east or west of north (for practice pitches only). The latter requirement is particularly important for the safety of players as training is usually conducted in the later afternoon or evening when the sun is setting. (*Community Cricket Guidelines Australia*)

Asbestos

23. Concerns were raised regarding the site of the old clubrooms and the possible contamination of the area. There have been two independent reports by suitably qualified persons on this site regarding asbestos, and both confirmed there is no threat to the public from asbestos. The site however does continue to be a source of public concern.
24. The cricket nets were identified as an element to be included in this plan following ongoing discussions with the cricket club to upgrade the nets. Having the cricket nets and the handball court covering the site would help alleviate community concerns. The site was rehabilitated as per the recommendations to cap the site with gravel and install a barrier that would eliminate vehicles passing over the site both of these measures were adopted at the time.

Velodrome

25. It is noted a number of responses raised the concern with the removal of the velodrome.
26. The current condition of the velodrome is poor and whilst it is recognised the velodrome is of historical importance to the community and has had some interest of late from a local group of riders the condition of the velodrome requires considerable upgrade, and cost estimates to repair the velodrome to a standard appropriate for the intended use.
27. The costs to repair the current track are estimated to be in the range of \$250,000 to \$500,000. These are indicative costs and have not been fully scoped. Council would need to undertake a tender process to complete this work.
28. The concept plan does not propose to remove the slope around the oval but it does propose a cutting into the slope of approx. 5 metres in length to enable the cricket nets

to be constructed beside the ground and the bowlers run up to be from the oval, removal of the remaining seal and replacing with grass. The construction of the nets whilst it will interrupt the slope area, casual riders will still be able to ride around the oval for recreational purposes.

29. The concept plan proposes the removal of the sealed material however it will be subject to funding to replace the seal with a grassed velodrome area as seen at Ranelagh or Cygnet Recreation Grounds. This grassed area also provides a welcoming viewing point for cricket and football spectators.



Franklin

Public Art

30. It has been recommended by the community that installation of public art would be a benefit the site and celebrate the rich sporting history of the area. This would be subject to future grant funding but will be considered as part of the implementation plan.

Interpretive history signage – History timeline

31. Franklin township has a rich history and already celebrates this through the Franklin Historic Walk which incorporates interpretative signage along the foreshore. A suggestion included in the feedback included a timeline history of Franklin be engraved onto the timber bollards along the foreshore. This will be a consideration of the implementation plan and will involve engagement with the Franklin History Group and the Arts and Culture Committee.

Seating and shade

32. It is noted throughout this consultation that there are community desires for more seating and shade. This will be incorporated into the final designs and implementation plan.

Continued vehicle access to foreshore

33. Concerns have been raised throughout the consultation regarding the potential closure of vehicle access along the foreshore. It has been identified that access is required for rowing events and also if the Huon Highway was closed, with an opportunity for the foreshore to be used as a bypass. It is noted removable bollards will be installed along the foreshore to enable maintenance vehicles and diverted access if required.

Relocation of Cenotaph

34. Comments have been noted suggesting that future consideration be given to the relocation of the Cenotaph located on the Huon Highway to a more suitable location within the oval precinct. Council agrees that this idea could be a benefit to the community and has identified it as future project. Further consultation will be required with the community and the RSL as the key stakeholders before any decision is made on this suggestion.

Multi-use court for basketball/handball/netball

35. It is noted that a number of responses have suggested the construction of a multi-use court instead of a hand-ball court. This suggestion has been adopted and is now reflected in the new revised plan with a half court incorporating a tennis rebound wall, handball court and a basketball hoop.

Walking Track

36. The engagement survey included a specific question requesting feedback on the preferred construction material for the walking track; Gravel or formal exposed aggregate concrete.
37. As can be seen by the survey results in appendix 1 there was 40 responses who preferred gravel material and 49 responses who preferred the exposed aggregate concrete.
38. Due to the funding available to implement the plan, and to ensure as many elements of the plan can be implemented, it will be recommended that given the close number of responses received, a gravel path be included in the revised plan. This will enable other elements that were identified a higher priority during the engagement to be completed.

Conclusion and Recommendation

39. Based on the feedback and suggestions received, amendments have been made to the Draft Master Plan as follows:
- a) Gravel walking track (6)
 - b) Removable bollards to replace gateway (7)
 - c) Raised garden bed with landscaping, picnic tables and seating to replace handball court (11)
 - d) Handball court be included in multi-use court with tennis rebound wall and basketball hoop (12)

40. These amendments are detailed in the revised Plan marked as Attachment E and will be included in the Attachments to the Reports for endorsement.

19.015/20*

MOTION

CR BIRD

CR PRINCE

That:

- a) **The Report on the Community Engagement Summary Report on the Draft Franklin Master Plan Stage 3 – Sporting Precinct be received and noted.**
- b) **The Draft Revised Franklin Master Plan Stage 3 – Sporting Precinct included in Attachment E of this Report is amended to include an action of engaging with the sporting clubs who occupy the clubrooms to develop a plan to upgrade the facilities including lighting in the future subject to funding.**
- c) **The Draft Revised Franklin Master Plan Stage 3 – Sporting Precinct included in Attachment E of this Report is adopted for a staged implementation within the budget allocation available.**
- d) **The Report on the Community Engagement Summary Report on the Draft Franklin Master Plan Stage 3 – Sporting Precinct be made available to the public on the Council website**

ADDENDUM

41. Council at its Ordinary meeting of 24 June 2020, resolved to defer a decision in relation to this report.
42. Since the June Ordinary Meeting further site investigation and engagement with the cricket club has been undertaken, which has included review of the proposed cricket training net location on site with a contractor.
43. In addition, the upgrading needs for the existing change rooms (which are also now accommodating female football players) and future lighting needs for the ground to accommodate the changing demographic and growing usage have since been considered. Following feedback from Councillors during the 24 June Council meeting, and discussions with the sporting club users inclusion of future redevelopment of the changerooms and the lighting has been included in the revised plan.
44. During the community engagement period, a number of suggestions were made for consideration to be given to the relocation of the Cenotaph to a more suitable location. This was supported by Councillors in discussion during the Council meeting and has since been included in the revised plan.
45. A revised Franklin Foreshore Master Plan Stage 3 – *Sporting Precinct* has been prepared for Council's consideration.

46. In summary changes to plan are as follows:

- Alternative location and direction for the cricket nets (item 4)
- Inclusion of future planning for an upgrade to the change rooms and lighting (item 13)
- No further action in relation to the velodrome
- Investigation to be undertaken on the relocation of the cenotaph (item 3)

47. These amendments are detailed in the revised Plan included in the Attachments to the Reports for endorsement.

19.018/20*

AMENDED RECOMMENDATION

That:

- a) The report on the Community Engagement Summary Report on the Draft Franklin Master Plan Stage 3 – Sporting Precinct be received and noted.**
- b) The Draft Revised Franklin Master Plan Stage 3 – Sporting Precinct (Rev.2) included in Attachment E of this Report is adopted for implementation within the budget allocation.**
- c) The Report on the Community Engagement Summary Report on the Draft Franklin Master Plan Stage 3 – Sporting Precinct be made available to the public on the Council website.**

19.018/20*

RESOLVED

CR BIRD

CR PRINCE

That:

- a) The report on the Community Engagement Summary Report on the Draft Franklin Master Plan Stage 3 – Sporting Precinct be received and noted.**
- b) The Draft Revised Franklin Master Plan Stage 3 – Sporting Precinct (Rev.2) included in Attachment E of this Report is adopted for implementation within the budget allocation.**
- c) The Report on the Community Engagement Summary Report on the Draft Franklin Master Plan Stage 3 – Sporting Precinct be made available to the public on the Council website.**

Councillors Enders, Doyle, Newell, Gibson, Campbell, Wilson, Prince, Lovell and O'May voted for the motion and no Councillors voted against the motion.