

## Item 9 Motions on Notice

### **MN01-08/22 Cr Wright - Request for Policy for BMX Tracks**

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File Ref: 38600 – 22/260414  
Author: Cr Wright  
Action Officer: Director Community and Place  
Disclosure of Interest: Nil  
Attachments: Nil

#### **Issue**

To consider the development of a Policy and associated guidelines that would allow community members in the City of Wanneroo to build their own BMX tracks out of natural materials.

#### **Background**

Recently, a community built pump track at Ashbrook Park was dismantled by Administration as the City does not allow for the community to build their own jump/pump tracks on City managed land.

Ashbrook Park (the Park) is located at 42 Ashbrook Avenue, Pearsall. The Park has an overall land area of approximately 3.1 hectares classifying it as a Neighbourhood Recreation Park and is Crown Land vested to the City of Wanneroo (City) for the purpose of public recreation.

#### **Detail**

Skate and BMX activities are growing in popularity and along with it, demand for local facilities.

The profile of BMX and skateboarding at a national and international level has increased with the inclusion of BMX racing in the 2008 Olympic Games and BMX freestyle and skateboarding at the 2020 Summer Olympic Games.

*BMX jump/pump tracks typically feature a series of berms, jumps and rollers of various sizes often placed in quick succession. According to Planning and Design Company, Common Ground Trails, "tracks can be ridden continuously, and different combinations of features can be linked to provide a varied challenge. Bike handling skills can be transferred to other mountain bike tracks and well-designed tracks cater for all abilities, with all features being rollable for beginners, and allowing for progression to pumping, and even jumping for more advanced riders. Riding a pump track is easy and children are typically comfortable using them within 10-20 minutes. A well designed pump track provides enough challenges to stay attractive for years, because the rollers and berms can be combined and transitioned in different directions, creating opportunity for skilled riders to do jumps and manoeuvres. Pump tracks can be made from natural soil, hardened surfaces, wood, fibreglass, concrete or asphalt. Historically pump tracks were constructed from natural soil blends and required significant ongoing maintenance.*

The City currently has nine BMX pump tracks, of varying sizes with different amenities at the following locations:

- Anthony Waring Pump Track, Clarkson
- Houghton Park Pump Track, Carramar
- Clarkson Youth Centre Pump Track, Clarkson
- Koondoola Park Pump Track, Koondoola
- Warradale Park Pump Track, Landsdale
- Nannatee Park Pump Track, Wanneroo

- McCoy Park Pump Track, Quinns Rocks
- Mariala Park Pump Track, Yanchep
- Gungurru Park Pump Track, Hocking

## Consultation

No external consultation has been undertaken at this point in time.

## Comment

While the exact usage statistics of skate parks and BMX tracks are unknown (based on there being no need to register with a club, or book to use the facility), it is evident that the facilities are popular and are utilised regularly by the local and broader community.

Skate parks and pump tracks provide opportunities for social inclusion and connection, keeping children and young people active and also provide important development pathways to higher levels of skateboarding and BMX and other wheeled sports.

Currently if an unapproved community built pump track is identified on City managed land, Administration dismantles the track and restores the site to its normal state.

A proposal to consider the development of a policy and guidelines that would allow community built pump tracks to be located on City managed land requires investigation. Outcomes of the investigation will be provided to Council Members for consideration.

## Statutory Compliance

Nil

## Strategic Implications

The proposal aligns with the following objective within the Strategic Community Plan 2021 – 2031:

*1 ~ An inclusive and accessible City with places and spaces that embrace all*

*1.3 - Facilities and activities for all*

## Risk Management Considerations

<b>Risk Title</b>	<b>Risk Rating</b>
CO-023 Safety of Community	Moderate
<b>Accountability</b>	<b>Action Planning Option</b>
Director Community & Place	Manage

<b>Risk Title</b>	<b>Risk Rating</b>
CO-C16 Risk Management	Moderate
<b>Accountability</b>	<b>Action Planning Option</b>
Executive Manager Governance and Legal	Manage

<b>Risk Title</b>	<b>Risk Rating</b>
ST-S23 Stakeholder Relationships	Moderate
<b>Accountability</b>	<b>Action Planning Option</b>
Chief Executive Officer	Manage

The above risks relating to the issue contained within this report have been identified and considered within the City's Strategic and Corporate risk registers. Action plans have been developed to manage these risks to support existing management systems.

### **Policy Implications**

Nil

### **Financial Implications**

The investigation into this request can be resourced within existing budget.

### **Voting Requirements**

Simple Majority

### **Recommendation**

**That Council:-**

- 1. REQUESTS the Chief Executive Officer to conduct an investigation into the possibility of developing a Policy and guidelines that provide for community members to build their own BMX tracks from natural materials on City managed parks and reserves; and**
- 2. NOTES that a report on the outcomes of the investigation will be presented to Council Members for consideration by the end of 2022.**

### **Administration Comment**

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When determining the appropriate level of facility provision for the planning of new and upgraded facilities, the City uses guidance such as the Parks and Leisure Australia (WA) Community Infrastructure Guidelines. The level of provision of community facilities is based off the overall provision within the proximal catchment area.

The guidelines define BMX dirt tracks (or pump tracks) as non-racing tracks typically smaller and narrower than a BMX track designed for smaller catchments and budgets. Ideally, anyone in the City should have access to one of these facilities within a 2km distance of their home.

There is no one size fits all for skate and BMX facilities, which are shaped by a number of factors including site conditions, available resources and needs of the community.

There are a range of factors to be considered in relation to creating an environment where community members are able to develop BMX tracks on City-managed land, not the least of which is the safety of the community. Administration is proposing to undertake an initial investigation into this request that will consider matters such environmental, cultural and heritage aspects of any proposed sites as well as land tenure, community safety, maintenance and insurance implications. It is proposed that these initial investigations be undertaken and the outcomes provided for consideration of Council Members.

*Attachments: Nil*