

## Eildon Reserves Redevelopment

### Media Releases

**November 2019**

**Eildon, how do you play? Council wants to hear from you!**

Over the past couple of months, Murrindindi Shire Council has started talking with the community of Eildon about recreation and open spaces in the township to make sure these continue to meet the needs of the community in the future.

Eildon Ward Councillor, Jackie Ashe said originally there was some confusion about which facilities and reserves might be affected if and when changes are made to Eildon's recreational spaces.

"The idea of decommissioning some reserves was a source of particular concern for some people; however, Council is at the beginning of a process of reviewing recreational spaces in Eildon and other parts of the Shire. Rest assured though, no decisions will be made until the community has the opportunity to share their feedback," Cr Ashe said.

"We want to know about how and when locals and visitors are currently using the existing recreation facilities and spaces and what facilities they would like to see in the future.

"At the moment, Council is looking specifically at the Walter Moore and Thomas C. Marr Reserve sites for potential upgrade works. We believe investment in this location might really help attract visitors, especially those in the market to take advantage of other local offerings, such as camping sites and caravan parks.

"I can see in my mind's eye what a lively main street business precinct an overhaul of these spaces would make for. But, don't take my word for it, tell us what you think!" Cr Ashe said.

"Council officers will be collecting ideas and feedback at a drop-in session at the Eildon Primary School on 10 December between 3.30pm and 6.30pm. Officers will also be out the front of Foodworks on Main Street, Eildon on 14 December between 9am and 11am to get your thoughts about current and future recreational spaces in Eildon.

"Can't make it on either of those dates? No worries, just jump onto our website and fill in the survey – you can find it, and more information about the Walter Moore and Thomas C. Marr Reserves Review at [www.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/eildonreserve](http://www.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/eildonreserve)

"Once we've collected input from the community, we'll bring everything together and draw up a concept design. We'll then take this concept design to the community for feedback and once we have a relatively firm idea of the plan, we'll start working on funding. Because we're expecting this to be a fairly big project, we will need to secure additional support to supplement Council's budget investment.

"I think we can all agree that formal and informal sport, recreation and open spaces are often where we encounter that feeling of social connection and belonging. And that's not to mention how important these spaces are for facilitating active and healthy lifestyles.

"A sense of community and wellbeing is what Council wants for all of its communities, for every resident and visitor to Eildon. That's why this is such an important project, and why we need your input," Cr Ashe said.

## **April 2020**

### **Eildon Reserve Precinct plans open for community feedback**

Murrindindi Shire Council, together with the Eildon community, is progressing plans for the redevelopment of the Eildon Reserve Precinct.

Eildon Ward Councillor Jackie Ashe said Council are excited to present detailed concept plans to the Eildon community.

‘After the initial community consultation sessions that were held in late 2019, we collated all of your valuable feedback and we used this to help guide the project. Since that time, we appointed Michael Smith and Associates, a company which specialises in landscape architecture and urban design, to develop a detailed master plan for the popular recreation space.

‘It was important to us to make sure the plan includes many of the great ideas that were suggested by community members, such as improving the playground and retaining grassed spaces for events and functions. The detailed plans are currently available for the public to view on Council’s website and we encourage you to submit your feedback.

‘Despite challenges we are facing during the COVID-19 pandemic, Council is keen to progress the Eildon Reserve Precinct redevelopment project. It is expected that the revitalisation of this space will, when the time is right, attract visitors to spend more time in the township, which contributes to economic benefits for the entire region.

‘We had planned to host a number of face-to-face community consultation sessions to advance this project. But given the current COVID-19 restrictions, we are providing updates and seeking feedback via other channels. These include

- our website – see [murrindindi.vic.gov.au/eildonreserve](http://murrindindi.vic.gov.au/eildonreserve)
- via phone (call Council on 5772 0333 or Michael Smith and Associates on 9830 0414 or 0418 172 826)
- via email updates (just drop a line to [customer@murrindindi.vic.gov.au](mailto:customer@murrindindi.vic.gov.au) if you’d like to subscribe)
- via Council’s Facebook page

‘Next steps from here involve finalising the Master plan, based on input from the community, and then Council will begin the process of seeking funding to begin the project construction’, added Cr Ashe.

## **December 2021**

### **Eildon Splash and Skate Park concept design is now open for feedback**

We have exciting news for the Eildon community! Murrindindi Shire Council is pleased to advise that the concept design for the Eildon Splash and Skate Park is now available for community feedback.

Council first started talking with the Eildon community about the future of Thomas Marr and Walter Moore Reserves back in 2019. Then in 2020, following a second round of community consultation, Council adopted an Improvement Plan for the precinct.

Since then, we have been busy working with landscape architects, JF Studio, to develop the concept design for the precinct, known as ‘Eildon Splash and Skate Park’ alongside local

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representatives from the Taungurung Land and Waters Council, Baan Ganalina Water Group and other key stakeholders.

Murrindindi Shire Council's Eildon Ward Councillor, Karine Haslam said that development of the Eildon Splash and Skate Park would really revitalise the township of Eildon and provide a much needed boost to the local economy over time.

'Investment in this location would really encourage visitors to stop and stay a while in Eildon on their way to the Lake and also have the potential to become a visitor attraction in its own right. Finalising the design, is a vital step in progressing the project to ensure that it is shovel-ready once funding becomes available.

'We've used the community feedback provided over the last few years to put together the draft concept design – but we want to make sure we've got it right!

'Key features of the draft concept design include large open space areas, new toilet and change room facilities, BBQ areas, a play space and splash park, improved pathways and access, amphitheatre style seating, pump track and skate park, resurfacing of the basketball/netball courts, aesthetic upgrades to existing pool fencing and facilities, and improved parking facilities across the town', said Cr Haslam.

'When providing feedback, we recognise that the community want to know what elements of the design can and can't be influenced - which is why we've put together a list on our online community engagement platform, The Loop, which can be found at [theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/eildonpark](https://theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/eildonpark)

'You can also download the concept plans, including concept drawings of what the space could look like.

'I encourage everyone in the Eildon community to jump online and take a look, or come along to our drop-in session on Tuesday 21 December from 3.00 to 6.00 pm at the Eildon Information Centre. We're also planning on hosting another pop-up session later in January next year so keep an eye out on The Loop project page where we'll announce further dates.

'Feedback can be provided at the drop-in session or via our online feedback form on The Loop. Alternatively, you can visit one of our Library and Customer Service Centres, or pop-by the Mobile Library and Customer Service van when it's next visiting Eildon.

'We realise some community members may be travelling during the Christmas and New Year break. That's why we've extended the closing date for feedback until 21 January 2022 to allow enough time for you to provide feedback. During the six week consultation period, we also hope to gather feedback from visitors to the region. We'll be popping up signage in both reserves and distributing flyers to local businesses to get the word out about the Project.

'Next steps from here will involve finalising the concept plan into a detailed design, using the community feedback we receive, and then Council will begin the process of seeking funding for project construction.

'I would like to thank Regional Development Victoria (RDV) for providing funding to complete the detailed design', added Cr Haslam.

**August 2022**

**Investing in Eildon – final plans available for Splash and Skate Park**

Exciting news for Eildon! Murrindindi Shire Council is pleased to present final designs for the Eildon Splash and Skate Park.

The project will provide a range of positive benefits to our community and local economy and we're excited to talk to you about how we plan to deliver this regionally significant project across a number of different stages. We'd also like to hear your ideas and feedback on our proposed funding model, which may involve the sale of under-used land in Eildon. During September and October, we'll be hosting several information sessions, both in person and online, for you to view the final designs, chat with Council staff and ask any questions about the project and our proposed funding model.

Community members are encouraged to visit Council's online engagement platform, The Loop, at [theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/eildonpark](https://theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/eildonpark) for information session details, to provide your feedback on the funding model and to view the final designs.

Council's Eildon Ward Councillor Karine Haslam said we are thrilled to see the final plans for this significant project and the benefits it will bring to the Eildon community.

'Eildon Splash and Skate Park will significantly enhance the recreation offering in our town and attract more visitors to the area, promote investment, providing a real boost for our local economy. It will provide a wonderful experience for both locals and visitors to Eildon', Cr Haslam said.

'Because it's such a large-scale project, we're planning to deliver it in stages. We have funding available to deliver the first and largest stage of the project, which comes under the title of the Eildon Reserves Redevelopment.

'True to its name, this stage of the project will see the redevelopment of Walter Moore Reserve, with construction of a new regional play space, splash park, toilets and change rooms, picnic shelter, as well as installation of new footpaths and upgrades to park furniture and other facilities. Accessibility for all ages and abilities has been a key driver in the design process.

'We're planning to commence construction of stage one in February 2023, with the aim of completing these works by June 2024. When looking at the designs for stage one, you'll notice we've included a pedestrian link across Utah Place, which will change traffic conditions and make it a no-through road. We've included this change based on feedback from community members who expressed concerns for the safety of pedestrians, including families with young children, moving between the two reserves.

'The first stage of this project is made possible with funding support of \$3.5 million from Regional Development Victoria's Regional Tourism Investment Fund and \$400,000 from the Australian Government's Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Fund. Further applications have been submitted to Sports and Recreation Victoria for \$600,000 and the Victorian Government's Changing Places Program for \$150,000, and we expect to hear the outcomes of these grants later this year.

'We'll continue to seek additional funding from state and federal governments to complete further stages of the project, which would see the construction of a senior play space for older community members, installation of a flying fox and swing area, the delivery of a brand-new skate park, as well as a pump track, additional footpaths and lighting, and improvements to parking in the area.

'We are also exploring other options for funding, including the potential sale of two parcels of Council-owned land in Eildon. Council's Recreational and Open Space Strategy identified this land as oversupply in the Eildon township. We know that there is currently significant pressure on the local housing market, and by selling these under-used parcels of land, we'll make better use of the land for the benefit of our community. It will free up land for potential residential developments, and we'll be able to put funds from the sale toward further investment in Eildon, including the Eildon Splash and Skate Park. We're interested to hear what the community thinks of this idea, so we're encouraging you to provide your feedback by 23 October,' Cr Haslam said.

## **Advertisements**

### **EILDON RESERVE PRECINCT**

Council is holding the next round of community consultations for the Eildon Reserve Precinct Redevelopment Plan on 24 March at Eildon Primary School.

Michael Smith and Associates Landscape Architecture and Urban Design will be there to discuss the plan with the community and receive feedback on the draft plan.

Sessions will be held from 3.30 - 5pm and 7 - 8.30pm. If you are unable to attend and would like to contribute your ideas, please email Stuart Collier at [scoller@murrindindi.vic.gov.au](mailto:scoller@murrindindi.vic.gov.au) or give us a call.

## **HAVE YOUR SAY**

### **Eildon Reserve Precinct**

Council's draft Improvement Plan for the Eildon Reserve Precinct is currently available for community feedback.

To view the Plan, please visit our website at [murrindindi.vic.gov.au/projects](http://murrindindi.vic.gov.au/projects) and provide us your feedback via an online survey by 24 July 2020.

### **EILDON RESERVE PRECINCT**

We appreciate the community input received so far about the Eildon Reserve Precinct Draft Improvement Plan. Your feedback has helped inform the Final Improvement Plan and we are excited to present it to the community. If you're interested in viewing the Plan, it will be available to view on our website at [murrindindi.vic.gov.au/projects](http://murrindindi.vic.gov.au/projects) until 27 August 2020.

## **EILDON SPLASH AND SKATE PARK**

We have exciting news for the Eildon community! Council is pleased to advise that the concept design for the Eildon Splash and Skate Park is now available for community feedback.

You can download the concept design, including concept drawings of what the space could look like, on our online engagement platform, The Loop, at [theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/eildonpark](https://theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/eildonpark)

Alternatively, you can visit one of our Library and Customer Service Centres, or pop-by the Mobile Library and Customer Service van when it's next visiting Eildon.

Feedback is open until 5.00 pm on Friday 21 January 2022.





## FINAL DESIGNS FOR EILDON SPLASH AND SKATE PARK

Exciting news for Eildon! Council is pleased to present final designs for the Eildon Splash and Skate Park. The project will provide a range of positive benefits to our community and local economy by significantly enhancing our recreation offering, attracting more visitors, promoting investment and providing a boost to local businesses.

We're excited to talk to you about how we plan to deliver this regionally significant project across a number of different stages and we'd like to hear your ideas and feedback on our proposed funding model, which may involve the sale of under-used land in Eildon.

During September and October, we'll be hosting a number of sessions for you to view the final designs, chat with Council staff and ask any questions about the project and our proposed funding model. Check out the ways you can get involved below.

### Chat with us in person

Eildon Grocer  
Friday 16 September from 2.00 - 4.00 pm

Eildon Visitor Information Centre  
Wednesday 21 September from 11.00 am - 2.00 pm

Walk through the site with Council officers  
Saturday 8 October from 10.00 am - 1.00 pm  
(meet at the Eildon Visitor Information Centre)

Eildon Visitor Information Centre  
Tuesday 11 October from 10.00 am - 12.00 noon

### Get involved online

If you can't make it in person, you can attend our online information session at 6.30 pm on Thursday 13 October. You can also share your ideas and feedback on our proposed funding model by completing an online survey. The survey closes on 23 October.

To register for the information session or to complete the survey, visit [theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/eildonpark](http://theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/eildonpark) or call Council on 5772 0333.



Scan the QR code for  
more information.



## **COUNCIL NEWS**

### **DECEMBER 2022**



### **EILDON RESERVES DEVELOPMENT PROJECT UPDATE (EILDON SPLASH AND SKATE PARK)**

Thanks to everyone who provided feedback on the proposed sale of two parcels of Council-owned land as part of the Eildon Reserves Redevelopment, which includes the new Eildon Splash and Skate Park.

During the recent consultation period, which ran from 31 August to 23 October, we received mixed feedback from the community on the proposed sale of land. As a result of this, before we make any decisions and make a start on the project, Council would like to have further conversations with the community about the funding model for the Eildon Reserves Redevelopment, and the project more broadly.

This is expected to happen during February and March 2023.

Council will be back in touch with the Eildon community soon to provide more information about how you can get involved. In the meantime, stay informed about the project by visiting The Loop at [theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/eildonpark](https://theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/eildonpark) or by giving us a call on 5772 0333. We also encourage you to 'follow' the project page on The Loop to receive automatic updates as new information is available.