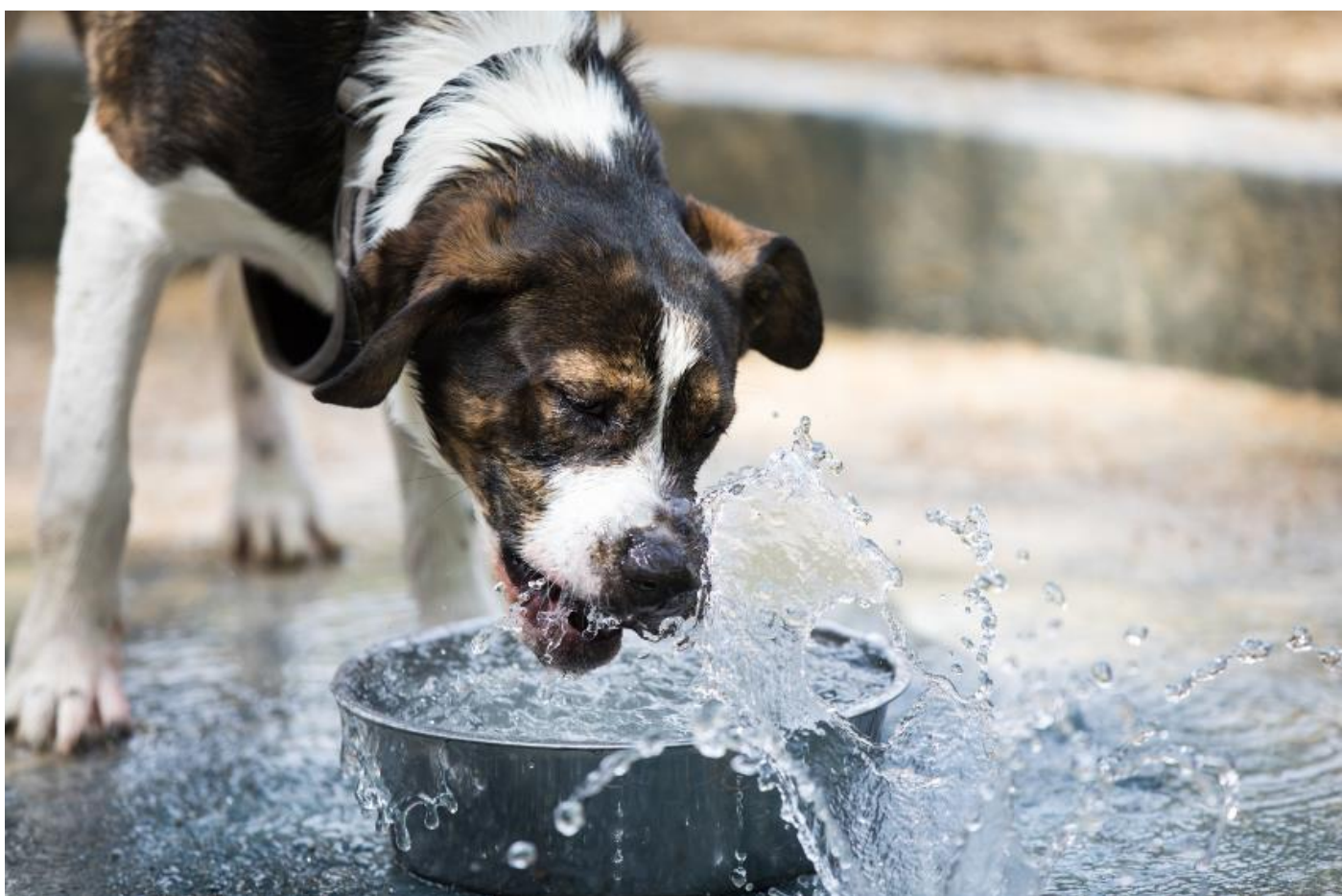


POINT COOK DOG OFF-LEASH AREA

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORT – SECOND ROUND



PROJECT BACKGROUND:

Earlier this year, Council sought the community's feedback on Sidney Nolan Reserve as a potential site for a dog off-leash park in Point Cook. A range of feedback was received during the community engagement process with over 77% of respondents not in favour of the location.

Council considered the overwhelming feedback and has selected an alternative site, The Strand Park (Boardwalk Blvd) in Point Cook for a dog off-leash park.

The purpose of the second round of engagement was to present the concept plan for the alternative location at The Strand Park, Point Cook and to hear the community's feedback on what they liked about the plan and what they thought we could better.

Consultation was open via The Loop from Monday 29th August – Sunday 29th September 2022. A summary of the consultation process and feedback is provided below.



METHODOLOGY:

The below table outlines the various methods and techniques used to engage with the community.

Community engagement activities / tools	
Method / technique	Stakeholders engaged
Project page on The Loop	574 total visitors to the page 922 page views 30 project 'followers'
Online submissions	62 contributions received
Community Drop-in Session	8 attendees
Direct contact from residents	3 emails received
Social Media	2 Facebook posts

Communications / marketing activities	
Method / technique	Stakeholders engaged
Online promotion (Facebook)	Reached: 306 Engagement: 1,909 views

SUMMARY OF FEEDBACK:

The following feedback will be addressed as part of this consultation process:

We Asked	You Said	We did
What do you rate our plans for The Strand Dog Off-leash Area?	<p><u>64 Respondents:</u></p> <p>Yes – We love the plan – 47 respondents (74%)</p> <p>Yes – We support the plan, subject to changes – 9 respondents (14%)</p> <p>No – we do not support the plan – 8 respondents (12%)</p>	<p>88% of responses support The Strand location. Council will proceed with detailed design and construction in this location.</p>
What do you like about the concept plan for The Strand Dog Off-leash area?	<p>A range of feedback was received with the community liking:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The utilisation of unused space in the park 2. Location and proximity to homes 3. The different spaces (quiet zone and agility equipment) 4. The double gates 5. The easy access and connections 6. The large amount of space for dogs to run and socialise 7. That the space is enclosed and securely fenced 8. The perimeter paths 	<p>47 respondents agreed that the proposal is in a good central location and provides adequate amenities.</p> <p>All areas that received positive feedback will remain in the plan.</p>

We Asked	You Said	We did
<p>Is there anything we may have missed in the concept design or could do better?</p>	<p>A range of feedback was received including the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Suggestions for another off-leash dog park in the Saltwater Coast area 2. Can there be a dog park in Williams Landing? 3. A water area for dogs to swim 4. Addition of Lighting 5. 1.2m high fence is not high enough for the location on a busy road, consider increasing the fence height 6. The location is next to a playground 7. There could be dog attacks 8. The proposed park is too close to houses on The Strand 9. There is only limited car parking. Some of it is used all day by trucks. 	<p>Responses are below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Investigation of a suitable 3,000m² site in the Saltwater Coast area is underway for delivery in 23/24. 2. Council is delivering a dog off leash park at Williams Landing Reserve. Consultation is complete, with delivery expected for mid-2023. You can view the concept plan on The Loop. 3. Consultation is currently underway to deliver an off-leash area at Werribee South Beach – watch this space! 4. Council is currently reviewing its position on lighting at dog parks and could include lighting subject to the outcome of the review. 5. The fence height will be increased to 1.5m along the Boardwalk Blvd side of the off-leash area. 6. The off-leash area is separated from the playground by the 44m wide grass kickabout area, dogs must be put on a leash as soon as they leave the fenced off-leash area. 7. It will be a condition of entry that people have control over their dog and leash it when leaving the fenced area. Education and enforcement will occur at the park via Council's Animal Management Team and signage at the park. 8. Buffer planting has been added between the dog park fence and The Strand to minimise impacts. 9. The location was selected due to the adequate availability of existing on street parking. Council's traffic engineering team are looking into parking time limits along Boardwalk Boulevard to ensure adequate turnover and availability of spaces.

	10. A separate fenced area for small dogs should be included.	10. A zoned quiet area is being provided for small/shy dogs. An additional separately fenced area of 3,000m ² would be required to cater separately to small and large dogs. There is inadequate space in the reserve for such a large facility. Future regional off-leash park upgrades will incorporate separately fenced areas where space allows.
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We Asked	You Said	We did
Any other comments you would like to add?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Remove the lookout structure, there is no line of site below, there are major issues with anti-social behaviour. 2. Is Jamieson Way a more suitable location? 3. Is Dunnings Road Reserve a more suitable location? 4. Provide more shade for the dog park 5. Provide a safe way to cross Boardwalk Boulevard 6. Provide educational signage at the entrance 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The removal of the lookout structure is being considered as part of a broader review of the playspace. This will involve a separate consultation process. 2. The Jamieson Way Master Plan is being implemented and much of the rear lawn area will be taken up by a new indoor sport hall. 3. There is insufficient space at Dunnings Road Reserve for the minimum 3,000sqm required for a fenced off-leash area. 4. All existing trees will be retained, and additional shade trees are being provided. 5. There is a signalised pedestrian crossing on the corner of Boardwalk Blvd and Main Street. 6. Educational signage will be included along with conditions of use information at both entry/exit gates.

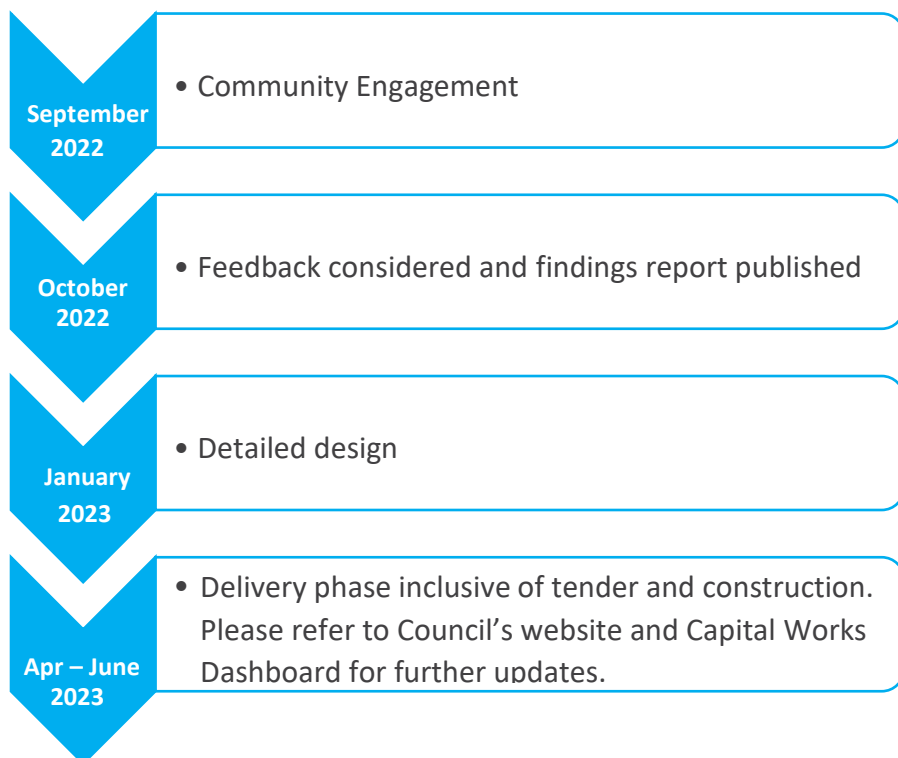
	7. Provide specific times for Greyhounds to use the facility.	7. Current legislation prohibits greyhounds from being off-leash on public land, even in gazetted off-leash areas.
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NEXT STEPS:

Council will use the feedback provided by this consultation to inform the detailed design of The Strand Park Dog Off Leash Area.

Detailed design is anticipated to be completed by January 2023 with delivery planned for April 2023.

STAGES OF THE PROJECT



HOW CAN PARTICIPANTS STAY INVOLVED/INFORMED?

Participants can stay informed by visiting the Loop page and selecting to “Follow” the project. Updates will be posted on The Loop and the project timeline will be updated to reflect project status.