

Euroa Outdoor Space

Engagement Report
March 2022



Euroa Outdoor Space


Background

The Initial Aim:

To establish an outdoor play space including BMX track to meet the needs and requirements of the community. The Euroa Outdoor Space needs to be suitable for youth, young people and families, include a teenage girl space, maybe a skate park, natural play space and family facilities.



The Engagement Approach

 Milestones
Milestone name
First Meeting – Wish list and initial ideas
Define Opportunities/ Track/paths
Present and discuss engagement ideas. Invite Engagement team to meeting .
Take to skate park event and gain input And Rotary Event
Collate results and feedback
Trip to other facilities around North East (date flexible due to potential heat event and working group availability)
Visit areas to identify sites. Invite engineer and other appropriate officers to discuss benefits of each site.
Meet to look at written up ideas/changes
Invite council officers to meeting and present ideas for input
Changes as required
Share with Community for broader input
Bring back to working party
Discuss changes and new ideas
Finalize for next stage of Project

After promoting the Euroa Outdoor Space on social media, Council's website and in local media outlets through media releases and advertising, Council received registrations from community members to be a part of the Euroa Outdoor Space Working Group.

After the group had set their direction for the proposal, there were three community engagement sessions. Two sessions were held during the 2021/22 Summer Splash series at the Euroa Swimming Pool and one was held at the Euroa Skatepark on a busy day. In addition, all Euroa Secondary College Year 9 students were asked individually for their ideas and thoughts. Council's FReeZA Crew which is made up 15 young people aged 14-18 years also engaged with the process. See a table below which demonstrates the overall numbers of community members engaged with during this process.

Depth: Collaborate

Public participation goal: To partner with the Euroa Outdoor Space Working Group and wider community in each aspect of decision making, including the development of alternatives.

Promise to the public: We will look to you for advice and innovation in formulating solutions and incorporate your advice and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible.

Participation and reach

Our Share Strathbogie page received 162 views.

This served to form the Euroa Outdoor Space Working Group which consisted of 12 young people and 4 adults aged between 10-50 years.

The group met in-person four times and attended regular online sessions as well as providing ongoing feedback via email and over the phone.

Engagement Report

The table below demonstrates the overall engagement numbers after Council staff also reached out to various youth stakeholders in addition to the Euroa Outdoor Space Working Group members.

Community engagement table

Gender	Under 10	11-15	16-18	19-25	25-40	Over 40	Totals
Male	5	42	8	3	4	2	64
Female	6	30	4		4	3	47
Diverse			2				2
Totals	11	72	14	3	8	5	113

What our community told us

The comments from the working group members as to why they wanted to see a Euroa Outdoor Space included via the initial Share Strathbogie contribution/registration process:

- As a father of three children (aged between 5-12 years), I'd like to see more physical activities for the kids. I'm a personal trainer and see the benefits of being physical on the body and mind. I'd like to see this project seen through.
- I grew up in Euroa and have been saying for many years that we need something for the older primary school and secondary school aged kids in town. If done right it could be a big draw for Euroa.
- I am an experienced BMX rider and have built many dirt jumps and travelled to and ridden many skate parks, BMX tracks, pump tracks etc. I also have two children, 8 and 5, and I am keen to help build a space for them.
- Euroa is desperately needing a space for older kids to enjoy. I would love to join other youth and be part of this really exciting project to contribute to some ideas!
- I would like to join the working group because I am creative and passionate for this project, and I would like to create a better town for everyone. A town with more outdoor spaces for everyone to enjoy and to have fun on. Euroa definitely needs a new skate park, and I would love to see that happen.
- I am applying for my grandson who will be 10 in November. He would be an asset to your team as he loves the outdoors and spends a lot of time at the skate park & footy ground. He is quite a dedicated little fella when it comes to his sporting interests. He loves all outdoor activity.
- Love biking and think it be great to have a BMX trail/track
- I am a bike enthusiast and think a BMX track would be a great idea.
- I would like to see places for teenage girls and toilets with sanitary items and safe sex products as well as health information in our toilets.
- I want a space in town where girls can hang out as well as boys. Can we have a food van?



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The following list outlines the desired recommendations of the working group process. Every person expressed the need for a connected Euroa Outdoor Space.

We asked:

“Members of the community and Council would like to build a space for teenagers and families in Euroa for outdoor activities. What would you like to see in that space?”

• BMX Track

- Table tops and jumps on dirt track, if Council can maintain the area
- Suitable to be used as competition site in the future
- Asphalt pump track; similar to Bright, Mt Beauty and the Pump Track at Jerilderee with plantings.



• New Skatepark

- Skatepark
 - Including appropriate riding areas for all ages and skills
 - Appropriate coping and roll ins for all different levels
 - Flat concrete practice area around skatepark
- (Suggestions were based on a similar design to Bright's new development)

• Adventure Garden and spaces

- Native Garden with walking tracks, obstacle courses and climbing areas.
- Seating areas within garden with natural form seats facing each other.
- Shelters that are placed in the garden as “talking” spaces.
- Gathering spaces
- Amphitheatre and performance space for movie nights and gigs.
- Splash Park



• Teenager-focused playground

- Swings and playground equipment to suit teenagers and adults which melds into the environment.
- Not a cookie-cutter playground
- A place to hang out close to the skatepark
- Lights and artwork both sculptural and murals
- Talking spaces

• Family area

- BBQ area
- Tables and chairs
- Lights for atmosphere and safety

- Speakers in BBQ area

• Utilities

- Free Wi-Fi
- Lighting
- Water fountains



Engagement Report

Possible locations:

OPTION 1: Guide Hall/Old BMX Track near Friendlies Oval and Sevens Creek	
Strengths (identified by community members)	Weakness (identified by community members)
Heaps of space	Needs better access
Under-utilised	Too far away from some parts of town
Near the Friendlies Oval	Bit more imagination and engineering needed
Can be made into an attractive area	Not a safe walk at night
Access most of the way via Apex Track	
Won't impact football or cricket	
Near footbridge	
Mosquitos are not so bad	
Shade is spaced out	
Water available via standpipe	
Power supply at Euroa Guide Hall	



Guide Hall, near Friendlies and Creek.

OPTION 2: Linking together Lions Park/Old Youth Space/Old Asphalt Area/ Gather and Grow Space	
Strengths (identified by community members)	Weakness (identified by community members)
BBQ	Roads – three main roads nearby
Toilets	Not a lot of shade - only in the area near the pool and bush block
Located close to the Euroa Swimming Pool	Toilet needed
Land is under-utilised	Ambulant toilet

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Central area – close to the main streets	Water
Euroa Centre and accessible	Snakes
Kiosk at the nearby pool	
Lions Club built original BMX track	
Environmental Garden/seating area potential	
Enough land/space to build a great BMX track and skatepark	
Not too many neighbours – low impact	
Linkage with ECAG's Gather and Grow space	
Walkway already through precinct	
Council-owned land – no need to acquire	
Water and electricity already onsite	
Repair shop potential near pool kiosk	
Taps	
Could be completed in a staged approach	
Opportunities to further grow	

NOTE: THIS IS THE PREFERRED COMMUNITY OPTION.



Lions Park, surrounds of Euroa Swimming Pool, Community Garden and asphalted near the old youth space.

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OPTION 3 - Creek Location - End of Foy Street	
Strengths (identified by community members)	Weakness (identified by community members)
Central location	Mosquitos
Shaded areas	Smaller area
Under-utilised land	Toilets have lots of visitors
No residents – low impact	Not visible
Parking nearby for parents	
Close to toilets and a stage area	
Access to power	
Water standpipe	
Minimal impacts from flooding events	
Accessible from the Traveler's Rest and Burtons IGA	



Creek Location at the end of Foy Street

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OPTION 4 - Near Caravan Park

Strengths (identified by community members)	Weakness (identified by community members)
Beautiful location	High visibility
High visual appeal	Attracts tourists – high trafficked area
Close to shops	Pub nearby (for underage youth)
Close to Sevens Creek Hotel (for youth aged over 18 years)	Not suitable for younger swimmers without supervision
Shade	Lots of mosquitos
Swimmable for swimmers	Needs better paths
Easy to access	



Opposite the
Sevens
Creek Hotel
and Caravan
Park

Report Summary/Recommendations

This is an exciting project and has grown much larger than the initial conversation around building a BMX pump track and updating the skatepark. There has been a great deal of consideration, input and brainstorming with community and it's evident that there is the desire to be inclusive to all young people in our community and meeting the needs of families.

As a result, the scope of the project changed from the initial aims to establish an outdoor play space. The Euroa Outdoor Space needs to be suitable for youth, young people, and families, including BMX track, teenage girl space, a skatepark, natural play space and family facilities, which will meet the social needs and requirements of the community.

The preferred option is option two. The proposed location of this option is the Lions Park area behind the Euroa Swimming Pool where the new Euroa Community Garden is also being established, running down to the asphalted area near the railway line. Providing the opportunity to activate this under-utilised space will create something very special for Euroa youth and their families. This space also aligns well to grant opportunities across various streams and could be staged easily.

The proposed breakdown of projects includes:

Stage One: BMX Pump Track

Quick Win: Garden plantings and teenage girl sitting places.

Quick Win: Freshen up Lions Park. Mural painting and gardens.

Stage Two: Skatepark.

Next Steps:

Council will hold a meeting with officers in our operational, projects and planning departments to identify any major issues/considerations with the use of the preferred space for this purpose.

We will call on the community's feedback on the preferred option via our Share Strathbogie page. Feedback from Share Strathbogie will be assessed by the community members of the Euroa Outdoor Space Working Group and the preferred site and proposed composition of the spaced will go to Councillor's for endorsement at a monthly Council meeting during mid-to-late 2022.

Following the reports endorsement, Council will seek funding to develop concept designs for this space.