

Strategic Focus Area: Engage. Create. Unite.

Euroa Outdoor Space

Problem and opportunity:

A few years ago members of the community with the support of the youth development officer, worked hard on a plan to design an outdoor play space including BMX track and updated skate park to meet the needs and requirements of the community. The Euroa Outdoor Space was identified as needing to be suitable for youth, young people and families include a teenage girl space, a yarnning circle, maybe an Amphitheatre, natural play space and family facilities. A space was chosen by the community and a great deal of scoping and discussions were held.

However these works have reached a standstill and we would like to apply to Pitch My Project for the sum of \$50000 to do the design plan for the Euroa Outdoor Space Precinct.

How does it affect or impact the community?

After promoting the Euroa Outdoor Space on Facebook and the Euroa Gazette we had 12 young people and 4 adults responded to become a part of the working group. Aged between 10 and 50 the working party met in person four times, online as well as contributing via phone and email. After the group had set their direction for the proposal, there were three community engagement sessions, two at the Summer Splash series at the Euroa Pool, one at the Euroa Skate Park on a busy day and at the Euroa Secondary School where all year nine students were asked individually for their ideas and thoughts. The FReeZA Crew at that time (15 young people aged 14-18) also engaged with the process.

The desire for the Euroa Outdoor Space was in response to a need for a youth and family friendly space, focusing on local community. One parent described the projects need as

" 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." another community member describes the need of the project as "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." and another "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." and another " 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!" and one more example of community desire

" 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."

This project will have a positive effect on the community. Other members of the community surveyed have stated " 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." as well as "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." and "I want a space in town where girls can hang out as well as boys."

Of the 113 people surveyed every person felt that a connected Euroa Outdoor Space was needed. They felt (in no particular order) that it should include a; BMX Track, Skate Park, 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. - Yarning Circle, Shelters that are placed in the garden as “talking” spaces, Gathering spaces, Amphitheatre and performance space) 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 close to the skate park, 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, free Wifi, lighting and water fountains.

All of these elements, not only respond to the communities needs but they will also positively respond to the growing and other unidentified needs of the community. This project also compliments the council plan desire for welcoming, livable spaces and environment.

What is your idea and what difference would it make?

Our idea is to fund the design aspects of the Euroa Outdoor Space Project. The Euroa Outdoor Space is a project which hopes to establish an outdoor play space including to meet the needs and requirements of the community.

The Euroa Outdoor Space needs to be suitable for youth, young people and families and will include a BMX track, a teenage girl space, a skate park, natural play space and family facilities. By funding a designer to engage with the youth officer and the project team and to then create the designs from the community ideas, would really move this project along and allow it to come to fruition.

Further information:

No.