



COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY:

# ACTION SPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE



CITY OF CANNING







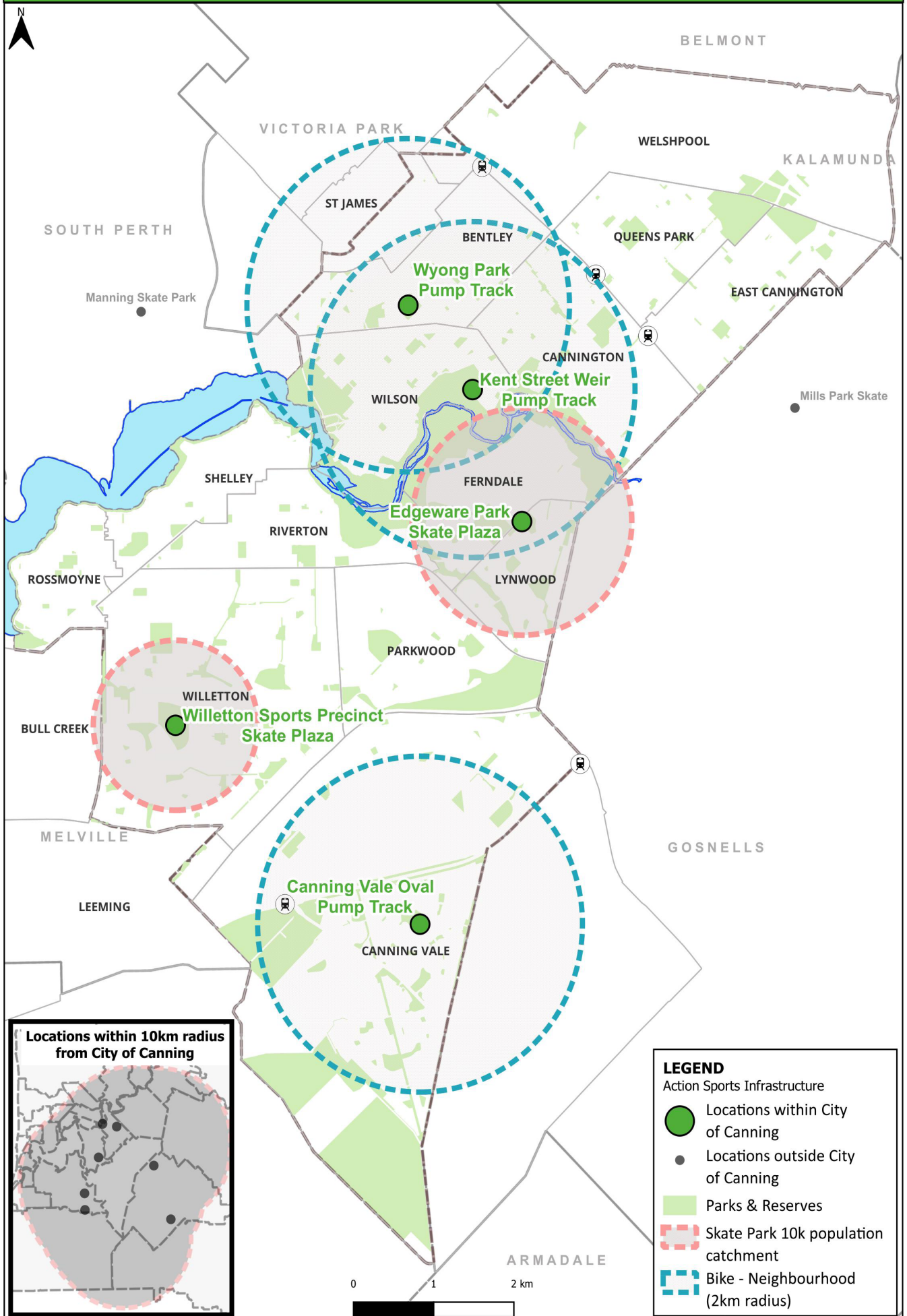
A background image showing a person's legs in dark jeans and a skateboard wheel on a concrete surface. The image is partially obscured by a green rectangular overlay containing text.

# ACTION SPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE

Action Sports Infrastructure primarily includes facilities for skateboarding, BMX biking, and scooter riding, as well as infrastructure for mountain biking. While parkour elements, a physical discipline which involves moving through obstacles and environments using a combination of running, jumping, climbing, swinging, and vaulting, are taken into consideration, their inclusion is dependent on community demand and are therefore considered secondary.

The surge in the professional action sports industry has led to a noteworthy growth in the popularity of action sports, both globally and locally, in recent years. This trend was reinforced by the inclusion of BMX in the 2008 Beijing Summer Olympics and the debut of skateboarding and surfing in the Tokyo 2020 Summer Olympics. As a result of these developments, action sports have gained increased visibility and appeal, drawing a wider range of participants from professionals to recreational enthusiasts.

Moreover, historical data indicates that these increases have broadened the age range of individuals engaging in action sports. Although historically popular with 5 to 25 year olds, the growing interest in these activities among people of all ages has created a need for intergenerational spaces and facilities.





# CURRENT DELIVERY

The City currently provides a range of actions sports infrastructure, including:

## SKATE PARKS

The City has one skate plaza located at Willetton Sports Precinct and a pop-up style park adjacent to the Lynwood Family and Youth Hub. A skate plaza is inspired by the local area, with the design seeking to replicate elements of urban architecture utilising stairs, benches railings etc, but excluding more popular skate bowls. Pop-up style skate parks are temporary, with small ramps and rails.

## PUMP TRACKS

The City has three pump tracks at Kent Street Weir, Canning Vale Oval and a small beginner level pump track located at Wyong Park.

## PARKOUR

Although there is no specific parkour parks across the City, elements can be found at Sill Park in Bentley.

All five action sports sites in the City have been designed to accommodate skating, scooting, and BMX and mountain biking, as they share a similar set of obstacles and features. Skateboarding, BMX riding, and scooter riding are all extreme sports that involve performing tricks and stunts using similar types of equipment and terrain. This can help to foster a sense of community among riders of different sports and promote the growth of these sports.

Additionally, designing tracks for multiple sports can be more cost-effective and efficient than building separate facilities for each sport. It allows for optimisation of space and resources and can reduce the amount of maintenance required for multiple individual tracks.

While no specific usage data has been collected to date, the ongoing maintenance requirements and anecdotal evidence suggest these sites are well utilised.

The table below shows the locations and associated catchments of action sports infrastructure within the City.





## City of Canning Action Sports Locations and Analysis

Primary Activity	Location	Hierarchy	Strength	Weaknesses
Skate Plaza & "pop up"	Willetton Sports Precinct	Neighbourhood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Multi-generational</li> <li>Floodlit</li> <li>Large area that encourages high use</li> <li>Lots of elements including ledges, stairs, hand rails, curbs and street banks and a quarter pipe</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No bowl, or vertical ramps</li> <li>Beginner/intermediate skaters only</li> <li>Small, Not permanent,</li> <li>Noisy</li> </ul>
	Edgeware Park, Lynwood	Neighbourhood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pop-up, elements can be easily change to keep relevant</li> <li>Adjacent to the youth hub</li> </ul>	
Scooter facility (pump track)	Wyong Park	No levels of provision	Small circuit suitable for beginner riders for the local community. good CPTED, filling a gap in provision	Small, beginner use only and therefore limits range of community users.
BMX facility (formal bitumen pump Track)	Kent Street Weir	Neighbourhood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Suitable for BMX skate, and scooters of varying skill levels</li> <li>The new asphalt track and jumps are designed for beginner level to more advanced riders</li> <li>Discourages anti-social behavior through the principles of crime prevention through design</li> </ul>	
	Canning Vale Oval	Neighbourhood		
Parkour	Sill Park, Bentley	No provision	Designing new elements into City of Canning parks to attract the community	Only one or its type specifically design for parkour.

Planning is also in place for a new skate park under the railway as part of METRONET.



# WILLETTON SKATE PARK



**Willetton Skate Park forms part of the Willetton Sporting Precinct and is located at Burrendah Reserve, with access off Pinetree Gully Road south of the basketball stadium.**

The skate park was built in 2021 and is approximately 2,500m<sup>2</sup> in size. The facility includes a fully integrated skate plaza, pedestrian hub and active laneway.

The space has been designed for skateboarders, scooters and BMX/bike riders and is also a pedestrian friendly space. It incorporates street inspired skate objects including ledges, stairs, hand rails, curbs and street banks and a quarter pipe with a series of garden beds, trees and outdoor furniture to be used by users.





# KENT STREET WEIR BMX



This asphalt track, built in 2022, is suitable for BMX riders, skateboarders, and scooter riders of varying skill levels. The new asphalt track caters for users from beginner level right through to experienced riders. It also features a jumps line, designed for more advanced and adventurous riders.



# INDUSTRY PROVISION RATES AND BENCHMARKING

**Parks and Recreation Australia, Western Australia (PLA WA) Guidelines** articulate a facility hierarchy and provision for skate and BMX facilities against population catchments. These have been applied to the City's action sports infrastructure in the table below.

## Standards of Provision for Skate and BMX – The PLA WA Community Infrastructure Guidelines 2020 (the PLA Guidelines)

Facility	Definition	Population Guidelines	City of Canning Provision
Skate Park	Formal skate park facilities generally within established public open space  Additional guidelines to be provided from a consultation process, to establish need and the design of infrastructure to reflect youth within a specific given catchment  2km catchment	Regional 1:25,000-50:000  District 1:10,000 – 25:000  Neighbourhood (multifunctional bowl/plaza) 1:5,000-10,000  Local - (small single function)	No provision  No provision  2 skate parks. One permanent and one temporary  No provision
BMX dirt facility	Non racing tracks, typically smaller and narrower than BMX race tracks, designed for smaller catchment and budgets  Designed along the lines of BMX race track layouts, which encourage single direction riding	Neighbourhood 1:10,000  District 1:10,000-30,000  2km local population catchment	No provision
BMX facility (formal bitumen)	Dedicated tracks for specific BMX activity generally with a stone base, which can provide access for other wheeled sports activities (such as skateboarding) and be a focal hub for youth  A formalised activity space which may incorporate dirt jumps and ramps	Regional 1:50,000 – 250,000  District - 10km bmx clubs  Neighbourhood – 2km	No provision  No provision  2 neighbourhood facilities
Parkour	No provision guides		1 element
Scooter	No provision guides		No stand alone, Designed into BMX and Skate Facilities

There are several other action sport sites located within a 10km radius of the City, as detailed below. These provide a number of different opportunities, many of which are

co-located with other facilities on the site (including playgrounds, active sporting spaces, recreation facilities etc.), supporting the CIS principles.

#### Neighbouring Local Government Authority (LGAs) Action Sports Sites within 10km

Location	Local Government Authority
McCallum Park, Skate Park	Victoria Park
Gosnell Skate Park	City of Gosnells
Mills Park Skate	City of Gosnells
Manning Skate Park	City of South Perth
Lathlain Skate Park	Town of Victoria Park
Leeming Skate Park	City of Melville
South side BMX Club, Bullcreek	City of Melville

As outlined below, a 2012 Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) study on children's engagement in sport and physical recreation found that participation rates in physical recreation activities like skateboarding and rollerblading have increased and surpassed some organised sports. This trend, coupled with the recommended guidelines on infrastructure, highlights

the importance of developing high-quality infrastructure that caters to the needs of the local population and demographics in the City. Planning for infrastructure provision should consider factors such as catchment area, to increase the availability of facilities within the region.

**Table 4 - Sports Participation Comparison**

	No (000)	Participation %
<b>Males</b>		
Soccer	309	21.7
Bike riding	998.8	69.9
Skateboarding and rollerblading	857.8	60
<b>Females</b>		
Dancing	367.4	27.1
Bike Riding	770.6	56.8
Skateboarding and rollerblading	640	47.2

*ABS, Childrens Participation in cultural and Leisure Activities, Australia 2012, code 4901.0(2012)*



# CURRENT PROVISION

The PLA WA guidelines and hierarchy reveal a notable deficiency in the availability of regional and district skate facilities.

Regional skate facilities provide various proficiency programs, events, and sessions for beginner, intermediate, and advanced wheeled sports and bikes; along with amenities, such as floodlights, shelter, car parking, toilets, drinking fountains, and easy access to public transport. These facilities generally include a mix of bowl, plaza and flow (i.e. a park that allows a smooth ride between street obstacles, bowls and curved surfaces etc.). Based on the estimated population forecast, there is a significant shortage in the City for all three hierarchical levels. With population estimated at 124,955 by 2041, the recommended provision is for 12 Neighbourhood, five District, and two Regional facilities.

BMX dirt facilities, which include a bitumen pump track, also fall short of industry standards. PLA WA has identified that the central catchment area has a provision

rate well below the recommended 9-20%, with only 4.22% coverage, and no locations within the City currently meeting the standard. While the City does have two BMX pump tracks, these only cater to the needs of local neighbourhoods. This is an area that needs to be addressed to support the projected population growth in the City. There is also currently no Regional BMX facility in the City, resulting in a significant gap. According to population projections, the City will need to provide 12 Neighbourhood and four District BMX facilities to meet the recommended provision guidelines.

Parkour infrastructure at Sill Park in Bentley is the only location where parkour is located. However, it's important to note that parkour can be performed using other features found in a typical park.

**Table 5 - Population and Age Structure - Persons Aged 12 to 26 Years**

City of Canning		2021		2041		Change Between 2021 and 2041	
Area		Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
City of Canning		23,107	23.2	28,852	23.1	+5,745	+24.9
Canning City Centre		599	31.0	2,836	26.6	+2,237	+373.5
Bentley		3,171	37.1	3,703	33.7	+532	+16.8
Canning Vale		2,327	22.7	2,065	21.0	-262	-11.3
Cannington		2,206	26.2	5,345	25.6	+3,138	+142.3
East Cannington		1,303	21.2	1,647	21.4	+344	+26.4
Ferndale		763	15.6	851	16.0	+89	+11.6
Lynwood		757	20.9	899	21.3	+143	+18.8
Parkwood		1,146	18.5	1,219	17.9	+73	+6.4
Queens Park - Welshpool		1,687	22.5	2,120	22.0	+433	+25.6
Riverton		1,281	21.3	1,467	21.0	+186	+14.5
Rossmoyne		744	19.8	797	19.6	+53	+7.1
Shelley		984	21.1	1,018	20.4	+34	+3.5
St James		720	23.4	870	24.1	+150	+20.8
Willetton - Leeming (Part)		4,466	22.6	4,979	23.0	+514	+11.5
Wilson		1,553	22.6	1,871	22.7	+319	+205

Population and household forecasts, 2021 to 2041, prepared by .id (informed decisions, December 2021)

# TRENDS

The following trends have been identified for consideration around Action Sports Infrastructure for the City:

The rise in popularity of adventure, lifestyle, extreme and alternative sports, particularly with younger generations, have seen them move from being regarded as extreme sports to mainstream sports. These action sports typically involve complex and advanced skills and often have some element of inherent danger and thrill seeking (e.g. skateboarding, inline skating, freestyle BMX and dirt BMX) and are characterised by strong lifestyle elements where participants often obtain cultural self-identity and self-expression through their involvement. International associations for adventure sports are working hard to obtain inclusion in Paralympic and Olympics events.

Another trend is recognition of the importance in developing multi-use facilities, using an integrated landscape approach.

The provision of skate parks, BMX and pump tracks are being used more commonly as a mechanism to engage with youth in the community.

The provision of skate infrastructure in the Perth Metropolitan area is becoming a growing trend, acknowledging the sport's growth. A new skate park - Wotton Skate Park - was recently established in the City of Bayswater. The success of such facilities lies in their ability to promote the positive aspects of youth culture, encourage leadership among young people, and foster connections with the wider community.

There has been a general trend to design skate parks with different users/wants in mind, including skateable landscapes, combination facilities, youth precincts and pop-up and skateable sculptures.

Parkour has seen an increase in participation since its inception in 2009, with the City hosting a number of successful community workshops aimed at all ages.

As outlined in the table below, the suburbs of Bentley, Willetton, Cannington and Canning Vale are reported to have the highest numbers of youth aged between 12-26 years (forecast.id). Bentley, Cannington and Willetton are expected to continue to have the highest number of youth in the City through to 2041. Queens Park and the Canning City Centre will also be high growth areas for this age group. These areas, therefore, must be considered as focus areas for new youth activities, both now and into the future.





# STRATEGIC DIRECTION



There is a significant gap in provision for action sports across the City.



To meet the current and future population planning will be undertaken to increase access to action sports facilities focussing on areas of high youth population.



Action sports facilities will provide opportunities for skate, BMX, mountain bike, scooter and parkour.



Ensure future facilities are co-located with other community infrastructure. (e.g., Aquatic Centres, youth facilities, and community halls) with transport links to allow accessibility for youth participants.

# RECOMMENDATIONS



Proactively work with Metronet to advocate for the installation of action sports infrastructure as part of the under the rail project.



Develop business case and location feasibility for one Neighbourhood and one District bike facility.



Develop a business case and location feasibility for the provision of one District and one Regional skate park.

# THE FUTURE

It is important that the City invest in action sports facilities, given the limited number of existing facilities compared to other LGAs and current low provision against industry benchmarking. As projected population grows, there will be an increasing gap between the existing demand and provision.

Considering the ages of primary users of actions sports facilities, there is an opportunity to create additional action sport facilities in suburbs with a current or projected high concentration of youth. Development of youth-oriented infrastructure should carefully consider public transportation routes and suitability to link with other youth related infrastructure, to enable youth focused service delivery.

# PROVISION STANDARDS

The following table provides the standard level of provision for action sports amenity across the City. These provision standards have been developed using all relevant guidelines and overlaying the needs of the City community to ensure that action sports facilities are multi-use.

Amenity	Local/neighbourhood	District	Regional
Design Elements Considerations	Single function, popup, sculptures	At least two functional elements - bowl, plaza	Multifunctional and main focus for the City. Design to allow programming of competitions. Bowl, flow style, street, vert ramps
Seating	Required	2+ seating elements	4+ seating elements
Seating	Required	2+ seating elements	4+ seating elements
Viewing area	Required	Required	Required
Shade/shelter	Required	Required	Required
Signage	Required	Required	Required
Emergency vehicle access	Case by case basis	Required	Required
Lighting	Not required	Optional	Required
Rubbish bins	Required	Required	Required
Natural Surveillance	Required	Required	Required
Toilets	Optional	Optional	Required
Car parking	Not required	Not required	Not required
Public transport access	Required	Required	Required



# CONSULTATION FINDINGS

This Type received 13 responses, with 12 from a suburb within the City. Of these, 9 are currently using this type of infrastructure. All strategic directions and recommendations proposed were supported.

Summary of Consultation	
Survey Questions	Results
Surveys Completed	13
From a suburb within the City of Canning	12
Already using Action Sports in Canning	9
Addition consultation activities specific for this Type	Youth Consultant Network Workshop Cultural Ambassadors Huddle

## Survey Response Results

	Support	Neutral	Oppose
<b>Strategic Direction 1</b> - There is a significant gap in provision for action sports across the City.	13	0	0
<b>Strategic Direction 2</b> - To meet the current and future population planning will be undertaken to increase access to action sports facilities focussing on areas of high youth population.	12	0	1
<b>Strategic Direction 3</b> - Action sports facilities will provide opportunities for skate, BMX, mountain bike, scooter and parkour.	12	1	0
<b>Strategic Direction 4</b> - Ensure future facilities are co-located with other community infrastructure. (e.g., Aquatic Centres, youth facilities, and community halls) with transport links to allow accessibility for youth participants.	10	2	1
<b>Recommendation 1</b> - Develop a business case and location feasibility for the provision of 1 district and 1 regional skate park.	8	5	0
<b>Recommendation 2</b> - Develop business case and location feasibility 1 neighbourhood and 1 district bike facility.	9	3	1
<b>Recommendation 3</b> - Proactively work with Metronet to advocate for the installation of action sports infrastructure as part of the under the rail project.	10	3	0

# KEY THEMES

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Gap in provision: There was recurring feedback acknowledging a gap in provision for action sports facilities across the City, aligning with concerns about meeting future population needs.

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Services and Promotion: There were a number of comments that addressed the current services at action sport sites, noting a deficiency in promotion and programming. Respondents provided examples from other Local Governments that offer services like skateboarding clinics, indicating a strong interest in similar initiatives at their local sites.

# KEY FINDINGS

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There was consistent support by respondents for the Strategic Directions and Recommendations

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Services: A number of respondents provided similar feedback regarding service provision and a desire for the City to offer greater programming associated with existing action sport infrastructure. While this feedback is not directly related to infrastructure provision, it is noted.

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Community Engagement: There is a strong desire for the City to engage with existing users for design and improvement ideas. Many surveys highlighted that existing users want to be directly involved in planning and improvement to ensure facilities meet community needs and expectations. This can be achieved through the development of needs assessments for specific projects identified as outcomes of the CIS or through asset renewal projects.

# CONSULTATION RECOMMENDATIONS

1. No changes to the Strategic Directions
2. No changes to the Recommendations













