

Tooradin Skate Park Concept Design

Community engagement summary report
August 2025

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2 Background

The Tooradin Recreation Reserve, located at 62–68 South Gippsland Highway, Tooradin, spans 4.31 hectares and serves as a vital community hub. Owned by Council, the Reserve offers a diverse range of facilities including AFL and cricket ovals, netball and tennis courts, a children’s playground, barbecue amenities, car parking, and a skatepark. These features support both structured sporting activities and informal recreational use, catering to a broad cross-section of the local community.

In May 2015, Council adopted the Tooradin Recreation Reserve Master Plan, which outlined a strategic vision for the site’s future development. Among the recommended upgrades, improvements to the skatepark were identified as a medium-term priority. However, during the Master Plan’s consultation phase, 75% of respondents highlighted the skatepark as a key area for improvement, underscoring its significance to young people in the community. This strong feedback has since elevated the skatepark upgrade to a short-term priority.

To guide the design process, a four-week community consultation was undertaken. Community members were invited to share feedback on the elements suggested for the skate park, including a vote on one of two skate bowl designs.

There was also an opportunity to provide additional feedback through an open-text comment box.

2.1 Key findings

Community feedback strongly supports the upgrade of the Tooradin Skate Park, with many respondents expressing enthusiasm for the proposed improvements and design options. Option 2, featuring an open flow bowl, was particularly well-received, though several participants suggested refinements such as removing the central pump bump and adjusting ramp heights to improve flow and progression. There was a clear desire for more advanced and diverse skate features, including street-style elements, a spine ramp, and a separate mini ramp or half pipe. A significant number of respondents also advocated for the inclusion

of a large pump track, referencing successful examples in Echuca and Botanic Ridge. These suggestions reflect the community's interest in creating a facility that caters to a wide range of skill levels and wheeled sports.

Beyond skate features, feedback highlighted the importance of comfort, safety, and accessibility. Many community members requested more seating and shaded areas for parents and spectators, along with amenities such as water taps and charging stations. Safety concerns were raised about pedestrian access to the site, with multiple mentions of the need for a crossing at Bayview Road and South Gippsland Highway. Several respondents also questioned the suitability of the current location, recommending relocation to the old Primary School site for better access, parking, and future expansion. Additional ideas included a half basketball court and footpath improvements, reinforcing the community's desire for a well-rounded, inclusive recreational space.

2.2 Next steps

Council officers will consider community feedback and make amendments to the plan, in line with the scope detailed in the project engagement plan.

Subject to Councils budget approval. Construction is expected to be completed by end of June 2026.

3 Consultation overview

3.1 Consultation purpose

The consultation was designed to provide the community with the opportunity to provide their feedback on the Tooradin Skate Park Concept Design and vote on one of two skate bowl designs.

3.2 Consultation process

The tools and techniques selected for this project were informed by the project content, stakeholders and type of feedback sought.

Key tools for communicating the project

- Emails to key stakeholders, including Tooradin Primary School newsletter
- Social media
- Signage onsite

Key methods for gathering feedback

- Online engagement through Casey Conversations, including opportunity to provide feedback via survey.
- One community pop-up onsite at Tooradin skate park during school holidays.
- Contact email address and phone number of Council Officer provided for interested community members to ask for further information or provide feedback.
- Printed information available, as required.

Details	Activity
27 June – 3 August 2025 472 Visitors 35 Contributions (22 surveys completed and 13 votes for skate bowl design)	Casey Conversations Website Project information and online survey hosted on the engagement platform Casey Conversations.
27 June – 3 August 2025 1 Email	Direct communication Email received during consultation.

4 Who we heard from

Survey

A total of 37 responses were received online, consisting of 22 survey responses, 13 votes on the skate bowl design.

The respondents online were individuals aged between 15 to 69 years with the majority of respondents aged between 30 – 54 (62%).

Of the 22 survey respondents, over 70% were from the Coastal Areas (Tooradin/Pearcedale). Twelve women and 10 men provided feedback to the survey. A small proportion identified as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander background (4.5%), speaking another language at home (9%), person with a disability (4.5%) and LGBTQIA+ (4.5%) A significant portion of respondents (72%) answered that none of the above applied to them.

Community Pop-Up

A community pop-up was held at Tooradin Skate Park on 15 July between 1.30pm and 3.30pm. It was held during the school holidays. Approximately 12 people attended, including two families and others involved in local sporting clubs, organisations and businesses.

Email

A long-time advocate for the Tooradin Skate Park upgrade provided feedback to the Officer working on the project and was responded to directly.

5 Consultation findings

The following section summarises the key themes which arose in community feedback on Tooradin Skate Park Concept Design. In the interest of stakeholder and community privacy, individual quotes have not been included within this public document. Where there was more than one mention of a topic or item, the number of mentions has been specified in brackets and italics.

5.1 Support for actions

Survey respondents were asked to share if they had any further feedback on the concept designs.

5.2 Item-specific feedback

SURVEY QUESTIONS

Question: What do you like best about the design?

Skateboarding & BMX Enthusiast Feedback (6 mentions)

- Appreciation for flowy design and variety of ramps (2 mentions)
- Suggestions for street-style features like an A-frame rail and down ledge (1 mention)
- Excitement from a local ex-professional BMX rider (1 mention)
- Concern about lack of advanced skateboarding focus (1 mention)
- Skepticism about how many kids actually skateboard (1 mention)

Family & All-Ages Appeal (6 mentions)

- Design seen as great for all ages (2 mentions)
- Praise for expanded facility and new features (2 mentions)
- General sentiment that it's much better than the current design (3 mentions)

Location & Accessibility Concerns (4 mentions)

- Strong recommendation to move the skate park to Tooradin Station Road site (1 mention)
- Safety and accessibility benefits (1 mention)
- Space for future expansion and family interaction (1 mention)
- Parking limitations at current site (1 mention)

Design Suggestions & Improvements (4 mentions)

- Replace ski jump with street-style elements (1)
- Desire for progressive jump heights (1)
- Reference to Cochrane Park redevelopment as a benchmark (1)
- Specific feature liked: the bowl bit towards the left (1)

General Sentiment (5 mentions)

- Positive reactions (5 mentions)
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Question: Is there anything missing that you would like to see included?

Skate Park Design Feedback (10 mentions)

- Positive response to the upgrade (2 mentions)
- Preferred design: Option 2 – open flow bowl (1 mention)
- Suggested improvements:
 - Remove central pump bump (1 mention)
 - Adjust quarter pipe height to 1.65m (1 mention)
 - Include a spine ramp (1 mention)
 - Make the box steeper and bigger (1 mention)
 - Add a small enclosed bowl (1 mention)
 - Improve ramp transitions for better progression (1 mention)
 - Add more ramps (1 mention)

Skateboarding, BMX & Scooter Features (7 mentions)

- More street-style obstacles (1 mention)
- Separate mini ramp / half pipe (1 mention)
- Strong interest in a large pump track (2 mentions)
- References to successful pump tracks in Echuca and Botanic Ridge (2 mentions)
- Request for intermediate-level features (1 mention)
- *Bike repair kit* (3 mentions)

Amenities & Comfort (7 mentions)

- More seating: benches, tables, parent viewing areas (3 mentions)
- Shade coverage: trees or structures (2 mentions)
- Water tap, water refill station (17 mentions) and solar/electric/wifi charging stations (5 mention)
- Insufficient native or indigenous canopy tree planting (1 mention)

Access & Safety (6 mentions)

- Safe pedestrian crossing at Bayview Road & South Gippsland Hwy (2 mentions)
- Safer access would increase usage (1 mention)
- Footpath around recreation oval and Stumblers Lane (1 mention)
- General concern about crossing the highway with children (2 mentions)

Location & Site Suitability (4 mentions)

- Tooradin Rec Reserve not suitable (2 mentions)
- Proposal to relocate to old Primary School site (1 mention)
- Preference for location on school side of highway (1 mention)

 Broader Recreation Ideas (3 mentions)

- Half basketball court (2 mentions)
- Cochrane Park in Koo Wee Rup cited as a minimum standard (1 mention)



COMMUNITY POP-UP

Approximately 12 community members attended the pop-up at Tooradin Skate Park.

Mostly there was a high level of support for the skate park design with four (4) people giving the thumbs up to the space and features of the design. There was a suggestion that the seating and shade could be better.

VOTING TOOL

There was an opportunity for community to vote on two options for a skate bowl.

Thirteen votes were submitted and the most popular was Option 2: Open Flow Bowl with nine (9) votes.

Option 1 – Bowled Mini-ramp

Benefits include:

- Perfect for skaters who want to build their skills
- It has two quarter pipes facing each other – great for learning how to ride transitions and try out lip tricks.
- The bowl shape lets you pump around to pick up speed.
- There are some higher sections to challenge yourself.

- Designed for fun!



Option 2 – Open Flow Bowl

- More of an open layout – for lots of ways to ride and explore.
- Smooth pockets to pump through.
- Quarter pipes that get taller as you go.
- Central pump bump to help build up speed.
- Great for learning the basics of transition skating.
- More free-flowing set up to create your own lines and runs.



For more information on this consultation, please visit
<https://conversations.casey.vic.gov.au/tooradin-skate-park-upgrade>