
PROVISION OF LOCAL SKATE PARKS

Policy Number: POL16/213 • **Adopted:** 1/07/2001 • **Amended:** 21/08/2006, 13/10/2009, 23/04/2013, 18/04/2017 • **Minute Number:** MIN04.1434, MIN06.1136, MIN09.1362, MIN13.378, MIN17.301 • **File:** 16417E • **Produced By:** Finance Corporate & Community Services Group • **Review Date:** 1/12/2020

1. PURPOSE

To define Council's commitment to the provision of local skate parks. . Local skate parks will be partially funded by Council, and where possible other grant programs. Requests by the community for skate parks will require community involvement and commitment.

2. STATEMENT

Skate parks provide a popular recreation facility within the Shoalhaven. Due to the high cost in providing such facilities, Council has adopted the following provision to meet the citywide needs of skate park users.

3. PROVISIONS

Local skate parks will be approved by Council after extensive community engagement and commitment. The design of all facilities will cater for all abilities, i.e. beginners to advanced users.

Requests by the community for skate parks will be considered as local skate parks. The design of local skate parks should primarily meet beginner needs and where possible provide for more advanced users.

When a potential local skate park site is identified and nominated by the community to Council an assessment of the request and the projects viability will be made against the following:

3.1. Eligibility

For a community to be eligible for a proposed local skate park it must:

- Demonstrate a significant need by local skateboard riders;
- Have demographic projections to support the medium term viability of the project;
- Meet the policy's site selection criteria for the proposed skate park location;
- Have a community group existing to facilitate and manage the project with Council support; and
- Have applications considered and approved through the statutory legislative process prior to construction.
- Interested community to create and evaluation criteria to weigh upon in successive years
- Interested community to create a five year activation strategy

3.2. Site Criteria

Sites proposed for the development of a skate park must first meet the following site criteria:

- Council owned/managed reserve;
- Consistent with the relevant Plan of Management for the reserve if adopted;
- Soil, slope and environmental factors are suitable;
- Circuit to be located at least 40 meters from any watercourse;
- The location provides casual supervision;
- Suitable access to the reserve, and where possible be co-located with other recreation facilities and amenities; and
- Facilities of a similar scale and nature are not provided in adjacent communities.

3.3. Skate Park Funding

Any community seeking consideration of a local skate park in their village/town should contact Council to ascertain potential time frames and funding availability prior to commencing community fundraising or lodging grant applications.

- Council will contribute a maximum of 50% of the cost of a local skate park construction up to a maximum contribution of \$50,000 subject to availability of funds.
- Council funding will be allocated on a needs basis and cannot be used for non-construction elements of the project such as preliminary or detailed design.
- The total local skate park project price must be determined which includes skate park design, site preparation, construction, landscaping (eg. seating, shade, garbage bins), and risk management (fencing, signage).
- Construction of a local skate park can involve a community contribution of cash or in kind support. Cash or material contributions may come from fundraising and/or grants.

In kind contributions for plant and/or labour can only be accepted if overall project management lies with the community group. Council's WHS requirements do not apply to volunteer work sites.

4. IMPLEMENTATION

The Finance Corporate & Community Services Group will administer this policy.

5. REVIEW

To be reviewed within one year of the election of a new Council.

6. APPLICATION OF ESD PRINCIPLES

Natural Capital – Encourage the use of recycled materials around skate parks i.e. use of recyclable plastics in park furniture.

Ecological Integrity – Encourage the selection of vegetation around skate parks that will require low application of fertilisers, herbicides, pesticides and need for watering.

Social Integrity – Encourage community involvement through the development of each skate park.