Community Engagement Report – Final

Small Dogs Park – ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

The Small Dog Park project proposes an expansion of the existing Mitchell Avenue off leash dog park to create two separate, purpose-built areas: one for large, active dogs and another for small, passive breeds. The upgrade will include new fencing, accessible gates, a water fountain, seating, and agility play equipment, improving safety, accessibility, and dog-owner experience. The project responds directly to significant community feedback and aligns with Council strategies to support recreation, community wellbeing, and responsible pet ownership.

Community input highlighted the need to reduce intimidation of small dogs, increase accessible facilities, and provide a more enriching environment for dogs and owners. The expansion will repurpose an underutilised grassed area within Mitchell Avenue Reserve, enhancing the amenity and usability of the broader precinct, which already includes playgrounds, gardens, sports courts, a pump track, and other recreational facilities.

The project is funded through the Victorian Government's New and Upgraded Dog Parks Program with a total of $100,000 allocated to bring this vision to life.

What was the purpose of engaging?

Council sought feedback to understand how the community currently uses the Mitchell Ave Dog Park and what upgrades are most important. Community engagement demonstrated strong support for separating small and large dogs, with feedback emphasising safety, stimulation, shade, seating, and improved water access.



8 months of engagement (Stage 1)



152

Number of people to leave feedback

What we heard

- Separate sections for small and large dogs
- Natural logs, tunnels, mounds
- Maintain grass to prevent dust or mud
- Accessible water stations
- Bin stations
- More seating under shade
- Multiple entry/exit points

What we are doing

We have made some minor design changes to our final design to incorporate 'what we heard' including more seating, canine drinking fountain, and low impact equipment to support exercise and play. If there is funding available we will look to incorporate shade structures

Next steps

Council will review the community survey response feedback from ***'What we Heard'*** and update the final design.