Connect Wangaratta - Community Engagement Report

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

- People enjoy exercising their dogs, socialising and being outdoors.
- Challenges include limited stimulation, lack of seating and shade
- Separate sections for small and large dogs
- Most desired upgrades: agility equipment, sheltered seating, improved vegetation, more water fountains

What we are doing

A summary of the feedback received, how it impacts the project or action required and a delivery timeline

Feedback Item	Action/Info	When	Strategy Change
Small Dogs Park Concept Plan	Feedback received by community will be reviewed and taking into consideration when updating the final design.	April 2026	Not Recommended

Next steps

Council to organise a pop in session at the Mitchell Ave Dog park in April for the community to review the concept plan

Promote survey through social media, vets, dog groups

Council to review feedback and update the final design

Icons to use











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Advertising pamphlets delivered