

MEDIA RELEASE

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Dog Park and Public Recreation proposal for Wynyard

The community are invited to have their say on a concept plan to develop a public recreation space which includes an off-leash dog park and fully self-contained freedom camping site in Ballad Avenue, Wynyard.

The currently undeveloped 3-hectare parcel of land at 0 Ballad Avenue has unique environmental features, including its proximity to the Inglis River, a network of river-side walking trails and the presence of protected flora and fauna species.

Council recently received a report outlining the presence of protected species of Eucalyptus Brookerina at the site, which led to the deferral of a decision to seek expressions of interest for the sale and development of the land for residential purposes and the assessment for the site's suitability for public recreation use.

Mayor Robby Walsh says Council is keen to ensure that any proposal put forward for the use of the site has broad community support.

"The size of the land provides us with multiple options for public recreation and we'd like to hear the community's thoughts on how the land could be best used," The Mayor said.

The draft Development Options Paper for an off-leash dog park and a designated fully self-contained freedom camping area proposes the delivery of two distinctly separate sites within close proximity to the river and walking tracks connecting the site to the township.

Council has been exploring options for a dog park site with a number of challenges identified at previously considered sites.

"The location of the Ballad Avenue site is perfect for use as a dog park, and the size of the site allows for some additional complimentary uses."

"This is an opportunity to not only preserve a protected species, but to also improve the liveability of our town with new recreation spaces and to inject additional revenue directly into our small businesses and tourism experiences through increased visitation," Mayor Walsh said.

Public consultation for the potential development for 0 Ballad Avenue will remain open until 29 April 2022.

Authorised for general media distribution by Shane Crawford, General Manager, Waratah-Wynyard Council on Thursday, March 24, 2022.

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