

Your feedback on the Point Richards car park upgrade concepts



Community consultation took place from Wednesday 20 November to Monday 9 December 2019.

We held dedicated community events on 20th November and 30th November and an online survey to hear what residents, boat users and stakeholders think about the proposed concept designs for the Point Richards car park upgrade. This was the first step of the consultation process, and a key reason for holding it was to involve the community from the outset.

The consultation allowed us to test initial concept ideas with you and we received considerable feedback on two upgrade concepts.

What we proposed

We tested two design concepts for an upgraded car parking facility. Both concept designs explore options to upgrade car park by improving boat and trailer parking, easing congestion and improving pedestrian safety and access.

Who we heard from

- Boat ramp users
- Residents
- Visitors to the area
- Surrounding stakeholders including the Miniature Railway

People reached



155 visits to the online project page
118 downloads of the concept designs



Approximately **80** people attended the community event



20 responses to the hard copy survey
6 responses to the online survey

The feedback we received shows that there isn't a clear preference in design.

Many of you indicated that both design concepts had elements you liked and areas that could be improved. We'll use your feedback to explore options and develop the most suitable design.

Through the online survey and community event, you told us:

✔ You are supportive of the car park upgrade including:

- an expanded car park design concept
- a traffic loop suitable for car-boat-trailer units
- improved signage to deter single cars using trailer parks
- having webcams installed to view ramp & car park

— You have some concerns about:

- traffic flow in and out of the car park
- reconfiguring the existing car park and the need to address improvements
- whether the proposed designs offer enough car parks
- safety for all users
- privacy of residents on neighbouring land
- increased activity at the boat ramp during peak season.

🗨️ You said:

- you'd like more car parks than what's proposed
- lighting and safety improvements need to be made
- current car parking spaces are too narrow
- maintenance and management of the area will need to be considered and planned for
- the car park upgrade is only the start. The ramp facility needs an upgrade.

You asked:

Q. Will the car park upgrade include improved safety measures?

Both design concepts offer a layout that considers safety of facility users and improvements to traffic circulation.

Q. Is it necessary to include landscaping in the design?

The concept designs offer additional landscaping. During consultation we heard from residents, beach users and visitors who support the landscaping proposed and said it will enhance the facility and improve privacy aspects.

Q. Why is the government spending more money on the car park?

We're aware that the current facility can reach capacity and boat facility users can benefit from additional parking. There appears to be scope to expand and improve the car park beyond the existing foot print.

Q. Is there anything that can be done to improve car parking in the designs because they don't provide enough room for turning around.

We received some useful feedback about how we could improve the proposed car parking outlined in both designs. We will be using this to inform our final design.

Q. Why are you focussing on the car park upgrade when the whole facility could use a makeover?

We are proposing to upgrade the boating facility in two stages, starting with the car park. We will run a separate consultation to address changes to the maritime infrastructure (boat ramp) based on a coastal processes study that has been completed to better understand the issues associated with the seagrass and sand build up impacting the ramp. The Study conducted by specialist coastal and environmental consultancy Water Technology is now complete and a summary of the findings are available at betterboating.vic.gov.au. More details on next steps for this work will be provided soon.

Next steps

We would like to thank everyone who provided feedback on our design concepts. This has been considered and has helped inform a final concept design that is supported by Bellarine Bayside Coastal Management.

We have started work on the second stage of the Point Richards boating facility upgrade that involves addressing the issue of seagrass build up currently impacting the ramp. We will be releasing more information about this soon.