

St Leonards Boating Facility Upgrade

Report of Feedback from Community Consultation through an on-line survey conducted 5th April 2022 to 26th April 2022 (inclusive).

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As part of the government's commitment to improving recreational boating, Better Boating Victoria (BBV) is progressing an upgrade at St Leonards boat ramp – a facility managed by Bellarine Bayside Coastal Management.

Boaters and members of the wider community have given initial feedback through an e-survey on what a design needs to consider for a future upgrade to the St Leonards boat ramp facility.

BBV has commissioned coastal and civil engineers FSC range to develop a concept design

for improvements to the boating facility taking into consideration feedback from survey results.

The survey put forward several questions to stakeholders regarding existing issues with the facility and what could be changed to improve its functionality.

The consultation has allowed BBV and FSC Range to understand and take into consideration feedback from regular users of the facility prior to creating the concept design.

What we asked?

- What is your interest in the St Leonards boat ramp and car park?
- What makes using the facility difficult?
- What weather conditions make launching and retrieval most difficult?
- What would you like to see changed to improve the facility?
- What don't you want changed?



People Reached



476 people responded to the online survey



414 Respondents were boat ramp users



56 respondents were local residents
3 respondents were foreshore users
3 other uses/no response

What makes using the facility difficult?



- Wind and waves impacting launching and retrieval were the biggest issue
- Height difference from the pier to water on low tide making it difficult to get in and out of boats
- Limited parking spots
- Congestion during peak periods with limited launching bays, ramps, and queuing area.
- Too shallow to launch at times

What don't you want changed?



- Minimum 4 lanes must be kept
- Parking should not be reduced
- Don't remove the fish cleaning station
- Don't to remove pine trees, damage foreshore area, or affect natural look of region

What weather conditions make launching and retrieval most difficult?



- East wind was the most mentioned wind direction, coming up 39% of the time
- South East wind 18%
- North East wind 15%
- North 15%
- South 12%
- Other 1%

What would you like to see changed to improve the facility?



- 40% of responses wanted protection from wind/wave impacts
- ~15% asked for a floating pontoon or upgrades to the existing jetty
- ~15% asked for parking upgrades/increases
- 11% wanted more launching bays, queuing areas and ramps
- Deeper launching ramps, easier boating access from the jetty and moving or increasing the number of fish cleaning tables were also mentioned, between 3-5% each

Next Steps

We would like to thank everyone who provided feedback through the survey. All your feedback is now being considered and will be used to progress a concept design. We will then present the design concept to stakeholders.