

## **Kinross Stake Park**

The establishment of the Kinross skate park was agreed by Council in February 2001 after an extensive skate park site assessment incorporating 16 possible locations.

The advantages of the MacNaughton Park, Kinross location in 2001 were identified as:

- Area can comfortably accommodate all three sports (skate, blade and bike) with ancillary infrastructure and services. The area has got excellent children's playground equipment.
- No landform impediments enabling ease of construction.
- The site is readily accessible as MacNaughton Park is situated on a bus route and is approximately a 10 minute walk or 5 minute skate from the Currumbine train station.
- There are buffer zones (oval, clubroom and road) minimising any intrusive noise and lights to the nearest residents.
- The site is regarded as a safe area for personal safety with high visibility to the public.
- Good amenities are present with a potential shopping centre to be built increasing the number of toilets and car parking spaces.

The disadvantages were identified as:

- Until the proposed shops are constructed, limited opportunities to utilise a public telephone.
- Potential adverse comment from nearby residents.

In 2001 extensive work was undertaken on identifying a 5 year plan for the establishment of skate parks. The recommended locations identified in 2001 – in priority order – were:

- Kanangra Park, Greenwood
- Lexcen Park, Ocean Reef
- Tom Simpson Park, Mullaloo
- Edgewater Quarry, Edgewater
- Chichester Park, Woodvale

With recent developments at Tom Simpson Park this may no longer be considered a desirable option. Works were recently undertaken to improve the BMX track at Chichester Park, Woodvale which provides a desirable facility for young people to utilise.

Since 2004, the following requests for skate parks have been recorded:

<i>Suburb</i>	<i>Number of requests</i>	<i>Petition</i>
Sorrento	1	
Craigie	1	
Hillarys	7	✓
Padbury	3	
Kingsley	3	✓
Woodvale	4	
Edgewater	6	
Joondalup	1	
Ocean Reef	1	✓
Burns Beach	1	
Currambine	2	
TOTAL	30	

Factors to consider when locating a skate park include:

- Natural surveillance
- Proximity to houses
- Access via public transport
- Proximity to commercial site
- Proximity/Access to Community facility (clubroom)
- Managed facility (such as Vincent Skate Headquarters) vs. maintained facilities
- Type of facility (to incorporate new styles in use i.e. precinct, freestyle etc)
- Multi use vs. wheeled sports only
- Demographics of suburbs.

From an insurance perspective, the following wording is used by LGIS in relation to skate parks:

*With the increase in proliferation of unsupervised, freely available wheel sports facilities Council insurers in 1998 reviewed its position and now consider wheel sports facilities as being akin to playgrounds.*

*Provision of skate parks requires the following:*

- *the structure to be built to Australian Safety Standards;*
- *adequately sign posted encouraging the wearing of protective equipment, acceptable activity and so on; and*
- *weekly maintenance checks to be undertaken.*

*The facility is required to be listed with the insurers to ensure it is covered under Council's Public Liability Insurance Policy.*