



SKATE AND BMX FACILITIES POLICY

Document No: A3755814

1.1 Purpose:

The purpose of the Skate and BMX Facilities Policy is to define Ipswich City Council's position in respect to skate and BMX facilities. The Skate and BMX Facilities Policy provides a strategic framework for the appropriate location, planning, development, management, maintenance and activation of skate and BMX facilities in Ipswich.

1.2 Regulatory Authority:

- Ipswich City Council - Long Term Community Plan i2031
- Ipswich City Council - Corporate Plan 2012 - 2017
- Ipswich City Council - Sport, Recreation and Physical Activity Policy
- Ipswich City Council - Parks and Reserves Site Planning Policy
- Ipswich City Council – Youth Policy

1.3 Skate and BMX in Ipswich:

Ipswich City Council recognises that many of its residents and visitors skate, BMX, scooter or roller blade as part of a broad range of recreational activities. The provision of specific facilities where skaters, bladers, scooter and BMX riders can recreate and socialise allows for such activities to be carried out away from the danger of potential vehicle and pedestrian conflict.

1.4 Policy Objectives:

The following objectives underpin the Skate and BMX Facilities Policy:

- To recognise the need of skaters, bladers, BMX and scooter riders to recreate in a safe and suitable environment.
- To minimise impact to adjacent residents, commercial and/or industrial operators and/or tenants, and institutional facilities.
- To provide and increase opportunity for Ipswich residents to participate in a broad range of recreational opportunities.
- To assist in reducing the incidence of conflict between skaters, bladers, BMX and scooter riders and urban infrastructure.
- To ensure appropriate participation of the community and key stakeholders in the identification of suitable locations, planning, design, development, management, maintenance and activation of skate and BMX facilities.

1.5 Policy Statement:

Ipswich City Council is committed to providing a variety of high quality, well-located, designed, managed, maintained and utilised skate and BMX facilities and opportunities for the community. Where appropriate, Council will:

- Identify suitable land for the location and provision of skate and BMX facilities and associated supporting infrastructure to support a variety of skate, BMX, scooter and blade activities and users using the following location siting criteria:
 - *Registered Demand*
 - The site should be in an area known to be or become popular with the skating, blading, scooter and BMX community or is able via other attractions to draw a high proportion of young people.
 - The site should be in or near areas with a relatively high population of young people. Although this does not preclude other age groups that may participate in the sport of skating, blading, scooter and BMX riding.
 - *Proximity to Other Facilities*
 - The site should generally not be located within close proximity to other skate and BMX facilities so as an oversupply of facilities is experienced.
 - Consideration should be given to the site generally being located close to other youth facilities, attractors and compatible uses to provide:
 - A variety of recreation opportunities;
 - A focused area for youth;
 - Shared amenities such as local shops/retail outlets, schools, parks, sporting facilities and/or leisure centres; and
 - Supporting infrastructure such as parking, pathways, water, electricity, shade, seating, and toilets.
 - *Accessibility*
 - If possible the site should generally be easily accessible by public transport. The presence of adjacent bikeways and footpaths is also preferred, for active transport modes (e.g. walking and cycling).
 - As the facility will be a destination, it should be located to allow access from as many suburbs as possible.
 - *Site Suitability*
 - The facility should be generally:
 - Have good passive surveillance and visibility to passing traffic and pedestrians to promote good security and safety;
 - Located in an area that allows for adequate parking, appropriate and additional facilities to be developed;
 - Located to take advantage of landscape features that will assist in protecting the amenity of the surrounding area and sensitive receptors (e.g. residential dwellings) through visual, heritage/character, social, safety, light and noise attenuation;
 - Located to be accessible to as many residents as possible;
 - Preferably located within a Level 2 Park, however Level 1 and Level 3 parks may also be considered dependent upon facility size, type and location;
 - Be readily accessible for regular maintenance, cleaning and repairs by maintenance teams.
 - The facility should not be generally:
 - Located within or adjacent a Conservation area so as to cause an impact on

- natural values;
 - Located a suitable distance from residential dwellings;
 - Located in a formal or memorial park used for passive purposes;
 - Located adjoining residential zoned land on more than two boundaries.
- Provide forward planning and site based design (using Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principals) for the development of new and existing skate and BMX facilities and associated supporting infrastructure to support a variety of skate, BMX, scooter and blade activities and users of all ability levels
- Develop skate and BMX facilities and associated supporting infrastructure that are safe, optimise community usage, and ensure residents of all abilities have opportunity for involvement and access to a variety of skate, BMX, scooter and blade activities
- Manage and maintain skate and BMX facilities and associated supporting infrastructure to an acceptable standard to support a variety of skate, BMX, scooter and blade activities and users
- Plan, develop and deliver programs to activate the use of skate and BMX facilities and associated supporting infrastructure for a variety of skate, BMX, scooter and blade activities and users
- Council will undertake suitable community and stakeholder consultation and engagement for the identification of suitable locations, planning, design, development, management, maintenance and activation of skate and BMX facilities and associated supporting infrastructure for a variety of skate, BMX, scooter and blade activities and users.

1.6 Scope:

The Skate and BMX Facilities Policy applies to all Ipswich City Council owned or controlled skate and BMX facilities and associated supporting infrastructure for a variety of skate, BMX, scooter and blade activities and users.

1.7 Roles and responsibilities:

The Skate and BMX Facilities Policy is to be:

- Implemented by all Council staff responsible for the planning, development, delivery, management, maintenance and activation of all skate and BMX facilities, activities, programs and services conducted by Ipswich City Council; and
- Implemented by all individuals and user groups that utilise Council owned or controlled skate and BMX facilities.

1.8 Policy Author:

The Infrastructure Planning and Partnerships Manager will be responsible for the maintenance of this policy.

Date of Council Resolution: 23 July 2013

Date of Review: 29 November 2016

Committee Reference and Date: Policy and Administration Board No. 2013(09) of 22 July 2013 - City Management and Finance Committee No. 2013(07) of 16 July 2013

No. of Resolution: 1

Date to be Reviewed: 29 November 2018