

Baw Baw Shire Council

Rural Recreation Reserve Master Plans - Stage 2



Project Background and Objectives

Baw Baw Shire Council has commissioned the development of Rural Recreation Reserve Master Plans for Darnum, Longwarry, Thorpdale and Willow Grove Reserves.

The Master Planning process is a continuation of the Rural Recreation Reserve Master Plans Stage 1 project (master plans completed in 2014 for Athlone, Buln Buln, Ellinbank, Hallora, Jindivick, Neerim South and Erica/Rawson Reserves) and will help guide Council's future planning, provision and enhancement of sports and community infrastructure at each of the four sites over the next 10 years. The Final Master Plans will provide a clear vision for each of the recreation reserves and will be used as key planning and implementation documents for both government and community stakeholders.

With increasing demand for improved sport and recreational opportunities and amenities by local sporting clubs, peak sporting associations and community groups, the Master Plan process will seek to address current gaps in sports specific facility requirements. Change room areas, amenities, umpire's rooms, first aid facilities and improving facility accessibility will be reviewed with the key objective to increase participation opportunities for the local community.

Critical to the success of the project will be the identification and assessment of both formal and informal sport and recreation needs to ensure a collaborative approach to the future planning, design and management of local sport and recreation facilities.

Project Consultants

Baw Baw Shire Council has engaged leading sports consultant, *insideEDGE* Sport and Leisure Planning to undertake Stage 2 of the Master Plan process.

insideEDGE is a consulting firm based in Melbourne who have developed a number of state and regional facility Master Plans for government and state sporting associations and have recently completed facility projects with AFL, Cricket and Netball Victoria.

In addition to their own sports facility master planning and management experience, *insideEDGE* will be working with experienced landscape architects, ACLA Consultants who will be responsible for master plan concept design works. Both businesses have significant experience within their specialist fields and have completed a range of similar projects for Councils throughout metropolitan Melbourne, regional Victoria and South Australia.

Project Management

A Project Working Group has been developed to guide project direction, communication and consultation strategies. The Project Working Group will assist the *insideEDGE* in managing project milestones, communications and consultation processes, as well as being responsible for approving project recommendations and reporting outputs.

Project Approach

The Rural Recreation Reserve Master Plans Stage 2 project will be undertaken in five key stages and is scheduled to be delivered in May 2016. The following diagram outlines the key tasks and timelines to be delivered during each stage.

STAGE ONE

Project Initiation

December 2015

project commencement, site inspections and communication plan

STAGE TWO

Situational and Needs Analysis

January 2016

Literature review, demographic and participation analysis

STAGE THREE

Stakeholder Engagement

February 2016

Stakeholder workshops, meetings, interviews and surveys

STAGE FOUR

Development of Draft Master Plans

March – April 2016

Key directions, Master Plan options, cost estimates and stakeholder presentations

STAGE FIVE

Final Reporting and Recommendations

May 2016

Final Master Plans and implementation schedule

Who will be involved?

insideEDGE will engage with key local Council representatives, peak sporting bodies, local clubs and associations, recreation groups, local residents, schools, Sport and Recreation Victoria, GippSport and the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning.

All stakeholders will have the opportunity during February to contribute towards the development of individual Reserve Master Plans through interactive workshops, meetings, interviews and surveys. Key stakeholder groups identified for consultation include but are not limited to:

Darnum Recreation Reserve

- Darnum Recreation Reserve COM
- Darnum Football Club
- Darnum Netball Club
- Darnum Primary School
- Darnum Memorial Hall COM

Longwarry Recreation Reserve

- Longwarry Recreation Reserve COM
- Longwarry Cricket Club
- Longwarry Football Club
- Longwarry Netball Club
- Longwarry Primary School
- Longwarry Public Hall COM

Thorpdale Recreation Reserve

- Thorpdale Recreation Reserve COM
- Thorpdale Cricket Club
- Thorpdale Football Netball Club
- Thorpdale Public Hall COM
- Thorpdale Primary School

Willow Grove Recreation Reserve

- Willow Grove Recreation Reserve COM
- Willow Grove Football Netball Club
- Willow Grove Cricket Club
- Willow Grove Tennis Club
- Willow Grove Public Hall COM
- Willow Grove Primary School

Baw Baw Rural Recreation Reserve Master Plans Stage 1 Master Plan example (Neerim South Recreation Reserve)

Next Steps

insideEDGE is currently conducting a desktop review of available reserve information before commencing stakeholder engagement in February 2016. All key stakeholder groups will be advised of upcoming consultation activities by Baw Baw Shire Council in January 2016. Consultation activities will include:

- Online and hard copy surveys
- Telephone interviews
- Meetings
- Workshops
- Presentations
- Site visits

Contact Us

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

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