

Harcourt Mountain Bike Park

Project Update

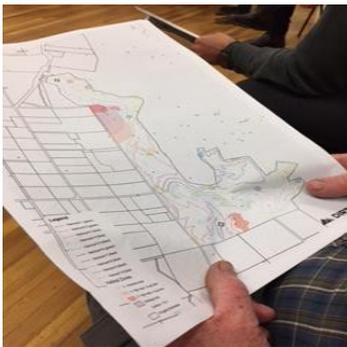
April 2017

Situated on a former pine plantation next to Mount Alexander Regional Park, the Harcourt mountain bike park will offer up to 34 kilometres of dedicated trails and magnificent views alongside a natural forest setting.

Once fully operational the park is expected to inject substantial funds into the local economy, attracting thousands of visitors each year and generate local jobs.

Built to International Mountain Bicycling Association standards, the park will be consistent with future development plans for the Harcourt area while improving the site's environmental value.

Design stage rolls into action



We are working with a leading mountain bike trail company to design and deliver the Harcourt mountain bike park.

Dirt Art is one of the largest trail companies in Australasia with strong links to the global mountain bike fraternity, managing the design and delivery of the 2018 Commonwealth Games mountain bike venue.

Part of the design stage will be Dirt Art's commitment to work with the community and stakeholders on the design of the trails to ensure ample opportunity for consultation on the preliminary design.

Having your say

During April, it was great to come together with adjoining landholders, residents and the wider community to discuss the preliminary design of the trails.

Ideas and suggestions were put to the designer and once the changes have been made and final design approved, we will send out the final version to those registered on our mailing list. Please find details for registering at the end of this update.

There will be employment opportunities during construction and the Dirt Art team will be seeking local accommodation during the construction stage.



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Car versus bike

The Community Reference Group met last month to discuss a range of topics including the concept of minimal car parking at the park by having an off-road link from the town to the park. The group is supportive of this approach to ensure minimal disruption to the Oaks during major events and providing a safe off road access from the town to the mountain bike park. We will keep you informed about the feasibility of this concept throughout the planning process.

DELWP, Mount Alexander Shire and VicRoads staff met on site to discuss traffic management including the off-road pathway. VicRoads committed to reducing the speed limit along Market Street to 80 kmph and this change is expected to be implemented soon. Other traffic management issues are being reviewed by council.

Getting technical

The Technical Reference Group along with experienced riders have conducted field inspections of the park. They have provided details for a potential route that will maximise rider experience while enhancing cultural heritage and environmental values of the area. The area takes in spectacular views of the valley and surrounds and would be a great addition to the trail network if we are able to balance rider experience and cultural heritage and environmental values.

Park improvements

Dja Dja Wurrung teams have been busily spraying blackberries and gorse on the site and expect to be there for a few weeks, weather permitting. They are also completing a weed management plan for the mountain bike park to target species and assess where funding is best utilised. The road maintenance program is to commence within next few weeks.

How are we tracking?

May	June	July	Aug – Dec
Community feedback included in final trail design Final trail design for Commonwealth and State environmental and planning approvals	Commonwealth and State environmental planning approvals underway	Trail design approved Construction begins, weather permitting	Construction underway and completed

Keeping in touch ...

It's important to us that we are talking to you and giving you the opportunity to become involved in future consultation and engagement opportunities.

Register your interest at harcourtmbp@delwp.vic.gov.au or call us on 136 186.

There's also our website: delwp.vic.gov.au/harcourt-mbp