

# Harcourt Mountain Bike Park

## Project Update

May 2017

Situated on a former pine plantation next to Mount Alexander Regional Park, the Harcourt mountain bike park will provide around 34 kilometres of dedicated trails with magnificent views, alongside a natural forest setting. When its fully operational, the park site will be enhanced with more native plantings and reduction in weeds.

The park is expected to inject substantial funds into the local economy, attracting thousands of visitors each year. This will provide opportunities for existing and new local businesses to thrive, generating local jobs.

Built to International Mountain Bicycling Association standards, the park will be consistent with future development plans for the Harcourt area.

### We promised you world class ...



The trail design has been finalised and will provide an unforgettable experience for riders and visitors to Harcourt. The unique trail design will set apart Harcourt from other parks across the country.

The design includes access to the northern knoll and parts of the southern knoll where there are spectacular views over Harcourt Valley and across to the west, as far as the Grampians.

We have finalised design following input from neighbours, the local community, mountain bikers, Dja Dja Wurrung Corporation and environmental experts.

Project Manager, Russell Manning said all feedback has been considered and incorporated.

“This is a really excellent design and includes feedback from the Technical Reference Group, Community Reference Group, adjoining landholders and community members.

“I would like to thank everyone who gave their time and provided suggestions. We have been able to work with our contractor, Dirt Art, to arrive at a design that will give Harcourt an edge over other mountain bike parks by taking in the unique landscape and characteristics of this beautiful part of the region.

“Dirt Art has listened to all ideas and advice as part of our commitment to work with the community and stakeholders.” Russell said. The final design has been submitted to Mount Alexander Shire Council as part of the planning approval process.

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## What's next?

On the 12 May, we submitted a planning permit application to Mount Alexander Shire Council. A planning officer is assessing the application as we work through the next steps in the planning process.

An Environment Effects referral is also in progress which DELWP officers are assessing. This step is needed when a project could potentially have significant environmental effects. A written referral is sent to the Minister for Planning asking if an Environment Effects Statement is required. We'll keep you posted on the progress.

## In other news ...

- We are reviewing plans for a possible off-road path from the Harcourt township to the site
- Weed control targeting blackberry and gorse has been completed
- Maintenance work is underway on main emergency access track
- We are working with Harcourt Landcare and Picnic Gully Road residents regarding funding to remove woody weeds and revegetate the north side of Picnic Gully Road

## It's all about the view

Over the past few months our project team has been capturing the stunning attributes of the site alongside Mount Alexander Regional Park. Here's just a few ...



Northern steep terrain and rocky outcrop



Harcourt Valley across to the west



View from southern knoll

## We're getting there ...

June	July	Aug – Early 2018
Commonwealth and State environmental planning approvals underway	Planning approvals finalised Construction begins, weather permitting	Construction underway and completed

## Keep in touch

Russell Manning is the Project Manager. You can register your interest at [harcourtmbp@delwp.vic.gov.au](mailto:harcourtmbp@delwp.vic.gov.au), call us on 136 186 or check progress on [delwp.vic.gov.au/harcourt-mbp](http://delwp.vic.gov.au/harcourt-mbp)