

Olinda Connect Precinct Plan

Community Update #2 June 2016

Help shape the future of the former Olinda Golf Course site and the connections to the Olinda Township.



Parks Victoria and Yarra Ranges Council are inviting residents, local businesses, visitors and the broader Victorian community to contribute to the development of the Olinda Connect Precinct Plan.

Developing a new plan

Parks Victoria and Yarra Ranges Council are working together to develop a precinct plan to determine the best options for the future use of the former Olinda Golf Course site and to plan better links between the Olinda township, the former golf course site and surrounding attractions and facilities such as the National Rhododendron Gardens and the Olinda Community Swimming Pool.

Community Consultation - Phase 1 of 3

Thank you to everyone who attended the recent information days or filled in the on-line survey regarding the Olinda Connect Precinct Plan, incorporating the future of the former Olinda Golf Course site. Over the Saturday 19 and Sunday 20 March, 110 people visited the two display areas, one within the Olinda village and one in the Olinda Hall. Staff from Yarra Ranges Council and Parks Victoria were on hand to explain the purpose of the project, help orient people with the maps and displays, and collect feedback. In addition, an on-line

survey, which focussed on how people currently use the area, was completed by 64 people.

One of the key aims in this early stage is to spread the word that the project is underway. From this, more than 130 people have registered their interest to be kept updated about the project. You can still register to be kept updated via the project website <http://parkweb.vic.gov.au/explore/parks/olinda-golf-course/plans-and-projects/olinda-precinct-plan>. This opportunity to register your interest and provide feedback will remain open throughout the life of the project.

Parks Victoria together with the Yarra Ranges Council are committed to ensuring all members of the community have an opportunity to contribute to the development of this precinct plan. To contact a member of the project team directly please email olindaplan@parks.vic.gov.au



What we heard

From feedback received at the information days, responses to the initial survey, and emails to the project website the following themes have emerged:

Dog off lead area:

An area for dogs to roam freely while not disturbing the native wildlife was a popular suggestion. Improving the amenity with seating, lookout points and an improved car park were also noted. A dog-friendly café was suggested.

Sports opportunities:

A sports oval, netball or basketball courts and open space areas for practicing ball sports were a popular point of discussion. Local residents noted that there are limited opportunities for young people to engage in sporting activities on the hill. The area of flat open space at the former golf course may provide a ready opportunity for organised sport.

Improved pedestrian connectivity:

A number of people noted the need for improvements to the condition and connections in the pedestrian network. Respondents requested a review of the trail network together with a clear way finding signage plan that compliments the Olinda Township, including further links from the township to the former golf course site.

Nature Based Play opportunities:

The addition of a nature-based play component within the area was highlighted by a number of respondents. The idea of linking the pool to the former golf course site through the development of a nature based playground would interpret the local values and also encourage children to more freely connect with the local environment.

All Abilities Access:

A number of respondents referred to the ageing population and noted that many of the dog walkers are of mature age. Plans should accommodate this segment through the provision of facilities that enable everyone to enjoy the park and its surrounds, such as seating and well-constructed paths.

Examples of other suggestions include a sculpture garden, expanding the National Rhododendron Gardens, a BMX track and skate park, a bbq area and a space for community events.

The information gained in this phase will help to shape the two components of the Olinda Connect Precinct Plan.

Next Stage

In Stage 2 draft concept options will be presented. The purpose is to “test out” some key ideas and hear what you think of them. Discussions about the draft concept will then help shape a draft precinct plan.

A drop-in consultation will be held in the Olinda Community Hall on Sunday 19 June from 11am to 2pm. You are invited to come along and discuss your thoughts on the draft concepts with the planning team. The draft concept plan will also be available on the project website, which will also include a link that enables you to further provide comment.

If you'd like to be kept informed about the progress of the Olinda Connect Precinct Plan please email your details to: olindaplan@parks.vic.gov.au or write to Olinda Connect Precinct Plan Parks Victoria Level 10, 535 Bourke St Melbourne 3000

