

BUSSELTON YOUTH PRECINCT CONSULTATION



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1. Abstract

The initial stage of the City of Busselton Youth Precinct Consultation ran from September 29 to November 6. Visits to recently completed skateparks; Fremantle and Collie were beneficial for the youth team, helping us construct a consultation plan based off successful models.

Informal consultation occurred at the current Busselton Skatepark, Busselton Senior High School, Cape Naturaliste College and Georgiana Molloy Anglican College with a more formal consultation occurring in the City of Busselton's Council Chambers.

In total we received 123 feedback forms from a range of ages and skatepark users.

Results (2):

Our key demographic objective was to obtain a wide spread of ages amongst participants. This objective was met with representation of all ages from 12 to 52. The mean age was of participants 15.9, 63% of which were male.

Results (3):

Most participants skated, spectated or did not use the skatepark, with only a combined percentage of 25% for BMX and Scoot.

Results (4):

Aside from skating, Hanging out with friends and recreational activities were popular in comparison to creating artistically.

Results (5):

Participants had the ability to say what their favourite skatepark is, with no guidelines given. Results show that Busselton is the most popular skatepark, with Dunsborough closely following. As a style of park; Plaza, Combination and street far exceeded bowl and dirt pump.

Results (6):

96% of participants want the youth precinct to be adaptable for some sort of large scale youth event. Australia Day and Long Weekends were the most popular choices, closely followed by New Year's Eve.

Results (7):

Participants had the ability to select one thing for the new youth precinct, with no guidelines given. 12.7% of those who answered this section would like some form of waterpark.

Results (8):

The results showed that the popularity of Skateable obstacles ranked as follows:

- 1.) Unique
- 2.) Flow
- 3.) Ledges
- 4.) Stairs
- 5.) Rails

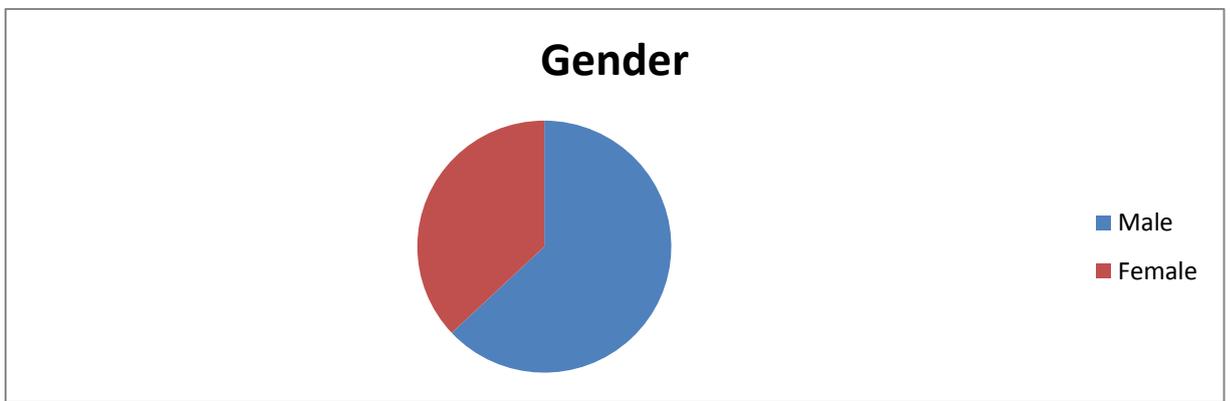
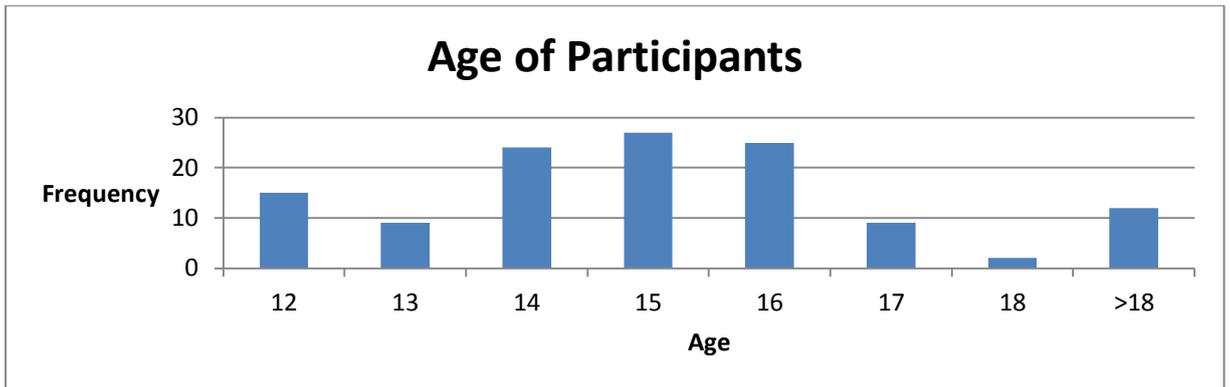
Results (9):

Other than skating, participants were given five choices from seven options; a hangout space, music, events and basketball ranked highly all with over 50% of vote.

Results (10):

Adding to the experience of the youth precinct, participants were given three choices from five options; Wifi, Bluetooth Speakers and Phone Charging ability ranked as the top three preferences.

2. Demographics



Results:

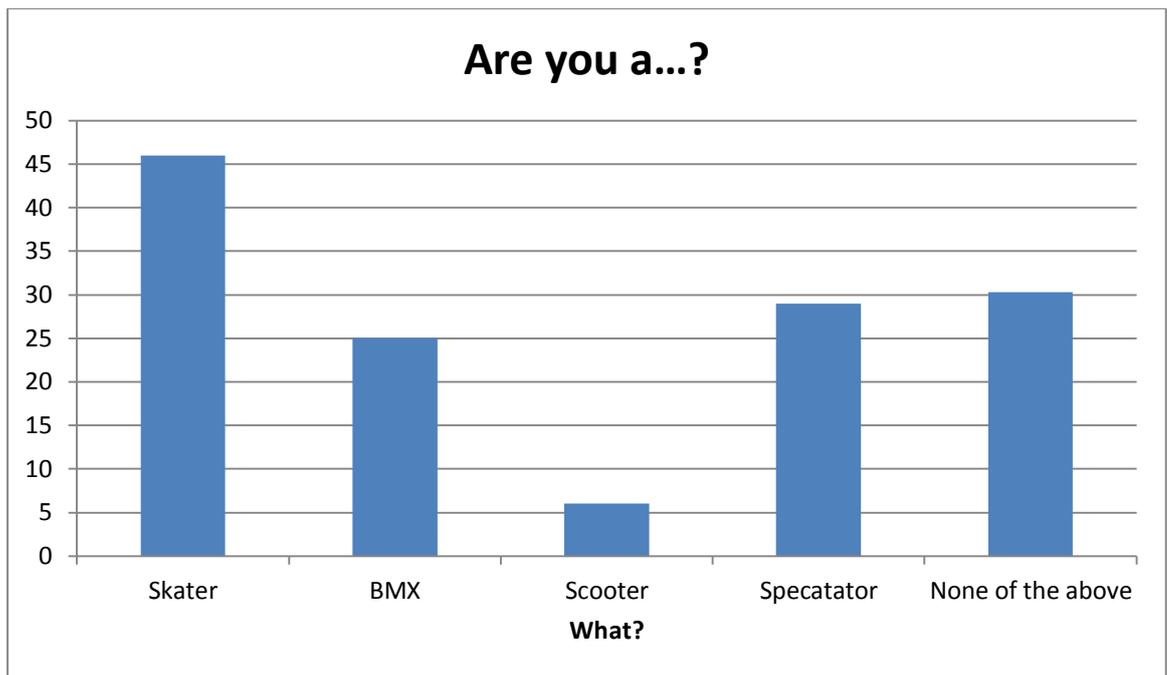
Our key demographic objective was to obtain a large spread of ages amongst all participants. With ages ranging from 12 – 52 a mean age of 15.9 was achieved. We also received a large number of females participate in the consultation.

Recommendations:

This is titled a “Youth Precinct”, however it is important that we cater for the potential users of the skatepark/precinct who are over 18 years of age.

Without creating gender stereotypes, it is important that we cater for females also (as 37% of participants were female, 75% of which do not skate, BMX or scoot)

3. Are you a...?



Results:

37.4% Skate

20.3% BMX

4.8% Scoot

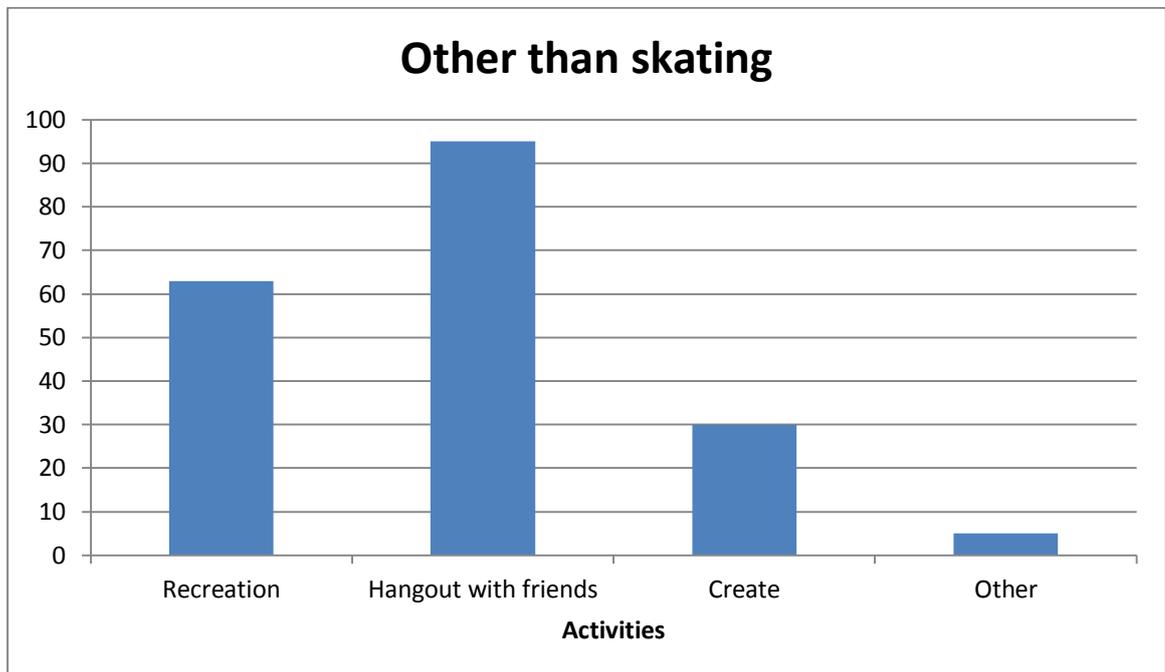
2.3% Spectate

27.6% Do not skate

Recommendations:

27.6% of participants DO NOT SKATE. It is important that this is reflected in the design, catering for these youth with other recreational/hang out spaces.

4. Aside from Skating, what do you enjoy doing?



Results:

51% of participants enjoy recreational activities that are not skating

77% of participants enjoy hanging out with friends

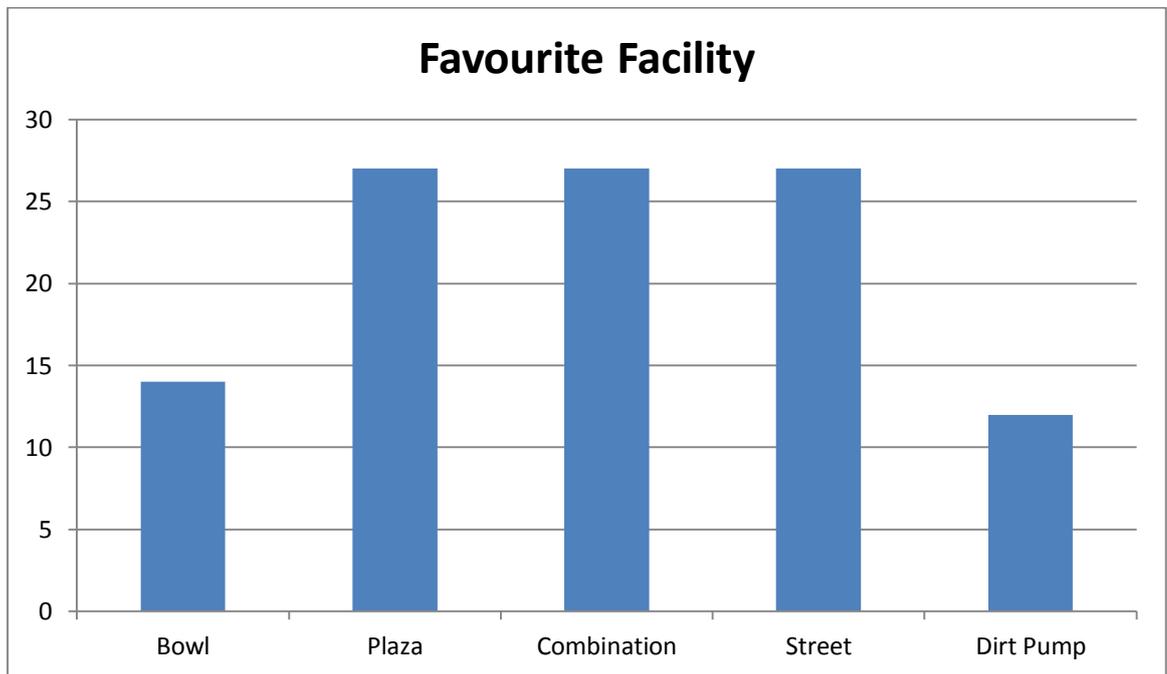
24% of participants enjoy creating musically/artistically/theatrically

1.7% of participants enjoy other things

Recommendations:

With more than 50% of participants actively engaging in recreational activities, it is important that the precinct reflects this with opportunity for Non-skatepark recreation. 77% of participants enjoy hanging out with friends and if the precinct caters for this, engagement will be large scale amongst the wider population.

5. Favourite location/facility to ride?



Results:

As many participants enjoy more than one of the above, the information isn't a true percentage calculation. Results show that Busselton is the most popular skatepark, with Dunsborough closely following. The favourability of specific facilities is as follows;

Plaza, Combination, Street

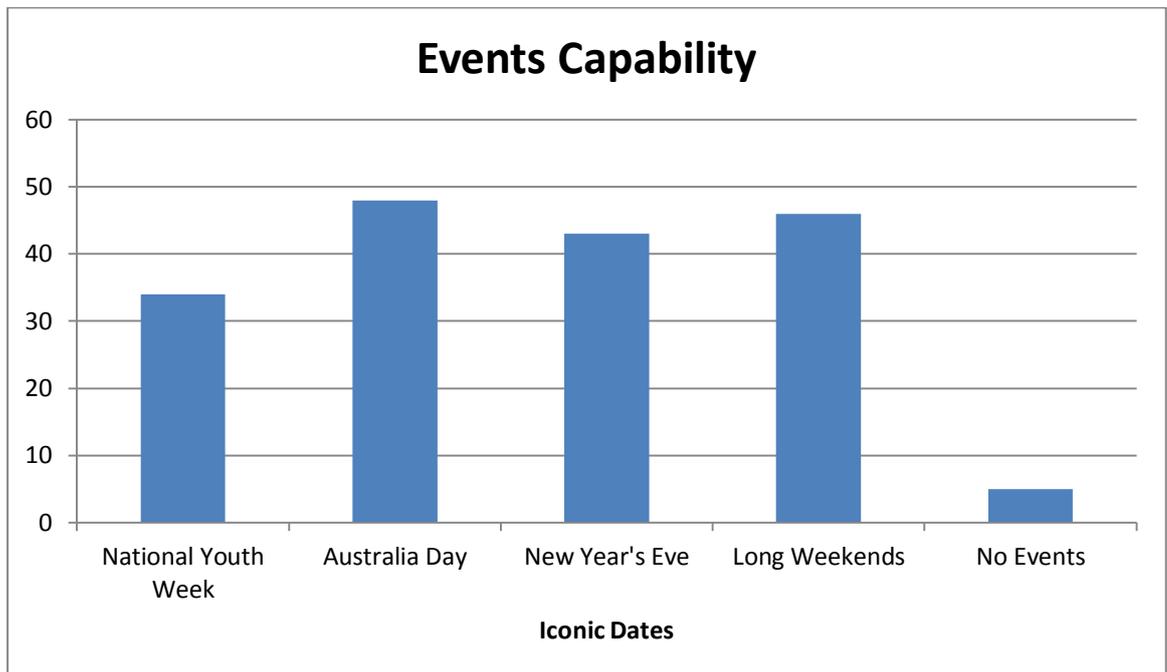
Bowl

Dirt Pump

Recommendations:

With very few people saying that they enjoy bowl skating, it is not necessary to create a competition quality bowl to replace other more liked features. With skate plazas and street obstacles pulling a large number of the vote, this seems like the primary focus for the skate elements of the youth precinct. Participants have acknowledged the need for a bowl/vert sections for BMX riders with a combination of elements also a good alternative to a street specific park.

6. Large Scale Events Capability



Results:

Participants were able to select more than one of the above, the information isn't a true percentage calculation. The iconic days for possible events rank as follows:

Australia Day

Long Weekends

New Year's Eve

National Youth Week

No Events

Recommendations:

It is evident through our results that the new precinct should facilitate large scale events. The park should be designed considering; the ability for trucks to enter the area and access to power, amongst various other events based criteria.

7. One thing for the New Precinct

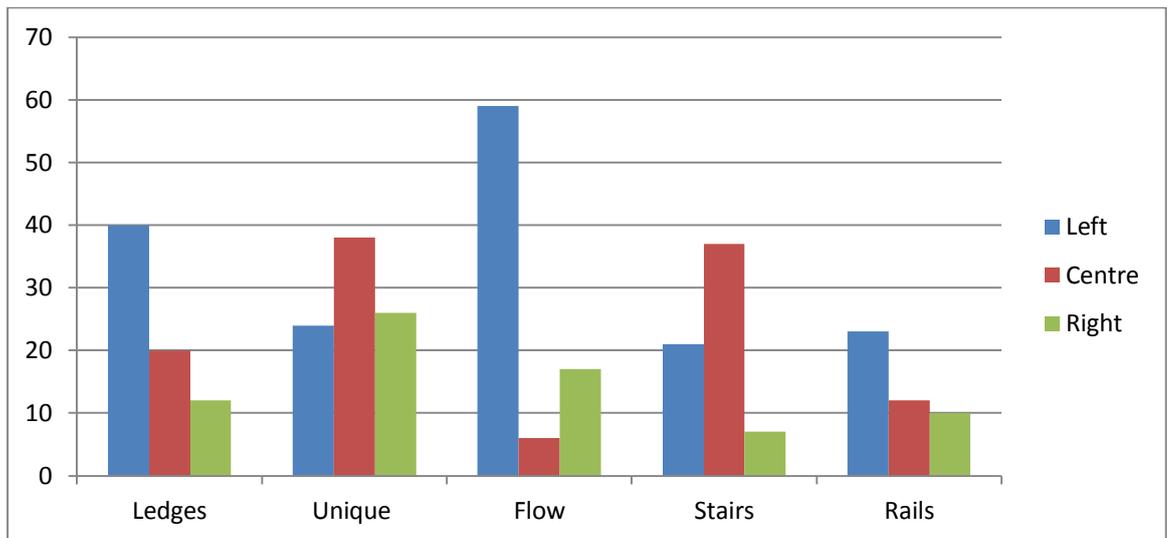
Results:

Participants had the ability to select one thing for the new youth precinct with no guidelines given, simply writing down one thing that they would love. 12.7 of those who answered this section, would like some form of waterpark. Many other participants would like an exact replica of the existent ledge run at the Busselton Skatepark.

Recommendations:

As a possible waterpark is a City of Busselton initiative moving into the future, there is no point in including it in this space. Replicating the existent ledge system at the Busselton skatepark would both; please the skaters and add nostalgia to the new precinct.

8. What would you like to ride?



LEDGES



UNIQUE ELEMENTS



FLOW



STAIRS



RAILS



Results:

The results showed that the combined popularity of skateable obstacles ranked as follows:

- 1.) Unique
- 2.) Flow
- 3.) Ledges
- 4.) Stairs
- 5.) Rails

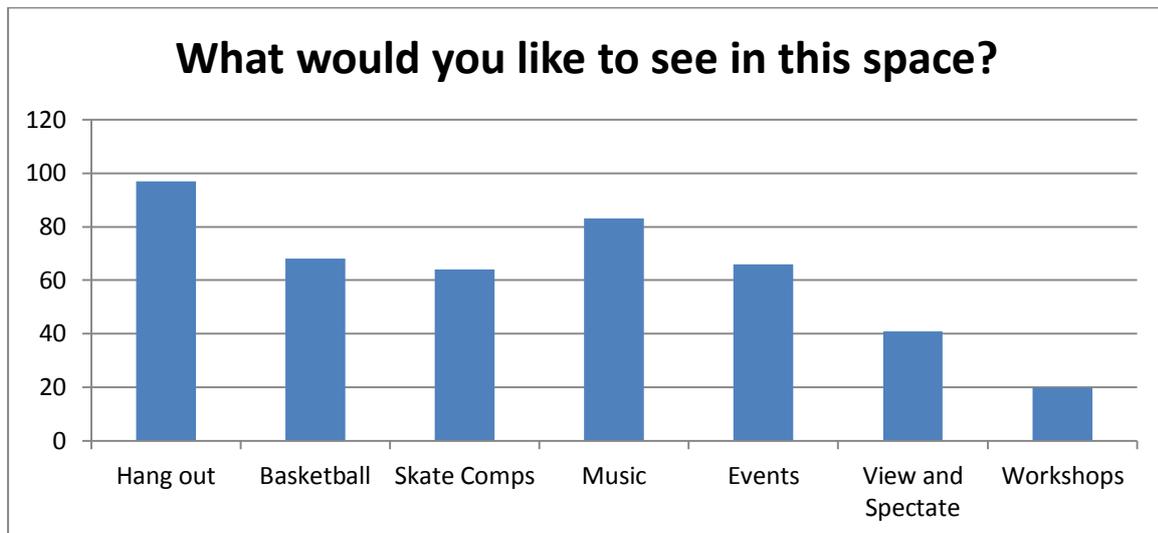
The most popular specific obstacles rank as follows:

- 1.) Flow image left
- 2.) Ledge image left
- 3.) Unique image centre
- 4.) Stairs image centre
- 5.) Unique image right
- 6.) Unique image left & rail image left

Recommendations:

It is recommended to incorporate similar style obstacles to those that rank highly in the results.

9. What would you like to see in this space?



Results:

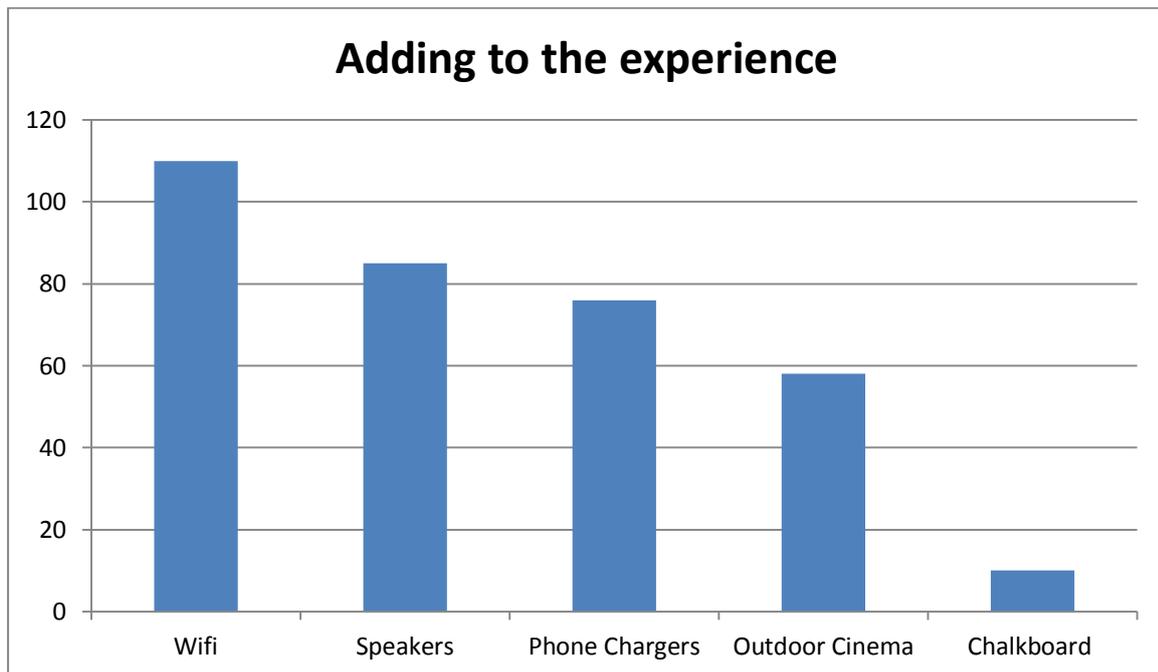
Other than skating, participants were given five choices from seven options; a hangout space, music, events and basketball ranked highly all with over 50% of vote. The results rank as follows;

- 1.) Hang Out space
- 2.) Live Music
- 3.) Basketball
- 4.) Events
- 5.) Skate Comps

Recommendations:

As this is a youth precinct as well as a skatepark, it is important to cater for those who do not skate. By putting hang out spaces, basketball and events including live music, it will encourage youth to utilize the precinct.

10. Adding to the experience?



Results:

Adding to the experience of the youth precinct, participants were given three choices from five options; Wifi, Bluetooth Speakers and Phone Charging ability ranked as the top three preferences.

Recommendations:

As the youth population is very much involved in technology, it is important to acknowledge this. This is not only a recreational space, but also a hangout location...wifi and speakers would certainly create an atmosphere popular with youth.

11. Recommendations/Conclusions

Recommendations (2):

This is titled a “Youth Precinct”, however it is important that we cater for the potential users of the skatepark/precinct who are over 18 years of age.

Without creating gender stereotypes, it is important that we cater for females also (as 37% of participants were female, 75% of which do not skate, BMX or scoot)

Recommendations (3):

27.6% of participants DO NOT SKATE. It is important that this is reflected in the design, catering for these youth with other recreational/hang out spaces.

Recommendations (4):

With more than 50% of participants actively engaging in recreational activities, it is important that the precinct reflects this with opportunity for Non-skatepark recreation. 77% of participants enjoy hanging out with friends and if the precinct caters for this, engagement will be large scale amongst the wider population.

Recommendations (5):

With very few people saying that they enjoy bowl skating, it is not necessary to create a competition quality bowl to replace other more liked features. With skate plazas and street obstacles pulling a large number of the vote, this seems like the primary focus for the skate elements of the youth precinct. Participants have acknowledged the need for a bowl/vert sections for BMX riders with a combination of elements also a good alternative to a street specific park.

Recommendations (6):

It is evident through our results that the new precinct should facilitate large scale events. The park should be designed considering; the ability for trucks to enter the area and access to power, amongst various other events based criteria.

Recommendations (7):

As a possible waterpark is a City of Busselton initiative moving into the future, there is no point in including it in this space. Replicating the existent ledge system at the Busselton skatepark would both; please the skaters and add nostalgia to the new precinct.

It was suggested to direct link CCTV footage of the skatepark/precinct to the City of Busselton website, as a way to deter criminal activity and allow parents to check up on children.

Recommendations (8):

It is recommended to incorporate similar style obstacles to those that rank highly in the results.

Recommendations (9):

As this is a youth precinct as well as a skatepark, it is important to cater for those who do not skate. By putting hang out spaces, basketball and events including live music, it will encourage youth to utilize the precinct.

Recommendations (10):

As the youth population is very much involved in technology, it is important to acknowledge this. This is not only a recreational space, but also a hangout location...wifi and speakers would certainly create an atmosphere popular with youth.

Conclusion:

The community consultation for the New Youth Precinct was hugely successful and will provide excellent guidance into achieving a community space.