

Consultation Summary Report – Belgrave South Recreation Reserve Sept-Oct 2025

Community engagement

The project team conducted a follow-up survey on the Belgrave South Recreation Reserve improvements from September 16 to October 16, 2025. This consultation aimed to assess how community perceptions, particularly concerning safety, have shifted since the initial engagement in 2021 and the subsequent completion of the reserve upgrades.

The feedback received demonstrates a notable increase in community feelings of safety across the reserve:

- ✓ **Daytime Use:** Post-improvement, **100%** of all contributors reported **always or usually** feeling safe when utilising the reserve during daytime hours.
- ✓ **Evening Use:** The perceived safety during evening hours saw a substantial increase. **83%** of contributors reported **always or usually** feeling safe, representing a significant rise from the 69% reported before the project completion in the 2021 consultation.

In addition to safety, respondents highlighted the newly installed facilities as successful additions. The pump track was noted as the most popular improvement, with the multi-lined courts also receiving high praise.

How did people get involved?

Between 16 September 2025 and 16 October 2025, residents in Yarra Ranges found out about the engagement and got involved in the following ways:

 E-newsletters Over 11,100 recipients across Council received electronic newsletter.	 Project page More than 280 people visited the page, with a total of 14 contributions.	 Social media Over 12,000 views on Yarra Ranges Council Facebook and Instagram. From here, there were 235 clicks to view the project.	 Targeted engagement Our team contacted local groups to invite them to provide feedback on the draft.
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Project Recognition and Awards:

The Belgrave South Recreation Reserve improvements project has been formally recognised for its success and community impact:

- ✓ **Regional Award Winner:** The project was awarded the 'Community Based Initiative of the Year Award' at the Parks & Leisure Australia (PLA) Awards of Excellence 2025 for the region.
- ✓ **National Nomination:** As a regional award winner, the initiative has now progressed to the national stage of judging. The national results will be announced in November 2025.