



Break O'Day
COUNCIL

St Helens Pumptrack Survey Report



Version: 1 – Date: July, 2023

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Introduction

In 2021 Break O'Day Council received \$500,000 in State Government funding for the development of two pumptracks. This report relates to the community engagement we undertook regarding the St Helens pumptrack.

A community working group was established to undertake the consultation. The group was made up of three community members and one Council staff member. Together the group developed a survey aimed at finding out what the youth of our area, the main users of the pumptrack, would like to see included in its design.

The survey was open from 21 February 2023 to 9 May 2023 and received 123 responses.

The survey was promoted through Council's Facebook page, website and newsletter. It was also promoted on both the school's newsletters. Members of the working group also met with school students on campus at both the St Helens and St Marys Schools where they outlined the project and surveyed students. They also took flyers that featured a QR Code linking to the online survey as well as leaving hardcopies of the surveys which were later collected and added to survey data.

Aims of consultation

- Inclusive – ensure all children can access and use
- Fit-for-purpose – ensure the pumptrack would suit the needs and wants of Break O'Day Youth
- Buy-in – ensure that we include the Break O'Day youth in decisions that affect them

Key Findings

- The pumptrack must be suitable for bikes, scooters and skateboards
- The pumptrack must be suitable for all ages and abilities
- In designing the pumptrack we should consider the features of; Derby and St Marys.
- The pumptrack needs to be easily accessible for the youth
- The surface is an important consideration and must be suitable for bikes, scooters and skateboards
- When designing the pumptrack we should incorporate; jumps, rollers, berms, halfpipe, ramps.
- We need to consider what other infrastructure is required, ie, shading, amenities, seating, landscaping.
- Safety considerations are important to youth

Question 1. Age Group

This question asked respondents whether they were over or under 18. This was so we could ensure that the main voice responding to the survey was in fact the youth of Break O'Day.

For the exercise of this survey – the term youth related to school age children.

- 9 respondents said they were over 18
- 115 were over 18

Question 2. What do you ride?

This question asked respondents to select from a range of options what equipment they rode.

This was so we could understand what equipment the pumptrack needs to accommodate. This will be important when we design the pumptrack.

Mountain Bike	72.36%	89
Scooter	40.65%	50
BMX	26.02	32
Skateboard	30.89	38
Other	16.26	20

Of the 20 who answered "Other" the following responses were provided:

Motor bike, walking, horse riding, roller skating, and roller blades.

Conclusions:

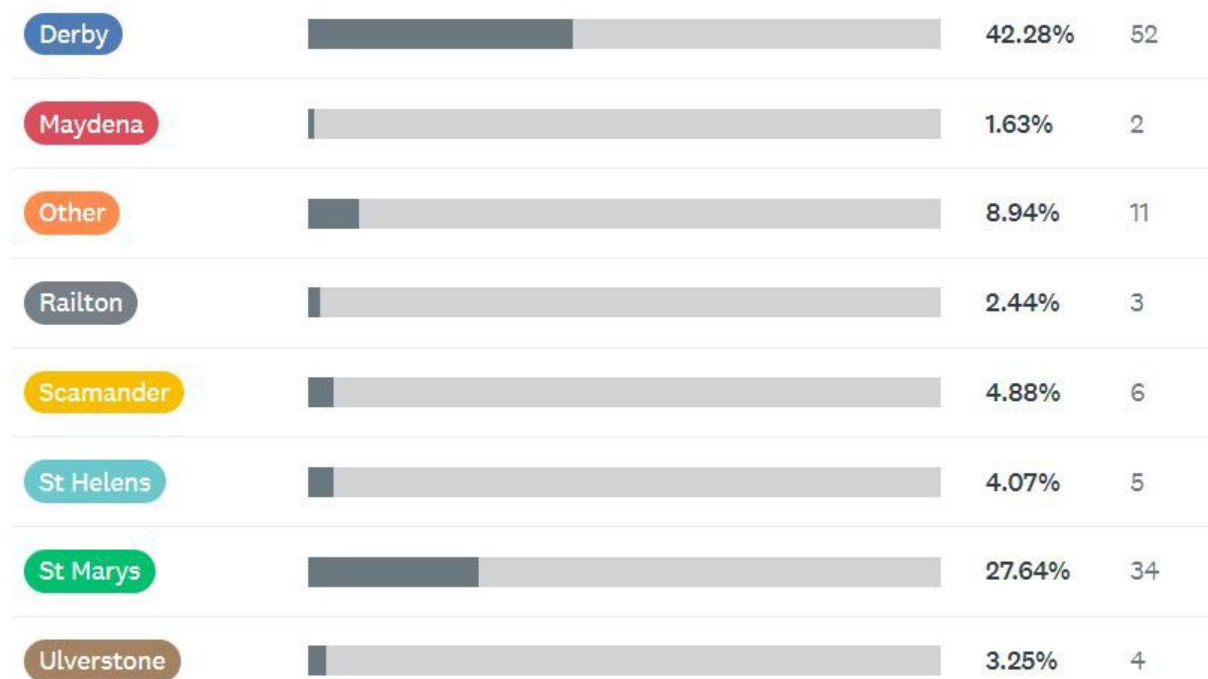
The pumptrack must be suitable for bikes, scooters and skateboards.

Question 3. Which is your favourite skatepark/pumptrack to ride? (You can list more than one)

We asked this question so we could gain an understanding of;

1. What pumptracks BODC youth currently used and liked so these could be considered in the design of the pumptrack.
2. How far BODC youth were travelling to access pumptracks.

The findings were as follows:



Of the 11 responses to 'Other' the most featured were:

Fingal, Bridport, George Town and Hadspen.

Conclusions:

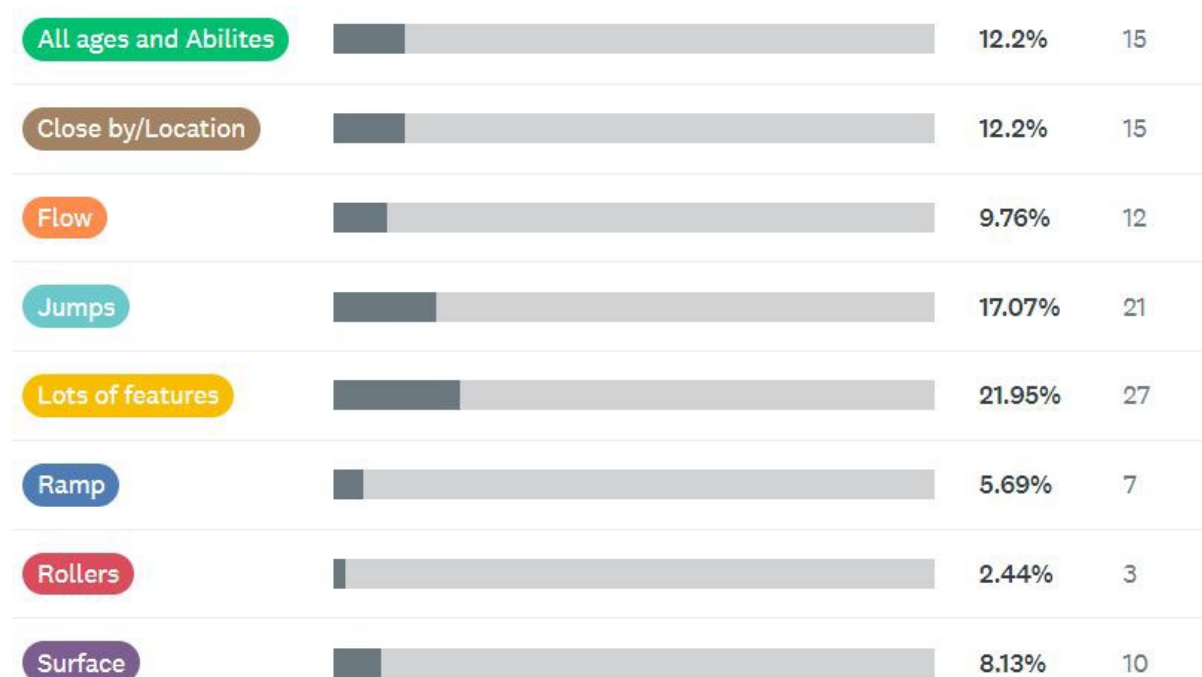
In designing the pumptrack we should consider the features of the top two responses; Derby and St Marys.

The youth of Break O'Day mostly access pumptracks that are close by. This indicates that the pumptrack should be in a central location.

Question 4. Why is the above skatepark/pumptrack your favourite? (Is it the location? Is it the features? What makes it special?)

This question was asked so we could gain an understanding of what features we should consider in the design of the pumptrack.

The findings were as follows:



From this list there were 24 untagged comments. These were largely invalid answers of, 'no', 'nothing' or 'nil' so these were excluded.

For clarity and deeper understanding the following categories have been broken down.

The multiple choice answer, 'Lots of Different Features', returned the most results so we broke this down by looking at the answers related to the top two, most popular Skateparks, Derby and St Marys.

Derby – Top three answers:

- Jumps – 26.79%
- Lots of Features – 25%
- Close by/Location – 16.07

The most common themes for the Lots of Features answer related to Derby were:

- Integration with the trail network and other facilities
- Good size with variety of features
- Suitable for all ages
- Its fun!
- Close by/Location – 16.07

St Marys – Top three answers:

- All ages and abilities – 23.33%
- Lots Features – 23.33%
- Close by/Location – 16.67

The most common themes for the Lots of Features answer related to St Marys were:

- The spine feature
- Its large size
- Variety of features

Through the responses there were 10 related directly to the surface of the pumptrack so we broke this down so we could more closely consider what surfaces would be the best to consider.

Surface

In this discussion we have also included some of the feedback provided in the following question (question 5) related to the favoured surface.

From all the responses that mention surface, there was a slight preference for bitumen or asphalt similar to Derby (seven responses). However there were almost as many (four responses) that stated they preferred the smoother surfaces of concrete similar to St Marys.

Conclusions:

- The design must ensure suitability for all ages
- The design must have a variety of features
- The surface is an important consideration and must be suitable for bikes, scooters and skateboards

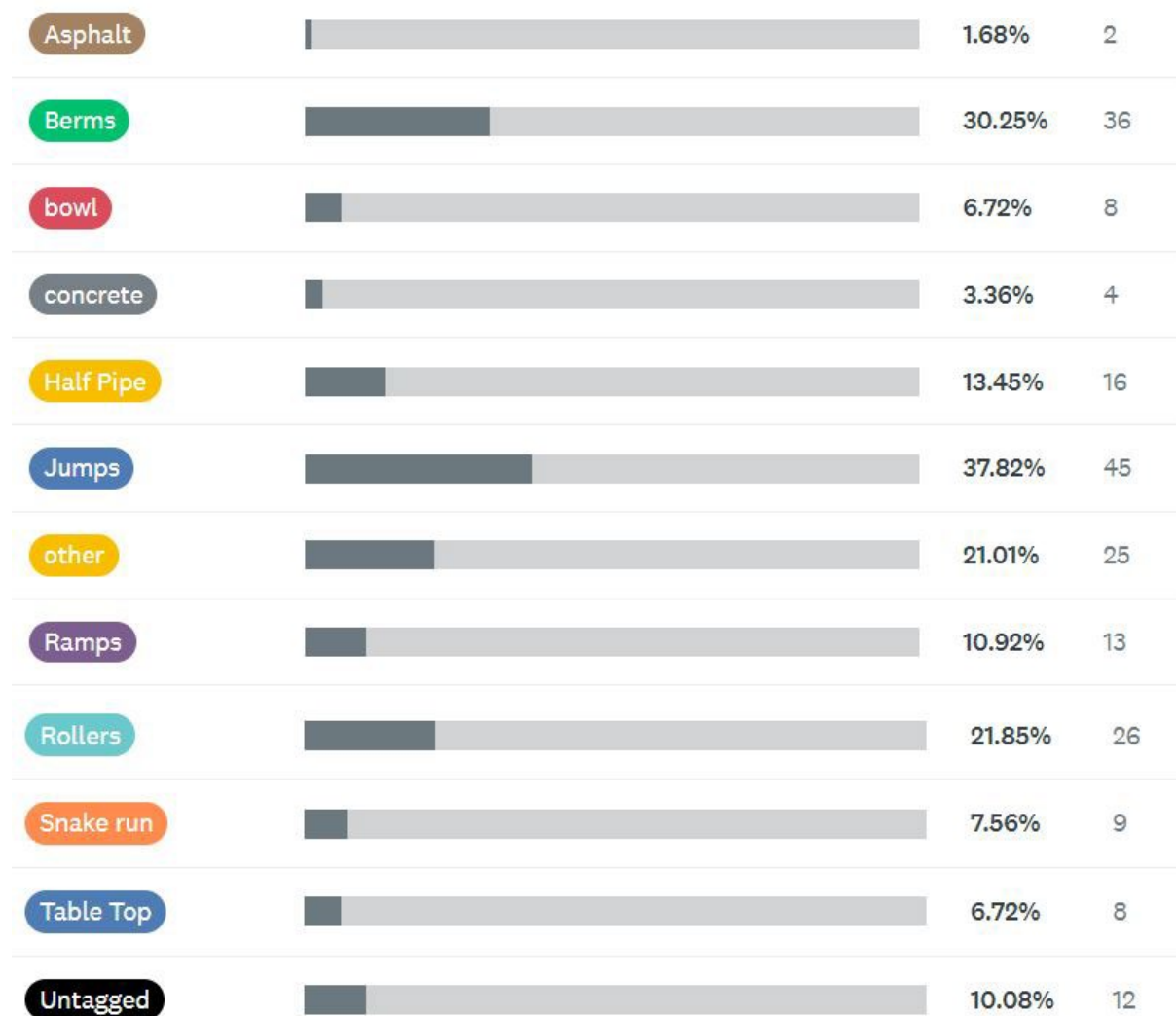
Break Out quote:

“Integration with other facilities including trails, toilets. Nice environment at derby (sic). Clarence sucks being so close to highway.”

Question 5. If you were in charge of building the pumptrack, what would you make sure is included? (Do you want berms and rollers? Maybe a jump or halfpipe? No ideas are bad ideas!

Responses to this question allow us to really drill down on what sort of features we need to consider in designing the St Helens pumptrack.

The findings were as follows:



Amongst the 'Other' responses there were more great ideas from the youth. Some of the more common ones were; a spine (a feature of some skateparks) and directional arrows to allow easy access and maneuverability. Answers to this question also reiterated some of the answers from above for example, inclusion of something for all ages and progression as well as comments around a preferred surface.

From this list there were 12 untagged comments. These were largely invalid with a response of 'no', 'nil', 'nothing' or 'I don't know'.

The top five features identified by youth that we should consider including in the design are:

- Jumps – 37.82%
- Berms – 30.25%
- Rollers – 21.85%
- Half Pipe – 13.45%
- Ramps – 10.92%

From the 25 responses to the 'Other' the youth raised some great ideas which we should consider. These are highlighted below:

- Toilets
- Shade
- Safety and access to first aid
- Seating

Conclusions:

- When designing the pumptrack we should try to incorporate the top five features from the responses: Jumps, rollers, berms, halfpipe, ramps.
- We need to consider what other infrastructure is required.
- We need to consider safety

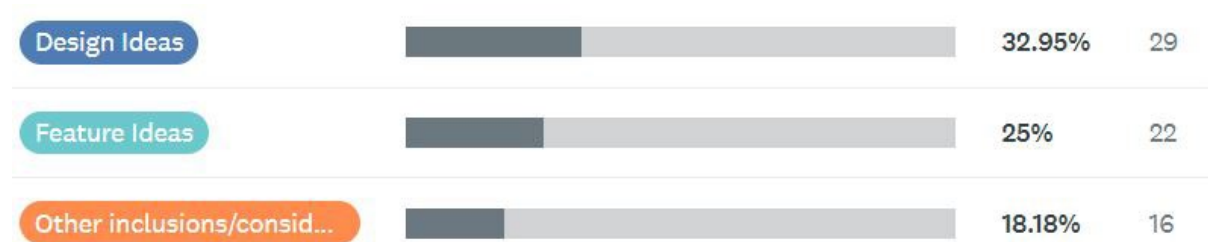
Break Out Quote:

"Make it wide and long enough for everyones usage. But tourists to be attracted to it. You make it long enough to be a fully functional tourist attraction. Can the path reach st marys?"

Question 6. Do you have any other suggestions? (What are your big ideas! We want to hear them all.)

Answers to this question allowed youth to freely express any other ideas they may have for the pumptrack. These answers allowed us to gain a better understanding of the youths vision for the pumptrack as well as take in to consideration any other infrastructure additions we should also consider.

This question was answered by 35 respondents and their responses have been categorized as follows:



We then broke these answers down to examine them more closely:

Design Ideas

- Space top move around
- Make it two way
- Include options for racing
- Include directional arrows
- Include easy and hard features – for all ages
- Include landscaping
- Have a pumptrack loop around the outside with features inside

Feature Ideas:

- Spine
- Ramps
- Skatebowl/half or quarter pipe
- Jumps

Other Considerations:

- Seating
- Water station
- Shade
- Toilets near-by
- Barbeque

Conclusions:

- Youth want a pumptrack that will cater to all ages and abilities.
- They want to make sure facilities like toilets, seating and potentially a barbeque are considered in the design
- Youth want us to consider shade and landscaping in the design
- Youth want us to consider safety when designing the pumptrack