



Binalong Bay BBQ Area Survey Report



Version: 1 – Date: August 2024

Introduction

Council have been looking at replacing the BBQ area at Binalong Bay. Before making a decision on the project, Council wanted to give the community the opportunity to provide their input via a survey.

The survey allowed Council to collect and understand the community's preferences and feedback for Locations A, B, and C as part of the project scope.

The survey was open from 31 May and closed on 28 June and received 36 responses.

Responses were received, predominantly by the Binalong Bay community. 35 of these were through the online survey with 1 written submission from a community group which was manually entered into the survey. This was to ensure all community sentiment was captured in a central location

The survey was promoted in the following ways;

- Council's Facebook page
- Council's website
- Council's newsletter
- Shared on the community noticeboard
- Direct email to the Binalong Bay database
- Direct email to the Binalong Bay Ratepayers Association
- Posters with QR code link placed at the location

Aims of Consultation

1. To seek input on the community's preferred location for a barbeque area in Binalong Bay.
2. To receive any other ideas and thoughts the community may have for the area.

Key Findings

- Binalong Bay residents, who were the main respondents (21 out of 36 respondents)
- Location B was the most preferred location receiving 38% of votes.
- Safety, convenience, practicality and environmental considerations were the three most important factors respondents raised for the preferred location.

Questions 1 and 2: Name

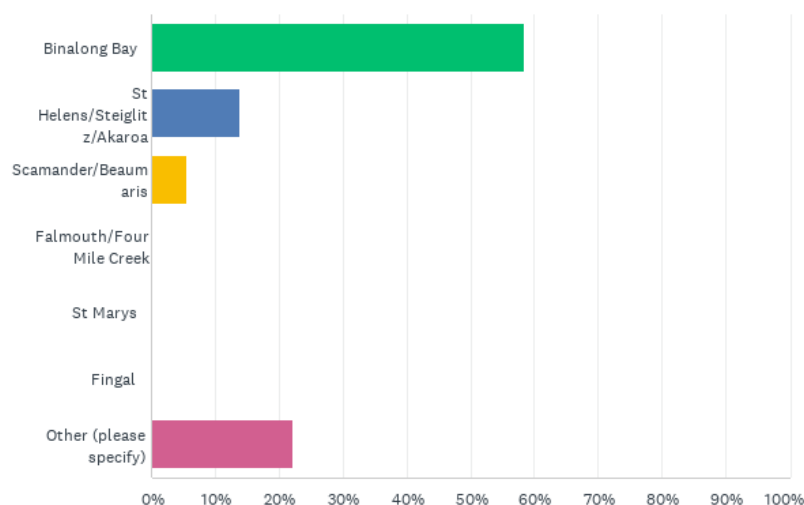
This question recorded the respondents first and last name. This question could be skipped if respondents wanted to remain anonymous.

Question 3. Which township do you live in?

This question was included so that we could make sure the Binalong Bay community was the main township represented in the survey data. As the project is located in this community, it was important to Council that their thoughts and voices were heard. We do acknowledge that this area is visited by community members of other townships and appreciate all feedback received.

As shown below, more than 50% of respondents are from the Binalong Bay community.

Q3 Which Township do you live in?



Half of the respondents who opted for Other (please specify) were from areas of Launceston.

Conclusions:

The survey was predominately answered by members of the Binalong Bay community. This shows that our promotion of the survey reached the right target audience.

Question 4. Email Database

This question is included on all Council surveys and aims to help us establish Township email databases so that we can directly communicate with township communities. These databases are used when we develop surveys such as this as well as sharing project and activity information affecting that township.

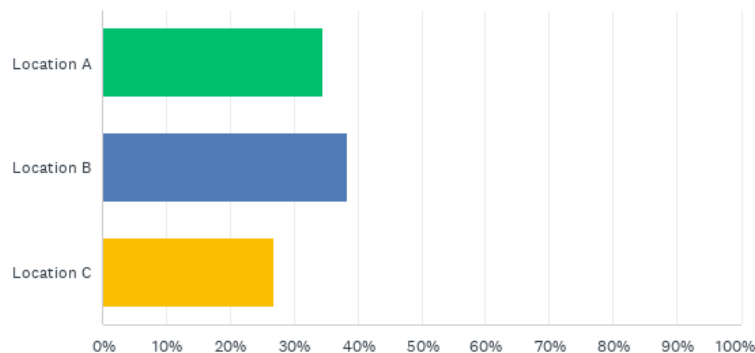
23 people have now been added to the Binalong Bay Township Email Database.

Question 5. Preferred proposed location

Council officers have identified three potential locations suitable for the improved BBQ area. This question was asked to gauge community members' preferences regarding the proposed locations.

This question was answered by 26 of the 36 people who completed the survey.

Q5 Considering the three locations above, which is your preferred location?



The responses to this question indicate that all location preferences were closely favoured by the survey takers

Conclusions:

Location B was favoured as the top choice with 38% of votes, closely followed by Location A with 34%. Location C received the fewest votes with 26% of all votes.

Question 6. Why do you think this location is the most suitable?

This question builds on the response provided for question 5. We asked this to understand the reasons why the respondent selected this location as their preference.

This question was answered by 26 of the 36 people who completed the survey.

Because this was an open-ended question, we went through these responses and collated them into common themes as follows:

Safety:

Concerns about ensuring locations are safe for children, with preferences for areas that are away from roads and offer clear visibility.

Views:

Strong emphasis on choosing locations that offer scenic views, aligning with the area's reputation for natural beauty.

Convenience and Practicability:

Preferences for BBQ spots that are convenient to amenities like toilets and playgrounds, and practical in terms of setup and usability.

Visibility & Accessibility:

Desires for BBQ locations that are easily accessible, visible from roads with adequate signage, and close to parking for convenience.

Environmental Consideration:

Opposition to options that involve tree removal or placement in environmentally sensitive areas, with an emphasis on preserving natural features.

Costs:

Concerns about increased costs associated with certain location options, influencing preferences against those choices despite other benefits.

Congestion:

Avoidance of locations that could lead to congestion or interfere with other recreational activities in the area.

Utilisation:

Preferences for maximizing the use of existing spaces and ensuring that chosen locations are well-utilized by the community.

Bay of Fires Master Plan:

Ensuring that developments align with the community and environmental goals outlined in the master plan.

Location A

Nine people prefer Location A for the BBQ area as it has good visibility from the road and is close to amenities such as the tennis court, playground, and car park making it highly convenient and accessible. It does not require the removal of a significant tree, which was important to five people and it's situated in an underutilised space that does not affect stormwater or septic systems. The location is considered practical, offering benefits like easy access to facilities and minimal environmental disruption. It also preserves views of the water and main beach, without negatively impacting other areas.

Location A does not align with the Binalong Bay Master Plan.

Overall, Location A was favoured for its practicality, environmental considerations, and convenient location, with only minor concerns regarding its specific placement.

Location B

Ten people prefer Location B for the BBQ area because it is close to the playground and provides a sheltered spot, offering better privacy and safety for children due to its distance from the road. It is also near the tennis court, allowing families to easily view the playground while having a BBQ.

Location B is seen as effectively utilising the Village Green and maintaining a relatively dry area. Additionally, it avoids issues like mosquitoes prevalent at the current BBQ site as it is a 'wet area'.

Overall, Location B is valued for its alignment with the master plan, its practical benefits, and its potential for providing a pleasant view.

Location C

Seven people favoured Location C for the BBQ area because it is a currently unused space with good visibility from the road and play equipment. It is seen as an opportunity to utilise a "dead space" enhancing the overall functionality of the area. Location C offers the best views and is positioned away from busy areas, reducing congestion from the tennis court and play equipment and preserving existing infrastructure. It also provides a safer environment for children by keeping them further from the road. Unlike Location B, Location C does not require the removal of trees, which is important for maintaining shade and supporting local wildlife. The space also allows for future upgrades, such as additional car parking.

However, Location C was considered problematic due to its placement in a stormwater soak area.

Overall, Location C is valued for its safety, minimal disruption to existing infrastructure, and potential for improvement.

Conclusions:

Location B is the most favoured option for the BBQ area, with ten respondents preferring it over Locations A and C.

Key reasons why it is the preferred location include:

- **Proximity to Playground and Tennis Court:** Location B offers a sheltered and private spot close to the playground, enhancing safety for children and convenience for families.
- **Sheltered and Private:** It offers a sheltered spot that is further from the road, ensuring better privacy and safety for children.
- **View and Access:** The location provides a pleasant view and is close to the tennis court, allowing easy visibility of the playground while having a BBQ.
- **Avoids Stormwater Issues:** Unlike Location C, which is in a stormwater soak area, Location B avoids potential problems with wet weather, ensuring usability throughout the year.
- **Alignment with Master Plan:** It fits with the Binalong Bay Master Plan, maximising the use of the Village Green and integrating well with existing plans.
- **Dry Area:** It is situated in a relatively dry area, avoiding issues like mosquitoes that are prevalent in other areas.

When considering the placement of the BBQ, respondents would like the Council to consider:

- **Convenience and Accessibility:** The location should be easily accessible and close to key amenities.
- **Environmental Impact:** Avoid significant environmental disruption, including tree removal and stormwater issues.
- **Safety and Privacy:** Ensure the area is safe for children and offers privacy.
- **Master Plan Alignment:** Choose a location that fits with existing plans and future improvements.
- **Functional Integration:** Minimize congestion and make effective use of currently underutilized spaces.

Question 7. Do you have any further feedback or comments you would like to make regarding this project?

This question was included so respondents could provide any other ideas and feedback they had for the location of the Binalong Bay BBQ area. This question had 11 responses which are summarised as follows:

- The \$75,000 budget for the redevelopment is seen as excessive. There are suggestions to upgrade the current BBQ area instead, including adding fill to address dampness.
- Detailed plans be made publicly available on how the money will be spent, including potential additions like a basketball hoop and extra seating.
- A request for community input into the design.
- Support for more tables and a request for a toy and book recycle-swap closet space attached to the shelter.
- Opposition to Option B due to the potential removal of iconic trees, which are valued as a significant feature of the area.
- Location A is considered too close to the tennis court gate and fence, which could lead to congestion in a heavily used area where people gather to watch games or socialise.
- Location C is considered similar to the current BBQ area, which some feel does not work well.

Conclusions:

Overall, the feedback emphasises the need for safety, additional amenities, environmental considerations and community engagement in the decision-making process. The feedback highlights concern about location choices, costs and accessibility in the design process.