

FORREST MOUNTAIN BIKE DETAILED DESIGN PROJECT



Update 1:

The Forrest Mountain Bike Detailed Design Plan project will complement the 2015 Forrest MTB Strategic Plan and the 2018 Forrest MTB Economic Analysis; so that the Forrest MTB Network and supporting community infrastructure is considered 'shovel ready' and an immediate investment opportunity for Government. The project has been funded through a Federal Government Grant of \$100,000 with matching funds and in-kind support from Council.

To deliver the project Council has formed a Project Working Group which is led by Council and made up of representatives from the community, the Forrest MTB Club, DELWP and Barwon Water. Following a tender process, Dirt Art Pty Ltd has been appointed to deliver the Forrest MTB Detailed Design Project (DDP).

While the project is focused on the MTB network, the aim is to deliver outcomes for other recreational pursuits, the community, the environment and visitors too. The project will involve four individual sub-projects:

Project One: Detailed Design of the Boundary Road Traffic Treatment

The existing crossing point to the Yaugher Trail network from the Tiger Rail Trail is located on a blind corner in a 100km zone. This crossing poses significant safety risks for all users (pedestrians, cyclists, horse riders and vehicles). Via the DDP a road safety audit will be commissioned to determine the best location for the crossing. The aim is to design and cost a safe crossing point across the Birregurra-Forrest Road which connects to two off road trails towards and from Yaugher's MTB Trailhead and other community recreational trails.

Project Two: Schematic Drawing and Detailed Design for the Forrest MTB Trails

This project will review 12 of the 16 existing trail lines. The aim of this review is to:

- Design two shared access off road trails from the Boundary Road crossing to the Yaugher Trailhead and State Forest recreational tracks.
- Modernise the designs so the Cross Country (XC) trails are more environmentally sustainable and cost efficient to manage.

- Redesign a number of the trails so they are more accessible and universally designed; so markets such as hand cyclists and beginner riders can safely enjoy Forrest's riding experiences.
- Design additional features on some of the trails so that intermediate and expert riders have a more challenging experience.
- Design a new type of trail called a Flow Trail in the area of the Forrest Loop.

Project Three: Forrest Trailhead Precinct Masterplan

There is an opportunity to create a new precinct which will encompass the area of the existing Trailhead and the former DELWP campsite. At this stage the vision is to amalgamate this area into one precinct which boasts:

- A landscaped visitor and community space.
- A better trail entry experience.
- Improved parking.
- A safe road crossing point to the Forrest Loop.
- Additional MTB skills progression facilities.
- Better linkages to the Roller Coaster Trail.
- A shared trail from the Trailhead to the township.
- Facilities for the MTB Club and the community at the former DELWP campsite.

Project 4: Cultural Heritage and Pre-Planning Studies

So we can ensure minimal impact on Forrest's native environment by any future works, Native Vegetation and Cultural Heritage studies will be undertaken on all proposed design elements.

All designs will be aiming to celebrate Forrest's history and natural environments. Interested community members have already been in contact with Council regarding various components of the project, which is encouraged and welcomed. For more information about the consultation activities for this project please see the attached schedule of activities. To keep up to date with the progression of the Forrest MTB Detailed Design Project please contact Adrian Healey via phone or email.

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