

DRAFT MARIBYRNONG BIKE SPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT PLAN



Acknowledgements



Acknowledgement of Country

Council is proud to represent a municipality with such an important Indigenous history and active community. Council acknowledges the traditional owners of this land, the Kulin nation, and appreciates the rich culture and contributions Indigenous Australians have made and continue to make to this City.



Introduction



The Maribyrnong Bike Sports Infrastructure and Development Plan supports the growth of bike sports as a key ingredient to encourage the Maribyrnong community to be physically active.

The Plan:

- Guides the future development of bike sport facilities to deliver social, health, economic and environmental benefits.
- Considers all bike sport disciplines but recognises that the municipality will not be able to accommodate all formats of the sport.
- Considers opportunities for not only current participants, but also youth, women and girls, people of different ethnicities and people of all abilities.
- Provides a planning hierarchy that will guide the development of a complimentary network of bike sport facilities.
- Includes an action plan.
- Investigates the possibility of regional and state-level competition.

- Delivers a balanced approach to provision that considers all open space users, so they are enhanced as social meeting places and deliver sustainable place making.

Active transport was outside the scope of the project. The Maribyrnong Bicycle Strategy 2020-2030 already outlines a plan for improving the active transport network.

This project has considered how proposed bike sport facilities connect with the regional network of on-road cycling routes and off-road trail networks (both existing and proposed).



Planning Process

The adjacent planning steps were undertaken for the Plan. This report summarises the findings from the market research, community engagement, site assessment and mapping analysis tasks.

Market
Research and
Stakeholder and
Community
Engagement

Site
Assessment and
Mapping

Issues
and
Options
Report

Strategic
Framework
and Action
Plan

Report

What are Bike Sports?

The *Cycling Victoria State Cycling Strategy 2016 to 2026* defines the different bike sport disciplines and its events. These descriptions don't cover recreational riding.

Road Cycling

- Road race: conducted on roads and course varies in length, from 5-260km.
- Criterium: event conducted around a tight technical circuit, which varies in length from 0.8-3km lapping over a specific time period.
- Individual time trial: an individual event in which participants are given a specific start time and complete the distance in as short a time as possible.
- Multi-stage races: typically called tours (i.e. Tour de France) and have any number of stages and / or days.



Track Cycling

- Time trial: conducted over 500-1,000m and completed in as short a time as possible.
- Points race: points are accumulated by riders through a series of sprints.
- Individual pursuit: two riders start on opposite sides of the track and attempt to catch one another over a distance of 2-4km.
- Teams pursuit: similar to the individual pursuit but raced in teams of four over 3-4km.
- Madison: two riders compete in a team over a prescribed number of laps.
- Handicap races: usually run over 2km and as the name implies riders are given a 'head start' depending on their ability.
- Scratch race: riders commence from the same starting point and event is typically 5-20km in length.
- Team sprint: involves two teams of three cyclists competing over three laps of the track and the teams start on opposite sides of the track.
- Omnium: An omnium is a multiple race event.
- Elimination: Participants are eliminated throughout the event after specific sprint points.



BMX (Bicycle Moto Cross)

- Freestyle: riders utilise skate parks, half pipes, dirt jumps and flat smooth surfaces for performing tricks.
- Track racing: while there is no single standard design for a BMX track they are generally 300-400m in length. Each race is started with a group of up to eight competitors, generally matched by age or ability.



Mountain Bike

- Downhill: is a time trial event in which riders descend as quickly as possible down a designated trail. Within the Downhill category there are a number of different events that include Individual Downhill, Mass Downhill, Four Cross and Dual Slalom.
- Cross Country: There are timed downhills and untimed uphill, with racing conducted over a series of special stages and whoever has the fastest combined time after those stages wins. Within the Cross Country category there are a number of different events that include Cross Country Olympic, Marathon, Point to Point, Short Track, Time Trial and Team Relay.



Cyclo-Cross

- Combines a number of elements from cross country mountain biking cycling and criterium racing. Races are conducted over a number of laps of a circuit. The circuit combines a number of different elements such as short steep ascents where the cyclist carries the bicycle, bitumen track, grass track and mud.
- The course must form a closed circuit of a minimum length of 2.5km and maximum 3.5km, of which at least 90% shall be rideable. Due to the nature of cyclo-cross there is no prescriptive type or number of obstacles for a circuit. Often demountable obstacles are created for events.



Gravel Racing

- One of the newest bike sport disciplines. Gravel racing is a long-distance race on gravel roads and tracks often over 100-250km with mass starts.
- Bikes and courses in gravel racing vary widely, from road bikes with wide tyres on smooth gravel roads to bikes similar to mountain bikes used on courses that are more technical trails.



Why do we need a Bike Sports Plan?

Riding improves health and more people riding bikes will deliver social, economic and environmental benefits to Maribyrnong

Properly planned bike sport facilities and trail networks with supportive infrastructure can provide significant liveability, economic and health benefits to communities. Recently the Queensland Government released the Queensland Cycling Strategy 2017-2027. The Strategy reports that for every \$1 spent on bike infrastructure there was a return of \$5 in physical health benefits, reduced congestion and other benefits.

Maribyrnong has less adults meeting physical activity guidelines compared with the State average, and more women having insufficient levels of physical activity.

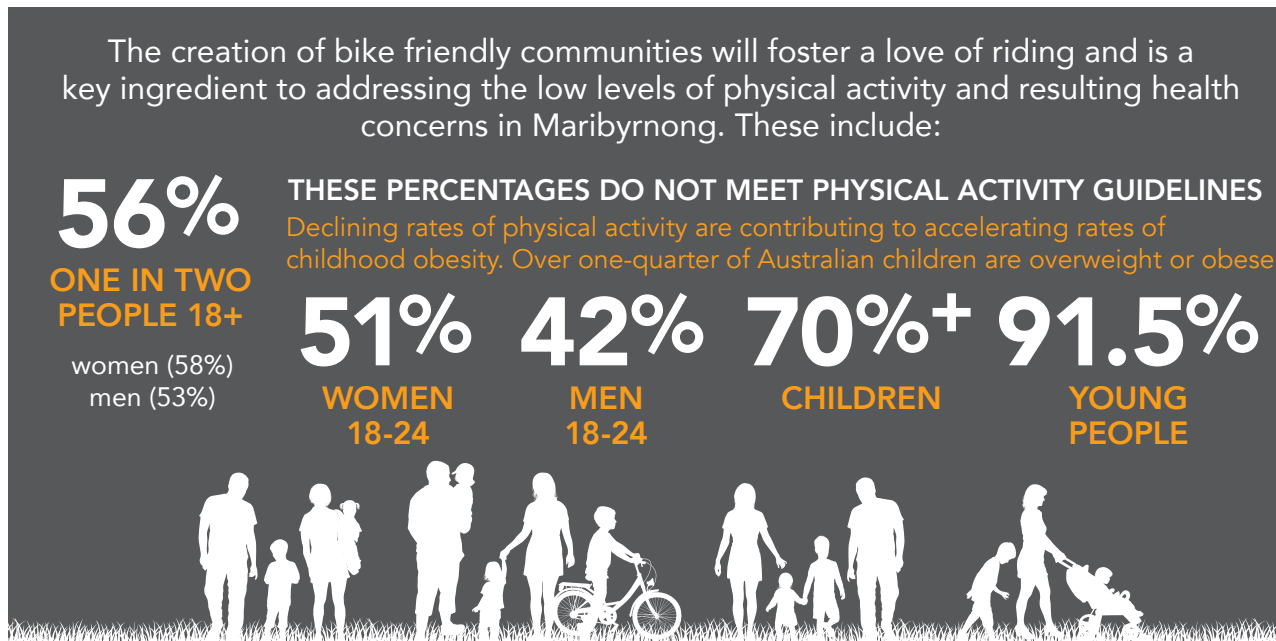
Chronic disease rates, particularly Type 2 diabetes, heart disease and cancer, are comparatively high regionally. Participation trends show that people that ride a bike more than meet the recommended physical activity guidelines and decreases mortality rates from chronic diseases and obesity.

There is strategic support for bike sport facilities

The following strategies identify the need for bike sport facilities:

- Cycling Victoria State Facilities Strategy identify a significant lack of cyclo-cross and criterium facilities across Victoria.
- Victorian Mountain Bike Strategy identifies a need for regional scale mountain bike facilities that cater for recreation rides and skill progression. The strategy recommends the development of pump tracks, skills and jumps parks.
- Maribyrnong Bicycle Strategy 2020-2030 supports the development of bike facilities together with an extended network of on-road cycling routes and off-road trails for active transport and recreation.
- The Principal Bicycle Network and Strategic Cycling Corridors network supports improving cycling infrastructure and safety along these designated on-road cycling routes.
- West Trails supports extending and upgrading the off-road trail network across Melbourne's West.
- Stony Creek Future Directions Plan supports renewing and extending the Yarraville BMX / Pump Track at Cruickshank Park.

New and upgraded bike facilities identified by this plan should connect with the strategic on-road cycling routes and off-road trails proposed in the Maribyrnong Bicycle Strategy 2020-2030, Principal Bicycle Network, Strategic Cycling Corridors and West Trails strategic plans.



The research findings show that investing in infrastructure that offers a diversity of bike sport facilities that are connected by a network of safe, accessible, attractive, and comfortable on-road cycling routes and off-road trails, and offer pathways into bike sports for recreation and competition (grass root to elite level) are all important ingredients to encouraging more people to ride.

Other ingredients include a partnership approach between Council, State Government, schools, AusCycling and local clubs, promoting and informing people of the participation opportunities, investing in bike education programs, supporting the growth of cycling clubs to offer a more diverse bike sport experience across all disciplines, and hosting programs and events for riders.

Bike Sports Facility Hierarchy

The Maribyrnong Bike Sports Infrastructure and Development Plan adopts the Cycling Victoria State Facilities Strategy 2016-2026 facility hierarchy and design standards for bike sports disciplines. A definition for each level of the hierarchy is provided below.

Local Facilities: are those facilities such as a BMX pump track or mountain bike trail developed by a club / group of local enthusiasts. These facilities provide opportunities for local persons to participate in the sport. These facilities are very basic and are likely to provide minimal amenities.

Municipal Facilities: principally attract people from within the municipality within which they are located, but also cater for participants affiliated with clubs or competitions based outside of the municipality. Municipal sports facilities will serve a municipal-wide catchment. Facility provision will be a higher level than is available at other facilities in order to accommodate a higher level of competition or

activity. Examples of municipal facilities include Oakleigh BMX track.

Regional Facilities: will attract people from within and outside the municipality in which they are located and will be built and maintained to an elite or premier standard for that sport. They will cater for training and state-wide competitions and will have the capacity to host National standard competitions. Regional facilities will serve a catchment extending beyond the municipal boundary. Examples of regional facilities include Casey Fields criterium track, Warragul velodrome, Sandown Park, Knox BMX track and Shepparton BMX track.

State Facilities: will principally be facilities that cater for training and state/national level competitions. These facilities are built and maintained to a very high standard and there will only be one or two of these types of facilities. Examples of state facilities include Darebin Indoor Sports Centre, Hisense Arena and the State Mountain Bike Centre (Lysterfield).

CASE STUDY

Creswick Pump Track

The Creswick Pump Track in Hammon Park is within walking distance of the town centre and linked with the Creswick mountain bike trail network. The facility is on the site of a former football oval and showcases how an open space can be repurposed to provide a bike sports facility. The facility is a contemporary pump track experience for beginners to experienced BMX and mountain bike riders. The track is bitumen offering a smoother riding surface that can be used by novice and experienced riders as well as skateboarders and scooter riders.



The Maribyrnong community support bike sport facilities

Key bike sport stakeholders support the development of bike sport facilities to encourage more people to ride in Maribyrnong.

Key Stakeholders Views

Key Stakeholders including AusCycling, Bike West, Footscray Cycling Club, Westside Cycle Club, Victoria University and local cycling businesses were consulted. Key feedback included:

- Support for the development of a diverse bike sports facilities that are linked by off-road trails and on-road cycling routes. These facilities would be promoted (through AusCycling's Ride Nation platform) and facilitate programs and events in Maribyrnong.
- Access to safe places to ride close to where people live will establish cycling habits in our community. This is good for the health of Maribyrnong community, it encourages sustainable transport and is good for the environment.
- An opportunity for the Footscray Cycling Club and Westside Cycle Club to partner with AusCycling and Maribyrnong City Council to provide participation and programming opportunities for all bike disciplines.
- The Quarry Park Mountain Bike Park is a great bike sport facility for Maribyrnong that could be expanded to be a regional cycling hub in Maribyrnong.
- The small beginner bike track at Cruikshank Park (Yarraville Pump Track) requires renewal.
- The Hansen Reserve Junior Bike Skills Track has been very well received and the concept could be considered in other parks.
- A shared model of use of our parks to facilitate cycling and other activities is needed but it was

also recognised that there is contested use of our open spaces by community.

- Volunteering is declining and the increasing requirement to manage on-road cycling events is challenging. An off-road circuit in Melbourne's West is a priority for club competition and events. This track could also support training, recreation riding and human powered vehicle programs run through local schools.

Community Engagement

The first conversation from an initial questionnaire from July to August 2022 sought to understand how the community currently views bike sports, what helps or hinders their ability to participate, and any concerns or opportunities they can see in relation to this activity in the future.

The second conversation held in November and December 2022 sought feedback on the draft objectives in this plan, including proposed bike sports facilities in Maribyrnong.

There were mixed responses to the potential extension of the Quarry Park Mountain Bike Park with neighbouring residents, especially, raising concerns at the aspirational proposals of the Bike West Group outlined in an Issues an Options paper, shared as part of the engagement.

As a result, this Plan was amended to include formation of a Quarry Park Masterplan review group in Objective 1.1 (page 14) to which community members will be invited to express interest.

The "Capital Works Projection" (page 17) was also included to clearly show bike sport facilities subject to future community engagement and Council endorsement.



Most respondents were active bike sport participants. Key themes from both community conversations are summarised below.

First Conversation

Of the 70 respondents to the first conversation, most supported bike sport participation (94%) and bike sports facilities (92%) in Maribyrnong.

Most respondents during the first conversation said they participated in bike sports because it encourages healthy living, it is fun and social.

Key barriers to bike sport participation from the first conversation included the lack of safe and suitable bike facilities close to home, safe on road bike lanes, work and family commitments, and the lack of confidence were key barriers to bike sport participation.

A small number of respondents from the first conversation did not support new bike sports facilities in Maribyrnong. The key reasons were that residents didn't want the limited green space used for passive purposes lost to sport; and there was a conflict and safety concern between walkers and cyclists on shared paths.

There was a wide range of ideas proposed for improving bike sport participation in Maribyrnong. These included:

- More bike sport facilities (close to home) that covered a diversity of cycling options including cyclocross, criterium track, velodrome, mountain bike trails, pump track, BMX track, learn to ride / junior bike skills tracks.
- Extend and renew existing bike sport facilities at Quarry Park Mountain Bike Park and Yarraville Pump Track.
- Develop new bike sport facilities including Cranwell Park.
- Extend the bike path network and improve the safety of the on-road cycling network. A separate bike lane on the Maribyrnong River Trail and connecting bike paths by a gravel paths network were key suggestions.

Second Conversation

During the second conversation, proposed facilities at Quarry Park received some attention, particularly from local residents, due to concerns around the impact on existing recreational uses, car parking and noise from bike sport activities.

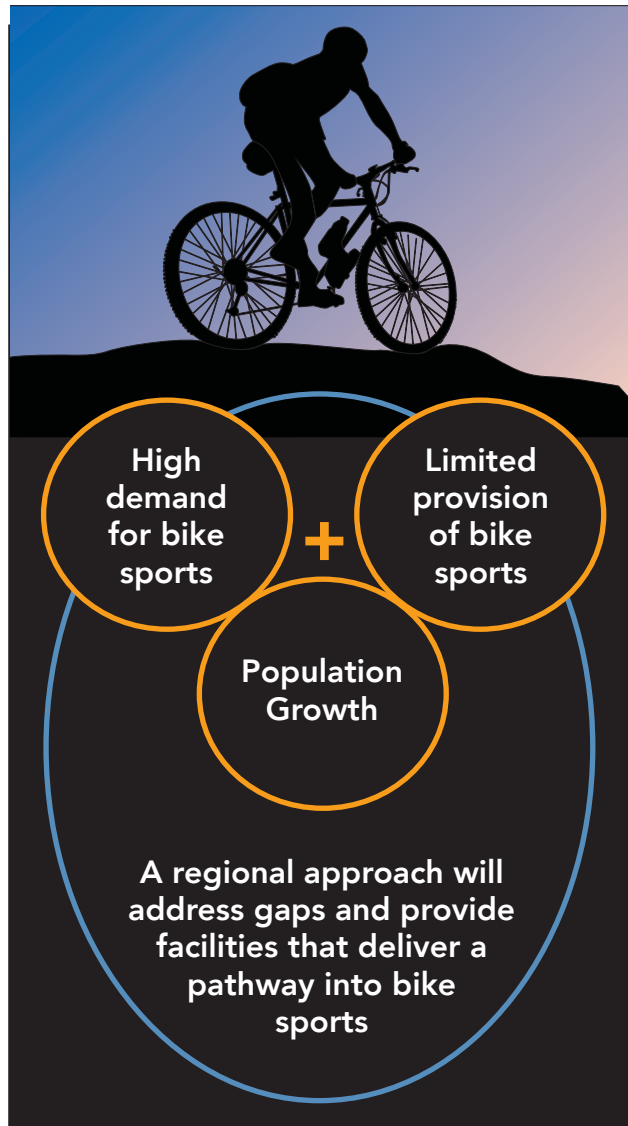
To help address these concerns it is proposed to form a Quarry Park Master Plan review group to which community members will be invited to express interest in joining.

This plan now also includes a clear Capital Works Projection which shows proposed bike sport facilities subject to future community engagement and Council endorsement.

In terms of the proposed vision outlined in the draft, 52% of the 93 quick poll respondents agreed.

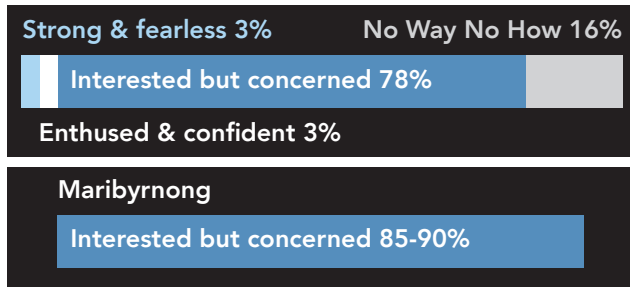
The four strategic objectives listed in the draft to support bike sports in Maribyrnong were also supported by the majority of survey respondents.

Current State of Play



There is a latent and growing demand for structured and unstructured bike sports participation in Maribyrnong.

Geller's 2005 research into the level of interest in cycling shows that **up to 60% of people would cycle if it was safe and they felt confident**. Monash University recently used Geller's bicyclist typology to focus on Victorian local governments. *The potential for bike riding across entire cities: Quantifying spatial variation in interest in bike riding study* was prepared by PHD student Lauren Pearson and published in the Journal of Transport and Health in 2021. The study involved an online survey to residents in 37 LGAs, including Maribyrnong. The survey received 3,999 responses. The survey was a statistically valid sample and representative of the demographic characteristics of each individual LGA area. The research found that most participants owned a bike (57%), however only 20% rode at least once per week. The distribution of the Geller groups was:



The 'Interested by Concerned' group was even higher within Maribyrnong recording 85-90%, whilst bike ownership is higher in Melbourne's Inner-West (67%).

There is an opportunity to work with this "Interested but concerned" group to increase participation by addressing the current barriers to participation in Maribyrnong including making people feel safe when riding and building a person's skills and confidence when riding. This will involve providing infrastructure that prioritises cyclists on road and offers safe off-road trails and bike sport facilities for people to ride, and bike education and skills development programs. A particular program focus should be made to increase women and children participation and across all abilities and cultures.

Population will grow from 98,424 in 2022 to 164,637 in 2051.
AusCycling estimates 11,352 adults and 1,921 children cycled in Maribyrnong within the last 12 months.

Collectively, bike sports are one of Australia's major participation sports and the demand is growing in Maribyrnong. There is potential to grow the current bike sport participation in Maribyrnong, including club membership and cycling programs. Key drivers of demand are:

- Maribyrnong population is growing. The estimated resident population of 98,424 people for 2022 is forecast to increase by 67.27% to 164,637 people in 2051. This significant population growth will fuel demand for bike sports facilities, programs and services into the future.
- There is a large proportion of Maribyrnong's population that fall into peak riding categories (Adults - 35 to 64 years). An additional 25,573 people are predicted within peak participation rates (from 42,276 to 67,849 people). This makes up 43% of the total population.

- Providing access to free and affordable bike sports facilities and services in areas with a high level of disadvantage – West Precinct, Braybrook, Stony Creek Ward, East Precinct and Footscray (all recording a SEIFA below 962) will be important for these communities to realise the benefits of cycling.
- AusCycling reports an estimated 11,352 adults (15+ years) and 1,921 children (0 to 14 years) cycling in the last 12 months. Bike sports represent a major participation sport in Maribyrnong that require a mix of bike sport facilities and programs that supports the varied bike sport disciplines to continue to grow.
- AusCycling’s demand modelling supports 5,518 adults and 5,106 children were interested in cycling in the last 12 months. This further supports the latent demand potential of bike sport participation in Maribyrnong.
- There are two cycling clubs in Melbourne’s West. The Footscray Cycling Club is primarily a road racing club with a membership of 170 members in 2021 including 128 males and 38 females. Westside Cycle Club is a new cycling club that covers all disciplines from road, mountain, cyclo-cross, gravel and social riding. There is an opportunity for the club to expand membership and programming to cover all bike sport disciplines with support from AusCycling. This would create a grass root to elite level pathway for all bike sport disciplines in Melbourne’s West and align with AusCycling structure.
- AusCycling Ride Nations Schools has a small foot-print in Melbourne’s West. There is an opportunity to expand this program to more schools and students in Melbourne’s West if a partnership can be formed with local schools and safe places to ride that are within close proximity to schools and accessible for safe on-road bike lanes and off-road trail routes. Across Maribyrnong, there are 14 primary schools with 5,663 students and four secondary schools with 5,574 students that could benefit from this program.

- Maribyrnong City Council bike counters on Quarry Park Mountain Bike Park shows that on average the park attracts about 2,000 to 4,000 counts daily. This represents a 100% increase in traffic in 2021 in the same period as last year 2020. It is very popular and anecdotally, users of the park are drawn from a regional catchment (Metro West, Metro North and Melbourne’s CBD).
- Bike sport facilities, programs and services will need to respond to trends influencing the participation of bike sports in Australia including the expanding participation for female riders, impact of technology on wayfinding and trail mapping, increased multi night stays for cycle destinations, increasing interest in mountain biking and the rise of E-bikes.



CASE STUDY

Quarry Park Mountain Bike Park

The Quarry Park Mountain Bike Park is a key bike sports destination in Melbourne’s West that offers an “All Mountain” trail experience. The facilities include: An ascent trail rated easy/green, an easy/green descent trail, two intermediate/blue descent trails, one with jumps, a skills park; a single direction loop with three tracks in the flat area focused on skills development with technical features such as balance beams, berms, rock features etc, and Pump track (junior track with dirt surface and intermediate track with asphalt surface) with highly sculpted loops full of rollers and berms that users can 'pump' around without pedalling.



There are limited bike sport facilities in Maribyrnong

Maribyrnong has only three bike sport facilities.

Maribyrnong bike sports facilities include:

- Quarry Park Mountain Bike is a 'regional' (state level) facility that includes mountain bike trails, skills park and pump track. It is the only such facility in Melbourne's West.
- Yarraville BMX Track is a 'local' track with small bumps and is suited to beginner level riders. The facility is basic and requires renewal.
- Hansen Reserve Junior Bike Skills Track is a new 'local' track and features obstacle bumps, fast humps, rumble strips, a roundabout and ramps.

Current bike sport facilities in Maribyrnong are connected by the Principal Bicycle Network, Strategic Cycling Corridors and trails proposed in the West Trails Plan.

Existing bike sport facilities in Maribyrnong provide a pathway into bike sport participation. The Hansen Reserve Junior Bike Skills Track introduces preschool and primary school aged children (beginners) to riding on a fun easy track with interesting challenges to help develop bike skills. The Yarraville BMX Track offers a gravel BMX / mountain bike flow track experience. It is of an average/poor condition that if renewed to provide a junior and experienced pump track experience would complement the regional level Quarry Park Mountain Bike Park and introductory level Hansen Reserve Junior Bike Skills Track.

However several suburbs that have no access to bike sport facilities within 2km of where they live including: Braybrook, Maidstone, Maribyrnong, and Seddon. Opportunities to provide local and municipal bike sport facilities in these areas should be explored.

There is currently one criterium circuit in Melbourne's West at Victoria University Werribee Campus training track in Altona. This is in average condition and the use of the track by the Footscray Cycling Club in the future is not guaranteed. There is a disused criterium track at MacPherson Park in Melton that is now used as car parking.

There are no velodromes in Melbourne's west. The closest velodromes are DISC (Indoor Velodrome) in

Thornbury, Brunswick and Coburg in Melbourne's north.

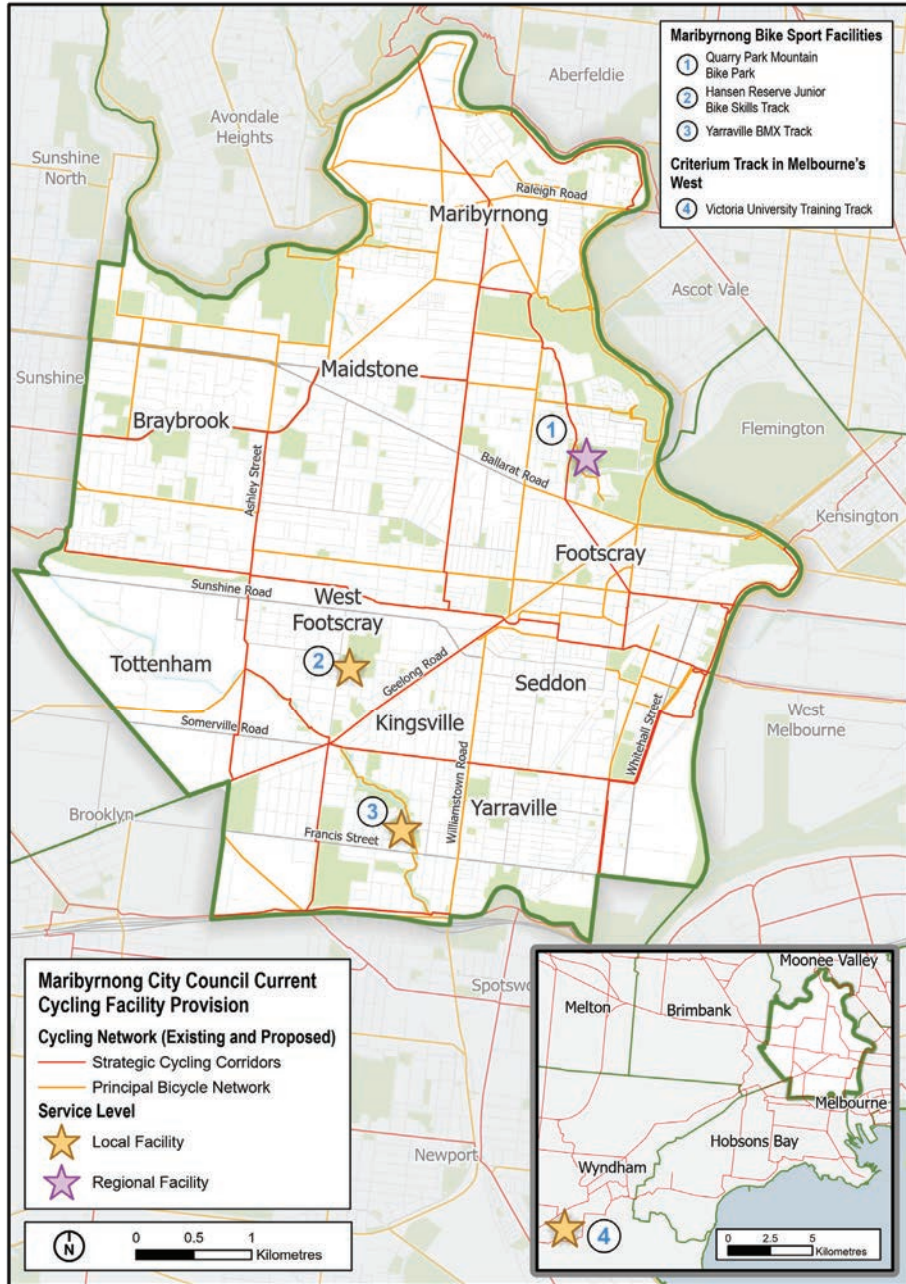
Outside the Quarry Park Mountain Bike Park there are no current regional cycling facilities in Melbourne's West. There are however proposed regional cycling facilities in Wyndham City Council and Brimbank City Council that are well located and connected to service Local Government Authorities in Melbourne's West.

CASE STUDY

Hansen Reserve Junior Bike Skills Track

The Hansen Reserve Junior Bike Skills Track was developed following the adoption of the Hansen Reserve Master Plan. The track is within the park and connects with the new playspace servicing the Yarrville community. The track is playful with junior riders tackling different obstacles including bumps, fast humps, rumble strips, a roundabout and ramps.





Maribyrnong supports a regional approach to cycling hubs

The three regional cycling hub proposals supported by master plans in Melbourne's West will meet the regional club and competition needs for criterium and velodrome racing. These are: at Lawrie Emmins Reserve (Wyndham), Sunshine Energy Park (Brimbank) and Ardeer Green Activity Hub (Brimbank). The facilities are located on the primary trail network and strategic cycling corridors into Maribyrnong together with access to major road arterials and public transport connections. These projects are not funded.

These cycling hubs support a mix of bike sport disciplines including 'regional' level criterium, velodrome, BMX and pump tracks. Maribyrnong City Council supports these regional cycling hubs because they will service the bike sport competition needs in Maribyrnong including the Footscray Cycling Club and Westside Cycle Club.

The Quarry Park Mountain Bike Park is recognised as one of these 'regional' cycling hubs. There is an opportunity for AusCycling to support Footscray Cycling Club and Westside Cycle Club in expanding to off-road cyclists and establish Quarry Park as a home or satellite venue for mountain bike programs, events and activities.

Consideration could be given to a similar operating and service model to that provided at Valmont Bike Park in Boulder, Colorado, USA. This is a hybrid model that retains public amenity and provides active programming. It includes a bike servicing and sales workshop, café / kiosk and programming. This commercial opportunity could improve the financial sustainability of the facility and potentially be a joint community enterprise venture with Bike West.

CASE STUDY

Lawrie Emmins Reserve cycling hub

The Lawrie Emmins Reserve cycling hub will be the closest facility to Maribyrnong and will link directly to the Maribyrnong community via the Federation Trail. The master plan shows the development of a \$22.5 million cycling facility that includes a 1,800m long criterium track with lighting, 320m to 420m long velodrome with lighting, 300m long pump track, BMX supercross track, traffic school track and a shared central pavilion and car park area.

Lawrie Emmins Reserve Master Plan

Destination for 2 wheeled sports

Rationale

- While there are local BMX facilities at Glen Orden Reserve there are no regional BMX facilities in Wyndham.
- There are no velodromes in the west of metropolitan Melbourne.
- There is a need to develop off road cycling circuits (criterium) in inner metropolitan Melbourne and the west and north of metropolitan Melbourne.
- Consultation with Cycling Victoria and BMX Victoria confirmed support for establishment of a regional cycle sports hub in the west of Melbourne to accommodate all disciplines of the sport and capable of catering for all levels of participation from community to elite.
- The Wyndham Sports Strategy (2017) identified high demand for recreational and sports cycling.

Facilities proposed at Lawrie Emmins Reserve:

- Shared central pavilion. To include change rooms, administrative office spaces, social spaces, storage, public toilets, viewing areas etc.
- Shared pavilion to be serviced by sealed car park of approximately 6500m². There is potential to make use of the sealed car parks to the south and east, as well as adjacent open grass areas, for overflow parking on event days. By comparison, the criterium and BMX track facilities at Casey Fields are serviced by an informal car park of approximately 12000m².
- BMX Supercross Track (Olympic standard) with spectator stands and lighting. To incorporate two start ramps (5m and 8m) with major double-jumps, step ups and a technical 'rhythm' section.
- Outdoor velodrome with lighting, 320m-420m length, suitable for grass roots to elite level training and competition. Viewing from central pavilion.
- Pump track - 300m long, with spectator stand/ starting point. Loop design, suitable for multiple users.
- Traffic school with track suitable for bikes, scooters and ride-on pedal cars. Elements including roads, roundabouts, intersections, street signs, traffic lights, railway crossings and mini trams. Shade and seating for guardians.
- Criterium track with lighting. Dedicated 1800m long asphalt track with integrated alternative routes, surfaces and features to support multi-use and events including duathlons and cyclocross. Detailed designs to consider special features such as a hill/rise, cobblestone section and use of in-field areas to maximise event use flexibility and varying route options. Central pavilion to service criterium track users and provide sheltered viewing areas and space for temporary event infrastructure when required.
- The site will not be suitable for mountain biking (although there may be potential in the future to repurpose the motocross facilities for mountain biking), however on-site facilities may be used as a hub for use of existing tracks in the region.
- Motocross track. Refurbished existing track and new fencing. Addition of small pavilion (approximately 230m² floor space) for storage. Track to be serviced by a sealed car park of approximately 3300m² (including trailer parking spaces) and public toilets (to be shared with the archery facility). There is potential to make use of the sealed car park to the west, as well as adjacent open grass areas, for overflow parking on event days. By comparison, Broadmeadows Motocross Park is serviced by an informal car park of approximately 2250m².
- Green buffer to be created between motocross facility and adjacent creek/ future Laverton Creek Trail.

Facility provision to focus on pathways into bike sports

Maribyrnong is a relatively flat municipality, however there are steep slopes created over eons by the Maribyrnong River and other water courses that offer opportunities for downhill, climbing, and other challenging bike sport activity. This landscape also provides ways of appreciating the natural environment and excellent views. There is an opportunity to expand on the current bike sport facilities in Maribyrnong.

The focus of bike sport facility provision should be on providing pathways into bike sports (fun and diverse bike sport facilities and tracks) and addressing gaps in bike sports facilities within a regional context.

There is a current lack of a criterium track, velodrome and cyclocross tracks in Melbourne's West. In response, there are three regional cycling hub proposals in neighbouring municipalities in Melbourne's West. These are supported by master plan that will meet the regional club and competition needs for criterium and velodrome racing. **There is no requirement for Maribyrnong to provide 'regional' standard facilities for criterium, velodrome and BMX.**

Council has already committed to the following bike sport facility projects in the Maribyrnong Bicycle Strategy 2020-2030 and Stony Creek Future Directions Plan:

- Explore opportunities for an additional learn-to-ride area in the north part of the city, such as at Robert Barrett Reserve adjacent to the skate park or McDonald Reserve.
- Prioritise access to a pavilion space for a cycling club specifically encouraging female and junior membership.

- Continue to install three bicycle maintenance stations annually.
- Investigate feasibility of a cycle track around an oval, and an all-inclusive bike hub at a suitable location including access for disability service agencies to provide cycle training at a suitable location.
- Upgrade the Yarraville Pump/BMX Track.

This Plan has considered the proposals prepared by Bike West for additional bike facilities at Quarry Park that builds on the success of the existing mountain bike park, a mountain bike skills loop at Cranwell Park together with exploring the potential of Cruikshank Park as part of the renewal of the track.



CASE STUDY

Anglesea Bike Park

The Anglesea Bike Park is a four-cross track for BMX and mountain bike riding that attracts high visitation from Greater Geelong and Surf Coast communities. It is designed for novice and experienced riders allowing them to develop their handling and jumping skills. The design enables a group of riders to ride different tracks at the same time promoting a social riding experience.



Strategic Directions

VISION

Maribyrnong's connected and diverse network of bike sports offers community a pathway into bike sports and a life-long engagement with riding

Objective 1	Provide a diversity of new bike sports Infrastructure that offers everyone in the community pathways into bike sports participation
Objective 2	Develop partnerships and facilitate programs that foster pathways into bike sport participation
Objective 3	Advocate for funding support and events at regional bike sport facilities
Objective 4	Well maintained and managed bike sport facilities

Robert Barret Reserve and Braybrook Park (Skinner Reserve) as central parks servicing these suburbs. Consider a small pump track at Braybrook Park.

- Support the development, where appropriate, of a separate bike lane along the Maribyrnong River Trail funded through asset renewal budgets.
- Explore possible locations where roads closure could be easily facilitated to provide an on-road criterium circuit to support club activities.

Objective 2:

Develop partnerships and facilitate programs that foster pathways into bike sport participation

- Partner with AusCycling in the promotion of bike sports facilities and programs in Maribyrnong on the Ride Nation platform.
- Partner with AusCycling in the expansion of Ride Nation Schools bike education program in schools within Maribyrnong.
- Partner with AusCycling and the Footscray Cycling Club and Westside Cycle Club in the expansion of the clubs to focus on all bike sport disciplines.
- Partner with neighbouring Local Government Authorities and other land managers in the planning and advocacy of regional bike sports facilities and the strategic off-road trail and on-road cycling routes.
- Partner with local organisations (interest groups) and develop programs that support target segments of the community i.e., new migrants, disability, children, young people, and women.

Action Plan

Objective 1: Provide a diversity of new bike sports Infrastructure that offers everyone in the community pathways into bike sports participation

- Commence a Quarry Park Masterplan Review process with the community to look at integrating an extension to the Quarry Park Mountain Bike Park. Proposed facilities are a 'regional' level cyclo-cross track together with a minor, low banked ring track around the sport oval and bike sports pavilion with café, bike services workshop and learning / function space. This is proposed to provide for a number of disciplines being mountain biking, cyclo-cross, pump track, human powered

vehicles and mountain bike trials. The masterplan review must integrate Quarry Park's existing social recreation and environmental values and include a significant urban forest on the site.

- Renew and extend Yarraville Pump Track with a contemporary facility for beginners and experienced BMX, skaters, wheelchair users and mountain bike riders.
- Commence a Cranwell Park Masterplan process to look at improved mountain bike facilities at Cranwell Park that integrate with the landscape, its proposed active transport connections and social recreation functions.
- Provide 'local' junior bike skills (learn to ride) tracks and pump tracks near play spaces in strategic locations around Maribyrnong. Prioritise parks in suburbs with no bike sport facilities. Consider

Objective 3:

Advocate for funding support and events at regional bike sport facilities

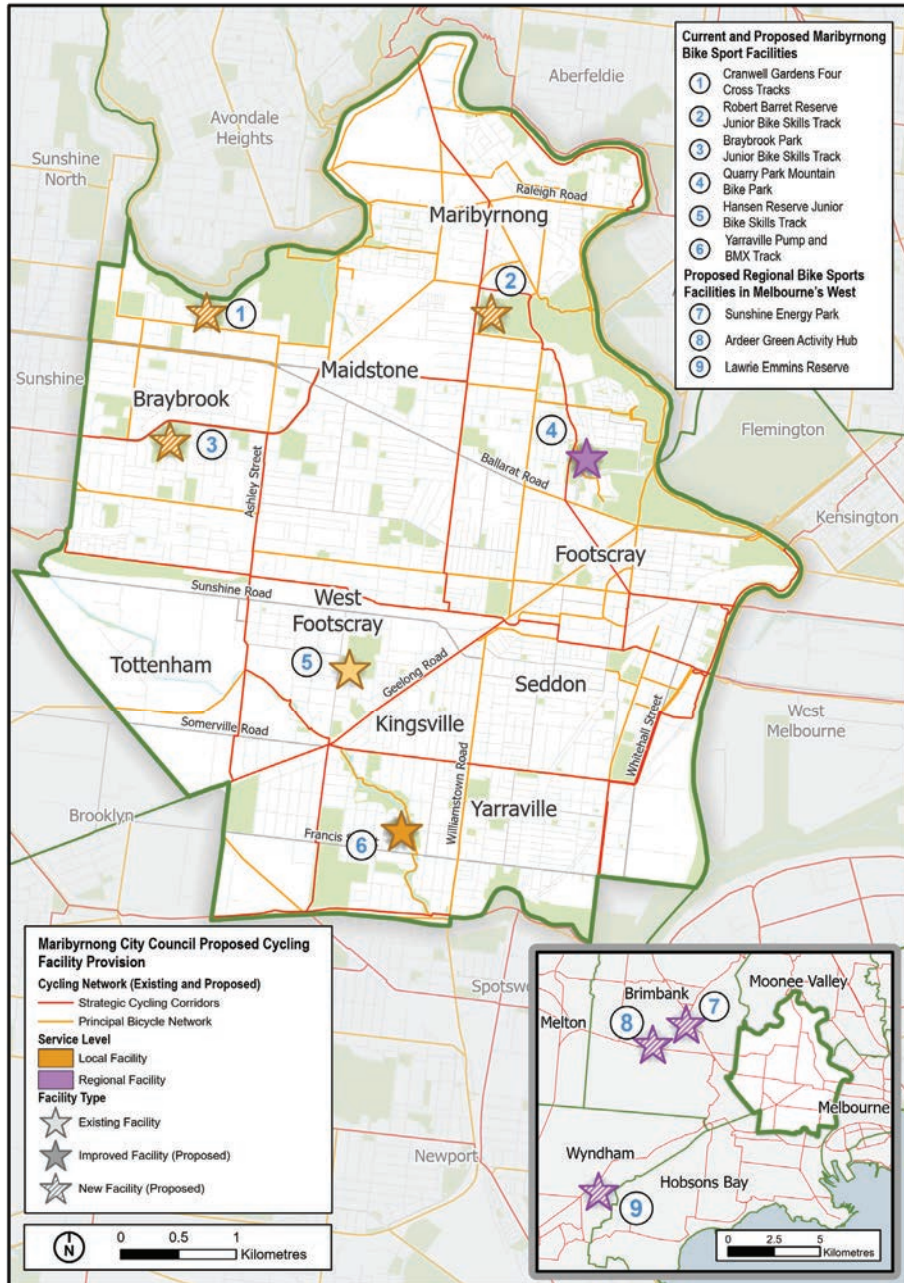
1. Recognise the proposed bike sport facilities at Lawrie Emmins Reserve in Wyndham and Sunshine Energy Park in Brimbank as 'regional' bike sport facilities in Melbourne's West. These facilities are well located on Principal Bicycle Network and Strategic Cycling Corridors and will deliver the regional needs for a criterium track and velodrome (south and north of Melbourne's West).
2. Advocate to State and Federal Government for funding the proposed improvements to Quarry Park Mountain Bike Park and establish the park as Melbourne's West 'regional' mountain bike and cyclocross bike sports facility.
3. Promote Quarry Park Mountain Bike Park as a destination for 'regional' and 'state' level cyclocross and mountain bike events.

Objective 4:

Well maintained and managed bike sport facilities

1. Implement the asset management plan and maintenance plans for current bike sport facilities and update when new bike sports facilities are constructed. Align Council's operational and renewal budgets.
2. Allocate access (lease or license) for the operation of the proposed new bike sports pavilion. The operator is to partner with local clubs, Bike West and AusCycling in the development and running of programs. This could be a joint community enterprise venture with Bike West and a commercial opportunity that improves the financial sustainability of the facility.
3. Implement a process for collating participation data i.e. counters, participant surveys, as a means of measuring social and economic benefits.





Implementation Plan

Maribyrnong City Council will now consider funding in Council's Capital Works Program.

The implementation table details the planning and delivery sequence for actions to help inform Council's long-term financial planning.

Capital Works Projection

Actions	Short Term 1-2 years	Medium Term 2-5 years	Long Term 5-10 years	Responsibility/ Funding Opportunity	
Objective 1: Provide a diversity of new bike sports Infrastructure that offers everyone in the community pathways into bike sports participation					
1. Quarry Park Master Plan Review					
Masterplan				Maribyrnong City Council State Government Sport and Recreation Victoria	
Concept Design - to include engagement with diversity and inclusion focus groups					
	30K				
Detail Design - to be reviewed by diversity and inclusion focus groups					
		100K	100K		
Construction - post completion of capping remediation works					
			800K	800K	
2. Yarraville Pump Track Renewal					
Masterplan - review not required as upgrade of existing facility is approved in current masterplan					
				Maribyrnong City Council	
Concept Design - to include engagement with diversity and inclusion focus groups					
		10K			
Detail Design - to be reviewed by diversity and inclusion focus groups					
			20K		
Construction					
			170K		

Legend	
Master Plan/Investigation Study	
Concept Design	
Detailed Design	
Construction	
Operations	
Advocacy	
Hashed areas indicate further work subject to community engagement and Council endorsement	

Note hold points between each phase for community feedback and Council decision on next steps

Actions	Short Term 1-2 years		Medium Term 2-5 years			Long Term 5-10 years		Responsibility/ Funding Opportunity	
Objective 1: Provide a diversity of new bike sports Infrastructure that offers everyone in the community pathways into bike sports participation									
3. Cranwell Park Master Plan									Maribyrnong City Council
Masterplan									
Concept Design - to include engagement with diversity and inclusion focus groups									
			30K						
Detail Design - to be reviewed by diversity and inclusion focus groups									
			70K						
Construction				220K					
4. Local Junior Bike Skills Tracks – Two Preferred sites identified as Robert Barret Reserve and Braybrook Park									Maribyrnong City Council
Masterplan - To be aligned with other masterplan processes									
Concept Design - to include engagement with diversity and inclusion focus groups									
				20K					
Detail Design - to be reviewed by diversity and inclusion focus groups									
					80K				
Construction						200K	200K		
5. On-Road Criterium Circuit Investigation									Maribyrnong City Council
Investigation Study									
Estimated Capital Expenditure Total \$2.870M		\$50K	\$130K	\$980K	\$1.060M	\$170K	\$80K	\$200K	\$200K

Note hold points between each phase for community feedback and Council decision on next steps

Programming

Actions	Short Term 1-2 years			Medium Term 2-5 years				Long Term 5-10 years			Responsibility/ Funding Opportunity
Objective 2: Develop partnerships and facilitate programs that foster pathways into bike sport participation											
1. Promotion of facilities and programs Partner with Auscycling and use of RideNation platform											Maribyrnong City Council AusCycling
2. Expansion of school bike education program Partner with Auscycling and use of RideNation platform											Maribyrnong City Council AusCycling
3. Engage with bike clubs to expand offering Partner with Auscycling and use of RideNation platform											Maribyrnong City Council AusCycling
4. Planning and advocacy for regional facilities Partner with neighbouring local governments and land managers											Maribyrnong City Council Western Metropolitan Councils
5. Diverse participation programs Partner with local organisations to support target segments such as new migrants, children, young people and women											Maribyrnong City Council Local Interest Groups

Advocacy

Actions	Short Term 1-2 years			Medium Term 2-5 years			Long Term 5-10 years			Responsibility/ Funding Opportunity	
Objective 3: Advocate for funding support and events at regional bike sport facilities											
Funding advocacy for regional facilities in the West Advocate with Wyndham and Brimbank Councils for Lawrie Emmings and Sunshine Energy Park										Maribyrnong City Council Western Metropolitan Councils	
Funding advocacy for Quarry Park Master Plan implementation Pending outcome of masterplan review process											Maribyrnong City Council
Promote Quarry Park Mountain Bike as destination for events Pending outcome of masterplan review process										Maribyrnong City Council	

Maintenance and Operations

Actions	Short Term 1-2 years			Medium Term 2-5 years				Long Term 5-10 years			Responsibility/ Funding Opportunity
Objective 4: Well maintained and managed bike sport facilities											
Implement asset management plans and maintenance plans for bike sport facilities											Existing operational budgets
Allocate access to proposed Quarry Park Pavilion Pending outcome of masterplan review process and equitable use and review policy											Maribyrnong City Council
Implement data collection and analysis											Hardware and costs included in design brief. Maribyrnong City Council manages data analysis and distribution



MARIBYRNONG CITY COUNCIL

Postal Address: PO Box 58, Footscray, Victoria 3011

Phone: 9688 0200 Fax: 9687 7793

Email: email@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au

Web: maribyrnong.vic.gov.au

<http://twitter.com/MaribyrnongCC> www.facebook.com/Maribyrnong