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MEDIA RELEASE

Changes at Jaypex Park to accommodate new Skatepark

Preparations will soon commence at Nhill's Jaypex Park ahead of the construction of a new Skatepark in early 2019.

Further consultation with Powercor has seen a preference emerge to site the new Skatepark adjacent to, rather than under, power lines at the popular recreation area. Although within allowances for safe separation between the Skatepark and the power lines, both Powercor and Council would prefer to see users of the Skatepark enjoy the facility without concern for power lines overhead.

With the Western Highway limiting options to move the Skatepark north on the site towards the highway, Council has been granted permission to construct the park set back further from the highway, which unfortunately necessitates the removal of three trees.

The Black Box and two Sugar Gums will be removed to allow the skatepark to be constructed further away from the power lines and the Western Highway. Council engaged the services of an arborist to inspect the trees. The arborist's report stated that the Black Box has been extensively pruned back by Powercor contractors over many years because of its proximity to the power lines. The report also states the tree is suffering from a significant amount of decay and deadwood.

Once construction of the skatepark is completed in April 2019, Council will replace the Black Box and Sugar Gums with trees that are more suited to the site.

The new Skatepark, funded by Hindmarsh Shire Council and Sport and Recreation Victoria's Community Sports Infrastructure Fund, will greatly improve available facilities for local skate and scooter enthusiasts, replacing an out of date steel ramp and bitumen surfaced skatepark located at Nhill College. Once complete the new Nhill Skatepark at Jaypex Park will also further enhance Nhill's reputation as a popular rest stop for travelers along the Western Highway.

For any further information regarding this announcement please contact Hindmarsh Shire Council's Community Development Coordinator, Simon Landrigan on 03 5391 4444 or by email slandrigan@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au.

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