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INTRODUCTION

The Esperance Skate Park is being designed as a unique, iconic and site-responsive multi-purpose, multi-generational facility that aims to complement the existing uses and facilities of existing waterfront recreational precincts within Esperance. This facility will be the central social hub on the beach front for the youth and the broader community of Esperance.

The development is an opportunity to develop an active community and help provide improved youth provision within the Shire. It will further enhance Esperance as a tourist destination, attracting people from far and wide.

The following report outlines the development of the draft concept design that reflects the current community demand and future community needs.

Image 1 - Proposed site for the Esperance Skate Park
SITE CONTEXT

The site, located on the foreshore south of William Street and boat ramp, presents an opportunity for the Shire of Esperance to develop a skate space in the heart of the community that lifts the public profile of youth. Being close to the town centre, existing amenities and the famous Tanker Jetty, a historical icon and significant part of the community, the site offers a unique design opportunity to tie into the existing waterfront development.

The existing site is currently an informal reserve containing informally planted palm trees and a long standing BBQ area.

With the redevelopment of the foreshore, in the foreseeable future, the facility can create a dynamic and activated central community hub, that offers recreational and social experiences for all members of the community, from day to day usage to community events.

The site has a strategic position and frontage directly onto the foreshore area, which is a key spine and public realm hub for the Esperance community.
The location of the facility is a part of the key open space and recreational reserves for the town of Esperance.

Due to its proximity and connection to the waterfront development, the site will become a part of the high level of activity. There are a number of significant access and several key entry nodes to the site. These are derived from the intersections of main pedestrian movements. These key circulation pathways through and around the site are considered when designing the space, form and functionality of the facility. The existing vehicle access and parking associated with the site will remain.
It is essential for the design of any youth facility to allow for and encourage clear views into, across and through the site. This will create passive and natural surveillance for a skate space and discourages anti-social behaviour. There are a number of vantage points into the site that allow these effects to take place. These views/new views are to be maintained and enhanced through the conceptual development phase.
**DRAINAGE**

The site has two existing grassed sand dunes acting as high points from which overland flow falls away. The two of dunes, located on the eastern and western boundaries form a natural gully through the middle of the site. This creates a natural large swale with overland flow moving from north to south. The concept design will respond to the natural overland flow path of the site, be sympathetic towards this and generate a design response that mitigates any localised pooling or flooding.
**EDGE CONDITIONS**

There are a number of conditions that apply to the interfacing edges of the foreshore site. The most significant one being the Esperance Bay edge and the associated sand dune re-vegetation. This control provides a number of unique opportunities that are explored throughout the conceptual development phase.

The western edge conditions consist of and are dominated by the built form. This includes a number of car parks that are of high use, a boat ramp and the Esperance Scout Hall.
ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

A number of environmental conditions impact the site. These are due to the site being located within the foreshore development precinct on Esperance Bay.

Prevailing winds from the south east blow across the bay into the site with wave erosion along the eastern boundary effects the existing sand dunes. The proposed design for the foreshore investigates the re-vegetation of the sand dunes to mitigate wave erosion. This re-vegetation program will be carefully integrated into the design of the proposed facility.

There are a number of mature tree species located within the site precinct. A large number of these will not be effected by the development of a skate facility. Loosely arranged trees located throughout the site will seek to be accommodated, where possible, into the design of the facility to capture day one shade opportunities and visual appeal.
MICRO CLIMATES

As a result of environmental conditions impacting on the site, a number of micro climates are inadvertently created. Due to the Esperance Bay location and aspect of the site, a strong South-Easterly can generate a number of unprotected areas. Strong winds not only disrupt the skate use of the facility but they can have an undesirable impact by blowing unwanted sand, rubbish and vegetation litter into the site. The location of proposed planting areas and sand dune re-vegetation allows for the creation of areas that are more protected from prevailing winds. These areas are to be investigated for and used as strategically planted areas during the conceptual development phase.
DESIGN VISION

The Esperance Skate Park offers a number of recreational and social opportunities for the Shire of Esperance youth and broader community.

Acknowledging the diversity of current user styles, the design incorporates a number of different skate elements and obstacles to provide continued progression for beginners through to experienced users. The design addresses the key consultation outcomes derived from the pre-design community consultations.

The changing levels throughout the site create a number of aspects, vantage points and intimate gathering/activation spaces for the community to use in a number of varied ways. These level changes create banks, transitions and walls throughout the area that inform the skate elements. A number of key axial connection paths provide a visual open corridor for the space, forms a link between the coastal edge and broader foreshore development and forms a connection between a different number of community groups.

The Esperance Skate Park design is integrated into the surrounding foreshore development, building on the new connections to the foreshore, shared paths and existing infrastructure. Adding to these connections are a number of shaded refuge or viewing areas that direct users to gather in central areas. Landscape furniture such as drinking fountains and rubbish bins are included within these central gathering areas to ensure they are easily accessible.

The design response adopts the sense of theming, materials and colour palettes, major design principals and integration as manifest in the overall foreshore development.

The concept aims to build on this design vision to deliver a successful youth activated built outcome.
EXPLORING THE LOCAL TEXTURE

Interpretive themes and materials relating to the Shire of Esperance are explored. These are applied to the Esperance Skate Park to define the design of the facility and the associated amenities, and the surrounding landscape response.

A strong contextual theme apparent through this exploration is the coastal location of the site. Within the coastal location a series of environmental impacts are significantly evident and will influence the design of the facility. These key themes were explored and are developed to generate the deeper thinking and mapping exercise.

Materials endemic to the local region and explored simultaneously to the theme ideation. These materials relate to the foreshore context of the skate park and support the key themes and interpretation developed through their discovery.

The newly designed and constructed landscape of the Esperance waterfront consists of a strong coastal planting and materials palette. The main characteristics of these elements of the precinct will be carried through, in the design of the Esperance Skate Park to form a connectivity with a holistic response to a central community open public space.

Image 1 - The historic Tanker Jetty
Image 2 - Esperance Waterfront coastal planting palette
Image 3 - Esperance Waterfront rock revetment walls
Image 4 - The iconic Esperance Whale Tail sculpture and plaza
03 CONCEPTUAL PROGRESSION

DESIGN IDEATION

ESPERANCE SKATE PARK

ICONIC

INTERMEDIATE - ADVANCED LEVEL BOWL

SKATE COMPETITIONS

SKATE / BMX / SCOOTER / SPECTATOR

LINKS TO SURROUNDING WATERFRONT DEVELOPMENT

NATURAL SHADE & TOPOGRAPHICAL LANDFORMS

LEARNING FACILITY / LESSONS

ALL LEVEL PROGRESSION

CONCRETE

SAND

COASTAL LANDSCAPE CHARACTER COLOURS

OBJECTS

STEEL

HANGOUT SPACE

INTERESTING + ADVANCED LEVEL STREET / TRANSITION

AMENITY / ENTERTAINMENT AREAS

COASTAL LANDSCAPE CHARACTER + NORFOLK ISLAND PINES

LIGHTING

CONNECTIONS

ESPERANCE WATERFRONT

COASTAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

MULTI - GENERATIONAL

LOCAL MATERIALS + COLOUR

PATHWAY HIERARCHY

GREEN LANDSCAPE PARK SETTING

DESIGN INFLUENCES

COASTAL & ICONIC
1. THE COASTAL ENVIRONMENT IMPACTS
The theme to the design is developed around the impact that environmental coastal conditions have on the site. This thematic layer is woven through the design with the inclusion of the ‘dune barrier’ for protection against wind impacts, spatial connectivity and circulation into and across the site. It is supported with the inclusion of recycled timber from the historic Tanker Jetty as a further wind breaker feature and connection to the identity and sense of place of Esperance.

2. CONNECTED AXIS
Access and circulation have aligned to provide visual and physical links through the site including a primary link to the foreshore promenade and a secondary link to the central foreshore precinct. Other key connections link to the recreational precinct and greater Esperance pathway network.

3. PEDESTRIAN MOVEMENT HIERARCHY
A pedestrian hierarchy is overlaid to allow safe free flowing movement along the foreshore and uninterrupted access to the facility from the waterfront. Access to the site from the foreshore is pedestrian focused with material change to identify secondary paths that link into the skate infrastructure. The open lawn space allows for informal gathering and access to and across the site.
1. TRANSITION SKATE
Forming the skate infrastructure, each of the skate areas represents a direct link to the consultation outcomes and feedback from the Shire of Esperance. A main theme from the consultation was the inclusion of a combination skate space with both street and transition features. Two skate bowl areas have been developed as a result of this feedback. One intermediate skill level open bowl area (1) and one deeper more advanced bowl (2). This provides users with a progression skate space where skills can be developed safely on a smaller bowl then taken to the bigger bowl as users progress. Having these as two separate spaces allows for different and unique uses. For example a group of friends can practice and hang out in the smaller bowl vessel while advanced users can take advantage of uninhabited use in the larger bowl area.

2. STREET SKATE
The street skate area has also been developed around the consultation feedback. A number of participants voted for street and plaza style features. These have been developed through a street skate area connecting the facility to the proposed path network. This allows increased capacity as each individual space can be used independently by multiple people ultimately minimising potential for user collisions.

3. CONNECTING THE STYLES
The facility works as a holistically connected space with links between each area being developed through different forms of skateable features and pedestrian accessibility. A main platform is shared by the closed and open bowl areas forming a central spine with secondary smaller links providing different fun forms of connection between the street and open bowl area. Connections ensure that users can do a long continuous run between spaces without interfering with individual use.
As a result of further community consultation a number of changes were undertaken while developing the draft concept design. The inclusion of the feedback and design amendments suggested by the community ensures that the community has a degree of stewardship/ownership over the facility. This results in a richer environment for the members of the public using the facility.

The major change to the skatepark design was a result of the community wanting a bigger, more advanced street section. The draft concept included a number of street obstacles that were tailored to more to the beginner to intermediate skill level. The reduction of the open bowl area allowed for a bigger street section and the inclusion of more advanced obstacles. This results in a facility that has a more even mix of transition and street style elements. Pool coping was raised with the community during the draft concept consultation and as a result was added to the enclosed bowl.

Amendments to the landscaping throughout the development of the draft concept design were minor in nature and were a result of comments and discussions with the community. A number of softfall and turf mounds in the south were rectified to allow for small BMX runs to be included in the concept. Garden bed and turf mound geometry was readjusted to suit the waterfront master plan while some areas were amended as a result of the skate layout changing.

During the draft concept consultation it was outlined to the community that if skate obstacles/elements were to be added to the facility then something would need to be removed. This was generally understood by the community and as a result the final concept design has not grown in overall size.

**SKATEPARK WORKS**
A number of changes were made to the skatepark design of the draft concept as a result of feedback and information gathered during consultation workshops and meetings with council. These changes included the following:
- Pool coping around the enclosed bowl
- Whale tail changed to vert quarter pipe
- Volcano deleted
- Open bowl made tighter
- Seating area in south deleted
- Street section enlarged
- Kicker with A-frame rail added
- Hubba on bank added
- Manual pad at top of bank added
- Quarter pipe return added

**LANDSCAPE WORKS**
A number of changes were made to the landscape design of the draft concept as a result of feedback and information gathered during consultation workshops and meetings with council. These changes included the following:
- Seating walls added to mounds
- Entry paths in west realigned
- Entry path in south-east deleted
- BMX runs added to mounds in south
- Garden bed layout amendments
04 OVERVIEW 3D
LEGEND

STAGE 1 - SKATE WORKS
1. Enclosed Bowl Area
2. Open Bowl Area
3. Street Area
4. Refuge area with seating

STAGE 2 - LANDSCAPE WORKS
5. Proposed shelter
6. Recycled timber wind break
7. Connection path
8. Softscaping
9. Entry sign
10. Event lighting
11. Turf mounding
12. Softfall mounding
13. Tree planting
14. BMX runs

LANDSCAPE WORKS - BY OTHERS
15. Foreshore path - BY OTHERS
16. Foreshore shelters - BY OTHERS
17. Foreshore softscaping - BY OTHERS
LEGEND

STAGE 1 - SKATE WORKS
1. 1800H Bowl Section
2. 1500H Bowl Section
3. 1200H Bowl Section
4. 1500H Quarter
5. 1500H Hipped Quarter
6. 1200H Quarter
7. Roll In
8. 1000H Quarter
9. 1200H Quarter with Taco Extension
10. Mogul Feature
11. 750H Bank with Extension
12. 750H Bank with Manual Pad
13. 750H Banked Hip
14. Hubba/Down Ledge
15. Kicker with A-Frame Rail
16. 350H Granite Ledge
17. 450H Flat Rail
18. 900H Quarter Pipe
19. 1500H Quarter
20. 2700H Curved Coping Quarter
21. Entry sign
22. Functional Lighting
23. Refuge area with seating
LEGEND

STAGE 2 - LANDSCAPE WORKS
1. Concrete feature seating walls
2. Turf mounding
3. Softfall mounding
4. Softscaping
5. Tree planting
6. Recycled timber wind break
7. Shade structure
8. BMX runs
9. Competition spectator space
10. Foreshore path - BY OTHERS
11. Foreshore softscaping - BY OTHERS
12. Foreshore shelters - BY OTHERS
04 PERSPECTIVE VIEWS
04 PERSPECTIVE VIEWS
IDENTITY

1. COLOUR PALETTE
The colour palette has been developed from the rich colours of the infamous Lake Hillier and associated coast line environment. The colours of the skate facility play a key role in bringing the space to life by integrating and complementing the themes of the existing and proposed masterplan.

2. MATERIAL PALETTE
The materials selected for this design respond to the colour palette and the Esperance waterfront development. Granite blocks are used in combination with charcoal concrete to highlight the rich colour of the natural stone. Recycled timber is used in areas to represent the ‘dry jetty’ and the shipping heritage of the Esperance community. Bright coloured furniture features and steel attribute a sense of fun to the facility.
WATERFRONT SUITE

The furniture palette utilises recycled Tanker Jetty timber paired with powder coated steel to reflect the local landscape character. It has been located throughout the facility and landscape in relation to the functionality of each space. The ideation of the furniture develops from the existing Esperance waterfront furniture design which stronger enforces the connection between the two precincts.
2. Steel Skate Elements. Powder Coated Steel.
5. Recycled Tanker Jetty Posts.
7. Lighting Columns.
LANDSCAPING

NATURAL BUFFER
Informal mass planting filters the environmental conditions impacting on the eastern side of the facility giving an exciting glimpse over the Esperance Bay and Esperance Port further beyond. The Norfolk Island Pines are scattered in random clusters forming a link to the Esperance Waterfront tree planting. A coastal planting palette connects the facility to the Esperance waterfront development.

Note: Specific planting to be developed in line with Shire of Esperance planting guidelines.

1. Melaleuca lanceolata
2. Araucaria heterophylla
3. Adenanthos cuneatus
4. Carpobrotus virescens
5. Ficinia nodosa
6. Hemiandra pungens
7. Leucophyta brownii
8. Lomandra confertifolia
9. Melaleuca pentagona
10. Myoporum insulare
11. Scaevola crassifolia
12. Westringia dampieri
ESTIMATE OF PROBABLE COST
## Proposed Skate Works - Stage 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Preliminaries</strong></td>
<td>$52,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design and construct consultant fees, building preliminaries, including all site management, flights, accommodation site establishment etc.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Earthworks</strong></td>
<td>$46,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All earthworks including clearing and grubbing, cut to fill, importation of material and detail trimming works to designed levels.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Drainage</strong></td>
<td>$5,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supply and install drainage infrastructure and soakage pit and custom drainage pits within enclosed bowl.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Concrete Works</strong></td>
<td>$462,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Platforms</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transitions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bases</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blocks</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metal coping</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All colours as shown on the design</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Landscape Structures</strong></td>
<td>$21,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2x Master Plan shade structures</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Electrical</strong></td>
<td>$100,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supply and install all electrical works including poles, conduits, fittings and footings.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Contingency</strong></td>
<td>$80,000</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal Stage 1 (Ex. GST)</strong></td>
<td>$768,000</td>
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Note: This estimate is based on currently available industry prices. Skate park construction is a specialised trade and costs are prone to fluctuation. Convic have based the skate park costs on recently tendered projects in SW WA. This is an estimate of probable costs only, all components of which are subject to escalation in construction, labour and material costs. Prices submitted at tender may vary according to market demand at the time of tender in the order of +/-10%.

## Proposed Landscape Works - Stage 2

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<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Preliminaries (If under separate construction contract)</strong></td>
<td>$35,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Including all site management, site fencing, mobilisation and tree protection etc.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Earthworks</strong></td>
<td>$37,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earthworks to achieve design levels and compaction including any required cut and fill importation.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Landscape Concrete Works</strong></td>
<td>$9,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supply and install 100mm depth reinforced concrete to pathways and under “master plan” shade structures.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Landscape Free Standing Walls</strong></td>
<td>$16,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concrete free standing walls 300mm thick x 500mm high.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Concrete Garden Edging</strong></td>
<td>$6,930</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supply and install 100mm wide concrete garden edging.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Softfall Mounds - BMX Run</strong></td>
<td>$41,340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supply and install 100mm thick Retech rubber surface to colour and pattern as detailed on 75mm crusher dust bedding including rubber coated concrete edge detail.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Softscape Works</strong></td>
<td>$52,305</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supply and install planted garden beds with 140mm pot size to spacing 5/m².</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Install turf lawn on 75mm depth topsoil.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Install trees including planting hole excavation and stake and webbing protection.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Irrigation</strong></td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supply and install irrigation including all connections and feeds.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Landscape Structures</strong></td>
<td>$42,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>2x Master Plan shade structures</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Landscape Furniture</strong></td>
<td>$40,750</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 x Concrete seating including recycled timber seat top and all associated fixings.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Custom laser cut sign including powder coating and associated footwear.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supply and install recycled timber “Tanker Jetty” posts collected from council yard and installed in vertical orientation with concrete footings to various heights including all steel wraps and painting.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Contingency</strong></td>
<td>$20,000</td>
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<td><strong>Subtotal Stage 2 (Ex. GST)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>$1,079,575</td>
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CONCLUSION

The existing 20 year old skate facility is to be demolished and reinstated with a new youth facility, in a new foreshore location that will become the heart and destination for the youth and broader community of the Shire of Esperance.

The final concept design looks to reinstate the key and most popular features of the existing skate park while building on them to form a new design that is in advance of the current trends. A large street section has been added to the final concept that allows the current skate community the ability to use different styles of obstacles.

The final concept design responds to the strong local and natural character of the region and interprets major elements into the design to create a unique and site specific response for the Esperance Skate Park. Overlaying public open space, shelters, passive and refuge areas, integrated landscape response, a diverse and evocative material palette onto an iconic skate facility design creates an activated space that is integrated into the broader Esperance waterfront development.

The design of the facility makes significant connection to the recently completed Esperance Waterfront through it’s key pedestrian axis’, furniture design and planting and material palette. The final concept design also responds to its inherent central location and ensures seamless street connection and legible circulation with natural and passive surveillance across, into and through the entire site.

The final concept design creates a unique, iconic, creative and contextually responsive, multi-generational, all ability, skill levels facility that is activated through the use of its spaces for community organised events.

NEXT PHASE

The final concept design will be submitted to the Shire of Esperance council for approval in August 2015. Upon endorsement of the design it is recommended that the Shire should advertise the final concept design within the community in a “for information only” capacity. This will allow the community to view the results of their involvement within the design and consultation process.

The Shire of Esperance will be applying for funding from Lotteries West for the Stage 2 works of the design and it is anticipated that approval of this funding application will be known by November 2015 with a projected facility opening date of June 2016.