

## Attachment 1

# Off-Leash Area Review & Draft Off-Leash Policy

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## Community Consultation Report November 2022



## Dog Off-Leash Area Review

### *Overview of Community Consultation*

The community consultation and engagement program for the Off-Leash Area Review and public exhibition of the draft Off-Leash Policy ran for almost 3 months from 9 July to 30 September 2022.

Various engagement opportunities were promoted including:

1. **Shape Monash consultation** – interactive mapping of sites for site specific feedback at <https://shape.monash.vic.gov.au/dogs>



2. **Direct Email** – Sports clubs and Friends of groups were directly emailed and encouraged to complete the on-line survey and/or make a submission.
3. **Ongoing promotion** of the on-line survey through Council's website and social media.
4. **Project page subscription registration** – for regular project updates.



5. **Articles in Monash Bulletin distributed to all households in Monash - July & August 2022**  
Monash Bulletin articles were also translated into Simple Chinese, Greek & Italian.

## **HAVE YOUR SAY** on dog off-leash policy

### **Monash loves its four-legged friends.**

Whether Cavoodle, Labrador Retriever, Golden Retriever, Border Collie or German Shepherd, just shy of 12,000 dogs are registered with us every year.

To make sure that spending time outdoors with your dog is safe and enjoyable for you and other users of our open spaces, some areas within Monash are designated as places where your dog can be off-leash while still under your control.

In November 2021, we resolved to undertake an extensive review of off-leash areas in Monash and develop a draft off-leash policy for public exhibition and community consultation.

Traditionally, planning for dog off-leash areas has not been subject to the same planning attention as for other community facilities like sportsgrounds, play spaces, conservation reserves and parks.

As a result, off-leash areas have often been placed in and around

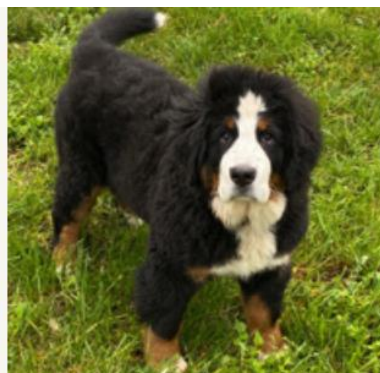
existing parkland infrastructure and in smaller or less popular parks. This has often resulted in conflict due to incompatible uses, inadequate buffers between off-leash areas and other parkland activities and the non-compliance of some dog owners (dog litter and damage to sportsgrounds).

Our review identified opportunities for the creation of 14 new potential off-leash areas; the expansion of four existing off-leash areas; the reduction in size of four existing off-leash areas and the removal of one existing off-leash area.

Now Monash residents and dog owners can have their say on our off-leash areas review and draft off-leash policy, as well as the proposed changes to existing off-leash area sites.

Community feedback will be used to help inform and finalise the off-leash policy and any changes to existing off-leash areas.

We have erected signage at the reserves where changes to off-leash areas are proposed



and invite community feedback regarding the proposed changes.

Council considered whether to create fenced off-leash dog parks, however, after consulting with experts, we determined that providing dog parks that are for the exclusive use of dogs is not the preferred model. Most activities undertaken in these spaces can also be undertaken in an off-leash area, without the issues associated with the management and maintenance of exclusive dog parks. We'll be seeking your views on this as part of our consultation.

**More info:** ☎ 9518 3555  
🌐 [shape.monash.vic.gov.au/dogs](https://shape.monash.vic.gov.au/dogs)

*July 2022 Monash Bulletin (p. 5)*

## **HAVE YOUR SAY** on dog off-leash policy

**We've undertaken an extensive review of dog off-leash areas in Monash and developed a draft off-leash policy for public exhibition and community consultation.**

Our review also identified opportunities for the creation of 14 new potential off-leash areas; the expansion of four existing off-leash areas; the reduction in size of four existing off-leash areas and the removal of one existing off-leash area.

Monash residents and dog owners can have their say on the Draft Policy, as well as the proposed changes to off-leash areas and recommendations regarding fenced off-leash areas.



**Consultation will remain open until 30 September.**

**More info:** ☎ 9518 3555  
🌐 [shape.monash.vic.gov.au/dogs](https://shape.monash.vic.gov.au/dogs)  
✉ [recreation@monash.vic.gov.au](mailto:recreation@monash.vic.gov.au)

*August 2022 Monash Bulletin (p. 3)*

6. **Reserve signage** – signage erected at the main entry points to all impacted reserves.

*Example – Proposed New OLA Signage*

## TRIAL DOG OFF-LEASH AREA

Highview Park, Glen Waverley

Council is trialling **Highview Park** as a dog off-leash area until 30 September 2022. Dogs can now play off-lead in this area but must still be under effective control.

This trial follows Council's Domestic Animal Management Plan 2021-2025 and subsequent Dog Off-Leash Review 2022 where community sentiment indicated a desire for more off-leash areas in Monash.

### What do you think?



Should the off-leash area stay after the trial period? Visit Shape Monash and let us know: [shape.monash.vic.gov.au/dogs](https://shape.monash.vic.gov.au/dogs)



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*Example- Proposed Expanded OLA Signage*

## PROPOSED EXPANSION TO AN EXISTING DOG OFF-LEASH AREA

Mount Waverley Linear Reserve (Heany Street & Beverley Grove), Mount Waverley

Council is proposing to expand the existing dog off-leash area at **Heany Street Reserve** to include Beverley Grove Reserve. Dogs can now also play off-lead in that area but must still be under effective control.

This proposed change follows Council's Domestic Animal Management Plan 2021-2025 and subsequent Dog Off-Leash Review 2022 where community sentiment indicated a desire for more off-leash areas in Monash.

### What do you think?



Should the proposed change become permanent? Visit Shape Monash and let us know: [shape.monash.vic.gov.au/dogs](https://shape.monash.vic.gov.au/dogs)



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### Example – Proposed Reduction OLA signage

## PROPOSED REDUCTION IN A DOG OFF-LEASH AREA

Gardiners Reserve (north), Burwood

Council is proposing to reduce the dog off-leash area at **Gardiners Reserve** to the northern pitch area. The proposed change is in accordance with the *draft* Dog Off-Leash Policy approved for public exhibition at the 31 May 2022 Council meeting.

This proposed change follows Council's Domestic Animal Management Plan 2021-2025 and subsequent Dog Off-Leash Review 2022 and responds to a desire to minimise the impact dogs are having on sporting activities and specialised playing surfaces and make major shared trails safer for cyclists.

#### What do you think?



Visit Shape Monash and let us know:  
[shape.monash.vic.gov.au/dogs](https://shape.monash.vic.gov.au/dogs)



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### Example – Proposed Removal OLA signage

## PROPOSED REMOVAL OF A DOG OFF-LEASH AREA

Damper Creek Conservation Reserve, Mount Waverley

Council is proposing to remove the dog off-leash status of **Damper Creek Conservation Reserve**. The proposed change is in accordance with the *draft* Dog Off-Leash Policy approved for public exhibition at the 31 May 2022 Council meeting.

This proposed change follows Council's Domestic Animal Management Plan 2021-2025 and a desire to protect native flora and fauna in sensitive biodiverse areas as per recommendations in the Damper Creek Conservation Management Plan.

#### What do you think?



Visit Shape Monash and let us know:  
[shape.monash.vic.gov.au/dogs](https://shape.monash.vic.gov.au/dogs)



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7. **Residential Fliers** – distributed to all residences within 200m of potentially impacted sites.
8. **Communications to existing networks** e.g. direct emails to members of Council networks and community groups.
9. **Direct communication and/or presentation to Monash's advisory groups** - Disability Advisory Committee, Young Persons Reference Group, Positive Aging Reference Group and Gender Equity Advisory Committee & Multicultural Advisory Group.

## Community Consultation Findings

### Written Submissions

At the close of consultation on 30 September 2022, **79** written submissions were received via direct email.

These submissions are summarised *Table 1: Community Submissions* and have been classified under the following categories to assist with understanding the predominate themes arising from the consultation feedback. Key themes from the written submission include:

Ref. no.	Predominate Theme	Total Responses
1.	<b>Community Safety</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dog attacks (5 submissions)</li> <li>- Concerns for children (4 submissions)</li> <li>- Tripping hazards e.g. sticks/holes (5 submissions)</li> <li>- Small dog concerns (2 submissions)</li> </ul>	17 comments
2.	<b>Regulation &amp; Education</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Irresponsible dog owners</li> </ul>	18 comments
3.	Support more OLAs or an extension to an existing OLA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Area under Mayfield Park transmission lines (4 submissions)</li> <li>- Bernard Street (1 submission)</li> <li>- Hughesdale (1 submission)</li> </ul>	14 comments
4.	<b>Oppose more OLAs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Larpent Reserve (1 submissions)</li> <li>- Wellington Reserve (2 submissions)</li> </ul>	3 comments
6.	<b>Infrastructure needs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Signage (5 submissions)</li> <li>- Dog facilities (2 submissions)</li> <li>- Fencing /gates (19 submissions) - Highview Park</li> </ul>	24 comments
7.	<b>Negative Impact</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Waste &amp; Faeces (dog poo/smell) (21 submissions)</li> <li>- Surface Damage (digging, urine) (4 submissions)</li> </ul>	21 comments
10.	<b>Oppose OLA change</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Jack Edwards Reserve (2 petitions)</li> <li>- Gardiners Reserve (7 submissions, 2 petitions)</li> <li>- Damper Creek Conservation Reserve (18 submissions, 1 petition)</li> <li>- Davies Reserve (2 submissions)</li> <li>- Finch Street (1 submission)</li> <li>- Larpent Reserve (1 submission)</li> <li>- Princess Highway Reserve (2 submissions)</li> <li>- Hinkler Reserve (1 submission) – oppose existing OLA</li> </ul>	32 comments  Oppose OLA Change at Jack Edwards Reserve Petition #2 (76 signatures) Oppose OLA Change at Jack Edwards Reserve Petition #3 (170 signatures) Oppose OLA Change Gardiners Reserve Petition #4 (60 signatures) Support OLA change at Gardiners Reserve Petition #5 (79 signatures) Support OLA Change at Jack Edwards Reserve Petition #6 (408 signatures) Oppose OLA Change at Damper Creek Conservation Reserve #7 (550 signatures)
11.	<b>Support OLA change</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Damper Creek (1 submission)</li> <li>- Gardiners Reserve (1 submission)</li> </ul>	2 comments
12.	<b>Request FOLA (fenced area exclusive for dog)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 37a Therese Street, Mount Waverley (1 submission)</li> <li>- South Oakleigh (1 submission)</li> <li>- Mount Waverley (Matt Fregon MP Petition 500 signatures)</li> </ul>	2 comments <b>Support for a FOLA Petition #1 (500 signatures)</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>80 written submissions</b>

Refer to *Appendix 1 – Written Submissions* for more information.

### *Meetings with Dog Owners*

During the consultation period, officers also met with dog owners to discuss the implications of the proposed changes at Gardiners Reserve. Details of these meetings and the discussions with dog owners is outlined in *Appendix 2 – Meetings with Dog Owners*.

### *On-line Consultation*

At the close of consultation on 30 September 2022, there were **3556 visitors**, **693 contributions** including **61 submissions** (including Q&A) received via the Shape Monash page.

The on-line survey results are provided in *Appendix 3 – On-line Consultation Results*.

### *Petitions*

At the close of consultation on 30 September 2022, **7 petitions** had been received:

1. Support for an exclusive Fenced Dog Park in Mount Waverley (Matt Fregon MP - 500 signatures)
2. Oppose OLA change at Jack Edwards Reserve Community Petition (76 signatures)
3. Oppose OLA change at Jack Edwards Reserve Community Petition (170 signatures)
4. Oppose OLA change at Gardiners Reserve Community Petition (60 signatures)
5. Support OLA change at Gardiners Reserve Petition (Eastern Lions FC - 79 signatures)
6. Support OLA change at Jack Edwards Reserve (Oakleigh Cannons FC - 408 signatures)
7. Oppose OLA change at Damper Creek Conservation Reserve Community Petition #7 (550 signatures, noting less than 50 of these come from Monash postcodes).

Total signatures re proposed OLA changes at Gardiners Reserve – 79 support v 60 oppose.

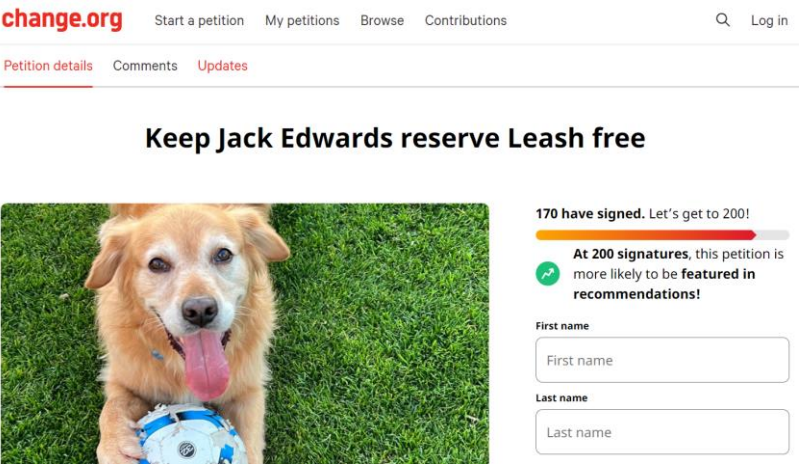
Total signatures re proposed OLA changes at Jack Edwards Reserve – 408 support v 246 oppose.

## Appendix 1 - Written Submissions

Submission no.	Date	Respondent Type	Submission	Key Theme
1	7/6/22	Oakleigh Tennis Club	Additionally, the club is not happy that they were not consulted regarding this change. They have also advised that they are not supportive of the areas in between the tennis courts and pavilion to be off leash as it presents a danger to their kids. They would like to have this area changed to an on-leash area. Additionally, they would like to know who has proposed this to council and why this change has occurred.	Community Safety #1
2	3/6/22	Ashwood Cricket Club	No problem, as a dog owner I think it's a great idea. Unless there's physical fencing though dogs won't know the difference what zone they're in. Also, the oval then just becomes a dog poo park, the bins around the oval also become overwhelmingly pungent!	Negative Impact – Waste & Faeces, Smell #1
3	7/6/22	Waverley Park Hawks FC	I don't mean to be difficult and I'm all for leash free zones (we have a dog ourselves) but surely having our kids be able to feel safe when training and not have to be playing around dog poo is more important than another leash free area?	Community Safety #2 Negative Impact – Waste & Faeces #2
4	7/6/22	Mulgrave FC	I'm a dog owner so I have no issue with what is being trialed ....but can you confirm that council will also be doing ground inspection and ground cleaning before sports events?  Owners tend but not always to clean up after their dogs when they are on leads....but won't if they are not and we get left before a Saturday game having to spend an hour cleaning up as it stands now!!! Just something that has probably not been addressed in the strategy.	Negative Impact – Waste & Faeces #3 Education & Regulation - Irresponsible Dog Owners #1
5	9/6/2022	Oakleigh District FC	The constant requirement to remove substantial amounts of dog faeces from the Princes Highway West Oval, is unacceptable situation. It is a dirty and additional task, which has many negative effects.....no community volunteer should have to do it.	Negative Impact – Waste & Faeces #4
6	5/7/2022	Community Member	However, I have noticed an increase in amount of dog poo's when I go for my daily walks. The dog poo's are located around Janice Road area and surrounding streets – Glen Waverley My biggest concern with this expansion is the amount of increase dog poo's around the neighbourhood.	Negative Impact – Waste & Faeces #5
7	5/7/2022	Glen Waverley	Also worth noting the locals who walk their dogs at Glen Waverley North are very irresponsible, the amount of dog faeces left on the ground is disappointing, not been racist but evident through the mix of people in the area, at Capital the situation is much better with the odd one or two . Not sure if the council has signage but I have seen at other municipalities notices that advise owners to collect their dogs waste.	Negative Impact – Waste & Faeces #6 Infrastructure #1 – signage
8	5/7/2022	Glen Waverley	I recall this reserve has quite a number of regulatory bollards with pictogram requiring people to pick up after their pets. Perhaps signage is not the most effective way to ensure people to do right thing unless we can enforce it and provide alternative. I have cc the relevant teams for further advice.	Negative Impact – Waste & Faeces #7 Education & Regulation - Irresponsible Dog Owners #2



Petition	8/7/2022	Community Petition x2	<p><a href="https://www.change.org/p/keep-jack-edwards-reserve-leash-free">change.org petition: Keep Jack Edwards Reserve Leash free</a></p>  <p>The City of Monash would like to reduce the off leash areas of Jack Edwards Reserve by over half of the space. Considerations include keeping the scout hall area only as leash free, and removing access to the soccer pitch, with leash on around the pitch.</p> <p>Reducing the area to the scout hall area goes against the report submitted that points out there will be too many dogs for the narrow gaps. Other things not considered have been the cross over of the children who access the hall, and the wildlife in the area and the spectators who watch the soccer on the artificial pitch.</p> <p>Please fill in the Monash survey, <a href="https://shape.monash.vic.gov.au/dogs">https://shape.monash.vic.gov.au/dogs</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.change.org/p/keep-jack-edwards-reserve-leash-free">https://www.change.org/p/keep-jack-edwards-reserve-leash-free</a></p>	<p>Oppose OLA change – Jack Edwards Reserve #1</p> <p>Petition #1 (76 supporters)</p> <p>Petition #2 (170 supporters)</p>
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9	28/7/2022	Oakleigh Panthers	<p>As discussed, on game day (Saturdays), we have found an increasing amount of small sticks/tree branches left scattered across Fregon Reserve.</p> <p>Yes, we do scan our fields &amp; remove these sticks, but we may miss some. We have had to do this every Saturday since the adopt of this trial.</p> <p>This is an obvious safety issue for our players. If we happen to miss some sticks &amp; a player gets injured. Who is liable for the injury?? I know it's not the club.</p> <p>On top of this, there's an increasing amount of dog poop, on our fields, on walkways. Just another issue. I've attached some pics as well.</p>	<p>Community Safety #3</p> <p>Negative Impact – Waste &amp; Faeces #8</p>
10	18/7/2022	Community Member	I'd like to get in touch regarding Damper Creek, is this whole park offered as an off-leash area or is it sectioned off? It would be very attractive for us and friends as an off-leash friendly park.	Oppose OLA change – Damper Creek #2
11	6/8/2022	Community member	It is an area that is accessible to dog owners from both sides of the freeway, and many of us there to let our dogs run free (we were unaware that this is not yet designated leash free). Because it is so secluded, and with practically no foot traffic whatsoever, and because it is so large and so well bounded on all sides, it has been perfect for letting dogs socialize and run free. And for owners to form a community – which is really what good citizenship of a council should be all about.	Support more OLAs #1
12	4/7/2022	Movewell Health and Fitness	<p>I had an altercation with a dog walker that had no control over his dog and it was licking the face of a couple of my members while participating in our session this morning.</p> <p>I tried to shoe his dog away and he got angry at me. When I tried to explain the guidelines that he needs to have voice control of his dog and it should be 10m away from organized activity, he asked do I have a permit to use the reserve.</p>	<p>Education &amp; Regulation - Irresponsible Dog Owners #3</p> <p>Community Safety #4</p>
13	5/7/2022	Community member	Without further information, it is difficult for me to understand how dogs can have a negative impact on the native vegetation. I also haven't seen dogs being a nuisance or a danger. Therefore, I am against removing the Dog Off Leash Area. However, if there is real concern about the health of the native vegetation, I think that reducing access to the reserve would be far more effective. This could be done, by removing some of the many paths through the reserve.	Oppose OLA change – Damper Creek #3
14	8/7/2022	Community member	My wife and I live in xxxx, which has direct access to Damper Creek. One of the appealing features of the area when we purchased our home 21 years ago was the off-leash zone so close to home, providing our border collie with space to get the required level of exercise for this type of breed. Being so close to home is important to enable exercise before and after work. We have a different border collie (cross) since purchasing in the area 21 years ago, so the appeal of the off-leash area has not changed and continues to be one of the key reasons we still enjoy our local community.	Oppose OLA change – Damper Creek #4

15	15/7/2022	Community member	I had a look at the draft off leash policy and I have a question that is not covered on the website. Can I nominate another area to be considered as an off-leash area, or has that part of the process closed? (I just filled in the draft policy questionnaire and included my suggestion for a new dog off leash area in Hughesdale.)	Support more OLAs – Hughesdale #2
16	19/7/2022	Community member	I went to the park this morning and noticed that the entire park has had its use changed from off-leash to leash on. I have been using this park for 16 years so naturally I'm devastated. Especially as there was zero public consultation, or communication. Council keeps claiming they want to address nuisance dogs; Council also keeps claiming that it wishes to reduce vehicle use. I can't see how removing my only off-leash area within walking distance achieves those stated goals. Dogs which are exercised are less prone to problem behaviors and if owners have a suitable area within walking distance, they are less prone to using their car. The park I am referring to is the Whites Lane Reserve. Whilst the part of the park adjacent to Watsons Road contains a shared use path there is a larger area which is a water retarding basin which does not contain any paths. The retarding basin has a high bank along the Whites Lane side, which is shared use for cars and bicycles (as are all roads). The high bank acts as a visual barrier between the basin and Whites Lane.	Support more OLAs – Whites Lane Reserve (expand Whites Lane Retarding Basin OLA) #3
17	22/7/2022	Community member	Please don't make Damper Creek on-leash. One cannot compare/replace a forest like reserve with a sports surface reserve. The stimulation a dog receives in terms of smells and exploring on a cricket/football pitch reserve is almost non-existent compared to a forested type of reserve. And also, sports reserves will always be surrounded by roads/streets/buildings and be occupied frequently with events. Whereas forest type reserves will never be impacted by social events that prevent off leash walking and are also very often withdrawn from streets/roads. I literally moved to a house closer to Damper Creek as I use it twice a day for my very active dog. It is one of the nicest spots for a dog to be 'in their natural habitat', to be sensory stimulated and roam free away from any roads or public events. I cannot understand how dogs impact the area more than other wildlife like foxes or possums (which are not being removed).	Oppose OLA change – Damper Creek #5
18	22/7/2022	Chadstone Football Club	We have noticed an increased amount of dog waste on the ground recently, possibly due to being listed recently as an off-leash dog park. There also doesn't appear to be a dog waste bin, or at least not one by the car park. Instead, people are leaving their bags of dog waste on top of the bin cages in the car park (pic attached). Is it possible to have a dog waste bin installed near the car park?	Negative Impact – Waste & Faeces #9 Infrastructure need - bins #2
19	22/07/2022	Community member (phone call)	They would like the park to remain an off-leash park so that dogs can run around the park.	Oppose OLA change – Damper Creek #6
20	22/7/2022	Community member	Xxxx called to express her concerns about the proposed expansion of leash-free dog areas listed in the notice; she felt that if more areas were to be opened, they would need to be fully fenced to prevent dog attacks (unlike the Hertford Crescent leash-free park area, which in her experience is prone to attacks).	Oppose more OLAs #1 Community Safety #5 - dog attacks
21	26/7/2022	Community member	Hello, I recently read your leash free park proposal, I could not find Whites Lane Reserve on the consultation proposal. I did see you were proposing to remove leash free areas adjacent to cycle paths and thought that part of the Whites Lane Reserve might be affected by this. I therefore was not aware of any proposal to change the leash free status of the retarding basin area of the Reserve as it was not mentioned in the proposal whatsoever.	Support more OLAs – Whites Lane Reserve (expand Whites Lane Retarding Basin OLA) #4
22	12/7/2022	Community member	Dear Recreation Services, it is good you are putting thought into dog off leash /on leash areas. I have contacted you before about the number of dog attacks on especially small dogs. Many small dog owners don't use park facilities. I have spoken to many people with small dogs and vets who see the casualties. I have spoken to shelters and dog trainers, and they all agree there is a problem for small dog owners and their safety. I really don't feel the council did adequate research on this matter. My dog was attacked, unprovoked in an off-leash area and so now I do not go to any of these areas. I have parks all around me but nowhere I can take my small dog and feel safe. I also see people in on leash areas with dogs not on lead. The Vet at Mountain Gate where I took my dog says he doesn't take his dogs to off lead areas. Dogs are a big part of our lives, and we all deserve to feel safe. Hoping more can be done to address this not well researched area of dog socializing. I am still of opinion small dogs especially need a fenced in area to run freely and safely. Small dogs can't kill but big dogs can and do	Community Safety #6 - dog attacks




23	26/7/2022	Community member	<p>It was great to read that the council is planning to introduce 14 new off leash parks for dog owners. Please have a look at introducing spring mounted gates to these parks along with the gates at Jells Park.</p> <p>If at off leash parks, dogs can run out and get hit by a car unless people close gates behind them, which is practically impossible for some people to even fathom.</p> <p>If at on-lead parks, like Jells Park Soft ball area, dogs can over power some residents and pull off lead, run after something and get hit by cars. Leashes can also break, and older residents are not able to run after them. Again, the amount of times I have had to close gates behind me is incredible. Some people just don't think of consequences. You as a council have done the right thing and erected gates for a reason.</p>	<p>Support more OLAs #5</p> <p>Community Safety #7 - dog attacks</p> <p>Infrastructure #3 - gates</p>
24 Request 822296	16/9/2021	Community member	<p>We would appreciate more dog friendly leash free areas that are enclosed so that dogs are safe from vehicular traffic. Also more doggy bags supplied at parks.</p>	<p>Support more OLAs #6</p> <p>Infrastructure – dog poo bag dispensers #4</p>
25 Request 824174	27/9/21	Community member	<p>I am a dog owner who walks the dog twice every day at our local Lum Reserve dog park. As dog owners, we understand that the park is a leash free park with multiple ovals that our pets can run on. However, due to the fact of the recent COVID lockdown extension, there is significantly a lot more dog owners who are starting to come and walk their dogs at the park, and the fact that the park is not properly fenced has raised serious concerns for some dog owners as the doggies sometimes run loose and go missing. Therefore as a request to the local council, we would just like to ask for you to kindly put up fences around the premise to protect the people and to prevent our dogs from ever going missing or trespassing any hazardous areas such as the road, for the benefit of both the dogs and everyone else. please take this request into serious considerations as the longer lockdowns would mean more frequent visits to the dog park for the local pet owners. thank you for your understanding, and your considerations would be greatly appreciated by everyone.</p>	<p>Infrastructure – fencing #5</p>
26 Pathway 863509	12/12/21	Community member	<p>I am a member of a loose group of dog walkers who take our dogs to the soccer grounds at Sixth avenue Burwood / Ashwood.</p> <p>During the pandemic approximately 21 dogs visit at 5pm each day.</p> <p>The south field is a poor grass surface and has a big lump in the middle and a drop off on the north east side, the lights are in bad condition.</p> <p>The human with each dog changes but the dogs insist on going. I do not know the peoples' names but I know each dog name.</p> <p>We have been kicked out of the south field due to grounds work and have moved to the north field. Unfortunately the north field has fencing on three sides but no gates, there are gate holes but gates were never fitted. Dogs escape sometimes as it is an off lead area. Please fit gates urgently.</p> <p>A sketch is attached.</p>	<p>Infrastructure – fencing &amp; gates #6</p>
27	28/2/2022	Community member	<p>Thank you for coming down and meeting us at Gardiner Reserve on Saturday 26th February.</p> <p>You mentioned you came to talk to dog owners on a club's complaint about dogs using the synthetic pitch. As we reiterated, none of the dog owners who regularly visit the main turf pitch with our dogs use the synthetic field.</p> <p>We are a mindful community group who generally pick after our dogs. I understand there may be isolated cases where this hasn't been the case. We will continue encouraging dog owners to be responsible and aware that this is open public space and we all play a role to keep it clean.</p> <p>Now that I have you here, I would like to forward the email below, which I sent 9 days ago to Council and I have not received a response (either a call or an email) for my queries. I believe as Local Government Authorities there are timeframes to respond to community queries. I would expect a response by tomorrow, which is the 10th working day after my query.</p>	<p>Oppose OLA Change – Gardiners Reserve #7</p>

			<p>There is a big community group quite well established in the morning (7.00-8.00am) and in the afternoon (4.30-6.00pm) that have organically come together and create a sense of community around dogs. I believe this is the type of community strengthening that Monash will be looking to encourage within its residents. We very much support and encourage formalised sport, but the leaders in the Eastern Lions Soccer Club are not the best representatives for community values. After this weekend matches there were people drinking alcohol and bottles on the ground, which seems to me quite far from what a sport club role model should play.</p>	
<p>28 D22-90369</p>	<p>1/1/22</p>	<p>Community member</p>	<p>I wanted to get the feedback on the idea of making an enclosed dog park in Mount Waverley. More specifically in the open space on the back 37a Therese Ave, Mount Waverley near the Scotchman's Creek Trail.</p> <p>I used to live in Narre Warren North and they had an enclosed dog parks and I found them very valuable – personally I have two big dogs, but it used to bring community together and I am still in touch with people I met there.</p> <p>The benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allows larger dogs to be off lease in enclosed area</li> <li>• Allows dogs to interact and great for socializing</li> <li>• Brings community together with pets, allows individuals to share ideas</li> <li>• There is the Stanley Café walking distance, this will bring more business to them</li> <li>• Great for puppies to start interacting with other dogs</li> <li>• The council could set up an obedience school</li> <li>• There are a lot of community members who are not comfortable with larger dogs being off leash (even in an off leash area), this way it works good for them too</li> <li>• This would also make the streets safer as dog owners will other pets and if lost/escaped - can help them get home</li> <li>• It allows parents to bring kids in as well to make them comfortable with pets (my kids were scared of dogs before, but now comfortable with all dogs)</li> </ul> <p>What would be required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A fence with two gates – wire cyclone fencing with steel poles</li> <li>• Area space of 30m x 40m (could be one big area or two smaller ones)</li> <li>• Fence height of 2m</li> <li>• Two bins for litter</li> <li>• A few benches on the inside and outside for community to sit</li> <li>• Grass maintenance</li> <li>• Potentially some drainage as in winter water can sit</li> <li>• </li> </ul> <p>Downsides:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Street parking will be on Therese Ave and make it busier</li> <li>• Any potential dog attacks within the enclosed area (however most pet owners who are committed to their pets to bring them there will have their dogs trained and well socialized).</li> <li>• It would require some sort of funding/investing – unsure how much would it cost.</li> </ul>	<p>Request FOLA – 37a Therese Street, Mount Waverley #1</p> <p>Infrastructure #7 – fencing &amp; gates, bins, benches, drainage, grass</p>
<p>29</p>	<p>31/05/22 Council Meeting Public Question</p>	<p>Community member</p>	<p>I write about the reserve area under the transmission line, opposite to Mayfield Park Tennis Club (on the other side of Mayfield Road).</p> <p>Please designate this area, under the power lines, as a leash free area.</p> <p>There is very little foot traffic through that space, and it is bounded on most sides.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On the South by the high wooden fencing next to the Monash Freeway,</li> </ul>	<p>Support extension to OLA – under Mayfield Park transmission lines #7</p> <p>Infrastructure #8 – fencing</p>

	& Email 8/6/2022		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On the West by the wire fencing which constitutes the back fence of the units at the intersection of Damon Road and Lang Road,</li> <li>On the North by the back fences of the houses on Bradstreet Road.</li> </ul> <p>The only non-bounded side is the East, which is the side next to Mayfield Road.</p> <p>The area is ideal for a leash free area as there is no wildlife – flora or fauna, and has very little if any foot traffic. It is a secure bounded area, ideal for dog training, free of distractions.</p> <p>The proposed leash free area as drawn out below is certainly more accessible to dog owners than the more remote non trafficked area that I proposed under the powerlines. But the proposed area also has little children playing on the oval, footy and other games, with their parents. In addition, there is a young children’s play area in the bottom left corner of the proposed area, opposite the tennis court. Dogs might be scary to the little ones in this children’s play area – but of course if the little ones have little pets, it works well too for them. So, I can see both sides.</p> <p>On the other hand, the powerline area I proposed, while not having much foot traffic, and not as accessible to dog owners, is perhaps good <i>precisely</i> because it is so little trafficked. The only people who would go there, would be dog owners, and no one else. It would really be ideal for big dogs like Labradors or Golden Retrievers, who are rambunctious and could do well with the wide open space available there.</p> <p>But, I appreciate that Council takes many factors into account.</p>	
30	2/6/2022	Waverley Hawks FC Park	<p>Appreciate the info, thank you. I must say I think this is a terrible decision, one of the main reasons (along with the lights) that we moved away from Lum Reserve was because of this exact reason. The oval was constantly full of dog poo and many of the kids felt unsafe when training due to the number of dogs running around, often chasing the kids and the ball as they train.</p> <p>Why is there zero consultation with the tenants of the grounds before decisions like this are made and how do I lodge a formal complaint?</p> <p>I don’t mean to be difficult and I’m all for leash free zones (we have a dog ourselves) but surely having our kids be able to feel safe when training and not have to be playing around dog poo is more important than another leash free area?</p>	<p>Oppose more OLAs – Wellington Reserve #1</p> <p>Negative Impact – Waste &amp; Faeces #10</p> <p>Community safety – children #8</p>
31	2/6/2022	Community member	<p>I’m a dog owner so I have no issue with what is being trialled ....but can you confirm that council will also be doing ground inspection and ground cleaning before sports events?</p> <p>Owners tend but not always to clean up after their dogs when they are on leads....but won’t if they are not and we get left before a Saturday game having to spend an hour cleaning up as it stands now!!!</p> <p>Just something that has probably not been addressed in the strategy.</p>	<p>Support more OLAs #8</p> <p>Education &amp; Regulation - Irresponsible Dog Owners #4</p>
32	31/5/2022		<p>I would like to request for the reserve area under the transmission line beside Mayfield Road to be designated a leash free area. On one side of this section of Mayfield Road is the Mayfield Tennis Club. From the Mayfield Club, if we cross Mayfield Road we have this big reserve. On one side of this reserve is the high wooden fencing next to Monash Freeway. This is a very secluded area for our dogs to safely play. There’s no busy road nearby which gives us peace of mind. As the area near Mayfield Tennis is well developed for families and children, this area would be quite distinct from that and ideally suited for our dogs.</p> <p>Additionally, if possible, we would be grateful if the side next to Mayfield Road could be fenced off.</p>	<p>Support extension to OLA – under Mayfield Park transmission lines #9</p> <p>Infrastructure #9 – fencing</p>
33	9/6/2022 & 22/2/2022	Community resident	<p>We are writing this letter to express our discontent with the operation of sports and the use of Gardiners Reserve for active recreation. Particularly, the usage of the ground as an open space for dogs and dog owners to socialise and exercise within a controlled environment. With the publication of the draft off leash dog area policy we’d like to raise our concerns further as we believe this proposed policy will worsen our current experience.</p> <p>As a way of introduction, we are a community group who come together every morning and evening to exercise our dogs at Gardiners Reserve. We are a connected, engaged, and supportive group who have been building a sense of belonging and community at this reserve for a number of years.</p> <p>Over the years the relationship with Eastern Lions Football Club has become increasingly strained with now multiple incidents that have occurred where from both parties have escalated ongoing issues. As an informal community group</p>	<p>Oppose change OLA – Gardiners Reserve #8</p> <p>Infrastructure #10 – fencing, lighting</p>



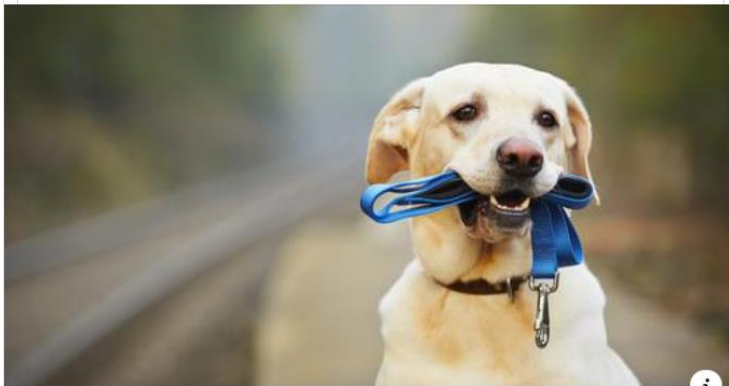



			<p>without a lease, we have felt and found that our communication with the council has gone unheard after reporting multiple incidents via email and calls with the Recreation Services, and directly with the Local Laws Officer Team Leader. Incidents that have been reported include aggression, intimidation and acts of discrimination from the club.</p> <p>We have found that the behaviour of the club in their engagement with the community goes against the principles listed below in the Active Monash Framework 22-27: Community Engagement: Ensure clubs engage with its community in an inclusive, timely and transparent manner. Safe environments: Help create welcoming and safe environments for all. Prevent harm from alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs, gambling, and violence.</p> <p>After reviewing the draft policy, we would like to escalate in addition to our community consultation responses, key areas of concerns and questions that we have in regard to the implications for Gardiners Reserve.</p> <p><b>Monash Active Recreation Strategy</b></p> <p>As the Monash Active Recreation Opportunities Strategy aims to create more opportunities for residents to participate in 'their own way' we would like to claim warranties to allow us to participate in the way we prefer, which is in a non-competitive activity, outside organised sport and interacting outdoors with our dogs and other dog owners at Gardiners Reserve.</p> <p>As per the City of Monash Active Recreation Snapshot, page 10, Monash Active Recreation Opportunities Strategy (November 2021), 70% of residents participate in weekly non-organised physical activity and only 31% participate in weekly organised physical activity. Aligned with participation ratios and Monash Council Strategies we trust we can have a space to allow us to participate in recreation with our dogs in a controlled manner at Gardiners Reserve.</p> <p>The current proposal for the Off Leash Dog Area Policy is currently looking to decrease the off-leash dog area at Gardiners Reserve by approximately 33%, which goes clearly against these ratios of participation and strongly favours organised competitive recreation. The overall intention of Council to not pursue fencing in these areas also decreases the likelihood of uptake of these dedicated areas.</p> <p>We recognise the overall intention of the off-leash dog policy to increase the number of dog friendly areas, in line with strategic priority 2 of the Monash Active Recreation Opportunities Strategy and Priority 30 of the implementation Plan for Active Recreation Facilities, however the draft proposal has focused heavily on quantity and not quality of provisions or fit for purpose off-leash dog areas.</p> <p><b>Benchmarking:</b></p> <p>As per the draft Off Leash Dog Policy, providing exclusive dog friendly spaces and associated infrastructure (i.e. fences) has been defined as the not preferred model due to issues of management and maintenance.</p> <p>We'd like to understand what benchmarking the City of Monash has undertaken to validate this design policy given neighbouring LGAs have implemented multiple dedicated off-leash fenced dog areas.</p> <p>The City of Casey has completed a thorough planning for Dog Friendly Spaces. With a Policy and an implementation plan endorsed, Casey is intended to deliver 32 dog friendly spaces. 10 are already completed and operating and 22 proposed locations for new <b>fenced dog parks</b> to be delivered between both private developers and Council.</p> <p>The City of Stonnington which has the second lowest amount of open space per capita in Victoria (14m<sup>2</sup>/Capita) is currently constructing Thomas Oval Park which is also implementing fenced off leash dog areas.</p> <p>Could you please provide us with further rationale and benchmarking for this policy, in particular around fencing?</p> <p>In the case of Gardiners Reserve, the proposed off-leash dog area is in an isolated area with no shelter, no fencing towards a busy road and is a shared area with the Eastern Lions Football Club. Council to this date has failed to show an ability to</p>	
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			<p>manage the relationship between sports clubs and community groups and this is something that needs to change for the safety of all parties. Should the north pitch be adopted as the only off-leash dog area at Gardiners Reserve, for the safety of our community we ask council to provide the below provisions which is what we will be losing from using the main pitch:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Framework for use of the area to minimise confrontation, including scheduled use time and a key contact from Council to escalate issues</li> <li>• Complete fencing around the area, particularly towards surrounding roads</li> <li>• Shelter, water, and waste facilities</li> <li>• Increased lighting across the access ways to increase safety particular for the female members of our group.</li> </ul> <p><b>Local Parks Program – Victorian Funding Program for Dog Parks</b></p> <p>As you may know the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning has an ongoing program to fund local parks, in which Dog Parks is one of the most popular applications submitted across multiple Local Government Authorities. The \$5 million New Dog Parks Program is part of the Victorian Government’s commitment to create more than 6,500 hectares of parklands and trails across Melbourne.</p> <p>The last edition granted more than \$5M for construction of 14 new dog parks.</p> <p>We would like to know whether City of Monash has previously applied to this grant with the intention to build a new fenced dog park within the municipality. We are aware that Round 2 did not include Monash as one of the eligible Councils. However, it was previously listed as an eligible Council.</p> <p>Should City of Monash not having previously applied to this grant, could you please provide us with an explanation of why this has not been contemplated? Should Monash have applied and not been successful could you please provide us with the application that was submitted.</p> <p>We would like to invite members of Council and Councillors to come down to the reserve and speak to our group directly. We congregate at the reserve every evening from 5pm and would be more than happy to discuss our concerns with you in person.</p> <p><b>Further email:</b></p> <p>I appreciate you are willing to help us find a solution to continue using our public open space for both formalised sport and unstructured physical activity.</p> <p>I will look forward to hearing how you go with the quotation to enclose the missing gaps of the fence of the northern ground (pink below). Alternatively, the blue marked area could be another potential solution should there be a way to enclosed it.</p> 	
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34	31/5/2022		<p>I am a rate payer and dog registration payer within Monash.</p> <p>I would like to urgently propose that the area opposite the Mayfield tennis courts on Mayfield Drive, where the power lines are, be designated an off leash dog walking area. It would be much, much safer than the off leash dog walking area at Heaney Park which backs onto Waverley Road, an extremely busy main road in our suburb.</p> <p>In contrast, the area stretching opposite the tennis courts is very expansive and much quieter. There are very few cyclists or walkers who use the area and it is already used 99% of the time by dog walkers. As well, if fencing could be put at the entrance to the area on Mayfield drive, with automatically closing swing doors, then dog walkers, passing traffic and residents, and your rate payers, would be imminently safe. And happier!!</p> <p>Thank you so much for considering this request. I believe many dog walkers and residents would support this change. I would be happy to submit a petition support this request if needed.</p>	<p>Support extension to OLA – under Mayfield Park transmission lines #10</p> <p>Infrastructure #11 – fencing</p>
35	31/5/2022	Community member	<p>I am a rate payer for Monash council and I also pay dog registration fees annually for our beloved Labrador / beagle dog.</p> <p>I would like to urgently request that the land where the power lines are on Mayfield drive, opposite the tennis courts, be a leash free dog walking area. This is because it is an area that is away from the main road, unlike the off leash dog area Heaney Park which backs onto Waverley Road, a major thorough – fare through Mount Waverley with lots of cars and very dangerous for dogs. This site would provide a much safer environment for the dogs and for other people. As well, if a fence along the Mayfield drive entrance to this area could be built, with spring-back doors that close automatically, then the dogs are again safer and wouldn't be at risk of running out onto busy roads and causing accidents.</p> <p>This proposed area is large and is not really used by cyclists or walkers so it is very easy to walk dogs there. It is a big area too so dogs are able to run happily. If rate payers are able to exercise their dogs off leash the dogs are happier, and also able to socialise more easily with other dogs. A happy, tired and socialised dog is more settled, less inclined to bark and so cause disturbances and frictions with neighbours.</p> <p>Please consider this requests, it would benefit so many residents of Mount Waverley and I would be forever grateful!!</p>	<p>Support extension to OLA – under Mayfield Park transmission lines #11</p> <p>Infrastructure #12 – fencing</p>
36	17/6/2022 (D22-213108)	Community member	<p>I have a smaller terrier dog and find off-leash areas exactly that – owners sit walk-free of control of their dogs and small dogs are at disadvantage; my own dog cannot be left off-leash and is gone in seconds so walking him those areas on-leash. I find owners do not control dogs – bigger and small and I am left to defend my own dog and the walk back to the park is not enjoyable. Lum Reserve is terrible and the oval where dogs run free and the oval dogs run free is left with dog droppings for the sports men/children to avoid. Fenced areas I can see being a better option.</p>	<p>Regulation &amp; Education #5</p> <p>Community Safety – small dogs #9</p> <p>Negative Impact – Waste &amp; Faeces #11</p> <p>Infrastructure #13 – fencing</p>



<p>37 Petition</p>	<p>June 2022</p>	<p>Matt Fregon MP  Community Petition</p>	<div data-bbox="703 129 1429 1377"> <div>  <div> <div>Matt Fregon MP</div> <div>6m · 🌐</div> </div> </div> <div> <p>🐕 Mount Waverley needs a fenced off-leash dog park. 🐕 📢</p> <p>Monash Council are currently seeking feedback on their draft off leash dog park strategy. I am supportive of Council's strategy in general but i have had many constituents raise their preference for a fenced off-leash area.</p> <p>I am in strong support of making this a possibility in our area, especially in off leash areas near busy roads.</p> <p>Please see ways of making your feedback to the Council below. I encourage everyone to do so.</p> <p>I will also be making a submission and including with it my petition below. So please consider signing my petition to ask Monash to allow for fenced off-leash dog park.</p> <p><a href="https://www.mattfregon.com.au/.../mount-waverley-needs-a-.../">https://www.mattfregon.com.au/.../mount-waverley-needs-a-.../</a></p> </div> <div> <div>  <div> <div>City of Monash</div> <div>Published by Meltwater Engage · June 14 at 1:02 PM · 🌐</div> </div> </div> <div> <p>📢 Have your say on our draft dog Off-Leash Areas Policy</p> <p>Monash residents and dog owners can now have their say on our off-leash areas review and a draft off-leash policy, as well as proposed changes to existing off-leash area sites.</p> <p>Your feedback will be used to help inform and finalise the policy and any changes to existing off-leash areas 🐕</p> <p>Find out more and have your say 📢</p> </div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>SHAPE.MONASH.VIC.GOV.AU</p> <p><b>Dog off-leash areas</b></p> <p>We want your feedback on the draft Off-Leash Areas Policy</p> </div> </div> <div> <p>Petition:</p> <p><a href="https://www.mattfregon.com.au/campaigns/mount-waverley-needs-a-fenced-off-leash-dog-park/?fbclid=IwAR3SLACuH3rp4LeoUok1wd0a_9YQOMVcw36J8wntte9bERgiV0kTZLYtIIE">https://www.mattfregon.com.au/campaigns/mount-waverley-needs-a-fenced-off-leash-dog-park/?fbclid=IwAR3SLACuH3rp4LeoUok1wd0a_9YQOMVcw36J8wntte9bERgiV0kTZLYtIIE</a></p> <p><a href="#">Mount Waverley Needs a Fenced Off-Leash Dog Park</a></p> <p>Matt Fregon MP presented a <u>submission</u> to Monash City Council alongside the nearly 500 signatures we received. Thank you for showing your support and being part of the campaign for a fenced off-leash dog park in the Mount Waverley area.</p> </div> </div>	<p>Infrastructure #14 – fencing</p> <p>Request FOLA #2 - Petition (Nearly 500 signatures for Mount Waverley)</p>
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38	18/6/2022	Community member	<p>I am firm believer in conservation. Our family are regular users of Damper Creek. Please don't reclassify Damper Creek to be on leash. I don't understand why our dogs can't enjoy this space, as they have done since the 70's. I ask what measurable benefits to conservation would having dogs on leads really make? When there are feral cats &amp; foxes that wreak havoc on all native fauna &amp; flora, Damper creek included.</p> <div>  <div> <b>Friends of Damper Creek</b>  24 November 2020 · 🌐 </div> </div> <p>There have been reports of wildlife being killed by foxes in Damper Creek ❤️</p> <p>If conservation is the key objective to council perhaps, they should consider closing Damper creek to the biggest pest of all; humans!</p> <p>Furthermore, if council are so concerned about conservation, why is it that they approved large scale drilling projects through the heart of Damper on two separate occasions? I do understand the purpose of the drilling: for soil surveying relating to the rail tunnel however where was the concerns about conservation then?</p> <p>I know your email was only posted in relation to on &amp; off leash but I do feel it's worth noting that there would be far more beneficial ways of keeping the city a Monash more biodiverse. Such as, having minimum native plants required to be planted on all new builds and having more sacred places like Damper Creek.</p> <p>I do commend you &amp; all of the council workers how play such an integral role in keeping these spaces (&amp; others like it) open, safe &amp; accessible to the community. Thank you for your reasonable considerations.</p>	Oppose OLA change – Damper Creek #9
39	4/7/2022	Waverley Park Hawks FC (via phone)	<p>We have received feedback from Waverley Park Hawks FC regarding the Off leash dog trial via the phone. As part of the trial, the dogs owners have started using Wellington Reserve Oval. However, they have being using the oval during the training times of the football club. The club is concerned about the safety of the players and the dog itself. Some of the dogs are chasing the balls. When training, the players are focused on their activities, and they do not always see the dog coming to their direction which is a safety issue.</p>	Oppose more OLAs – Wellington Reserve #2 Community safety#10
40	16/5/2022	Community member	<p>I am writing to you to request appropriate signage indicating the area attached as leash -free dog walking area. I would also like to request to extend that leash free area to the small section of the Bernard Street area under the powerlines to make it a decent size leash free area for dogs. As currently this is the only leash free dog walking area on the south of the Waverley Road around Mayfield Reserve.</p>	Infrastructure #15 -signage Support OLA Extension– Bernard Street #12
41	3/7/2022	Community member	<p>Please accept my response to the proposal to remove the Dog Off Leash Area, because of damage to the native vegetation. Questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evidence of damage Is there any evidence of significant damage to the native vegetation that was caused by dogs? Is there a report that can be accessed by the public?</li> <li>Effectiveness of off-leash ban Is there any evidence from other reserves that putting dogs on leashes will reduce damage to native vegetation? Again, do reports exist that are available to the public. Personal observation</li> <li>Dogs stay on path My dog does not move more than a metre off the path most of the time. The exceptions are grassy areas, which do not classify as natural vegetation. Most other dogs, that I have observed, follow the same pattern. Some dogs like to play in the creek, especially on hot days. I cannot recollect having seen dogs racing through the bushes.</li> </ol>	Oppose OLA change – Damper Creek #10

			<p>4. Dog behaviour</p> <p>The overwhelming majority of the dogs that I met during my walks through the reserve were well-behaved, and their owners had them under control and acted responsibly. This is one of the reasons why dogs don't stray from the path.</p> <p>Conclusion</p> <p>Without further information, it is difficult for me to understand how dogs can have a negative impact on the native vegetation. I also haven't seen dogs being a nuisance or a danger. Therefore, I am against removing the Dog Off Leash Area. However, if there is real concern about the health of the native vegetation, I think that reducing access to the reserve would be far more effective. This could be done, by removing some of the many paths through the reserve.</p>	
42	4/7/2022	Community member	<p>I am a resident that has received the "off leash area review" letter in my mail box today.</p> <p>I have no issues with the expansion and happy to support our local community with pets.</p> <p>However I have noticed an increase in amount of dog poo's when I go for my daily walks. The dog poo's are located around Janice Road area and surrounding streets – Glen Waverley. My biggest concern with this expansion is the amount of increase dog poo's around the neighbourhood. Can there please be more signage and perhaps council fines to rectify these issues. Thank you in advance.</p>	<p>Negative Impact – Waste &amp; Faeces #12</p> <p>Regulation &amp; Education #6</p> <p>Infrastructure #16 – signage</p>
43	28/6/2022 & 6/7/2022 (CAR SR #701)	Community member	<p>I just wanted to go direct as I really need to see or read the environmental impact report that has driven these changes to Damper Creek Conservation Reserve.</p> <p>I have asked possibly 10 questions on the site and have had no reply.</p> <p>Clearly I love walking my dog off lead at Damper Creek and the cliched reasoning I have read just make no sense.</p> <p>Rather than go through all the arguments or counter arguments can we at least put the complete banning of leash free dogs at Damper Creek on hold until us dog walkers can understand why.</p> <p>Kudos for the 14 extra spaces, kudos for more freedom for the dogs but Damper Creek is the only one to cop a complete banning of off leash status and with that in mind believe it is worthy of more community consultation and understanding. Nothing is as beautiful as the Damper Creek. Every other open dog leash free space is very bland. Plus, I won't get my 10K of steps up!!.</p> <p>In all honesty the documents put up on the website are more an opinion without scientific fact.</p> <p>Perhaps a community meeting or a community zoom, with a prior notification on the current boards at 3 of the 6 creek entrances.</p> <p>I'm all for keeping the environment front and centre, but more damage is caused at Damper Creek by, bike riders who have no respect for the walkers lead or without, maintenance vehicles, pesticides, local foxes, feral cats and assorted droppings other than that of dogs. I would also proffer the thought that very few dogs wander off the track.. Indeed, after a recent discussion with Rebecca I did my own "unproven" research that showed in 2 hours 31 dogs came towards me from the steps towards Stephenson's Rd and not one wandered off the track. I have walked here for 10 years and seriously I can't remember dogs that don't walk with their owners.</p> <p>All the community need to see please is the empiric evidence, scientific analysis and statistical support, and I am sure many will be happy to abide. But at the moment there is nothing clear by which to understand the reasoning. There is a lot of rhetoric tied up in the "analysis"</p> <p>Thanks for your time and I look forward to your most positive reply(s).</p>	<p>Oppose OLA change – Damper Creek #11</p> <p>Support more OLAs #13</p>

			<p><b>Further email:</b> Firstly, thank you for replying to my query. It is refreshing to get good answer to the questions posed.</p> <p>It's much appreciated. Sadly, some of the replies on the forum really haven't answered the questions asked by myself and other ratepayers, just generalizations but I understand the party line must be upheld.</p> <p>I applaud the councils drive to protect the native flora and fauna in sensitive biodiverse areas. I really do and am all for keeping our total ecological environment front of mind.</p> <p>I just can't buy that it is the dogs and dogs alone that are "negatively impacting natural bushland areas through the destruction of plantings, supporting weed growth from faeces and acting as weed dispersers (Holderness-Roddam; 2011)" as stated below. And what is Holderness-Roddam?</p> <p>This is why I have been asking to see the research, and get some empiric proof because an opinion of experts doesn't pass muster if it is not supported with the data or evidence...</p> <p>I have attached a couple of photos that are a pictorial of damage being caused not by a dog off lead but by others. Foxes in my humble view ( without evidence ) would easily cause more damage to the local inhabitants than dogs. You would see once a day, the left-over ruminants of a "local" courtesy of foxes. This photo is just one example. The other picture of oversized rented vehicle parking on the green annoys me. And the damage to the paths is incalculable. What I'm saying is there are so many "documented" examples whereas we never really see the facts/ stats/science of the aforementioned recommendations.</p> <p>My last point which is very much my big grump is that so few dogs leave the path to cause these alleged issues. I mentioned previously that my 2-hour straw poll watched 31 dogs come up the path towards Stephenson's Rd and not one left its owner or the path. Now I don't have evidence so to speak but I saw what I saw. I love Damper Creek, and with no offence to Federal reserve and others. It's the most beautiful walk in Monash.</p> <p>Having walked it for 10 years, seriously so few dogs leave their master to head off into the bush to cause these alleged issues. Yes, many go in the creek for a drink and swim I admit but not into the fauna adorning this beautiful walk. So, one must assume you have evidence of the dogs doing as is stated. That's all I want to see. And of course you can now buy 20 metre leads so that's not going to stop them anyway unless you intend on imposing a maximum lead length!!!!</p> <p>Yes, my plea is impassioned and emotional so thank you for listening. It's much appreciated.</p>	
44	6/7/2022 & 7/7/2022	Community member	<p>I recently read the Off-Leash Area Review and Draft Off-Leash Policy. I thought that my local off-leash area might be affected, however it wasn't shown on the map of parks with proposed changes so I was relieved that no changes were being considered. No public views were being requested regarding my local park.</p> <p>I had thought that part of the park might be affected due to a shared walking/cycle path through the park and would have understood if a proposal were to be made affecting this section of the park. However, the park was not listed as being under review.</p> <p>I went to the park this morning and noticed that the entire park has had its use changed from off-leash to leash on. I have been using this park for 16 years so naturally I'm devastated. Especially as there was zero public consultation, or communication.</p>	Whites Lane Reserve (expand Whites Lane Retarding Basin OLA) #14



			<p>The park I am referring to is the Whites Lane Reserve. Whilst the part of the park adjacent to Watsons Road contains a shared use path there is a larger area which is a water retarding basin which does not contain any paths. The retarding basin has a high bank along the Whites Lane side, which is shared use for cars and bicycles (as are all roads). The high bank acts as a visual barrier between the basin and Whites Lane.</p> <p>I'm not sure why the retarding basin is not considered to be suitable as an off-leash area, yes Whites Lane itself is designated part of the Scotchmans Creek cycle route, but it's just a public road. Bicycles travel on public roads all across Monash. Is any park adjacent to a public road going to be considered unsuitable for off-leash due to bicycles using the road?</p> <p>Council keep claiming they want to address nuisance dogs, Council also keeps claiming that it wishes to reduce vehicle use. I can't see how removing my only off-leash area within walking distance achieves those stated goals. Dogs which are exercised are less prone to problem behaviours and if owners have a suitable area within walking distance they are less prone to using their car.</p> <p>I complained to the parks team about the maintenance of this reserve several times last year, as the grass was overgrown to the point of it being difficult to use the park at all. I fear some council officer or manager is making this change out of spite for my complaints. I wish I had never complained.</p> <p>Can you please advise why there was no communication or consultation regarding the change of use for this park? Can you also advise why the retarding basin is not suitable for off-leash use? Can you also advise where I can now exercise my dogs off-leash within walking distance of my home?</p> <p><b>Further email:</b> Can I please request two pieces of information from you:</p> <p>2) New signs (the black and yellow style) were erected in the park (approximately) a couple of years ago, these stated that the park was off-leash. Can you please give me the date of installation for these signs?</p> <p>2) New signs have been erected in the park stating that the park is on-leash. I am sure there was significant paperwork required for the expenditure involved in creating these signs (reserve signage program, capital works budgets, purchase orders, invoice approval etc?) the approval of the decision to change the use of the park must have occurred prior to the approval of the expenditure. The cost of the removal and replacement of the signs must have been approved, and this will all have dates and paperwork attached.</p> <p>I am just trying to work out the date the Councillors approved this change in designated use for the park. The gap between the first signage installation and the approval of the replacement signage will narrow down when this decision was made and approved.</p> <p>One further question, does Council usually notify the nearby residents and users of a reserve when there is a major change planned for the usage of the park?</p>	
45	20/7/2022	Community member	<p>I am writing to request that you re look at your comms plan in relation to the proposed changes to off leash dog park areas, namely Damper Creek, Mt Waverley.</p> <p>The signage regarding this change is placed in the area in a street entrance that is not widely used as it leads to the road where the ranger works from. The main entrance where the damper creek sign and little footbridge to the main entrance and all signage areas DO NOT have info in relation to the changes. There is no signage at all about this. Most people would</p>	Oppose OLA change – Damper Creek #12

			therefore be unaware of the proposal and not able to provide feedback. Please reconsider the placement of comms relating to the massive change so the community can be involved.	
46	15/8/2022	Waverley Oakleigh Panthers Rugby League (via phone)	Phone call from the club at Fregon Reserve. They have advised that while the trial period has not been happening for a long time, they have already noticed a very big change at the ground. There are a high number of dog waste being left on the ground. The club is having to collect it on the mornings prior game days. However, many times they miss some spots which is causing issues to players.	Negative Impact – Waste & Faeces #13
47	3/8/2022	Community member	I'm writing on behalf of a group of residents concerned about the proposed changes at Gardiners Reserve North Burwood in the Draft Monash Dog Off-Leash Policy. Within our group a number of concerns have been raised as the proposed changes have significant impacts to those taking their dog(s) to this area. Before I raise our concerns we would like to first understand more about the council decision making process in regard to Gardiners Reserve North Burwood. We have a number of questions, specifically those listed below.  Q1) If the Eastern Lions NPL men's team is relegated, will the Ashwood Reserve Pitch 1 still be classified as a specialised sports surface (dog free zone)? If so, why? Q2) Please explain why the area surrounding Gardiners Reserve South pitch and Gardiners Reserve synthetic pitch have been changed to on-leash areas? The area does not contain shared trails, nor does it have high levels of biodiversity to support designation as a conservation reserve. There have been few sightings of animals commonly found in areas of high biodiversity such as ground dwelling birds and snakes. The narrow stretches of vegetation in close proximity to sporting grounds do not support high levels of biodiversity. In addition, walking through vegetative areas by sporting club players and supporters has a significantly higher impact on biodiversity than dogs off leash. Q3) I'm concerned that there has been little to no consultation of dog owners. Considering 40% of households own a dog (ABS), how have you consulted the interests of dog owners in developing this draft off-leash policy?  We would like to organise a meeting with appropriate council representatives in order to discuss and fully understand the proposed changes to our local reserve. I'm writing on behalf of 16 households who would like to attend a meeting with the council to discuss this. A meeting would enable group individuals to hear from the council with their own ears and provide them with an opportunity to ask their own questions. I look forward to further discussion with you regarding this.	Oppose OLA change – Gardiners Reserve #13
48	5/8/2022	Community member (CAR SR-779)	I am reaching out to vent my disappointment with the council plan to make Damper Creek an on leash area for dogs.  I remember in one of your articles or letters you mentioned you will fight to keep Damper Creek as it is, the argument is it damages native plants and animals. Can they please provide the proof for this as I have never seen a dog do any such thing in the last 3-4 years I go there. Damper Creek is extensively used by neighbours to socialise and meet while dogs enjoy their own socialising off leash. The new proposed off leash areas are useless to people living around Damper Creek as its just close to the freeway and under power lines (might as well be for Oakleigh residents). Please look in to this and convey the disappointment of residents who have paid top dollar to be close to Damper Creek and enjoy the facilities.  Other area of concern is Gardiner Creek Trail ( where they are stating 10m rule with dogs off leash with bikers) . Obviously these people don't have dogs, hard to teach a dog to that for bikes. It's just a 2km stretch allocated, and there is a parallel not so busy road along the way for bikes. Hope you will look in to these and speak on behalf of residents who you represent.	Oppose OLA change – Damper Creek #14
49	8/8/2022	Gender Equity Advisory Committee	Initial comments on dog off leash policy: needs to have more of a community focus, a gender lens needs to be applied. Lots of mothers/women gather for social outlets. This needs to be valued and indicated in the policy. Soccer club target women dog walkers, not feeling safe.	Community safety #11
50	10/8/2022	Community member	I am writing this email regarding the policy of dog leash-off policy at Larpent Reserve. My wife and I are doing evening walk at Larpent Reserve almost every day. Due to come across those unleashed dogs and dog's poo around the soccer field, it makes our evening walk unenjoyable. For unleashed dogs can poo everywhere else without being supervised by dog owners. Please take this condition before city council propose this policy. Thanks!	Negative Impact – Waste & Faeces #14  Oppose more OLAs - Larpent Reserve #3

51	4/8/2022	Community Member	<p>We are regular walkers in Damper Creek and have come to love the flora and fauna of this Conservation Reserve.... and it is first and foremost a conservation reserve. We write in support of the Council's new proposal to have dogs on leash in this park. In fact we support such a proposal in all conservation areas of Monash.</p> <p>It has always concerned us that dogs run willy nilly in and out of the bush plantings and the creek.....even in the fenced-off area as the gate is always open. There is no respect for small native animals and birds. We think it is perfectly reasonable to ask dog owners to keep their dogs leashed.</p> <p>Most dog owners come prepared to pick up their dog's droppings and do so carefully, but some ignore this request. Worse still are those who pick up the droppings in a plastic bag, then throw it into the bush!!! Another problem with dogs off leash is that they run up and frighten young and old walkers.</p> <p>We have seen posters on the Damper Creek Information shelters and elsewhere asking people to oppose your proposal on change.org. We suggest that information about local areas where dogs can run off leash be on display at Damper Creek. It may be there are not enough of these in Monash.</p> <p>We also suggest that more be done to educate the public about how our native fauna and flora needs to be protected and this new proposal is part of that important role of Council.</p>	<p>Support OLA change - Damper Creek #1</p> <p>Negative Impact – Waste &amp; Faeces #15</p> <p>Regulation &amp; Education – Some Irresponsible Dog Owners #7</p>
52	9/8/2022	Community member	<p><b>RE: DAMPER CREEK CONSERVATION RESERVE PROPOSED REMOVAL OF A DOG OFF-LEASH AREA (Notice enclosed herewith)</b></p> <p>As a resident of Mt Waverley and a rate payer, I hereby object to keeping dogs on leash whilst walking with and accompanying them on the highlighted orange area in Damper Creek as per your enclosed plan to stop them from having the freedom to run, exercise, play, and meet other dogs, whilst being monitored and supervised by their owners.</p> <p>The reason we use Damper Creek is the natural environment and habitat it provides, not only for the wildlife but also for the dogs and for us humans to feel close to nature, refresh and recuperate from life's pressure. As for the dogs, it does wonders for their mental and physical health and also tires them out so they are less restless at home, as most houses today do not have the big back yards for their dogs to be entertained.</p> <p>Being a dog owner/walker in the past, and now as I babysit my son and daughter's dogs, I have never witnessed any dog in Damper Creek chase or kill wild life, whilst un-leashed... We all use the walking tracks, staying out of the clearly marked and fenced wild-life areas.</p> <p>In closing, it would be gratefully appreciated if you would seriously consider my feedback and give us and our dogs breathing space to keep on enjoying our beautiful Damper Creek with un-leashed freedom for recreation and a contented balanced life.</p>	<p>Oppose OLA change - Damper Creek #15</p>
53	11/9/2022	Community member	<p>I am writing to you to express my strongest objection to the current rules about Dog off leash on Davies Reserve. I understand the need to have a dedicated area for a responsible pet owner to spend quality time with their dog, However the choice of Davies Reserve as such a place is highly unusual and dangerous. As</p>	<p>Oppose OLA change - Davies Reserve #16</p>

			<p>you might be aware there is a very popular playground within the Davies Reserve, which I often allow my young kids to play in and enjoy the equipment , however twice now I had to step in to protect my children from Dogs being off their leash and not being appropriately supervised by owners. It's important that appropriate fencing and barriers put in place to restrict and limit the unresponsive dog who are not controlled by their owner to not pose a threat to young children who often enjoy the playground equipment.</p> <p>Furthermore I am aware that this off leash allowance might be temporary or on experimental bases, however it would have been appropriate for the council to have made the necessary arrangements to protect everyone who come to this reserve to enjoy time with their families. Based on my knowledge of the area there are multiple other suitable parks and reserves which have more space and no children play ground that might be better suited for this purpose. Following are examples for your consideration,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Meade Reserve</li> <li>2. Robinson Street Reserve</li> <li>3. Mavis Hutter Reserve</li> <li>4. Keeley Park</li> <li>5. Bald Hill Park</li> <li>6. Namatjira Park</li> </ol> <p>I am grateful for your immediate attention to this issue and I welcome a call from you to discuss this matter should you require more information.</p>	Regulation & Education #8
54	11/9/2022	Multicultural Advisory Committee Meeting & Presentation	<p>Many people from CALD communities have previously shared that they are fearful around dogs and cite this as one reason they find walking in parks uncomfortable if dogs are not on leashes or contained in a designated area.</p>	Community Safety #12 Regulation & Education #9
55	15/8/2022	Community member	<p>Once again I like to extend our thanks to you visiting us last night at Eastern Lions Soccer Club. Your time and effort was greatly appreciated.....For my part there are three issues on the agenda:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Reduce antagonistic behaviour by soccer club committee members or members by developing a more formal structure around working with each other.</li> <li>b) Set up a future plan for dog park reserves. I.e. possibly fencing of behind the pavilion at the soccer club to reserve the strip of land for small dog owners in addition put forward a plan to create a recreational reserve for dog owners on Oval 3 with off street parking accessed by Sixth Avenue and a shelter and lights with perhaps some seating for dog owners. Perhaps even a barbecue facility! My hope is that Oval 3 can be operated in unison with soccer training events however where there is little tolerance by some members of the soccer club for dog owners, Oval 3 would be shared equally between anyone who wishes to train on the oval and dog owners if they happen to coincide by being there at the same time.</li> <li>c) In regards to my own dog, I wish to confirm that every effort will be made to train her out of jumping the fence at Oval 1 and frequenting Oval 2. Now that I am aware of recent events that have intensified her obsession with soccer balls, I believe I can train her out of visiting Oval 2 with a little bit of time and effort. Perhaps we can stay in touch over the next month or so and make sure that we are managing the situation.</li> </ol>	Oppose OLA change - Gardiners Reserve #17



56	19/4/2022	Eastern Lions FC	<p>FYI we had games last Saturday &amp; had to clear dog crap up before the game.</p> <p>And as the game was about 5 minutes from the end, a dog, which was part of a group. Waiting to go on the pitch, jumped the fence and stopped the game, When the game finished a group with about 15 -20 dogs then went on the pitch, including a woman with a pram and a person riding a bike! (Please help).... remove everyone and everything off the ground?</p>	<p>Support OLA change – Gardiners Reserve #2</p> <p>Negative Impact – Waste &amp; Faeces #16</p> <p>Regulation &amp; Education – Irresponsible Dog Owners #10</p>
57	4/7/2022	Community member	<p>The draft Monash Off-Leash Areas policy withdraws dog access to the Gardiners Reserve Soccer Pitch 1 without making an equivalent fenced area available. There is no commitment to completing the fencing around Gardiners Reserve Pitch 3/North Pitch; the area proposed to be the only Gardiners Reserve off-leash area.</p> <p>The draft Monash Off-Leash Areas policy clearly expresses a negative view of fenced dog spaces. I write to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Invite you to come and see the operation of Gardiners Reserve Soccer Pitch 1 as a fenced dog park – I believe we can demonstrate a positive example of a fenced dog space</li> <li>2. Request that the fencing around Gardiners Reserve Pitch 3/North Pitch is completed to allow a smooth and safe transfer of dog exercise and interaction from Pitch 1 to Pitch 3/North.</li> </ol> <p>Dogs have some protection from access to the soccer car park and Evans Street at the eastern end of Gardiners Reserve Pitch 3/North Pitch by current fencing but are unprotected from the busy Sixth Avenue at the western end. The incomplete fencing is a danger to road users and dogs. No one can guarantee a 100% recall response, no matter how much training a dog has. It is now widely accepted that a dog's mind is roughly equivalent to that of a human who is two to two-and-a-half years old. We do not expect young children to have road safety awareness and perfect self-regulation.</p> <p>As a long-term user of Gardiners Reserve Soccer Pitch 1 with my dog, I can attest to the enormous benefit of a fenced space to dog welfare and to a local sense of community:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Puppies and rescue dogs have a safe environment for practicing recall.</li> <li>• A fenced area is an obvious hub for humans and their dogs to come together. Through my use of Gardiners Reserve Soccer Pitch 1, I am part of a much broader community than I was, and I have made friends beyond my street. My dog, too, has canine and human friends that he can regularly associate with, increasing his welfare.</li> <li>• People who don't want to encounter dogs can easily avoid fenced areas.</li> <li>• People with dogs who do not enjoy interaction with other dogs are easily able to avoid contact with congregations of dogs.</li> </ul> <p>We care for our dogs and are sensitive to all users of the space. Part of the reason for attending Gardiners Reserve Soccer Pitch 1 is to support our dogs' ability to socialise with other dogs appropriately. We refute the design principles of the draft policy that refer to fencing off-leash areas (<i>draft Policy Attachment B</i>,</p>	<p>Oppose OLA change – Gardiners Reserve #18</p> <p>Oppose draft policy - Principles 11 to 14</p> <p>Infrastructure #17 - fencing</p>

			<p><i>Principles 11 to 14</i>). We want and need a fenced area to enjoy social interaction without the constant stress of a dog straying onto the road with disastrous consequences.</p> <p>On behalf of my friends at Gardiners Reserve Soccer Pitch 1, I extend a warm invitation to meet our dogs and us at Pitch 1 between 4.45 and 5.30pm on any evening to see firsthand the friendly and responsible group we are. At the same time, we can discuss the merits of completing the fencing around Gardiners Reserve Pitch 3/North Pitch. You would be welcome to nominate a date that is convenient for you (I appreciate it would be difficult for you to coordinate a date to come together – we will be pleased to host you as individual visitors whenever it is possible for you to attend before the closing of Monash Off-Leash Areas Community Consultation period). Please let me know when you are attending so I can let others interested in this matter know.</p>	
58	20/08/2022	Community member	<p>I'm a resident of Monash and currently resides on xxxxx Rd next to Davies Reserve. Just wondering if council is planning to put up signs in Davies Reserve to remind dog owners to clean up dog poo?</p> <p>Noticed lately that more and more people are leaving dog poo behind which makes it very unpleasant for other people.</p>	<p>Negative Impact – Waste &amp; Faeces #17</p> <p>Regulation &amp; Education – Irresponsible Dog Owners #11</p>
59	23/8/2022	Community member	<p>Spoke with XXXX who is vision impaired, a resident of 25 years in Huntingdale and has a guide dog that would be worth somewhere between \$50k to \$70k.</p> <p>Jack Edwards / Oakleigh Cannons soccer club feedback, would like this reserve to remain as is (with main pitch off-leash).</p> <p>The players are appalling rude aggressive and overbearing and he is quite annoyed with their attitude, if he could see someone who is an official from the club he would hit him them on the nose. He likes to use this ground as it is flat and fenced and this helps him with being blind as he can let his dog off for a run in the area.</p> <p>He also likes to use and hopes that Princess Highway Reserve stays the same.</p> <p>Is this going to council and is able to go to Council and make a presentation to Council and bring his dog and a practical example to Council?</p>	<p>Infrastructure #18 – fencing</p> <p>Oppose OLA change #19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Princess Highway Reserve</li> </ul>
60	29/8/2022 & 29/09/2022	Community member	<p>I am writing to you regarding the proposed change to Damper Creek's off-leash status and provide my concerns/feedback regarding:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The community consultation process</li> <li>2. Councils reasoning for changing Damper Creek's OLA status</li> <li>3. How the proposal impacts me personally</li> </ol> <p><b>Community Consultation Process</b></p> <p>The process of informing the community of the proposed changes has been woefully inadequate. Initially, Council erected two signs at entrances that are rarely used by walkers. Even now there are no signs at the Park Road and Bengal Crescent entrances. The same is true for Federal Reserve,</p>	<p>Oppose OLA change</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Damper Creek #20</li> </ul>

			<p>there are two signs, one at the car park entrance and one at the Federal St entrance. No signs at Lewis St nor Darbyshire St entrances.</p> <p>Furthermore, the signs require that you understand English and have either a good memory (to remember the website address) or have your smart device take a picture of the sign. Once you reach the webpage you are confronted with an avalanche of information and the Damper Creek proposal is buried within the survey. For such an important decision that will cause much distress to local residents, a more open and informative process employing multiple communication channels including text, flyers and email would give our community the respect and transparency they have the right to expect from elected members who are supposed to represent their best interests.</p> <p><b>Councils argument for changing Damper Creek's OLA</b></p> <p>The stated argument is that "<i>dogs negatively impact natural bushland area through the destruction of plantings, supporting weed growth from faeces and acting as weed dispersers. They impact native fauna through inducing stress from physical presence and have the potential to attack or kill native fauna</i>".</p> <p>The council has not provided any reports/evidence to support this statement, how can the public respond in an informed way without access to this information?. As someone who visits Damper Creek on a daily basis, I am more concerned about the damage caused by the council vehicles driving up and down the paths (environmental reports show that vehicles have a huge impact in terms of spreading weeds). In fact, the main route used by council vehicles to access the depot runs along a regeneration area. Council vehicles drive all over the park including grassy areas where they pick up weeds and spread them around the park. The same is true for cyclists and joggers who according to local and global reports are also responsible for spreading weeds. The creek bed is choked with weeds and rubbish and council vehicles have damaged parts of the walking paths, yet there seems to be a myopic focus on the perceived damage caused by dogs. I have attached pictures to show the dilapidated condition of the creek bed, it makes me sad to see how neglected it has become.</p> <p>The idea that dogs are a threat to fauna is preposterous, most are nocturnal and, as suburban wildlife, would be well used to the smell and presence of humans and dogs. Foxes live in the drains around Damper Creek, I regularly see them in the fenced area down from Bengal Crescent, they are a much greater threat to the local fauna as is evidenced by the dismembered possums I regularly encounter around the park</p> <p><b>Personal Impact</b></p> <p>I have exercised my dogs for over 20 years in Damper Creek and it is an important part of my daily routine. There is no other park in Mount Waverley or the surrounding area that provides the tranquil bush setting where, as a female, I can feel safe. The proposal to make Bowman Reserve off leash as a replacement for Damper Creek is of no value. It is a small narrow park close to public roads and very busy during school drop-off and pick-up and not somewhere I would let my dog off-leash, plus I could walk it in 5 minutes. Although relatively small, Damper Creek provides various paths and levels so that you can get a good 1-hour walk away from the worry of busy roads. It is beyond comprehension why you would propose to remove access to a much-loved facility for local dog owners based on a one-sided argument. It appears that the decision was already made before the consultation process began. The only thing you have achieved so far is to make a lot of people very angry and disappointed.</p>	
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			<p>Please reconsider this unpopular proposal, there are other ways to protect the small number of sensitive areas in the park rather than going for the easy target just to show a small minority of stakeholders that you are doing something.</p> <p><b>Further Email:</b></p> <p>I have read the Damper Creek Conservation Reserve Conservation Management Plan, thank you for making it publicly available. There are a few observations I would like to make.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. It states on page 14 of the report that "overall, the site conditions improved over the 5-year period. This is despite a marked increase in the number of dogs and general public visiting the park, particularly during covid. the report further states that the sampled habitat zone is stable and appears to get gradually increasing in quality which they say is unusual for such a short time period. This informs me that dogs are not a major threat to the park.</li> <li>2. The Reserve is 13.2 ha, yet the report states that only .7ha in total has remnant bushland, it is reasonable to expect that this area can be easily managed without putting a complete ban on off-leash walking</li> <li>3. Section 6.1 deals specifically with dog walking. It states that the Reserve was previously a dog-on-lead reserve. I cannot find anyone who remembers it being an on-lead park and certainly not in my 20+ years of walking dogs in Damper Creek. This statement is a bit misleading and infers that the change was recent. Stating that dogs negatively impact natural bushland areas through the destruction of plantings, supporting weed growth from faeces, and acting as weed dispersers is not supported by the overall assessment of Damper Creek's current health and the improvements over the preceding 5-year period since the last assessment. With regards to fauna, this is nonsense, in all my years walking in the park, my dogs have had zero contact with animals and birds, in fact, the birds are quite tame and not at all disturbed by our presence. I have encountered one snake and we gave it a very wide berth indeed.</li> </ol> <p>It would be a much better use of resources for the council to focus on real threats to the park such as cats, foxes, chemicals, and rubbish in the creek (as per my last email the creek is choked with weeds and rubbish at the Park Street end), weeds encroaching from neighbouring properties and loss of surrounding canopy due to inappropriate development.</p> <p>It is perplexing why council is pursuing such an unpopular proposal, particularly as there is scant evidence to support it. It has created so much angst within the community and bad will towards Monash Council. I sincerely hope that Damper Creek will remain an off-leash park as it has been for decades and that we citizens can continue to respect and care for it long after the current council members have moved on to other things.</p>	
61	28/8/2022	Community member	<p>Community Feedback has been called for, regarding the possibility of Damper Creek changing its status, from the existing leash free walking tracks to "on leash." I have waited until almost the last day to engage and comment.</p> <p>Since the notification by Council in July I have walked Damper Creek almost every day taking very detailed notice of the users and behaviours exhibited over these wonderful walking tracks.</p>	<p>Oppose OLA change - Damper Creek #21</p>

			<p>We the community are concerned that Monash council may have assumed this “proposed change” will be a fait de comple. Community sentiment is extremely high on this matter which impacts on hundreds of people every week. Quoting from the July Bulletin: “Community feedback will be used to help inform and facilitate the off-leash policy and any changes to existing off-leash areas”</p> <p>Conservation of native flora and fauna seems to be the Council’s objective. If so, many invasive plant species should be the highest priority. Wandering Jew, a major environmental weed, is taking over sections of the creek and smothering the native vegetation along the gully.</p> <p>If so, fixing fences that have offered protection, but have been broken for years, should be fixed. The creek is completely overgrown and choked with water weed and some bull rushes in a number of area. In summer the creek towards the playground has a constant stench, due to the condition of this waterway which narrows down to the size of a trickle from a bath tap in some spots.</p> <p>Cats trawl this parkland .... I have seen this on dusk.</p> <p>The council must respond to the inadequate compliance to this local law if they are truly sensitive to protecting local fauna.</p> <p>Bird boxes / possum boxes have been broken on the ground for years . Just recently I have seen a couple of new boxes? Many more boxes should be put in place to encourage local fauna. More significant trees should be planted. The bird diversity has reduced enormously from this area over the last decade..... no doubt due to the decimation of their habitat due to tree removal on house blocks - this “conservation area” should be negating some of the tragedy occurring in the streets of 3149. I can honestly say July I have seen only 2 instances of dogs in the creek which would give any cause for rules to be changed, if “conservation” is truly the reason for this policy review.</p> <p>The honest truth is both creek paddling instances would have unfolded with or without a change in rules.... Some people are just plain stupid and nothing will change behaviour, apart from more rangers on patrol. Damper Creek is the most suitable place in Waverley for “trouble free” off leash dog walking. 2 lower paths, 2 higher paths, make it ideal to avoid other dogs - one can always quickly move up or down pathways, to continue a walk without meeting other dogs or people, if that is required. There is no “rushing” of dogs who gather speed over a long distance .... Dogs simply walk beside their owners, in a harmonious fashion, due to the wonderful layout of these walking tracks.</p> <p>Local older residents, with older dogs are very obvious users of Damper Creek. The Damper Creek children's playground is COMPLETELY separate from any off leash dog interaction. This is not the case with Federal Reserve where dogs can run from one side of the park to the other, cutting across the children’s playground and bike track at any time.</p> <p>People that use Federal Reserve often unload their dogs out of cars, start walking around the park themselves and take no notice of where their own dog is running, and display no control over the dog. This NEVER happens at Damper Creek. Often bad dog traits are exposed at Federal Reserve, which is why I never use this park for off leash walking.</p>	
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			<p>This is a similar situation at Bowman Street park. (?? supposed to be the trade-off for changes to Damper Creek??). My Mother uses this park with grandchildren regularly - again dogs chasing each other or chasing balls can run directly through this small playground area.</p> <p>More seriously, this wedge of useless land is completely exposed to the very long down hill road which is an obvious alarming worry if one dog chases another dog onto the road ..... no second chances, under a car and dead in seconds.</p> <p>This road/car/dead dog scenario is also very real at the bottom of Federal Reserve, with dogs often ending up on Andrews Street.</p> <p>Walking through Damper Creek is the last bastion of the "old Mt Waverley"</p> <p>My sister who lives on Valley Reserve still comes to walk her dog in Damper Creek, off lead, and in a tranquil bushy environment.</p> <p>For decades residents have walked this track of land known as Damper Creek .... Well before it's beautification .... The council will turn law abiding citizens into law breakers if this proposal goes ahead.</p> <p>We the local ratepayers are entitled to know WHO and WHY this proposition has even been raised as an issue. It has been insinuated that conservation aspects are at the root of this .....</p> <p>If so, fixing fences that have offered protection, but have been broken for years, should be fixed.</p> <p>All residents look forward to the publication of this survey, with community feedback statistics, for and against, being published.</p> <p>We the local ratepayers are entitled to know WHO and WHY this proposition has even been raised as an issue. Who - within the Council - is advocating for our local community which is unanimously in agreement - KEEP DAMPER CREEK OFF LEASH.</p> <p>City of Monash covers 80sq Kms ..... 14 potential new off leash areas proposed ....and existing off leash parks expanded. Only 1 park is under review for reversal .... Damper Creek. What is behind this?? No information forthcoming from the council to this date as to the changes.</p> <p>I submit these comments, as a resident of Monash for over 50 years. Council members all come and go - we the community are here for a lifetime.</p>	
62	29/8/2022	Community member	<p>My opinions on having Off Leash Dog Parks are - South Oakleigh -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. We don't have any off leash fenced area to take our dogs between Warrigal, Golf, Centre &amp; North Roads</li> <li>2. The area cnr. Pitt St and Cameron Ave has just been wasted on an unsightly concrete jungle which would have made an ideal area for all the dogs in the area.</li> <li>3. Lots of us in this area are getting on in age and can't walk to the current parks.</li> <li>4. Those of us with smaller dogs not only are we unable to walk to the dog park but neither can our dogs.</li> <li>5. You talk about keeping our dogs under control and not having fenced areas of off leash parks. We have a dog that is taken to obedience training every week and is very sociable in all ways except going to an area where there isn't a fence to keep her in. She has a mind of her own and goes exploring if there is no fence to stop her. So you saying dogs have to be trained is all very well but they are DOGS not humans, so I don't think it's too much to expect that Council make the area safe for all the animals.</li> </ol>	<p>Infrastructure #19 – fencing &amp; signage</p> <p>Support FOLA #3 – South Oakleigh</p>

			<p>Have a look at Mildura Council and see what they have done to take the dogs to a leash free area. They also have some rules on a large board for everyone to adhere to and it seems to work well.</p> <p>6. Why not negotiate with the Education Department to use the vacant land on the Cnr. Bakers and Centre Roads for an off leash, fenced area for our dogs. That land is just open space and having a dog park would still keep it as open space.</p> <p>7. The land on the corner of Golf Road and Beryl Avenue has been used as a dog exercise space for years but that is about to be closed to the public for work to be started by the owners. The area above cnr. Bakers and Centre Roads would be a good substitute for the Beryl Avenue site.</p> <p>8. I have been a resident here for 54 years, so I think it's about time we had a fenced off leash dog park. I would be happy to come to Council if there is any further discussions on this subject</p>	
63	29/8/2022	Community member	<p>As a resident of Monash, I would like to comment on your proposed policy regarding off-leash dog areas, as I walk my adult children's dogs quite regularly when they spend the day with me whilst their owners are at work.</p> <p>I believe you are likely to discontinue the freedom of off-leash walking in Damper Creek - this would be a huge loss to residents living in the area, as it is a very popular place for walking dogs of all sizes and breeds. I have never witnessed an altercation between dogs whilst walking in Damper Creek, and during our Covid lockdowns it was quite a busy place, enjoyable both for walkers and dogs. The seclusion of the area makes it a safe place for walking, without fear of traffic. What is your reason for the intended change???</p> <p>I reside near the Bowman Street Park, which I use for grandchildren to play on the equipment there - and have taken the dogs there also. However, it is not a safe place to let a dog roam free, due to nearby housing and passing street traffic, which when a building is taking place, can be quite busy. There is no way I would take a dog off-leash in this area, as it is too small and too close to pass traffic. I cannot see the wisdom in choosing to make Bowman Street Park an off-leash area.</p> <p>I wonder about who is making these decisions and how they arrive at such decisions. I would hope you seriously consider all points of view as this consultation period continues through to end of September, and I would be grateful if submissions could be addressed with an answer to queries.</p>	<p>Oppose OLA change - Damper Creek #22</p>
64	01/9/2022	Community member	<p>Just letting you know that I contacted XXX with some questions. See below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Considering 77% of dog off-leash areas have at least one side bordering a road and that the OLA Design Principle number 13 acknowledges a safety risk of off-leash areas nearby roads, why does OLA Design Principle 12 stipulate that the majority of off-leash areas will be unfenced?</li> <li>• Considering the May 2021 community survey was performed 6 months before the OLA Design Principles were adopted in the council meeting, was the feedback of this survey specifically relating to fenced OLA considered?</li> <li>• Were there other reasons for reducing the dog off leash area at Gardiners Reserve that I have not been made aware of?</li> </ul>	<p>Infrastructure #20 – fencing</p>
65	30/08/2022	Community member	<p>I'm writing as a resident of the City of Monash to express my concern with the council's draft dog off-leash policy and the proposed changes in my local area. I find the draft dog off-leash policy is unsubstantiated in many ways, shows little consideration for the needs of the dog owning community and has potential</p>	<p>Oppose OLA change – Gardiners Reserve #23</p>



			<p>implications which are frightening. In addition, the proposed changes have a significant negative impact to myself and the dog owner community, yet some changes appear to offer no benefit to any user groups.</p> <p>My local dog off leash area is Gardiners Reserve. There is a closer dog off leash area (Ashwood Reserve) however I never go there to exercise my dog as it borders a main road and is therefore unsafe. The proposed dog off-leash area further south of this (Jingella Reserve) is also not suitable as it borders a major trail and is also unsafe.</p> <p>The proposed changes to Gardiners Reserve have a significant impact on myself, like many dog owners in my local community. I have several questions for which I seek answers.</p> <p><b><u>OLA Design Principles 11-13</u></b></p> <p>The OLA Design Principles number 11-13 are unsubstantiated and frightening for dog owners. From my experience as a regular visitor to dog off leash areas for over 3 years, fenced areas do attract owners with less control over their dogs, however this has never been to the detriment or safety of other reserve users, only to the safety of the dog. The owners have always appeared to manage their dog responsibly. Rarely have I seen owners take poorly socialized dogs to fenced areas. I have not once seen owners leave their dog unattended, nor seen commercial operators taking lots of dogs.</p> <p>The principles take no consideration to the fact that even the best dog does not obey commands 100% of the time. Any dog trainer will tell you that. Nor does it take into consideration puppies or adopted dogs, for whom it would be unreasonable to expect them to obey commands all the time. Yet, it's equally important for these dogs to play and socialise off-leash. Any dog owner knows that a dog playing with a leash on is very restrictive, difficult to manage and unsafe. I have a young son and when he was very little dog training became a very low priority. The most we planned for and did was to walk him every day. Many families are more time poor than myself as I have only one child. They would not have the time or energy to focus on training a dog to obey commands as the policy expects them to. In saying this, I feel that all the dog owners I have met are responsible. They understand their dog's behavior and consistently avoid putting their dogs or others in an unsafe situation.</p> <p>The main issue with unfenced areas is the dog running onto a road or a major shared trail and causing an accident. Worst case scenario - the dog is injured or dies, or a person is injured or dies. All dog owners consider this. That's why I rarely see dogs at the dog off-leash area at Ashwood Reserve bordering High St Rd and always see dogs at Gardiners Reserve. The council acknowledges this safety risk in the OLA Design Principle number 13. It states that fenced areas will only be considered where there is a safety risk nearby, e.g. road or commuter trail. Considering 77% (24 out of 31) of the council's OLA's border a road by one or more sides, the OLA Design Principle number 12 stating that the 'majority of off-leash areas will be unfenced' is astounding.</p> <p>Considering 77% of dog off-leash areas have at least one side bordering a road and that the OLA Design Principle number 13 acknowledges a safety risk of off-leash areas nearby roads, why does OLA Design Principle 12 stipulate that the majority of off-leash areas will be unfenced?</p>	<p>Infrastructure #21 – fencing</p>
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			<p>The council's May 2021 community survey informed the Domestic Animal Management Plan 2021-25 and was the basis of community consultation for the draft dog off-leash policy. The community survey showed having fenced off-leash areas were a high concern for residents. Considering this, it's extraordinary that the draft dog off-leash policy stipulates the exact opposite of the very thing residents said was of high concern to them.</p> <p>Considering the May 2021 community survey was performed 6 months before the OLA Design Principles were adopted in the council meeting, was the feedback of this survey specifically relating to fenced OLA considered?</p> <p><b><u>Reduction of dog off-leash area at Gardiners Reserve</u></b>  <b><i>Negative impacts of reducing dog off-leash area</i></b></p> <p>The change of the dog-off leash area surrounding the pitches in Gardiners Reserve has a significant impact on myself and other dog owners visiting the reserve. This is my closest dog-off leash area which I regularly visit and walk from one end to the other as a standard walk. The size and diversity enables me to provide my dog with enough variety to keep him entertained and relieve pent up energy. If the dog off-leash area was isolated to just the northern oval, he would be bored more quickly and spend less time running around. I would have to take him on an additional walk elsewhere to get rid of the same energy. As a mum with a young family, having a large off leash area close by makes a huge difference. Anything that is easier and takes less time is highly valued by people with families and in fact, anyone. Almost every time, no matter the time of day I see dog owners with their dogs in Gardiners Reserve. From what I see, many like me walk with their dogs from one end of the reserve to the other. Reducing the dog off-leash area would have a significant impact on myself as well and many fellow dog owners in my local area.</p> <p>While I have no concern with my dog socializing and playing with larger dogs, I see that this is a concern by many residents in your May 2021 community survey. In the council's Domestic Animal Management Plan this is listed as a dot point - 'requests for fenced "off leash" areas to separate smaller and larger dogs' (page 7). I understand the point of view of owners with small dogs. The size and weight of medium or large dogs, perhaps 6 or 10 times the weight of small dogs could cause an injury, especially when a group of dogs are playing together, no matter how gentle the larger dog is. For this reason, I understand why some dog owners want to have a separate play area. With the current set up, owners with small dogs could meet up regularly to play and socialize in a separate area to the regular crowd. They could meet up at either the northern oval or the area surrounding the southern pitch. These areas are far from each other, and no fencing is required to separate the groups. With the policy's proposal to reduce the off-leash area, separate play areas for larger and small dogs would be significantly harder. I feel that this is another example of how the council has sought feedback from the community, then taken away the very thing residents said was of high concern to them.</p> <p><b><i>Benefits of reducing dog off-leash area</i></b></p> <p>When trying to understand the benefits in reducing the dog off-leash area, I look to the reasons for making the change. The draft dog off-leash policy stipulates no specific reason for reducing the off-leash area at Gardiners Reserve. When making enquiries to the council as to why this decision was made I was told that it was because of: 1) conflict from the usage of the pitch and 2) 'large, open spaces ideally 3,500m2+ to</p>	
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			<p>allow sufficient space for dogs to recreate away from other dogs they might find 'intimidating' and enable them not to get 'cornered or boxed-in' as well as to provide good clear lines of site, spread out any wear &amp; tear'.</p> <p>As for the first reason, I don't see how conflict would arise between club users and dog owners by having dogs off-leash in the areas surrounding the southern pitch. Even if conflict did arise, dog owners should not be penalised. Conflict should be managed through the conflict resolution pathway which the council has in place.</p> <p>In regards to the second reason for reducing the off-leash area - large open space. Removing any existing dog off-leash areas that do not fit the specific description of 'large, open space, ideally 3,500m2+' category is narrow minded and illogical. Reducing the off-leash area does the opposite of "allow sufficient space for dogs to recreate away from other dogs they might find intimidating". While the area is smaller than other dog off-leash areas it's not possible for dogs to get 'cornered or boxed-in' as the area around the synthetic and southern pitches contain no dead end. The only dead end off-leash area is north of the northern pitch, which the policy proposes to reduce in size making it more likely for dogs to get boxed-in.</p> <p>I see no benefits of reducing the dog off-leash area at Gardiners Reserve. Were there other reasons for reducing the dog off leash area at Gardiners Reserve that I have not been made aware of?</p> <p>I look forward to hearing your response to my questions about the council's draft dog off-leash policy.</p> <p><b>Further email received 11/09/20:</b></p> <p>I was eager, however surprised to read your response to my email. Surprised and disappointed! My reason for emailing was almost completely ignored, which I find disrespectful and shows little regard for my concerns as a City of Monash resident. My email clearly mentioned that I had questions, and the questions clearly stood out. I put effort into writing my email and I had hoped my response would elicit the same. Considering this, I will reiterate my questions.</p> <p>Considering 77% of dog off-leash areas have at least one side bordering a road and that the OLA Design Principle number 13 acknowledges a safety risk of off-leash areas nearby roads, why does OLA Design Principle 12 stipulate that the majority of off-leash areas will be unfenced?</p> <p>In your email you say that just under 30% (9 out of 31) of existing OLA are already fenced off, and of the potential new OLA "a number" are already fenced. This still falls significantly short of the 'majority' for OLA to be safe. I accept your comment that the principles may be too strongly worded.</p> <p>Considering the May 2021 community survey was performed 6 months before the OLA Design Principles were adopted in the council meeting, was the feedback of this survey specifically relating to fenced OLA considered?</p> <p>Your email contains no mention of the May 2021 community survey.</p> <p>Were there other reasons for reducing the dog off leash area at Gardiners Reserve that I have not been made aware of?</p> <p>Any other reasons other than conflict of use of the pitch and 'large, open space, ideally 3,500m2+'. You mention in your email the technical manual which provides best practice assessment framework, including size and shape of parkland. This touches on my concern about one of my two listed reasons for reducing the dog off leash area, however does not answer my question.</p>	
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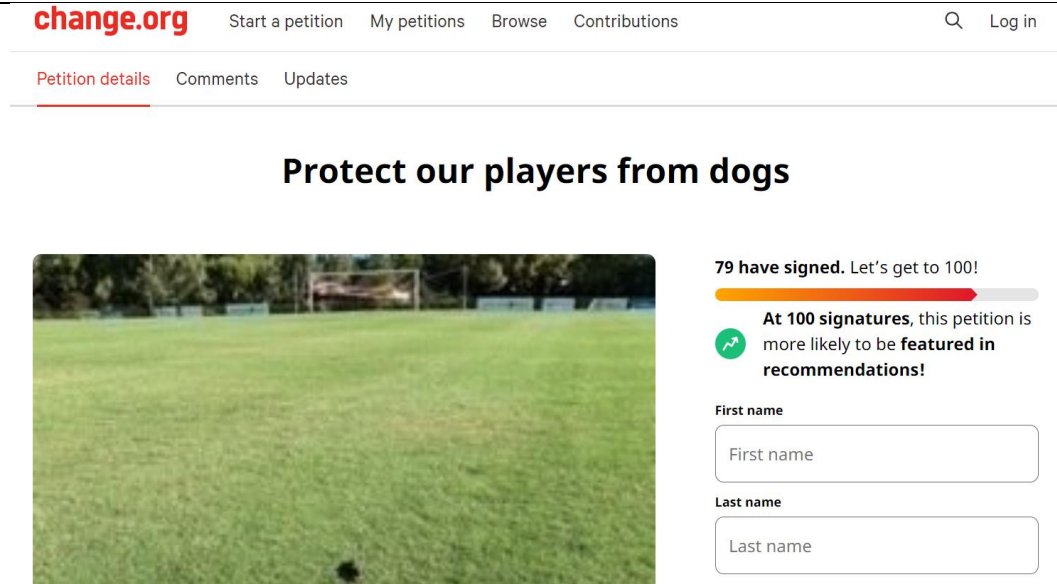
			I'm at a loss to understand the benefits of reducing the dog off leash area outside the pitches at Gardiners Reserve. For which user groups does this provide benefit to?	
66 Petition	02/09/2022	Community member  Community Petition	<p>We met at the meeting at Gardiners Reserve on Friday 19 August to discuss the draft Monash Off-Leash Areas Policy. After the meeting, I spoke to you about the petition I have been gathering signatures for, and you were kind enough to say I could send it on to you.</p> <p>Four petition pages are attached with 60 signatures in total. I gathered the signatures <b>only at the Gardiners Reserve Pitch 1</b> so <b>everyone who signed is an active user of Gardiners Reserve Pitch 1 for dog exercise</b>.</p> <p>People signed in endorsement of the statement:  <i>The users of Gardiners Reserve for off-lead dog exercise ask to maintain access to a safe area for us and our dogs:</i>  <i>Either</i>  <i>Continued shared access to Pitch 1</i>  <i>OR</i>  <i>Shared access to a fully fenced Pitch 3 (aka North Pitch)</i></p> <p>I would be pleased to post you the original petition pages if you would like me to.</p> <p>Many thanks for attending the 19/8 meeting with your colleagues. I hope the petition supports our case; thank you for including it in your community consultation report.</p>	<p>Oppose OLA change – Gardiners Reserve #24</p> <p>Petition (60 signatures) #4</p> <p>Infrastructure #22 – fencing</p>
67	14/09/2022	Oakleigh District Football Netball Cricket Club (Princes Hwy West)	<p>I thought I would let you know, that whilst inspecting the newly laid cricket pitch yesterday, it was most disappointing to see the brilliant efforts by Council, detrimentally affected by the permittance of Council to allow the PHW Oval being a 'Dogs Off-Leash' area. Since the Oval was fully enclosed, this situation is constantly evidenced by the daily ( and substantial ) results of dogs' faeces, left on all parts of the area, including the playing surface. This includes full dog-bags, strewn all over the PH Reserve area.</p> <p>Below, is just some of the yesterday's Oval 'deposits', and which also includes the matting in front of the Canteen building.</p> <div data-bbox="698 895 1727 1259" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>Considering the situation, for all, for Council to keep taking the position that this is a 'compliance issue', is a mistake. The cause has to be addressed, not the symptom.</p>	<p>Oppose OLA change – Princes Highway West #25</p> <p>Negative Impact – Digging &amp; Faeces #18</p> <p>Regulation &amp; Education – Irresponsible Dog Owners #12</p>

			<p>We are aware that the community feedback consultation period, will end soon on 30th of September 2022, and the policy will be finalised following that Consultation. We, as the year-round Tenant Club of the Princes Hwy Oval, will continue to have this unacceptable situation changed. The PHW Oval must be a 'Dogs On-Leash' area.</p>	
68	20/09/2022	<p>Eastern Lions FC (Gardiners Reserve South – NPL pitch)</p>	<p>I'm sending you a series of holes on the main pitch, which I believe is made by dogs digging. Can you please confirm that the work is still going ahead on the main pitch starting early October &amp; these will be fixed? And the pitch will be closed down while these works are on?</p> 	<p>Support OLA change – Gardiners Reserve South #3</p> <p>Negative Impact – Digging &amp; Urine Damage #19</p> <p>Regulation &amp; Education – Irresponsible Dog Owners #13</p> <p>Community Safety #13 – players</p>
69	April 2021	<p>Oakleigh Cannons FC Report of Dog Damage to NPL pitch at Jack Edwards Reserve</p>	<p>Jack Edwards Reserve</p> 	<p>Support OLA change – Jack Edwards Reserve #3</p> <p>Negative Impact – Digging &amp; Urine Damage #20</p> <p>Regulation &amp; Education – Irresponsible Dog Owners #14</p> <p>Community Safety #14 – players</p>



				
	27/09/2022	Community member	<p>Thank you for releasing the thesis that seems to form the basis for the Council's focus on dogs as the only issue inside the Damper Creek reserve, and moves to end off lead walking. I have read this 11 year old thesis, and wanted to raise some concerns about it that don't appear to have been addressed in any of the material released by council so far.</p> <p>In my previous correspondence, I shared a few examples of other sources which note a group of potential contributors to the concerns raised over the need to protect the creek. I put forward my belief that the focus on dogs was both out of proportion to their true impact, and when considering the impact of other actual contributors, it's unlikely that the banning of off lead dogs would lead to any material improvement in the state of the creek. It would only serve to disenfranchise a large portion of the users of the creek. I'm pleased that you have released the document on which the assessment is based, as it is important for residents who are going to be impacted by this potential decision be aware of what's driving it.</p> <p>The first area of concern is that this document only focus on dogs. As per my previous submission, there is sufficient work in the literature to point out that there are many areas of concern that have an equally deleterious impact on the creek, yet they are not mentioned, including the council quad bikes &amp; 4wd's that</p>	<p>Oppose OLA change – Damper Creek #25</p>

			<p>frequently wander the creeks trails, week killer and lawnmowing that council employs to keep the area looking as it does.</p> <p>The paper, and the majority of the references it sites on dog behaviour refer to dogs that are not under effective control, that's to say that they aren't being walked by or are in the company of their owners. These dogs are left to roam free. I would put it to the council that if this were the case, then the issue would be stray dogs, not pets walking with their owners. The behaviour cited in the thesis more closely matches that of many domestic cats, left to their own resources and able to wander and predate as they see fit. And that's not even taking into account the fox dens that are in the creek. That the article does not have data on the degree of predation that occurs when dogs are with their owners. And the use of post mortem analysis only allows for those animals that are killed and not eaten. Another aspect of the thesis that bears pointing out is that the dogs predation was focused on larger animals, possums, wallabies whilst cats attack smaller animals, bandicoots and smaller birds. I would put it to the council that the creek is more likely to be home to smaller animals, more likely to suffer predation from cats than to wallabies that could be attacked by dogs. But once again, the types of attacks mentioned appear to be those made by dogs or packs of dogs without any form of supervision. The one notable exception seems to be in the attacking of reptiles. This is an area where dog owners could and should be warned, though the prevalence of snakes near the creek should provide enough of an incentive to manage your dogs.</p> <p>The overall thrust of the thesis, that dogs are arguably more dangerous than cats to native wildlife does not seem to be one that has stood the test of time. The CSIRO talks at length about cats, regulations restricting cats ability to roam, along with their propensity to roam without supervision or company should be an area of concern, but this is not contained within the Councils proposal. The same goes for council vehicles they cause rutting and are able to move weeds, seeds, fungal spores faster and in far larger quantities than dogs ever could.</p> <p>My main issue with this proposal is that it doesn't seem to be based in a broad based review of the science in the area, and instead seems to have been focused on dogs from the start. The assumptions of the study, the exclusions, the inclusions results in an analysis of little to no relevance to the subject ecosystem. The discovery of an 11 year old thesis with a contentious theory, not carried forward has been used to put support a policy change that will impact on a body of users that currently, frequently use the creek doesn't seem balanced or appropriate. I have provided references in my previous submission that talk to other risks to the creek, not to see their use wound back, or restricted, but to show that the basis for the policy change is unbalanced, lopsided and ultimately, going to fail against the stated aims, simply because of the other factors mentioned.</p> <p>So there must be another reason driving the recommendation which does not form part of the discussion or briefing. Policy doesn't proceed on that sort of basis. Dog walkers are ratepayers and local residents, and they are one of the more regular users of the creek. And as users they drive responsible use. And one that does not deserve the focus it is attracting, nor the restrictions being proposed.</p>	
70	28/9/2022	Eastern Lions FC Petition	<a href="https://www.change.org/p/protect-our-players-from-dogs">https://www.change.org/p/protect-our-players-from-dogs</a>	<p>Support OLA change – Gardiners Reserve South #4 (Petition- 79 signatures)</p>

				<p>Negative Impact – Digging &amp; Urine Damage #21</p> <p>Regulation &amp; Education – Irresponsible Dog Owners #15</p> <p>Community Safety #15 – players</p>
71	29/09/2022	Oakleigh Cannons FC Petition	<p><b>Petition for Sharing Access to the Jack Edwards Reserve: Oakleigh Cannons Football Club RESPONSE</b></p> <p>Introduction</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Oakleigh Cannons Football Club (Soccer Club) has prepared this paper to express and solidify their long-standing position in having sole use, management and maintenance of the Jack Edwards Reserve.</li> <li>The Soccer Club has recently become aware of the creation and submission of a petition which if successful, would require the existing defined sporting area (grounds) of the Jack Edwards Reserve (including but not limited to enclosed pitches, synthetic and grass where professional sport is being played, formal training takes place and informal player access to the grounds occurs) to be shared for the purposes of a dog on/off leash area. In response to this initiative, the Soccer Club has enacted and submitted a contravening petition to uphold the existing status quo.</li> </ol> <p>Background</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Soccer Club boasts the attainment of National Premier League 1 (NPL1) being professional sports status. This is a very high standard of Australian soccer and is of significant recognition interwoven in the fabric of the local Oakleigh area. Furthermore, the Soccer Club is underpinned by a strong community ethos promoting and maintaining cultural connectivity in the characteristic of its membership and visitors to the ground alike.</li> <li>The ideology that designated green space is for everyone's enjoyment becomes significantly compromised in the event that the sports pitch areas become accessible by either the general public, or as in this instance, dog walkers (with their dogs).</li> <li>The dog walkers' petition proposes that the aforementioned sports ground areas be shared with dog walkers and may likely be presented under the auspice of being an "inclusive" strategy. However, the proposal will achieve a contrary outcome, whereby the sporting areas will become unusable to</li> </ol>	<p>Support OLA change – Jack Edwards Reserve #5 (Petition- 408 signatures)</p> <p>Negative Impact – Digging &amp; Urine Damage #22</p> <p>Regulation &amp; Education – Irresponsible Dog Owners #16</p> <p>Community Safety #16 – players</p>

			<p>the soccer club for professional sports or training. Allowing dog walkers to share the sporting areas will prohibit the use of the grounds for soccer professionals, will denigrate the Soccer Club and cause a demise of a widely celebrated cultural icon within the municipal area.</p> <p>Risks and Limitations</p> <p>6. The potential for the sporting grounds to become accessible to dog walkers with their dogs will, as a minimum:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preclude the Soccer Club from functioning at the professional high-level expectation and requirements of an NPL 1 club;</li> <li>Compromise the integrity of the pitches and impact critical maintenance regimes and costs;</li> <li>Cause the destruction and disintegration of the synthetic and natural grass pitches;</li> <li>Significantly increase the risk of professional player injury (who have spent years dedicated to the sport as attested by the high level reached);</li> <li>Impact and reduce the crowds being drawn to soccer matches, also compromising the viability of the Soccer Club from a financial and reputational perspective; and</li> <li>Prohibit the pristine requirements of the grounds, which are assessed independently by an independent Football Federation Victoria (FFV) appointed referee prior to each match as to the suitability of the grounds for the game (as per NPL 1 rules). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The requirements for the condition of a professional pitch at an NPL1 club is very high. This relates to player safety, but also to the expectation mandated at this professional level.</li> </ul> </li> </ol> <p>Accessibility and Equity</p> <p>7. Dog walkers have access to an enclosed off lead area which abuts the Soccer Club playing pitches. This is an appropriate and fully fenced off area used by dog walkers to exercise and socialise their dogs. Soccer players are unable to use this area to kick balls, participate in drills, train and play as dogs (and their owners) will likely become seriously injured. It is therefore appropriate that this area be used solely by dog walkers and their dogs free from professional soccer training. Therefore, allowing access to soccer players of this area would not deem it <i>inclusive</i> of other persons/groups, but rather would preclude the dog walkers and their dogs to use the area as an off-lead space. This is conversely the position being proposed by the dog walkers by sharing the soccer grounds.</p> <p>8. Dog walkers have access to a multitude of other areas within and outside the local municipality to exercise and socialise their dogs. The Soccer Club however has no other dedicated sole use area for the purposes of training, playing and running the Soccer Club.</p> <p>9. Dog walkers currently have on-lead access to the non-playing areas of the grounds at all times.</p> <p>10. There is a concern that during community Soccer Club events, not all members of the public feel safe with dogs being on the playing fields and that dog attacks on other dogs or people are increased in such environments.</p> <p>Deterioration of the grounds</p> <p>11. Aspiring to achieve 100% responsible dog ownership in cleaning up after ones' dog is a fallacy.</p> <p>12. Dog waste on the pitch would not only emit an offensive odour, but significantly increases the likelihood of player injury. Bearing in mind, we are referring to professional players who are making a living from their sport which leads to broaching the impact of livelihoods which are at stake, and the longevity of professional sporting careers.</p>	
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			<p>13. Furthermore, dog waste even if cleaned up, cannot be completely removed from natural grass without compromising the pitch level, quality and damaging the grass. This is even more so applicable in the instance of synthetic grass.</p> <p>14. On natural grass, as dogs are exercised, it is a given that the soil will become disrupted and cause an uneven surface on the pitch – again inhibiting training or game to then safely occur or be cancelled.</p> <p>Summary</p> <p>15. The proposal to share the Jack Edwards Reserve by dog walkers with the Soccer Club should be refused due to the aforementioned arguments described in the contents of this paper.</p> <p>16. Provided below is a summary of the negative impacts that will occur in sharing the grounds with dog walkers – this list includes but not limited to, the following:</p> <p>17. The sharing of the grounds will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Preclude and prohibit the existing Soccer Club to continue to operate as a professional NPL 1 Soccer Club;</li> <li>b) Not achieve inclusive access to the grounds but rather exclude the Soccer Club from having access and from being able to effectively use the grounds for professional sport;</li> <li>c) Increase the risk of player injury and bare the weight of associated insurance and recover costs;</li> <li>d) Negatively affect community cultural connectivity occurring at the Soccer Club by a key demographic of the Monash Municipal District;</li> <li>e) Deteriorate public interest and confidence in the professionalism of the sport;</li> <li>f) Significantly denigrate the quality of the grounds;</li> <li>g) Reduce the economic sustainability of the grounds;</li> <li>h) Increase legal and risk considerations (and insurance costs);</li> <li>i) Negatively affect and inflate the maintenance budget of the soccer club for the grounds; and</li> <li>j) Lead to the Soccer Club losing memberships.</li> </ul> <p>18. Where the proposal to share the grounds at the Jack Edwards Reserve is considered favourably by Council, the soccer club will be significantly negatively impacted and damaged. Where the proposal to share the grounds at the Jack Edwards Reserve is considered unfavourably by Council, there is no negative impact for the dog walkers.</p>	
72	29/09/2022	Community member	<p>I am a resident living in the city of Monash and I have recently feel very concerned in regards to the safety management on pets off-leash areas. I know that council has set a few off-leash areas for families and their pets. I do not have any objections to this decision of having some areas for pets to exercise freely.</p> <p>However, this is a real thing happened to me and my family including young kids last Sunday afternoon. We were enjoying the sunshine and taking some exercises at Glen Waverley North reserve dog off-leash area. We were interrupted more than 3 times by over active pets that ran towards to the kids and tried to jump on them. We have asked the pet owners to give a bit of control of their pets and first two times we were able to have things resolved in a nice way. On the third time, another pet ran to us twice from a distance and was chasing/trying to jump on my kids so that I had to take actions to protect my kids. This did not follow the instructions of off-leash sign which I found at the entry of the park. Although the pet looks still young but the size of it has made my kids felt terrified when it was chasing my kids unstoppable. We were even told by the pet owner that we should take our kids elsewhere if they are afraid of dogs because it's a leash-free park.</p>	<p>Community Safety #16 – children</p> <p>Regulation &amp; Education – Irresponsible Dog Owners #16</p> <p>Infrastructure #23 – signage</p>

			<p>We believe it's not at the pet owner's discretion to say if a dog was chasing young children just for fun. Kids have their own right to decide when they do not feel safe and do not want to be chased by a stranger's pet.</p> <p>Families and pets are welcomed in the neighbourhood and I do think so too. But it's the pet owner's responsibilities to make sure their pets are behaving and controllable in public areas; and take their pets back under their control immediately if other people feel threatened around their pets.</p> <p>I hope council could take actions to re-emphasise the conditions to be met and reasonable considerations that need to be taken before the pet owners make a decision to set their pet off the lead. I also found that the plants and bushes in front of the instruction signs are not maintained and the sign was partially covered (FYI attached photos). I hope council could maintain the surrounding clearance of any signs and instructions. Moreover, I wish council could add another sign of off-leash conditions at south side of the GW north reserve building where the water fountain is. So that more people come into the area from that entry could also be aware of those conditions. At last, it will be greatly appreciated if council could consider my suggestions and conduct more observations across all public parks/reserves within Monash Council area.</p>	
73	29/09/2022	Community member	<p>I attempted to provide this feedback on the "Shape Monash" portal, but it looks like you can only provide there once (which I did few weeks ago). So now that the trial is in place, I wanted to provide additional feedback specifically about the Highview Park.</p> <p>I was very much looking forward to Highview Park becoming an off leash park, however I believe the proposal for this particular park needs to be carefully re-evaluated. On 8th September 2022 I took my young dog xxx to Highview park for a short walk. Xxx enjoyed the walk, running and jumping around. When it was time to go, I took the leash out of my pocket and called her to come over. She had too much fun and didn't want to go, so she started walking away from me. Xxx generally had a very good recall, but sometimes she just wanted to have that little bit of extra freedom. This time around she wanted just that.</p> <p>It so happened that she underestimated the size of the park, ran off and found herself on Springvale Road, only to be hit by a car at full speed within seconds. Xxx died within minutes, which is lucky in a way, but the pain left behind is enormous. This did not only have an impact on the immediate family with the enormous sadness we are feeling, but also on the person whose car hit her, the person who took her to the hospital, the hospital staff who did everything they could in trying to save her only to see her pass away, the friends of the grieving family, the workplaces of the grieving adults, the school kids who are friends of our young daughter.</p> <p>You can argue that I didn't have sufficient control over my dog, but dogs can also get spooked by things outside of our control. Please don't get me wrong, I still believe that Highview Park should become an off leash park. It would help so many local dog owners to provide their dogs with a good round of exercise without having to drive to other areas. But I believe there should be barriers installed between off leash parks and the major road such as Springvale Road.</p> <p>I thank you in advance for considering my feedback and happy to talk over the phone if any further information is required. Best regards.</p>	Infrastructure #24 – fencing (Highview Park)

74	29/09/2022	Community member Petition	<p>I write to you with regard to the proposal to make Damper Creek an "on leash" area. I and many others oppose this. As such find attached a petition with over 550 signatures calling for Damper Creek to be kept leash <b>free</b>.</p> <p>I have attached also the comments left on the petition website and the link to the petition is below.</p> <p>I would request that the over whelming support for keeping Damper Creek leash free is considered and that Council makes the correct decision for the rate payers and residents of Monash as well as the wider community and ensure that Damper Creek remains leash free.</p> <p>The following files are attached.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• KEEP DAMPER CREEK RESERVE LEASH FREE FOR DOGS - SIGNATURES</li> <li>• KEEP DAMPER CREEK RESERVE LEASH FREE FOR DOGS - COMMENTS</li> </ul> <p>The link to the petition and its wording - <a href="https://chng.it/DMnmwpgf">https://chng.it/DMnmwpgf</a></p> <p>"Recently Monash Council released a proposal to make Damper Creek Reserve an ON leash area for dogs. It has always been OFF leash.</p> <p>Damper Creek has been leash free since its inception, about 50 years ago. The community back then fought to have it retained for community use and not developed; defying council, developers and the government itself to ensure that Mount Waverley and the surrounding communities have a free and beautiful space for people and their animals to enjoy at Damper Creek.</p> <p>With dogs OFF lead Damper Creek is in such great condition that it was recently classified as a conservation area. That's right for 50 years with dogs OFF lead Damper Creek is in such a great condition that it has been recognised as a conservation area!! Now the Monash Council are proposing that dogs will have to be ON lead to maintain the conservation of the area!?</p> <p>Does that make sense to you? Not to me, and not to the thousands of people every year that take their dog to Damper Creek to enjoy their dogs company OFF lead. I have lost count of the amount of people that I have met that have remarked how great it is "to have an area like this in suburbia and where we can walk our dogs OFF lead".</p> <p>If you enjoy Damper Creek with your friends, family and dogs then this Monash Council decision affects you and your dog!</p> <p>MONASH COUNCIL has the power to make sure dogs can stay OFF lead in Damper Creek Reserve. To be clear MONASH COUNCIL has the power to make sure that Damper Creek remains OFF lead.</p> <p>If this goes ahead, then you will NOT be able to use Damper Creek with your dog leash free!</p> <p>This is one of the last great areas in the region that you can walk your dog leash free.</p> <p>Help keep it LEASH FREE for our canine friends."</p> <p><a href="https://www.change.org/p/keep-damper-creek-reserve-leash-free-for-dogs#:~:text=Recently%20Monash%20Council,our%20canine%20friends.">https://www.change.org/p/keep-damper-creek-reserve-leash-free-for-dogs#:~:text=Recently%20Monash%20Council,our%20canine%20friends.</a></p>	<p>Oppose OLA change – Damper Creek #26 Petition 550 signatures</p>
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75	05/10/2022	Community member	<p>I have spoken numerous times to Russell and Rebecca and once to the mayor in regards to reducing Damper Creek under your Shape Dog Plan to the only complete lead on park in the survey.</p> <p>The dictionary defines consultation as a meeting for deliberation, discussion or decision. Unfortunately, this process really hasn't been a consultation in the true definition of the word. I totally respect the online Q&amp;A but we never really here all the information provided and you guys can't really get our view because our view is by a series of formulated questions.</p> <p>So, I will try and be as brief as I can in terms of the "science" being used to come to a decision to have the dogs lead on.</p> <p>Let's look at what the Damper Creek Reserve Management plan July 2022 tells us. And it's a bloody big report but I'll try and minimize it as best I can. I'm not making it up it's all there.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• it updates the ecological evaluations done in the past to show improvements or declines</li> <li>• it shows habitat hectare data scores with great increases from 2016 to 2021. this is fantastic</li> <li>• the Vegetation Mapping shows great improvement and even though we can't see the maps as they have been redacted the summary below the redaction shows enormous improvement.</li> <li>• the troublesome northern portion states Indigenous cover from being low in 2016 is now 60-80% covered</li> <li>• in the same northern area, it states Indigenous vegetation from being low in 2016 is now 80-100% covered.</li> <li>• And the Bird Census results are sensational. please refer to 5.1 on page 21 of the report.</li> <li>• in 2016 Area 1 had 4 bird species, in 2021 now has 8</li> <li>• in 2016 Area 2 had 5 bird species, in 2021 now has 11.</li> <li>• in the words of the report " bird diversity high"</li> </ul> <p><b>AND ALL THIS HAS OCCURED WHILE DOGS HAVE NOT BEEN ON LEADS AND WALKING MOSTLY ON THE PATHS AND NOT WANDERING.</b></p> <p>I said to Russell in a previous email that I did a straw poll by standing at the Northern end of the path close to Stephensons Rd and 31 dog walkers came up the path, hounds untethered, and not ONE dog wandered off the track.</p> <p>Sadly 6.1 Public Use Consideration condemns the dogs based on the Tasmanian Holderness-Roddam 2011 report.</p> <p>It bases this decision with no empiric evidence regarding dogs at all from Damper Creek.</p> <p>So, let's look at the report.</p>	Oppose OLA change – Damper Creek #27
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			<p>An acknowledgement in the report says it all This report is in response to the Hobart Dog Walking Associates (2008) statement that</p> <p><b>" exclusions or restrictions ( of dogs) should be supported by evidenced based and site-specific reasoning"</b></p> <p>This pretty much says it all.</p> <p>If you are going to make this call for Damper Creek, it must be based on a site-specific survey of Damper Creek regarding what dogs are or are not doing. I mean in 3.2 his report shows increased heart rates in Mountain Sheep.!!! I'm not sure this is relevant to Damper Creek!</p> <p>The report also states in 3.5 Bushland and Park Disturbance " several studies have found that the presence of dogs has resulted in reduced native wildlife numbers close to tracks and trails". However, your commissioned report, that is specific to Damper Creek shows increases in all the indicators I have bullet pointed above.</p> <p>This proves that you need to have done a specific report on dog behaviour at Damper Creek and thus proves that Holderness-Roddam 2001 is highly irrelevant to Damper Creek. In fact, his report states emphatically that decisions should be based on site-specific reasoning.</p> <p>In conclusion the external science is irrelevant and Damper Creek continues to thrive with the dogs being off lead. Has for 50 years. Please vote to keep Damper Creek leash free.</p>	
76	21/09/2022	Community member	<p>BACKGROUND. My wife and I purchased this block in 1964, built our home here in 1966 and have lived here ever since, some fifty- eight years. We have brought up our four children here..... A highlight was the opening of Parliament House in Canberra in 1988. Brandon Park grade six children were fortunate indeed to be one of only two schools to have children in the new Parliament House opened by her Majesty the Queen. The queen stopped to speak to some of the children. This last week has brought back many memories. In 1966, the area now known as Finch Reserve was a rubbish dump with many blackberries and a huge hole in the NE corner of our block. Indeed, the corner post was 14 feet long (old measurement). I was not that popular when I burnt the blackberries along the fence line. This area was then in the Shire of Mulgrave, prior to being in the City of Waverley and even later the City of Monash. Over the last fifty years or so we have witnessed the evolution of this area. It was levelled and sown to grass which the council maintains regularly. A small children's playground is near the SW corner. So, who uses this area? This thoroughfare is used by many residents from all over this previously known Westerfield Estate to access the Ferntree Gully Road and Blackburn Road intersection to catch buses, walk to Pinewood Shopping Centre or gain access to a wide range of schools. Plenty of residents walk their young children through this thoroughfare pushing prams and strollers. Dog owners walk their dogs through here as well. Recently, the council has replaced sections of the concrete path making it safer especially for prams and for walkers. My concern is that a dog off leash area would be inappropriate. I already have had experience of dogs off leash. On one occasion I did ask who should have the lead, the dog or the person. It is all very well to have a dog off leash but I would suggest that it is inappropriate for some dogs to be on leash while others are free. While a dog is on-lead they often feel a need to defend their owner. Obviously, this can lead to a problem. Some people including children feel threatened by close proximity to a dog.</p>	Oppose OLA change – Finch Street #28

			<p>I noticed in a recent article that our current Mayor considers that any off-leash area should be fenced. I agree! Many dog owners tend to play games in an off-leash area. These include ball games, Frisbees, etc. Already it is not fun for me to retrieve these items for owners who should know better. I realise that a minority but vocal residents are pushing for this change. Perhaps one could consider some possible scenarios. The area is too small to fence a suitable dog area so what happens if a ball is thrown across either Saniky Street or Finch Street. The dog could run onto the road in front of an oncoming vehicle. If there is a situation occurs on site, there is no direct access for emergency vehicles. The existing bollards restrict access. Who is available to assist? In essence, it is an inappropriate area. There are suitable other places quite nearby, but not council owned. One is already used but I guess this area is owned my Monash Uni. The other fantastic site is part of the road reserve to the East of this estate. This area was mooted for a road when we bought here some half a century ago. The area could one day link Westall Road and the Monash freeway. It has not been developed and would provide an extensive off lead area. Perhaps the council could seek permission, to utilize a portion, from the controlling authority. Please accept my views which I have penned to you as a safety issue.</p>	
77	24/10/2022	Community member	<p>As per my verbal report over the phone, I'd like to provide a written notice of the incident that happened at Larpent Reserve. My family members use Larpent Reserve very often. My young children play soccer and my mum and I jog around the oval about 3 - 4 times a week. Larpent Reserve was a trial dog-off leash area till 30th September 2022. On Friday 21st October evening, my mum and I were jogging at this Reserve and encountered a dog-off leash.</p> <p>This dog ran towards my mum, who was about 200 meters behind and started to circle her, repeatedly lunging at her and barking. Its owner casually walked back towards her dog without urgency whilst her dog was intimidating my mum. My mum stomped her feet multiple times but the dog kept going near her, lunging and barking. Though I was on the opposite end of the oval, I heard the barks and ran all the way, cutting across the oval, and attempted to shoo away the dog from my mum. It did not work. Finally, when the owner reached her dog, she casually hooked on the leash and did not acknowledge the frightening situation her dog had put my mum and I under. She said, "this is a dog off-leash area" and that "she did not agree her dog has misbehaved and required the leash".</p> <p>The dog owner was not responsible and did not take effective measures to control her dog and ensure the safety of the public using the Reserve. We are thankful that my mum was not bitten but this was a very frightful incident for us both.</p> <p>My mum who frequents the Reserve has had other incidences with dogs off-leash despite not being well-trained during the trial dog off-leash period. For this reason, my mum and I would like to put forward our feedback for the council to NOT make Larpent Reserve a dog off-leash area.</p> <p>Thanks so much for your consideration.</p>	<p>Oppose OLA change – Larpent Reserve #29</p> <p>Regulation &amp; Education – Irresponsible Dog Owners #17</p>
78	25/10/2022	Community Member D22-348345	<p>Hello Monash Council,</p> <p>We vehemently oppose Monash Council's proposal to change Damper Creek Reserve from OFF leash to ON leash.</p> <p>Damper Creek Reserve is one of Melbourne's great dog friendly &amp; safe OFF leash parks for local families and their beloved dogs.</p>	Oppose OLA change – Damper Creek #30



			<b>**PLEASE KEEP DAMPER CREEK RESERVE OFF LEASH*</b> Thanks	
79	03/11/2022	Community Member	Dear officer We strongly against change Davies Reserve to a dog off leash area. We have two young kids and saw/encountered so many times dog out of control and scare them very hard. My friend's mum who lives nearby was almost attacked by a dog off leash and has to rest on bed for few weeks. There are few dogs and their owner in the area are very aggressive and their owner don't even clean up after their dog.	Oppose OLA change – Davies Reserve #31
80	11/11/2022	Community Member D22-369744	Dear Manager,  We are now afraid to visit Hinkler Reserve due to many large dogs roaming freely there unleashed, while their owners nowhere to be seen or stand far away. As we all aware, the dogs are unpredictable and can and will attack people as many incidents reported on news.  So we ask that Monash Council to impose strict rules and enforcement at Hinkler Reserve before any dog attack people incident happens there. Make it safe for all users.  Thanking you in advance for looking into this matter.	Oppose existing OLA – Hinkler Reserve #32  Regulation & Education – Irresponsible Dog Owners #18  Community Safety - #17

## Appendix 2 – Meetings with Dog Owners

Date / Site	Notes	Officer/s
19 February 2022 9am <b>Gardiners Reserve</b>	Officer spoke with a group of around 10 dogs, for around 20 to 30 mins.	Peter Wisdom, Team Leader Community Laws
Saturday 26 February 2022 8.22am <b>Gardiners Reserve</b>	<p>Officer spoke with a several people mostly dog walkers in depth around 35 to 45 mins about the issues at this reserve and the possible upcoming consultation with the members of the public for all reserve in Monash.</p> <p>Also discussed with dog owners about dogs using the synthetic pitch. As the majority of dogs owners reiterated at the time of this visit, none of the dog owners who regularly visit the main turf pitch use the synthetic field and were hopefully the top pitch could be fenced in order for them to stay away from the Soccer club. The group claimed be a mindful community group who generally pick after our dogs, however they acknowledged there may be isolated cases where this hasn't been the case.</p> <p>It was acknowledged that the community group had established itself in the morning in the morning (7.00-8.00am) and in the afternoon (4.30-6.00pm) that have organically come together and create a sense of community around dogs.</p>	Peter Wisdom, Team Leader Community Laws
20 March 2022 <b>Gardiners Reserve</b>	Officer attended and spoke with a small group of dog walkers about potential changes / consultation for the area.	Peter Wisdom, Team Leader Community Laws
8 May 2022 8.25am <b>Gardiners Reserve</b>	Officer spoke with 4 dog walkers only at the time about the reserve.	Peter Wisdom, Team Leader Community Laws
Wednesday 11 May Approx. 5pm to 6.15pm <b>Gardiners Reserve</b>	<p>Officer spoke with 40 to 50 dog walkers about the reserve. I spoke with a great deal of residents and dog walkers at the time and handed out my business card to at least 10 people. Some of the discussions and emails sent to officer the following day of officer visit.</p> <p>Some of the discussions and emails sent to Council the following day of officer visit requested:</p> <p>Set up a future plan for dog park reserves i.e. possibly fencing of behind the pavilion at the soccer club to reserve the strip of land for small dog owners in addition put forward a plan to create a recreational reserve for dog owners on Oval 3 with off street parking accessed by Sixth Avenue and a shelter and lights with perhaps some seating for dog owners. Perhaps even a barbecue facility! My hope is that Oval 3 can be operated in unison with soccer training events however where there is little tolerance by some members of the soccer club for dog owners, Oval 3 would be shared equally between anyone who wishes to train on the oval and dog owners if they happen to coincide by being there at the same time.</p>	Peter Wisdom, Team Leader Community Laws
8 June 2022 <b>Gardiners Reserve</b>	Follow-up email from officer to contacts from the 11 May meeting providing them with the link to the Shape Monash page and the dog off leash area review consultation page.	Peter Wisdom, Team Leader Community Laws

<p>Friday 19 August 5.15pm <b>Gardiners Reserve</b></p>	<p>Officers met with approximately 30 dog walkers to hear their concerns regarding proposed changes to the OLAs at Gardiners Reserve. Concerns included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What damage do dogs cause in comparison with players/boots?</li> <li>- Fenced area (not exclusive, multipurpose) is required to keep dogs safe – this could be the northern pitch. It was noted the northern pitch gets muddy and hold water and would benefit from future drainage improvements.</li> <li>- Why have the pitch surrounds become on-leash – could this be reconsidered. Potential yes except on match days.</li> <li>- If the Eastern Lions get related to NPL2 will the main pitch still be classified A grade and remain dog-free? Yes NPL2 is still part of the NPL and Eastern Lions also have junior licences. Most of the juniors are local kids.</li> <li>- Can the club/pitch bookings be made available so that dog walkers know in advance what time they can come and walk their dogs.</li> <li>- Improved signage and clarity required around where dogs can go.</li> <li>- Lighting to improve perceptions of safety.</li> <li>- Poor club behaviour needs to be addressed. Detailed reporting of any incidents encourages so officers can follow-up with club and those responsible.</li> </ul> <p>Generally there was consensus that the completion of fencing on northern pitch to provide a multi-use fenced area (asap) &amp; surrounds remaining an OLA (excluding match days) would be a satisfactory outcome for dog walkers.</p>	<p>Jackie Grieve, Co-ordinator Recreation &amp; Open Space Planning</p> <p>Peter Wisdom, Team Leader Community Laws</p> <p>Tony Oulton, Manager Active Monash</p>
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## Appendix 3.1 – On-line Submissions (Q&As)

At the close of consultation on 30 September 2022, there were **3556 visitors**, **693 contributions** including **61 submissions** (including Q&A) received via the Shape Monash page.

### Shape Monash

Report Type: Project

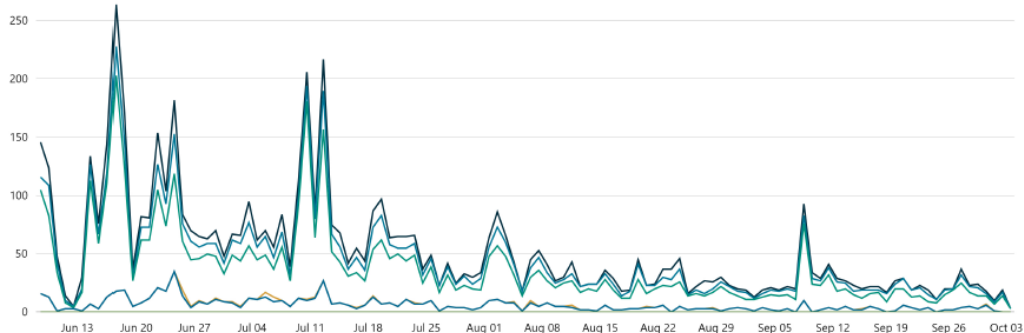
Project Name: Dog off-leash areas

Date Range: 08-06-2022 - 03-10-2022

Exported: 03-10-2022 09:59:28

#### Performance Summary

Information regarding key visitation and utilisation metrics for your Site or projects.



**6,215**

Views

**5,443**

Visits

**3,556**

Visitors

**754**

Contributions

**701**

Contributors

**0**

Followers

Views - The number of times a Visitor views any page on a Site.

Visits - The number of end-user sessions associated with a single Visitor.

Visitors - The number of unique public or end-users to a Site. A Visitor is only counted once, even if they visit a Site several times in one day.

Contributions - The total number of responses or feedback collected through the participation tools.

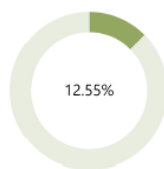
Contributors - The unique number of Visitors who have left feedback or Contributions on a Site through the participation tools.

Followers - The number of Visitors who have 'subscribed' to a project using the 'Follow' button.

### Conversions

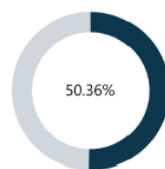
Information regarding how well your engagement websites converted Visitors to perform defined key actions.

#### Feedback



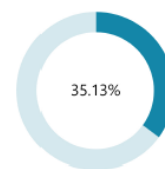
Percentage of visits where at least 1 contribution was made.

#### Attention








Percentage of visits that lasted at least 1 active minute.

#### Actions



Percentage of visits where at least 2 actions were performed.

Information regarding how people have participated in your projects and activities.

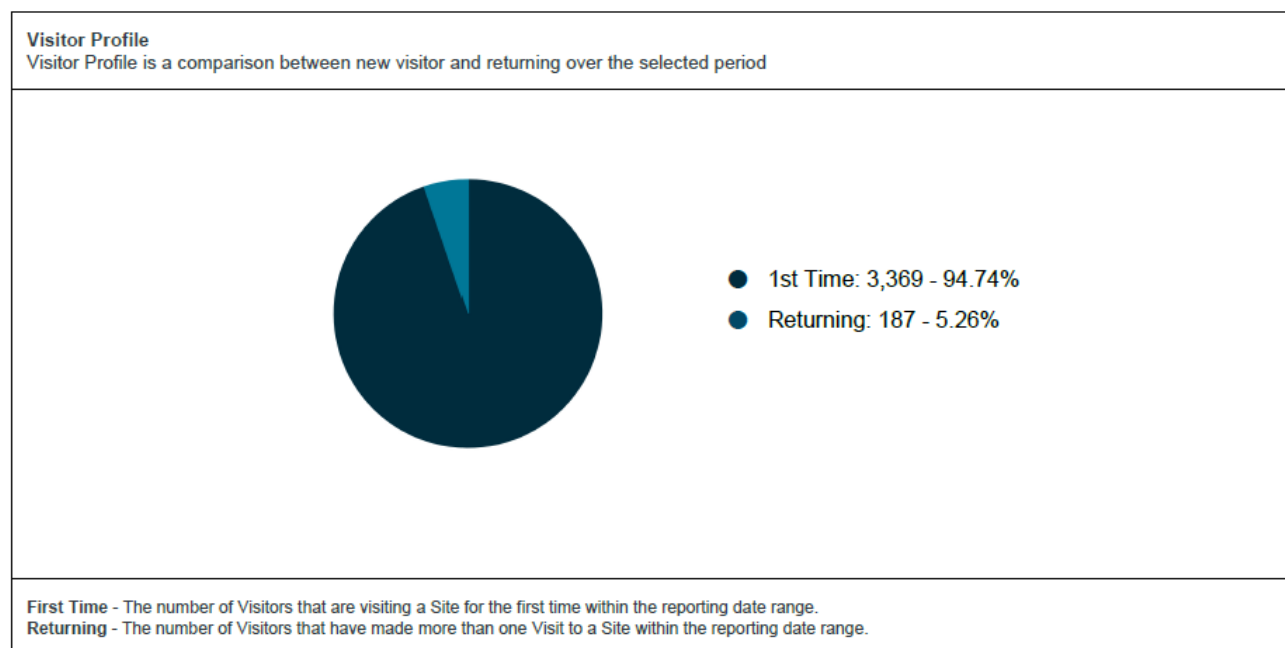
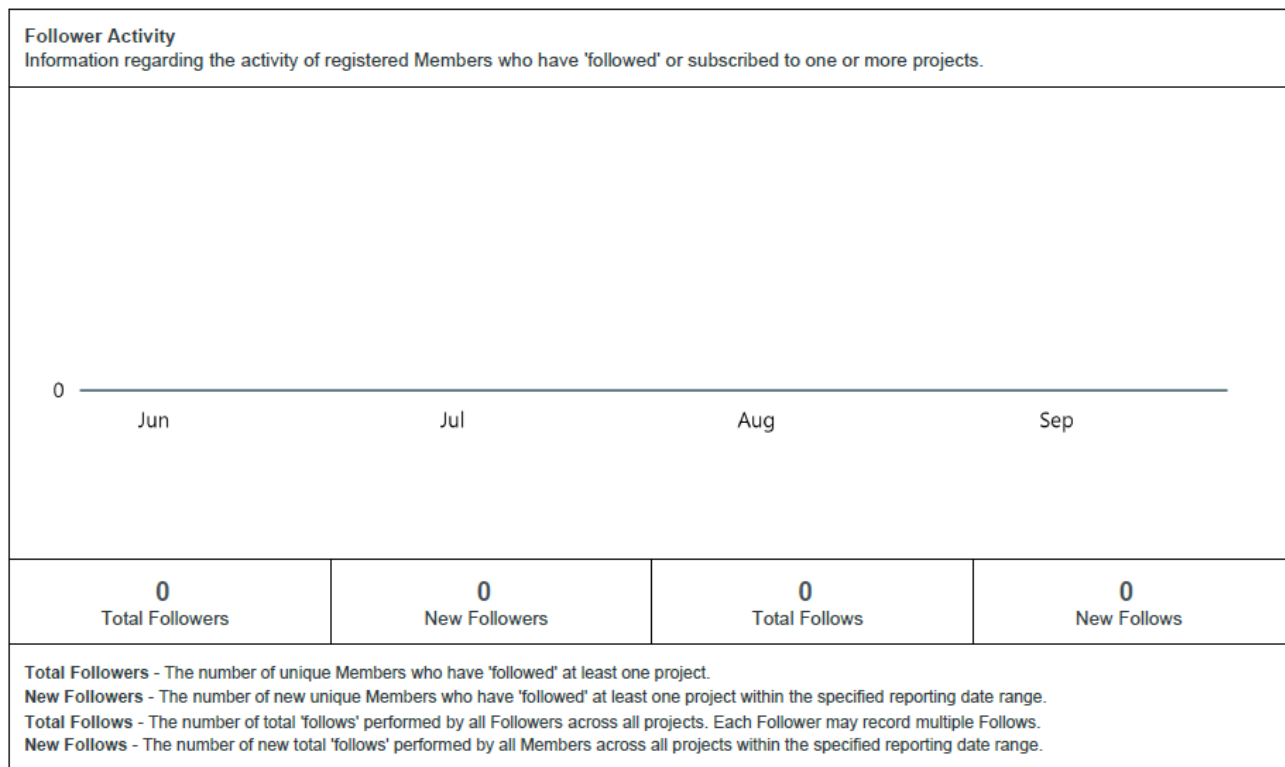
Top Activities				
Top Activities is the top 5 tools that received the highest contributions				
Activity		Page Name	Contributions	Contributors
	Form	Dog off-leash areas	693	693
	Question and Answer	Dog off-leash areas	61	29
	Social Map	Dog off-leash areas	0	0
	Visioner Input	Dog off-leash areas	0	0
	Form	Dog off-leash areas	0	0

The current number and status of your Site's projects (e.g. engagement websites)

Engagement Time		Top Visited Pages Summary information for the top five most visited Pages.			
<div>14 Days</div> <div>2 Hours</div> <div>33 Minutes</div>		Page Name	Visitation %	Visits	Visitors
		Dog off-leash areas	100%	5,437	3,555
		Dog off-leash areas policy: Your questions answered	0.02%	1	1
Jun 24th 2022 Peak Visitation Date		Thursday Peak Visitation Day			

## People

Information regarding who has participated in your projects and activities.

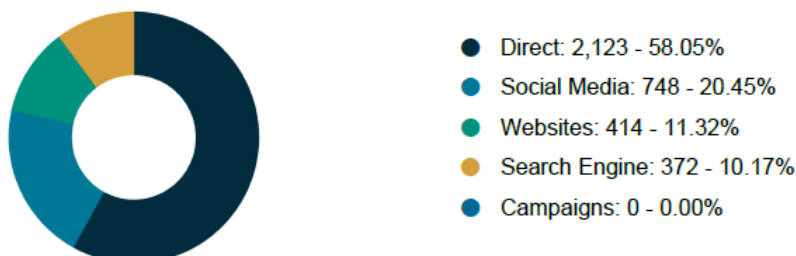


## Acquisition

Information regarding the method by which Visitors arrived to your Site or projects.

### Referral Types

Referral traffic is the segment of traffic that arrives on your website through another source, like through a link on another domain.



**Direct** - Visitors who have arrived at a Site by entering the exact web address or URL of the page.

**Search Engine** - Visitors who have arrived at a Site via a search engine. Such as Google, Yahoo, etc.

**Websites** - Visitors who have arrived at the Site after clicking a link located on an external website.

**Social Media** - Visitors who have arrived at a Site by clicking a link from a known social media site such as Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, etc.

**Campaigns** - Visitors who have arrived through a campaign (using a UTM). See your email campaign report for more details on campaigns sent from this platform.

## Downloads

Information regarding your downloads, the total set of unique documents downloaded, total downloads of all files, and your top downloads.



**67**  
Total Documents



**1,283**  
Total Downloads

### Top Downloads




Top file downloads in your selection, ordered by the number of downloads.

File Title	File Type	Downloads
CS Off-Leash Area Review - Attachment C - Map of Existing & Proposed OLAs.pdf	PDF	271
CS Off-Leash Area Review - Attachment A - OLA Review.pdf	PDF	231
CS Attachment A Technical Manual.pdf	PDF	187
dog-off-leash-areas (002).pdf	PDF	183
2.1-attachment-council-meeting-31-may-2022.pdf	PDF	173



## Email Campaigns

Information regarding your email campaigns, your total campaigns, the total number of recipients, and your top campaigns by click-through rate (clicks as a percentage of total recipients).

 <b>1</b> Email Campaigns Sent	 <b>819</b> Total Recipients	 <b>11.97%</b> Click-through Rate
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<b>Top Campaigns</b> Top email campaigns that have activity in your selection, ordered by click-through rate (clicks as a percentage of total recipients).			
Campaign Name	Recipients	Clicks	Click-through Rate
Dog off-leash areas	819	98	11.97%

Contribution ID	Date Submitted	Question	Question Details	Answer
13232	Sep 30, 2022, 05:06 PM	Why can't we have human play areas for humans, and *separate* off-leash dog areas for people who like to play with their dogs?	I'm just tired of people's dogs jumping on us, interfering with our game, and defecating everywhere while my kids and I are trying to kick a football around. There's plenty of green space in the Monash Council area -- we could easily invest in off-leash dog areas without changing the human play areas, and have the best of both worlds. We don't have to make all human sports fields into off-leash dog areas, do we?	<p>Council has so far resisted requests to create areas exclusively for dogs and dog owners. Council's desire is to provide off-leash areas that are cognisant of design considerations detailed in the technical manual whilst still providing broader access and flexible-use opportunity for all.</p> <p>Currently 9 of the 31 existing OLAs are fenced sports grounds that are also designated as dog off-leash areas for use outside of those times when organised sport. The review proposed some changes such as no dogs on premier playing surfaces.</p> <p>It is important to note that when a dog is being exercised in an off-leash area the owner/person in charge must be able to, if necessary, put the dog on a lead – if the owner/person in charge of the dog cannot bring the dog under effective control then it should not be off-leash.</p> <p>Dog owners also have a legal responsibility to bring the dog under control if it is or is likely to be within 20m of an: organised sporting or practice event, occupied children's playground, organised public meeting, occupied permanent barbecue or picnic area.</p> <p>Many existing OLAs on sportsgrounds with fencing will remain off-leash. As part of the OLA review, an additional 14 potential new OLA sites across Monash have been identified which will potentially increase the number and total area (m2) of off-leash spaces across the city and hopefully help alleviate the pressure on active reserves.</p>
13164	Sep 17, 2022, 04:09 PM	Damper Creek Should Remain Off Lead	Thx for the Damper Creek Reserve Mgt Plan 2022. It supports all indications of a flourishing environment where humans and animals interact harmoniously. The growing wildlife and fauna records identified in the Report support our observed/ experienced respect dog owners and their dogs have for this area and the staff who maintain it. We appreciate the generic paragraph re: the dog impact on nature but find no evidence to support this in the Report of Gardeners Creek therefore why change it?	
13146	Sep 15, 2022, 11:01 AM	Damper Creek should remain Lead free area for local residents	I understand ecosystems are delicate webs that are easily unbalanced but to declare that Dampier creek is a conservation reserve is really going overboard. It is full of foxes at night that are the main threat to local wildlife, has heaps of pollution both hard rubbish and chemical going through it and is too narrow to establish many native species. I respect the work done by council but please don't take away this area as an off leash dog space.	

13144	Sep 14, 2022, 04:15 PM	How can Damper Creek Reserve be classified as a council designated conservation reserve? I think it should remain a dog off leash area	I understand the importance of conservation of remnant bushland especially where threatened species live. I don't think either of those classifications apply to Damper Creek Reserve. There are plenty of non-native plant species throughout the reserve; stormwater and all the rubbish it carries runs unfiltered into the creek; and contaminated water from, for example, building construction and renovation sites also runs in unfiltered. I have seen the creek running orange/red from restoration.	
13107	Sep 06, 2022, 05:48 PM	Has the Damper Creek Reserve Conservation Management Plan been made public before	Hi there and thanks for providing the report. It is a very good report. But can I ask has this been published or made public before. If I'm not mistaken it was on the Friends of Damper Creek website in December. And the maps were not redacted or removed in that document. I only ask because it bears a striking similarity and begs the question why delay publishing it this time. I enjoyed reading it because it had heaps of information	Council is aware that a draft earlier version of this Management Plan has previously been uploaded to the Friends of Damper Creek Reserve Website which included content that was not intended to be made publicly available. Please contact us directly by email for any further questions on this matter.
13104	Sep 05, 2022, 01:13 PM	Damper Creek Conservation Reserve - Conservation Management Plan, any word?	Hi there, As this document is quoted so often and appears to be the major document pertaining to Damper creek going lead on, it would be great if we, the ratepayers, could view the document. As there has been no evidence that dogs cause these issues specifically at Damper Creek we are hoping this report will provide such proof.	The management plan has been added to the document library for the duration of the consultation. Please note, a number of maps have been removed due to the sensitive nature of their content.
13087	Aug 31, 2022, 08:55 AM	Damper Creek Reserve Conservation Management Plan release date please	Hi there, I note from your previous reply that this will be released to the public today. Could you advise where I can review said document.	The management plan has been added to the document library for the duration of the consultation. Please note, a number of maps have been removed due to the sensitive nature of their content.
13079	Aug 28, 2022, 12:07 PM	Damaged fence in Gardiners Reserve car park shows the need for dog fencing	So, some idiotic hoons have been hooning around the car park of Gardiners Reserve and smashed through the fencing on the north pitch. This just shows why a fully fenced dog area in that reserve is necessary, it's too close to the car park on one side and too close to the Sixth Avenue road on the other side. Fully fence it please if you really need to move dogs off the safe south pitch. When will you fix the damaged fence btw?	Thank you for your feedback which will be considered along with all feedback regarding the proposed changes to off-leash areas. We have notified our facilities maintenance team regarding the damage to the pitch fence and requested they repair this as soon as possible.
13058	Aug 22, 2022, 09:04 AM	Where can one find a list on the Monash Council website?	Showing donations/gifts provided to Monash Councillors by individuals/community organisations	Gifts received and accepted by Councillors are listed on the Council website in the personal interest returns, as per the Councillor Gift Policy. Personal Interests Return Summaries.
13057	Aug 21, 2022, 03:15 PM	Numbers survey - Again	We have a survey/ petition from the Residents who use Jack Edwards reserve with over 160 signatures from 1month of being live. How can we have this included in deliberations?	Guidelines for petitions are published on the Council website. Guidelines for petitions to Monash City Council.

13049	Aug 20, 2022, 10:26 AM	Why is council supporting bullying?	Why is council supporting the bullying behaviour of Eastern Lions Soccer Club? They are a disgraceful blight on the Burwood community. They are a thuggish organisation that believes Gardiners Creek Reserve is theirs and theirs alone. Club officials on numerous occasions shout abuse to people who dare step foot on "their" ovals and now council wants to reward them by giving them sole use of one pitch and restrict off-leash access around the pitch area. Kick them out not the community!	
13002	Aug 12, 2022, 01:00 PM	Dogs Leash free park on Whites lane	Recently, received letter from council about dog leash free park on Whites Lane. It's a great idea. I would like to add that if there are water arrangements and fencing. Fencing is must I think. Would like to know if there are plans for fencing. Regards - Anil	Please refer to the section 'About dedicated fenced off-leash areas'. and the design principles. It is important to provide your feedback on fenced areas using the feedback form below the map on this page.
12996	Aug 11, 2022, 01:26 PM	Council Donation Transparency	How much money has been donated to Council or individual councillors by those directly or indirectly involved with the Eastern Lions Soccer Club?	
12994	Aug 11, 2022, 01:20 PM	Vote out all the Councillors who vote in favour of these anti-dog laws!	They should be put on notice, dog owners are ratepayers and pay extra for registration with no benefit. Any councillor who votes against having safe fully-fenced dog runs should be voted at the next election. Those councillors in Mt Waverley Ward that covers Gardiners Creek Reserve and the idiotic proposal outlined for GC Reserve should be the first to go if they support this stupid policy	
12993	Aug 11, 2022, 11:22 AM	Why does Council expect dogs to either always be on-lead OR have a perfect recall? Provide fenced spaces that dogs can use.	The draft Off-Leash policy expresses a negative view of dogs in fenced spaces. However, no one can guarantee a 100% recall response, no matter how much training a dog has. It's widely accepted that a dog's mind is roughly equivalent to a 2 - 2 ½ year old human's. We don't expect young children to have road safety awareness and perfect self-regulation. Nor do we expect them only to exercise while tethered. Why does Council expect dogs to either always be on-lead OR have a perfect recall?	
12979	Aug 10, 2022, 02:42 PM	Why can't the North Pitch Gardiners Reserve fencing be completed making a dog & human friendly multipurpose space?	Gardiners Reserve North Pitch - only area to be off-leash under the draft policy - is fenced to stop access to the car park & Evans Street at eastern end, but no protection from busy Sixth Ave at western end. Incomplete fencing is a danger to road users & dogs. Wouldn't it be a win-win for the Soccer Club & people with dogs & Council (happy Club & Ratepayers) if Pitch 1 was made a dog-free premier ground AND North Pitch fencing was completed to be a dog & human friendly multipurpose space?	
12945	Aug 06, 2022, 10:09 PM	How is spend the income from registration fees for dogs in Monash spent?		Registration fees include a levy collected on behalf of the State Government. Fees are used to deliver the services set out in the Domestic Animal Management Plan. The plan has been added to the document library above.

12944	Aug 06, 2022, 10:04 PM	What facilities specific to dogs will Monash Council provide in on and off leash areas?		Some areas may see water fountains and poo-bag dispensers being rolled out but because the proposed areas will be shared areas and not exclusive to dogs alone, other facilities are not being considered.
12911	Aug 04, 2022, 05:01 PM	Damper Creek Conservation Reserve - Conservation Management Plan (Practical Ecology, 2021)- link please	Re the above report will we have time to read and evaluate that report before the end of the trial period? this is the cornerstone of your argument and us Damper Creek Walkers would like time to assess. Can we get it earlier.?	The trial of new off-leash areas and consultation closes on 30 September. The timeline has been updated to show this.
12910	Aug 04, 2022, 04:43 PM	Could we have signage on the western entrances to Damper Creek	Obviously this topic has caused much discussion amongst the leash off walkers in Damper Creek. Interestingly I found many were not aware as they enter from one of the two entrances on the western side of Damper Creek. Currently there are two useless signs on the carpark in Park Rd and on the track to the maintenance sheds. Any chance we could move them to the two entrances on the western side of Park Rd. If not can we have one at each entrance please.	
12875	Aug 02, 2022, 08:46 AM	Any greyhound owners in Monash?	Would be great to see how many greyhounds are registered in Monash. Very interested in some specific times or spaces that we are able to let our beautiful hounds run.	We have around 200 greyhounds registered in Monash however we are not contemplating breed specific exercise times or spaces.
12501	Jul 23, 2022, 02:06 PM	High-energy dogs	Have your experts considered the mental and physical needs of high-energy dogs who need fenced, open space to run?	The draft policy considers the needs of dog owners, people without dogs but who want to interact with dogs, and people who do not want to interact with dogs in public spaces. Please ensure you submit your feedback using the form provided.
12500	Jul 23, 2022, 02:06 PM	Fenced off-leash areas	What off-leash areas will remain or become fully fenced, besides Jack Edwards Reserve South?	The Off-Leash Area Review has the list of existing and proposed new off-leash areas.
12302	Jul 18, 2022, 12:05 PM	An example from Adelaide	Could council please take notice of Unley Oval in Adelaide and it's dog policy. Unley Oval is a more than any A-grade facility than Monash has ... home of the Sturt FC in SANFL comp and hosts AFLW & AFL pre-season matches. Yet in 2021 the council there also wanted to restrict dogs to on-leash only (note - not ban dogs entirely but restrict from off-leash to on-leash). Community backlash overturned the councils proposal. Unley Oval is full-fenced which is why the community uses it	Please ensure your feedback is provided on the feedback form to be considered by Council.
12299	Jul 18, 2022, 12:00 PM	Why the kowtowing to the soccer clubs?	Time and time again the soccer clubs (Eastern Lions & Oakleigh) are seen to be bullying thuggish members of the Monash community and the council is rewarding their bullying/thuggish behaviour by alienating the community by restricting use of community owned/managed facilities. Just look at the question below for further evidence, Eastern Lions removing community signage alerting the community to the changes! How is this acceptable behaviour? Their club supporters make more of a mess on match day	

12293	Jul 18, 2022, 11:05 AM	Signage being removed around area	Is council regularly monitoring the signage put up in the community to alert interested parties to this draft policy? I ask because all the signage around the Eastern Lions soccer field has been torn down and dumped beside the creek - clearly someone does not think the community should be offered the opportunity to comment	We are monitoring the signs and are disappointed that these would be removed and the interference with all members of the community having the opportunity to have their say. We are replacing where required.
12272	Jul 16, 2022, 07:20 PM	Holmesglen Reserve	Why is Holmesglen Reserve a no dog area? I can see it is an A grade sports ground, but why can't it just be an on lead area? The path to navigate around Holmesglen oval is very narrow (narrowest section of the entire area). It is increasing danger to all concerned to force dog walkers, cyclists, scooter riders into this narrow area because a dog walker can't cross the oval	Please ensure your comments are provided on the feedback form.
12170	Jul 12, 2022, 04:39 PM	Damper Creek Conservation Reserve - Conservation Management Plan (Practical Ecology, 2021)- link please	Thank you for your reply on Holderness- Raddam 2011 . It is a very comprehensive thesis for Tasmania and this is the sort of information I am wanting to see for Damper Creek Reserve. Without doubt it is specific to Tassie. I could float 5 other reports pointing to Cats, bike riders, walkers, foxes etc that paint them in a bad light as well. So with that in mind could you provide a link for the Damper Creek Conservation Reserve - Conservation Management Plan (Practical Ecology, 2021)	We anticipate that that the approved Damper Creek Reserve Conservation Management Plan will be available to the public prior to the end of August.
12145	Jul 12, 2022, 11:37 AM	off leash dogs at Argyle Reserve	Great day my kids play club soccer and we are sick of pick up dog droppings and dogs impacting the kids activities. The ground is being affected by dogs digging and urinating on the grass too. An injury from the surface should be first priority not dogs. The dogs seem to have more benefit then the kids.	Thank you for your feedback. To ensure your views are included, please provide use the feedback form.

12115	Jul 11, 2022, 01:53 PM	A-grade sporting field	So in response your answer below "Class A venues tend to cater for premier level sport e.g. premier or district level (cricket), AFL U18 Championships (formerly Teal Cup), VFL, National Premier League (soccer)." ... may we move onto Gardiners Reserve in Burwood and the Eastern Lions Soccer Club. Currently they are in the National Premier League but they will be relegated by the end of this season. So does that mean that Gardiners Reserve will no longer be deemed an A-Grade Sporting Field?	Council has distinct facility provision categories based on a five level hierarchy system applied to Monash sport facilities. The key categories and/or classifications are: Class A – Regional/Municipal Facilities. Class B – District Facilities, Class C – Local Facilities, Class D – Other/School Sports Ground Standards. In order to provide an integrated and coordinated service for sports ground and pavilion provision a classification system of four grading levels (Class A, B, C, D and school) has been developed to guide the level of sport facility provision and playing surface standards across the municipality. The classifications are consistent with Active Monash's proposed Fees and Charges Policy and informed by: a recent review of Council's strategies and policies; benchmarking against other local governments; consideration of relevant State Sporting Association facility standards; and an analysis of current community needs and recent pavilion redevelopment projects. The classifications are directly linked to facility provision standards and sports ground maintenance service levels to deliver the service outcomes required. Regional / municipal facilities generally require a higher level of maintenance and may support features such as spectator areas, fencing, additional change rooms, event car parking etc. In comparison, local facilities require amenities and playing surfaces that are safe and fit-for-purpose. Class A facilities will principally attract people from within and outside of Monash, and will be built and maintained to a premier standard for that sport. They will cater for senior training and competition for teams in a high level including State-wide competition, and may have the capacity to host state/national standard matches/competitions. These venues serve the whole municipality and will provide the highest level sporting facility for a particular sporting code in Monash.
12114	Jul 11, 2022, 01:51 PM	A-Grade sporting field	Refer 12115	
12058	Jul 10, 2022, 12:04 AM	Educating the general public	I can see from previous questions that as a dog owners we are responsible when there is conflict between a dog and a person/child even if the dog is just defending itself. What is being done to educate people on how to approach dogs especially those with children? I don't feel that is it fair that dogs and their owners always get the blame when parents can't control their child.	Our Maternal & Child Health team actively promote the 'We Are Family' initiative that educates expectant parents and parents of children 0 to 4 years old on pet safety around young children. Children attending Monash kindergartens and primary schools also benefit from the Responsible Pet Ownership programs that educate children from ages 4 to 12 on living safely with dogs and responsible pet ownership. These programs are paid for by a levy collected by local councils as part of the annual dog and cat registration fee. The Kindergarten Living Safely with Dogs program sees pet educators visit with their suitability tested dog and demonstrate how to safely meet and greet a real dog. Each child is given the opportunity to participate in the meet and greet with the pet educators dog. Similarly, the primary school program focuses on teaching students about dog safety including when dogs should be left alone, things we should not do to dogs, how can you tell if a dog is happy, frightened or angry and a safe way to approach and greet a dog.
12038	Jul 09, 2022, 12:38 PM	What is the definition of an A-Grade sporting field?	Answer the question instead of deleting it this time ....	Class A venues tend to cater for premier level sport e.g. premier or district level (cricket), AFL U18 Championships (formerly Teal Cup), VFL, National Premier League (soccer).
12008	Jul 08, 2022, 11:15 AM	Children and Dogs	Who is responsible when a child spooks my dog and the child is hurt (bitten/knocked over) in the leash free area as they are not separated access areas? The children access the scout hall at Jack Edwards reserve and this will be the only leash free area for the dogs!	Dog owners are responsible and must have voice control over their dog when off-leash.
11931	Jul 06, 2022, 02:08 PM	Current enforcement of rules	What council resourcing / time is currently spent (say in 2021) on enforcing off leash/on leash area rules?	Community Laws officers visit at least 7 parks per day including weekends. Around 15-20 hours per week are dedicated to compliance enforcement in parks.



11930	Jul 06, 2022, 02:07 PM	Increased enforcement	Will the expansion of off lead areas be accompanied by sufficient enforcement resources to ensure all park users can be and feel safe?	A key role of Community Laws officers is to educate dog owners of their responsibilities and enforce the regulations. Resources in this area will be proportional to the changes.
11926	Jul 06, 2022, 01:40 PM	A-class sporting facility	What is the definition of a A-class sporting facility? Case in point Gardiners Reserve in Burwood, currently being played by NPL Premier Division by Eastern Lions, however they are rubbish and will get relegated to a lower grade next season and the Pitch itself is not "A-class" and is of worse quality than other sporting reserves that will remain off-leash	
11925	Jul 06, 2022, 01:30 PM	Are you liable?	So if a dog by chance gets spooked and runs onto a road and gets hit by a car, will council offer to pay the vet costs because they refused to provide a fully-fenced safe area after they removed dogs from a previously full-fenced area?	Dog owners are responsible for their pets at all times. The Dog Control Order that deals with off-leash areas requires that owners ensure their pet remains in effective voice or hand control and within constant sight of the dog so as to be able promptly bring the dog under control. If this cannot be achieved the dog should be kept on a leash.
11907	Jul 05, 2022, 05:13 PM	Why regulate A-grade sporting grounds?	We often frequent an oval in Mount Waverley that has a cricket pitch. I can only assume we will not be able to walk our dog there anymore OL. However if you spend time at that oval, all dog owners walk around the edges of the oval. So other than the odd dog that wanders through the pitch, why regulate against making any sport oval OLA. Most ovals are fenced and therefore seem like a reasonable option for dog owners, don't you think? Ovals were put in place for more than sport.	Mount Waverley Reserve is currently classified as B grade sportsground and no change is proposed to its existing status which is an off-leash reserve.
11906	Jul 05, 2022, 05:08 PM	Dog Owner Education	Why does the report ignore the lack of clearly displayed signs that outline acceptable behaviour at OLA? And why does the report not address how these changes will be enforced? If new rules are going to put in place they are useless if there is no enforcement. If the current level of enforcement is the only thing offered then there is no effective enforcement, so stop putting rules in place that will not be enforced. This feels like over-regulation for no reason.	Community Laws Officers conduct routine patrols of parks and reserves but regrettably there are some dog owners who will continue to flout the rules when they are not around. The report that Council considered when deciding to release the policy for consultation recognised that if the policy and proposed changes were adopted, an increase in resources would be required to support their implementation.

11903	Jul 05, 2022, 04:16 PM	How are going with the origin of Holderness Raddam 2011	just seeing how you are going finding out what this report was about. this may have the data I am seeking.	<p>This article is referenced in the draft Damper Creek Conservation Reserve - Conservation Management Plan (Practical Ecology, 2021) which identifies:6.1 Public use considerations - Dog walking Damper Creek Conservation Reserve was previously a dog-on-lead reserve with a designated dogs-off-lead area in the southern section of the reserve. However, currently there are no restrictions on dogs throughout the reserve. Dogs negatively impact natural bushland areas through the destruction of plantings, supporting weed growth from faeces and acting as weed dispersers (*Holderness-Roddam; 2011). They impact native fauna through inducing stress from physical presence and scent and have the potential to attack or kill native fauna.</p> <p>It is recommended that Council consider implementing measures to reduce the impact of dogs within the reserve as the habitat values are likely impacted negatively by the presence of even well-behaved dogs. It is available on-line. Please note there is an existing nearby dog off-leash area at Federal Reserve and proposed new off-leash area at Bowman Street Reserve to help off-set the potential loss of Damper Creek as an off-leash area.</p> <p>Following the review it is proposed that dogs will still be permitted in Damper Creek Conservation Reserve but must be on-leash to minimise their potential negative impacts. This is consistent with the status of Valley Reserve Conservation Reserve.</p>
11902	Jul 05, 2022, 04:13 PM	Numbers Survey Take2	<p>Further to Sues question below, she asked "Have you counted the dogs that use the facilities "</p> <p>I think this is a terrific question.</p> <p>Unfortunately you didn't answer this question only the part about consultation being by the survey.</p> <p>So given you are telling us that dogs are causing all this damage at Damper Creek because they are off leash , it makes it even more pertinent.</p> <p>Someone must have counted the dogs and assorted excrement that have, or could "potentially" cause the damage.</p>	
11901	Jul 05, 2022, 03:58 PM	What is the position of the Friends of Damper Creek Group.	I was informed this morning that this group of volunteers who are passionate about Damper Creek were not consulted. Could you please advise if this is correct? Surely such an influential group would have an opinion be it good or bad for us off leash walkers would have been consulted and their view published..	<p>This is a public Monash-wide consultation which will run for over 3 months to provide every opportunity for all members of the community (including volunteers, sports club members, dog owners etc) to Have Your Say.</p>

11900	Jul 05, 2022, 03:55 PM	Could I please get answers to my questions	<p>Like Julie Mc who was asking about Mulgrave reserve could I too please have the following 2 questions that I asked, answered. With the greatest respect you have not answered the question. All of my questions are in reference to Damper Creek Reserve.</p> <p>Question 1. Who is requesting the changes. Your answer tells me who uses it not who is requesting the changes.</p> <p>Question 2. Is there any evidence that the dogs are causing the alleged damage. Your answer is hyperbole. no data or evidence supplied.</p>	<p>Q1. The proposed change to the off-leash status at Damper Creek Conservation Reserve has been driven by Council's desire to protect the native flora and fauna sensitive biodiversity areas. In the case of Damper Creek Conservation Reserve, independent experts recommended the change due to research findings confirming dogs negatively impact natural bushland areas. These findings were documented in the draft Damper Creek Conservation Reserve - Conservation Management Plan prepared by Practical Ecology in 2021.</p> <p>Q2. Evidence in the form an academic research paper is cited in the draft Damper Creek Conservation Reserve - Conservation Management Plan (2021). This research concludes that dogs negatively impact natural bushland areas through the destruction of plantings, supporting weed growth from faeces and acting as weed dispersers (*Holderness-Roddam; 2011). This research article is available on-line.</p>
11684	Jul 02, 2022, 10:27 AM	Soccer Clubs Run Council	There seems to be a strong connection between Soccer Clubs and Council. Soccer clubs such as The Eastern Lions and Waverley Wanderers seem to have unfettered access to what they want from council while dog owners are losing access to space and resources. These clubs bring rubbish and abusive people into our home areas. Are ANY members of council closely connected to these clubs??? Can you detail the relationship to council?	The proposed changes presented in the off-leash review provide more equitable access to and increase the overall number of off-leash areas around the city. We are trialling 14 new potential off-leash sites across the city and the expansion of 4 existing off-leash areas. It is proposed the off-leash area at Gardiners Reserve (home of Eastern Lions) be reduced to protect the premier playing surfaces but a large section of this reserve will remain off-leash for dogs.
11652	Jul 01, 2022, 04:35 PM	Why do we need off leash areas within 800mt of our homes?	Do we really need so many off leash areas? Seems excessive.	The intent of proposing an 800m provision standard is to ensure all residents have equitable access to an off-leash area within a reasonable walking distance from their home. It addresses exiting gaps in provision where some neighbourhoods have limited access to off-leash areas in their locality.
11617	Jul 01, 2022, 11:49 AM	Numbers survey	<p>Surveys on the ground are not the same as asking people to fill in very lengthy online feedback forms.</p> <p>On site responses and actual counting with register meters are possible in this technological age.</p> <p>Try this company - they are in the city of Monash as a business that can help you to determine the right outcomes for all. Not just the sporting community.</p> <p><a href="https://www.evolveplus.com.au/solutions/people-counters">https://www.evolveplus.com.au/solutions/people-counters</a></p>	
11615	Jul 01, 2022, 11:41 AM	Improvements to Mulgrave Reserve	<p>Thanks for your reply today however you have not responded to my question.</p> <p>To assist I have posted by questions again here:</p> <p>Are you planning to improve the west and middle junior ovals so that we can still allow our dogs to be leash free and be able to pick up after our dogs (It's very muddy in Winter)? If not, will you support extending the dog leash area to the East oval in Winter?</p>	Thank you for your feedback on the west and middles ovals at Mulgrave Reserve. This is noted and will be considered in future planning and budget bids for sportsgrounds improvements.
11338	Jun 29, 2022, 10:36 AM	Numbers survey	<p>Have you counted the dogs that use the facilities or surveyed the owners on their needs?</p> <p>You have all the registered dog owners details - yet you haven't sent us any information.</p>	We are encouraging all residents and users of our open space and trails including dog-owners to have their say on the draft policy through this consultative process, and welcome the feedback.

11292	Jun 28, 2022, 05:08 PM	Liability for dog attack in off lead park?	Is the dog owner liable for an attack on a child or person while in the off lead park?	Yes, dog owner is responsible and must have voice control over their dog when off-leash.
11244	Jun 28, 2022, 09:32 AM	Could we please have a delay to going lead only at Damper Creek.	I would like to propose a "stay of execution" so to speak of changing the leash rules at Damper Creek. As this is the only reserve to get the complete Leash on treatment I propose that we have a public meeting so that the science behind this decision is explained. Because at the moment I can't find anything that provides Empiric evidence that putting dogs on lead will make any difference at all.	Council has not made a final decision on the proposed changes, and all feedback will be considered prior to the adoption of the final policy.
11241	Jun 27, 2022, 05:11 PM	Improvements to Mulgrave reserve	I have noticed that you are changing the dog off leash area at Mulgrave Reserve East Oval. This oval is particularly good in Winter as the west (& middle) junior ovals are too muddy to trudge through, which is important as we need to pick up after our dog. Are you planning to improve the west and middle junior ovals so that we can still allow our dogs to be leash free and be able to pick up after our dogs? If not, will you support extending the dog leash area to the East oval?	The draft policy currently proposes to have the eastern oval classified as on-leash in recognition of it being a A-class sporting facility with a turf cricket wicket table, consistent with other similar sites across the municipality.
11229	Jun 26, 2022, 01:13 PM	What is the involvement of Melbourne water?	it is my understanding that Melbourne Water actually own a vast majority of Damper Creek. I also understand that they sub contract the Monash Council to look after it. So what is there involvement and do they contribute funds to council. If they are providing funds to council and it's what they want it appears the ratepayers will be left out because money talks. Hence my question.	Damper Creek Reserve is Council-owned land that is managed by Council. This is a draft policy that has been developed by Monash Council.
11228	Jun 26, 2022, 01:08 PM	Will questions be answered by the person responsible for this " decision"	Are we just putting questions up as a forum for ratepayers to view and make comment or will answers be given by the person responsible.	
11227	Jun 26, 2022, 10:38 AM	Who is requesting to changes	Hi, can you please detail exactly who is requesting the off leash removal from the selected areas. Do these people have dogs? I can only guess that there is a very small group of grumpy pet haters that are trying to stop families with their pets from having anywhere to enjoy nature.  There are many walks that are already dog on leash. They should go walk there.	The proposed changes aim to find a balance which allows all users of our open spaces and trails to enjoy them; walkers, cyclists, joggers, dog owners and others.

11221	Jun 25, 2022, 03:30 PM	What is Holderness-Roddam 2011.	This is referenced in your workings but what is it and what does it refer too. Plus it is a 2011 report, and Damper Creek has changed a lot since.. it makes some amazing claims of what dogs are doing in Damper Creek I would love to see how they made these conclusions	The proposed change to the off-leash status at Damper Creek Conservation Reserve has been driven by Council's desire to protect the native flora and fauna sensitive biodiversity areas. In the case of Damper Creek Conservation Reserve, independent experts recommended the change due to research findings confirming dogs negatively impact natural bushland areas. These findings were documented in the draft Damper Creek Conservation Reserve - Conservation Management Plan (CMP) prepared by Practical Ecology in 2021. Evidence in the form an academic research conducted by Bob Holderness-Roddam is cited. This research concludes that dogs negatively impact natural bushland areas through the destruction of plantings, supporting weed growth from faeces and acting as weed dispersers (*Holderness-Roddam; 2011). This research article is available on-line.
11220	Jun 25, 2022, 03:26 PM	Is there any evidence that the " damage" has not been caused by local wildlife	How about fox damage, duck damage, kookaburra damage. There are more of them in the Damper Creek area yet I get a feeling the dogs are copping the blame.	In a conservation reserve setting, dogs that are roaming free have higher potential to negatively impact sensitive bushland areas and have a higher likelihood of having the opportunity to attack local fauna when compared with being controlled on a leash.
11219	Jun 25, 2022, 03:23 PM	Is there any evidence that the dogs are causing this all edged damage	Please provide evidence.	In a conservation reserve setting, dogs that are roaming free have higher potential to negatively impact sensitive bushland areas and have a higher likelihood of having the opportunity to attack local fauna when compared with being controlled on a leash.
11218	Jun 25, 2022, 03:22 PM	What is the definition of a conservation reserve?	Are we not trying to " conserve" all that is green.	Valley Reserve and Damper Creek Reserve have been designated conservation reserves in recognition of their unique standing as highly valued remnant vegetation areas. For more information on Council's Environmental Sustainability Strategy, please visit <a href="https://www.monash.vic.gov.au/files/assets/public/edms/waste-sustainability/projects/2016-2026-environmental-sustainability-strategy-summary.pdf">https://www.monash.vic.gov.au/files/assets/public/edms/waste-sustainability/projects/2016-2026-environmental-sustainability-strategy-summary.pdf</a>
11217	Jun 25, 2022, 03:21 PM	What is the definition of biodiversity?	Just that. I'm not sure what it means	Biodiversity refers to the variety of animal and plant life within the habitat.
11216	Jun 25, 2022, 03:19 PM	Could I please see the report that has deemed Damper Creek Lease only	I just can't understand how these conclusions have been met without some level of statistical analysis . It appears we are just meant to believe an " opinion"	Damper Creek Reserve is proposed in the draft policy to be an on-leash reserve due to its status as a conservation reserve.

## Appendix 3.2 – On-line Survey Results

### Shape Monash

Report Type: Form Results Summary

Date Range: 08-06-2022 - 01-10-2022

Exported: 07-10-2022 08:18:07

Closed

Dog off-leash areas policy

[Dog off-leash areas](#)

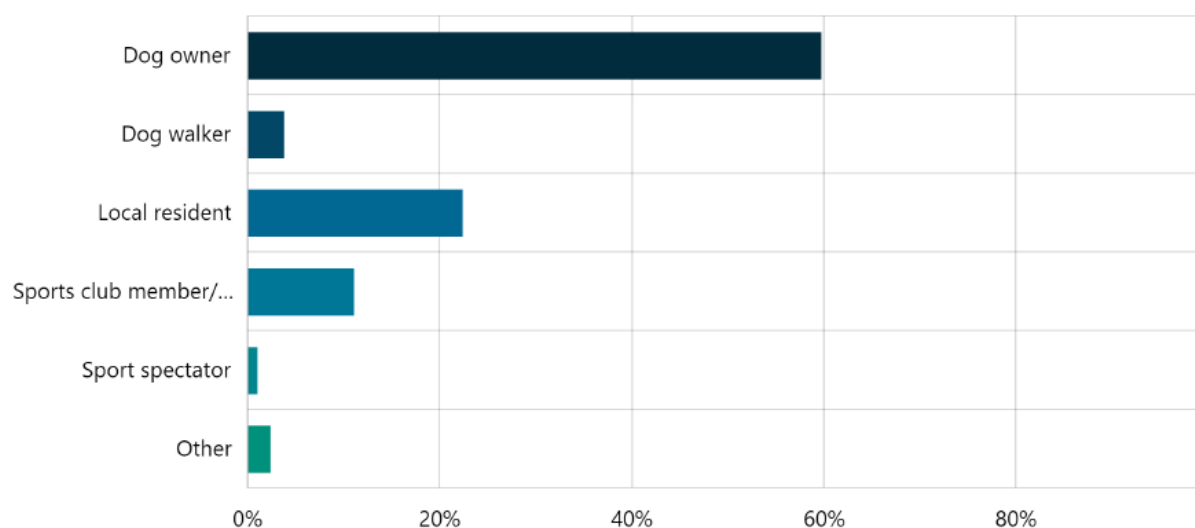
693  
Contributors

693  
Contributions

### Contribution Summary

#### 1. Which best describes your interest in the Monash dog off-leash areas policy?

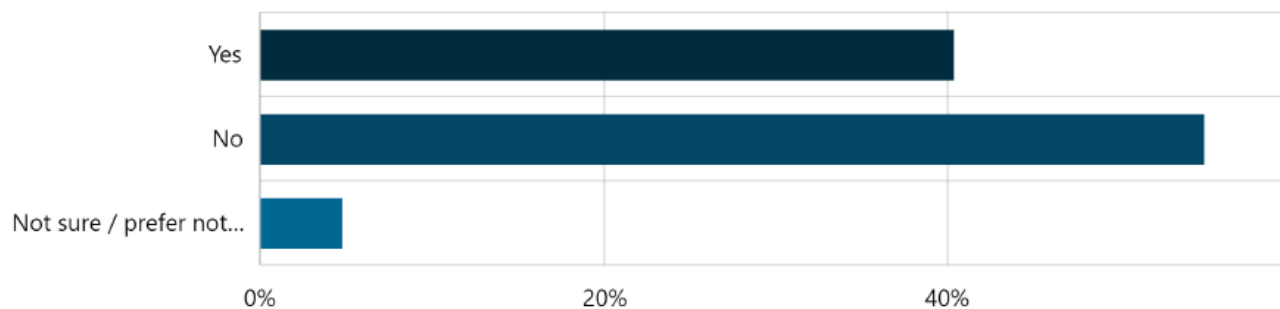
Select Box | Skipped: 49 | Answered: 644 (92.9%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Dog owner	59.63%	384
Dog walker	3.73%	24
Local resident	22.36%	144
Sports club member/player	11.02%	71
Sport spectator	0.93%	6
Other	2.33%	15
Total	100.00%	644

## 2. Overall, do you support the draft Off-Leash Areas Policy, in particular the key implications listed above?

Multi Choice | Skipped: 21 | Answered: 672 (97%)



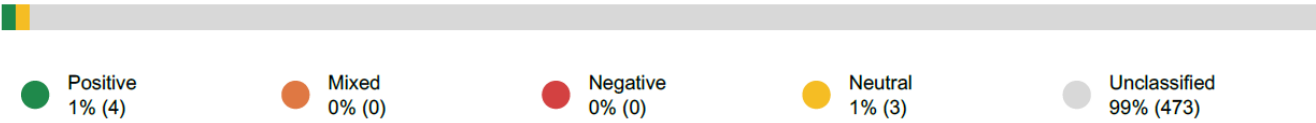
Answer choices	Percent	Count
Yes	40.33%	271
No	54.91%	369
Not sure / prefer not to say	4.76%	32
Total	100.00%	672



3. Your comments on the key implications of the draft policy

Long Text | Skipped: 213 | Answered: 480 (69.3%)

Sentiment



Tags



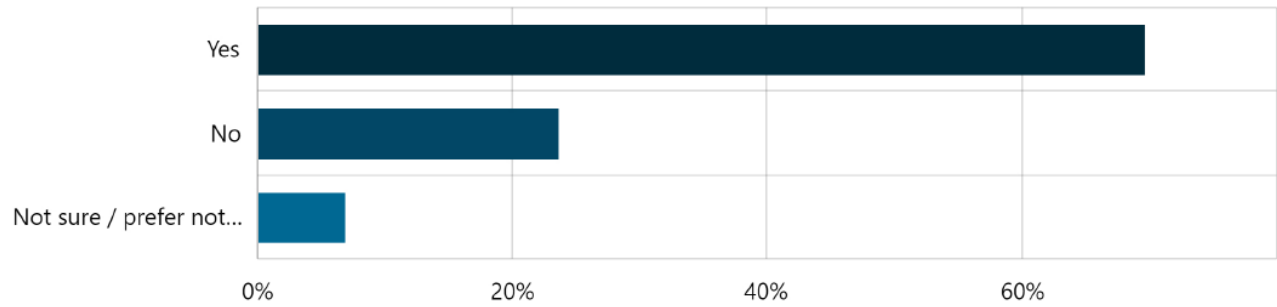
Tag	Percent	Count
Conflict of use - lack of owner responsibility / uncontrolled dogs	26%	123
Allow off-leash in conservation reserves	25%	121
Provide dedicated space for off-leash dogs	14%	66
Specialised sport surfaces should be dog free	12%	57
Dogs should be on lead in conservation reserves	11%	55
Keep dogs on-leash on shared trails	9%	44
Sports grounds - dog free or on lead	9%	44
Allow dogs on specialised sport surfaces	9%	42
Fewer OLAs / dogs on leads	8%	36
Allow off-leash on shared trails	6%	30
Sports grounds - share with dogs	2%	10

Featured Contributions

No featured contributions

#### 4. Do you support increasing the number of Off-Leash Areas in Monash to provide more equitable access across the city?

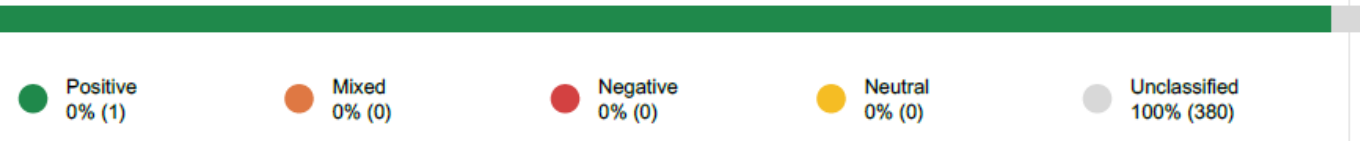
Multi Choice | Skipped: 19 | Answered: 674 (97.3%)



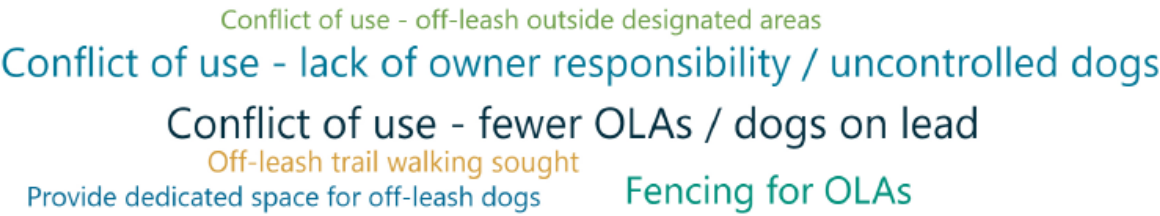
Answer choices	Percent	Count
Yes	69.58%	469
No	23.59%	159
Not sure / prefer not to say	6.82%	46
Total	100.00%	674

5. Your comments on the increasing the number of off-leash areas in Monash?  
Long Text | Skipped: 312 | Answered: 381 (55%)

Sentiment



Tags



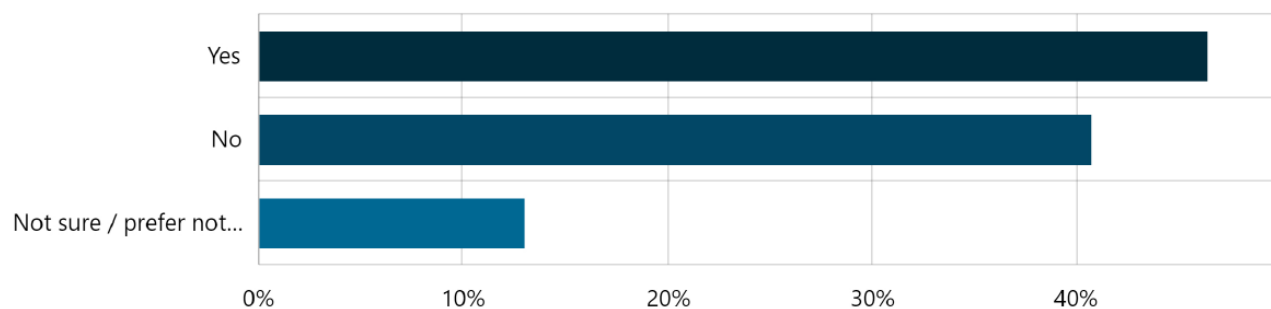
Tag	Percent	Count
Conflict of use - fewer OLAs / dogs on lead	14%	53
Conflict of use - lack of owner responsibility / uncontrolled dogs	13%	49
Fencing for OLAs	11%	43
Off-leash trail walking sought	6%	23
Provide dedicated space for off-leash dogs	5%	20
Conflict of use - off-leash outside designated areas	5%	19

Featured Contributions

No featured contributions

# 6. Overall, do you support the design principles on fencing off-leash areas?

Multi Choice | Skipped: 5 | Answered: 688 (99.3%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Yes	46.37%	319
No	40.70%	280
Not sure / prefer not to say	12.94%	89
Total	100.00%	688

## 7. Your comments on the design principles on fencing off-leash areas?

Long Text | Skipped: 320 | Answered: 373 (53.8%)

### Sentiment

No sentiment data

### Tags

Conflict of use - off-leash outside designated areas  
Provide dedicated space for off-leash dogs  
Fencing for dog safety / socialisation / training  
Fencing OLAs for community safety  
OLAs should be unfenced  
Fencing for OLAs  
Conflict of use - lack of owner responsibility / uncontrolled dogs

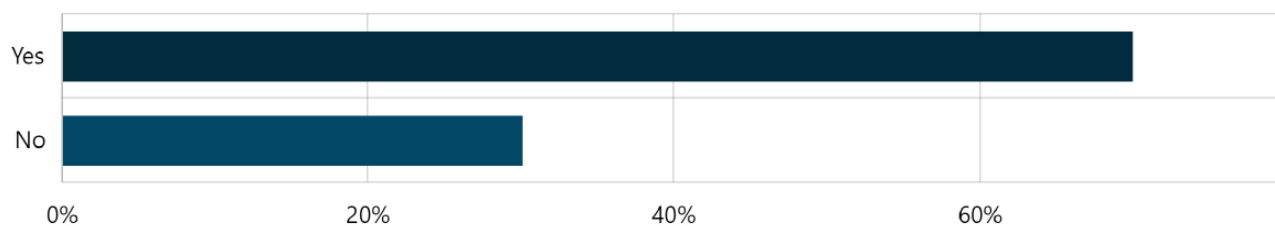
Tag	Percent	Count
Fencing for dog safety / socialisation / training	38%	141
Fencing OLAs for community safety	20%	76
OLAs should be unfenced	9%	32
Conflict of use - lack of owner responsibility / uncontrolled dogs	8%	29
Fencing for OLAs	4%	16
Provide dedicated space for off-leash dogs	2%	6
Conflict of use - off-leash outside designated areas	1%	2

### Featured Contributions

No featured contributions

8. Would you like to provide feedback on a proposed new or changed off-leash area?

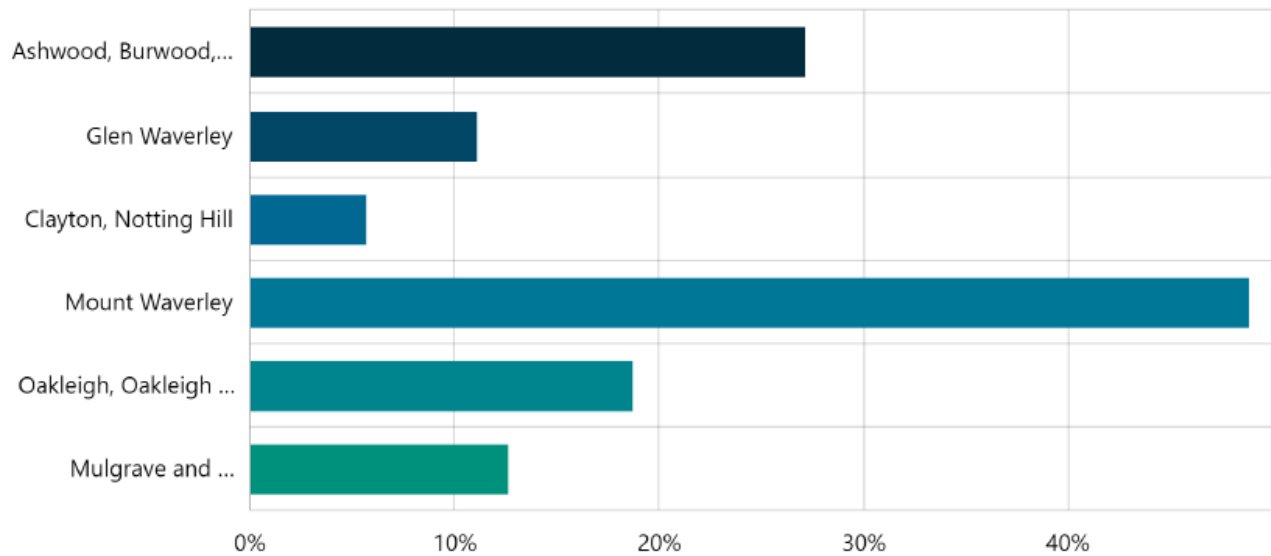
Multi Choice | Skipped: 30 | Answered: 663 (95.7%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Yes	69.98%	464
No	30.02%	199
Total	100.00%	663

### 9. For which suburbs do you wish to provide feedback on off-leash areas?

Multi Choice | Skipped: 232 | Answered: 461 (66.5%)

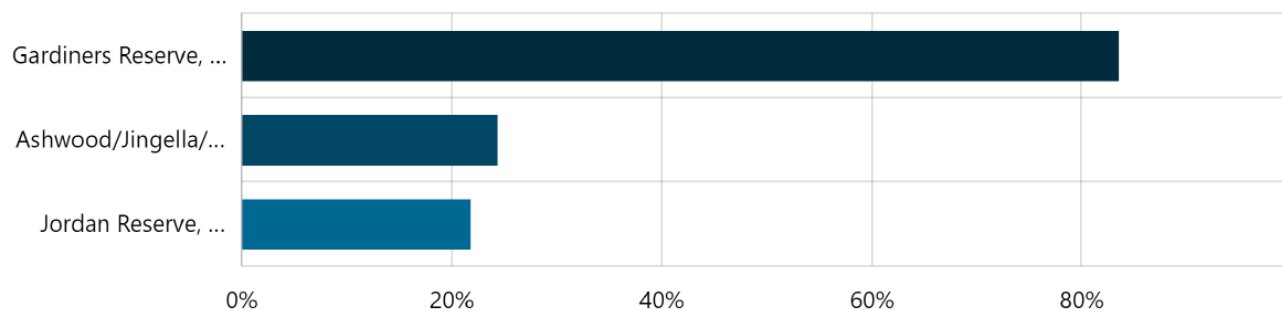


Answer choices	Percent	Count
Ashwood, Burwood, Chadstone	27.11%	125
Glen Waverley	11.06%	51
Clayton, Notting Hill	5.64%	26
Mount Waverley	48.81%	225
Oakleigh, Oakleigh East, Oakleigh South	18.66%	86
Mulgrave and Wheelers Hill	12.58%	58



10. Which of the below reserves do you currently use or plan to use in Ashwood, Burwood and Chadstone?

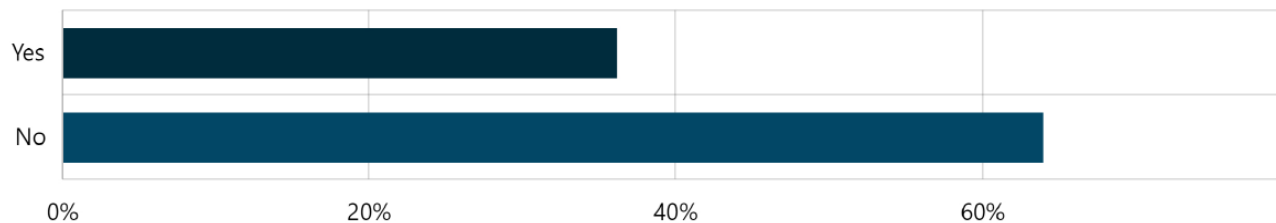
Multi Choice | Skipped: 578 | Answered: 115 (16.6%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Gardiners Reserve, Burwood	83.48%	96
Ashwood/Jingella/Holmesglen Reserve	24.35%	28
Jordan Reserve, Chadstone	21.74%	25

11. Do you support the proposed changes to off-leash areas on Gardiners Reserve North, Burwood?

Multi Choice | Skipped: 596 | Answered: 97 (14%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Yes	36.08%	35
No	63.92%	62
Total	100.00%	97

## 12. Your comments on the proposed changes to off-leash areas on Gardiners Reserve North, Burwood?

Long Text | Skipped: 614 | Answered: 79 (11.4%)

### Sentiment

No sentiment data

### Tags



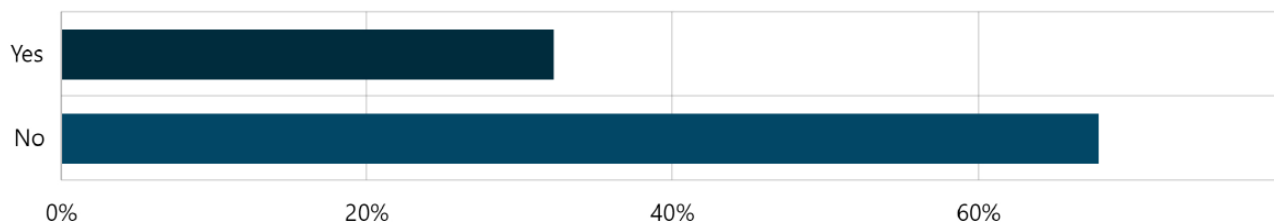
Tag	Percent	Count
Don't reduce off-leash area	44%	35
Preference for fenced dog park	34%	27
Specialised sports surfaces should be dog-free	24%	19
Allow dogs on specialised sport surfaces	13%	10
Fenced area for dog safety	11%	9
Reduce off-leash area	9%	7
Keep dogs on-leash on shared trails	4%	3
Owner control not always possible	4%	3
Allow off-leash on shared trails	4%	3
Question	1%	1

### Featured Contributions

No featured contributions

### 13. Do you support the proposed changes to off-leash areas on Ashwood/Jingella/Holmesglen Reserve?

Multi Choice | Skipped: 665 | Answered: 28 (4%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Yes	32.14%	9
No	67.86%	19
Total	100.00%	28

### 14. Your comments on the proposed changes to off-leash areas on Ashwood/Jingella/Holmesglen Reserve?

Long Text | Skipped: 674 | Answered: 19 (2.7%)

Sentiment

No sentiment data

Tags

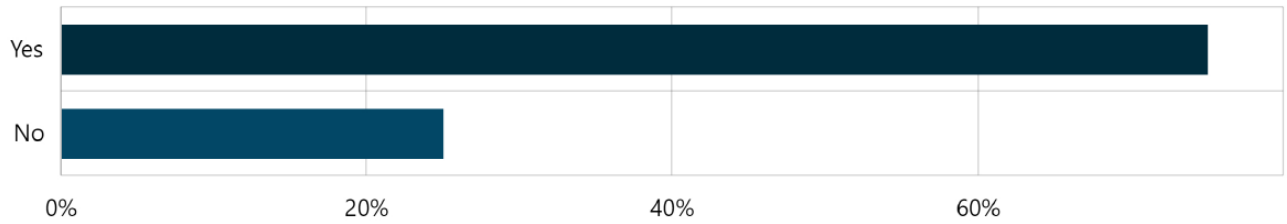
No tag data

Featured Contributions

No featured contributions

### 15. Do you support the proposed new off-leash area on Jordan Reserve, Chadstone?

Multi Choice | Skipped: 669 | Answered: 24 (3.5%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Yes	75.00%	18
No	25.00%	6
Total	100.00%	24

### 16. Your comments on the proposed new off-leash area on Jordan Reserve, Chadstone?

Long Text | Skipped: 684 | Answered: 9 (1.3%)

Sentiment

No sentiment data

Tags

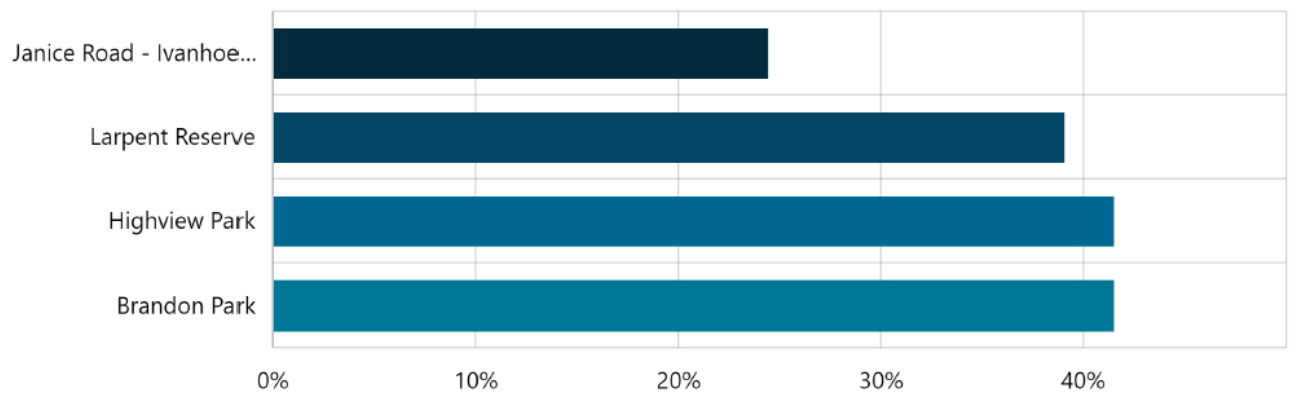
No tag data

Featured Contributions

No featured contributions

### 17. Which of the below reserves do you currently use or plan to use, in Glen Waverley?

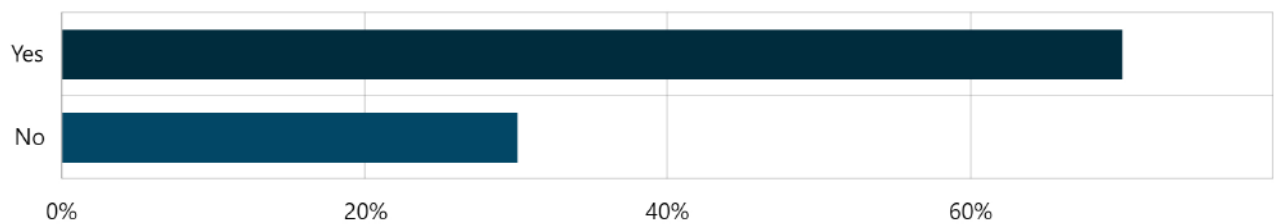
Multi Choice | Skipped: 652 | Answered: 41 (5.9%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Janice Road - Ivanhoe Street Electricity Easement	24.39%	10
Larpent Reserve	39.02%	16
Highview Park	41.46%	17
Brandon Park	41.46%	17

### 18. Do you support the proposed change to the off-leash area on Janice Rd - Ivanhoe St Electricity Easement, Glen Waverley?

Multi Choice | Skipped: 683 | Answered: 10 (1.4%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Yes	70.00%	7
No	30.00%	3
Total	100.00%	10

19. Your comments on the proposed change to the off-leash area on Janice Rd-Ivanhoe St Electricity Easement, Glen Waverley?

Long Text | Skipped: 687 | Answered: 6 (0.9%)

Sentiment

No sentiment data

Tags

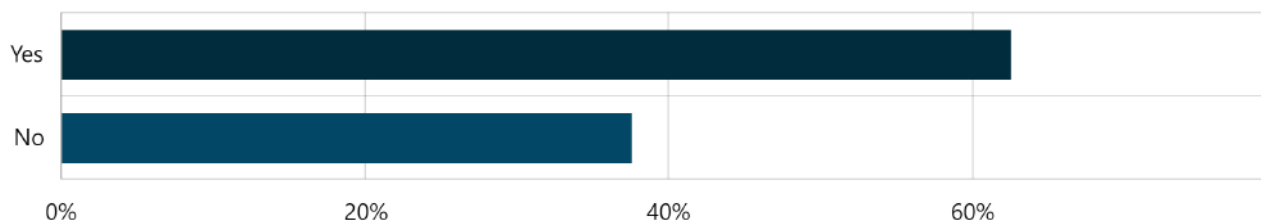
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Featured Contributions

No featured contributions

20. Do you support the proposed new off-leash area on Larpent Reserve, Glen Waverley?

Multi Choice | Skipped: 677 | Answered: 16 (2.3%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Yes	62.50%	10
No	37.50%	6
Total	100.00%	16

21. Your comments on the proposed new off-leash area on Larpent Reserve, Glen Waverley?

Long Text | Skipped: 681 | Answered: 12 (1.7%)

Sentiment

No sentiment data

Tags

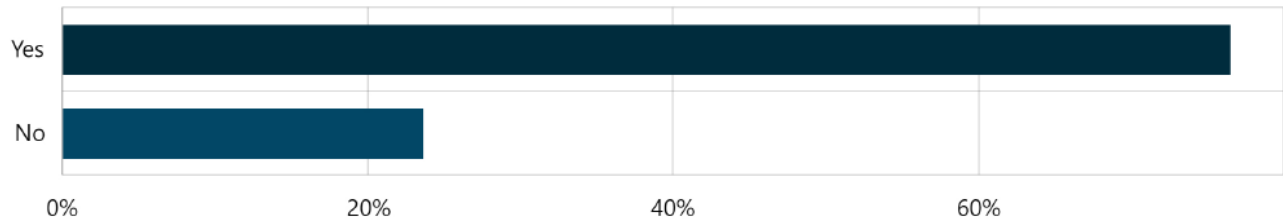
No tag data

Featured Contributions

No featured contributions

## 22. Do you support the proposed new off-leash area on Highview Park, Glen Waverley?

Multi Choice | Skipped: 676 | Answered: 17 (2.5%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Yes	76.47%	13
No	23.53%	4
Total	100.00%	17

## 23. Your comments on the proposed new off-leash area on Highview Park, Glen Waverley?

Long Text | Skipped: 681 | Answered: 12 (1.7%)

Sentiment

No sentiment data

Tags

No tag data

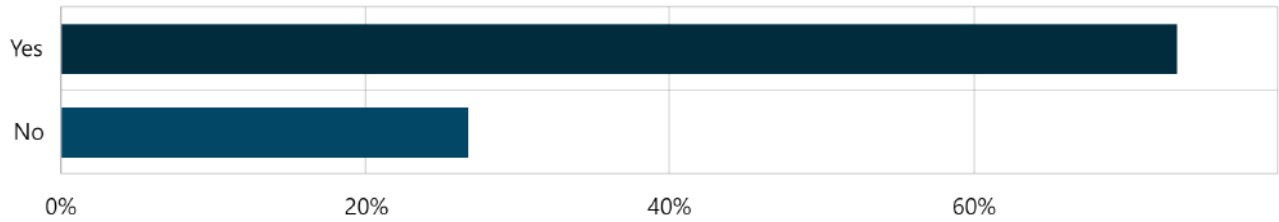
Featured Contributions

No featured contributions



#### 24. Do you support the proposed new off-leash area on Brandon Park, Glen Waverley?

Multi Choice | Skipped: 678 | Answered: 15 (2.2%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Yes	73.33%	11
No	26.67%	4
Total	100.00%	15

#### 25. Your comments on the proposed new off-leash area on Brandon Park, Glen Waverley?

Long Text | Skipped: 686 | Answered: 7 (1%)

Sentiment

No sentiment data

Tags

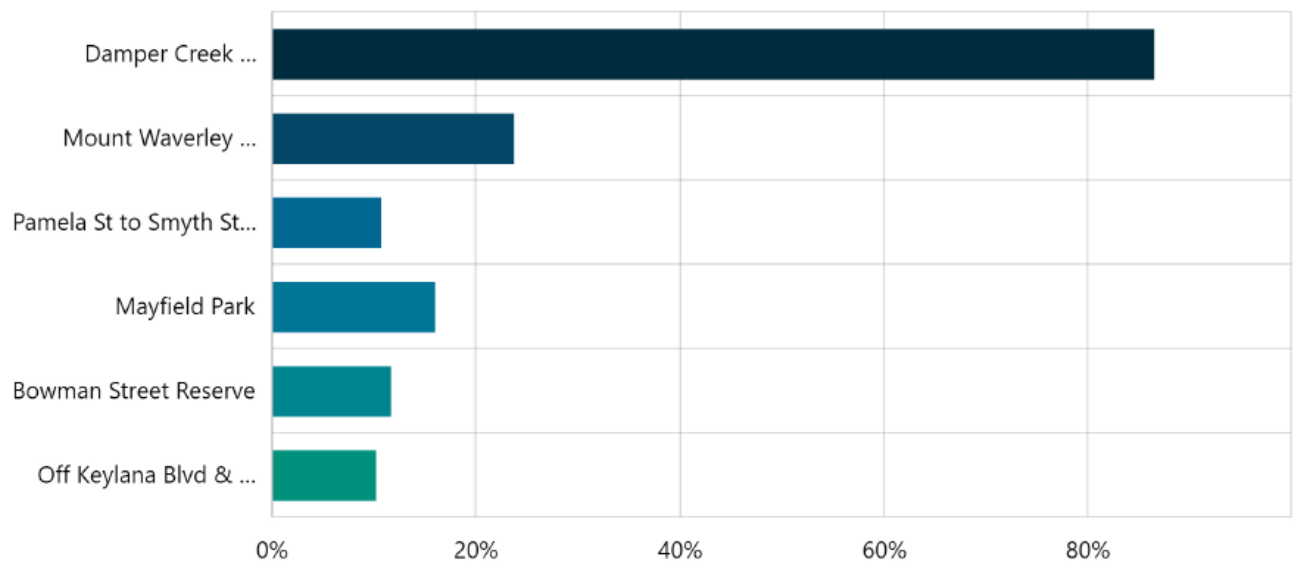
No tag data

Featured Contributions

No featured contributions

26. Which of the below reserves do you currently use or plan to use, in Mount Waverley?

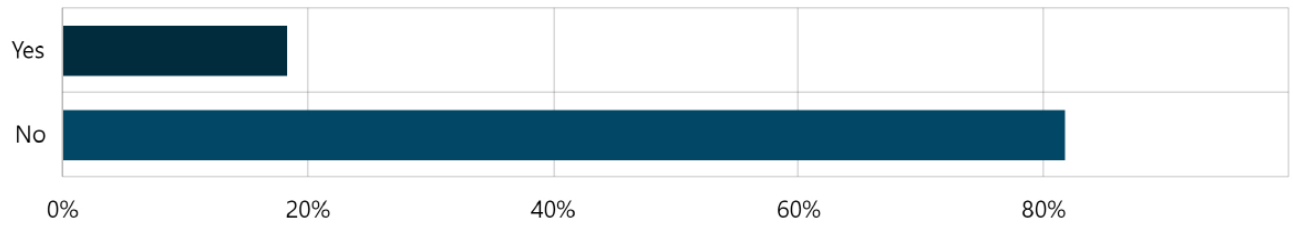
Multi Choice | Skipped: 486 | Answered: 207 (29.9%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Damper Creek Conservation Reserve	86.47%	179
Mount Waverley Linear Reserve	23.67%	49
Pamela St to Smyth St Electricity Easement	10.63%	22
Mayfield Park	15.94%	33
Bowman Street Reserve	11.59%	24
Off Keylana Blvd & Legana St	10.14%	21

27. Do you support the proposed changes to the off-leash area at Damper Creek Conservation Reserve, Mount Waverley?

Multi Choice | Skipped: 518 | Answered: 175 (25.3%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Yes	18.29%	32
No	81.71%	143
Total	100.00%	175

## 28. Your comments on the proposed changes to Damper Creek Conservation Reserve, Mount Waverley?

Long Text | Skipped: 531 | Answered: 162 (23.4%)

### Sentiment

No sentiment data

### Tags



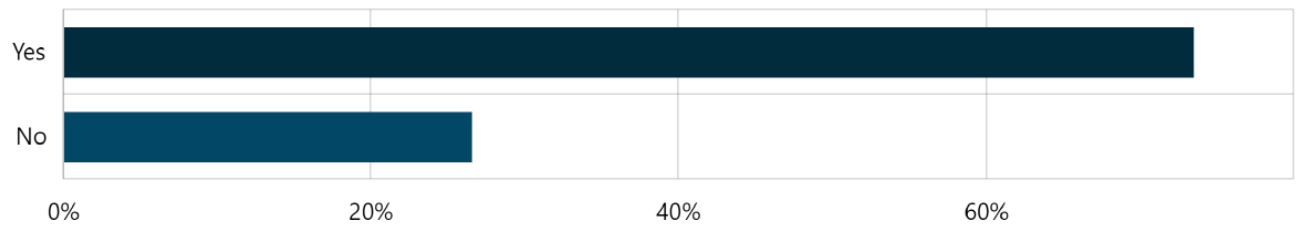
Tag	Percent	Count
Allow off-leash in conservation reserves	77%	124
Don't make new on-leash area	71%	115
Question	36%	59
Make new on-leash area	14%	22
Keep dogs on-leash in conservation reserves	9%	15
Protect flora and fauna	6%	9
Enforcement	4%	7
Support on lead of conservation area	4%	7
Community education	4%	6
Conflict of use - lack of owner responsibility / uncontrolled dogs	1%	2

### Featured Contributions

No featured contributions

29. Do you support the proposed changes to Mount Waverley Linear Reserve (Heany St & Beverley Grove)?

Multi Choice | Skipped: 644 | Answered: 49 (7.1%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Yes	73.47%	36
No	26.53%	13
Total	100.00%	49

30. Your comments on the proposed changes to Mount Waverley Linear Reserve (Heany St & Beverley Grove)?

Long Text | Skipped: 671 | Answered: 22 (3.2%)

Sentiment

No sentiment data

Tags

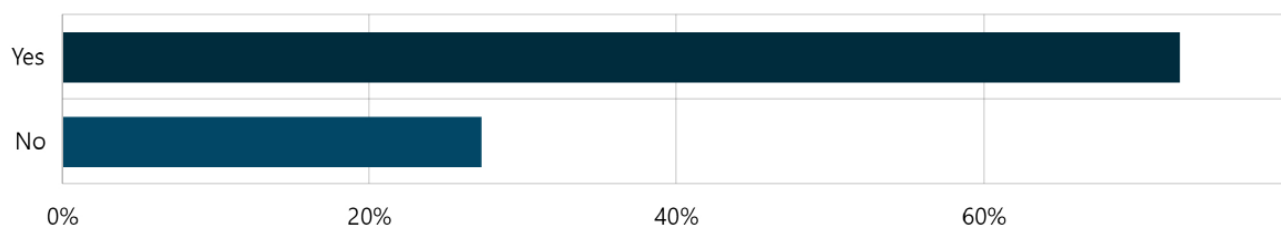
No tag data

Featured Contributions

No featured contributions

### 31. Do you support the proposed changes to Pamela St - Smyth St Electricity Easement, Mount Waverley?

Multi Choice | Skipped: 671 | Answered: 22 (3.2%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Yes	72.73%	16
No	27.27%	6
Total	100.00%	22

### 32. Your comments on the proposed changes to Pamela St - Smyth St Electricity Easement, Mount Waverley?

Long Text | Skipped: 684 | Answered: 9 (1.3%)

#### Sentiment

No sentiment data

#### Tags

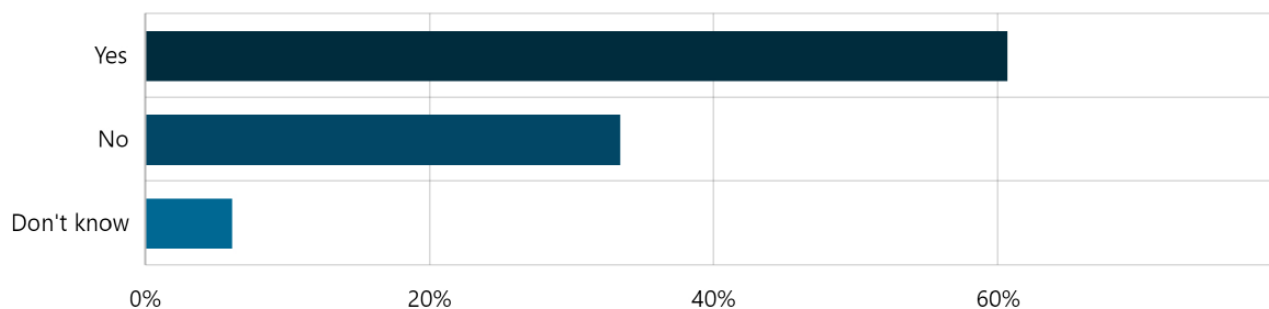
No tag data

#### Featured Contributions

No featured contributions

### 33. Do you support the proposed new off-leash area on Mayfield Park, Mount Waverley?

Multi Choice | Skipped: 660 | Answered: 33 (4.8%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Yes	60.61%	20
No	33.33%	11
Don't know	6.06%	2
Total	100.00%	33

### 34. Your comments on the proposed new off-leash area on Mayfield Park, Mount Waverley?

Long Text | Skipped: 673 | Answered: 20 (2.9%)

Sentiment

No sentiment data

Tags

No tag data

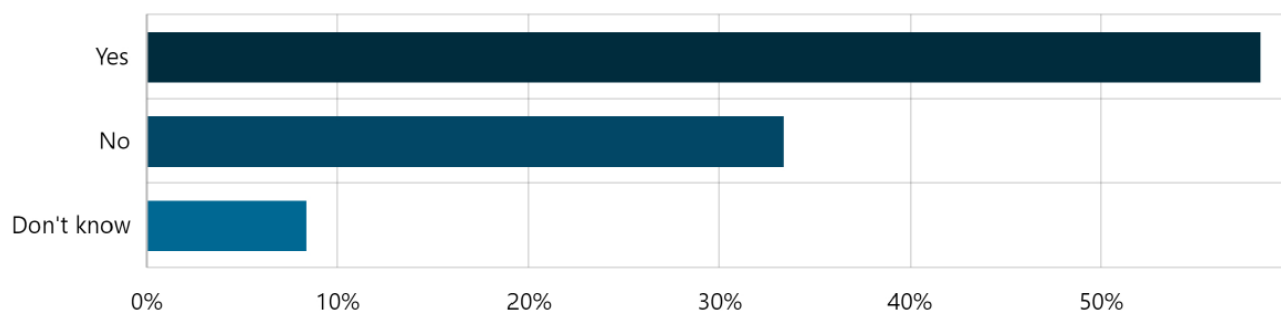
Featured Contributions

No featured contributions



### 35. Do you support the proposed new off-leash area on Bowman Street Reserve, Mount Waverley?

Multi Choice | Skipped: 669 | Answered: 24 (3.5%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Yes	58.33%	14
No	33.33%	8
Don't know	8.33%	2
Total	100.00%	24

### 36. Your comments on the proposed new off-leash area on Bowman Street Reserve, Mount Waverley?

Long Text | Skipped: 677 | Answered: 16 (2.3%)

Sentiment

No sentiment data

Tags

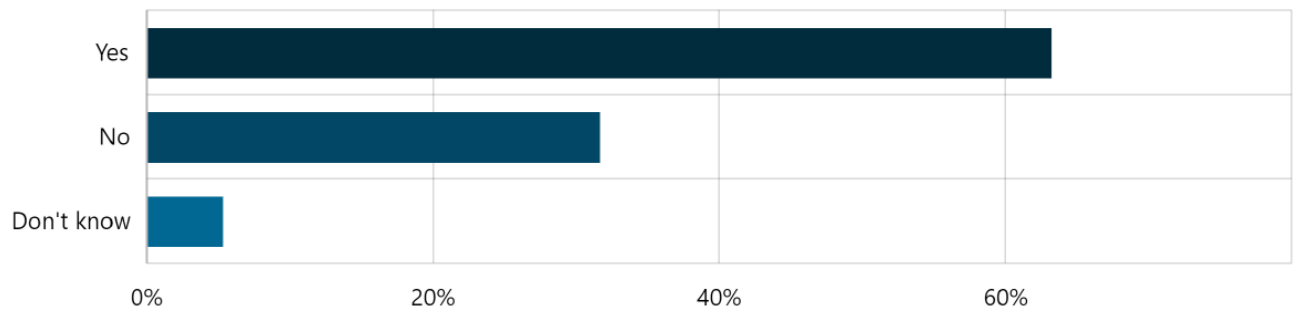
No tag data

Featured Contributions

No featured contributions

37. Do you support the proposed new off-leash area off Keylana Boulevard and Legana Street, Mount Waverley?

Multi Choice | Skipped: 674 | Answered: 19 (2.7%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Yes	63.16%	12
No	31.58%	6
Don't know	5.26%	1
Total	100.00%	19

38. Your comments on the proposed new off-leash area on the area off Keylana Boulevard and Legana Street, Mount Waverley?

Long Text | Skipped: 681 | Answered: 12 (1.7%)

Sentiment

No sentiment data

Tags

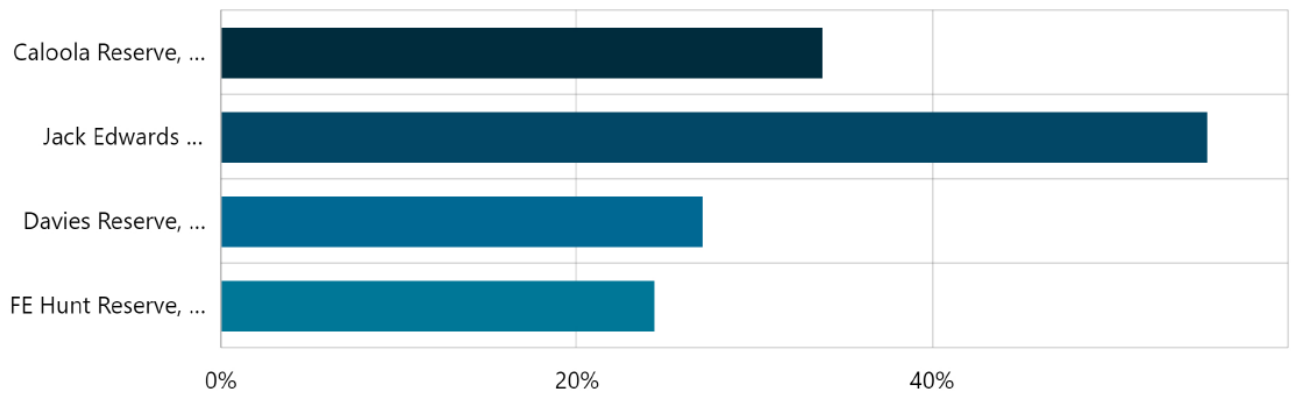
No tag data

Featured Contributions

No featured contributions

39. Which of the below reserves do you currently use or plan to use, in Oakleigh, Oakleigh East, Oakleigh South?

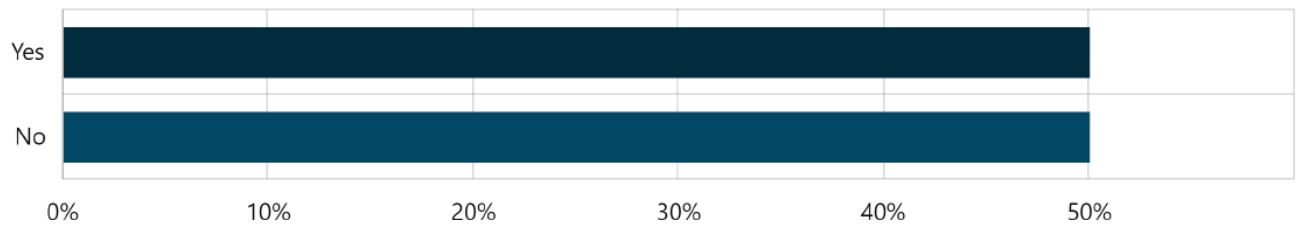
Multi Choice | Skipped: 619 | Answered: 74 (10.7%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Caloola Reserve, Oakleigh	33.78%	25
Jack Edwards Reserve South, Oakleigh	55.41%	41
Davies Reserve, Oakleigh South	27.03%	20
FE Hunt Reserve, Oakleigh South	24.32%	18

40. Do you support the proposed changes to Caloola Reserve, Oakleigh?

Multi Choice | Skipped: 669 | Answered: 24 (3.5%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Yes	50.00%	12
No	50.00%	12
Total	100.00%	24

#### 41. Your comments on the proposed changes to Caloola Reserve, Oakleigh?

Long Text | Skipped: 678 | Answered: 15 (2.2%)

Sentiment

No sentiment data

Tags

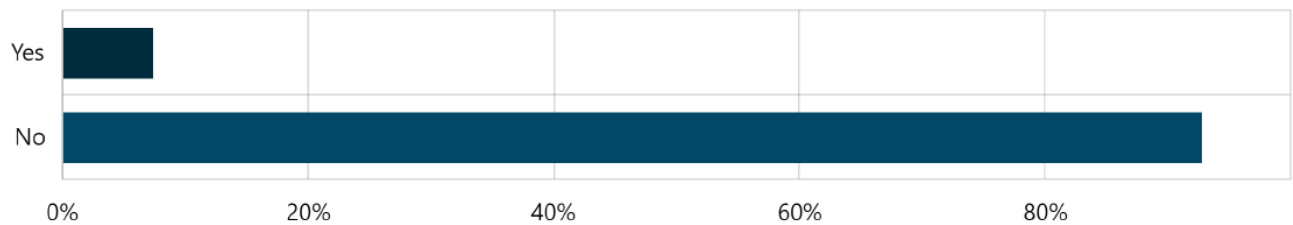
No tag data

Featured Contributions

No featured contributions

#### 42. Do you support the proposed changes to Jack Edwards Reserve South, Oakleigh?

Multi Choice | Skipped: 652 | Answered: 41 (5.9%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Yes	7.32%	3
No	92.68%	38
Total	100.00%	41

43. Your comments on the proposed changes to Jack Edwards Reserve South, Oakleigh?  
Long Text | Skipped: 656 | Answered: 37 (5.3%)

Sentiment

No sentiment data

Tags

Specialised sports surfaces should be dog-free Fenced area for dog safety

Don't reduce off-leash area

Allow dogs on specialised sport surfaces

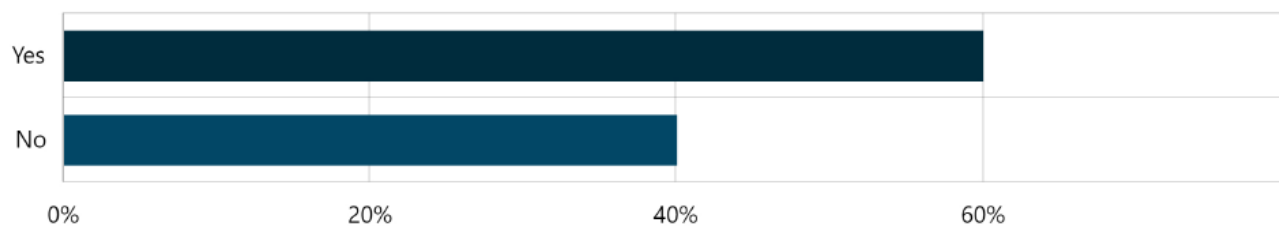
Tag	Percent	Count
Don't reduce off-leash area	81%	30
Allow dogs on specialised sport surfaces	30%	11
Specialised sports surfaces should be dog-free	14%	5
Fenced area for dog safety	14%	5

Featured Contributions

No featured contributions

#### 44. Do you support the proposed new off-leash area on Davies Reserve, Oakleigh South?

Multi Choice | Skipped: 673 | Answered: 20 (2.9%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Yes	60.00%	12
No	40.00%	8
Total	100.00%	20

#### 45. Your comments on the proposed new off-leash area on Davies Reserve, Oakleigh South?

Long Text | Skipped: 677 | Answered: 16 (2.3%)

Sentiment

No sentiment data

Tags

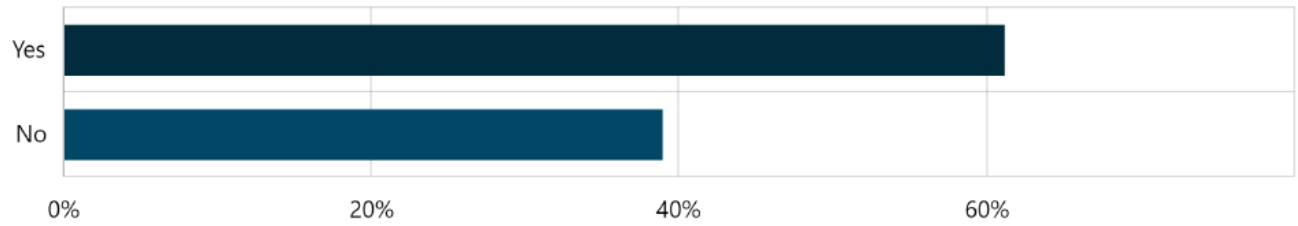
No tag data

Featured Contributions

No featured contributions

46. Do you support the proposed new off-leash area on FE Hunt Reserve, Oakleigh East?

Multi Choice | Skipped: 675 | Answered: 18 (2.6%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Yes	61.11%	11
No	38.89%	7
Total	100.00%	18

47. Your comments on the proposed new off-leash area on FE Hunt Reserve, Oakleigh East?

Long Text | Skipped: 682 | Answered: 11 (1.6%)

Sentiment

No sentiment data

Tags

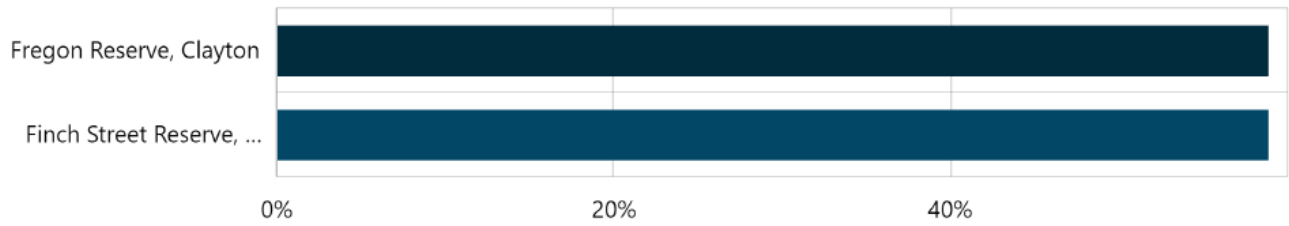
No tag data

Featured Contributions

No featured contributions

48. Which of the below reserves do you currently use or plan to use, in Clayton and Notting Hill?

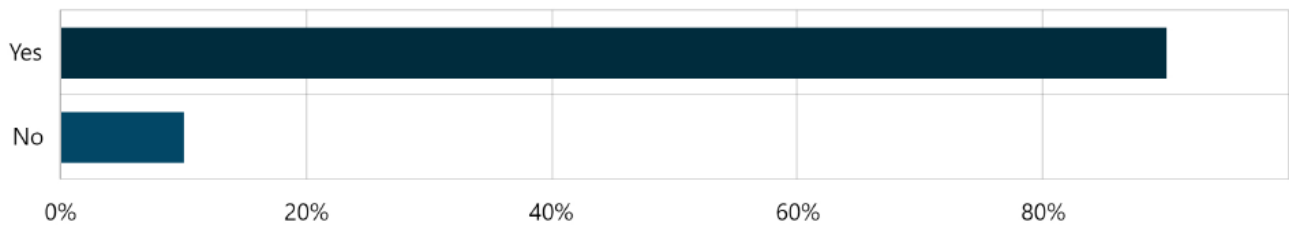
Multi Choice | Skipped: 676 | Answered: 17 (2.5%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Fregon Reserve, Clayton	58.82%	10
Finch Street Reserve, Notting Hill	58.82%	10

49. Do you support the proposed new off-leash area on Fregon Reserve, Clayton?

Multi Choice | Skipped: 683 | Answered: 10 (1.4%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Yes	90.00%	9
No	10.00%	1
Total	100.00%	10



#### 50. Your comments on the proposed new off-leash area on Fregon Reserve, Clayton?

Long Text | Skipped: 689 | Answered: 4 (0.6%)

##### Sentiment

No sentiment data

##### Tags

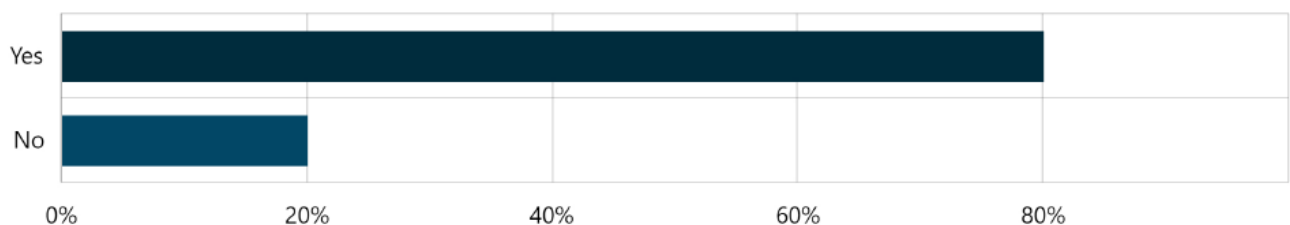
No tag data

##### Featured Contributions

No featured contributions

#### 51. Do you support the proposed new off-leash area on Finch Street Reserve, Notting Hill?

Multi Choice | Skipped: 683 | Answered: 10 (1.4%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Yes	80.00%	8
No	20.00%	2
Total	100.00%	10

#### 52. Your comments on the proposed new off-leash area on Finch Street Reserve, Notting Hill?

Long Text | Skipped: 686 | Answered: 7 (1%)

##### Sentiment

No sentiment data

##### Tags

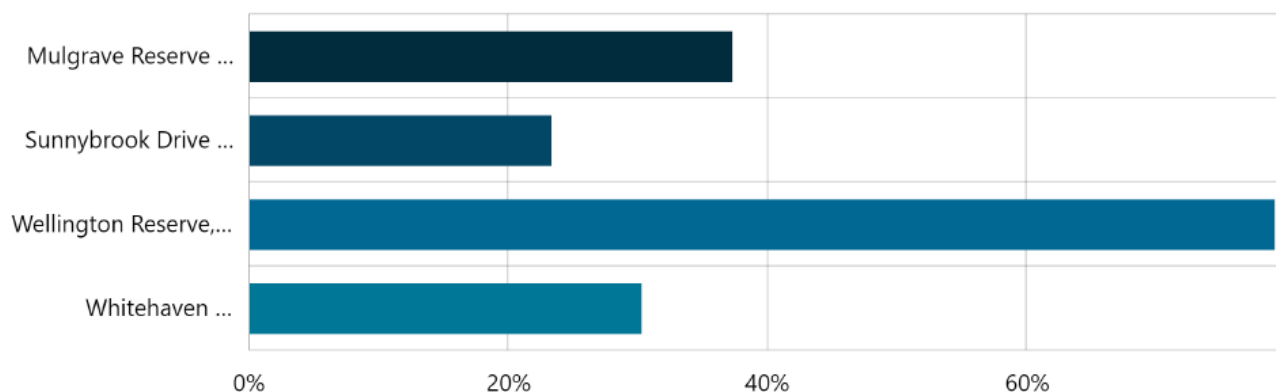
No tag data

##### Featured Contributions

No featured contributions

53. Which of the below reserves do you currently use or plan to use, in Mulgrave and Wheelers Hill?

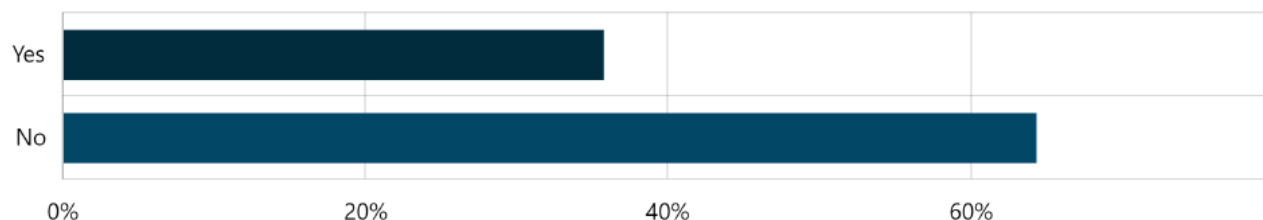
Multi Choice | Skipped: 650 | Answered: 43 (6.2%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Mulgrave Reserve North West, Wheelers Hill	37.21%	16
Sunnybrook Drive Reserve East, Wheelers Hill	23.26%	10
Wellington Reserve, Mulgrave	79.07%	34
Whitehaven Crescent, Mulgrave	30.23%	13

54. Do you support the proposed changes to Mulgrave Reserve North West, Wheelers Hill?

Multi Choice | Skipped: 679 | Answered: 14 (2%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Yes	35.71%	5
No	64.29%	9
Total	100.00%	14

### 55. Your comments on the proposed changes to Mulgrave Reserve North West, Wheelers Hill?

Long Text | Skipped: 685 | Answered: 8 (1.2%)

#### Sentiment

No sentiment data

#### Tags

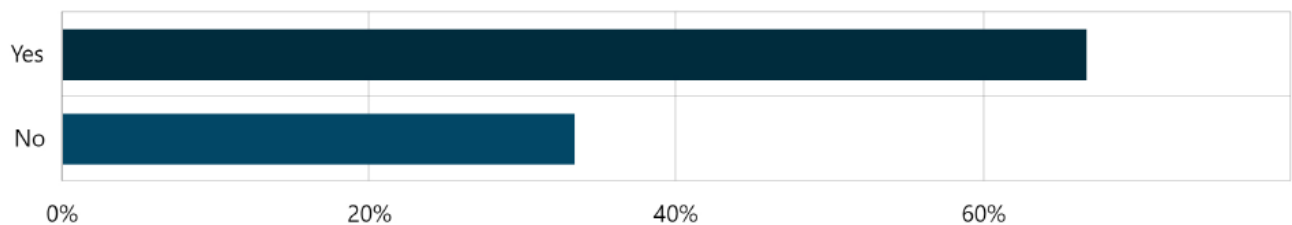
No tag data

#### Featured Contributions

No featured contributions

### 56. Do you support the proposed new off-leash area on Sunnybrook Drive Reserve East, Wheelers Hill?

Multi Choice | Skipped: 684 | Answered: 9 (1.3%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Yes	66.67%	6
No	33.33%	3
Total	100.00%	9

### 57. Your comments on the proposed new off-leash area on Sunnybrook Drive Reserve East, Wheelers Hill?

Long Text | Skipped: 691 | Answered: 2 (0.3%)

#### Sentiment

No sentiment data

#### Tags

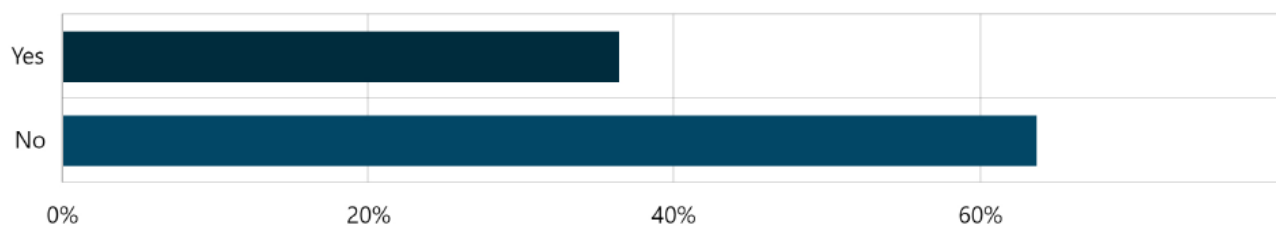
No tag data

#### Featured Contributions

No featured contributions

### 58. Do you support the proposed new off-leash area on Wellington Reserve, Mulgrave?

Multi Choice | Skipped: 660 | Answered: 33 (4.8%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Yes	36.36%	12
No	63.64%	21
Total	100.00%	33

### 59. Your comments on the proposed new off-leash area on Wellington Reserve, Mulgrave?

Long Text | Skipped: 669 | Answered: 24 (3.5%)

Sentiment

No sentiment data

Tags

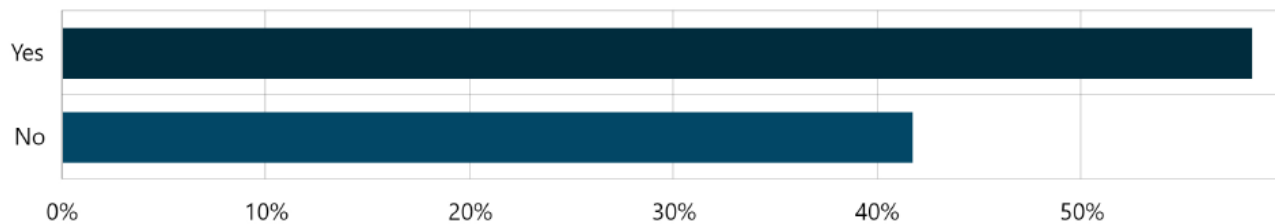
No tag data

Featured Contributions

No featured contributions

# 60. Do you support the proposed new off-leash area on Whitehaven Crescent Reserve, Mulgrave?

Multi Choice | Skipped: 681 | Answered: 12 (1.7%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Yes	58.33%	7
No	41.67%	5
Total	100.00%	12

# 61. Your comments on the proposed new off-leash area on Whitehaven Crescent Reserve, Mulgrave?

Long Text | Skipped: 688 | Answered: 5 (0.7%)

Sentiment

No sentiment data

Tags

No tag data

Featured Contributions

No featured contributions

## 62. Do you have any other comments on the draft policy?

Long Text | Skipped: 336 | Answered: 357 (51.5%)

### Sentiment

No sentiment data

### Tags



Tag	Percent	Count
Trails and conservation reserves	22%	77
Conflict of use - public open space	20%	72
Fencing for OLAs	20%	70
Off-leash trail walking sought	17%	61
Sports grounds	15%	52
Conflict of use - lack of owner responsibility / uncontrolled dogs	12%	43
General approval for policy	11%	41
Sports grounds - share with dogs	8%	30
Conflict of use - off-leash outside designated areas	7%	26
Dedicated dog park	7%	26
Fencing for dog safety / socialisation / training	7%	24
Sports grounds - dog free or on lead	6%	22
Fencing OLAs for community safety	6%	21
Fewer OLAs / dogs on leads	5%	18
Off-leash trail walking - dogs on leads	3%	11
Fencing for human social benefits	3%	10
Conflict of use - fewer OLAs / dogs on lead	2%	7
Trails - dogs on leads	1%	5

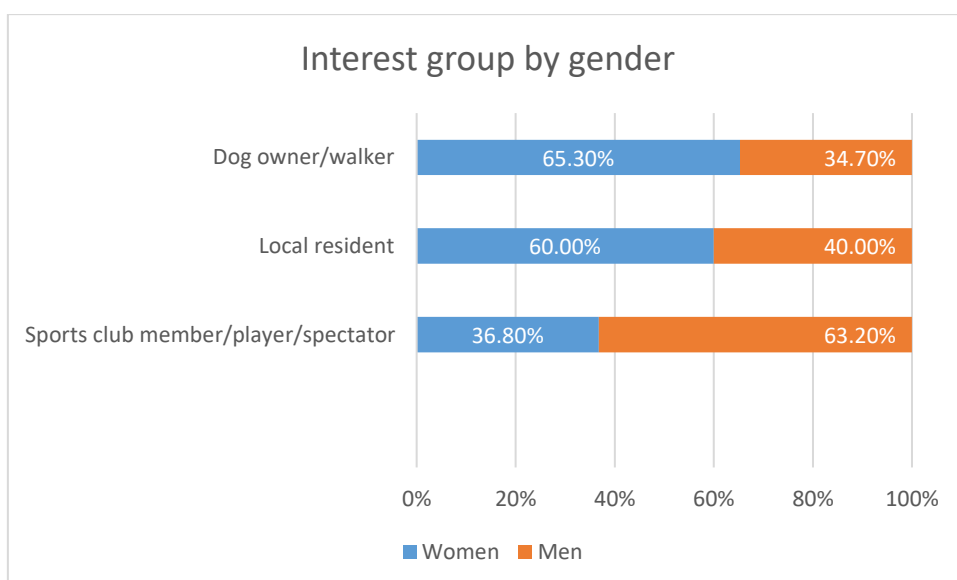
## Detailed findings

*Which best describes your interest in the Monash dog off-leash areas policy?*

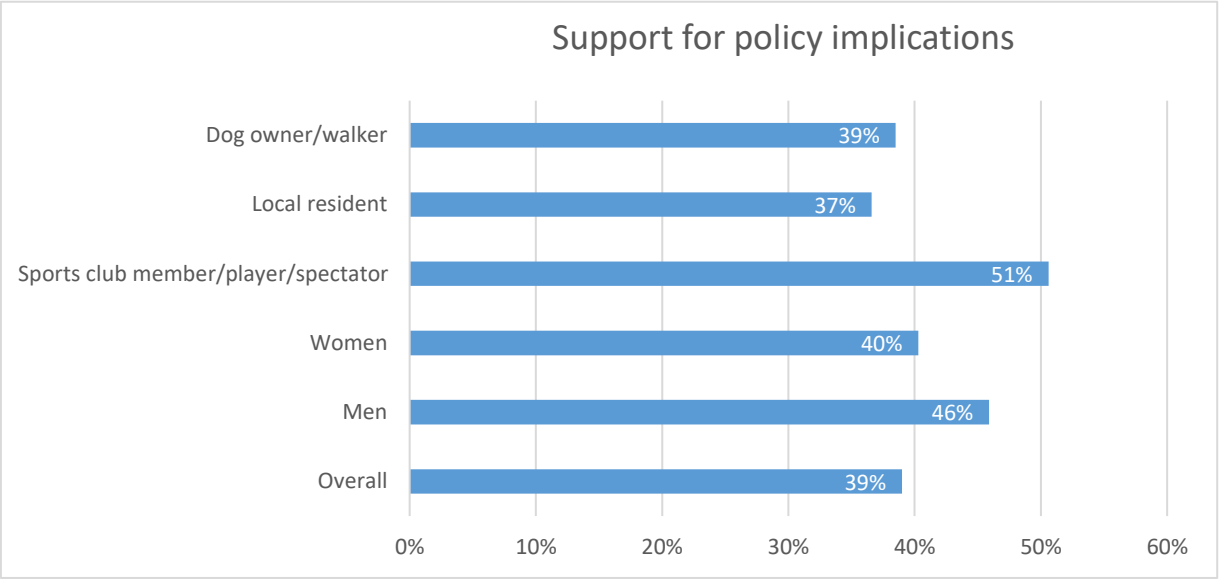
Interest group	Number	Percent
Dog owner/walker	417	60%
Local resident	146	21%
Sports club member/player/spectator	77	11%
Other/Not stated	53	8%
Total	693	100%

*Your gender?*

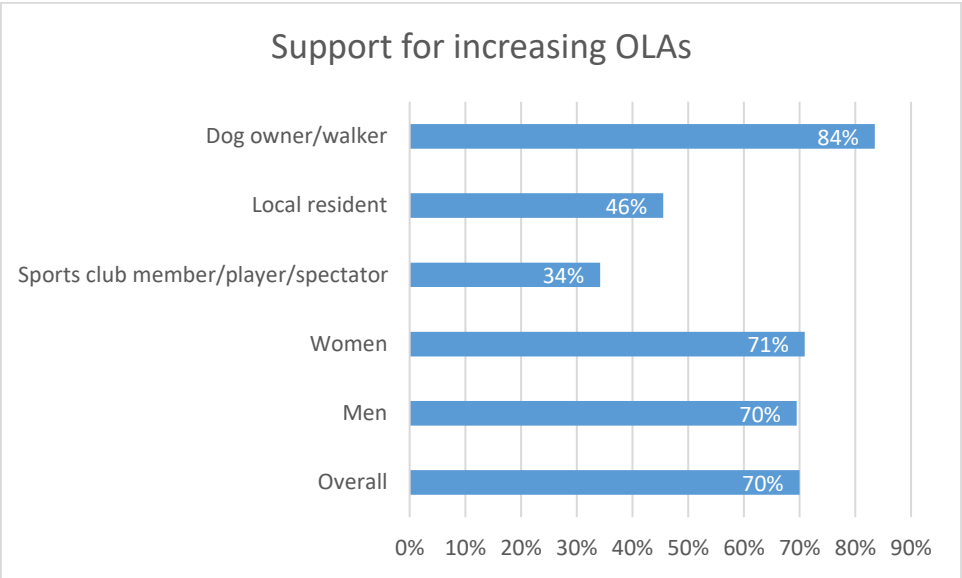
Gender	Number	Percent
Women	364	53%
Men	239	34%
Not stated	90	13%
Total	693	100%



Overall, do you support the draft Off-Leash Areas Policy, in particular the key implications listed above?

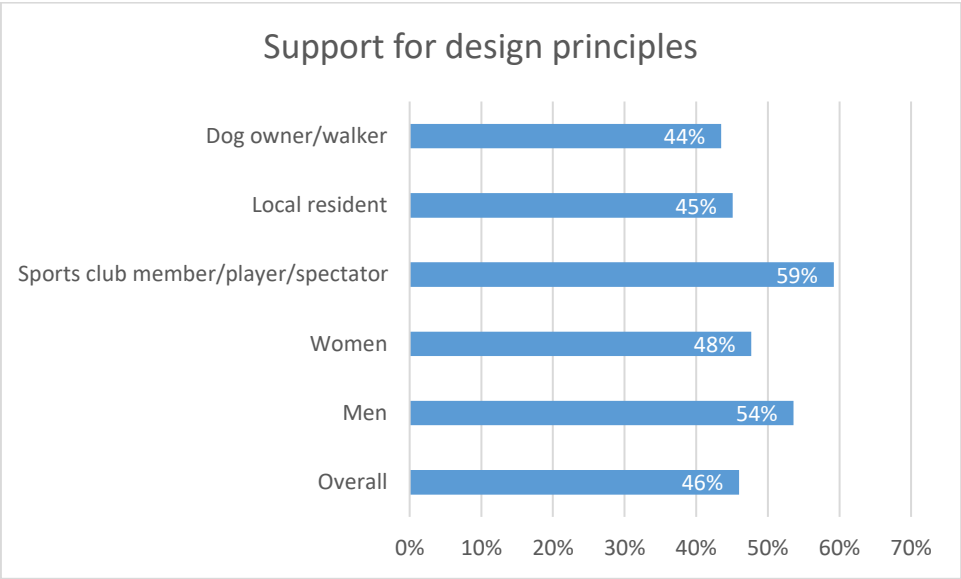


Do you support increasing the number of Off-Leash Areas in Monash to provide more equitable access across the city?

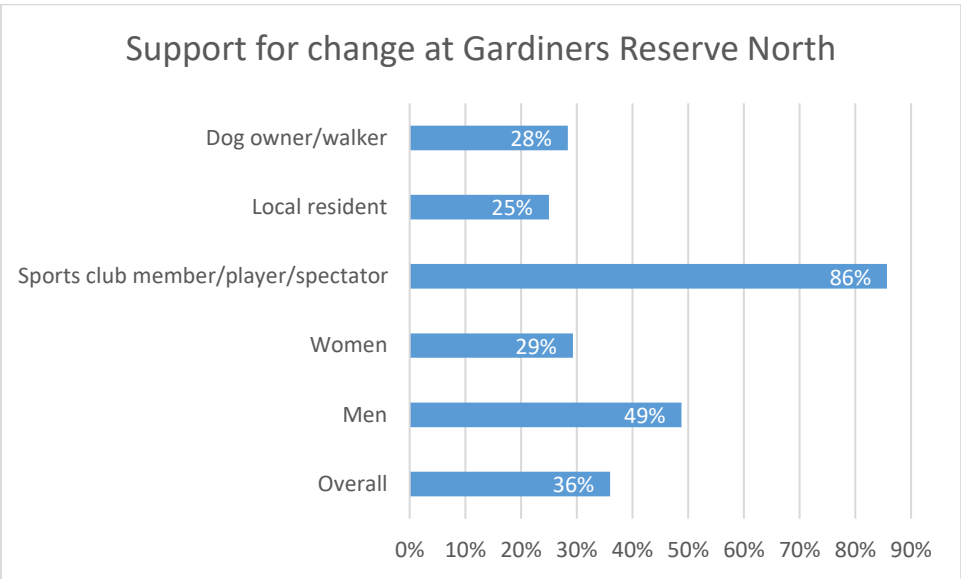




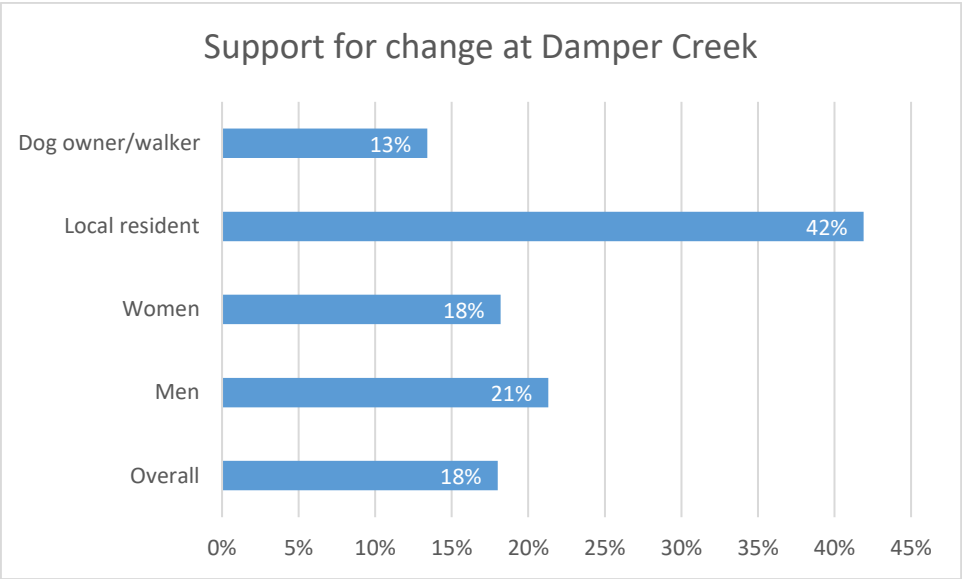
*Overall, do you support the design principles on fencing off-leash areas?*



*Do you support the proposed changes to off-leash areas on Gardiners Reserve North, Burwood?*



*Do you support the proposed changes to the off-leash area at Damper Creek Conservation Reserve, Mount Waverley?*



*Do you support the proposed changes to Jack Edwards Reserve South, Oakleigh?*

