



Media Release

6 March 2023

New Dog Park for Nairne

Barka Park on Zanker Drive is currently the only dedicated dog park in the Mount Barker district but the council will soon be adding to this with a new off leash dog park in Oakford Estate Reserve in Nairne.

Nairne is the second most populated township in the district with more than 2,000 households and approximately 1,700 registered dogs.

With new residential development throughout the town, Nairne's population is predicted to reach 7,000 residents by 2036.

A recent survey conducted by the council found that over 60% of households in Nairne own at least one dog and more than 80% of them would use a new dog park if one was made available in their area.

Due to the strong desire expressed by the community for an off leash dog park, the council included funding to design and construct a new dog park in Nairne in its 2022/23 Annual Business Plan and budget.

Mount Barker District Council Mayor, David Leach said that fenced dog parks are a great way to provide a safe and secure environment for dogs to exercise and socialise with other dogs.

“Dog parks also provide a space for dog owners to come together for social interaction, social inclusion and a greater sense of community,” Mayor Leach said.

The revised budget for the dog park is \$190,000 following the preparation of the concept design and confirmation of location.

“This cost is comparable to that of many of the smaller dog parks across greater Adelaide and is required to deliver the minimum standard as per the State Government guidelines for dog parks, Phil Burton, General Manager Infrastructure said.

“The additional funding required for the new dog park will come from the indirect infrastructure contribution reserve paid into by land developers in the area. The cost to rate-payers remains at \$100,000 as identified in Council's Annual Business Plan.”

Oakford Estate Reserve, bound by Woodside Road, Webber Drive and Megan Circuit, has an area of 6,658 square metres and comprises of three allotments, two of which are owned by the council and one owned by SA Water. SA Water have agreed in principle for the council to use a majority of their land for parking by users of the dog park.

The concept design for the new off leash dog park features separate areas for large dogs and small dogs including landscaping, paths, shelter, seating, fencing, water fountains (with water bowls) and rubbish bins with bag dispensers.

The new dog park in Nairne is due to be completed and ready for use by the community in spring 2023.

An information page which includes the concept plan and rationale for the design is available on the council's website www.mountbarker.sa.gov.au

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