Media Release

23 March 2021

Upgrade to Cassy Lives Skate Park to commence from this week

Upgrades to Cassy Lives Skate Park will commence from this week following two periods of community engagement regarding design options for the facility.

In October to November 2019, Gladstone Regional Council consulted with schools, skate park users and residents who live in proximity of the Cassy Lives Skate Park regarding their needs and priorities leading into the design.

Council undertook a second round of community engagement in July 2020, offering residents the chance to submit feedback on three possible design options.

Design Option 2 was preferred by the community and was adapted throughout the detailed design process to ensure the finished product blended with the natural environment, the existing half pipe and soil conditions on site.

Works will commence from this week and are expected to be completed by 30 June 2021.

Construction work times will occur between 7am-5pm, Monday to Friday with noise expected to come from the site due to heavy machinery and demolition of concrete.

The skate park, located on Shaw Street on the southern side of Briffney Creek, will be closed during the upgrade period to ensure the community remains safe.

Gladstone Region Mayor Matt Burnett said redevelopment of the skate park will create an active recreation and community space for the young people of Gladstone, providing a contemporary skate park that meets current skate trends.

"Design Option 2 aims to mimic a 'real urban plaza' to complement the style of the existing facilities in the area and the retained steel mini ramp," Councillor Burnett said.

"The design provides areas of flat open space with technical street features appealing to skaters of all skill levels.

"The skate park upgrade will also include landscaping featuring low maintenance gardens with existing boulders on site to be incorporated into the design."

Gladstone Regional Council received \$325,000 through the Queensland Government's COVID Works for Queensland program to fund the Cassy Lives Skate Park upgrade works.

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"This is one more infrastructure improvement for our region made possible through external funding, not ratepayer dollars," Cr Burnett said.

"Redevelopment of the skate park will enhance the site and create an active recreation and community space that can become a key destination for the youth of Gladstone."

Cr Burnett said the skate park and pump track at Memorial Park remains open to use while the redevelopment of Cassy Lives Skate Park takes place.

Cassy Lives Skate Park is named after Cassy Jones, who sadly passed away from melanoma, aged 14, on 1 August 1990.

Please visit https://conversations.gladstone.qld.gov.au/cassy-lives-skate-park for more information about Cassy Jones.

Visit <u>www.gladstone.qld.gov.au/public-notices-outages#parks</u> to keep up to date on the progress of the Cassy Lives Skate Park redevelopment.

The Cassy Lives Skate Park upgrade is funded by the Queensland Government through the COVID Works for Queensland Program.

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