
7 MEADOWBANK SKATE PARK - LIGHTING EXTENSION

Report prepared by: Senior Coordinator – Parks Operations
File No.: GRP/22/47 - BP22/387

REPORT SUMMARY

At its meeting on 31 January 2022, Council resolved that community consultation be undertaken on a proposal to extend the lighting times at Meadowbank Skate Park by an additional hour, to operate between 4.30pm-8.00pm during the winter months of May, June, July and August.

This extended lighting has been proposed to allow the skate park to be used for an additional hour in the evening during the winter months.

The Have Your Say period occurred from 17 March to 20 March 2022. In total 142 submissions were received including 120 survey responses, 21 comments from the drop-in sessions and 1 email submission.

The majority of submissions (65%) indicated outright support for the extension of the Meadowbank Skate Park lighting by one hour during the winter months, with an additional 7% indicating support – with suggested changes.

17% of the submissions were opposed to the extension of Winter lighting times, while the remaining 11% did not state a position, but had other comments to make.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council implement an extension of hours for the lighting of the Meadowbank Skate Park during the months of May, June, July and August), excluding Sunday evenings which will remain at 7pm.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 2022-04 Meadowbank Skate Park - Extension of Winter Lighting Report FINAL

Report Prepared By:

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Senior Coordinator – Parks Operations

Report Approved By:

Simon James
Manager - Parks

Wayne Rylands
Director - City Works

ITEM 7 (continued)

History

Meadowbank Skate Park was officially opened in April 2019 with operating hours until 9pm (Monday – Saturday) and 7pm (Sundays).

Since opening the City of Ryde has trialed a number of different hours of operation for the skate park lighting in an attempt to balance the needs of both the local residents as well as the community to use the skate park of an evening. The construction of the skate park was undertaken as ‘Development without Consent’ and therefore there are no approval conditions limiting the hours of operation of the lighting.

Following several issues, related to excessive noise and anti-social behavior, raised by a local resident and Councillors in the first 16 months of the facility becoming operational, staff amended the lighting to turn off at 7pm, effective 15 June 2020. It was considered that making the operational change to reduce lighting from 9pm was the most effective way to respond to the concerns raised. It brought the hours of operation in line with the period of high traffic along Constitution Road, which provides significant background noise, but then starts to reduce after 7.00pm. Therefore, it was considered at that time that switching off of the lighting aligns with the reduction in the background noise in the area. In summer, when daylight extends beyond 7.00pm, the skate park continues to be available for the community to utilise until sunset.

Council staff also engaged with the local police to obtain their assistance in managing the anti-social issues that were occurring. Some of the actions introduced included:-

- Additional patrols of the park by Council Rangers and Police.
- Providing the NSW Police with the authority to issue legislative enforceable banning notices.
- Engaging with the local youth community to obtain their assistance in discouraging use of the facility by the ‘bad’ element.
- Scheduling of family friendly skate programs to promote a variety of users to the facility.
- Installation of additional signage outlining the conditions of use of the facility and the hours of operation

At the meeting held 31 January 2022, a petition was presented in support of an extension to the skate park lighting and requested a consultation process to extend the lighting to 8pm during May, June, July and August.

Financial Implications

Adoption of the recommendation will have minimal financial impact, due to potential for additional energy charges. Any additional utility charges will be absorbed by the Parks Maintenance budget.

ITEM 7 (continued)**Consultation**

The Have Your Say period occurred from 17 March to 20 May 2022 during which the community could provide feedback on the proposed extension of winter lighting times by online survey, written submission or at the community drop-in sessions with Council staff.

This was promoted through City of Ryde's Have Your Say website, flyers to surrounding residents, signage in the park, an eNewsletter to stakeholders, other Council eNewsletters to the community, a post on Council's social media page and advertisement in the local newspaper.

As per the notice of motion directives, five drop-in sessions were held on-site, four weekend sessions and one weeknight for stakeholders to ask the project team any questions and provide their comments.

In total 142 submission were received including 120 survey responses, 21 comments from the drop-in sessions and 1 email submission.

Options

Council could do nothing and leave the hours as they are.

Council may also elect to extend the lighting hours across all seven days as opposed to Monday – Saturday only.

It should be noted that retaining Sunday hours till 7pm was not specified for feedback during consultation but was suggested in the comments made by the community during the consultation process.

Optional Recommendation:

That Council implement the extension of hours to 8pm during the months of May, June, July and August, from Monday – Sunday.

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**MEADOWBANK
SKATE PARK**

Extension of Winter
Lighting Times



**MEADOWBANK SKATE PARK
EXTENSION OF WINTER LIGHTING TIMES
COMMUNITY CONSULTATION REPORT
APRIL 2022**

ITEM 7 (continued)

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CITY OF RYDE | Meadowbank Skate Park Extension of Winter
Lighting Times Consultation Report
April 2022 © City of Ryde

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The City of Ryde would like to acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of this land, the Wallumedegal (or Wattamattagal) clan of the Darug nation. The City of Ryde would also like to pay respect to Elders both past, present and emerging and extend that respect to other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

DISCLAIMER

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**MEADOWBANK SKATE PARK
EXTENSION OF WINTER LIGHTING TIMES**

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This extended lighting has been proposed to allow the skate park to be used for an additional hour in the evening during winter months.

The Have Your Say period occurred from 17 March to 20 May 2022 during which the community could provide feedback on the proposed extension of winter lighting times by online survey, written submission or at the community drop-in sessions with Council staff. This was promoted through City of Ryde’s Have Your Say website, flyers to surrounding residents, signage in the park, an eNewsletter to stakeholders, other Council eNewsletters to the community, a post on Council’s social media page and advertisement in the local newspaper.

In total 142 submission were received including 120 survey responses, 21 comments from the drop-in sessions and 1 email submission.

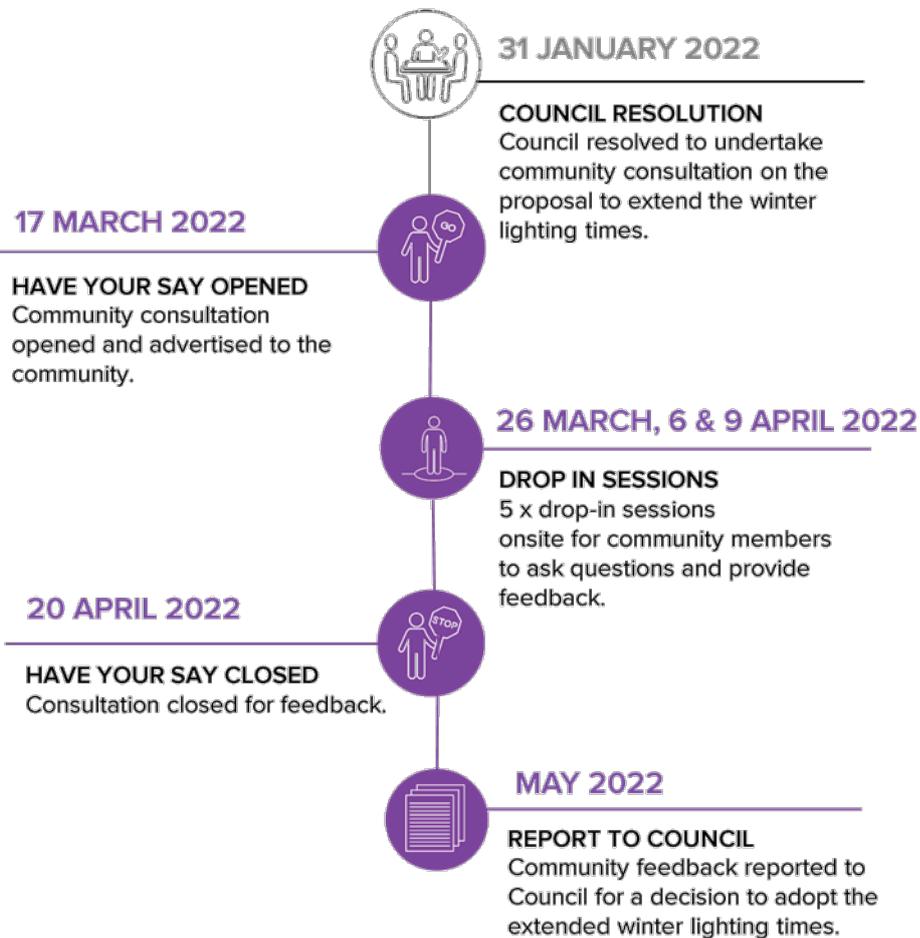
The results within this report were collated by Woolcott Research & Engagement.

Please note in the report there are some questions where respondents could select multiple options, hence some totals do not add to 100%.



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Date	Tool	Stakeholders	Overview	Engagement
Thu 17 March 2022 to Wed 20 Apr 2022	Have Your Say Website	Website users	A project webpage with background information, online survey and project details.	205 page views and 195 unique visits
Thu 17 March 2022 to Wed 20 Apr 2022	Online Survey	Website users	An online survey where stakeholders could provide feedback on the proposal. This was accessed through Council's Have Your Say webpage.	120 online respondents
Thu 17 March 2022 to Wed 20 Apr 2022	Park Signage	Park users	Park signage was placed to promote the project and feedback opportunities for park users and interested stakeholders.	4 signs at entry points of park
Thu 17 March 2022 to Wed 20 Apr 2022	A4 Flyer	Surrounding residents (250m radius)	An A4 flyer was letterbox dropped to promote the project and feedback opportunities for surrounding local residents.	4180 flyers approximately
Thu 17 March 2022 to Wed 20 Apr 2022	Have Your Say eNewsletter	Internal and external stakeholders, sports clubs, community groups, subscribers to previous Meadowbank Skate Park projects	A targeted eNewsletter was sent to relevant community stakeholders to provide an opportunity to give their feedback.	180 eNewsletters distributed 102 eNewsletters opened
Wed 8, 15, 22, 29 Sep 2021	Open Community Consultations Ad Northern District Times	Newspaper subscribers	Weekly newspaper advertisements to promote the project and consultation opportunities for all stakeholders.	38,000 total print readership

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Date	Tool	Stakeholders	Overview	Engagement
Wed 6 April 2022	Facebook Post	Facebook followers	Social media post to promote the project and consultation opportunities for all stakeholders.	841 users reached 191 users engaged
Wed 30 Mar 2022	Open community consultations listing in Your City News eNewsletter	Your City News Subscribers	Listed in City News open community consultations section to promote the project and consultation opportunities for all stakeholders.	2805 eNewsletters distributed 1417 eNewsletters opened
Sat 26 March, Wed 6 April, Sat 9 April 2022	Community Drop-in Sessions	All interested stakeholders	One weekday and four weekend sessions for stakeholders to ask the project team any questions and provide their comments.	17 attendees 21 comments
Thu 17 March 2022 to Wed 20 Apr 2022	Information phone line and email	All Stakeholders	The City of Ryde main phone and email address was provided for the project and was open for feedback from the community.	1 email submission received

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Submission Summary May 2022

Meadowbank Skate Park Extension of Winter
Lighting Times



WOOLCOTT
RESEARCH & ENGAGEMENT



ITEM 7 (continued)

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SUBMISSION SUMMARY

In total, 142 different submissions were received.

120
ONLINE
SURVEYS



21
DROP-IN
SESSIONS



1
WRITTEN
EMAIL



LEVEL OF SUPPORT



The majority of submissions (65%) indicated outright support for the extension of the Meadowbank Skate Park lighting by one hour (to operate from 4.30pm to 8pm during the Winter months), with an additional 7% indicating support – with suggested changes.

17% of the submissions were opposed to the extension of Winter lighting times, while the remainder did not state a position, but had other comments to make.

SUPPORT

The main reason for giving support was that an extension of the lighting times would allow users more flexibility – particularly older children and adults who can then use the park after school/university or work. Some also indicated that the extension will prevent them from having to travel further afield to other facilities that are lit later in the evenings. Others felt that physical activity and socialising should be encouraged in children/young adults, and the longer hours would contribute in this regard.

SUPPORT (WITH CHANGES)

Those who supported the extension but with changes tended to suggest that the lighting should be kept on until at least 9pm (with a few suggesting that 10pm would be better for them).

DO NOT SUPPORT

The main objection from those who did not support the extension of lighting hours related to the noise generated by the skateboarding activities and people gathers in the skate park. A few submissions also referenced a noise study – indicating that it exceeded acceptable background levels at 7pm. Some also felt that the park encouraged ‘nuisance activities’/anti-social behaviour.

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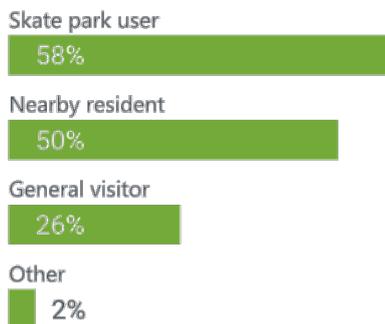
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SUBMISSION SUMMARY

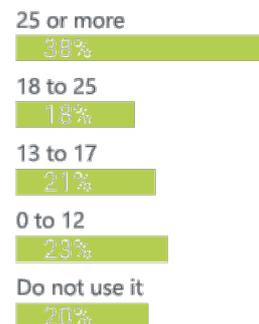
Other Survey Results

Submissions through the Online Survey (n=120) also involved the capture of some additional information about the respondents. These results are presented below:

RESPONDENT TYPE



AGE OF PRIMARY USER



LEVEL OF SUPPORT BY RESPONDENT TYPE



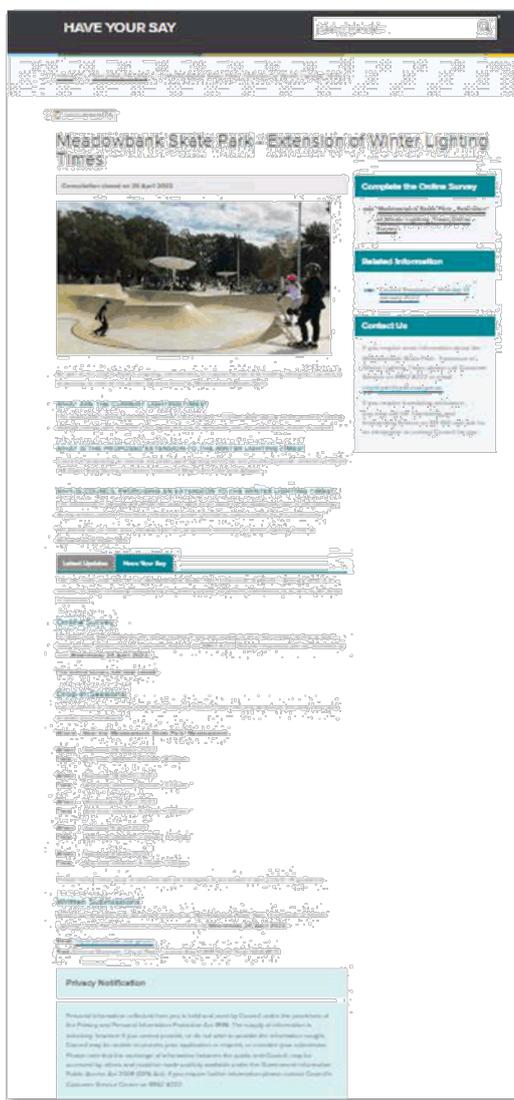
FACILITIES TYPICALLY USED	%
Skate facilities	68
Walking paths	48
Water station	44
Toilets	43
Sports fields	28
Playground	28
Parking	26
BBQ/picnic facilities	24
Parkour and bouldering area	18
Dog off leash area	18
Table tennis	8
Tennis courts	3
None of the above	3

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HAVE YOUR SAY WEBSITE

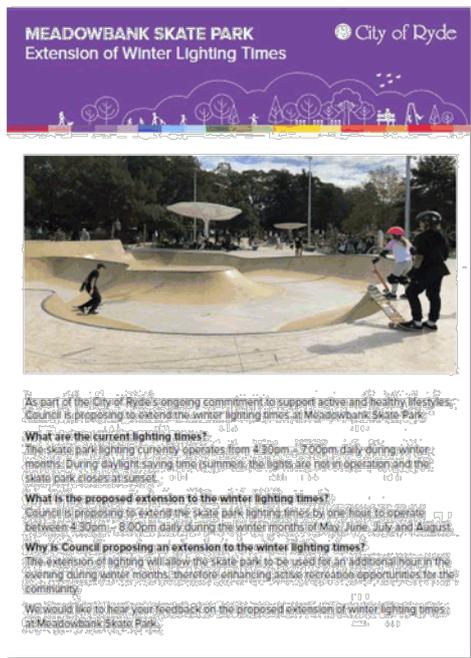


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A4 FLYER



MEADOWBANK SKATE PARK
Extension of Winter Lighting Times

City of Ryde

As part of the City of Ryde's ongoing commitment to support active and healthy lifestyles, Council is proposing to extend the winter lighting times at Meadowbank Skate Park.

What are the current lighting times?
The skate park lighting currently operates from 4:30pm - 8:00pm daily during winter months. During daylight saving time (summer), the lights are not in operation and the skate park closes at sunset.

What is the proposed extension to the winter lighting times?
Council is proposing to extend the skate park lighting times by one hour to operate between 4:30pm - 9:00pm daily during the winter months of May, June, July and August.

Why is Council proposing an extension to the winter lighting times?
The extension of lighting will allow the skate park to be used for an additional hour in the evening during winter months, therefore enhancing active recreation opportunities for the community.

We would like to hear your feedback on the proposed extension of winter lighting times at Meadowbank Skate Park.



HAVE YOUR SAY

How do I give my feedback?
You can Have Your Say on the Meadowbank Skate Park - Extension of Winter Lighting Times in a number of ways including:

Online Complete the online survey at www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/haveyoursay/MSPLights or scan the QR code below

Email cityofryde@ryde.nsw.gov.au

Post City of Ryde, Locked Bag 2059, North Ryde, NSW 1670

Submissions must be received by **Wednesday 20 April 2022**.

Scan to Have Your Say

Translation Assistance
한국어
中文

LET'S TALK

Drop-in Sessions
We invite you to discuss the proposal with Council's project team, ask any questions you may have and provide your feedback.

Where Near the Meadowbank Skate Park, Meadowbank Park

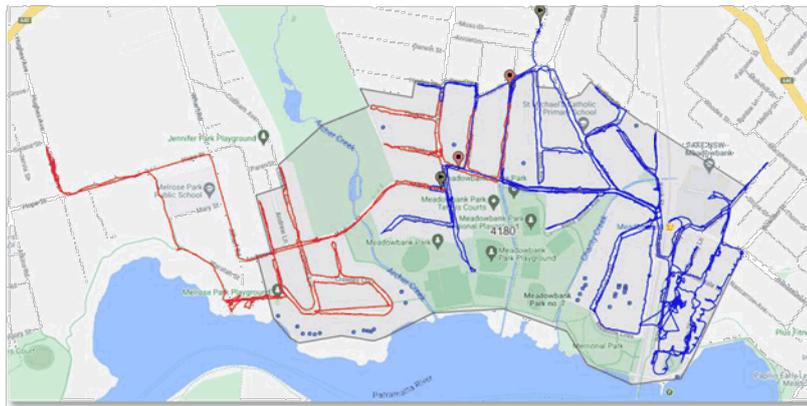
When	Saturday 26 March 2022
Time	Any time between 9:00am - 11:00noon
When	Saturday 26 March 2022
Time	Any time between 12:00noon - 2:00pm
When	Wednesday 6 April 2022
Time	Any time between 5:00pm - 7:00pm
When	Saturday 9 April 2022
Time	Any time between 2:00pm - 4:00pm
When	Saturday 9 April 2022
Time	Any time between 5:00pm - 7:00pm

Please note: These drop-in sessions will be managed in accordance with COVID-19 guidance.

City of Ryde

For more information
Visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/haveyoursay/MSPLights
Call Customer Service on 9952 8222
Email cityofryde@ryde.nsw.gov.au

Distribution area



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**MEADOWBANK SKATE PARK
EXTENSION OF WINTER LIGHTING TIMES**

Appendices (continued)

PARK SIGNAGE

MEADOWBANK SKATE PARK
Extension of Winter Lighting Times



As part of the City of Ryde's ongoing commitment to support active and healthy lifestyles, Council is proposing to extend the winter lighting times at Meadowbank Skate Park.

The lighting times are proposed to be extended by one hour, to operate between 4.30pm – 8.00pm during the winter months of May, June, July and August.

The extension of lighting will allow the skate park to be used for an additional hour in the evening during winter months, therefore enhancing active recreation opportunities for the community.

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Post City of Ryde, Locked bag 2069, North Ryde NSW 1670

Submissions must be received by Wednesday 20 April 2022.

 Scan to Have Your Say

 (Translation Assistance)
한국어
中文

LET'S TALK

Drop-In Sessions
We invite you to discuss the proposal with Council's project team, ask any questions you may have and provide your feedback.

Where	Near the Meadowbank Skate Park, Meadowbank Park
When	Saturday 26 March 2022
Time	Any time between 9.00am – 11.00am
When	Saturday 26 March 2022
Time	Any time between 12.00noon – 2.00pm
When	Wednesday 6 April 2022
Time	Any time between 5.00pm – 7.00pm
When	Saturday 9 April 2022
Time	Any time between 2.00pm – 4.00pm
When	Saturday 9 April 2022
Time	Any time between 5.00pm – 7.00pm

Please note: These drop-in sessions will be managed in accordance with COVID-19 guidance.

 **City of Ryde**

For more information
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Email cityofryde@ryde.nsw.gov.au

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**NEWSPAPER AD - OPEN COMMUNITY CONSULTATIONS
THE WEEKLY TIMES**

HAVE YOUR SAY

OPEN COMMUNITY CONSULTATIONS

You are invited to have your say about documents, projects and proposals that are currently on public exhibition, or provide feedback on services and concerns that affect the community.

- Community Engagement Policy and Strategy (Closing 10 April 2022)
- Hillview Lane, Eastwood – Removal of Loading Zone (Closing 10 April 2022)
- Meadowbank Skate Park – Extension of Winter Lighting Times (Closing 20 April 2022)
- Draft Code of Meeting Practice 2022 (Closing 3 May 2022)
- Memorial Park Dog Off-Leash Trial (Closing 30 June 2022)
- Disc Golf Trial – North Ryde Common (Closing 30 June 2022)
- Dragon Boat Club – Boat Storage Trial (Closing 11 December 2022)

Want to find out more?

To find out more about one of the above projects or for information on how to provide feedback, please visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/haveyoursay or call Customer Service on 9952 8222.

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MEADOWBANK SKATE PARK
EXTENSION OF WINTER LIGHTING TIMES

Appendices (continued)



FACEBOOK AD



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**NEWSLETTER AD
OPEN COMMUNITY CONSULTATIONS
YOUR CITY NEWS**

Have Your Say

On Exhibition

You are invited to have your say about documents, projects and proposals that are currently on public exhibition, or provide feedback on services and concerns that affect the community.

**DRAFT BICYCLE STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN 2022-2030
(CLOSES 31 MARCH)**

**DRAFT COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT POLICY AND
STRATEGY (CLOSES 10
APRIL)**

**HILLVIEW LANE, EASTWOOD – REMOVAL OF LOADING ZONE
(CLOSES 10 APRIL)**

**MEADOWBANK SKATE PARK – EXTENSION OF WINTER
LIGHTING TIMES (CLOSES 20
APRIL)**

DRAFT CODE OF MEETING PRACTICE (CLOSES 3 MAY)

MEMORIAL PARK DOG OFF-LEASH TRIAL (CLOSES 30 JUNE)

DISC GOLF TRIAL – NORTH RYDE COMMON (CLOSES 30 JUNE)

**DRAGON BOAT CLUB – BOAT STORAGE TRIAL (CLOSES 11
DECEMBER)**