

West Kempsey Pump Bike Track

Kempsey Council supports and encourages a healthy and active region through the provision of sporting, cultural and recreational opportunities, and initiatives, however there is a gap in facilities for children/ youth, especially in West Kempsey. From a community meeting organised By Community Housing Limited an idea was proposed to build a pump/BMX track in West Kempsey on crown land on the corner of Sea and Leith Streets West Kempsey. The area where the track will be built is an unused portion of crown land which may otherwise become the site of anti-social behaviours. Putting active recreation infrastructure in the area, increasing the number of people visiting and using the area will make the site less attractive for anti-social behaviour.

It will provide children and young people with a safe off-road track for recreational riding, coupled with a bike safety education, maintenance, recycling program to ensure bikes are safe to ride and providing the skills required to maintain a bike will improve road safety for all users. Anti-social behaviours can be discouraged through surveillance of the site, by community members and including the development of the Community Site Management Committee where community members working with CHL, KNC and KSC are the drivers with input from the MTB club and work toward the option of the community having ownership of the track and custodians of the land.

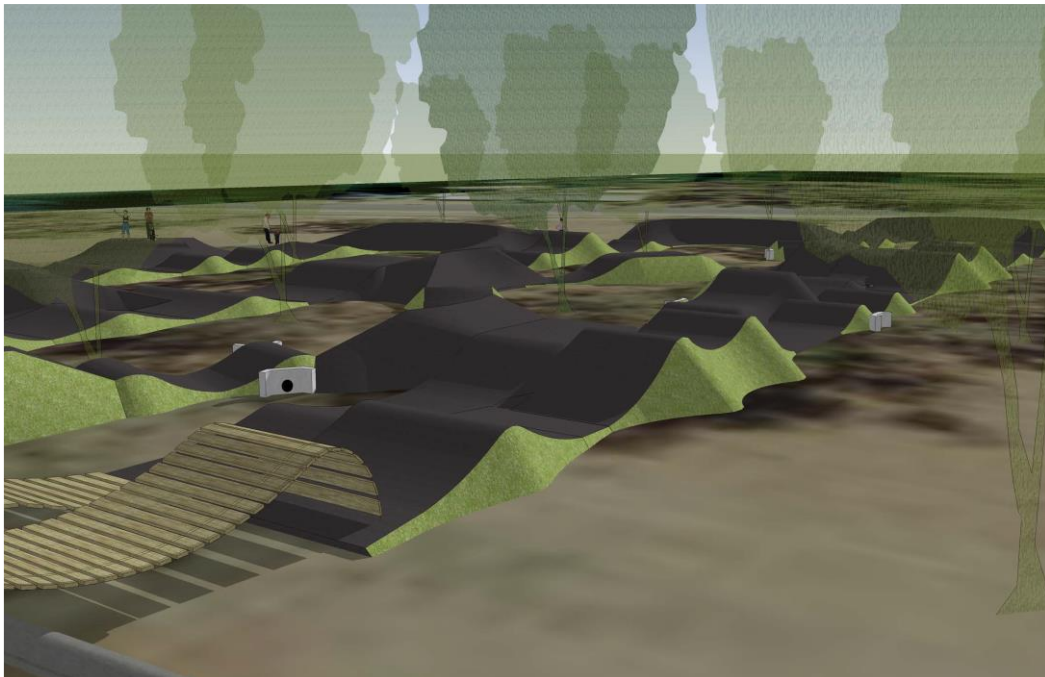
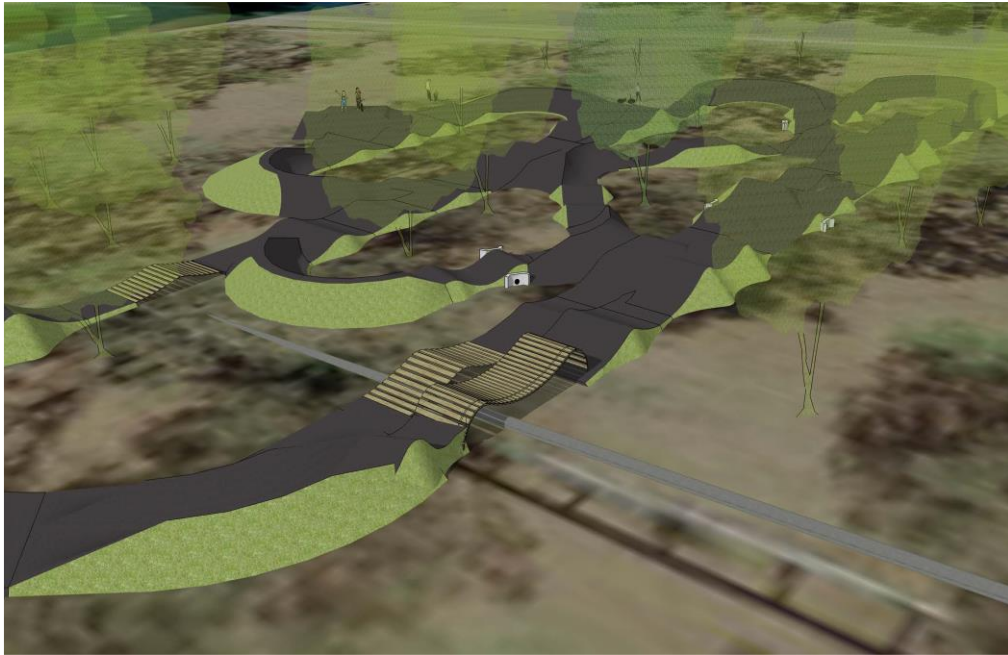
Community project partners have limited funds and will rely on community labour, grants, and donations to build and maintain the proposed track.

Community project partners:

- Kempsey Shire Council (KSC) – land custodian, project management, sourcing funding
- Community Housing Limited (CHL) – Community Liaison, sourcing funding
- West Kempsey Community and Youth – Co-Design of the track, Community Site Management Committee, Bike program.
- Aboriginal liaison officer – NSW police, Kempsey – Community Liaison
- Transport NSW - Bike road safety program funding
- Macleay Valley MTB – Co-design, build, bike program
- Ditz Tracks – Track designers and build contractors
- Rotary – Project support
- Kempsey Neighbourhood Centre – Community Liaison, Initiating bike maintenance program with community.



A Pump track is essentially a rollercoaster path which allows the rider or skater to complete the course essentially without any pedalling or drive.



Bike maintenance and safety program

The outcomes of bike maintenance and safety program aim to provide an opportunity for socially and financially disadvantaged young people to own their own bike and gain skills to maintain a bike, while educating children and young people in West Kempsey community on the importance of road safety and the relevant road rules to reduce cycling accidents, improve physical exercise and wellbeing. Promote cycling as a safe mode of transport for short trips in Kempsey.

- Providing an opportunity for socially and financially disadvantaged young people to own their own bike and gain skills to maintain a bike.
- Develop and reinforce skills used in cycling and apply these skills in relation to road rules and bike safety, relevant to the age of participants.
- Learn to correctly fit and wear a helmet and demonstrate the consequences of not wearing a helmet. All participants will be provided with a culturally appropriate, Australian standards approved helmet.
- Introduction to basic bike maintenance, how to in keep a bike roadworthy e.g. how to change a tyre and how to repair a puncture.

The bike and safety program is supported by Transport NSW who will supply the following at the start of the program and ongoing support around bike safety:

- Bike safety workshops – run by a qualified person engaged by RMS
 - 1. For community members to be trained to do basic bike maintenance, Helmut fitting and rules around bike safety on and near the road, so that they have the skills to sustainably keep the program running.
 - 2. Workshop for children and youth around basic bike maintenance, wearing a helmet and road rules.
- Provide funds towards bike repairs number to be confirmed.
- Equipment- drawstring backpacks, bells (mandatory for bikes), repair kits, pumps, lube, Fluro vests and helmets.

