ALEXANDRA HEADLAND SKATE PARK
FINAL CONCEPT DESIGN REPORT
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Convic Pty Ltd. Acknowledge the contributions of all those who participated in the consultation phase of the Alex Heads Skate Park, including the Sunshine Coast Council staff and residents, community groups and other stakeholders who responded to the various opportunities for input and/or who provided advice and information where required.

KEY DEFINITIONS

Repeated terms and organisational acronyms used throughout this report are defined for clarity as follows:
- SCC - Sunshine Coast Council
- LGA - Local Government Area
- AHSP - Alexandra Headland Skate and BMX facility

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION 01
- Project Context 03

CONCEPTUAL IDEATION 02
- Ideation Flow Diagram 04
- Theme Flow Diagram 05
- Conceptual Ideation Images 06

PRE-DESIGN CONSULTATION 03
- Pre-Design Consultation Techniques 08

DRAFT CONCEPT DESIGNS 04
- Draft Concept Designs 09

DRAFT CONCEPT DESIGN FEEDBACK 05
- Draft Concept Design Consultation 10
- Favoured skate elements 11
- Final Concept Design 11

FINAL CONCEPT DESIGN 06
- Final Concept Design Plan 12
- Perspective 1 - Skate Park Overview 13
- Perspective 2 - Boardwalk and Flow Street 14
- Perspective 3 - Mini Bowl 15
- Perspective 4 - Big Bowl 16
- Perspective 5 - Stage 17

PALETTES AND FURNITURE 07
- Material & Furniture Palette 18
- Planting Palette 19

CONCLUSION 08
- Conclusion 20

PREPARED BY

AECOM + CONVIC

FOR

Sunshine Coast Council
01 - INTRODUCTION

PROJECT CONTEXT

The prospective site presents an opportunity for the Sunshine Coast Council to redevelop their premier skate facility located in an iconic position on the ‘Sunshine Strip’ between Mooloolaba and Maroochydore. Situated in Buhk Family Park between Alexandra Parade and Alexandra Headland Beach, the site is surrounded by numerous shops, hotels, restaurants and activated public space. Easily accessible by both vehicle and public transport from throughout the Sunshine Coast, the facility is accessible to all demographics, providing the Sunshine Coast Council with the opportunity to enhance the public profile of youth within their community.

The combination of existing site features and the proposed redevelopment of the AHSP will create a dynamic and activated central community hub, offering both recreational and social experiences for all members of the community, from day to day usage to larger community events. Once upgraded, this facility will become a key social hub for the youth of the Sunshine Coast and broader South East Queensland community.

The following report briefly summarises the community engagement outcomes developed throughout the pre-design and draft design consultation phases. This report explains how these outcomes ultimately shaped a final concept design that reflects the current community demand and needs of future generations.
02 - CONCEPTUAL IDEATION

A series of desktop and site investigations were undertaken to explore the Sunshine Coast fabric and identity. The exploration of these enable the design of the concept options to reflect the Sunshine coast community, while creating a truly unique design for the AHSP.

ALEXANDRA HEADLAND SKATE PARK

IDEATION FLOW DIAGRAM

- BEACH/SURF CULTURE
- FLOW/MOVEMENT
  - FREE FLOW MOVEMENT
  - CONTROLLED MOVEMENT
- COASTAL PROCESSES
  - WIND
  - OCEAN EROSION
  - CURRENTS
- SURF LIFE SAVING
- SANDSPITS
- HEADLANDS
- STACKS
- PENINSULAS
- SAND ISLANDS
- POINT CARTWRIGHT LIGHTHOUSE CIRCA. 1978
- GREEN BELT
- NATIONAL PARKS
- COASTAL FORESTS
- CANALSCAPE
- WATER TRANSPORTATION
  - BOATS
  - PULLEY SYSTEM
- TIMBER GETTING
- TIMBER MILLING
- BULLOCK TRANSPORTATION
- CEDAR/BEECH/SHE-PINE
- UNDANBI PEOPLE
- RIVERSCAPES
- INLETS
- MANGROVES
- SAND ISLANDS
- ROCKY OUTCROPS
- COFFEE ROCK
- VOLCANIC
- COASTAL PLAINS

ALEXANDRA HEADLAND SKATE PARK
FINAL CONCEPT REPORT
Further consideration into coastal processes has been explored that will inform the generation of a series of design principles. These principles will inform and inspire the AHSP from the design of unique skateable features through to materials.
Seating formations, positioning and shapes are to be influenced by coastal peninsulas. This provides not only prominent and inviting seating opportunities, represented through protruding headlands but also areas of refuge and seclusion, represented through the surrounding peninsula bays.

Coastal shorelines experience a large amount of deposition and sand build up, creating dominant tussock covered landforms. This ideation is applied to the park in the form of planting pockets situated around the park, where abstract shaped planting beds are filled with low shrubs and large coastal tree species.

A coastal erosion influenced stage steps up from the open flat grassland area. Terraced platforms represent multiple layers of eroded rock and function as stages which can be utilised for a diverse range of events or as informal seating.

The concrete walls located around the park are sandblasted with decorative artwork and informative signage, representing caves and caverns which are created through the natural erosion of coastal rock faces.
PAINT + COLOUR WORK

The skate surface of selected junction points of skate features around the park are painted in a smooth, round pooling type fashion. This represents the collection of sediment and sand in enclosed areas of both coastal natural landforms and man made infrastructure.

SHELTER

During large storms the natural chemicals that sit in the shallows of the Alexandra Headland shores become disturbed, creating a large foamy mass which washes ashore. This large foamy mass has influenced the design of the shelter, with large circular overhead covers resembling thick foam.

TREE SPECIES

The planting palette aims to enhance the existing sub-tropical landscape character of the Alexandra Headland foreshore. Plant species have been chosen for their proven ability to withstand the exposed coastal conditions of the site.

ACCESS PATHS

Pathways surrounding the skate park are influenced in function by ocean currents, providing indirect chicanes for safe access in and out of the skate park.
03 - PRE DESIGN CONSULTATION

The consultation process is an integral component of the development of the Alexandra Headland Skate Park. In order to ensure the success and longevity of this key community asset it is essential to engage with the future users of the space. A number of different consultation techniques have been undertaken with the community. These techniques include:

PRE-DESIGN STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS
Workshops with key community stakeholders were undertaken on Friday the 6th of May to draw on local knowledge from members of the community that are directly and constantly involved with the skate, BMX, scooter and inline industry. This enables a better understanding of user needs through people engrainged within the local culture while establishing relationships with key community figures.

PRE-DESIGN COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS
A number of workshops were held on Saturday the 7th of May at the Alex Head Surf Life Saving Club. These workshop sessions aimed to build a sense of community among users and are a useful tool to seek the opinions, needs and desires of small groups allowing varying contributions and ideas to build a community driven design vision for the AHSP. Questionnaires were used to build user profiles that help to understand user requirements through current habits.

ONLINE SURVEYS
An online survey was created to capture a broader catchment of the community that were unable to attend the pre-design workshops. This survey was open for a two week period and received an overwhelming response with 189 completed surveys being received. These results provided further user profiles and comments to understand user requirements.
Two concept options were designed after the Pre-Design consultation, this ensured that the communities input was expressed through the designs whilst maintaining a holistic approach, ensuring that both designs were integrated into the existing Alexandra Headland beach foreshore and Buhk Family Park precinct in the most effective way possible.

The two concept options were designed to offer facilities of different typologies, which allowed for community members and stakeholders the opportunity to provide more detailed feedback on the features and elements that they want to be included within the facility’s final design.

**DRAFT CONCEPT DESIGN 01**

The design of concept one aims to incorporate and refurbish the existing half pipe. This will be supported with the inclusion of a 4ft mini bowl and a number of street runs offering a series of varying features influenced by typical urban streetscapes.

The design has been fully integrated into the already developed Buhk Family Park and foreshore offering seating opportunities for skate park users and pedestrians, providing natural and built shade and offering a stage for community events.

**DRAFT CONCEPT DESIGN 02**

Concept two includes a split level competition bowl, with a depth of 6ft – 8ft and a 9ft extension that is unique to the Sunshine Coast. This bowl is supported by a combination style park that appeals to both the street and transition user.

A stage located underneath the shoe tree offers the opportunity for both skate and community events to take place within the precinct while seating and shade is provided along existing shared path networks.
DRAFT CONCEPT DESIGN CONSULTATION

An open Draft Design Community Consultation was held on the 5th and 6th of August 2016 at the Alexandra Headland Surf Life Saving Club. This gave local and greater regional community members an opportunity to comment on the Draft Concept Designs. In addition to this an online survey was released over social media, allowing for community members who were not able to make the consultation the opportunity to have their input.

The purpose of this consultation and online survey was to identify which of the two concept designs was the preferred, why this was and which elements of the design were favoured over others.

Community members had the opportunity to have further input into the design of the park, with group drawing workshops allowing for the experimentation of ideas and issues through communication and design.

A stakeholders consultation was held with the relevant local parties, this was to inform them on how the newly refurbished Alexandra Headland Skate Park would influence them and gave them an opportunity to have input into the design, as to ensure the new park would best work with the local businesses and community.

DRAFT DESIGN OPTION 01

TOTAL VOTES: 51

DRAFT DESIGN OPTION 02

TOTAL VOTES: 75
Acknowledging the diversity of current user styles, the designs incorporated a number of different ridable elements and features to provide continued skill progression for beginners through to the more experienced users.

Features that were most popular amongst the community groups included a deep enclosed bowl, mini ramp, ledges, rails, A-Frames, china and flat banks, kickers, euro gaps, fun box, moguls/volcanoes, small and high quarters.

The below word cloud indicates the most favoured features in the largest text.

The information gathered from the questionnaires, community consultation and online survey have been used as the foundation for the development of both draft concept designs into one final community reflective concept design.

The development of the facility continues to maintain the existing design ideation of natural processes as the key driving theme, as this was identified as important by the community to ensure the design creates a sense of place through the acknowledgement of the local community identity and context.

The final concept design offers a number of social opportunities to ensure a central community space is developed with comfort for users and spectators. The provision of areas for refuge and natural and built shade will be maintained within the final concept design, allowing for informal seating and picnic opportunities. The inclusion of a multi-purpose stage area will provide ongoing activation potential for community events and workshops while changes in level and the inclusion of a number of walls form a canvas for theming interpretation.

A wide range of user typologies and user levels will be catered for within the final design and include the most favoured features of both designs, including a large bowl, small mini ramp/bowl and multiple street runs including: pole jams, down rails, hubbas, banks, ledges and kickers.
ALEXANDRA HEADLAND SKATE PARK
FINAL CONCEPT REPORT

06 - FINAL CONCEPT DESIGN

LEGEND

SKATE WORKS
01 Ledge 400H
02 Deep Bowl 2400H (8ft) with 2700H (9ft) extension
03 1800H (6ft) shallow end
04 Mini Bowl 1200H (4ft)
05 Bank to Hydrant 300H
06 Bank with Hubba + Rail 450H
07 Pole Jam into Bank
08 Rail on wall
09 Kicker to kicker with Rail
10 Banked Hip 750H
11 Quarter Pipe 900H (3ft)
12 Love Seat in quarter pipe
13 Quarter Pipe 1500H (5ft)
14 Hubba and Stair set

LANDSCAPE WORKS
15 Multi-purpose Stage with Shade Structure
16 Seating
17 Rubbish Bins
18 Drinking Fountain
19 Access Ramp
20 Signage Walls
21 Shade Trees
PERSPECTIVE 2 - BOARDWALK AND FLOW STREET
PERSPECTIVE 3 - MINI BOWL

ALEXANDRA HEADLAND SKATE PARK
FINAL CONCEPT REPORT

ALEXANDRA HEADLAND SKATE PARK
FINAL CONCEPT REPORT

15

REV C
PERSPECTIVE 4 - BIG BOWL
MATERIAL & FURNITURE PALETTE

Materials have been selected to reflect the coastal processes ideation ensuring the site integrates into the local landscape character of the site.

Furniture has been selected to compliment the conceptual ideation of the AHSP creating aesthetically pleasing visual connections to the sites surrounding landscape palette.

01 Custom shade structure
02 Fibre reinforced plastic stage decking
03 Textural pattern in vertical faces
04 Grass batters
05 Stained concrete finish
06 Stainless steel drinking fountain
07 Rubbish bins
08 Indigenous plant species of coastal landscape character
09 Sports level lighting
10 Sandblasted concrete detailing
11 Custom concrete bench seating
The planting palette aims to enhance the existing sub-tropical landscape character of the Alexandra Headland foreshore. Plant species have been chosen for their proven ability to withstand the exposed coastal conditions of the site.

Trees have been selected to provide varying scale and build a canopy structure to provide natural shade over the proposed facility while grasses and shrubs will be used in large swaths, providing a movement that reflects the activity within the skate park and the natural landscape character.

- **Banksia integrifolia** (Coast Banksia)
- **Pandanus tectorius** (Tahitian Screwpin)
- **Ficus microcarpa** (Green Island)
- **Crinum pedunculatum** (Swamp Lily)
- **Melaleuca pachyphylla** (Wallum Bottlebrush)
- **Westringia fruticosa** (Coastal Rosemary)
- **Banksia spinulosa** (Coastal Cushion)
- **Carpobrotus glaucescens** (Pig Face)
- **Casuarina glaucescens** (Cousin It)
- **Hibbertia scandens** (Golden Guinea Vine)
- **Ipomoea pes-caprae** (Beach Morning Glory)
- **Lomandra confertifolia** (Seascape)
- **Melaleuca thymifolia** (Thyme Honey Myrtle)
- **Scaevola albida** (White Fan Flower)
08 - CONCLUSION

CONCLUSION

The final concept design will meet current user needs and demands while allowing for use by future generations. The facility comprises of both a street and transition style resulting in a central active hub for all user types and disciplines.

The final concept design responds to the strong local and natural character of the region to create a unique and site specific response for the Alexandra Headland Skate Park. Overlaying an integrated landscape response, a simple and evocative material palette onto a highly functional skate layout creates an activated space that is an unique addition into the revitalisation of the Buhk Family Park.

The final concept design responds to its inherent central location and ensures seamless beach connections and legible circulation with natural and passive surveillance across, into and through the entire site.

The final concept design creates an unique, iconic, creative and contextually responsive, multi-generational, all ability, mixed skill level facility that is activated through the use of its spaces for community organised events.