

City of Greater Geraldton

Beresford Foreshore Community Workshop Report

May 2016

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Beresford Foreshore Community Workshop

The Beresford Foreshore Community Workshop was held on Saturday 14 May 2016 and was attended by 36 members of the community ranging from 25 to 85 years of age.

The purpose of the workshop was to:

To recommend a priority list of facilities or amenities and their location along the Foreshore to be included in the Beresford Foreshore Protection and Enhancement Project.

Project Background

City of Greater Geraldton CEO Ken Diehm started the workshop by providing a brief background on the Beresford Foreshore Coastal protection and Enhancement Project.

Background information included:

- Project began 7 years ago
- Multi-Agency Working Group established by Minister for Transport worked together to develop the concept designs for an engineered solution to protect the Beresford Foreshore
- \$55M state and local government infrastructure located in Chapman Road need to be protected
- Council endorsed the Working Group's Concept Plan in 2012
- Council endorsed the Detailed Design Plan in October 2015
- \$22M project has secured funding from:
 - Royalties for Regions \$4.325M
 - Mid West Investment Fund \$1M
 - Mid West Port Authority \$4M
- Department of Transport has made a funding submission to State government to cover the remaining costs
- Council allocated \$1.85M for base level amenities on the Beresford Foreshore
- Additional landscaping and amenities have potential to be staged over the longer term

The Engineering Solution

To ensure participants understood how the Beresford Foreshore engineering solution will reduce the risk of further coastal erosion and the public open spaces it will create a short presentation on the Engineering Solution was made by Acting Manager Engineering Services Michael Dufour. The presentation highlighted the options that were considered to reduce the risk of coastal erosion and included diagrams and cross section drawings of the breakwaters and revetments and along the Foreshore area.

A concept design for the amenities for the Beresford Foreshore was then shown to participants and a list of base level amenity for Midalia's Beach that has been included in the business case seeking additional funding to construct the Beresford Foreshore Engineering Solution was also presented.

Base level amenity includes the following:

Midalia's Beach	The 'Palm'
Amenity planting and beach access	Shared use path
Car park, Toilet, Hardstand area	Lighting to shared use path
Play area	Bollards to Chapman Road
Shade structures (4), BBQs (2), Benches (6), Picnic Settings (3), Bins (2), Showers (2), Bike Racks (10), Drinking Fountains (2)	Some dune planting

The Beresford Foreshore Community Survey

Four weeks prior to the workshop the City conducted the Beresford Foreshore Community Survey. The survey was available either online or in hardcopy at the Civic Centre, Geraldton Regional Library and Aquarena. The survey was responded to by 161 members of the community (see Appendix 1, page 6, for full survey results). Overall comments made in the survey suggested the Foreshore be continued for passive recreation use. Some reoccurring themes in the survey included:

- Widening of pathway for cyclists and non-cyclists
- Shade structures or trees along the entire length of the foreshore
- Benches along the entire length of the Foreshore pathway
- Grassed areas for relaxing and/or family get togethers
- Don't over commercialise the area
- Toilet block at the south end of the Foreshore
- Group activities should be encouraged
- Noisy activities not allowed (i.e. boats or Jetskies)
- Maintain the views

There were also a number of other suggestions made in regard to improvements to Chapman Road which have been noted.

- More pedestrian crossings on Chapman Road
- Traffic calming treatments on Chapman Road
- Underground power on Chapman Road
- Direct access to Midalia's Beach from Chapman Road

Prioritising Amenities

The Beresford Foreshore Community Survey identified 36 amenities or facilities that would improve the Beresford Foreshore. The following table shows the 15 most mentioned amenities or facilities that would improve the Beresford Foreshore.

Amenity or Facility	
Toilet block	Upgraded playground
Shaded seating/tables	Food/drink outlet
Shade structures	Improved pathway (wider)
Drink fountains/dog bowls	Adequate carpark including caravans
Benches along the foreshore	Beach lookout/boardwalks/fishing jetties
Larger grassed areas	Rubbish bins/dog poo disposal bins
BBQs	Exercise equipment stations
Trees/coastal plantings	

Workshop participants were asked to review the amenities list and identify any further amenities or facilities to be included. Four suggestions were made however these were not added to the list rather they will be investigated as part of the final design process. These suggestions were:

- Planting trees in car parks for shade
- Ensuring suitability of trees for the Foreshore is taken into consideration
- Planting natives rather than exotic trees
- Lighting should take into consideration light pollution and be eco friendly
- To ensure disabled access

Participants were then given the complete list of amenities and asked to choose 15 amenities or facilities they valued or thought the community they represent would value the most by placing a tick beside them. They were also asked to identify one amenity or facility as their overall top priority by placing a star beside it.

Each participant was then given 15 yellow coloured dots and one blue coloured dot and were asked to go to one of four enlarges amenities lists hanging on the walls and place one dot beside each of the 15 amenities/facilities they chose. They were also asked to place the blue dot beside their top priority amenity/facility. The results were collated and the prioritised list was then presented to participants.

List of Prioritised Amenities

Amenity or Facility	Rank	Top Priority	Percentage
Improved pathway	1	7	95%
More trees/coastal plantings	2	6	89%
Shaded seating/tables	3	2	89%
Shade structures	4	2	86%
Rubbish bins/dog poo disposal bins	5		86%
Disabled access	6		72%
BBQs	7		72%
Drink fountains/dog bowls	8		67%
Beach lookout/boardwalks/fishing jetties	9	6	61%
Larger grassed areas	10		58%
Bike racks	11		58%
Additional toilet block	12	5	56%
Adequate car parking (caravans)	13		44%
Benches along the foreshore	14		44%
Tree lined pathway	15		42%
Improved lighting at Midalia's Beach	16		42%
Off lead area for dog exercising	17		42%
Upgraded playground	18		42%
CCTV	19	1	33%
Artificial reefs	20		31%
Public art/sculpture trail	21		25%
Ocean bath/pool	22	4	22%
Signage (i.e. fitness, cycle etiquette, interpretive)	23		22%
Exercise equipment stations	24	1	14%
Boat ramp	25	1	8%
Surf Life Saving station	26		8%
Fence along Chapman Road	27		8%
Beach volleyball	28		6%
Food/drink outlet	29		6%
Fish cleaning station	30		3%
Powered outdoor performance space	31		0%
hall with deck	32		0%
Skate/BMX Park	33		0%
Rage Cage	34		0%
Hire shops for sporting equipment	35		0%
Maypole	36		0%

Mapping out Amenity Locations

The final part of the workshop involved participants working together at their tables to determine where the amenities/facilities should be located on the Beresford Foreshore.

Each table was given two A1 sized maps. One of Midalia's Beach and the other of the remaining Foreshore area called the 'Palm'.

Participants were asked to discuss and decide the best location for the prioritised amenities along the Beresford Foreshore. They could draw or label the maps and add written comments or explanations regarding their choices (see Appendix 2, page 12, to view maps from each table).



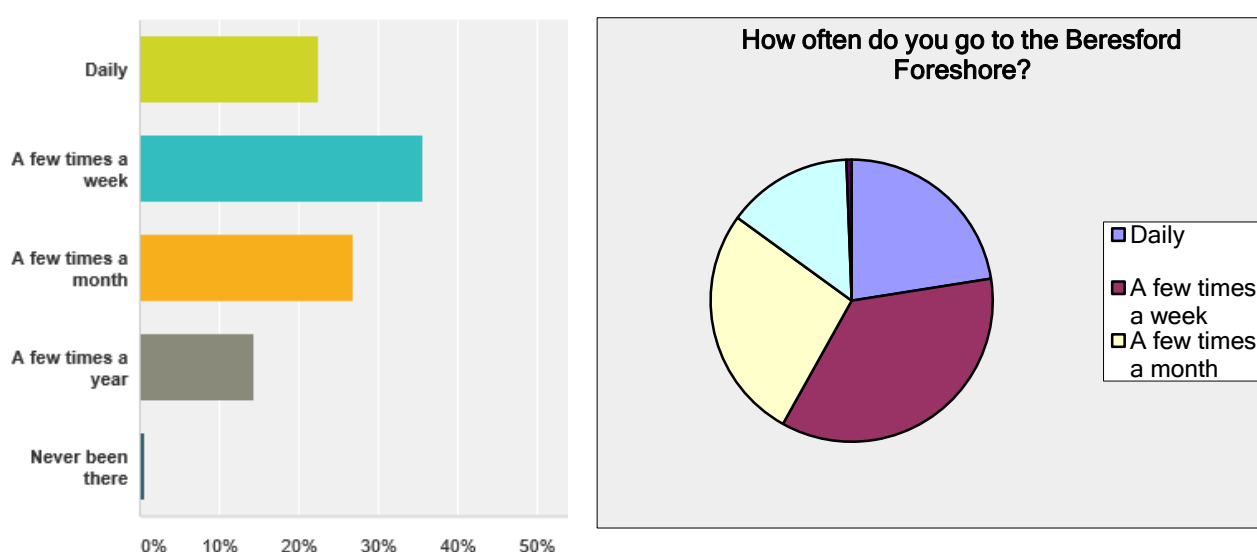
APPENDIX 1

Beresford Foreshore Community Survey Results

The Beresford Foreshore Community Survey was conducted from 12 April to 10 May 2016. The survey was conducted both online using a platform called SurveyMonkey and with hardcopies available at the City Civic Centre, Geraldton Regional Library and the Aquarena.

The survey was responded to by 161 people producing the following results.

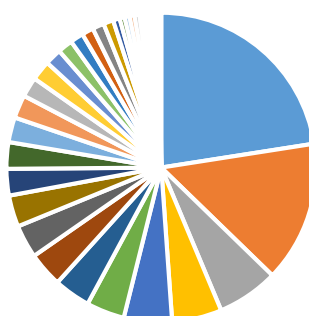
Question 1: How often do you go to the Beresford Foreshore?



Question 2: What do you do at the Beresford Foreshore or see other people doing there?

Activity	No. of responses
walking/jogging/running on footpath	130
swimming	86
bike riding/cycling on footpath	64
stand up paddle boarding	37
picnics	30
fishing/lobster or cray fishing	29
parties/family get togethers/socialising/weddings	23
walking dogs	22
snorkelling	21
exercising	20
walking on beach/beach combing	20
BBQs	16
triathlon	16
sitting in sheltered areas/grassed areas/relaxing	15
children playing in the playground	14

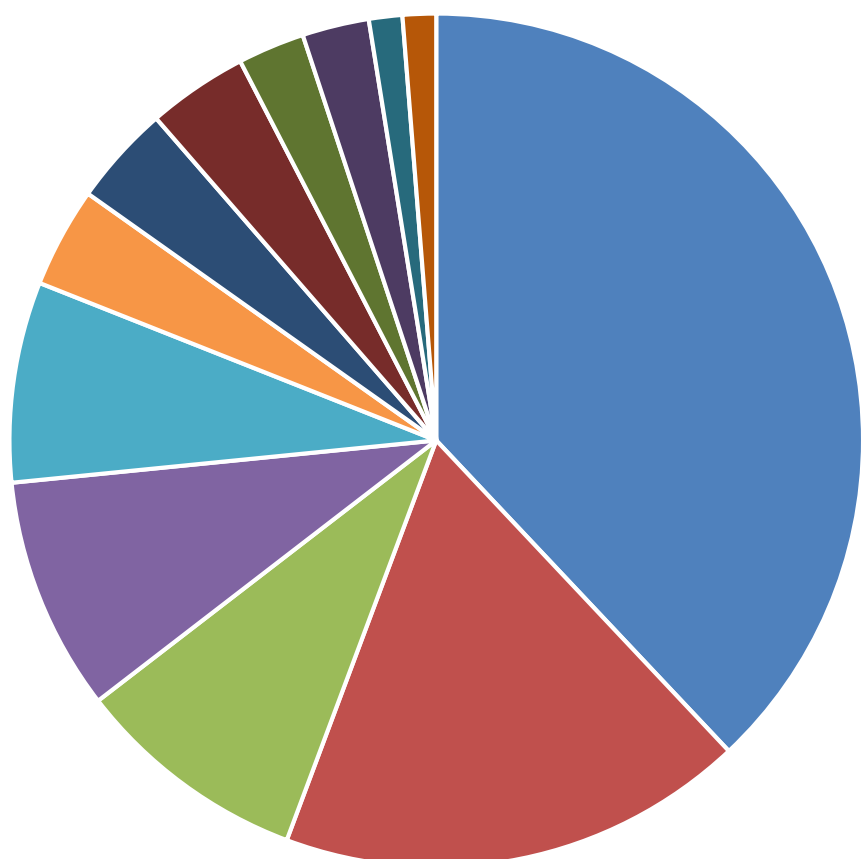
taking in the view/enjoying the scenery	12
surfing/wind surfing/kite surfing	12
diving	10
going to the beach/building sand castles/sun bathing	9
boating/jet skies	8
fitness groups being active/exercising	7
watching the sunset	7
kayaking	7
sailing	4
walking on reef/wading in water	3
inline skating/skateboarding on the footpath	3
pushing prams	3
reading	3
photography/painting backdrop	2
spear fishing	2
canoeing	2
events	2
going out on the groyne	1
watching fireworks	1
people watching	1
commuting	1
wheelchair athletics	1



- walking/jogging/running on footpath
- swimming
- stand up paddleboarding
- picnics
- fishing/lobster or cray fishing
- parties/get togethers/socialising/weddings
- walking dogs
- snorkeling
- exercising
- walking on beach/beach combing
- BBQs

Question 3: What other kinds of activities SHOULD take place at the Beresford Foreshore?

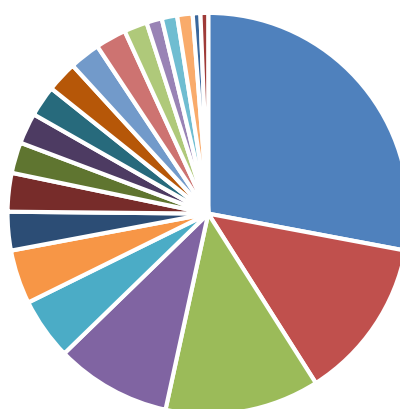
Activity	No. of responses
Picnics/BBQing	31
Children's activities/playground	14
Exercise classes	7
Sporting equipment hire/lessons	7
Food/drink outlets	6
Cricket/playing ball/giant chess board	3
More disabled access	3
Tours NRM/Aboriginal/glass bottom boat	3
Small events	2
Beachside markets	2
Beach volleyball	1
Inflatable ocean playground	1



- Picnicing/BBQing
- Children's activities/playground
- Exercise classes
- Sporting equipment hire/lessons
- Food/drink outlets
- Cricket/playing ball/giant chess board
- More disabled access
- Tours NRM/Aboriginal/glass bottom boat
- Small events
- Beachside markets
- Beach volleyball
- Inflatable ocean playground

Question 4: What kinds of activities SHOULD NOT take place at the Beresford Foreshore?

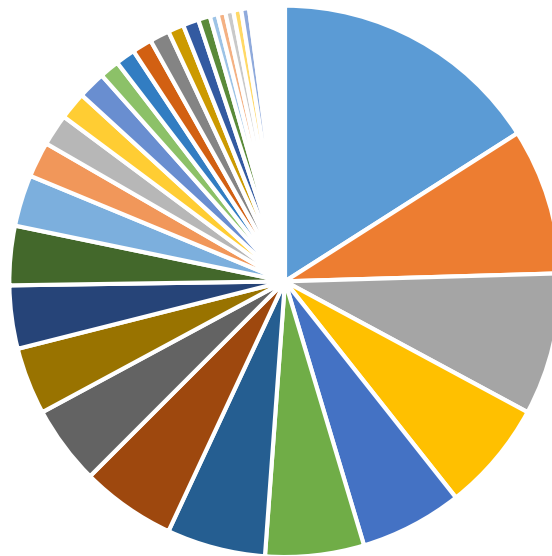
Activity	No. of responses
Vehicles or motor bikes on the beach	21
Commercial/retail businesses/development	20
Public drinking	15
Boat access or boat launch	8
Dogs on the beach	8
Water/amusement parks	5
Skate/BMX park	5
Toilet blocks	4
BBQing	4
Camping	4
Playground	4
Buildings of any kind	4
Food/drink outlet	4
Field/court based sports	3
Large events	2
Swimming/surfing	2
New parking	2
Horse riding	1
Large events	1



- Boats/jetskies
- Commercial/retail businesses/development
- Boat access or boat launch
- Water/amusement parks
- Toilet blocks
- Camping
- Buildings of any kind
- Field/court based sports
- Swimming/surfing
- Horse riding
- Vehicles or motor bikes on the beach
- Public drinking
- Dogs on the beach
- Skate/BMX park
- BBQing
- Playground
- Food/drink outlet
- Large events
- New parking
- Large events

Question 5: What types of facilities or amenities should be included at the Beresford Foreshore?

Amenity or Facility	No. of responses
Toilet block	69
Shaded seating/tables	37
Shade structures	36
Drink fountains/dog bowls	28
Benches along the foreshore	26
Larger grassed areas	25
BBQs	25
Trees/coastal plantings	24
Upgraded playground	20
Food/drink outlet	17
Improved pathway (wider)	16
Adequate carparks including caravans	15
Beach lookout/boardwalks/fishing jetties	13
Rubbish bins/dog poo disposal bins	9
Exercise equipment stations	8
Disabled Access	7
Signage (keeping fit, cycle etiquette, historical, interpretive)	7
Bike racks	5
Better pedestrian crossing/access from Chapman Road	5
Public art/ sculpture trail	5
Tree lined pathway	5
Improved lighting at Midalia's Beach	4
Artificial Reefs (sink Yellow submarine)	4
CCTV/security	3
Beach volleyball	2
Fish cleaning station	2
Hire shops for sporting equipment	2
Boat Ramp	2
Surf Life Savings Station	2
Maypole	1
Fence along Chapman Road	1
Stake/BMX park	1
Off lead area for dog exercising	1
Ocean bath/pool	1
Powered outdoor performance space	1
Hall with deck	1
Traffic calming on Chapman Road	1
Rage Cage	1



- Toilet block
- Shaded seating/tables
- Shade structures
- Drink fountains/dog bowls
- Benches along the foreshore
- Larger grassed areas
- BBQs
- Trees/coastal plantings
- Upgraded playground
- Food/drink outlet
- Improved pathway (wider)
- Adequate carparks including caravans
- Beach lookout/boardwalks/fishing jetties
- Rubbish bins/dog poo disposal bins
- Exercise equipment stations
- Disabled Access

General Comments

- Pathway needs widening to accommodate cyclists and non-cyclists
- More shade along the entire length of the foreshore (structures or trees)
- More benches along the entire length of the Foreshore pathway
- More grassed areas for relaxing and/or family get togethers
- Don't over commercialise the area
- A toilet block at the south end of the Foreshore
- More group activities should be encouraged
- No noisy activities should be allowed (i.e. boats, Jetskies, motorbikes)
- Maintain the views

APPENDIX 2

Maps of Amenities/Facilities

Table 1



Table 2



Table 2



Table 3



Table 3



Table 4



Table 4



Table 5



Table 5



Table 6



Table 7



Table 7



Table 8



