

Project News

Meridan Downs Park Disc Golf Proposal

November 2020

Meridan Downs Park - Disc Golf Course Proposal

Extension to community engagement

Summary

As you may be aware, council previously invited comment on the proposed addition of disc golf infrastructure (a nine-hole disc golf course) within Meridan Downs Park over three weeks from 24/06/2020 – 17/07/2020.

Council thanks all those who completed a survey and provided valuable feedback as part of the initial consultation. While a number of responses were received (both for and against the project), council is now providing further information in relation to some concerns raised and would like to specifically hear what residents in the immediate vicinity of the park feel about the proposal. Council is proposing to conduct an initial three-year trial for disc golf infrastructure in the park, and this will be subject to review after this three-year period.

Disc golf is a growing family-friendly, fun, all-inclusive sport and Meridan Downs Park has been identified as an ideal location for a nine-hole course. A course on the Sunshine Coast would provide a new recreational opportunity

for the community while providing an avenue for social interaction among people of all ages in a safe and healthy outdoor environment.

Council invites your further feedback on the proposed location at Meridan Downs Park.

What is disc golf?

Disc golf is played with similar rules to that of traditional golf. Players throw a disc (that looks like a frisbee) from a designated tee to an elevated metal basket to complete each “hole” in the least number of throws. The winner is determined by the player who completes the course in the fewest number of throws.



A note from your local councillor

I'm confident most residents appreciate the merits of adding new recreational activities, but council is keen to hear the views of the local community.

By responding to this survey, council can consider the feedback and level of support from residents within the immediate vicinity of Meridan Downs Park.

I encourage you to have a chat with your neighbours, to ensure clear, representative community feedback on the proposal is received.

Regards,
Cr Rick Baberowski, Division 1

Disc golf course details

For the purpose of seeking community feedback, Sunshine Coast Disc Golf Club has developed a course design (refer to *Figure 3 below*) for Meridan Downs Park.

The design features a nine-basket course that utilises the open, natural wooded areas of the park. The course orientates tee pads and baskets away from footpaths in order to avoid potential conflicts with other park users.

The course consists of disc golf infrastructure including the following:

- **An information sign** – outlining course map and rules (*Figure 2 below*)
- **Tee signs** – a sign at each launch point (*Figure 1 below*)
- **Tee pads** – fixed, flat in-ground marker or 1.5m x 2.5m concrete pad for each launch point.
- **Disc catcher basket** – fixed, aluminium disc baskets on steel posts.

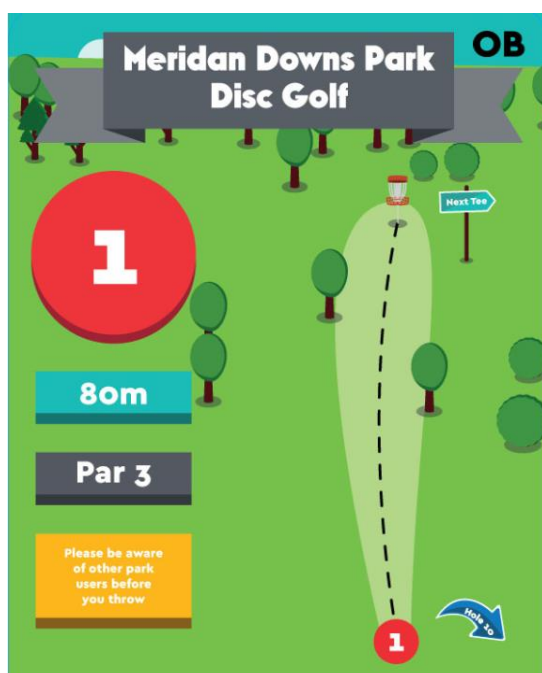


Figure 1 - Example tee sign

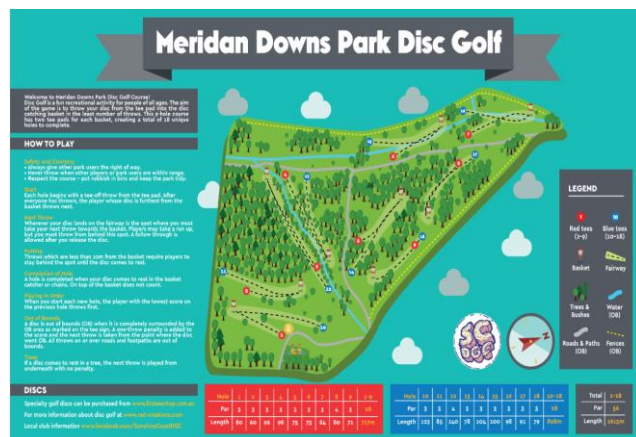


Figure 2 - Example information sign

There were a few questions raised through feedback from the initial survey. Some information relating to these enquiries, along with an update for each, are listed below for reference:

1. Dog Off-Leash Area

Meridan Downs Park is currently a dog off-leash area under the Local Laws Act.

It is important to note that council **is not** proposing to remove or change in any way the current dog off-leash provisions for Meridan Downs Park. This site will remain a dog off-leash park. Council **will not** be fencing off any portion of this park due to disc golf infrastructure and the park will remain fully accessible at all times as it currently is.

2. Safety at the Ridgewood Rd/ Caloundra Rd Intersection

Safety concerns were raised regarding potential for additional traffic at the Caloundra Rd/Ridgewood Rd intersection. Since undertaking the original consultation and survey for this project, further information has been made available regarding an upgrade at this particular intersection.

Queensland's Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) are currently planning for traffic light installation at this intersection to improve safety for vehicles turning in and out of Ridgewood Road.

Detailed design for the project is expected to be completed early 2021, with construction to commence mid-2021.

Further project details and updates, along with the concept design can be found via the

following website link: [Caloundra/ Ridgewood Road intersection upgrade](#)

3. Parking & Congestion

There are two entrances to the park that are currently positioned off Winchester Road. Close to each entrance, approximately 12 vehicles can be accommodated without having to be parked outside of resident's houses. The surrounding streets of Meridan Downs Park have been designed to accommodate both parked vehicles and regular traffic movements without impeding the general flow of traffic within the immediate area.

The Sunshine Coast Disc Golf Club has been hosting casual, once-per-month social games at Meridan Downs Park over the last few years and council has not received any complaints during this time relating to increased traffic and the parking of vehicles. The club strongly encourages its players to carpool which continues to work very effectively.

'Come & Try Day'

Members of the Sunshine Coast Disc Golf Club will be hosting a 'Come & Try Day' on **Saturday 12th December, 2020 from 9-11am** where local

residents can come along to the park and see what disc golf activity is all about. This provides a chance for any concerns from local residents to be addressed in person and specific questions to be answered by club members on the day.

Have your say

Council is seeking further feedback from residents within close proximity to Meridan Downs Park (see right) regarding the proposed introduction of a nine-hole disc golf course.

Your views and feedback regarding this proposal is essential to help shape the future of Meridan Downs Park.

Please provide your feedback by completing the [online survey](#) or alternatively you can complete this form and return it via post to:

Meridan Downs Park Disc Golf Proposal

Att: Sports Planning & Development

Sunshine Coast Council

Locked Bag 72, Sunshine Coast Mail Centre, Qld, 4560.

Submissions close **5pm, Tuesday 22 December 2020.**

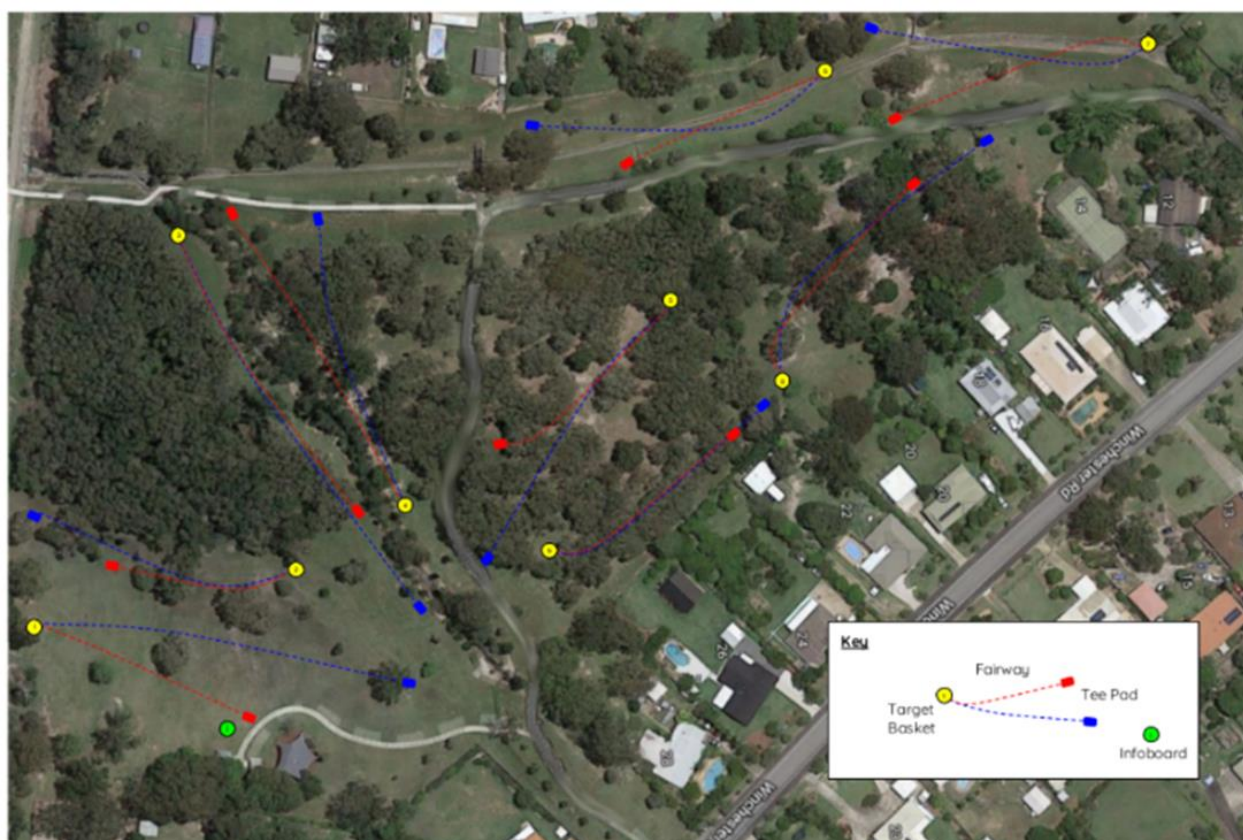


Figure 3 - Meridan Downs Park Disc Golf (nine-hole design layout)

Questionnaire

Q1. Have you already completed a survey through *Have Your Say* as part of the initial consultation for this proposal?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Q2. What is your address/street?

If you do not wish to provide your address or street in which you live, please confirm you live within the local resident area as specified below in blue (*Figure 4*)

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

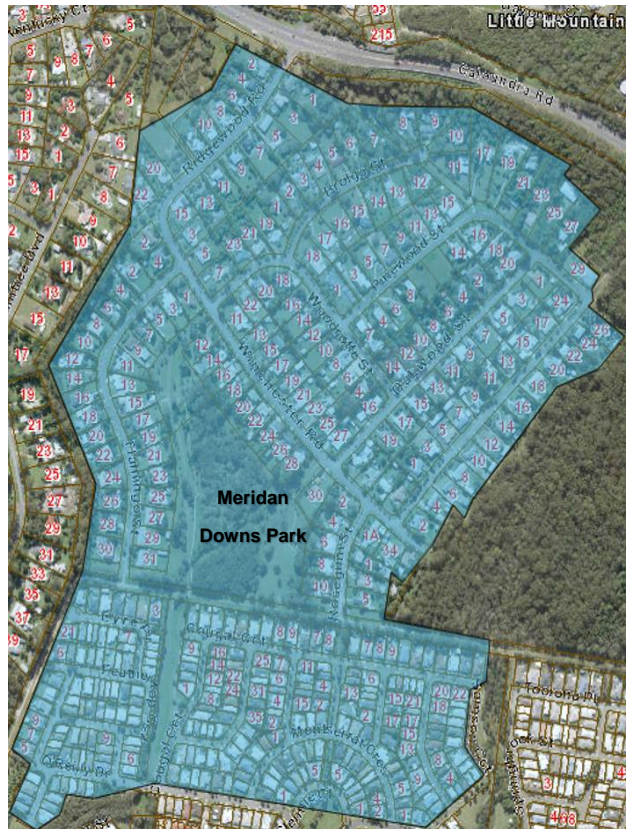


Figure 4 - Local resident area map

Q3. Please specify your age group below

- ☐ Under 20
- ☐ 20-35
- ☐ 36-50
- ☐ 51-65
- ☐ 66+

Q4. How often do you use Meridan Downs Park?

- ☐ Daily
- ☐ Weekly
- ☐ Monthly
- ☐ Rarely

Q5. When using the park, what activities do you like to do?

- ☐ Exercising dog off-leash
- ☐ Walking / Running
- ☐ Picnicking
- ☐ Barbecuing
- ☐ Ball throwing/kicking
- ☐ Recreational activities with children
- ☐ Other (*please specify below*)

Q6. Do you support the installation of the proposed disc golf course in Meridan Downs Park for an initial three-year trial period?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Please provide your reasons why/why not:

Q7. Do you have any other comments regarding the proposed disc golf course?

Where to from here?

Council will review feedback in order to better understand the local residents' views on this proposal.

Updates regarding the project will be posted on council's website.

Further information

If you have any questions or require further information regarding this project, please contact council's Sport & Recreation Officer on (07) 5441 8353 or via email

sportrec@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au