

Stakeholder Update - May 2021

Dromana Pier Future Planning – Community Consultation Report Released

Dromana Pier is approaching the end of its design life. Parks Victoria engaged with the community to gain feedback to help inform a future design and support future decision making.

About the pier

Originally built in the 1860s and extended in the 1870s, Dromana Pier on the Mornington Peninsula was the second longest pier in Port Phillip. In the 1950s it became unsafe and was replaced with a much shorter (186m) concrete pier. This pier remains popular for fishing, walking, and swimming, with the occasional recreational boater stopping to visit.

The pier currently is open to the public but is nearing the end of its design life. Parks Victoria is engaging with the community to explore potential future options that will allow the pier to continue to provide community amenity. Early community input towards design development will help guide future pier planning.

Consultation overview

Parks Victoria engaged with community and stakeholders over nine weeks from 6 November 2020 until 13 January 2021 to gain feedback on design options for the pier. Prior to this, Parks Victoria and Cardno Victoria Pty Ltd held a targeted stakeholder workshop on 25 February 2020, using the ideas generated to create three concept options for a rebuilt pier. A report summarising the outcomes of community consultation was released in April 2021.

What was presented

Three designs for the pier were presented, each offering facilities and design elements which support existing and new recreational activities and enhance lighting, seating, fishing, boating and accessibility.

- Option One: The maintenance of the current design, with some improved facilities.
- Option Two: A “T” shaped pier head providing more space for recreational activities, such as fishing and sightseeing.

- Option Three: A series of circular platforms, providing better shelter and seating.

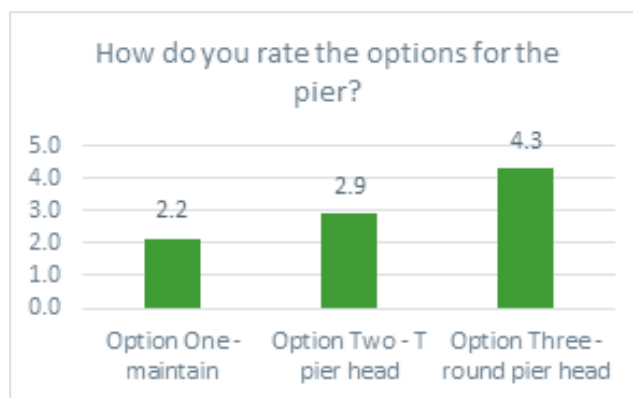
Who we heard from

- 65% of the responses received came from the local community (Dromana and the Mornington Peninsula).
- 41% of respondents said they visit the pier weekly.
- 53% of respondents said they stay for 10-20 minutes.
- Almost half of the respondents said the main reason for visit was walking (46%).

What we heard

Respondents told us that the pier is an important feature of Dromana. There is a strong desire for the design to be unique to Dromana and support the range of existing and new recreational activities. There is support for improving the service offer by providing more seating, lighting, access to water, fishing rod holders and boating access.

The survey was designed to gauge the preference of the respondents in regard to each option, not a “vote” for the preferred option. The following table provides the average score of the options (scale of 1 to 5 with 5 being “love it”).



Next steps

Parks Victoria thanks members of the community who have provided feedback into this planning project.

Parks Victoria will use this valuable community feedback to evaluate and refine the design options to ensure we have a sound basis for ongoing consideration by the government. Some of the comments received highlight the need for further technical investigations and statutory approvals.

There is no current commitment from Parks Victoria to a preferred design or construction. Parks Victoria will continue to monitor the existing pier's condition to ensure community safety while future planning is undertaken.

Frequently asked questions

What is the purpose of developing future options for Dromana Pier?

The current concrete pier at Dromana was built in 1959 and although it currently remains adequate to continue to serve the needs of the community, Parks Victoria is exploring options to inform future planning. To plan for the future and ensure a design caters for community needs, Parks Victoria is investigating a number of options. Local insights and community feedback help to inform the options.

Is there a preferred design?

There is no current commitment from Parks Victoria to a preferred design or construction. Community input is a key component of initial project planning and these findings will help to inform the design and guide future funding priorities. The feedback obtained will guide final decision making regarding a preferred option, which will inform future planning.

When will the new pier be built at Dromana?

Parks Victoria is undertaking a long-term planning process to help inform a decision around a future pier. At this stage there is no decision on when changes to the pier will be made.

Parks Victoria will continue to monitor the pier's condition in the meantime to ensure it remains safe for community use.

Further information

To view the design options and Consultation Summary Report visit engage.vic.gov.au or call Parks Victoria on **13 1963**.



Dromana Pier - low landing looking back to foreshore