

FACT SHEET

Hawley Esplanade Foreshore Shared Pathway Project

- Path Materials Update -

Latrobe Council proposes to deliver a shared pathway along the foreshore at Hawley. The Hawley Esplanade Foreshore Shared Pathway will be around 1.45 kilometres spanning from the Port Sorell Surf Life Saving Club to Vine Street, Hawley Beach, off Hawley Esplanade.

The path will have health and wellbeing benefits for users, and it will provide a safe and inclusive place to move among and enjoy the area's beautiful natural values.

This fact sheet provides information on materials proposed to be used for the shared pathway.

COMMUNITY INPUT

Latrobe Council seeks and values community input to our infrastructure projects.

For the proposed Hawley Esplanade Foreshore Shared Pathway, Council has sought community feedback since late 2020.

The design has evolved from the feedback received from our ongoing discussions, Council has gone back to the drawing board a few times and significantly altered its original design for the shared path.

Council's updated design strives to balance function, form, safety, cost, and to minimise environmental impacts.

Further community input may be sought as approvals for the project's construction are progressed.

What materials will the path be made from?

[✓ Exposed aggregate with a concrete finish](#)



The path will be constructed mainly from an exposed aggregate concrete finish, similar to this photo.

Ideally, the aggregate would be made from sand and small pebbles that are locally sourced.

To ensure the path has a suitable grade where the existing ground surface is steep or uneven, the pathway will include some short, elevated sections. These elevated sections will flow continuously from the aggregate concrete pathway.

They will be made of a fibreglass reinforced polymer grating material similar to this photo, and mounted on a timber substructure.



Why has the exposed aggregate material been chosen?

After consideration of community feedback on the original design, exposed aggregate has been chosen to be safe, long lasting, visually appealing, and to complement the natural landscape.

It will provide a strong and safe surface for people using the path, either on-foot or using wheelchairs, prams, bicycles or other mobility devices.

The material will cost more upfront than concrete, but it will be cost-effective over time requiring minimal maintenance. As such, it will cost ratepayers less than some other options.

Hawley Esplanade Foreshore Shared Pathway:

Community consultation to date

Round 1: Oct-Nov 2020

Round 2: Feb-March 2021

Round 3: June-Aug 2021

Round 4: September 2021

Further input to be sought as part of the approvals process

What other materials were considered and why weren't they chosen?

X Concrete: not visually appealing.

Plain concrete was Council's original choice as it is lower-cost, durable and safer than some other materials.

However, as a result of community feedback that concrete isn't visually appealing for the location, Council is not progressing use of this material for the Hawley Esplanade shared path surfaces.

X Crushed rock, sand, sawdust or gravel: not safe for all users; costs more.

Some community suggestions included use of crushed rock, sawdust, or compacted sand and gravel for the path surfaces. Council investigated these options, including through discussions with other Councils that use such materials for their paths.

It was found that these materials – while visually appealing – will not allow safe, shared use by wheelchairs or other mobility devices. This would be the case particularly during, or after, rain events.

Also, paths made from these materials cost ratepayers substantially more over time for repairs, including after wind and rain, which would wash out materials and cause potholes and ponding.

Additionally, ongoing use by mobility devices may leave wheel ruts that would need to be fixed often to keep surfaces functional and safe.

X Wooden boardwalk: not safe for all users; costs more.

Some feedback suggested the path be made from wooden boardwalks, and this option was investigated.

While visually aesthetic, such boardwalks can be challenging for wheelchairs and other mobility devices to use safely. They require greater repair over time to ensure a flat surface and so cost ratepayers more than other options.

In addition, supports for a wooden boardwalk would need to be constructed higher and wider than a poured surface and so may require more vegetation to be removed to allow for their installation.

After considering different options, a hard and smooth surface will be progressed that satisfies design guidelines and standards, is cost-effective, visually appealing, and safe for all path users.

THANK YOU

To all members of the community who have provided input, Council thanks you for your feedback.

We will continue to consult with you as approvals are sought before construction, and we welcome your feedback.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Council has also amended the proposed path route and other design features in response to community suggestions.

To learn more, see the **Fact Sheet: Hawley Esplanade Foreshore Shared Pathway: General Design Update**.

For further information about the project, please contact Jamie Fawkner, Roads and Drainage Engineer, on telephone: (03) 6426 4444 or email: council@latrobe.tas.gov.au
