

THE CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

DRYSDALE LANDFILL LANDSCAPE PLAN

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION REPORT

DECEMBER 2021

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REV	DATE	AMENDMENT
B	21/12/2021	Amend draft with response to community feedback
A	18/11/2021	Draft for comment

1. Consultation Process

1.1 Summary of community engagement

Engagement with key stakeholder groups has been undertaken over the past three years culminating with a six week community consultation period in September and October 2021. The project has been promoted through several different activities, including:

- Presentation to the Drysdale Landfill Project Reference Group
- Hardcopy Have Your Say leaflets distributed on site to users at the Drysdale Waste and Recycling Centre.
- Online via the City of Greater Geelong Have your Say page
- A total of 51 surveys were completed along with three detailed written responses from community organisations including:
 - Geelong Environment Council
 - Bellarine Landcare Group

1.2 What we asked

Community members were invited to provide feedback the draft landfill rehabilitation options via Council “Have Your Say” website.

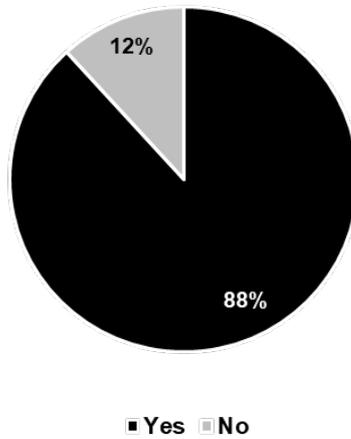
The Community feedback is intended to identify the highest priority actions for the new Drysdale Rehabilitation Master Plan and to identify if there are any other issues and opportunities that need to be considered in the development of the plan.

Questions as published on Council’s “Have Your Say” webpage

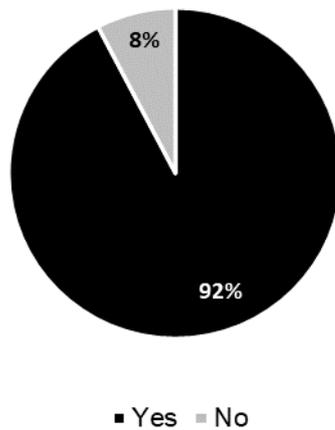
- Do you live in the City of Greater Geelong?
- Do you live on the Bellarine Peninsula?
- Do you use the Drysdale Landfill Resource Recovery Centre?
- Which of the three landscape plan options do you prefer?
 - Option 1 – Community Use and Access
 - Option 2 – Environmental Restoration
 - Option 3 Restoring the landfill and quarry
- Do you have any further comments or suggestions?

1.3 Summary of what was said

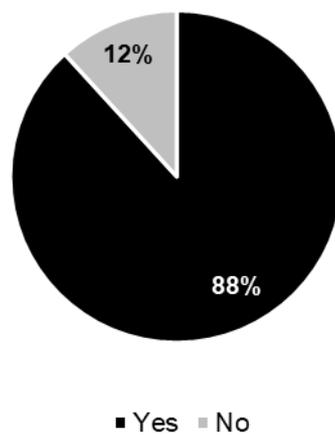
1.3.1 Do you live in the City of Greater Geelong?



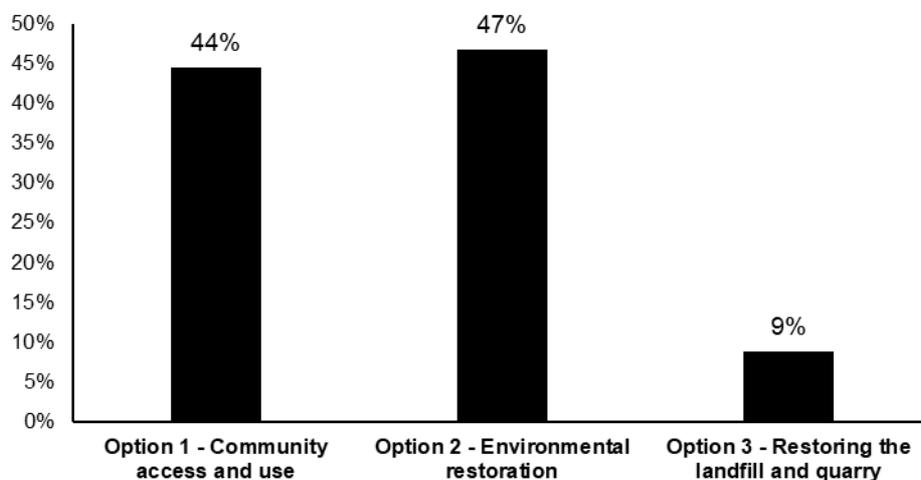
1.3.2 Do you live on the Bellarine Peninsula?



1.3.3 Do you use the Drysdale Landfill Resource Recovery Centre?



1.3.4 Which of the three landscape plan options* do you prefer?



**Refer to Appendix 1 for each of the three landscape plan options.*

1.4 Summary of common themes

- 92% of liver on the Bellarine Peninsula and 88% use the Drysdale Landfill Resource Recovery Centre indicating strong local community engagement and interest in the future of the site.
- Option 1 (44%) and Option 2 (47%) were evenly supported indicating local preference is for both community access and environmental restoration at the site.
- There were concerns raised about the threats from ongoing landfill operations including:
 - windblown litter
 - potential contamination of the creek and Swan Bay
 - vehicle traffic impacts
- Several respondents suggested a hybrid model combining the proposed environmental restoration objectives with improved community access for walking, dog walking and a potential equestrian trail link.
- Local residents requested new public road access between Becks Road and Founds Road.
- Respondents queries why an earlier proposal for establishment of mountain bike tracks has been removed from Options displayed for consultation.

1.5 List of detailed comments

Option 1

- Important to provide areas of open space for community access and use as density increases (1)
- Inclusion of dog off lead walking area. (1)
- Why have mountain bike tracks been removed? (3)

Option 2

- Public access for walking and cycling along the maintenance track could be included in this option (1)
- Phytocap provides best basis for future revegetation (2)
- Best option to improve biodiversity (5)
- Good way offset increased development elsewhere in the region (1)
- Extended timeline is disappointing, increasing depth of Phytocap could address this to a degree (1)
- Support continued creek restoration (4)
- Water quality testing should be maintained, and water only released once tested safe for release? (1)
- Support fencing to keep feral animals out (1)
- Could existing chain mesh fence be used to keep animals out?
- No dogs should be allowed in the area (1)
- Add an information centre to the site (1)

Option 3

- Waste of landscape and wildlife asset if quarry is filled in (2)
- Volume of truck traffic crossing the Bellarine will adversely impact the amenity if quarry is filled in (2)
- Concern regarding litter and quality of clean fill and risk of contaminating the water table that leads to Swan Bay if the quarry is filled in (2)

General

- Re-visit previous idea put forward for a horse trail to be put through the area (1)
- Wheelchair/disability access to be designed to be independently accessible, not just with aid of carer (1)
- Consider wheelchair/disability path grades to be 1:16 rather than 1:14 to allow for easier independent access (1)
- Options are essentially all the same even factoring in landfill cost (2)
- Combination of Options 1 and 3 is possible (3)
- Connectivity is the issue – none of the options provide access from Becks Road to Founds Round (1)
- 24/7 access needs to be provided from Becks Road to Founds Road preferably car access, but foot, bicycle and horse riding access as a minimum (5)
- Heavy traffic flow on Murradoc Road reduces areas where children can play safely
- Room for access to north of this site near the West Stormwater Pond and Green Waste Recovery area (1).
- Any works at the site to be undertaken inline with the principles of Distinctive Areas and Landscape documents. (1)
- Maintain current water quality testing regime for dams associated with Drysdale Tip to ensure contaminants do not negatively affect farmland and animals, regeneration areas, vegetation, local fauna or flow into Swan Bay further downstream (1)
- Concerned about removal of stormwater dam in Options 2 and 3 because impossible to guarantee quality of liners degrading over time or integrity of leachate capture system especially in extreme rainfall event (1)

1.6 Extended Responses

1.6.1 Geelong Environmental Council (GEC)

Geelong Environment Council (GEC) strongly supports a decision for the COGG to proceed with Option number 2, Environmental Restoration.

It is a once-only chance to increase biodiversity, make an identifiable tourist destination on the Bellarine and create a very significant indigenous parkland in the heart of the Bellarine.

A unique opportunity would be provided for 'nature' experiences and wildlife viewing, environmental education, and community involvement in what will be a momentous restoration project with lasting values appreciated for many years in the future.

GEC recognises the following values of the site and the potential for increasing indigenous vegetation and maximizing bird and habitat values. Opportunities for nature tourism at the Tip redevelopment site would establish the region as a significant environmental destination.

The site is situated within the Bellarine Peninsular hinterland and is within the Swan Bay catchment, a part of the Port Phillip Bay Ramsar site. Swan Bay is a vital site for protection of migratory birdlife and as a fish breeding nursery. Drainage via streams to Swan Bay would be protected from pollution by environmental restoration of the Tip .

Increase of biodiversity in a wider area of the Bellarine and a significant increase in biodiversity in the Geelong region.

The Drysdale Tip is situated within a rural farming region. It can be claimed as being the heart of the Bellarine, and a place from where vegetation links throughout the region can be established. Roadsides and streamside restoration would provide an opportunity to increase biodiversity within the rural and attractive landscape. Geelong's approximately 5% of remnant vegetation is a sad reminder of the huge loss of biodiversity, wildlife areas and lack of indigenous parklands on the Bellarine.

GEC notes that there is very little indigenous vegetation remaining on the Bellarine Peninsular with early settlers removing most of the woodland EVCs and large areas of coastline have been cleared and developed. The Ocean Grove Nature Reserve is the only remaining intact large area, with remnant strips along unused roads or occasional small areas on private land being the remaining indigenous vegetation.

The Ramsar and associated lakes and wetlands together with an indigenous large Tip nature restoration project, and popular coastal beach and town areas, would create and increase the Distinctive Areas and Landscape values found here. These have been recognised in the Victorian Government DAL Planning Statement.

A great opportunity to restore Bellarine biodiversity and provide habitat for wildlife and a tourism destination on the Bellarine. The closure of the Tip site has provided a fantastic opportunity to restore a significant area of the Bellarine with indigenous vegetation and increase biodiversity in the Geelong region.

An opportunity for a whole new biodiverse tourism attraction in the Bellarine area will be created

Coastal beaches, townships and the wine industry will become a part of a more diverse, environmentally significant area and will provide visitation opportunities to another level of environmental and natural assets. The tip is situated in an attractive rural landscape with magnificent views from the top of the landfill. This will add to the attractions of the restored site.

Option 1 and 3 are not supported.

1.6.2 **Bellarine Landcare Group (BLG)**

We agree that, to re-establish ecological integrity, it is best to restore the waterway to its original course. However there continues to be some concern about potential contamination downstream. The current practice of releasing water into the creek from the landfill site only after it has been monitored and cleaned, has been working well. So, both from an environmental and farming perspective we believe it is a good option to temporarily retain the stormwater pond as outlined in Option 1 and release clean water from it into the creek. This gives the council some control in heavy rainfall periods in the unlikely event that contaminants are leached in to the waterway. A number of farmers downstream have expressed that removing the dam has the potential to contaminate the water downstream and affect their stock. From an environmental perspective potentially unmonitored water flowing into Swan Bay, although unlikely, could have significant effects on the biodiversity of Swan Bay. The stormwater pond could be returned to a waterway and replaced with reed beds once there is confidence that the risk of contamination has declined.

The Quarry site should be made safe and opinions vary on whether the site should be filled in or remain as is. From an environmental perspective care should be taken as to what fill is used, if the quarry is filled. If so, would it be monitored in the same way as the landfill site? Contaminating the creek and Swan Bay via the quarry's water table is a major concern, as "clean fill" is difficult to monitor. Another concern with filling in the quarry is the huge amount of truck traffic that would be generated across the Bellarine, with its implications for noise and air pollution, detriment to amenity and inconsistency with a Distinctive Area and Landscape. If the quarry is to remain unfilled BLG supports the return of grassy woodlands to appropriate sites and the quarry's use for habitat and landscape values.

Walk/ bike access from Founds to Becks or Murrodoc Rd. should be established once the site is established and safe, whichever Option is chosen.

The locals of Becks Rd would like restricted vehicle/ emergency vehicle access to Founds Rd. A second exit point is critical for those living opposite this site.

Maintaining the existing chain mesh fences as the basis for a vermin proof fence in the future, could potentially save money and time in securing this area for indigenous fauna.

BLG supports the development of the current landfill site using new technology (phytocap) to facilitate planting. The deeper the phytocap, the better. The establishment of grassy woodland vegetation plots will enhance the amenity of the site as well as its benefits to indigenous flora and fauna.

BLG supports maximising habitat values by restricting dogs to the former landfill site along Founds Road and by restricting public access to certain areas (e.g., the quarry and part of the current landfill site).

2. Response to community feedback on the Draft Landscape Plan Options

The following provides a direct response to issues and suggestions raised in community consultation on the Draft Landscape Plan Options as displayed for comment. The number of respondents for each topic, including those received via the website, via e-mail are noted in brackets where more than one person commented. The response column outlines the proposed recommendation for changes to the plan for consideration in finalisation of the Landscape Plan.

No.	COMMENT	RESPONSE
1. ENVIRONMENTAL		
1.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waste of a wonderful asset of great landscape and wildlife value, if the quarry is filled in. • Litter control over quality of clean fill so risk of contaminating water table and there Swan Bay, if Quarry is filled in. • Revegetation will at least partially offset the amount of land clearing that has occurred on the Bellarine associated with past agricultural development and present residential development. • Important to keep it natural 	<p>The existing quarry has no indigenous vegetation and the steep embankments and deep water present an ongoing safety risk and limited habitat value.</p> <p>Filling the quarry with clean fill will provide a source of funding for landfill environmental rehabilitation works and will reduce operational costs for Council major projects requiring a clean fill disposal site.</p> <p>Ultimate rehabilitation of the natural undulating landform at completion of clean fill operations and restoration of indigenous Grassy Woodland vegetation originally found on the site will provide the highest long term biodiversity improvement and is consistent with Bellarine Distinctive Area Landscape values.</p> <p>Recommendation: <i>Adopt Option 3 – filling the former quarry with clean fill to match the natural undulating landform and undertake indigenous revegetation as Grassy Woodland.</i></p>
1.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain the existing chain mesh fences as the basis for vermin proof fence in the future, could potentially save money and time in securing this area for indigenous fauna. (2) 	<p>Chain mesh fencing will be retained short term for site security and could assist in rabbit control during revegetation establishment at completion of landfill operations.</p> <p>Recommendation: <i>Show existing fencing retained.</i></p>
1.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Quarry site should be made safe and opinions vary on whether the site should be filled in or remain as is. From 	Refer Item 1.1

No.	COMMENT	RESPONSE
	<p>an environmental perspective care should be taken as to what fill is used, if the quarry is filled. If so, would it be monitored in the same way as the landfill site?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contaminating the creek and Swan Bay via the quarry's water table is a major concern, as "clean fill" is difficult to monitor. • If it is unfilled it will become an unnecessary risk as more residents use this as a recreation area. • There are no plans revealed for the disused quarry if it is left unfilled. 	
1.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actively encourage restoration and breeding heritage programs. • Maximum effort to revegetate to entice birds and native animals back to the area and then protection of these from humans. • Provides a unique opportunity for 'nature' experiences and wildlife viewing, environmental education and community involvement in what will be a momentous restoration project with lasting values to be appreciated well into the future. • It is disappointing that the timeline for rehabilitation has been pushed out by so many years. 	<p>Active environmental restoration works have commenced along the central waterway section and at the Phytocap trial site using indigenous planting which will begin to attract local bird species as it becomes more established.</p> <p>Recommendation: <i>Support ongoing revegetation at the landfill site where possible to reduce time required to achieve environmental restoration.</i></p>
1.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To re-establish ecological integrity, it is best to restore the waterway to its original course. However there continues to be some concern about potential contamination downstream. • The current practice of releasing water into the creek from the landfill site only after it has been monitored and cleaned, has been working well. • Both from an environmental and farming perspective we believe it is a good option to temporarily retain the stormwater pond as outlined in Option 1 and release clean water from it into the creek. This gives the council some control in heavy rainfall periods in the unlikely event that contaminants are leached in to the waterway. • A number of farmers downstream have expressed that removing the dam has the potential to contaminate the water downstream and affect their stock. 	<p>The landfill operates with two types of dams: A leachate dam which holds contaminated water collected at the base of filled landfill cells, and stormwater dams which catch surface water running off the non-landfilled areas of the site. There is no connectivity between the surface water dams and the landfill cells so contamination of these water bodies from waste material is not possible.</p> <p>Leachate is pumped from the leachate dam via an underground piping system and is discharged into a nearby sewer connection.</p> <p>Water from stormwater dams onsite has a high sediment content, which is very common for farm dams in the area. To ensure compliance with EPA regulations, the stormwater is treated</p>

No.	COMMENT	RESPONSE
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From an environmental perspective potentially unmonitored water flowing into Swan Bay, although unlikely, could have significant effects on the biodiversity of Swan Bay. • The stormwater pond could be returned to a waterway and replaced with reed beds once there is confidence that the risk of contamination has declined. • Frederick Mason Creek flows through our property to Swan Bay. We use the water from this creek to water our cattle. The creek enters the property through a fenced off area, where there has been trees planted along the bank of the creek to allow regeneration. After leaving our property the creek runs into Swan Bay. It is important to us that the water flowing down the creek does not contain any contaminants. The dams which are associated with the Drysdale tip must remain and the current testing regime of water from these dams be maintained. Without the storm water dams there is a risk, during an extreme weather event, that the landfill site would flood and fail allowing contaminants to go into the creek. • Option 1 maintains the leachate dam, which is important, but it is not clear if the testing regime for the storm water dams will to be maintained before water release. It is important that the testing regime of water from the storm water dams is maintained to ensure there isn't any contamination of the water going into the creek. Any contamination of the creek would have a catastrophic effect not only on the vegetation and animal life along the creek but also on stock and farming businesses and of course Swan Bay. • While the landfill cells are currently sealed, it is impossible to guarantee the long term integrity on any of the liners which are at risk of breaking down over time, or the integrity of the leachate capture system especially in an extreme rainfall event which is why I am concerned about the removal of the stormwater dam being put up in Options 2 & 3. 	<p>using a clarifier unit which removes the sediment from the water. The treated water is then released into the downstream waterway. Regular testing of this water is undertaken by a third-party environmental consultant to ensure there are no detrimental impacts to the receiving waterway.</p> <p>Option 2 and 3 included the reset of the eastern stormwater pond as a wetland at completion of landfill operations to maximise bird habitat values. Option 1 retained the existing form with the dam wall allowing for the detention of more water on the site.</p> <p>Under all options leachate will continue to be captured and discharged via the sewer connection. All water discharged from the site will continue to be monitored in accordance with EPA requirements and to protect the Swan Bay catchment.</p> <p>Recommendation: <i>Retain the existing dam in its current form maximising retention of water on the site while extending the ephemeral planting zone around the perimeter to improve bird habitat.</i></p> <p><i>The above rehabilitation works will commence at completion of landfill operations with existing detention and discharge arrangements to continue in accordance with existing environmental management requirements.</i></p>

No.	COMMENT	RESPONSE
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • While the environmental works proposed in the rehabilitation plans are positive, the closed landfill should still be viewed as a contaminated site and steps need to be put in place to protect the downstream environment and properties in the event of several components failing at some point in the future. 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Filling in the quarry would also introduce an extra risk of contaminating the creek and Swan Bay through the quarry's water table . "Clean" fill would have to be carefully monitored which would be difficult and expensive. 	<p>Clean fill to the site will be closely monitored as part of the existing Drysdale Waste and Recycling Centre Operation. Strict testing/analysis will be undertaken to ensure all material used to fill the quarry is clean fill.</p> <p>Recommendation: <i>Adopt Option 3 – filling the former quarry with clean fill to match the natural undulating landform and undertake indigenous revegetation as Grassy Woodland. Monitoring of operations will continue to be controlled at the waste and recycling centre.</i></p>
2. TRAFFIC		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Too many trucks traversing the Bellarine impacting adversely on the amenity, if the Quarry is filled in traffic impacts will continue. • Filling in the quarry would generate considerable traffic across the Bellarine, increasing noise and air pollution, reducing the amenity and introducing inconsistency with the Distinctive Area and Landscape. 	<p>There is currently only access to the site is from Becks Road.</p> <p>Recommendation: <i>Investigate opening a second entrance to the site off Founds Road to primarily service the clean filling works associated with the former quarry. This will reduce the truck traffic along Becks Road.</i></p>
3..ACCESS		
3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walk/bike access from Founds Road to Becks Road or Murrodoc Road once the site is established and safe irrespective of which option is chosen. (3) • Locals of Becks Road would like restricted vehicle/emergency vehicle access to Founds Road. A second access point is critical for those living opposite this site. • Speed limit on Murradoc Road makes it dangerous for horse riding, walking or cycling, access to Founds Road for these activities would provide locals 	<p>Options 1, 2 and 3 provide walking/cycling access between Becks Road and Founds Road. However there is no strategic basis for upgrade of this as a regional link in the Cycling Plan at this stage.</p> <p>At this stage the aim will be to have the site publicly accessible at all times with fenced security to the waste recycling centre only.</p> <p>Recommendation:</p>

No.	COMMENT	RESPONSE
	<p>better and safer access to their own community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The previously put forward idea of a horse trail through the area is a good one. (3) • Public access for walking and cycling could be included in this option, along the maintained vehicle access tracks. • Options only provide walk/ride access from Becks Road that cuts back through the Resource Recovery Area and therefore it will most likely need to have restricted access for security reasons. 	<p><i>At completion of landfill operations establish local community walking/cycling access between Becks Road and Founds Road via existing tracks.</i></p> <p><i>Investigate future bridal trail access along the boundary to provide a route away from potential dog off lead zones and areas of higher future environmental values.</i></p>
3.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include dog off lead area. • No dogs should be allowed in the area • Support maximising habitat values by restricting dogs to former landfill site along Founds Road and restricting public access to certain areas (eg quarry and part of the current landfill). • There is ample area for dog walking around and open grassy ovals on the Bellarine for open-space recreation but extremely little of this habitat for protection of native species and indigenous flora and fauna/ 	<p>There is currently a shortage of fenced dog off lead areas across the Greater Geelong area. The large open grass area (11ha) in the north east corner of the site has been capped and has separate access from Founds Road. This site has magnificent elevated views and must remain as mown grass as part of the EPA capping requirements. It would make a suitable dog off lead area as fencing could be installed to the western and southern boundary to separate the area from current landfill operations and the quarry however amenity at the site due to the smell will be poor until operations cease.</p> <p>Recommendation: <i>Establish an 11ha fenced dog off lead area in the north western corner of the site, subject to review of need for this facility at completion of the landfill operations.</i></p>
3.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connectivity is the issue. None of them provide public road access from Becks Road to Founds Road. This cuts off the advantages that can be gained from the site being a community and tourism asset. Access needs to be provided 24/7 from Becks Road to Founds Road preferably car access but foot and ride access as a minimum. This will allow for a pathway to be created from Ocean Grove to Portarlington on the highest parts of the Bellarine Peninsula. What a fantastic asset for tourism and community members!! There is room for this access to the north of this site 	<p>Local residents requested new public road access between Becks Road and Founds Road in previous correspondence. Internal Traffic Assessment concluded that there is no current requirement for public road access in this area.</p> <p>Clean fill operations at the former quarry site will require use of the existing weigh station and a new haul road. The haul road could then be used as an exit only out onto Founds Road to reduce truck traffic in Becks Road. At completion of clean fill</p>

No.	COMMENT	RESPONSE
	<p>near the West Stormwater Pond and Green Waste Recovery Area. Please do not cut this option off.</p>	<p>operations the unsealed haul road could potentially be used as a public road subject to re assessment of traffic access requirements at the time.</p> <p>Recommendation: <i>Re investigate the need for public road access between Becks Road and Founds Road at completion of clean fill operations and prior to decommissioning of the proposed unsealed haul road.</i></p>
3.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusion of the green waste area on the neighbouring property is an uncertain and unnecessary addition as other locations and options exist for this activity. Its inclusion prevents direct vehicle access from Becks Road to Founds Road which is a desirable outcome for the residents of Becks and Founds Road. 	<p>The green waste recovery area is part of the existing Waste Transfer and Recycling Operations at the site and will be still needed at completion of landfill operations at the site. There is no alternative site for this area which required direct access from the waste transfer facility.</p> <p>Recommendation: <i>Retain existing green waste recovery area.</i></p>
3.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Needs more mountain bike tracks. Why have they been removed? (2) • Potential mountain bike track in key but not on plan? (2) 	<p>The use of the former quarry site was discussed as a potential mountain bike area in early discussion of options for the site however there are currently other sites servicing this use and the risk associated with the steep cliffs and the limitation imposed by this use on future environmental rehabilitation at the site meant it was not included in options displayed.</p> <p>Recommendation: <i>Provision of a dedicated mountain bike track network in the former quarry is not supported.</i></p>
4. GENERAL		
4.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All these options are basically the same even the cost if you factor in refilling the quarry site. (2) • Combination of all 3 options is possible • Combination of Option 1 and 3. Option 1 to make the area a community recreation area with potential for other activities such as mountain biking and Option 3 to fill the quarry. Merge Options 1 and 3 to create a 4th option 	<p>Various options for the site were proposed to seek community input on future development and environmental restoration at the site. Option 1 (44%) and Option 2 (47%) were evenly supported indicating local preference is for both community access and environmental restoration at the site.</p> <p>Recommendation: <i>Adopt a hybrid model combining the proposed environmental restoration objectives with improved community</i></p>

No.	COMMENT	RESPONSE
		<p><i>access for walking, dog walking and a potential equestrian trail link while noting that income generated from clean fill operations at the quarry remain and important source of funding for implementation of works.</i></p>
4.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any works done to this site should be consistent with the Bellarine Distinctive Areas and Landscape values. 	<p>Works will be consistent with the Bellarine Distinctive Areas and Landscape values.</p> <p>Recommendation: <i>Include reference to the Bellarine Distinctive Areas and Landscape values on the final plan.</i></p>
4.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Addition of an information/education centre explaining gas produced used to provide power/waste to energy benefits. 	<p>Noted</p> <p>Recommendation: <i>Include additional information regarding sustainable power at the Waste Transfer Station.</i></p>
4.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with local community organisations, i.e. Landcare Bellarine, and other volunteer based groups, to rehabilitate the site. It is imperative, especially after the imposed Drysdale bypass we've had to endure the past few years. 	<p>Ongoing landfill operations including high volumes of vehicle and truck movements within the site make community involvement in initial rehabilitation works difficult to safely manage.</p> <p>Recommendation: <i>Local community groups will be an important part of future site rehabilitation at completion of landfill operations.</i></p>
4.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some form of availability for people to enjoy the area would be good but not picnic facilities unless specific measures are taken to manage rubbish. Opportunities for nature tourism at the Tip redevelopment would establish the region as a significant environmental destination. The tip is situated in an attractive rural landscape with magnificent views from the top of the landfill. This will add to the attractions of the restored site. An opportunity for a whole new biodiverse tourism attraction in the Bellarine area will be created. All options will boost to Bellarine assets for tourists. Serious practical consideration must be given to the entire site regarding disability access, from toilet facilities, 	<p>Picnic areas were not well supported in consultation and are unlikely to be needed until after the landfill and quarry have closed and the site revegetation has become well established – likely 10+ years.</p> <p>Recommendation: <i>Review need for additional facilities only when site revegetation has become established.</i> <i>All paths in the ultimate layout will be established at accessible grades.</i></p>

No.	COMMENT	RESPONSE
	<p>path gradients, allow for independent use of the site by wheelchair users.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Important to have community access to a natural environment for recreation as the surrounding district becomes more populated and built up. 	

**Attachment 1 –
Community Display Plan Options 1, 2 and 3
as used in consultation**

Introduction

The Drysdale Landfill and Resource Recovery Centre (DLRRC) is managed by the City of Greater Geelong. The site was opened in 1982 and currently receives 100,000 tonnes of waste per year.

The Drysdale Landfill and Resource Recovery Centre is a critical piece of infrastructure for the safe disposal of waste in the Geelong region. The landfill is a Type 2 landfill accepting solid inert waste, putrescible waste and other waste types. It receives waste from residential, commercial and industrial users. The Centre also accepts a wide variety of items for recycling including TV's, e-waste, mattresses, hard plastics, scrap metal, gas cylinders, batteries and waste oil.

Current projections indicate that the Drysdale Landfill will reach capacity within the next seven to eight years and the site will then be rehabilitated in accordance with EPA requirements.

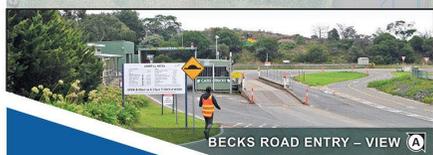
HAVE YOUR SAY

City of Greater Geelong is seeking community feedback on the future rehabilitation and use of the site after the end of the landfill operations to identify what are the highest priority actions for the new Drysdale rehabilitation Master Plan and to identify if there are any other issues and opportunities that need to be considered in the development of the plan.

Residents are invited to provide feedback on the draft landfill rehabilitation options via the Council webpage yoursay.geelongaustralia.com.au/DLPCLP or by contacting Council by phone 5272 4961 or via email to Jack Taylor, Project Engineer JTaylor2@geelongcity.vic.gov.au

All feedback must be submitted by close of consultation at 5pm on **Wednesday 13 October 2021**.

If you would like to be kept informed about the project, please fill out your name and address at the website link and you will be emailed a copy of the Draft Rehabilitation Master Plan when ready for comment and updated on progress of the works at the Drysdale Landfill Resource and Recovery Centre.



OPTION 1

Option 1 is to complete rehabilitation of the former landfill site as a new community parkland. This option would include retention of a mix of open grass areas and indigenous revegetation while maximising community access and staged development of open space facilities such as paths, seats, picnic areas and potentially longer term public toilet facilities as needed to support activities including walking, dog exercising, mountain biking, social gatherings/picnic and community based events.

Proposed works for this option may include:

- 1 Rehabilitate the western stormwater pond as a naturalised wetland to provide for treatment of stormwater runoff from the Resource Recovery Centre car park and road areas.
- 2 Continue Creekline Grassy Woodland revegetation and weed control along the central waterway section.
- 3 Rehabilitate the eastern stormwater pond establishing new safety benches and revegetating with indigenous deep, shallow and ephemeral marsh species around the perimeter while retaining an area of open water lake.
- 4 Strengthen and expand indigenous Creekline Grassy Woodland revegetation along Frederick Mason Creek.
- 5 Undertaken indigenous Grassy Woodland revegetation along the Founds Road.
- 6 Undertake indigenous Grassy Woodland revegetation to the current landfill site (subject to success of the phytocap trial). Secure and maintain access and clearance to required gas extraction points.
- 7 Undertake indigenous Grassy Woodland revegetation to the northern embankment.
- 8 Establishment of a public access gate and small unsealed car park (5-10 spaces) off Founds Road.
- 9 Grass dog off lead area on the former landfill site.
- 10 Establish over 2km of secondary walking access tracks through new bushland revegetation areas.
- 11 Establish a small seating area overlooking the rehabilitated eastern pond/lake.



HAVE YOUR SAY

This is only one of three rehabilitation options currently being considered and your comment and feedback is welcome and can be provided via the City of Greater Geelong's website yoursay.geelongaustralia.com.au/DLPCLP or via e-mail to Jack Taylor, Project Engineer, JTaylor2@geelongcity.vic.gov.au by **Wednesday 13 October 2021**.

- 12 Establish seats on top of the former and current landfill sites with elevated views down over Swan Bay.
- 13 Establish elevated viewing point down over the quarry lake and extend circuit walking track.
- 14 Longer term, subject to evaluation of public use at the site provision of additional picnic and toilet facilities may be considered.
- 15 Leachate and gas management systems will continue to require security fencing and ongoing maintenance access.
- 16 The existing Resource Recovery Centre will continue operations.
- 17 Existing unsealed roads will be retained for maintenance and fire break access.
- 18 Existing chainmesh perimeter fencing will be replaced with standard post and wire farm fencing.
- 19 Existing quarry cliffs will be fenced and potentially netted to restrict public access.
- 20 Liaise with adjoining landholders to expand indigenous waterway revegetation along Frederick Mason Creek.
- 21 Longer term as revegetation becomes established consider use of feral animal fencing to protect the site.
- 22 Provide walking/cycling access into quarry and landfill from Becks Road.
- 23 Maintain security fencing and expand indigenous screen planting to the Resource Recovery Centre boundary.

DRAWING KEY

- | | |
|--|--|
| EXISTING VEGETATION | QUARRY CLIFF FENCED RESTRICTED ACCESS AREA |
| CREEKLINE GRASSY WOODLAND REVEGETATION | EXISTING UNSEALED ACCESS ROAD |
| GRASSY WOODLAND REVEGETATION | PROPOSED SECONDARY WALKING PATHS |
| WATERWAY REVEGETATION | PROPOSED PEDESTRIAN PATH |
| SLASHED GRASSSED AREA | GAS EXTRACTION POINTS (INDICATIVE ONLY) |
| INDIGENOUS GRASSLAND REVEGETATION AREA | ACCESS GATE |
| RESOURCE RECOVERY CENTRE | KEY VIEWS |



OPTION 2

Option 2 is to complete rehabilitation of the former landfill site with a focus on restoration of habitat and biodiversity values across the site. This option would seek to maximise the extent of indigenous revegetation and biodiversity values and may include restricting public access to some areas as needed to maximise bird habitat values. The existing unsealed road network will provide for walking access to key viewing/seating points.

Proposed works for this option may include:

- 1 Rehabilitate the western stormwater pond as a naturalised wetland to provide for treatment of stormwater runoff from the Resource Recovery Centre car park and road areas.
- 2 Continue Creekline Grassy Woodland revegetation and weed control along the central waterway section.
- 3 Remove the eastern stormwater pond establishing a natural meandering waterway and revegetate with indigenous Creekline Grassy Woodland species.
- 4 Strengthen and expand indigenous Creekline Grassy Woodland revegetation along Frederick Mason Creek.
- 5 Undertaken indigenous Grassy Woodland revegetation along Founds Road.
- 6 Undertake indigenous Grassy Woodland revegetation to the current landfill site (subject to success of the phytocap trial). Secure and maintain access and clearance to required gas extraction points.
- 7 Undertake indigenous Grassy Woodland revegetation to the northern embankment.
- 8 Liaise with adjoining landholders to investigate opportunities to expand indigenous waterway revegetation along Frederick Mason Creek.
- 9 Establishment a public access gate and small unsealed car park (2-3 spaces) off Founds Road.
- 10 Investigate establishment of scattered Grassy Woodland revegetation plots to the former landfill site using localised species (subject to success of the phytocap trial).



HAVE YOUR SAY

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- 11 Establish fencing to the perimeter of the mown grass former landfill site if dog off lead is considered. All other revegetation areas are to be signed as 'no dogs' to maximise habitat values.
- 12 Establish fencing to restrict public access to the former quarry site and undertake revegetation to enhance bird habitat values associated with the lake and cliff face.
- 13 Establish elevated viewing point down over the quarry lake.
- 14 Leachate and gas management systems will continue to require security fencing and ongoing maintenance access.
- 15 The existing Resource Recovery Centre will continue operations.
- 16 Existing unsealed roads will be retained for maintenance and fire break access.
- 17 Existing chainmesh perimeter fencing will be replaced with standard post and wire farm fencing.
- 18 Maintain security fencing and expand indigenous screen planting to the Resource Recovery Centre boundary.
- 19 Longer term as revegetation becomes established consider use of feral animal fencing to protect the site.
- 20 Provide walking/cycling access into quarry and landfill from Becks Road.
- 21 Undertake modified grassy woodland revegetation in the areas suitable for planting within the remaining quarry area.



Retain and rehabilitate the former quarry site as bird habitat 12



Extend grassy woodland revegetation using a phytocap 6



Rehabilitate eastern stormwater pond 3

DRAWING KEY

- | | |
|--|--|
| EXISTING VEGETATION | QUARRY CLIFF FENCED RESTRICTED ACCESS AREA |
| CREEKLINE GRASSY WOODLAND REVEGETATION | EXISTING UNSEALED ACCESS ROAD |
| QUARRY REVEGETATION AREA (MODIFIED) | PROPOSED SECONDARY WALKING PATHS |
| GRASSY WOODLAND REVEGETATION | PROPOSED PEDESTRIAN PATH |
| WATERWAY REVEGETATION | POTENTIAL MOUNTAIN BIKE TRACK |
| SLASHED GRASSED AREA | GAS EXTRACTION POINTS (INDICATIVE ONLY) |
| INDIGENOUS GRASSLAND REVEGETATION AREA | ACCESS GATE |
| RESOURCE RECOVERY CENTRE | KEY VIEWS |

OPTION 3

Option 3 is to complete a traditional landfill site rehabilitation. The environmental focus of this option will then only focus on the naturalisation and indigenous revegetation of the waterway. To offset the higher costs and expand opportunities for further Grassy Woodland revegetation the existing quarry site could however be fully restored to its former natural surface using clean fill before undertaking full revegetation.

Proposed works for this option include:

- 1 Rehabilitate the western stormwater pond as a naturalised wetland to provide for treatment of stormwater runoff from the Resource Recovery Centre car park and road areas.
- 2 Continue Creekline Grassy Woodland revegetation and weed control along the central waterway section.
- 3 Remove the eastern stormwater pond establishing a natural meandering waterway and revegetate with indigenous Creekline Grassy Woodland species.
- 4 Strengthen and expand indigenous Creekline Grassy Woodland revegetation along Frederick Mason Creek.
- 5 Undertaken indigenous Grassy Woodland revegetation along Founds Road.
- 6 Maintain the former landfill site as mown grass.
- 7 Undertake indigenous Grassy Woodland revegetation to the northern embankment.
- 8 Undertake indigenous Grassy Woodland revegetation to the current landfill site (subject to success of the phytocap trial). Secure and maintain access and clearance to required gas extraction points.
- 9 Maintain security fencing and expand indigenous screen planting to the Resource Recovery Centre boundary.
- 10 Leachate and gas management systems will continue to require security fencing and ongoing maintenance access.
- 11 The existing Resource Recovery Centre will continue operations.
- 12 Existing unsealed roads will be retained for maintenance and fire break access.



HAVE YOUR SAY

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- 13 Existing chainmesh perimeter fencing will be replaced with standard post and wire farm fencing.
- 14 Liaise with adjoining landholders to investigate opportunities to expand indigenous waterway revegetation along Frederick Mason Creek.
- 15 Investigate filling the former quarry site using clean fill to enable complete rehabilitation of the site and minimise public risk and ongoing site management costs associated with the steep cliffs and embankments.
- 16 Longer term as revegetation becomes established consider use of feral animal fencing to protect the site.
- 17 Provide walking/cycling access into landfill from Becks Road.

Traditional landfill capping

Traditional landfill rehabilitation involves a grass covered mound under which an engineered geosynthetic membrane are installed to form a cap preventing rainfall from penetrating into the waste cell and generating excess leachate and potential groundwater contamination. No planting is allowed on a traditional landfill site to ensure that the cap remains intact and is not punctured by tree roots or soil shrinkage.

What is a phytocap?

A phytocap is constructed with a thick soil sponge layer which intercepts and stores rainfall before it enters the waste cell allowing it to be released naturally by evaporation and transpiration through planted trees and shrubs. Phytocaps are less expensive to construct than engineering caps and will allow planting of indigenous trees and shrubs rather than just grass. A phytocap trial is being conducted at Drysdale Landfill and if successful will be used as the basis for site rehabilitation.



DRAWING KEY

- EXISTING VEGETATION
- CREEKLINE GRASSY WOODLAND REVEGETATION
- GRASSY WOODLAND REVEGETATION
- WATERWAY VEGETATION
- SLASHED GRASSED AREA
- INDIGENOUS GRASSLAND GROUNDCOVER REVEGETATION AREA
- RESOURCE RECOVERY CENTRE
- EXISTING UNSEALED ACCESS ROAD
- ACCESS GATE
- GAS EXTRACTION POINTS (INDICATIVE ONLY)