

MEDIA STATEMENT



Monday, 2 May 2016

Riders embrace bike park upgrade

Bike riders are literally jumping for joy with the first stage of an upgrade to the popular St Mark's Urban Mountain Bike Park in Wollaston now complete.

Big numbers of riders are already making use of the improved park, which now features a new start mound and line of jumps that complement the existing tracks built by community members over many years.

Drainage issues were also addressed as part of the project, which cost \$25,000 and was funded through a LotteryWest Trail Grant.

The St Mark's Urban Mountain Bike Park, also known as Wollaston Jump Park, is highly utilised by children and adults who have a keen interest in mountain biking. The park has been in existence for a number of years but in more recent times the jumps and trails have deteriorated.

In 2014, the City of Bunbury appointed Three Chilies Design to devise a master plan for the St Marks Urban Mountain Bike Park with the view of outlining development works over the next five to 10 years that would give a clear vision of what could be done to improve the mountain bike park.

The park is located at a site that has a number of high value natural features, such as mature trees and a creek, which contribute to the mountain bike feeling and experience.

Work on Stage 1A of the project was carried out by a professional contractor, Common Ground Trails, to ensure the park was at a high standard.

Bunbury Mayor Gary Brennan said the vision was to turn St Mark's into a focal point for mountain biking in the South West.

"The upgrades will benefit those who have an interest in mountain biking and also families and individuals who want to try something different," Mr Brennan said.

"I am very pleased to see the community being engaged throughout the entire process as it will ensure the facilities meet the expectations of all users."

The City will be seeking funding to enhance the track and its surrounds, which will include work to address drainage issues.

In the meantime there are plans to further manage vehicle access and to also erect signage.

ENDS

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