



Media Release

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From little things big things grow: Work starts on \$1.8m Bibra Lake skate park

The efforts of four young mates while on the summer school holidays in 2014 has resulted in the City of Cockburn building a \$1.8m skate park in their suburb.

Cameron Giles and his mates all live in Bibra Lake but after growing out of the skate facilities at their neighbourhood park decided it was time something better was provided for older kids like them.

They started a petition urging the City to update the facility, gathering more than 400 signatures by door-knocking and leaving the petition at popular local haunts and meeting places.

Their cause was adopted by the Bibra Lake Residents Association which successfully added hundreds more signatures to the petition, and lobbied the City to build a new facility this financial year, rather than in 2020 as recommended in the Bibra Lake Management Plan.

And the rest will soon become local folklore as MG Group, which won the tender to construct the park, begins work in February with completion due in about 30 weeks.

Cameron (13) said he and friends Hunter Moore (13), Jai Grant (14) and Cody Cleggett (14) were spurred into action after their parents grew tired of driving them to Leeming skate park, urging them to use the Bibra Lake facility.

“We told them the Bibra Lake skate park wasn’t very good and they said we should do something about it,” Cameron said.

“So we typed up a Word document into a petition and door knocked to get signatures. We also left them at the shopping centre and took them to school.”

The boys said they were proud their dream was coming true, not just for them, but for other kids living in the area for years to come.



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This week the boys, now high school students, joined Cockburn Mayor Logan Howlett, Willagee MLA Peter Tinley and members of the BLRA, to turn the first sod on the Bibra Drive site.

The Bibra Lake Skate Park and Recreation Precinct has been made possible with \$894,280 in council funding, \$780,720 from developer contributions and a \$400,000 grant from the State Government Local Projects Local Jobs program.

Following extensive community consultation, the 1200sqm facility will comprise a street plaza, skate ramps, a half pipe and scooter track.

It will also include public toilets, a 24-bay car park, shelters, barbecue amenities, a basketball half court and a playground for young children.

Mayor Howlett said skate parks were popular throughout Australia and were important meeting places for children of all ages to spend active time outdoors or just to hang out with friends and family.

Mr Tinley said it was fantastic to see a project driven by the community become a reality, especially with primary school students as the instigators of change.

“What these kids have done and the work they put in to get to this stage is truly impressive,” Mr Tinley said.

“The Bibra Lake Skate Park upgrade project is a great initiative and will make a big difference to the community.

“Young people need places to go and things to do, the skate park provides this and I am pleased to be able to make a contribution of \$400k to the project.”

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