



Southside BMX would like to provide support to the recommendation listed in Council Item C24/198

Southside BMX Club has been previously informed by the council that the budget has been approved for a Clubroom facility and the build was going ahead -via email, in person and in a media release by the City of Melville in late 2023. Now we have been informed that the Clubroom project may be in question, unless the council approves the budget increase. We would like to support the current recommendation of the budget being increased so the Clubroom facility can be built.

Southside BMX has been running for 44 years and still does not have a Clubroom to house a canteen, toilets, changerooms – despite asking the council for this ,many times .We have recently spent last year \$54,000 on a Scoring Office as this was unable to be housed in the new building. We do not have toilets or anywhere for our participants to change onsite. We operate our Canteen, as a main source of income from an aging sea container and in Summer the temperature is 50 degrees in there, with no aircon or cooling.Conditions are very basic and less than ideal .

We would be the only sporting club in the City of Melville with no Clubroom. We have been asking since the club was started in 1980 and have been in negotiations for 3 years with the council regarding this project .

The delay in building has also meant the club has been unable to host State Series events for 2024 and 2025, which are big racing events but also generate \$6,500 in income per event . We cannot apply for any major events until the build is complete.

Southside has spent in anticipation of this project:

- \$54,000 on a Scoring Office – as it could not be included in the footprint of the new Clubroom
- \$1200- relocating the existing Canteen sea container ,as directed by the council to be moved by August 2024, in preparation for the new build to start

We would like to highlight the enormous benefits that the Southside BMX club has provided not only to the sport of BMX, its club members but also to the general community. Southside BMX Club has invested a significant ongoing contribution of over *\$280,000 to:

- maintain, improve facilities in and around the track,
- improving accessibility and community facilities such as:
 - additional shade shelters and
 - providing a track available for general community use outside of club use. These funds have been expended by the club and its members in good will, and for the greater good of the community.
 - Importantly, it should be noted, in most cases, clubs that use active reserves only pay for use of grounds (the same fees apply to Southside BMX using the track). The ground use payment only includes some ongoing reserve management and maintenance. Southside BMX contributes significantly to the ongoing maintenance of the track that is open to the public. The Southside BMX Club is proactive in auditing the track prior to using it and making good the track and surrounds (due to public use) as a matter of good will for everyone.

The City of Melville provides basic facilities to other sporting and community groups throughout the city (toilets, change rooms, showers etc). Our request as a City of Melville club is for the city to provide these basic facilities to the Southside BMX Club.

The Southside BMX Club has 230 members and facilitates racing events for 100 riders every Sat from Feb to end of Nov. We have members aged 2-58 years old. We also have training 4 days per week, plus other riders using the track during the week to train and be physically active outside of public use. We hold the record for entries when hosting State Championships and State Series. We have been the leader in promoting inclusion in BMX and founded the Girls in BMX programme.

The Southside BMX club main income source is its members. Unlike other clubs Southside does not have other income sources. As an example, some Football, Bowling, and Tennis Clubs enjoy revenue from selling alcohol, hiring of venues, sales of goods and services. All of which contributes to their club's sustainability and assist in investing in large facility projects.

Southside BMX Club and its members deserve a new Clubroom so that we can have a canteen is a safe , secure building that meets health and safety requirements . We also need safe and secure toilets and a place for participants to change that should be a basic right for any club in the City of Melville and particularly young females who could be the next Olympic Gold Medallist like Australian Saya Sakakibara was at the recent Paris Olympics.

Thank you for your time and again, I would like to take one last opportunity to strongly encourage you to vote in favour for the current recommendation. This build will support our club and the next generation who are looking for alternative opportunities to be active outside of the mainstream sports such as soccer, football and cricket. Ian and I would be happy to answer any questions the Council may have of us.



Image of Sea container canteen currently in use



City of Melville

18 Aug • 🌐

We're jumping for joy that work is beginning soon for upgrades at the Southside BMX Club in Bull Creek! 🚲

The new amenity building for the club at Bob Gordon Reserve is set to be finished by mid-2025 and will include toilets, storage and a kiosk with servery and undercover area along with a cantilevered undercover space to the side of the building.

We're thankful of a \$300,000 contribution from the @Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries through the Community Sporting and Recreation Facilities Fund.

Our Mayor Katy Mair and Councillor Jennifer Spanbroek recently met with Member for Riverton [Dr Jags MLA](#), Southside BMX Club president Ian Ainger and riders from the club ahead of work beginning on site.

For more information, visit <https://www.melvillecity.com.au/things-to-do/sport-and-recreation/bike-parks>

