

Tuross Head Progress Association Incorporated
ABN 36038514293 Y11838-28

May 26th, 2010

General Manager
Eurobodalla Shire Council
PO Box 99
Moruya NSW 2537

THPA
PO Box 3044
Tuross Head NSW 2537

Submission to the Draft Recreation and Open Space Strategy.

Proposed RageCage facility

Dear Council,

The Tuross Head Progress Association would like to thank Eurobodalla Shire Council for acknowledging their response to the community recreation Survey and facilities for Tuross Head youth.

In addition to the "Breakout Bays" the THPA would like to request that further skateboard facilities be added to the proposed half court basketball facility which is planned for the Kyla Sports Reserve precinct.

We are happy to establish such a facility built by the community for the community, however if Council's general ideology is that nothing should be built unless there is a future provision for funding replacement and repair made within Councils budget and that they believe there is no certainty of volunteers being able to fund drive or contribute when the time comes then we are left disillusioned and feel that, without Councils commitment to maintaining and replacing any new community facility the facility had best not be built in the first place.

Council staff advised that grant monies are readily obtainable for such facilities as RageCages (which have inbuilt skateboard components). If the Tuross Head Progress Association was to pursue seeking out this funding and the facility was built then, by Councils ideology, the facility would have to be financially self sustaining for maintenance and eventual replacement such as was given as the reasoning behind the proposed removal of two of the Tuross Head tennis courts.

In a correspondence between Council and the Durras Progress Association the following statement was made:

Council recognises that the skate park was a community project and that there is significant community ownership over the facility. Council also acknowledges that the Skate Park does not require significant ongoing funding, other than maintenance works which is identified through routine inspections throughout the year.

The facility has recently been inspected and is deemed to have 5 – 10 years life remaining. The intention of the recommendation in the draft strategy is that when the facility reaches the 'end of life' or requires significant investment to rectify safety or risk issues, Councils position will be that it is unable to justify the required funding to replace the facility and would instead recommend removal.

However, given the history of the facility if the community is willing to undertake a project similar to the initial establishment of the Skate Park to rebuild the facility when the time comes, this is something that Council would be willing to explore.

If the above statement is evidence of a possible model of mutual Council/community facility management then the Tuross Head community would like to support the installation of a Rage Cage in the location it is now earmarking as a youth area within the Kyla Sports Reserve precinct.

Yours sincerely
Lei Parker
Secretary THPA.