

MEDIA RELEASE

Off-leash park a win for lifestyle

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DOG owners will have a new place to let their pooches run free in Port Douglas. Douglas Shire Council announced a \$145,000 off-leash trial for the northern area of Hutchings Park in the 2018/19 Annual Budget.

The investment is part of a handful of projects in community spaces that will boost Douglas Shire's lifestyle and recreational appeal.

Mayor Julia Leu said the off-leash area was a huge boost for the resort town.

"This is something dog owners have been asking for," she said.

"Dog parks provide a fantastic opportunity for people and their pets to socialize with the wider community.

"I can see this park becoming a real social hub for pet lovers."

The project will include welded mesh fencing, water fountains, activity areas and a ball play area. Natural rummaging environments such as rock scramble and shade trees will be planted, while seating, bins for dog droppings and signage will be installed.

Council has also committed \$40,000 towards a funding submission for Stage One of the Principal Cycle Network from Mossman to Cooya Beach.

"Council has invested in infrastructure that will inject value and provide recreational opportunities," Mayor Leu said.

"It is vital for a community's health and well-being that we provide these exciting community projects to benefit everyone."

Other projects include an upgrade to the Mossman Skate Park (\$150,000); design a kid's zero-depth water park or nature play activities space in Port Douglas (\$30,000), playground upgrades (\$250,000) and a new toilet block at Lou Prince Park in Cooya Beach (\$100,000).

MORE DETAILS AVAILABLE AT COUNCIL'S WEBSITE

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