

2025 bp Adelaide Grand Final - South Australian Motor Sport Board Event Consultation

Strategic Alignment - Our Community

Public

Tuesday, 1 July 2025

City Community Services and Culture Committee

Program Contact:

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Approving Officer:

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report seeks Council's advice on the proposed declarations for the 2025 bp Adelaide Grand Final (formerly VAILO Adelaide 500) and any feedback relating to:

- The Declared Area, being the Park Lands and road areas proposed to be used as part of the event.
- The Prescribed Works Period, being the period of event setup and removal.
- The Declared Period, being the proposed period of event operation.

The event dates for 2025 are from 27 to 30 November 2025. This is two weeks later than the 2024 event and coincides with Black Friday trading in the City.

The 2025 bp Adelaide Grand Final is a premier event in the Supercars Championship. The race attracts fans and drivers from around the country and continues Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16)'s dual legacy of public park and Australian motorsport hub. The event is managed by the South Australian Motor Sport Board (SAMSB).

Under the *South Australian Motor Sport Act 1984* section 20(1), the Premier of South Australia (Premier) may declare a specified Declared Area and Declared Period for the purposes of carrying out motor sport events. They may also specify a Prescribed Works Period, during which the SAMSB may have access to the land within the Declared Area for the purpose of carrying out works for the event.

The proposed Declared Area for the 2025 event has decreased by approximately 10,375m² compared to the area declared for the 2024 event. These changes are detailed in paragraph 12 of this report.

The total occupation period of the Park Lands has decreased by two days compared to 2024.

The consultation period concludes on 11 July 2025. SAMSB consulted with Kadaltilla on 26 June 2025 and a verbal update on their advice will be provided.

Feedback is being sought on the Declared Area, Declared Period and Prescribed Works Period and in the context of the impact on the Park Lands, City residents, visitors, and the economy.

RECOMMENDATION

The following recommendation will be presented to Council on 8 July 2024 for consideration

THAT THE CITY COMMUNITY SERVICES AND CULTURE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL THAT COUNCIL

1. Notes the Declaration of the proposed Declared Area, Declared Period and Prescribed Works Period for the purpose of conducting the 2025 bp Adelaide Grand Final event, as contained in this report.
2. Authorises the Lord Mayor to write to the Chief Executive Officer of the South Australian Motor Sport Board on behalf of Council with its feedback to the consultation and provide the following feedback and advice:

- 2.1. Request the South Australian Motor Sport Board to notify adjacent and affected residents and businesses of the 2025 event, regarding any impacts to the Park Lands and roads, including changes to the Declared Area and new programming elements likely to impact the local area.
 - 2.2. Request that the State Government works with City of Adelaide and the Adelaide Economic Development Agency to support the visitor economy during the Thursday 27 November to Sunday 30 November 2025 event by:
 - 2.2.1. Promoting visitation to the city, with particular focus on Black Friday, 28 November 2025.
 - 2.2.2. Considers improvements to public transport into and out of the City during this time, particularly on Friday 28 November when extended trading hours are in place.
 - 2.3. Request further exploration to increase access to the bikeways and pathways and further promote access considerations, during the Prescribed Works Period.
 - 2.4. Seek any update on the development of a sustainability strategy to reduce the carbon emissions for the bp Adelaide Grand Final event.
 - 2.5. Work collaboratively to pursue greening and tree canopy increase in Victoria Park/ Pakapakanthi (Park 16) in line with Council's draft Master Plan.
 - 2.6. Ensure the use of or the reinstatement of permeable pathways.
 - 2.7. Consider legacy infrastructure in keeping with the Victoria Park/ Pakapakanthi (Park 16) Master Plan and the Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy (APLMS).
 3. Notes Kadaltilla met on 26 June 2025 as part of the required consultation and will provide feedback to the State Government.
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IMPLICATIONS AND FINANCIALS

City of Adelaide 2024-2028 Strategic Plan	Strategic Alignment- Our Economy Adelaide's unique experience and opportunities attract visitors to our City
Policy	The Community Land Management Plan (CLMP) for Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16) recognises the bp Adelaide Grand Final event and the powers provided to SAMSB under the <i>South Australian Motor Sports Act 1984</i> (the Act). It also recognises the restrictions on public use and movement imposed by this Act and the associated event.
Consultation	The Premier, through the SAMSB, has a legislative obligation to consult with Kadaltila and Council regarding the Declared Area, Declared Period, and Prescribed Works Period for the Adelaide Grand Final event. SAMSB consulted with Kadaltila on 26 June 2025 and advice is provided in paragraph 29 of this report. The SAMSB consultation period concludes 11 July 2025.
Resource	This activity will be facilitated within existing resources.
Risk / Legal / Legislative	Pursuant to powers provided under Section 20 (1) of the Act, the Premier may declare a Declared Area, Declared Period and Prescribed Works Period for the purpose of conducting the bp Adelaide Grand Final event each year.
Opportunities	The event attracts many visitors to the City, in alignment with CoA Economic Development Strategy 2024- 2028. Administration will work with the SAMSB to identify opportunities including greening (short term and long term) within the Declared Area for the benefit of the event, spectators and general park visitors.
25/26 Budget Allocation	Not as a result of this report
Proposed 26/27 Budget Allocation	Not as a result of this report
Life of Project, Service, Initiative or (Expectancy of) Asset	The Declarations referred to in this report are in reference to the bp Adelaide Grand Final 2025 event only, with the end of the Prescribed Works Period proposed to be 8 February 2026.
25/26 Budget Reconsideration (if applicable)	Not as a result of this report
Ongoing Costs (eg maintenance cost)	Not as a result of this report
Other Funding Sources	Not as a result of this report

DISCUSSION

Background

1. The 2025 bp Adelaide Grand Final (formally Vailo Adelaide 500) event is staged by the South Australian Motor Sport Board (SAMSAB) each year pursuant to powers provided under the *South Australian Motor Sport Act 1984* (the Act). Under Section 20 (1) of the Act, the Premier of South Australia may declare:
 - 1.1. A specified area (consisting of public road or Park Land or both) in Adelaide, to be a Declared Area under the Act for the purposes of running the event; and
 - 1.2. A specified period (not exceeding five days) to be a Declared Period under this Act for the purposes of the event; and
 - 1.3. A specified period or periods (Prescribed Works Period) under the Act during which the SAMSAB may have access to land within a Declared Area for the purposes of carrying out works in the manner contemplated by Section 22 (1a) (and different periods may be specified in respect of different categories of work).
2. On behalf of the Minister responsible for the *South Australian Motor Sport Act 1984*, the Chief Executive, the SAMSAB wrote to the Lord Mayor on 15 May 2025. The letter [\[Link 1\]](#) outlines the Declarations of the bp Adelaide Grand Final 2025 (the event) and was addressed to the Lord Mayor in their capacity as Lord Mayor of the City of Adelaide and as the Presiding Member for Kadaltilla.
3. On Monday 23 June 2025, the SAMSAB wrote to the Lord Mayor with an update to the proposed declarations ([Link 4](#)). The only change when compared to the original Declared Area is the inclusion of Park 16 section of Beaumont Road. This is to allow for increased event logistical requirements in relation to truck park up post event build. Whilst included in the Declared Area, the area in question will only be occupied for the 4 days of the event (Thursday 27 November to Sunday 30 November 2025)
4. The event dates for 2025 are Thursday 27 November to Sunday 30 November. In accordance with previous practice and pursuant to Section 20 (1) of the Act, the Declared Period will cover the event days as well as the day immediately before, Wednesday 26 November 2025.
5. Mr Mark Warren, Chief Executive Officer of the South Australian Motorsport Board, will be presenting to the City Community Services and Culture Committee as part of the event consultation on 1 July 2025.

Declared Area

6. The proposed Declared Area includes Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16), King Rodney Park / Ityamaitipina (Park 15), Rymill Park / Murlawirrapurka (Park 14) and public roads including Wakefield Road, East Terrace, Bartels Road, Hutt Street, Nil Street, Flinders Street, Dequetteville Terrace and Fullarton Road.
7. The 2025 Declared Area is shown in [Link 2](#).
8. The Declared Area for the event in 2025 includes:
 - 8.1. Continued exclusion of the Quentin Kenihan Inclusive Playspace from the Declared Area, allowing it to remain open to the public.
 - 8.2. Continued exclusion of the Protected Conservation Zone and Butterfly Conservation Zone from the Declared Area.
 - 8.3. New removal of an area within the north-west section of Rymill Park / Murlawirrapurka (Park 14) between the O'Bahn tunnel and Rundle Road.
 - 8.4. New inclusion of car parks along East Terrace between the intersections at Angas and Halifax Streets, and the extension of Dequetteville Terrace north up to Bartels Road intersection, to allow for improved gate operations, including patron egress.
 - 8.5. New inclusion of Park 16 section of Beaumont Road. This is to allow for increased event logistical requirements in relation to truck park up post event build. Whilst included in the Declared Area, this area will only be occupied for the 4 days of the event (Thursday 27 November to Sunday 30 November 2025)
9. The SAMSAB advises that there are no plans for a recreational vehicle (RV) park as part of the 2025 event.

Prescribed Works Period

10. The Prescribed Works Period is proposed to commence on Wednesday 3 September 2025 and conclude on Sunday 8 February 2026. This is a decrease of two days compared to the 2024 event, to a total of 159 days.

11. The Prescribed Works Period takes a staged approach, commencing in a section of Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16) and progressing through the build process. Many areas of the Park Lands within the Declared Area are left open and accessible for large periods of time during the Prescribed Works Period.

Noted Changes for 2025

12. The table below illustrates the changes to the size of the Declared Area and duration of the Prescribed Works Period.

Table 1 – Comparison Table

	2022	2023	2024	2025
Total size of the Declared Area (inc Park Lands and roads)	854,651m ²	811,317m ²	867,945m ²	857,570m ²
Size of the Declared Area (within the Park Lands not inc roads)	Approximately 705,000m ²	Approximately 703,000m ²	Approximately 766,000m ²	Approximately 741,000m ²
Size of the events fenced area	Not available	Not available	Not available	629,977m ²
Duration of the Prescribed Works Period	196 days (First year of the event's return. Additional time was required to complete capital works)	154 days (28 August 2023- 28 January 2024)	161 days (19 August 2024- 26 January 2025)	159 days (3 September 2025 to 8 February 2026)
Addition of Declared Areas (within the Park Lands)	First year of the event's return	Within Rymill Park/ Murlawirrapurka (Park 14)	Within Victoria Park/ Pakapakanthi (Park 16) Within Rymill Park/ Murlawirrapurka (Park 14)	Nil
Reduction of Declared Areas (within the Park Lands)	First year of the event's return	Within Victoria Park/ Pakapakanthi (Park 16), Southern end	Within Rymill Park/ Murlawirrapurka (Park 14) (the Quentin Kenihan Inclusive Play space)	Within the northwest area of Rymill Park/ Murlawirrapurka (Park 14)

13. [Link 3](#) shows the locations of the Park Lands areas that are proposed to change from 2024 to 2025 (noting this map doesn't include the most recent update to include the section of Beaumont Road).
14. The Declared Area does include the addition of car parks along East Terrace between the intersections at Angas and Halifax Streets, and the extension of Dequetteville Terrace north, up to Bartels Road intersection, to allow for improved gate operations, including patron egress.
15. The Declared Area includes the addition of a Park 16 section of Beaumont Road. This is reported to allow for increased event logistical requirements in relation to truck park up post event build. Whilst included in the Declared Area, this area will only be occupied for the 4 days of the event (Thursday 27 November to Sunday 30 November 2025).
16. The 2025 event will be held two weeks later than 2024, coinciding with Black Friday trading in the City. The timing of the event is based on the Supercars national calendar. The timing may impact access to the City throughout the Black Friday weekend.

17. In 2023 the event dates also coincided with Black Friday and at the time, it was reported that while visitation in Rundle Mall was down, city wide spending was up on previous years. Total city-wide spending increased again during Black Friday 2024.

Criterion Track and Cycling Events

18. The Criterion Track is a purpose built offroad cycling facility and the only one of its kind servicing metropolitan Adelaide. Criterion racing is traditionally held in the summer months, on weeknights, taking advantage of daylight savings.
19. This event will have an impact on the ability of cycling organisations to hold a full criterium season with the track not being available for over three weeks (including the 2025 bp Adelaide Grand Final event dates).
20. A meeting will be proposed to be held between AusCycling and the SAMSB (and/or its representatives) before the Prescribed Works Period commences, to set timeframes for use of the Criterion Track pre and post-event. Where possible the SAMSB will accommodate use of the Criterion Track for night racing up until it is determined by SAMSB that it is no longer safe to do so.

Other User Impacts:

21. Other facilities and areas impacted by the event include:
 - 21.1. Community use of the skate park and 3-on-3 basketball courts in Park 15.
 - 21.2. Community use of the Glover East Playground.
 - 21.3. Use of the three playing fields and cricket nets in Park 15 used for school and community sport, including post-event impacts due to playing surface remediation requirements.
 - 21.4. Community use of the disc golf facility in Park 15.
 - 21.5. Existing commercial lessees of the Victoria Park Grandstand, Victoria Park Social Club and Kiosk Lola, with trading encumbrances on the lessees, if they choose to be involved in the event.
 - 21.6. Seasonal hire users of the playing fields in Park 16.
 - 21.7. Parkrun, a free community running event held every Saturday morning in Park 16.
 - 21.8. Significant number of visitors and casual users who recreate in Park 16 every day.
22. Council and the SAMSB will write to all of these operators to ensure they are well informed of the planned impacts and respective dates, with details on who to contact with any questions.
23. Residents and businesses that are located within the Declared Area will be impacted by the changes to their surroundings, through changes to access, parking arrangements, rubbish collection or access to other Council services. The SAMSB works closely with the CoA to limit these impacts, such as providing alternate parking and rubbish collection arrangements, as well as employing someone in a Stakeholder Engagement role to work with these affected stakeholders in the lead-up to and during the event.

Road Closures

24. There are a number of road closures associated with the event and there will be impacts to road users who travel east-west through or into the City. Detours are put in place during this time and are monitored to ensure efficiency. Impacts to travel times will be expected during peak times as conditions change.
25. The duration and nature of the road closures remain consistent with the 2024 event.

Management Agreement Area, Native Grass Restoration Site and Butterfly Conservation Zone

26. These areas are shown in [Link 3](#) and all sit outside of the events Declared Area for 2025.

Path Access Restrictions

27. To maintain public access to the Park Lands for as long as possible, the event uses a staged build methodology, which leaves the erection of fencing and particularly the closing of sections, as late as possible.
28. The two east-west footpaths through Park 16 between Fullarton Road and Halifax Street will remain open for as long as possible during the Prescribed Works Period.
 - 28.1. To facilitate the safe and timely delivery of the event, there will be a requirement to periodically close one of these paths.
 - 28.2. The organisers note that planning is proceeding to allow the two east-west bike tracks to remain open for as long as possible. At least one track will be open at all times except for the seven days prior to

the Declared Period and seven days post the Declared Period. There will be additional short closures during high-risk construction works.

- 28.3. Upon re-opening the paths after seven days post-event, access for the travelling public will be available on the southern pathway.
29. The SAMSB will develop an event signage plan that informs users of the Park Lands of access changes, path closure times and dates as well as alternative access routes. This will be complemented by planned website notifications, advising the public what will be inaccessible and for what period.
30. The event undertakes mail out notifications to the local area include event timings, impacts and general information.

Kadaltilla / Park Lands Authority

31. Kadaltilla met on 26 June 2025 to consider the declarations as part of the consultation, and an update will be provided to the Committee by the Presiding Member.

Master Plan for Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16)

32. A Master Plan for Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16) has been developed, including Kadaltilla advice and community consultation.
33. A key consideration is exploring opportunities for short term and long-term greening in the northern section of the park, which falls within the Declared Area. This would help with addressing the lack of trees and shade in the park to provide a hospitable and attractively landscaped environment for a future, hotter climate.
34. There are opportunities for greening and shading which can assist in discussions with the SAMSB for the event, to provide a more attractive and cooler environment for the event, spectators and general park visitors. Tree plantings have occurred recently and will continue to be planned in consideration of the event.

Other Events

35. Major events currently proposed within the Prescribed Works Period and area include:
- 35.1. Arts and Culture Music Festival in King Rodney Park / Ityamai-itpina (Park 15) & Rymill Park / Murlawirrapurka (Park 14) dates either 25 and 26 October 2025 or 1 and 2 November 2025.
- 35.2. MRASA Toy Run in Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16) on 14 December 2025.
- 35.3. These events have been successfully accommodated and run in previous years.
36. There are also a number of small events, such as weddings, cycling and running events booked within this area during the Prescribed Works Period. A list of these events and their contacts will be supplied to the SAMSB for consideration.
37. The SAMSB continues to liaise with Council and other event and sporting group customers, to accommodate these events and activities where it is safe to do so without any disruption during the Prescribed Works Period.

Working Group

38. A working group between CoA and the SAMSB was established following a decision of Council in 2024. This group meets regularly through the year to address items relevant to the Park Lands and the events occupation, at a strategic and operational level.

Remediation

39. Assessment and remediation of the area impacted by the event occurs in a staged approach as infrastructure is removed. The SAMSB covers costs associated with remediation.

DATA AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Link 1 - [Letter #1 from Chief Executive, SA Motor Sport, Department of the Premier and Cabinet to the Lord Mayor](#)

Link 2 - [Map of the proposed 2025 Declared Area](#)

Link 3 - [Map of the 2025 changes to the Declared Area](#)

Link 4 - [Letter #2 from Chief Executive, SA Motor Sport, Department of the Premier and Cabinet to the Lord Mayor](#)

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

- END OF REPORT -