

ATTACHMENT D

**COMMUNITY CONSULTATION
STAGE 3 REPORT**



CITY OF SYDNEY

JOHNSTONS CREEK PARKLANDS
Draft Master Plan
Public Exhibition

Stage 3: Consultation Outcomes Report

VOLUME 1
June 2013



strategic engagement & communications

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Introduction

The City of Sydney is preparing a Master Plan to guide the future of the Johnstons Creek Parklands. The Plan will provide a direction for the future of three new open spaces (Crescent Lands, the Hill and the new open space connected to the former Harold Park) and ensure their integration with the existing parks (Bicentennial, Federal and Jubilee).

The Master Plan will guide a coordinated planning approach for recreation, community and sporting facilities across the Parklands, as well as supporting infrastructure including toilets and parking, stormwater management, heritage values and relationships to adjacent lands. It will guide improvements in walking and cycling connections, along with identity, landscape character and biodiversity.

Community input is a vital part of planning for the Parklands. The City of Sydney has engaged KJA to implement a consultation process, working with key stakeholders and the community to help find the best solutions for the future of the parklands.

Consultation overview

The City of Sydney completed a detailed three-stage consultation process to seek community input and feedback on the preparation of the draft Master Plan. The delivery of all consultation and engagement activities was underpinned by a commitment from the City of Sydney to implement an engagement program that informs stakeholders about the purpose of the Master Plan and the importance of community feedback in shaping a final plan.

STAGE 1, June/July 2012: The first stage of consultation gathered the community's ideas, priorities and aspirations for the future of the Parklands.

STAGE 2, December 2012: The findings from Stage 1, together with technical studies, were used to develop a set of detailed principles and strategies. Stage 2 consultation sought feedback on these, through a community workshop and focus group.

STAGE 3, April/May 2013: The feedback and technical investigations from Stage 2 were used to develop the draft Master Plan that was the subject of consultation and public exhibition over a four-week period between Friday 19 April and Friday 17 May 2013.

This report summarises the findings and feedback from the third stage of consultation undertaken during the public exhibition period. Participants were asked to comment on four principles (Environment and Water; Recreation; Transport, Access and Circulation; and Heritage and Character) and three specific Parklands areas (The Hill, Crescent Lands and Harold Park). Each of these principles and areas was further divided into individual components.

Feedback

The City received a broad range of community feedback during the exhibition period. This included:

- **209 surveys**
- **61 feedback forms** (completed during the drop-in event) and
- **200 submissions**, received by City of Sydney during public exhibition.

Key findings

Key findings from stage three consultation are summarised below.

ENVIRONMENT AND WATER

- At least 66 comments against the proposed saltmarsh island at the foreshore adjacent to the pavilion were received. Many said the saltmarsh should not be expanded at the expense of open space.
- Support for naturalisation of the canal and flood mitigation to flood proof playing fields.

RECREATION

- Providing additional sporting facilities received good support, with a skateboarding facility and a hockey field mentioned on at least 20 and 17 occasions respectively.
- A few people supported the provision of multipurpose sports facilities. Other requests included cricket nets, playgrounds (especially for older children) and tennis courts.
- Some respondents felt that passive recreation was more important.

TRANSPORT ACCESS AND CIRCULATION

- Opposition to the proposed stair access from the cliff face at the Toxteth Estate was the key theme to emerge under Transport Access and Circulation (more than 70 comments). A petition against this proposal, with 38 signatures, was also received.
- Reasons why stair access was not supported range from destruction of serenity, increased competition for parking, and more people visiting the parklands.

HERITAGE AND CHARACTER

- Although Heritage and Character generated fewer comments than other Master Plan principles, recognising the heritage of the parklands was generally seen as important.
- The item referred to most often in this category was viaducts. Views about opening the areas under the viaduct were mixed. While some people liked the proposal to open up the spaces under the viaduct, there was also support for retaining some areas for practical uses, such as storage for sporting teams, arts and cultural uses, and band practice.

THE HILL

- The Hill received the smallest number of individual comments. Opening up access and providing views were the ideas that received the most support for this topic.

HAROLD PARK

- Feedback on the new parkland next to the Harold Park development was varied, although integrating the area into the rest of the parklands was well supported.
- Relocating the proposed sporting facilities from the Crescent Lands to Harold Park was a frequently raised theme amongst those who made individual submissions on this topic (20).

CRESCENT LANDS

- The Crescent Lands generated a strong response. While at least 21 comments in support of the proposal were received, the plan to retain and adaptively reuse buildings on the Crescent Lands generated considerable opposition (around 99 responses).
- Many submissions referenced Leichhardt Council's 1994 Master Plan, and disagreed with the City of Sydney revising or changing this earlier Master Plan.

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Summary

The high number of responses demonstrates there is considerable community interest in the future of the Johnstons Creek Parklands. It also confirms the Parklands provide a significant resource for passive and active recreation for people in both Annandale and Glebe, as well as those from the broader area.

To some extent the responses from Stage 3, particularly regarding the proposed stair access from Totexth Estate, the expansion of the saltmarsh island and the sporting facilities along The Cesecent Land, are consistent with Stage 2 consultation outcomes. These items were the subject of considerable debate during the community workshop in December 2012.

Future planning will need to take into account the wide range of viewpoints from the community. The City of Sydney should continue to undertake consultation during detailed design phases of future projects within the Parklands.



2. Introduction

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The City of Sydney is preparing a comprehensive new Master Plan for the Johnstons Creek Parklands. The Plan encompasses a number of individual parks and green spaces including:

- Jubilee Park
- Jubilee Oval
- Pope Paul VI Reserve
- Bicentennial Park
- Federal Park

It also incorporates three new areas of:

- The Crescent Lands
- The Hill
- Harold Park

The 2013 Johnstons Creek Parklands Master Plan addresses the Parklands as a whole, while recognising the distinct character of each of the areas that make up the Parklands.

The draft Master Plan acknowledges the Parklands' role as an environmental resource, a cultural focus for local communities and a space for both passive and active recreation. It also reviews facilities such as sports grounds and toilets. The final Master Plan will provide the City with a blueprint for protecting the Parklands' character and delivering quality recreation and open space facilities. It will ensure that the Parklands will serve the needs of local and regional users into the future.

The future aspiration for the Johnstons Creek Parklands has been captured in the vision statement:

“The evolution of the Parklands incorporates new public spaces to create a place with life and purpose for the community, encompassing an expanded range of recreation and cultural experiences, based on sound ecologically sustainable principles.”

To underpin the Vision for the Parklands, the draft Master Plan has been developed based on six principles:

- Environment
- Water
- Recreation
- Transport and Access
- Heritage
- Character

The draft Master Plan respects the area's ecology and heritage, accommodates active lifestyles and responds to residents' need for a sense of tranquillity in an urban setting, and will also provide facilities for future residents.

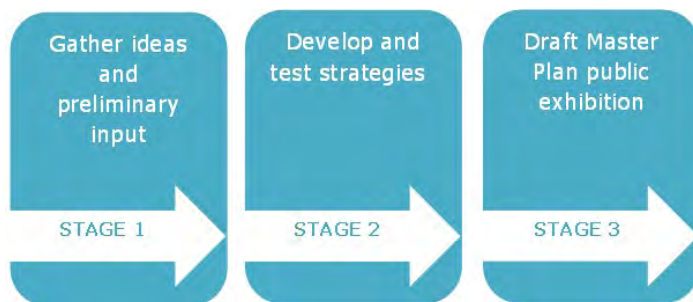
Guided by this Vision and the key principles, the final Master Plan aims to:

- provide a coordinated approach to long term planning across the Parklands for recreation, community and sporting facilities and other supporting infrastructure, including parking, toilets, barbecues, shelters, kayak storage and stormwater management;
- direct the retention and enhancement of heritage;
- influence future access improvements for pedestrian and cycling connections; and
- govern the Parklands' identity, landscape, character and biodiversity.

3. Consultation overview

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Community input has been a vital part of developing the draft Master Plan. The consultation process for the draft Master Plan commenced in mid 2012 and was conducted in three stages. To ensure a broad range of feedback, a series of consultation activities were carried out, including workshops, focus groups, intercept surveys, online community consultation, together with a drop-in event in the Parklands.



STAGE 1

The first stage of consultation was carried out between June and July 2012. The key objectives of this stage were to gather the community’s ideas, priorities and visions for the Parklands.

The consultation process gathered feedback through a range of mechanisms to capture qualitative and quantitative data on how people use the Parklands, what they value most, and their aspirations for the future of the Parklands.

Stage 1 consultation included:

- a community workshop;
- over 120 intercept surveys conducted in the Parklands; and
- three focus groups with local residents, park users and sporting and community groups.

Consultation from Stage 1 identified a number of themes for the future of the Parklands.



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Using the feedback gathered from this initial stage of consultation and the results of technical investigations, the design team developed four overarching strategies:

- Environment and Water
- Recreation
- Transport, Access and Circulation
- Heritage and Character

STAGE 2

Stage 2 consultation was conducted in December 2012. The key objectives of this stage were to test the strategies and explore the options developed following an analysis of the community feedback, input and technical investigations from the earlier stage. Stage 2 consultation included:

- a community workshop
- a focus group
- feedback through the City's *Sydney Your Say* online community consultation hub

59 local residents and community members participated in Stage 2 consultation and 13 submissions were received.

Key findings from Stage 2 included:

- **Transport**
 - Support for strategies to improve public transport and access to light rail.
 - Support improvements to entry points and provision for additional pedestrian crossings.
 - Conflicting views about how to manage parking, with support for retaining the same number of spaces.
- **Character and visual amenity**
 - Support for introduction of urban forest and to protect and enhance views.
 - Support for mix of sporting fields and passive recreation areas.
 - Mixed views about public art.
- **Heritage**
 - Need to recognise indigenous culture.
 - Support retention of current heritage items.
 - Opportunities to interpret tram access.
- **Environment**
 - Strong support for more plantings, with mixed views about type and balance between planted areas and open space.
 - Support for strategy to naturalise canal.
- **Hydrology**
 - Strong support for flood proofing the playing fields.
 - Support to capture and treat storm water.
 - Mixed views about introducing additional salt marsh.
- **Recreation**
 - Support for a balance between passive and active recreation areas.
 - Support for additional toilets, and a circuit track.
 - Mixed views about location of sports facilities.
 - Different preferences for sports fields and indoor multi use facility.

This feedback was used by the design team in developing the draft Master Plan that was the subject of Stage 3 consultation.

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STAGE 3

Stage 3 consultation was carried out over a four-week public exhibition period between Friday 19 April and Friday 17 May 2013. The main objective was to obtain feedback and input from a broad range of park users and the local community on the key strategies and components identified in the draft Master Plan.

Exhibition materials

The draft Master Plan for the Johnstons Creek Parklands was publicly exhibited via the following:

- the City of Sydney's website
- printed copies of the draft report were available for viewing at the Annandale and Glebe Neighbourhood Centres
- project display boards were placed at three key entrances and major walking routes within the Parklands
- electronic copies of the project display boards were also available on the City's Sydney Your Say online community consultation hub
- A3 versions of the display boards could also be viewed at the two information stalls, and used by staff who conducted intercept surveys.

The above materials and a model of the Johnstons Creek Parklands draft Master Plan were displayed at a drop-in event in Bicentennial Park on Saturday 4 May.

Communication activities

To support the public exhibition of the draft Master Plan, including the various consultation activities and opportunities for community feedback, the City undertook a comprehensive information campaign, which included:

- a community notice from the Lord Mayor, letterbox dropped to 18,000 residents (7,625 of these went to residents within the Leichhardt LGA, the balance went to Glebe, Camperdown and Forest Lodge)
- advertisements in City Central and Inner West Courier newspapers
- email to an extensive stakeholder database including local community groups (1), sporting associations, environmental groups, Leichhardt Council, key community members, and those who made submissions in previous consultation phases
- letters from the Lord Mayor and Chief Executive Officer to the local Member of Parliament, Mirvac, and the Mayor of Leichhardt
- information on the City's website.

City of Sydney staff also liaised with Leichhardt Council staff to ensure Leichhardt residents and Councillors were informed of the exhibition period and how they could have their say.

(1) Community Groups invited to make submissions:

Phoenix Football Club, Sydney University Touch Football Association, Sydney Pirates Football Club, Super 6 Soccer, Balmain Women's Australian Football League, Glebe Hockey Club, Balmain Sydney Tigers CC, Glebe Junior Australian Football League, NSW Touch Football, Lunchtime Legends, Leichhardt Bike Users Group, Bicycle NSW, Bike Sydney, the Glebe Society, Blue Wren Society, Coalition of Glebe Groups, Glebe Community Action Group, Glebe Point Residents' Group, Local Bushcare, Glebe Point "Spindlers".

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Consultation activities

In addition to the City's online consultation on its *Sydney Your Say* site, face to face consultation was conducted via intercept surveys and at a major drop-in event, as outlined below.

- Intercept surveys conducted over a three-hour period within the Parklands on the afternoon of 23 April 2013. The date coincided with school holidays and targeted park users including school kids.
- Intercept surveys conducted over a 3-hour period outside the Johnston Street, Annandale shops on the morning of 27 April 2013.
- Intercept survey conducted over a 3-hour period on Glebe Point Road shops opposite Glebe Library during the afternoon of 27 April 2013.
- A drop-in event was held in the Parklands between 10am and 2pm on Saturday 4 May 2013. The event involved a large marquee in Bicentennial Park, a barbecue, children's activities, face to face intercept surveys, feedback forms, project boards, and the model of the draft Master Plan. An additional smaller marquee was also erected next to Federal Park to encourage people throughout the Parklands to participate.

External campaigns

In addition to the City's communication activities, two separate flyers were distributed by community interest groups. These focused on:

- opposition to the stairs from the cliff face at the Toxteth Estate
- a request that the City honour Leichhardt Council's 1994 Master Plan and the proposal for open space on the Crescent Lands.

Process for capturing community responses

Community feedback was gathered in two ways. To source quantitative feedback on key components of the four Master Plan principles, the City developed intercept surveys. To source qualitative feedback, the City encouraged individual submissions and or responses via feedback forms, with the aim of developing a more detailed understanding of key themes.

A combined total of 470 responses were received during Stage 3 through the channels outlined below.

Surveys

To enable quantitative feedback, a survey was developed and structured around the key principles, as well as the new areas identified in the draft Master Plan. (A copy of the survey can be found at Appendix A). Feedback was sought on 32 components of the draft Master Plan, with participants asked to rate each component from *Very Important* to *Not Very Important*. The survey was available in both hard copy (for the face to face consultation events) and online. Surveys also enabled respondents to provide additional comments and feedback at each section. A reply paid envelope was provided during consultation events for people who preferred to mail in their feedback.

A total of 209 surveys were received. The largest number (75) was collected during the face to face consultation in the Parklands on 23 April (midweek afternoon, during school holidays) and on Saturday 4 May. 16 surveys were collected during the face to face consultation on Johnston Street Annandale on 27 April (Saturday morning, end of school holidays), while only 8 surveys were completed on Glebe Point Road on the same day. 77 surveys were completed online and 33 were received via reply paid post.

In addition to the quantitative data, a large number of survey respondents provided detailed feedback and information in the comment boxes under each principle.

Feedback forms

Feedback forms were available during the major consultation event held in the Parklands on 4 May. A total of 61 feedback forms were collected throughout the day. The majority were completed by people who did not want fill out the full survey or wanted to leave specific comments.

Electronic and hard copy submissions by mail

Submissions on the draft Master Plan could be lodged during the exhibition period via email, through the *Sydney Your Say* online hub, or submitted as a hard copy and mailed to the City. A total of 200 submissions were received.

Petition

One petition was received with 38 signatures. The petition opposed the construction of stairs at the end of Toxteth Road and Arcadia Lane. The petition also opposed the provision of any regular bus stops on Maxwell Road or Victoria Road, which were not proposed in the City of Sydney’s Master Plan for Johnstons Creek.



Screen shot of online survey

5. Summary of key findings ATTACHMENT D

Overall, there was broad support for the development of a Master Plan to guide the future of the Johnstons Creek Parklands. Many people were supportive of the City of Sydney's efforts to manage and improve public open space and recreational facilities in the local area. The survey findings indicate strong support for the six key principles in draft Master Plan. This support reflects the results of Stage 1 consultation.

It is important to note that while many people were generally supportive of the draft Master Plan, few of these respondents provided detailed feedback or comments about the draft Master Plan or individual strategies. This trend was reflected in the survey data, where fewer than 50% of respondents added individual comments. It is also consistent with anecdotal comments made during intercept surveys, and from discussions during the drop-in event in the Parklands on 4 May 2013.

Feedback shows that the three most contentious items in the draft Master Plan are:

- the retention of buildings on The Crescent Lands and provision of community facilities and childcare;
- the expansion of the saltmarsh island adjacent to the pavilion along the Glebe foreshore; and
- the proposed stair access from streets in the Toxteth Estate.

To some extent, these concerns are consistent with the consultation outcomes from Stage 2. Sporting facilities along The Crescent, expansion of the saltmarsh, and the proposed stair access were the subject of debate and different view points during the community workshop in December 2012.

The key findings and recurring themes from the consultation and exhibition period, including individual submissions, intercept surveys and feedback forms, are summarised on the following pages.



6. Detailed findings

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ENVIRONMENT AND WATER

The draft Master Plan recognises that the Parklands help to link Sydney Harbour to the Inner West. It serves an important role in providing habitat for local wildlife. Key strategies outlined in the draft Master Plan include additional plantings, enhancement of the saltmarsh and mangroves to improve water quality, and naturalisation of the landscape along the tidal canal.

Six Master Plan components fall into this subject area.

- Introduce new habitat areas for local wildlife, through vegetation corridors and native plantings.
- Improve water quality in the park, the canal, and water entering Rozelle Bay.
- Enhance and create new wetlands and saltmarsh areas.
- Naturalise the canal with native plants and landscaping.
- Harvest rainwater where possible for use in the Parklands.
- Improve the ability of sports fields to withstand heavy rain and flooding.

Respondents were asked to rate these components in order of importance.

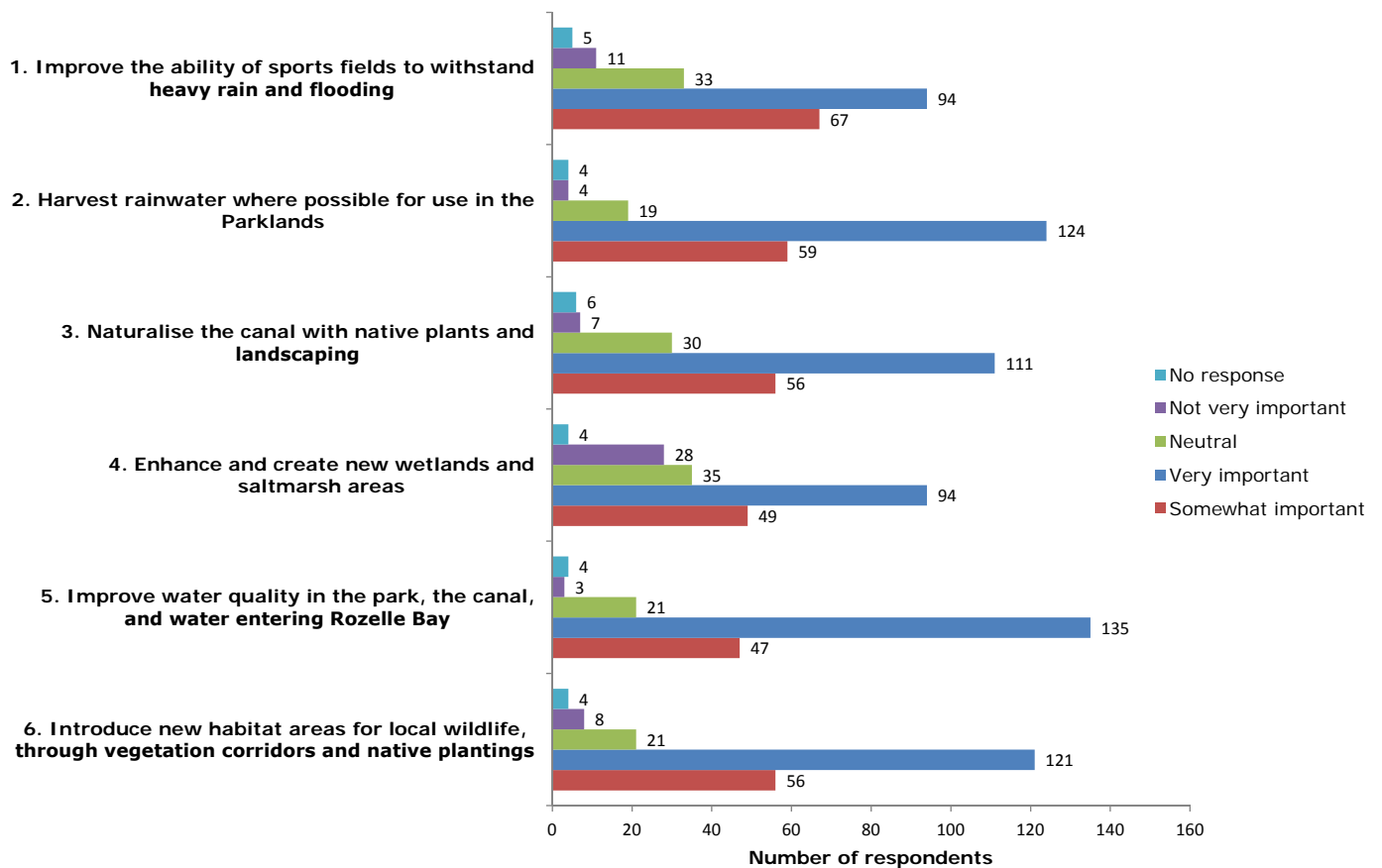


CHART 1: Importance of key strategies for Environment and Water

Quantitative analysis

Component 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6 received strong support, with more than 80% of respondents rating them as *very important* or *somewhat important*. While still drawing positive support, component 4 (*Enhance and create new wetlands and saltmarsh areas*) received a lower rating; fewer than 70% of respondents rated it as *very important* or *somewhat important* and 30% rated it as *neutral* or *not very important*.

Improve water quality in the park, the canal, and water entering Rozelle Bay received the most support, with 135 (64%) respondents rating it as *very important*.

Comments and submissions

The feedback indicates general support for improving water quality entering the harbour, protecting wildlife habitat and managing stormwater and flood proofing within the Parklands. Naturalisation of the canal was also supported.

Key issue

The highest number of comments under Environment and Water referred to the expansion of the saltmarsh adjacent to the pavilion. This was one of the most debated proposals in the master plan, with more than 60 comments opposing any expansion at the expense of open space.

Comments relating to saltmarsh and wetlands included:

“New wetlands are not required, more open space is needed for the increasing population using the park.”

“I think there are some good ideas but please no more wetlands, mangroves or marshlands. Grass and trees for shade.”

“Understand the purpose of wetlands but they’re taking up valuable open space. Reduce them.”

“More open space - no more wetlands and salt water islands!”

“Annandale has the lowest open space ratio in Leichhardt and one of the most rapidly increasing birth rates-we need the open space, not saltmarsh.”



RECREATION

The Parklands are much valued for recreation. The draft Master Plan aims to balance recreational areas for community activities, sporting grounds, walking tracks and open parklands, with passive areas for picnics and relaxation.

Three Master Plan components fall into this subject area.

- Ensure that spaces are flexible and available for use by a broad range of groups.
- Provide additional facilities for passive recreation activities including picnics, seating, relaxation and small events.
- Maintain and improve existing playground areas and develop new play areas that cater to a range of ages, including older children.

Respondents were asked to rate these components in order of importance.

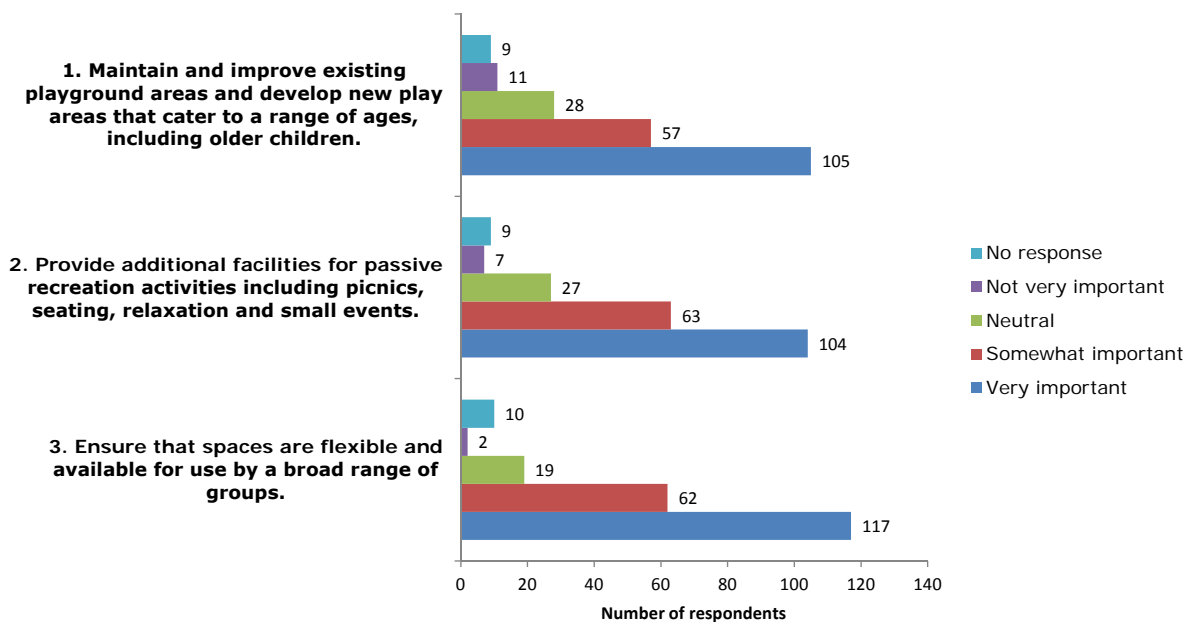


CHART 2: Importance of key strategies for Recreation

Quantitative analysis

All components under *Recreation* received strong support from those surveyed, with all receiving above 80% for *very important* and *somewhat important*. In particular, *Ensure that spaces are flexible and available for use by a broad range of groups* received the most support of any component, with almost 90% rating it *very important* or *somewhat important*.

Comments and submissions

This topic received the highest number of additional comments in the survey. While almost all comments were supportive people wanted exercise and skateboard facilities, playgrounds, activities for older children, more picnic and barbecue areas, sports grounds, a hockey field, cricket nets, and water access for kayaks. More amenities such as toilets and passive recreational areas with seating, BBQ and picnic areas were well received. All of these are accommodated in the draft Master Plan.

Key issue

Sporting facilities

Submissions were received from both organised sporting groups and individuals. Themes included the provision of facilities for local sporting clubs including storage areas, as well as informal games areas, exercise equipment and other activities, such as Cricket nets and tennis courts. Numerous comments mentioned the increasing number of children in the area and the large number of people involved in organised sporting activities. Facilities for skateboarders was widely supported, with at least 20 comments, as was provision of a hockey field (17 comments). Some respondents suggested that Federal Park could include a synthetic multi purpose sports field. Submissions were also received from Cricket and AFL organisations, and there was support for adult exercise equipment.

While there was overall support for sports activities, some people thought the Parklands needed additional passive green spaces, and that active sports activities were already well provided for.

The majority of individual submissions that also supported retaining Leichhardt Council's 1994 Master Plan did not support the provision of formal sports facilities along The Crescent, preferring informal parklands in this area. Some of these submissions suggested the sporting facilities should be located in Harold Park.

Overall more than 30 comments were received proposing sports facilities at Harold Park, including several references to reinstating an earlier proposal for a sports field at the site. These submissions also urged Council to fast-track outdoor sports and recreation facilities along the Crescent.

Comments relating to sporting facilities included:

"Please reinstate the previously promised Harold Park all-weather full-sized sporting field."

"Hockey pitch and multi-use sports and recreation facilities, a priority for the growing population density."

"Please include more skateboard facilities. The little ramp is fun but can only sustain one person at a time. Give the kids (and their dads!) something to do that's not tied into organised sports times etc."

"Basically I would be opposed to more dedicated sporting areas, as they tend to involve barren flat grass land."

"Plan looks very positive from a youth perspective. Very happy to see an area located for a skatepark."

Amenities

There was general support for additional picnic facilities including barbecues and seating. The need for additional toilets was a recurring theme (22 comments); four comments were received opposing the proposed location of the toilets at Northcote Road. A number of other submissions made specific comments about proposed infrastructure, including support for a storage area for kayaks and improving children's play equipment through the Parklands.

Typical comments included:

"There needs to be toilet facilities throughout the parklands to make them user friendly."

"Need more fenced playgrounds and shade cloth."

"Much better picnic spaces, BBQ maintenance would make it a lot better."

TRANSPORT, ACCESS AND CIRCULATION

Improving access to the Parklands, linking different areas through additional pathways, and balancing the need to provide parking while opening up the Parklands to encourage access by foot and public transport are important aspects of the draft Master Plan.

Six Master Plan components fall into this subject area.

- Encourage access via public transport by providing new bus stops, and upgrading access points and signage.
- Clearly identify main park entries and pathways and improve access between areas within the Parklands.
- Provide adequate visitor parking.
- Ensure main access routes can accommodate higher levels of pedestrians and cyclists.
- Provide additional canal crossings to better integrate the different areas of the Parklands.
- Provide additional pedestrian entry points with direct access to the Parklands from The Crescent, Annandale and Maxwell Road, Glebe.

Respondents were asked to rate these components in order of importance.

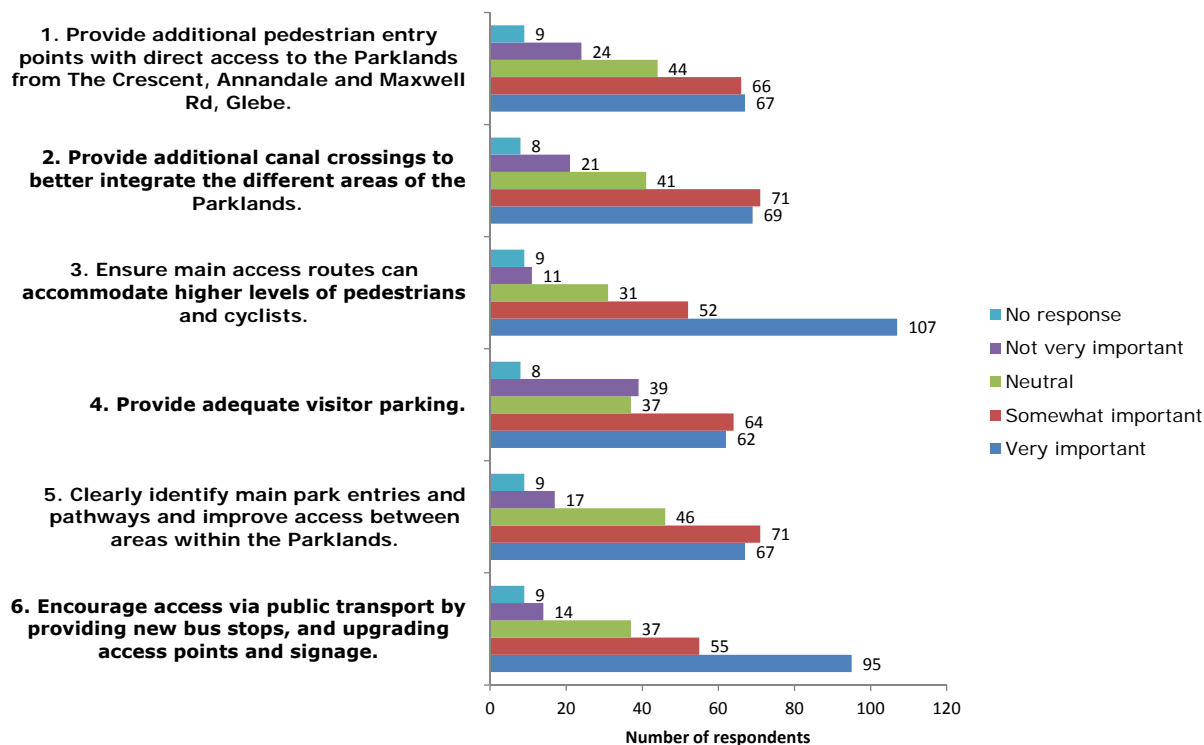


CHART 3: Importance of key strategies for Transport, Access and Circulation

Quantitative analysis

All components under Transport, Access and Circulation received support from those surveyed, with strong support (over 78%) for *Encourage access via public transport by providing new bus stops and upgrading access points and signage* and *Ensure main access routes can accommodate higher levels of pedestrians and cyclists*.

Approximately one third of respondents rated *Provide adequate visitor parking* as *neutral* or *not very important*.

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Comments and submissions

Overall, Transport, Access and Circulation received the second highest response rate (73) from those who provided additional information in their survey responses.

Themes mentioned in this section included linking different areas through additional pathways and balancing the need to provide parking while opening up the Parklands to encourage access by foot and public transport.

Key issue

Stair access

The key theme to come out of Transport, Access and Circulation was stair access from Toxteth Estate into Harold Park. More than 70 submissions strongly opposed stair access, noting the stairs had been rejected in the Harold Park Mirvac development proposal. The petition submitted to Council, which included 38 signatures, objected to stair access as well as bus stops on Maxwell Road and Victoria Road.

Most of the feedback opposing the stair access from the Toxteth Estate was consistent with the external campaign flyer that was distributed. There was a perception that access to Harold Park via stairs through the Toxteth Estate would lead to anti social behaviour, parking issues and destruction of serenity.

Some typical comments about stair access included:

"I am opposed to the stairs from Arcadia Road to the Mirvac development because of the increase in cars, vehicle parking and pedestrians that the stairs will bring."

"Stairs linking Toxteth Rd would be great."

"I live at the very end of Arcadia Rd and don't oppose the construction of the stairs. Don't make them too steep, like the stairs around the cliffs of Pyrmont and they'll be a great access point to the park."

Other issues

Parking

Views were mixed in relation to parking. Some respondents supported the provision of more parking while others preferred the status quo.

Canal crossing

An additional canal crossing point, particularly at the mouth of the canal, received at least 16 comments. While the majority of these comments were supportive, some thought it would create a conflict between cyclists and pedestrians and encourage cyclists to ride along the forshore.

Public transport

Support for better public transport access was encouraged to cater for the increased number of neighbouring residents and park users. However, there was a strong opposition to using Toxteth Road and Maxwell Road as a bus route among respondents from this area. It should be noted that the draft Master Plan and strategies do not propose a new bus route along Maxwell Road.

Cycle facilities

Cycling in the Parklands was another theme that generated comments both for and against. Wider paths and designated cycle paths were seen by some respondents as a solution to pedestrian-cyclist conflicts. A dedicated cycleway along The Crescent was also proposed by respondents, and a cycle advocacy group made a submission with a number of recommendations to improve cycle links. Other

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comments raised conflicts between pedestrians and cyclists. The draft Master Plan provides strategies for a hierarchy but detailed design will be subject to ongoing projects.

Typical comments for these topics included:

"Please do not create any more pathways for cyclists."

"Cyclists and pedestrians don't mix."

"Ensure you replace existing parking with equivalent safe parking."

"Parking is nice, public transport / walking / cycling is better."

"Very very important to provide adequate visitor parking."

"Additional traffic around the park should not be encouraged."

"Very important to provide pedestrian access and public transport to Parklands."

"I think everything possible should be done to encourage park users to arrive by public transport."

HERITAGE AND CHARACTER

The Parklands are made up of a range of parks, playing fields and public spaces, each with their own rich and varied history. The draft Master Plan seeks to tell the story the site's history and recognise the distinct character of each of area, while providing clear public character of the Parklands as a whole.

Six Master Plan components fall into this subject area.

- Maintain and enhance the heritage landscapes and items within the Parklands.
- Use landscape to create a sense of arrival at key entrances to the parklands.
- Open up the areas under the viaducts.
- Recognise the distinct character of each of the areas that make up the Parklands.
- Integrate new areas with the existing Parklands and recognise important landmarks.
- Acknowledge the important history of the Parklands, through interpretation and public art.

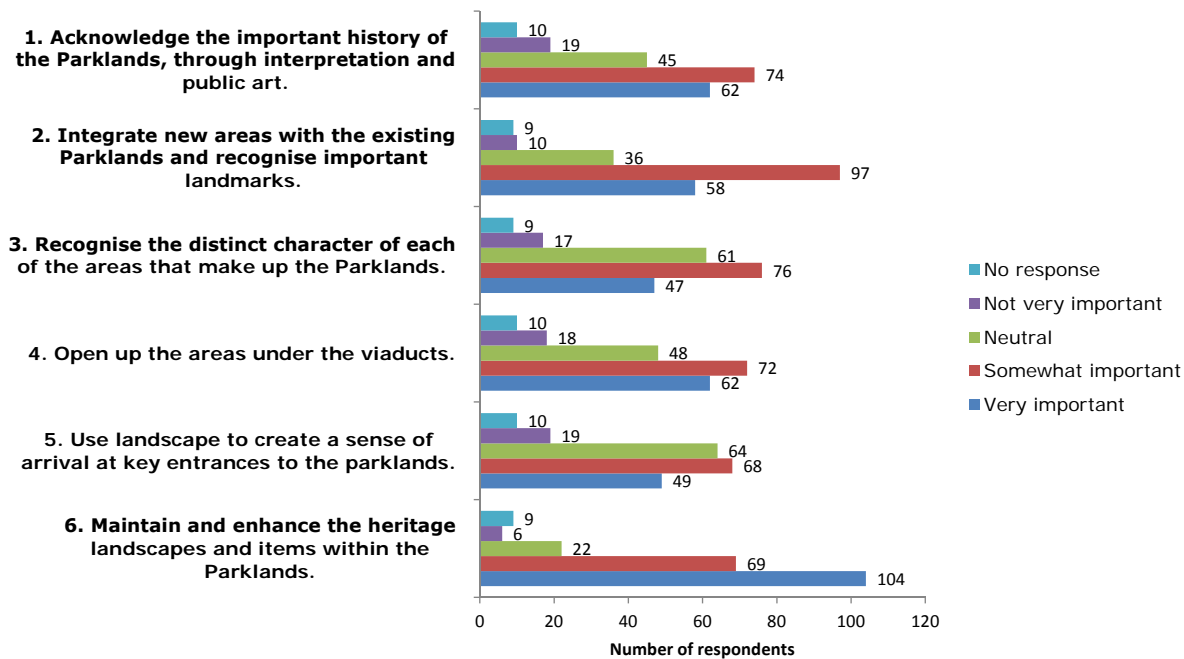


CHART 4: Importance of key strategies for Heritage and Character

Quantitative analysis

All components of this strategy received between 58% and 77% support, with the exception of *Maintain and enhance the heritage landscape within the Parklands*, which was rated as *very important* or *somewhat important* by over 86% of respondents. *Use landscapes to create a sense of arrival at key entrances to the Parklands* and *Recognise the distinct character of each of the areas that make up the Parklands* had significant *neutral* responses (almost 30% each). These were the second and third highest *neutral* responses across the entire survey.

Comments and submissions

Feedback suggests that people understand the need for a balance between heritage value and open space. Celebrating and interpreting Aboriginal heritage in the parklands was important to some respondents.

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Key issue

Viaducts

Opening up the viaduct received the most comments under Heritage and Character (27 comments), with views split between supporters of opening up the viaducts and those wanting the spaces retained, for a variety of different uses. A number of responses referred to the fact that some spaces under the arches are currently used by local artists and sporting clubs, and these uses should be retained.

An example of some of the comments received about Heritage and Character included:

“Lived in the area for 50 years. Really want all the viaducts open and celebrated. Such an important heritage item should not be used for storage.”

“Keep space in archways for bands etc”

“Opening up the areas under the viaduct must not be at the expense of community usage.”

“Maintain the heritage landscapes, sure - but don't enhance.”

“Want Aboriginal heritage celebrated in cultural and heritage items.”

New Parklands areas

In addition to the existing areas within the Parklands, the draft Master Plan considers three new areas at The Crescent Annandale, The Hill near the Jubilee Park light rail station and new parklands in Harold Park. Respondents were asked to rate the importance of key approaches for each area.

CRESCENT LANDS

Three components were included for this area:

- Relocate the existing car park to the edge of the Parklands adjacent to The Crescent.
- Provide new and additional open space and expand recreation opportunities with new areas for ball games, skating and a junior sized oval.
- Provide a multi-purpose indoor space for community uses, such as recreation, cultural activities and childcare.

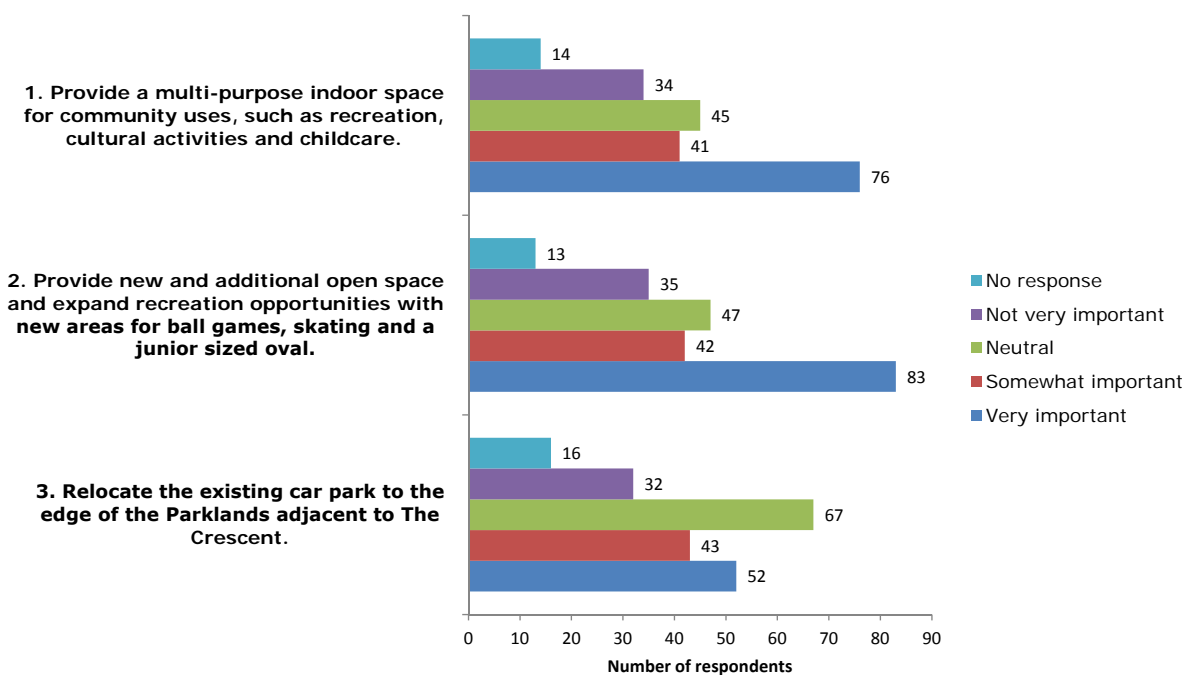


CHART 5: Importance of key strategies for The Crescent

Quantitative analysis

Two of the components relating to Crescent Lands received at least 60% support. However, *Relocate the existing car park to the edge of the Parklands adjacent to The Crescent* was rated as *neutral* or *not very important* by 48% of respondents. This was the highest *neutral* response in the entire survey.

Comments and submissions

Of the 197 people who completed this part of the survey, 61 people also provided individual comments.

Key issue

Buildings along The Crescent Lands

The retention of any buildings and the provision of sporting facilities at The Crescent Lands generated a strong response. While at least 21 comments supported the proposal for the Crescent Lands, (including support of childcare), the plan to retain and adaptively reuse any buildings on the Crescent Lands generated considerable opposition with around 99 responses. Many submissions referenced Leichhardt Council's 1994 Master Plan, and disagreed with the City of Sydney revising or changing this earlier Master Plan. Other concerns raised included increased noise and obstruction of views into the Parklands.

ATTACHMENT D

It should be noted that these objections were not against community facilities, only the location, at least 24 comments were made in support of moving them to the tramshed.

There was also no consensus on sporting facilities at The Crescent, with responses both for and against. Respondents who supported sporting facilities, generally supported these activities along the Crescent. While many of those who were opposed to retaining any buildings also objected to the provision of organised sporting facilities along The Crescent.

Parking

There were mixed views about relocating the car park: some felt parking was important, while others thought it would create more congestion and people should be encouraged to travel by public transport. This is consistent with general comments in relation to parking.

Typical comments relating to The Crescent included:

"Delete the car park. Encourage people to walk, cycle and catch public transport there."

"These initiatives should not be at the expense of parking."

"The Crescent is the obvious choice to allow for car park and additional multi purpose community space given that traffic flows through this area already."

"I do not want any buildings, extra parking or sports facilities to use the parkland that was proposed by Leichhardt council."

"Knock down all buildings and increase park."

"Retaining and re-using existing buildings and structures shows respect for the past whilst ensuring viability for the future. Hope this plan goes ahead."

"Support the Crescent area and childcare."

"The buildings along The Crescent should be demolished as planned and turned into parkland."

HAROLD PARK

Five components were listed for comment:

- Develop new wetlands, a swale and rain gardens to treat stormwater.
- Expand natural habitats through native plantings.
- Improve access from the surrounding neighbourhood via pathways and stairs from the cliff face.
- Provide outdoor community space, adjacent to the tram shed and explore options for community uses and gardens.
- Informal lawn areas, surrounded by trees and native grasslands.

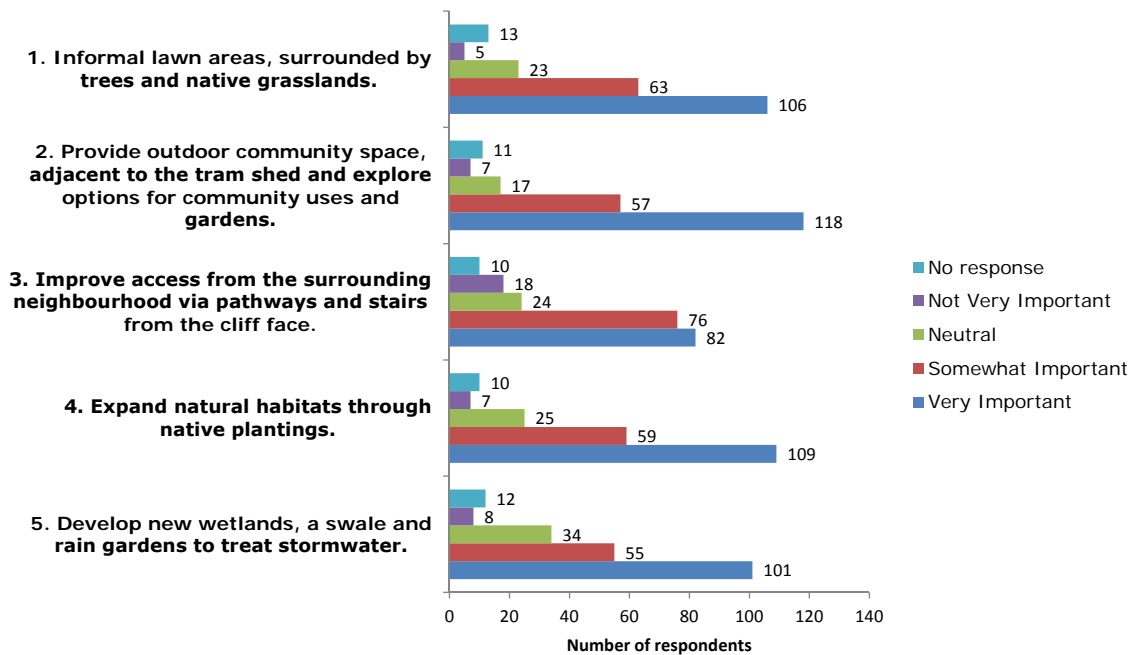


CHART 6: Importance of key strategies for Harold Park

Quantative analysis

All components of this strategy received strong support from those surveyed, with most exceeding an 80% rating as *very important* or *somewhat important*. *Creating an outdoor space and exploring options for community gardens* received the most support.

Comments and submissions

Respondents who completed feedback forms supported integrating the Harold Park open space into the Parklands. The general view was that the space should not be for the exclusive use of future Harold Park residents. The majority of people who mentioned the stairs were opposed to their installation and raised issues about parking by future Harold Park residents, as well as access by thieves and drunks.

Relocating the proposed sporting facilities from the Crescent Lands to Harold Park was a frequent comment among those who made individual submissions on this topic. A number of submissions, mainly from people affiliated with sporting groups, mentioned a previous proposal to build a full sized sporting field within the Harold Park development.

ATTACHMENT D

Typical comments included:

“The Harold Park plan is quite well thought out on the whole.”

“Ensure public access to the new Harold Park development area is imperative; new bridge access great design.”

“It’s critical that it remains in the public use and is accessible and welcoming to all”

“Do not build a stairway from Harold Park to Arcadia Road or Maxwell Road. Keep the traffic out of the Toxteth Estate development.”

“There are safety and anti social behaviours that will be created if new access points are opened up along the Toxteth Estate and we strongly object to this.”



THE HILL

Three components were listed for comment:

- Remediate and reshape The Hill to provide views to the harbour.
- Open up access to The Hill and improve connections to the rest of the Parklands through new pathways, boardwalks and lookouts.
- Planting native woodland whilst maintaining views.

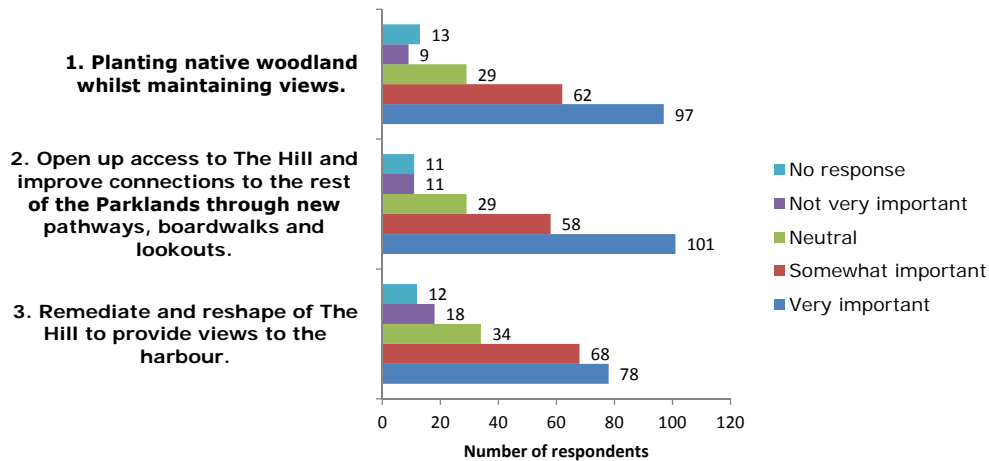


CHART 7: Importance of key strategies for the Hill

Quantative analysis

All components of this strategy received broad support, with over 75% of respondents rating them as *very important* or *somewhat important*.

Comments and submissions

Only a few submissions referred to The Hill, among which providing views was the most consistent theme. Some respondents thought vegetation and trees were more important than views, while others thought The Hill should be removed because it blocked views. Remediating or removing contamination received support, as did opening up access, particularly to the light rail station. Other comments included a suggestion for a community garden. Overall, people liked the possible provision of more open space for passive recreation.

Typical comments relating to The Hill included:

"Good to have a place from which to look down and survey the whole of this very flat area."

"Opening up The Hill is an important part of integrating the existing parks with Harold Park and would provide an interesting viewpoint."

"We don't see the point of The Hill - funds could be better spent elsewhere."

OTHER TOPICS

Dogs

There were differing views about dogs and off-leash areas within the park. Not surprisingly, those who identified themselves as dog owners welcomed the off-leash areas and the small beach that enables dogs to access the water, and would like to see more dog friendly activities. Other respondents expressed concern about the negative impact that dogs have on the Parklands and people's safety. The draft Master Plan and strategies do not alter conditions and that this is considered a management item.

1994 Leichhardt Council Master Plan

The 1994 Leichhardt Council Master Plan and the earlier acquisition of some properties along The Crescent by Leichhardt were among the most frequently raised issues. Both featured consistently in the submissions sent to the City, especially from respondents opposed to the retention or reuse of any Council owned buildings along the Crescent Lands.

Some of this opposition may be attributed to an active community campaign, including the distribution of a community flyer which referenced the 1994 Leichhardt Council Master Plan. The flyer encouraged residents to demand that the City turn all The Crescent Lands into "open space", as per the 1994 Leichhardt Master Plan. Many of the submissions received on this issue endorse the position put forward in the flyer and requested that all the buildings along The Crescent be demolished and the area to be turned to parkland as proposed by Leichhardt Council.

Feedback also revealed some opposition to the City revising or changing the 1994 Master Plan, particularly among those involved in the original proposal. A number of submissions mentioned the community's efforts in expanding the Parklands over the past 30 years and objected to any proposal that deviated from Leichhardt Council's 1994 Plan.

Stair access from Toxteth Estate

Opposition to the proposed stairs was the subject of an active community campaign and one of the top three issues to come out of consultation. A flyer distributed around the Toxteth Estate claimed the City is "double-crossing" local residents by including stairs from Toxteth Road to Harold Park. According to the flyer, the application for the Mirvac development at Harold Park included such stairs and was rejected. Most submissions that appeared to copy or use the flyer as a base also opposed the addition of a bus stop on Victoria Road and any measures to encourage parking on Victoria Road. These items were not part of the draft Master Plan.

7. Respondent profile

ATTACHMENT D

Location

Given that the Parklands are the boundary between the City of Sydney and Leichhardt LGAs, residents from both areas were strongly represented in the Stage 3 consultation. Additionally, the harbourside location, size, and broad range of activities available (including its dog and child friendly nature) ensures the Parklands are used by people from across the region. This is reflected in the significant geographical spread in the intercept surveys and to a lesser extent, the feedback forms, with Sydney, Leichhardt, Marrickville and other LGAs represented.

Of the submissions received by the City, a high number were either from the Toxteth Estate area or residents with a particular interest in the future of the Crescent Lands. This may be partly explained by the campaigns undertaken by community interest groups holding particular views about key parts of the draft Master Plan.

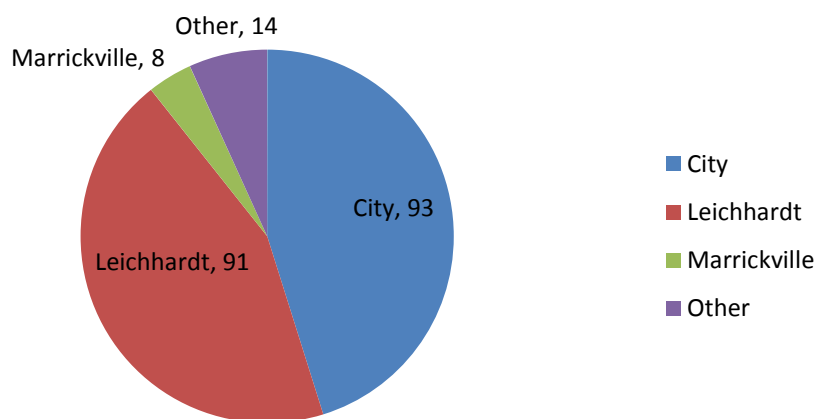


CHART 8: What area are you from?

Age groups

Of the 203 people who completed the survey question about age, 82 people identified themselves as between 30-49 (40.8%) with a further 78 (38.3%) identifying themselves as aged between 50-64. Only 4 people (1.97%) stated they were under 18. These figures indicate that a significantly higher number of people in the age bracket between 30-64 participated in the survey, compared with the representative age groups of people across the area according to 2011 ABS Census data.

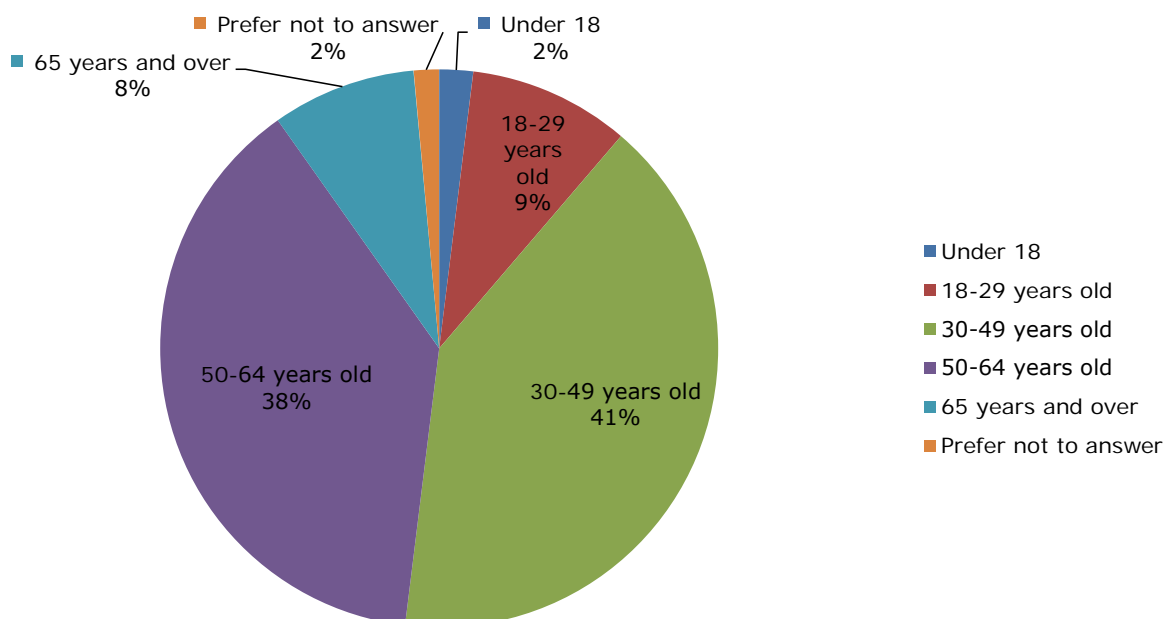
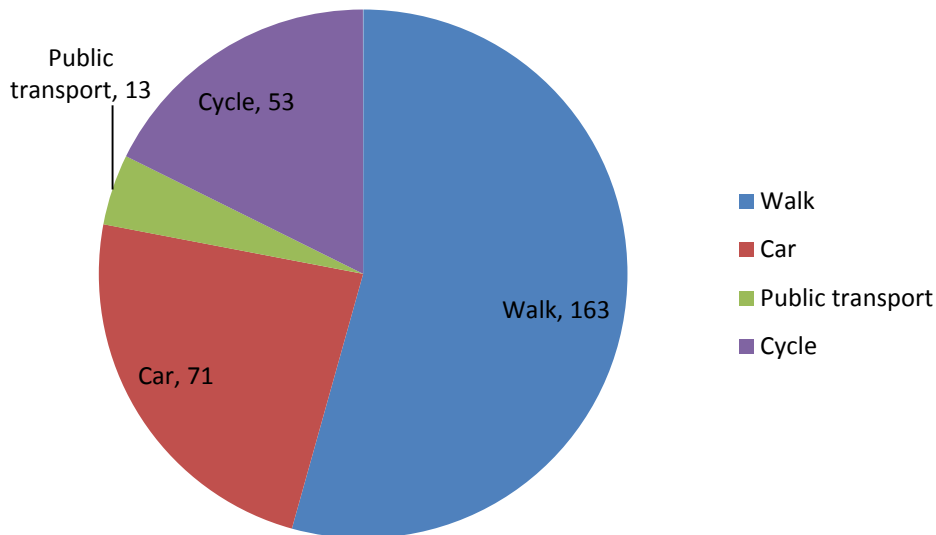


CHART 9: What age group do you belong to?

Parklands usage and accessibility

A key focus of consultation was to understand how people accessed and used the Parklands. Given that users may travel and undertake various activities at different times, respondents to this question were able to tick multiple activities.

From the survey data collected, the overwhelming majority (163 people, or 80%) indicated they walk to the Parklands. 71 people, or 34.9% of respondents, said they drove to the Parklands. 52 people, or 25.6%, said they cycled to or through the Parklands. Only 13 people, or 6.4%, used public transport.



*multiple responses allowed

CHART 10: How do you travel to the parklands

Almost 70% of respondents visit the Parklands at least several times a week. This increases to almost 85% when combined with people who visit the Parklands once a week. Although not necessarily representative of all Parklands users, these findings are consistent with the high representation of locals who participated in the survey.

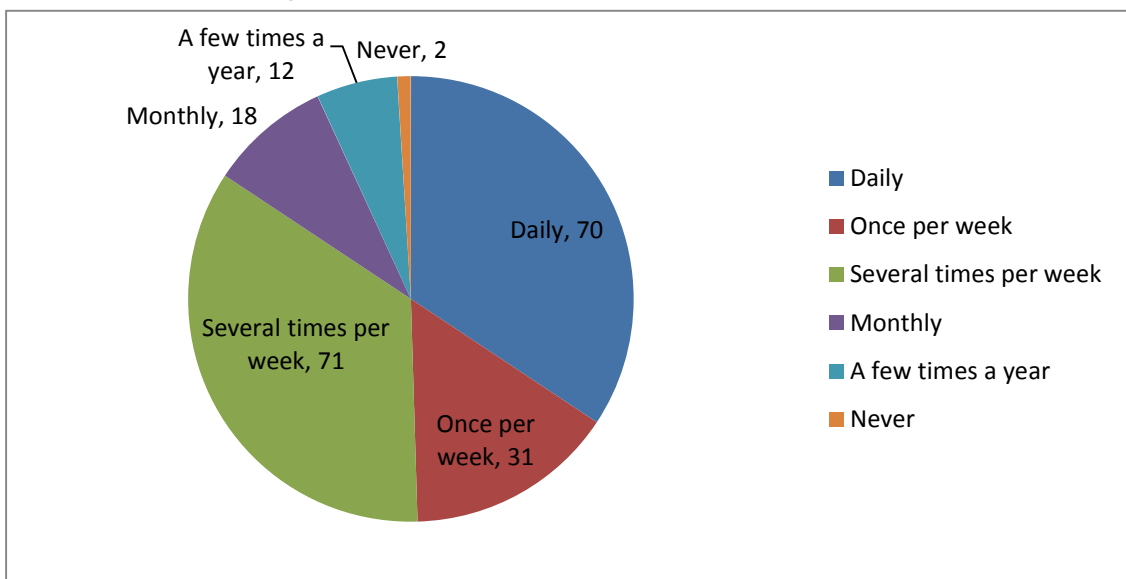


CHART 11: How often do you visit the parklands

Parklands activities

The most popular Parklands activity among respondents is walking, with just over 77% saying they often walk through the park. Other popular activities included walking the dog, having a picnic, relaxing, attending social gatherings, or children’s activities. Around 50% of people said they cycle through the Parklands either often or sometimes. However, accurate feedback from cyclists was hard to gauge, as cyclists were less likely to stop to undertake surveys or provide feedback than pedestrians.

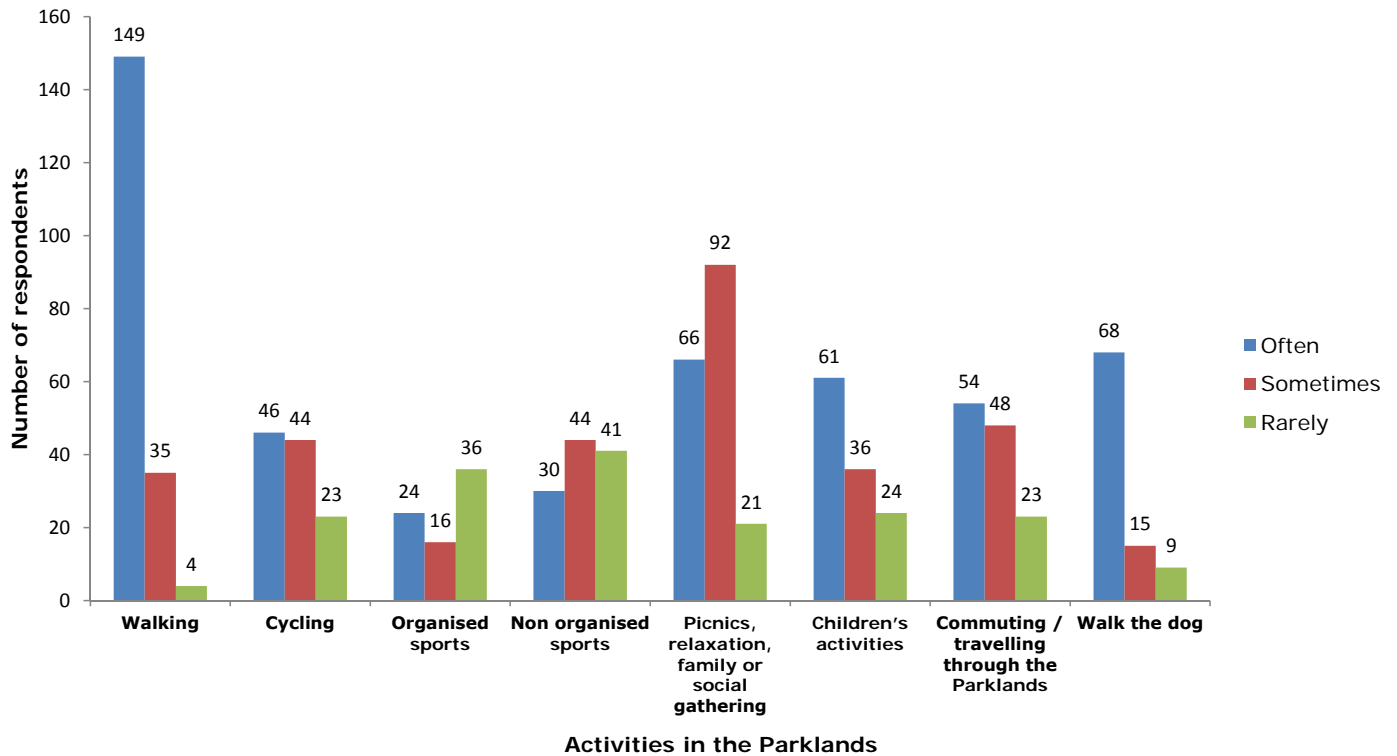


CHART 12: How often do you participate in the following activities in the Parklands?

8. Next steps

ATTACHMENT D

The feedback confirms that the Parklands provides a significant resource for passive and active recreation for people in both the City and Leichhardt LGAs, and act as a regional parkland for the surrounding area.

This strong community interest elicited a wide range of views and although the draft Master Plan was designed to provide a framework to guide future planning and management activities, it is clear that there will continue to be strong interest in any proposed improvements.

Detailed plans for future improvements will need to consider the competing interests of different user groups and individuals. It is recommended the City of Sydney continues to undertake consultation with the community.



ATTACHMENT D



**APPENDIX A-
INTERCEPT SURVEY**

Johnstons Creek Parklands Draft Master Plan Survey

The City of Sydney is creating a long-term plan for Johnstons Creek Parklands that will link existing Glebe foreshore parks with future open space at The Crescent Annandale, the Hill near the Jubilee Park lightrail station and the new parklands in Harold Park.

The Draft Johnstons Creek Master Plan is based on a number of key strategies and design principles that will guide the future management of the Parklands. It will provide a blueprint for protecting the Parklands' character and delivering quality recreation and open space facilities for current and future generations.

The City of Sydney is keen to understand your views. This survey gives you an opportunity to have your say. Your feedback and comments will help us to finalise the 2013 Johnstons Creek Parklands Master Plan and ensure we get the Plan right.

You can view more information about the Draft Master Plan or complete the survey online at sydneyyoursay.com.au/johnstons-creek-parklands. Feedback and comments must be submitted by 17 May 2013.

1. Environment and Water

The Draft Master Plan recognises that the Parklands help to link Sydney Harbour to the Inner West. It serves a key role in providing habitat for local wildlife. Key strategies outlined in the Draft Master Plan include additional plantings, enhancement of the saltmarsh and mangroves to improve water quality, and naturalisation of the landscape along the tidal canal.

Environment and Water Place a tick against how you rate the following in terms of importance.	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Neutral	Not Very Important
Introduce new habitat areas for local wildlife, through vegetation corridors and native plantings.				
Improve water quality in the park, the canal, and water entering Rozelle Bay.				
Enhance and create new wetlands and saltmarsh areas.				
Naturalise the canal with native plants and landscaping.				
Harvest rainwater where possible for use in the Parklands.				
Improve the ability of sports fields to withstand heavy rain and flooding.				

Do you have any additional comments on environment and water? Please indicate below:

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.....

2. Recreation

The Parklands are much valued for recreation. The Draft Master Plan aims to balance recreational areas for community activities, sporting grounds, walking tracks and open parklands, with passive areas for picnics and relaxation.

Recreation Place a tick against how you rate the following in terms of importance.	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Neutral	Not Very Important
Ensure that spaces are flexible and available for use by a broad range of groups.				
Provide additional facilities for passive recreation activities including picnics, seating, relaxation and small events.				
Maintain and improve existing playground areas and develop new play areas that cater to a range of ages, including older children.				

Do you have any additional comments on recreation? Please indicate below:

.....

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3. Transport, Access and Circulation

Improving access to the Parklands, linking different areas through additional pathways, balancing the need to provide parking, while opening up the Parklands to encourage access by foot and public transport are important aspects of the Draft Master Plan.

Transport, Access and Circulation Place a tick against how you rate the following in terms of importance.	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Neutral	Not Very Important
Encourage access via public transport by providing new bus stops, and upgrading access points and signage.				
Clearly identify main park entries and pathways and improve access between areas within the Parklands.				
Provide adequate visitor parking.				
Ensure main access routes can accommodate higher levels of pedestrians and cyclists.				
Provide additional canal crossings to better integrate the different areas of the Parklands.				
Provide additional pedestrian entry points with direct access to the Parklands from The Crescent, Annandale and Maxwell Rd, Glebe.				

Do you have any additional comments on transport, access and circulation? Please indicate below:

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4. Heritage and Character

The Parklands are made up of a range of parks, playing fields and public spaces, each with their own rich and varied history. The Draft Master Plan seeks to tell the story the site's history and recognise the distinct character of each of area, while providing clear public character of the Parklands as a whole.

Heritage and Character Place a tick against and how you rate the following in terms of importance	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Neutral	Not Very Important
Maintain and enhance the heritage landscapes and items within the Parklands.				
Use landscape to create a sense of arrival at key entrances to the parklands.				
Open up the areas under the viaducts.				
Recognise the distinct character of each of the areas that make up the Parklands.				
Integrate new areas with the existing Parklands and recognise important landmarks.				
Acknowledge the important history of the Parklands, through interpretation and public art.				

Do you have any additional comments on heritage and character? Please indicate below:

.....

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New Parklands areas

In addition to the existing areas within the Parklands, the Draft Master Plan considers three new areas at The Crescent Annandale, 'the Hill' near the Jubilee Park light rail station and new parklands in Harold Park. We are interested to hear your feedback on the proposals for these areas. Please indicate how important you think the below design components are to the new areas.

4.1. The Hill

The Hill Please place a tick against how you rate the following in terms of importance	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Neutral	Not Very Important
Remediate and reshape of The Hill to provide views to the harbour.				
Open up access to The Hill and improve connections to the rest of the Parklands through new pathways, boardwalks and lookouts.				
Planting native woodland whilst maintaining views.				

Do you have any additional comments? Please indicate below:

.....

.....

4.2. The Crescent

The Crescent Please place a tick against how you rate the following in terms of importance	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Neutral	Not Very Important
Relocate the existing car park to the edge of the Parklands adjacent to The Crescent.				
Provide new and additional open space and expand recreation opportunities with new areas for ball games, skating and a junior sized oval.				
Provide a multi-purpose indoor space for community uses, such as recreation, cultural activities and childcare.				

Do you have any additional comments? Please indicate below:

.....

.....

4.3. Harold Park

Harold Park Please place a tick against how you rate the following in terms of importance	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Neutral	Not Very Important
Develop new wetlands, a swale and rain gardens to treat stormwater.				
Expand natural habitats through native plantings.				
Improve access from the surrounding neighbourhood via pathways and stairs from the cliff face.				
Provide outdoor community space, adjacent to the tram shed and explore options for community uses and gardens.				
Informal lawn areas, surrounded by trees and native grasslands.				

Do you have any additional comments? Please indicate below:

.....

.....

How do you use the Parklands?

Activities in the Parklands How often to you participate in the following activities in the Parklands? Please tick.	Often	Sometimes	Rarely	Never
Walking				
Cycling				
Organised sports				
Non organised sports				
Picnics, relaxation, family or social gathering				
Children's activities				
Commuting / travelling through the Parklands				
Walk the dog				
Other (please specify)				

5. Additional comments?

Do you have any other comments on the Draft Master Plan? (Please provide details below)

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6. About you

8.1 Which age group do you belong to?

- Under 18
- 18-29 years old
- 30-49 years old
- 50-64 years old
- 65 years and over
- Prefer not to answer

8.2 How do you travel to the Parklands?

- (tick all that apply)**
- Walk
 - Car
 - Public transport
 - Cycle

How often do you visit the park? (tick one)

- Daily
- Once per week
- Several time per week
- Monthly
- A few times a year
- Never

What area are you from? (tick one)

- Glebe
- Annandale
- Leichhardt
- Lilyfield
- Other

Other (please specify)

Other (please specify)

.....