

ATTACHMENT C

SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY COMMENTS

St Helen's Community Garden Consultation August 2013.

Schedule of Community Comments:

- No. of submissions - 36
- Submissions in support - 30
- Submissions in support with conditions - 3
- Submissions not in support - 3

No. of comments	Comments in support:	Response
30	Liked/endorsed/supported the proposal	Note
14	Liked the social and community building benefits it will deliver	Note
7	Liked the environmental benefits it will deliver	Note
7	Liked the constructive use of this currently under-utilized space	Note
5	Liked the location as it is accessible for the entire community	Note
5	Liked that the design is accessible	Note
5	Liked that it has potential for use as a tool for education and learning	Note
5	Is likely to participate	Note
5	Liked the design	Note
4	Is currently a member of the St Helen's community gardening group	Note
3	Endorses the project subject to some issues being clarified/addressed - see below	Note
3	Liked the location as the garden will not impact on any residents (it is situated between the library and the community centre)	Note
1	Liked that the site has a favourable aspect for growing plants	Note
1	Liked that the entire garden is communal (not individual lots)	Note
1	Liked the beehive	Note
1	Wants a compost bin	Will be provided.

No. of comments	Comments	Response
Suggestions/Issues that the 3 participants above would like addressed:		
2	Do not want the existing gum tree at Item 13 on the site plan to be removed	The tree is a small 2 metre high flowering gum which will be transplanted.
1	Don't want 'salvaged sandstone pieces' used in the garden	The sandstone pieces would be recycled sandstone and installed as art pieces in the garden

No. of comments	Comments in support:	Response
1	Would like clarification of funding - does not want ratepayers to fund set up or maintenance	Council funding and community value-in-kind will be used to build the community garden. The community garden group will maintain it.
1	Thinks the layout in the garden design is 'fussy'	The design has been developed to maximise the area and accessibility of gardens, as well as adding to the aesthetic appeal of the community centre and library.
1	Does not think that the issue of pests and vermin is properly addressed in the management plan	The composting activities will be managed to minimise pest and vermin activity. If vermin activity becomes an issue that can not easily be managed by the community garden group professional pest controllers will be used.
1	Concerned that exotic bees may be used in the beehive/be attracted to the beehive	Only native bees will be installed in the hive. The hive will be managed to exclude exotic bees.
1	Concerned about the location and management of the beehive	Native bees have been used in a number of community gardens without any impact to adjoining residents.
1	Murraya Hedge on Glebe Point Road is weedy and should be replaced with native plants	This can be investigated as part of the garden construction.
1	Wants a rainwater tank put along the St Helen's wall (thinks the proposed location of the tanks will mean that pumps will have to be used)	The additional rainwater is proposed to use a solar pump to reduce power usage.
1	Wants the tool shed located in the air conditioning block	This will be investigated, but needs to take into account access for maintenance of the air conditioning unit.
1	Wants a rainwater tank located in the air conditioning block	This will be investigated, but needs to take into account access for maintenance of the air conditioning unit.
1	Wants plants to be purchased through a wholesaler	The community garden group will source plants from a number of channels including growing from seed, cuttings, and community nurseries. Use of wholesale nurseries will need to be investigated by the community gardeners.
1	The proposed pathways are not accessible. Please widen them so that they are compliant with the Disability Discrimination Act 1991 (DDA)	All pathways are wheelchair accessible with over 50% of the pathways meeting DDA requirements. The garden beds are raised to a height suitable for wheelchair access and one garden bed has recessed spaces for wheelchairs to approach the garden front on for easy gardening access. There are wheelchair accessible toilets in the adjoining community centre and library

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Opposed to the Proposal:		
3	Objects to the community garden in this site as it will decrease open space in Glebe	The City has 1,900,000 in excess of square metres of open space. The community garden will occupy only 620 square metres. The proposed garden is being located in an area that is generally under utilised.
2	Thinks this is a selfish use of community space	The community garden will not be fenced and will be accessible to all members of the community to participate or visit.