

12 February 2024

At the conclusion of the Corporate, Finance, Properties  
and Tenders Committee

## **Environment Committee**

**Agenda**

- 1. Confirmation of Minutes**
- 2. Statement of Ethical Obligations and Disclosures of Interest**
- 3. Project Scope - Robyn Kemmis Reserve Renewal, Glebe**
- 4. Project Scope - Minogue Reserve and Playground, Glebe**



## Disclaimer, Terms and Guidelines for Speakers at Council Committees

As part of our democratic process, the City invites members of the community to speak directly to Councillors during Committee meetings about items on the agenda.

### Webcast

In accordance with the *City of Sydney Code of Meeting Practice*, Committee meetings are recorded and webcast live on the City of Sydney website at [www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au](http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au).

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### Guidelines

To enable the Committee to hear a wide range of views and concerns within the limited time available, we encourage people interested in speaking at Committee to:

1. Register to speak by calling Secretariat on 9265 9702 or emailing [secretariat@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au](mailto:secretariat@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au) before 10.00am on the day of the meeting.
2. Check the recommendation in the Committee report before speaking, as it may address your concerns so that you just need to indicate your support for the recommendation.
3. Note that there is a three minute time limit for each speaker (with a warning bell at two minutes) and prepare your presentation to cover your major points within that time.
4. Avoid repeating what previous speakers have said and focus on issues and information that the Committee may not already know.
5. If there is a large number of people interested in the same item as you, try to nominate three representatives to speak on your behalf and to indicate how many people they are representing.

Committee meetings can continue until very late, particularly when there is a long agenda and a large number of speakers. This impacts on speakers who have to wait until very late, as well as City staff and Councillors who are required to remain focused and alert until very late. At the start of each Committee meeting, the Committee Chair may reorder agenda items so that those items with speakers can be dealt with first.

Committee reports are available at [www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au](http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au)

**Item 1.**  
**Confirmation of Minutes**

Minutes of the following meetings of the Environment Committee are submitted for confirmation:

Meeting of 4 December 2023

**Item 2.****Statement of Ethical Obligations**

In accordance with section 233A of the Local Government Act 1993, the Lord Mayor and Councillors are bound by the Oath or Affirmation of Office made at the start of the Council term to undertake their civic duties in the best interests of the people of the City of Sydney and the City of Sydney Council and to faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in them under the Local Government Act 1993 or any other Act, to the best of their ability and judgement.

**Disclosures of Interest**

Pursuant to the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993, the City of Sydney Code of Meeting Practice and the City of Sydney Code of Conduct, Councillors are required to disclose and manage both pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests in any matter on the agenda for this meeting.

In both cases, the nature of the interest must be disclosed.

This includes receipt of reportable political donations over the previous four years.

## **Item 3.**

### **Project Scope - Robyn Kemmis Reserve Renewal, Glebe**

**File No: X090842.002**

#### **Summary**

This report outlines the proposed scope of works for the park refurbishment at Robyn Kemmis Reserve, Glebe. Robyn Kemmis Reserve has been identified as part of the small parks and playgrounds improvement program.

The project brief is to refurbish the play area including replace end of life equipment and soft-fall as required, provide a range of play experiences, improve access into and through the park, improve the function of the existing turf areas, and provide additional seating and associated landscape improvements.

Consideration has been given to the provision of play equipment in surrounding parks within a 500 metre radius to ensure a coordinated network of facilities that caters for a broad range of park users. Nearby is Victoria Park playground, offering a much larger regional scale playground for younger and school age children. A small pocket park upgrade at Glebe Street Playground in Glebe and the youth focused park upgrade at Minogue Reserve in Glebe are both up for renewal. The proposed park and playground improvement works to Minogue Reserve are the subject of a separate report to February 2024 Council.

The Draft Concept Plan was on public exhibition from 9 October 2023 to 6 November 2023. A letter was distributed in the local area and the proposal was exhibited on the City's website. The proposed works was supported by the community which included additional play equipment, added to provide increased play value. The response highlighted that an upgrade of this park would increase the current use of the park.

In response to the Draft Concept Plan public exhibition, native planting throughout the park has been included in the Revised Draft Concept Plan as shown in Attachment B.

This report recommends that Council endorse the proposed scope of works for the park refurbishment at Robyn Kemmis Reserve.

## Recommendation

It is resolved that:

- (A) endorses the scope of improvements to the park and playground at Robyn Kemmis Reserve, Glebe as described in the subject report and shown in the Revised Draft Concept Plan as Attachment B to the subject report, for progression to relevant approvals, preparation of construction documentation, tender and construction.
- (B) Note the estimated project forecast as outlined in Confidential Attachment D to the subject report.

## Attachments

- Attachment A.** Location Plan and Site Photos
- Attachment B.** Revised Draft Concept Plan
- Attachment C.** Engagement Report
- Attachment D.** Financial Implications (Confidential)

## Background

1. The City has an ongoing small parks and playgrounds improvement program. This program is for parks which need upgrade or enhancement works, the replacement of end of life equipment, and to generally provide appropriate facilities for local residents.
2. Robyn Kemmis Reserve is a local park located 20-40 Franklyn Street, Glebe (refer to Attachment A). The site is approximately 1,364 square metres.
3. The land is owned by the State of New South Wales (Crown land). It is under the care and control of the City.
4. Robyn Kemmis Reserve was identified for an upgrade due to the playground's overall condition, end of life play equipment and soft-fall surfacing.
5. The reserve is characterised by a medium sized playground, community building facility, asphalt footpath, lamp posts along the footpath, outdated BBQ, surrounding fence and mature trees that provide shade coverage throughout the park.
6. The existing play equipment includes a play structure with a climbing net and slide, and a two seat swing set.
7. Consideration has been given to the provision of play equipment in surrounding parks within a 500 metre radius to ensure a coordinated network of facilities that caters for a broad range of park users. Consideration has been given to the small pocket park upgrade at Glebe Street Playground in Glebe and the youth focused park upgrade at Minogue Reserve in Glebe. Additional play equipment will be added to Robyn Kemmis Reserve to provide increased play value.
8. The proposed park and playground improvement works to Minogue Reserve are the subject of a separate report to Council.

## Draft Concept Plan

9. A concept design was developed for the works and community consultation undertaken.
10. Following consultation, feedback from the community has been incorporated into the design.
11. The Draft Concept Design sets the overall layout. The key principles are:
  - (a) Provide an accessible, welcoming and safe park for the community and visitors.
  - (b) Provide a local scale play space which improves the play opportunities for local children with a range of structured equipment, imaginative and nature play elements.
  - (c) Increase the usable area and improve usability by consolidating and better arranging park elements.
  - (d) Use simple, robust, high-quality materials which reflect the local neighbourhood character.

12. The proposal includes the following:
  - (a) New play equipment including a play structure with slides, platforms, climbing ropes and interactive panels, 2 seat swing set, see-saw, springer and stepping pods.
  - (b) Nature play area including a mix of natural sturdy materials.
  - (c) Improved path network throughout the park.
  - (d) More seating throughout the park and around the play area.
  - (e) New water bubbler and bin.
  - (f) Upgraded BBQ.
  - (g) New 700mm high gated boundary fence
  - (h) Enhanced planting areas with new low shrub planting.
  - (i) Widening the existing footpath on Franklyn St to improve pedestrian movement.
13. In response to community consultation the following will be included in the detailed design as noted in the Attachment C:
  - (a) Include more native planting
14. In response to community consultation the following will be further investigated to be included in the detailed design for inclusion as noted in the Attachment C:
  - (a) Include more native habitat planting to create corridors for wildlife
  - (b) Maintain park access for properties with existing gated access into the park.
15. The following tree management and planting is being investigated as part of the park works:
  - (a) Remove one self-seeded weed species tree, *Celtis sinensis* (Chinese Hackberry). Remove *Eucalyptus scoparia* (Wallangarra White Gum), in poor health and at the end of its useful life as recommended in the Pre-Development Tree Assessment Report. Retain and protect all other existing trees.
  - (b) The preparation of an Arboricultural Impact Assessment and Tree Protection Plan to inform the detailed design and ensure appropriate construction methodology.
16. A Review of Environmental Factors (REF) will be lodged for the works in accordance with the Environmental Planning Assessment Act 1979 and the State Environment Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021.

## Key Implications

### Strategic Alignment - Sustainable Sydney 2030-2050 Continuing the Vision

17. Sustainable Sydney 2030-2050 Continuing the Vision renews the communities' vision for the sustainable development of the city to 2050. It includes 10 strategic directions to guide the future of the city, as well as 10 targets against which to measure progress. This report is aligned with the following strategic directions and objectives:
- (a) Direction 3 - Public places for all - this project will provide an improved open space which meets the needs of a variety of users and provides opportunities for social interaction.
  - (b) Direction 4 - Design excellence and sustainable development - Design excellence and sustainable development - this project is part of a wider program of renewal of local small parks and reserves across the city. It will provide an improved quality of open space.
  - (c) Direction 5 - A city for walking, cycling and public transport - this project will improve the streetscape and amenity of the area, encouraging walking and active recreation.
  - (d) Direction 6 - An equitable and inclusive city - this project will provide public play and gathering spaces for all ages and abilities.

### Organisational Impact

18. Upgrading the playground will provide improved play experience and amenity for children and their carers. The replacement of the play assets represents a mitigation of risk to the City. The assets will require ongoing maintenance.

### Risks

19. Risks of not implementing the scope of these works include potential failure of play infrastructure and risk to the community. Daily inspections are carried out by the City as per the standard parks and playground maintenance operations.
20. Risks of not implementing this scope of works could result in failure to meet community expectations.

### Social / Cultural / Community

21. The site is an important open space within the Glebe area where many people do not have access to backyards or courtyards within their own homes. Improving the amenity and play offering within the park represents an investment in this community, providing opportunities for people of different ages and abilities to use the park alongside each other.

### Environmental

22. Protection and enhancement of the existing planting and trees through this work is in line with the Urban Ecology Strategic Action Plan



### Financial Implications

23. There are sufficient funds in the Parks Renewal Capital Works 10 year budget to complete all currently programmed small park upgrades..
24. Current project cost estimates and financial implications for the delivery of the Robyn Kemmis Reserve's renewal are detailed in Confidential Attachment D. Construction cost estimates will be confirmed by a Quantity Surveyor prior to tender.

### Relevant Legislation

25. Local Government Act 1993 - Section 10A provides that a council may close to the public so much of its meeting as comprises the discussion of information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.
26. Attachment D contains confidential information which, if disclosed would confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.
27. Discussion of the matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest because it would compromise Council's ability to negotiate fairly and commercially to achieve the best outcome for its ratepayers.
28. Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.
29. State Environment Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021.
30. Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2012.
31. Disability Discrimination Act 1992.

### Critical Dates / Time Frames

32. Current Program Dates:

(a) Council approval of Concept Design	February 2024
(b) Detailed Design	August 2024
(c) Tender	October 2024
(d) Construction start	Early 2025
(e) Completion	Mid 2025

### Options

33. Proceed with the progression of the improvement works as outlined in this subject report including relevant approvals, preparation of construction documentation, tender and construction.

34. Project does not proceed - this option is not recommended as current park and playground equipment is nearing end-of life.

### Public Consultation

35. Community consultation was undertaken as a two-part process; early engagement (pre-consultation) and public consultation / exhibition. For a detailed description of the consultation process and findings refer to Attachment C.
36. An early engagement notification letter/email was issued to residents. Twelve submissions were received during the period. The purpose of the early engagement was to seek input from the community about how they used the playground and how the reserve could be improved.
37. The public consultation involved the following:
- (a) Letters advertising the online feedback portal were distributed to the Glebe area. 1000 letters were distributed.
  - (b) A webpage on SydneyYourSay showing the plans from 9 October 2023 to 6 November 2023. The page included an electronic copy of the Draft Concept design, survey and other key information about the consultation.
  - (c) A pop-up consultation feedback session was held in the reserve on Tuesday 14 October from 4pm to 5:30pm. Council staff were available to answer questions and obtain feedback about the proposed concept plan. Respondents were also encouraged to view the plans and provide feedback on the Sydney Your Say website. 2 people attended the session.
  - (d) An online feedback form.
  - (e) Two signs were placed in the park directing people online to leave their feedback.
38. There were 9 submissions received during the consultation period. The Sydney Your Say page was visited 176 times during the consultation period. This included submissions via email and the online feedback form.
39. The proposal was well supported by the community and the responses highlighted that an upgrade to this park would increase the current use of the park. A summary and response to the key comments and suggestions are:
- (a) Support for the updated playground equipment
  - (b) Support for the proposed nature play area
  - (c) Support for the proposed landscape works
  - (d) Two requests to increase habitat planting. In doing so there is an opportunity to create corridors for wildlife. Native plants will be included in detailed design.
  - (e) One submission requested a toilet in the park. This is not part of the scope for this work. There is a public toilet located within 400m at Peter Forysth Auditorium, Glebe.

- (f) One submission requested that the design does not impact on properties that have rear access into the park. Maintaining park access for properties with existing gated access into the park will be investigated.
- (g) One submission requested to reduce some of the existing tree canopy to ensure usability and to help reduce the maintenance effort long term. Part of the existing tree canopy will be trimmed back as recommended in the Pre-Development Tree Assessment Report.

Two trees in the South-West corner of the park are being investigated for removal as recommended in the Pre-Development Tree Assessment Report. One is self-seeded weed species and the other has reached the end of its useful life.

- (h) One submission requested to include outdoor gym equipment in the reserve. This is not part of the scope for this work. This site was not reviewed as part of Council's Park Fitness Equipment Strategy.
40. As a result of the community feedback, the concept design has been revised slightly to include the following:
- (a) Native planting within the park.
41. The Revised Draft Concept Plan can be seen in Attachment B.

**KIM WOODBURY**

Chief Operating Officer

Brian Ma, Design Manager

# **Attachment A**

## **Location Plan and Site Photos**





- Legend
- Robyn Kemmis Reserve





Site photos



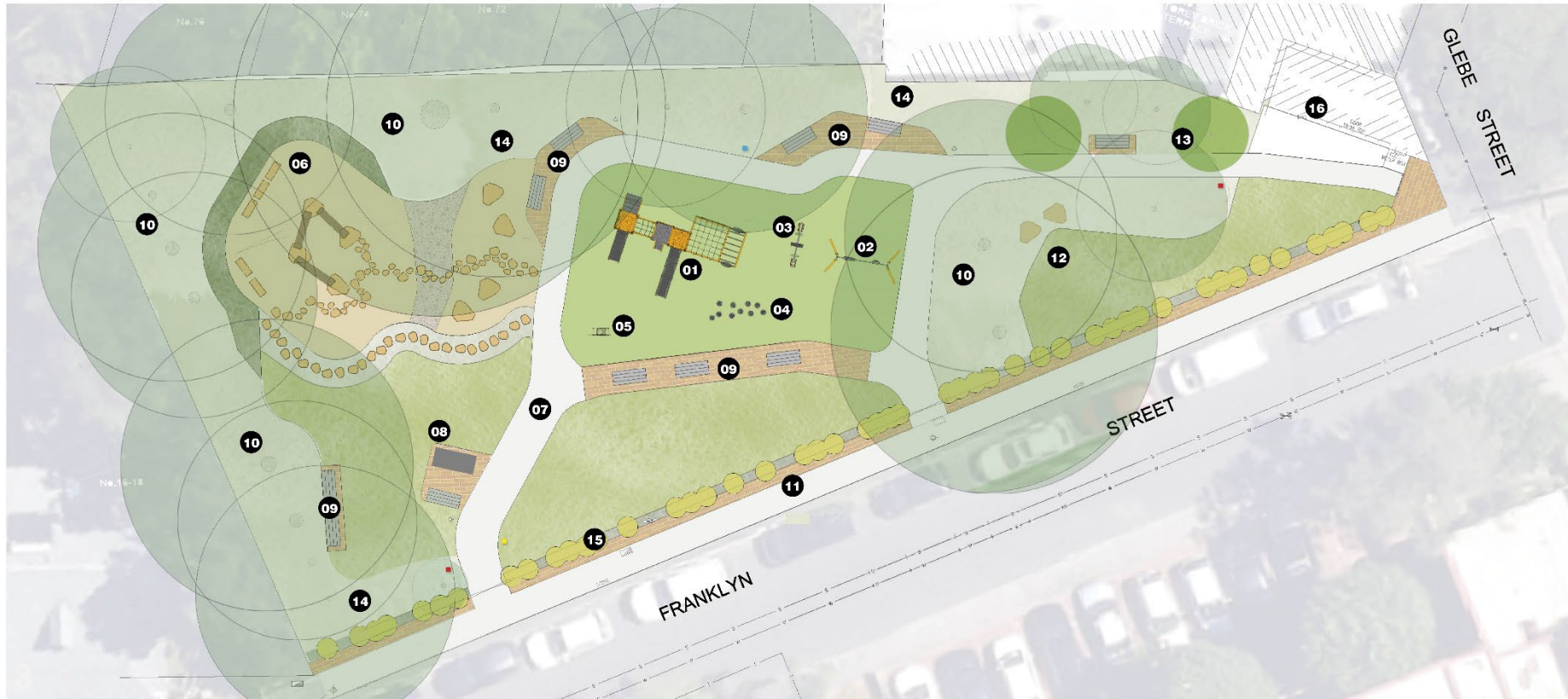
Robyn Kemmis Reserve  
20-40 Franklyn Street, Glebe



# **Attachment B**

## **Draft Revised Concept Plan**

## Proposed Works



**01** Play structure with slides, climbing ropes and interactive panels suitable for children aged 1-12

**02** Double swing set with strap and bucket seat

**03** See Saw Rocker

**04** Stepping Pods trail

**05** Single Rocker

**06** Nature play area including mixed natural surfacing, sandstone steppers, large sandstone boulders and swale planting

**07** New concrete footpath

**08** BBQ with seating and paving

**09** New seating areas

**10** Retain existing trees

**11** Footpath widening on Franklyn Street

**12** Quiet zone

**13** Grove of small trees

**14** Renewed existing mulched planting area

**15** Low gated fence with low boundary native planting around park boundary

**16** Existing community building

Existing tree - retain

New small tree planting

New native planting

Existing mass planting - renew with infill planting

Grass

Rubber Softfall

Sandstone boulder

Sandstone steppers

Sandstone log seats

Timber log

Paved area

New seat

Water bubbler

Park sign

Bin



# Robyn Kemmis Reserve Upgrade

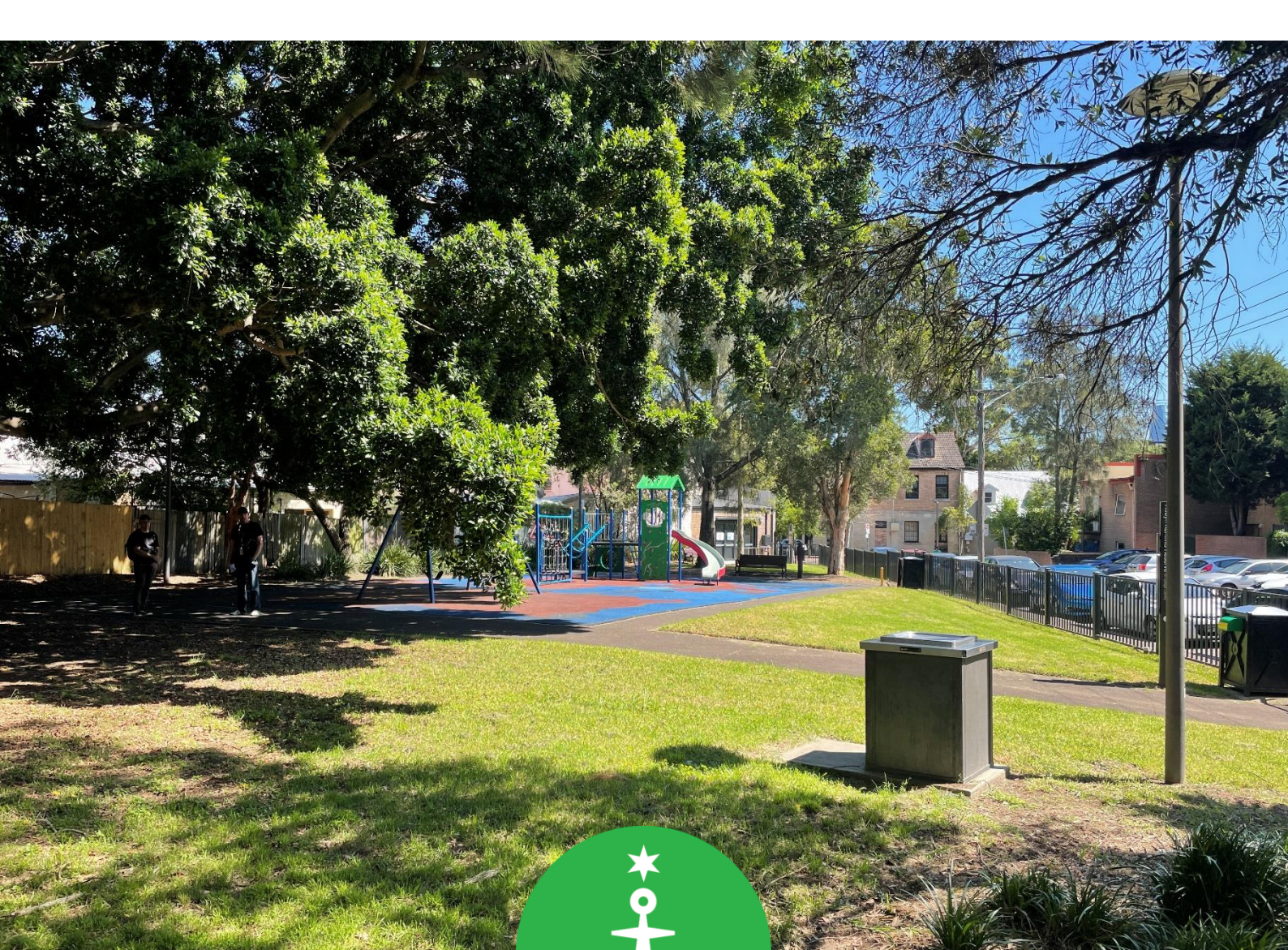




# **Attachment C**

## **Engagement Report**





# Engagement report

**Robyn Kemmis Reserve, Glebe**

February 2024



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Key findings	5
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# Background

Over the next 10 years, we're upgrading more than 60 parks across the City of Sydney area, from small pocket parks to larger local parks.

Quality green open spaces are a high priority for our residents, workers and visitors. This network of park upgrades will create better quality open spaces for everyone to enjoy, help keep our city cooler, and support biodiversity in our local areas.

Prior to finalising the designs, we are consulting the community and stakeholders on these proposed park improvements. In 2023, we consulted on our stage 18 parks, which include:

- **Robyn Kemmis Reserve, Glebe**
- Minogue Reserve, Glebe
- Ada Villa Terrace, Erskineville
- Regent Street Reserve, Paddington
- Glebe Street Reserve, Glebe

# Engagement summary

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From 9 October to 6 November 2023, we asked the community for feedback on a concept plan to improve Robyn Kemmis Reserve and playground in Glebe.

Consultation on the plan provided an opportunity for stakeholders and the community to review and comment on the design.

Consultation activities included online engagement, a letter to residents and project signage at the park.

This report outlines the community engagement activities that took place to support the consultation and summarises the key findings from the consultation.

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## Purpose of the engagement

The purpose of the engagement was to:

- gather feedback from stakeholders and the community about the proposed upgrade
  - determine the level of satisfaction with the revised concept design.
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## Outcomes from the engagement

### Submissions received during consultation

We received a total of 9 submissions via Survey Monkey and one email during the public exhibition period. The Sydney Your Say page was visited 176 times during the consultation period.

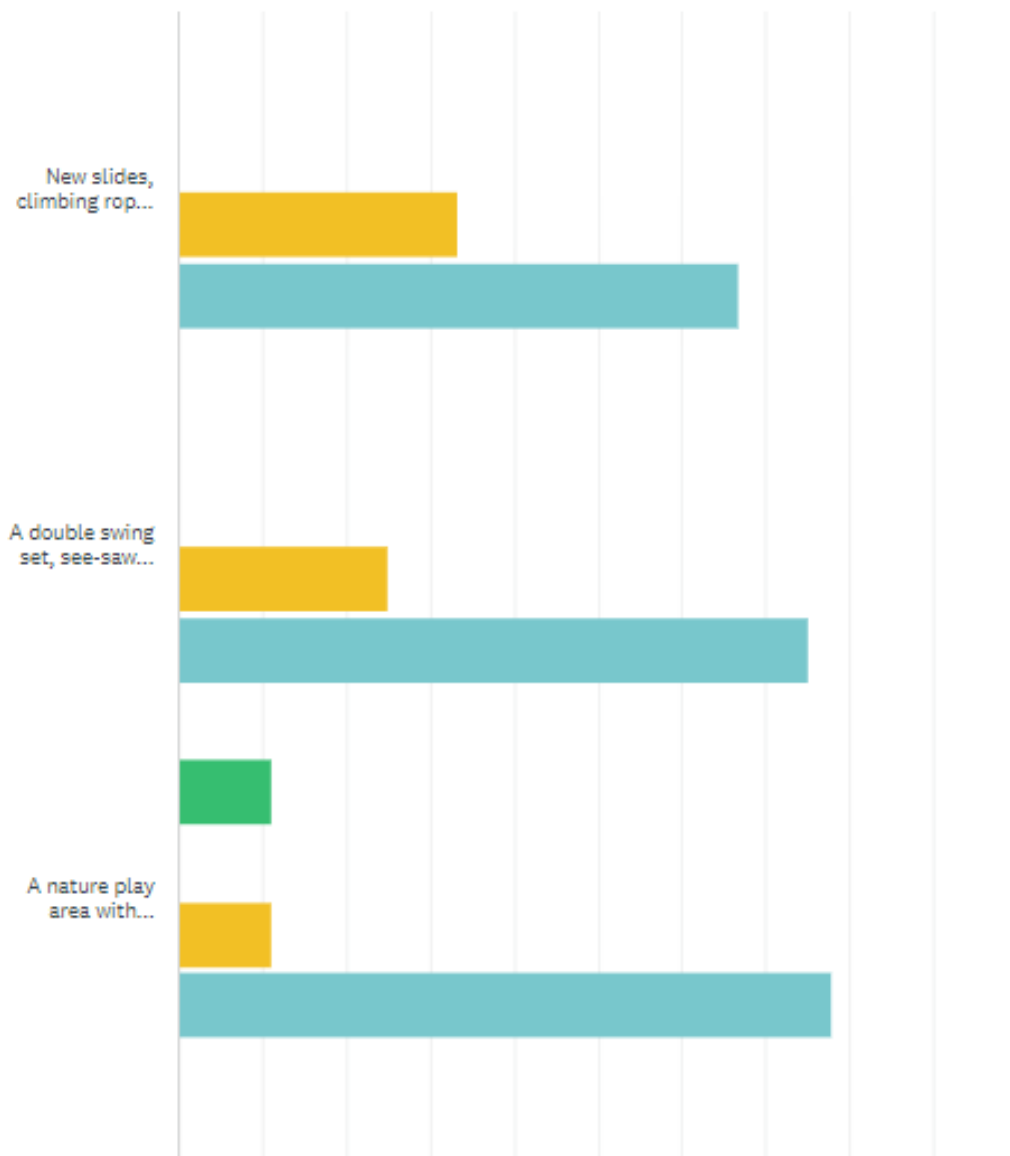
# Key findings

## Online feedback form - rating elements of the proposed upgrade

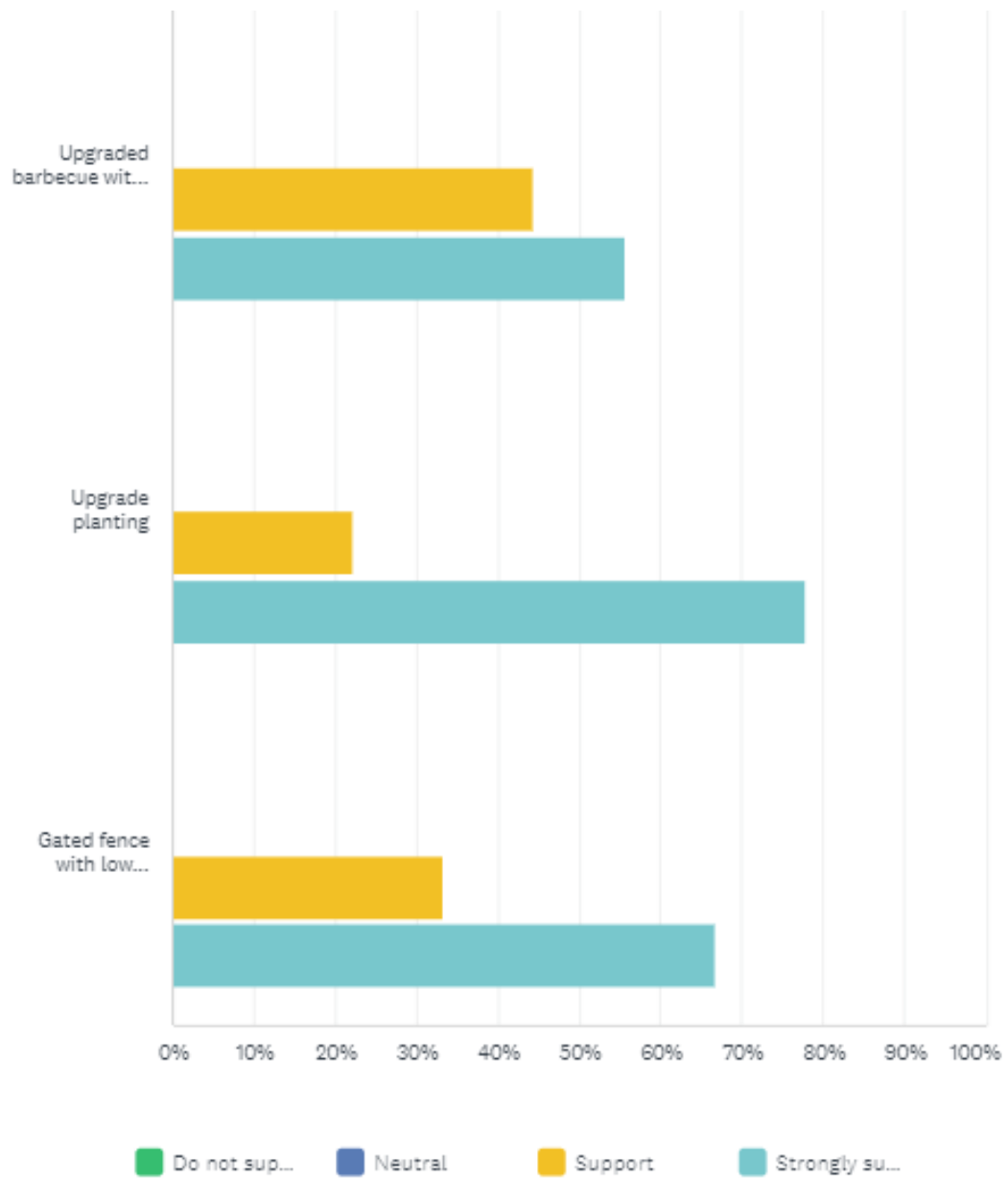
Respondents who completed the online feedback form were asked to rate how important elements of the proposed design were to them. The results are below:

### Do you support the following elements of the upgrade?

Answered: 9 Skipped: 0



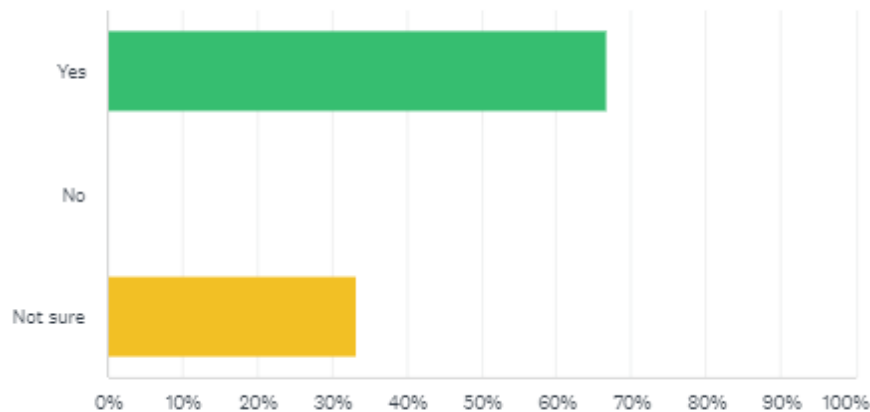
## Engagement report





## Do you think that the upgrade would positively change your use of the park?

Answered: 9 Skipped: 0



## Subjects/topics raised in submissions

Several subjects/topics were raised in the feedback received. These were presented as concerns, suggestions and/or requests and are summarised below.

General		
Comments	Total	City of Sydney Response
Add an additional set of swings to the design	2	The existing swing set will be replaced with a new 2 seater swing set but not any more additional swings due to not having enough space.
More native habit planting to create corridors for wildlife	1	More native planting will be included as part of the detailed design.
Minimise the open grass areas and include more native planting	1	The open grass space has been reduced in the concept design. More native planting will be investigated in detailed design.
Install a toilet in the park	1	This is not part of the scope for this work. There is not enough space to install toilet facilities and there is a public toilet located within 400m at Peter Forysth Auditorium, Glebe.
Ensure the design does not impact on properties that have rear access into the reserve.	1	Mulch access will be maintained in front of rear accessways into the park.
Reduce some of the existing tree canopy to ensure usability and to help reduce the maintenance effort long term	1	Part of the existing tree canopy will be trimmed back as recommended in the Pre-Development Tree Assessment Report.

		Two trees in the South-West corner of the park are being investigated for removal as recommended in the Pre-Development Tree Assessment Report. One is self-seeded weed species and the other has reached the end of its useful life.
Do not include sandstone in the design as children often hurt themselves playing on it	1	Play areas will be designed to Australian standards. Any sandstone used will minimise sharp edges.
Include waterplay elements in the playground	1	This is not being investigated for this site due to the ongoing maintenance requirements.
Include outdoor gym equipment in the reserve	1	This is not part of the scope for this work. This site was not reviewed as part of Council's Park Fitness Equipment Strategy.

## Pop up information session

A pop up consultation feedback session was held on Tuesday 17 October from 4pm to 5:30pm.

Council staff were available to answer questions and obtain feedback about the proposed concept plan. Two residents attended this session.

Feedback from this session is captured in the table above.

## Early consultation feedback

Prior to undertaking general community consultation on the proposal, the City undertook some early consultation work in early 2023 to ask local residents how often they use the park and what they would like to see in the new design.

Six responses were received during the pre-consultation period. Ideas and suggestions helped to shape the Concept Plan. Key themes from the pre-consultation were:

- It is old and rundown.
- The floor surface is uneven and dangerous
- It is too shaded and does not look inviting for families
- A lot of the space is going to waste, particularly in the south west corner.

# Engagement activities

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## Overview of engagement

### 1. Sydney Your Say webpage

A Sydney Your Say webpage, <https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/proposed-works-maintenance/your-feedback-proposed-design-robyn-kemmis-reserve-glebe> was created. The page included an electronic copy of the revised concept design, survey and other key information about the consultation.

### 2. Online feedback form via Survey Monkey

The community and stakeholders were able to give feedback using an online feedback form. A link to the feedback form was provided on the Sydney Your Say website.

### 3. Consultation letter

A letter was posted to residents, inviting them to give feedback on the proposal. 1,000 letters were distributed.

### 4. Community pop up session

A pop-up consultation feedback session was held on Tuesday 14 October from 4pm to 5:30pm.

### 5. Signage

Two signs were placed in the park directing people online to leave their feedback.

CONFIDENTIAL

By virtue of the Local Government Act 1993 Section 10A Paragraph 2

Document is Restricted

## **Item 4.**

### **Project Scope - Minogue Reserve, Glebe**

**File No: X083637.002**

### **Summary**

This report outlines the proposed scope of works for the upgrade of Minogue Reserve, Glebe. Minogue Reserve has been identified for renewal as part of the small parks and playgrounds improvement program.

The project brief is to refurbish the park, remove end-of-life play equipment and soft-fall to provide a range of new activities and play offerings for older children, youth and adults, improve pathways and accessibility, improve and expand turf areas, provide additional seating, improve landscape areas and tree canopy cover.

The key principles of the proposal are to improve and expand on the amenities to cater better for youth, increase seating areas and types of seating for passive and social gathering, improve the path network, increase usable lawn area, more shade, and to upgrade the basketball court.

The Draft Concept Plan was on public exhibition from 23 October and 20 November 2023. A letter was distributed in the local area and the proposal was exhibited on the City's website. The proposed works are generally supported by the community and the responses highlighted that the park is utilised by a variety of users and is a key piece of open space for both residents and visitors to the Broadway shopping centre and Glebe Markets on the weekends. The feedback from the Draft Concept Plan has been incorporated into the Revised Draft Concept Plan attached to this report (Attachment B).

This report recommends that Council endorse the proposed scope of works for the park refurbishment at Minogue Reserve.

## Recommendation

It is resolved that Council:

- (A) endorse the scope of work for improvements to Minogue Reserve as described in the subject report and shown in the Revised Draft Concept Plan as Attachment B to the subject report, for progression to relevant approvals, preparation of construction documentation, tender and construction; and
- (B) note the estimated project forecast as outlined in Confidential Attachment D to the subject report.

## Attachments

- Attachment A.** Location Plan and Site Photos
- Attachment B.** Revised Draft Concept Plan
- Attachment C.** Engagement Report
- Attachment D.** Financial implications (Confidential)

## Background

1. The City has an ongoing small parks and playgrounds improvement program. This program is for parks which need upgrade or enhancement works, replacement of end-of-life equipment, and to provide appropriate facilities for local residents.
2. Minogue Reserve is located west of Broadway Shopping Centre and the Peter Forsyth Auditorium, it is bordered on the north by single dwelling between Franklyn Street and Francis Street, Glebe. The site is approximately 2,800 square metres and the land is owned by the City of Sydney.
3. Minogue Reserve was identified for an upgrade due to the parks' overall condition, including: end-of-life play equipment; low quality, uneven, and damaged pathways; poor turf performance, limited seating provisions, poor plant growth, non-compliant and variable lighting types, and basketball court surface due for renewal.
4. The reserve is characterised as a small park, with pathways from Glebe Point Road to Franklyn Street and into Broadway Shopping Centre, a pedestrian ramp / bridge connection to the upper floor of Broadway Shopping Centre on the southern boundary, a basketball court adjacent to the Peter Forsyth Auditorium, central lawn area, children's playground, and several mature trees.
5. The park is under-utilised in its current arrangement; it has large areas of bitumen pavement which are hot open areas providing no shade or amenity, paths around the park are bumpy and cracked, some lead to dark and poorly activated corners, the fences and planting around the playground impede sight lines around the park creating unsafe areas.
6. The existing planting character is a mixture of native and exotic plants on the north western boundary and the area immediately adjacent to the pedestrian bridge to Broadway Shopping Centre. The boundary garden beds are in poor condition and plants are underperforming in many areas, particularly underneath trees on the western edge of the park. Lawn areas are also underperforming, particularly underneath the larger existing trees.
7. In developing the project scope consideration has been given to the provision of open space and play equipment in existing parks within a 500-metre radius of this site, to ensure a coordinated network of facilities that caters for a broad range of park users.
8. Victoria Park playground offers a much larger regional scale playground for younger and school age children and the Glebe Street Playground and Robyn Kemmis Reserve Pocket Parks are both being renewed and will offer play for younger children.
9. The upgrade of Minogue Reserve is focussed on a youth based offering, noting its proximity to the Peter Forsyth Auditorium and the presence of an existing basketball court.

## Draft Concept Plan

10. A draft concept design was developed for the works and community consultation undertaken. The plans were exhibited between 23 October and 20 November 2023.
11. The feedback from the community was incorporated into the Revised Draft Concept Design (Attachment B).

12. The Revised Draft Concept Plan sets the overall design layout. The key principles are:
- (a) Provide an accessible, welcoming, and safe park for the community and its visitors.
  - (b) Increase the usable area and improve amenity by consolidating park elements and increasing green space.
  - (c) Provide a range of youth play and activities in the park, including fitness equipment, table tennis tables and chess tables, and improve the existing basketball surface.
  - (d) Provide a range of seating opportunities which encourage social interaction.
  - (e) Use simple, robust, high quality materials which reflect the local neighbourhood character.
  - (f) Improve the parks environmental performance, sustainability and heat island effect.
13. The proposal includes the following:
- (a) New fitness equipment, table tennis and chess tables, and improved basketball court to enhance the offering of activities in the park for youth and young adult focused play.
  - (b) More seating area around the park generally, with a variety of seating types for social gatherings and quiet contemplation.
  - (c) Improved lawn areas to create a more usable park.
  - (d) New water bubbler, bins and signage.
  - (e) New trees and shrub planting to include native and exotic species.
  - (f) Improved pathways and pavement materials will improve access and legibility, as well as bring a higher quality finish to the park.
  - (g) Upgraded lighting to improve nighttime safety and simplify the numerous types of light poles and light colours.
14. The following tree management and planting is proposed as part of the park works:
- (a) One existing juvenile tree to be removed.
  - (b) Retain and protect all other existing trees where possible and in good health.
  - (c) Some lower branches to trees may be pruned to improve access to light for understory planting and new lawn areas.
  - (d) Preparation of an Aboricultural Impact Assessment and Tree Protection Plan to inform the detailed design and ensure appropriate construction methodology near existing trees and when installing new pavement and furniture.
  - (e) Provide additional and supplementary planting as required to provide habitat as well as sensory and edible opportunities.



15. A Review of Environmental Factors (REF), and any other required approvals, will be lodged for the park upgrade in accordance with the Environmental planning Assessment Act (1979).

## Key Implications

### Strategic Alignment - Sustainable Sydney 2030-2050 Continuing the Vision

16. Sustainable Sydney 2030-2050 Continuing the Vision renews the communities' vision for the sustainable development of the city to 2050. It includes 10 strategic directions to guide the future of the city, as well as 10 targets against which to measure progress. This report is aligned with the following strategic directions and objectives:
  - (a) Direction 3 - Public places for all - this project will provide an improved open space which meets the needs of a variety of users and provides opportunities for social interaction.
  - (b) Direction 4 - Design excellence and sustainable development - this project is part of a wider program of renewal of local small parks and reserves across the city. It will provide an improved quality of open space.
  - (c) Direction 5 - A city for walking, cycling and public transport - this project will improve the streetscape and amenity of the area, encouraging walking and active recreation.
  - (d) Direction 6 - An equitable and inclusive city - this project will provide public play and gathering spaces for all ages and abilities.

### Organisational Impact

17. Upgrading the park will provide improved experience and amenity for the community. The replacement of the park and playground assets represents a mitigation of risk to the City. The assets will require ongoing maintenance.

### Risks

18. Risks of not implementing the scope of these works include potential failure of play infrastructure and risk to the community. Daily inspections are carried out by the City as per the standard parks and playground maintenance operations.
19. Risks of not implementing this scope of works could result in failure to meet community expectations.

### Social / Cultural / Community

20. The site is an important open space within the Glebe area where many people do not have access to backyards or courtyards within their own homes. The site provides a place for people to meet, eat lunch or drink a coffee from nearby cafes and restaurants. The park is located adjacent to the Broadway Shopping Centre and Glebe Point Road high street. It fronts the Peter Forsyth Auditorium and is 200 metres from the Glebe Youth Service, who often use the park and basketball court.

21. The weekend markets at Glebe Public School, only 50 metres away, run most Saturdays and draw in large numbers that often overflow into Minogue Reserve. Improving the amenity and activation offering within the park represents an investment in this community, providing opportunities for people of different ages and abilities to use the park alongside each other.

### **Environmental**

22. Protection and enhancement of the existing planting through this work is in line with the Urban Ecology Strategic Action Plan.

### **Financial Implications**

23. There are sufficient funds in the Parks Renewal Capital Works 10-year budget to complete all currently programmed small park upgrades.
24. Current project cost estimates and financial implications for the delivery of the Minogue Reserve's renewal are detailed in Confidential Attachment D. Construction cost estimates will be confirmed by a Quantity Surveyor prior to tender.

### **Relevant Legislation**

25. Local Government Act 1993 - Section 10A provides that a council may close to the public so much of its meeting as comprises the discussion of information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.
26. Attachment D contains confidential information which, if disclosed would confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.
27. Discussion of the matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest because it would compromise Council's ability to negotiate fairly and commercially to achieve the best outcome for its ratepayers.
28. Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.
29. State Environment Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021.
30. Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2012.
31. Disability Discrimination Act 1992.

## Critical Dates / Time Frames

### 32. Current Program Dates:

- |  |               |
|--|---------------|
| (a) Council approval of Concept Design | February 2024 |
| (b) Detailed Design                    | August 2024   |
| (c) Tender                             | October 2024  |
| (d) Construction start                 | Early 2025    |
| (e) Completion                         | Mid 2025      |

## Options

33. Proceed with the progression of the improvement works as outlined in this subject report including relevant approvals, preparation of construction documentation, tender and construction.
34. Project does not proceed - this option is not recommended as current park and playground equipment is nearing end-of-life.

## Public Consultation

35. Public consultation was undertaken as a two-part process: pre-consultation / early engagement and public consultation / exhibition. For a detailed description of the consultation process and findings refer to Attachment C.
36. A pre-consultation / early engagement notification letter / email was issued to a number of local stakeholders and residents to notify and ask for feedback on what they would like to see in the park upgrade. A link to the feedback form was provided on the Sydney Your Say website.
- (a) City staff attended the monthly BBQ at Minogue Reserve on Wednesday 19 July, run by the Peter Forsyth Auditorium, to get feedback in person from local residents and park users as part of the pre-consultation process.
37. There were 21 formal submissions during the pre-consultation period as well as informal feedback given at the BBQ. Key themes were:
- (a) Retain existing mature trees where possible, prune some existing trees to increase sun into new lawn areas.
- (b) Improve understory planting areas.
- (c) Provide more seats and increase the range of seating types offered within the park.
- (d) Provide opportunities for youth play within the park i.e. table tennis, chess table, fitness equipment, skate-able elements etc.
- (e) Upgrade lighting within the park to improve nighttime safety.

- (f) Expand the park by incorporating under-utilised bitumen area.
  - (g) More bins.
  - (h) Increase lawn spaces and increase tree canopy cover on the eastern side of the park.
  - (i) Upgrade pathways using more natural and recycled elements e.g. brick, sandstone.
  - (j) Resurface existing basketball court.
  - (k) Relocate children's play equipment to Robyn Kemmis Reserve.
38. The public consultation / exhibition of the Draft Concept Design involved the following:
- (a) A letter sent to 1,000 local residents and businesses about the concept design and inviting them to provide feedback.
  - (b) A Sydney Your Say webpage was created with the concept design, a feedback survey and other key information about the project.
  - (c) The community and stakeholders were able to give feedback using an online feedback form. A link to the feedback form was provided on the Sydney Your Say website.
  - (d) A pop-up consultation feedback session was held on Tuesday 31 October from 4pm to 5.30pm
  - (e) Three signs were placed in the park directing people online to leave their feedback.
39. Following this consultation, the community was generally supportive of the proposal and its outcomes. This feedback is broken down in the Engagement Report (Attachment C).
40. As a result of the community feedback, the concept design has been revised slightly to include the following:
- (a) Resurfacing of the basketball court.
  - (b) Inclusion of chess tables.
41. The Revised Draft Concept Plan can be seen in Attachment B.

**KIM WOODBURY**

Chief Operating Officer

James Kidd, Design Manager

# **Attachment A**

**Location Plan and Site Photos**



Minogue Reserve - Location Plan



Legend



Glebe youth services



Minogue Reserve Project Site Boundary



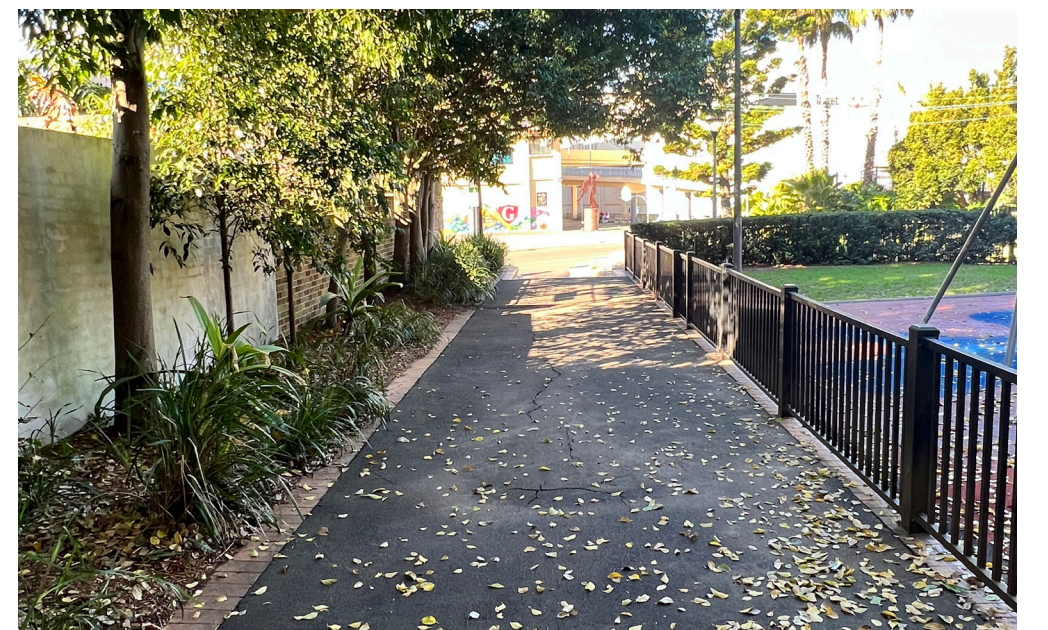
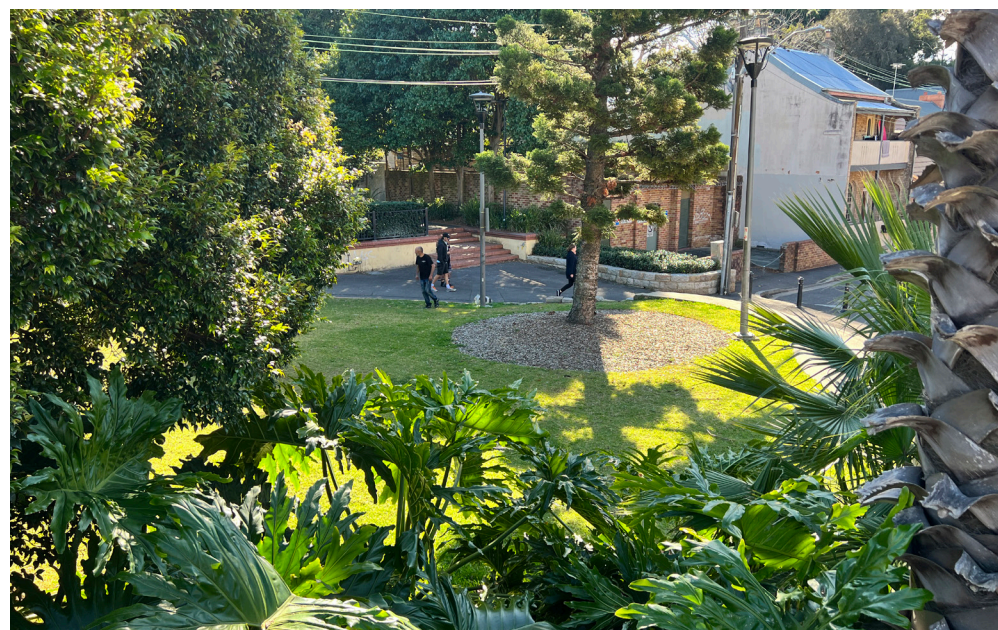
Peter Forsyth auditorium

N  
Aerial Image NTS





## Site Photos



Minogue Reserve  
2 Franklyn Street, Glebe



# **Attachment B**

## **Revised Draft Concept Plan**



Proposed Works



- 01

Create an inviting entrance plaza to the park
- 02

New plaza seating area
- 03

New outdoor fitness area and equipment
- 04

Create a simplified path network for safety, wayfinding and sight lines.
- 05

Increased green space and lawn areas
- 06

New canopy trees to create shade
- 07

New table tennis tables
- 08

New Seating area
- 09

Retain existing trees
- 10

New planting to garden beds
- 11

New water bubbler
- 12

Upgrade existing basketball court surface
- 13

Improved lighting to path and key areas

Site boundary

Existing tree - retain

New tree

New palm tree

Tree to be removed

Grass

New planting

Soft-fall

New bin and bubbler

New bench seats

Park sign

New light pole

New Paving



14



TIMOTHY BY  
OCT 2023

2303



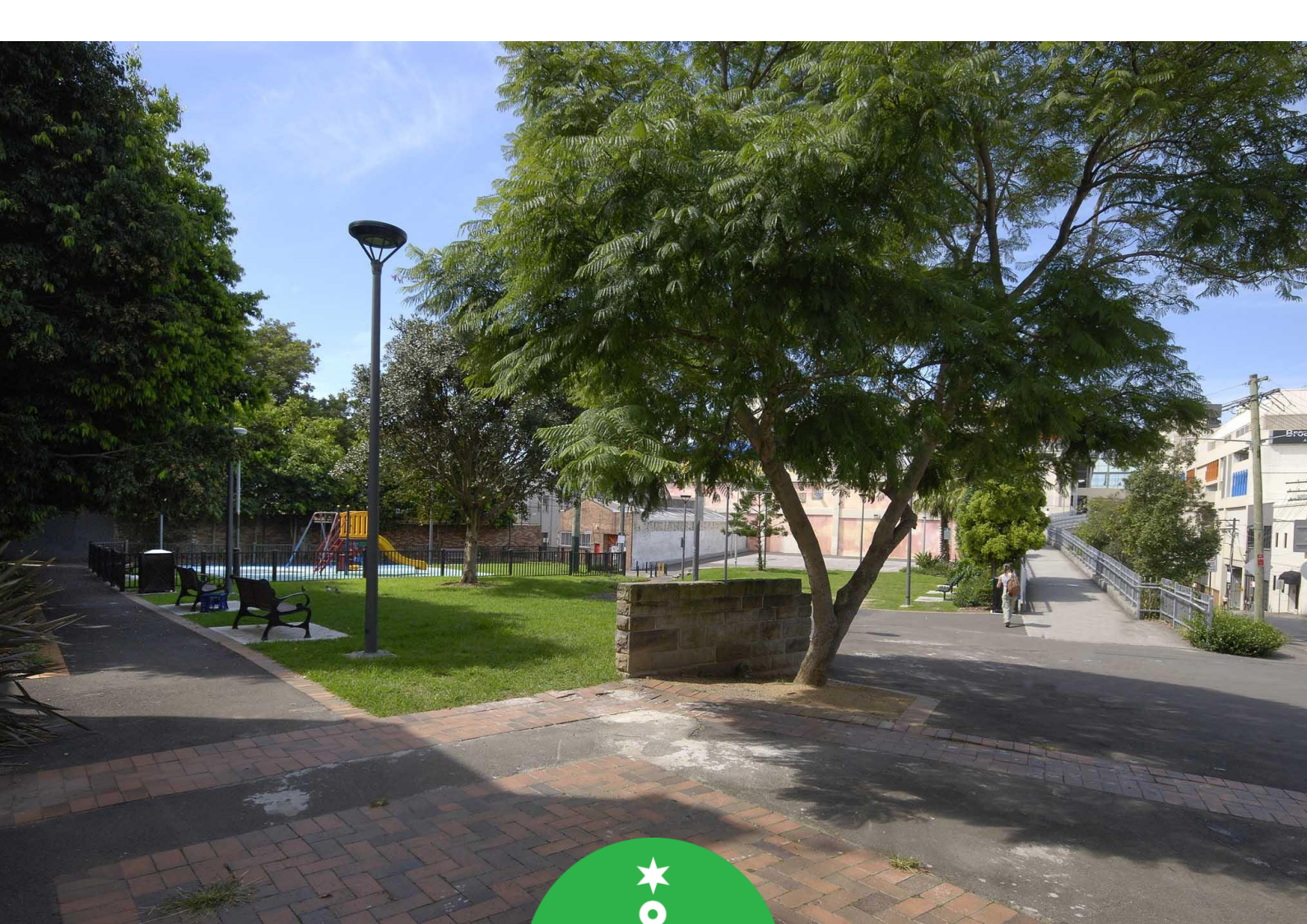


TIM THROSBY  
OCT 2023



# **Attachment C**

## **Engagement Report**



# Engagement report

**Minogue Reserve, Glebe**

February 2024



# Contents

Background	3
Engagement summary	4
Key findings	5
Engagement activities	9

# Background

Over the next 10 years, we're upgrading more than 60 parks across the City of Sydney area, from small pocket parks to larger local parks.

Quality green open spaces are a high priority for our residents, workers and visitors. This network of park upgrades will create better quality open spaces for everyone to enjoy, help keep our city cooler, and support biodiversity in our local areas.

Prior to finalising the designs, we are consulting the community and stakeholders on these proposed park improvements. In 2023, we consulted on our stage 18 parks, which include:

- Robyn Kemmis Reserve, Glebe
- **Minogue Reserve, Glebe**
- Ada Villa Terrace, Erskineville
- Regent Street Reserve, Paddington
- Glebe Street Reserve, Glebe

# Engagement summary

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From 23 October to 20 November 2023, we asked the community for feedback on a concept plan to improve Minogue Reserve in Glebe.

Consultation on the plan provided an opportunity for stakeholders and the community to review and comment on the design.

Consultation activities included online engagement, a letter to residents and project signage at the park.

This report outlines the community engagement activities that took place to support the consultation and summarises the key findings from the consultation.

---

## Purpose of the engagement

The purpose of the engagement was to:

- gather feedback from stakeholders and the community about the proposed upgrade
  - determine the level of satisfaction with the revised concept design.
- 

## Outcomes from the engagement

### Submissions received during consultation

We received a total of 9 submissions via Survey Monkey and one email during the public exhibition period. The Sydney Your Say page was visited 176 times during the consultation period.



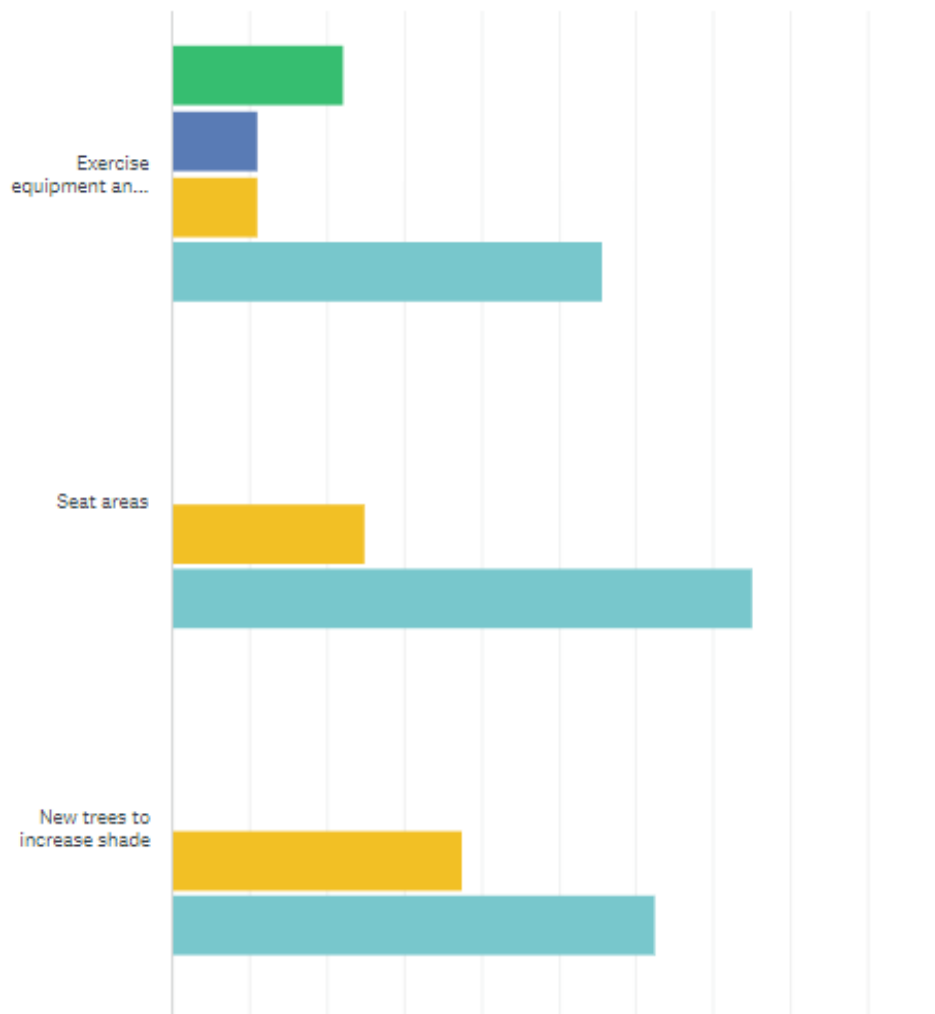
# Key findings

## Online feedback form - rating elements of the proposed upgrade

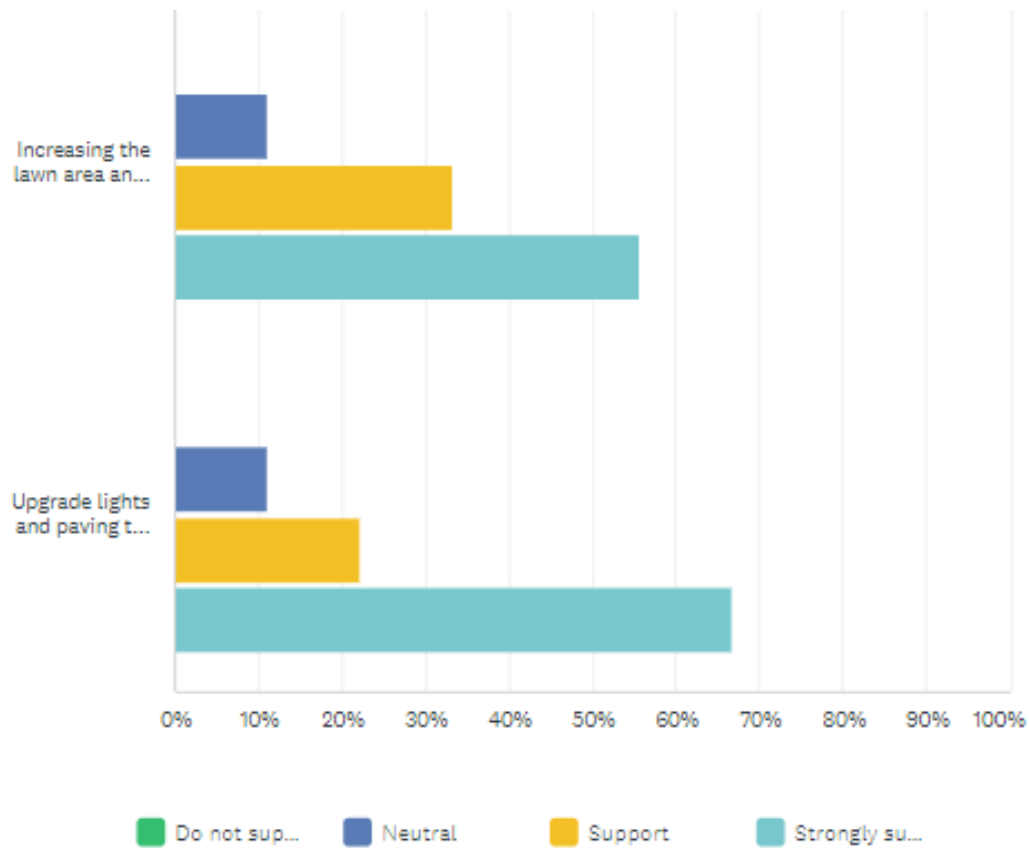
Respondents who completed the online feedback form were asked to rate how important elements of the proposed design were to them. The results are below:

### Do you support the following elements of the upgrade?

Answered: 9 Skipped: 0

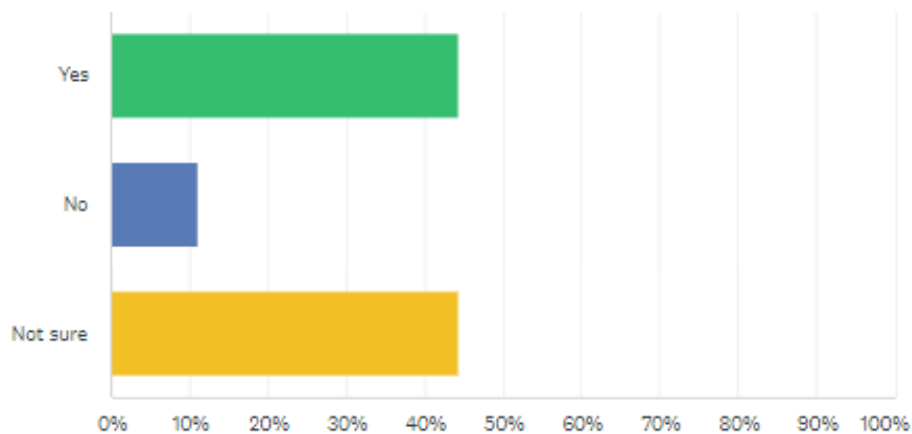


## Engagement report



Do you think that the upgrade would change your use of the park?

Answered: 9 Skipped: 0



## Subjects/topics raised in submissions

Several subjects/topics were raised in the feedback received. These were presented as concerns, suggestions and/or requests and are summarised below.

General		
Comments	Total	City of Sydney Response
Basketball court surface should be upgraded as the surface is in a poor state	1	Court will be resurfaced as part of the upgrade
Lighting should be installed at the basketball court	1	Basketball court lighting currently already in place and will be retained.
Include bush foods in the planting	1	We will consider native bush food plant species during the detailed design stage of the project.
Include more bins in the design	2	More bins will be incorporated
More native habit planting to create corridors for wildlife	2	Additional planting with a focus on natives will be included.
The reserve should be renamed to acknowledge the traditional owners of the land	1	The City can initiate a naming proposal. A proposal will need to be considered by the Naming Working Group. A proposal will need to be in line with the City's Naming Policy and Geographical Names Board policy and principles.
The forecourt area where table tennis is proposed should be used to display First Nations People sculptures other artworks to reflect their culture history	1	There are numerous artworks in the immediate area surrounding the park, including on and within the Peter Forsyth Auditorium. In addition, the City is delivering the Eora Journey Program to achieve greater recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and their living culture in the public domain through public art.
Underground the powerlines in the park	1	Outside the scope of works of this project.
More trees and greenery facing Francis Street and Glebe Point Road	1	Francis Street and Glebe Point Road are outside of the scope of this project. The City will look to consider this for future projects.
Do not install metal table tennis tables as they do not bounce well when playing	1	We will not install metal tennis tables.
Install a low wall around the table tennis tables to stop balls rolling away	1	We will consider this during the detailed design stage of the project.

Do not include palm trees as part of the planting as they encourage ibises to nest	1	We will review tree species during detailed design stage of the project.
Include chess tables in the park design	1	A chess tables will be included.
Upgrade lighting as the park currently feels unsafe at night	1	Noted. Lighting will be upgraded as part of the new works.

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## Pop up information session

A pop up consultation feedback session was held on Tuesday 31 October from 4pm to 5:30pm.

Council staff were available to answer questions and obtain feedback about the proposed concept plan. Five residents attended this session.

Feedback from this session is captured in the table above.

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## Early consultation feedback

Prior to undertaking general community consultation on the proposal, the City undertook some early consultation work in early 2023 to ask local residents how often they use the park and what they would like to see in the new design.

Twenty one responses were received during the pre-consultation period. Ideas and suggestions helped to shape the Concept Plan. Key themes from the pre-consultation were:

- Retain existing mature trees where possible, prune some existing trees to increase sun into new lawn areas.
- Improve understory planting areas.
- Provide more seats and increase the range of seating types offered within the park;
- Provide a youth play within the park i.e. handball, table tennis, chess table, fitness equipment, skate-able elements etc...
- Upgrade lighting within the park to improve nighttime safety;
- Expand the park by incorporating under utilised bitumen area;
- More bins
- Increase lawn spaces and increase tree canopy cover in the eastern side of the park.
- Upgrade pathways using more natural and recycled elements e.g. brick, sandstone.
- Resurface existing basketball court
- Relocate children's play equipment to Robbyn Kemmis

# Engagement activities

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## Overview of engagement

### 1. Sydney Your Say webpage

A Sydney Your Say webpage, <https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/proposed-works-maintenance/your-feedback-proposed-design-minogue-reserve-glebe> was created. The page included an electronic copy of the revised concept design, survey and other key information about the consultation.

### 2. Online feedback form via Survey Monkey

The community and stakeholders were able to give feedback using an online feedback form. A link to the feedback form was provided on the Sydney Your Say website.

### 3. Consultation letter

A letter was posted to residents, inviting them to give feedback on the proposal. 1,000 letters were distributed.

### 4. Community pop up session

A pop-up consultation feedback session was held on Tuesday 31 October from 4pm to 5:30pm.

### 5. Signage

Three signs were placed in the park directing people online to leave their feedback.

CONFIDENTIAL

By virtue of the Local Government Act 1993 Section 10A Paragraph 2

Document is Restricted