

Attachment D

Community Consultation Summary of Submissions

Kings Cross Community Garden Consultation - December 2017

The proposed Kings Cross community garden will be 250 square meters in size (190 square metres in stage 1 and 60 square metres in stage 2) and located at Lawrence Hargrave Reserve, Elizabeth Bay Road, Elizabeth Bay.

The garden includes a space for:

- raised garden beds for growing vegetables, flowers and herbs;
- green waste recycling with composting and worm farms and;
- a toolshed for storing tools, seeds and hoses.

The edible garden will be surrounded by a low fence.

The community garden group developed a management plan and garden design which will guide the group in maintaining the garden. It also outlines how they will engage with local residents who would like to join the community garden.

The Kings Cross Community Garden consulted the community by;

- placing the group management plan and garden design on sydneyyoursay.com.au for three weeks Friday 27 November to Friday 15 December 2017.
- sign posting the proposed area with laminated copies of the notification letter and garden design.
- distribution of a notification letter to 2,150 residents and businesses of a 500m radius from Lawrence Hargrave Reserve on Elizabeth Bay Road, Elizabeth Bay.

Schedule of Community Comments:

Number of submissions – 88

Submissions in support – 76

Submissions in support with conditions – 6

Submissions not in support – 6

Submissions received after due date – 2 support but are not included in final count of submissions

No. of comments	Comments in support:	Response
76	Liked/endorsed/supported the proposal of the community garden at Lawrence Hargraves Reserve, Kings Cross.	Note
42	Liked the social and community building benefits.	Note
23	Liked access to a community garden with fresh organic vegetables and herbs grown locally.	Note
16	Liked to participate/become/already a member of the garden.	Note
15	Liked that it encourages environmental benefits, sustainability and beautify the local environment in alignment to Sydney's 2030.	Note
14	Liked to provide physical and mental wellbeing. Getting hands dirty outdoors in a community harmonious environment.	Note
11	Liked the idea to recycle vegetable scraps and utilise the compost in the garden.	Note
8	Liked the idea of sharing skills and knowledge and conducting educational workshops.	Note
8	Liked the proposed Management plan and garden design for the garden.	Note
9	Liked the proposal use of the park as currently an underutilised space above a car park.	Note
7	Liked that the garden is inclusive to everyone.	Note
7	Liked the idea of showing children where food comes from and how it's grown.	Note
6	Like that it is a positive change and providing a functional shared space.	Note
6	Liked the location situated near children's playground, weekend markets and a green local area.	Note

6	Liked that the proposal may reduce antisocial behaviour in the park.	Note
6	Liked the Kings Cross Committee group have worked together with the community and are very enthusiastic for the garden.	Note
7	Liked the idea of the community garden as a number of locals live in high density apartments and own small balcony gardens.	Noted
3	Liked that the garden didn't consume the park and allows space for dog walkers, picnic goers and other park users.	Note
2	Liked the idea of increasing passive surveillance by future community gardeners that may reduce crime.	Noted
1	Use of toxic sprays/chemicals on herbs and vegetables	Note. The garden will be organic and will use organic methods to reduce insects or diseases.
1	How do you ensure their use managed and controlled and communicated so the community are aware?	Note. The Group will be monitored and have ongoing communication with the City.
1	Allowance for yearly Memorial service near tree (Hoop Pine) to honour the memory of those lost to drug related deaths in the local community.	Note. The garden will have no impact to the Memorial tree or service in the park.
1	Liked the existing native corridor and encourage biodiversity in the reserve.	Noted
1	Council to improve pathway and provide disability access throughout the Park.	Noted
1	Increase property value by generating and broaden the village atmosphere.	Noted
1	Council to replace ugly fence that runs along the park or grow plants over it.	Noted
1	Hopefully the process won't take too and many community residents are eager to start.	Noted
1	Liked that increases of activities in the park.	Noted
1	Liked that the grown produce is useful for cooking	Noted

No. of comments	Suggestion/issues from 6 participants that would like addressed	Comments:
3	Do not move or restrict access or interfere to any of the memorials or memorial services in Lawrence Hargrave Reserve.	The garden will not interfere or restrict with the park memorials.
2	As long as it still remains an off leash dog friendly park	Lawrence Hargrave Reserve is an on leash dog park area and will remain dog friendly.
1	Council to provide a pathway which provides access for people with disabilities with a smooth bitumen path (perhaps with a gravel top to provide grip when wet and discourage skateboarders).	The proposal of a pathway providing all access will need to be funded and constructed through a park upgrade for the reserve in the future.
1	Concern the path around the garden near the bushland will too narrow and end up muddy if not reinforced	The pathway will ensure good access in most weather conditions.
1	Concern to see the passionfruit go on the southern fence of the garden.	The passionfruit may be relocated during garden construction.
1	A tap in the Eastern tree enclave which could make the basis of an interesting water feature which could lift the garden out of the ordinary.	The tap will provide access to watering the gardens only.
1	The rough sleepers use the exit from the car park at the Western approach as a shelter and toilet - improved lighting in the area might help	The proposal of additional lighting will need to be funded and constructed through a park upgrade for the reserve in the future.
No. of comments	Reasons from 6 participants that oppose the proposal	Comments:
4	Increase of noise during construction and with people who are attending to the garden there will be constant talking and chatting outside my window	Unfortunately there will be noise during construction of the proposed garden. There may be low level amount noise from the community gardening activities but are not likely to cause impact to neighbours. Any excessive noise should be reported.
3	The location will impact of dog walkers, other park users and limit green space in the park and 250m2 is too large.	The overall garden will consist of 250 square meters in size and includes: 190 square metres in stage 1 and 60 square metres in stage 2 which is currently not accessible to the public. This is ensure the garden provide adequate space for other park users. The garden will not interfere with dog walkers or park users. It will provide an alternative and additional activity and green space in the park.

2	Impact on privacy to neighbouring units	The proposed garden has designed the garden beds to provide privacy for neighbouring apartments with screening with climbing plants.
2	Increase of foot traffic in the park and I am concerned that the garden will attract a lot of people accessing it after work hours and all day during weekends.	The group will be mindful of the neighbouring residents and also provide screening with produce plants to screen the garden and soften the noise.
2	Decrease in resale value living near a community garden I am now concerned that rental values will be affected, and my apartment will be a less desirable place to live, both for me and if I want to rent or sell it in the future.	Feedback from Real Estate agents say that community gardens increase resale due to the access to fresh food and a gardening activity in the local area.
2	A working garden which is being fertilised, compost facilities and livestock will all mean undesirable smells, and this will adversely affect nearby residents.	Compost and gardens can smell earthy especially watering and hot weather. Any unpleasant smells coming from the garden will be reported and rectified.
1	Community gardens should be located on rooftops or temporary unused land spaces or traffic treatments.	The City looks at long term spaces for community gardens as they provide a space to meet and grow produce plants. The City has gardens on rooftops, parks and footpath areas. This space at Lawrence Hargraves Reserve was the most ideal location out five other public spaces in the local area.
1	Council only responds to new things not how it effects residents	The City encourages residents to provide feedback or concerns on proposal and we consider all issues.
1	I do not want chickens outside bedroom window due to the noise and smell.	Well maintained chicken coops should not smell and will not be noisy as there will no roosters.
1	There are existing community gardens at Woolloomooloo existing facilities located less than 10 minutes' walk away from this site, in Woolloomooloo. If the aim is to service a broader range of people, then perhaps the garden should be moved further east, towards Rushcutters Bay Park.	The existing community garden at Dowling st, Woolloomooloo is 480m away and has a few plots available. Bourke st Garden at Woolloomooloo is 720m away and is waiting for approval with RMS and RailCorp to extend their garden, otherwise is full to capacity. There are over 40 members interested to garden in the proposed community garden.
1	No disable wheelchair access to the park and requires a pathway to provide access throughout the park	The proposal of a pathway providing all access will need to be funded and constructed through a park upgrade for the reserve in the future. The pathway within the proposed community garden will be accessible for wheelchairs.
1	Concern construction about the timeframe of the construction of the garden and noise, constant disturbance or unsightly mess and I think it is unfair to expect that any residents surrounding the garden should be subjected to that.	The Stage 1 of the community garden will built in stages and between approved working hours Monday to Friday.
1	I currently have a very pleasant view out onto the park and memorial garden. Cluttering my view with bins, hoses, livestock, and 'intimate sitting areas'. It is tolerable when people quietly sit in the grassed areas of the park. But encouraging people to congregate outside of my windows with a direct and uninterrupted view into my house is very upsetting and I am not supportive of it.	The Garden design has provided screening to neighbouring apartments.
1	The garden will attract more itinerants and petty crime with people stealing from it.	Community gardens tend to decrease crime and increase passive surveillance in the area and create a sense of community and sharing of produce.