Attachment C

Engagement Report



Engagement report

Robyn Kemmis Reserve, Glebe February 2024



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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

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.

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

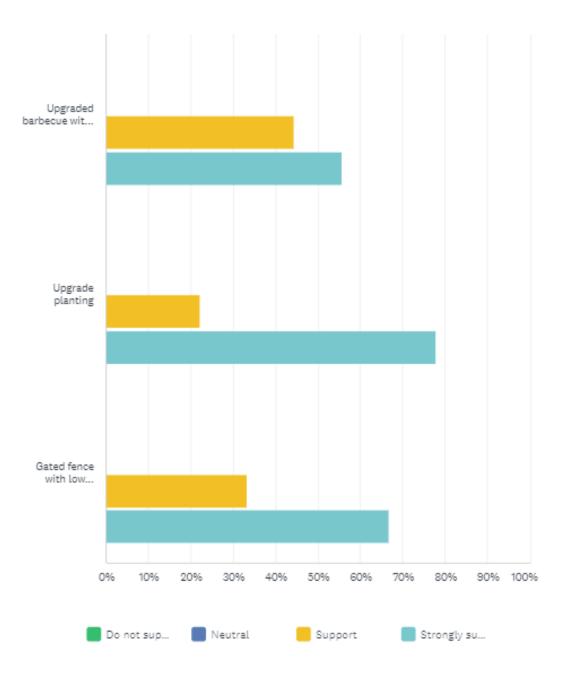
Online feedback form - rating elements of the proposed upgrade

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 New slides, climbing rop... A double swing set, see-saw... A nature play area with...

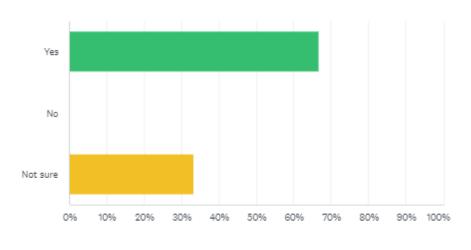
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Do you think that the upgrade would positively change your use of the park?

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

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

Overview of engagement

1. Sydney Your Say webpage

A Sydney Your Say webpage, <u>https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/proposed-works-maintenance/your-feedback-proposed-design-robyn-kemmis-reserve-glebe</u> 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.