

## Relevant Information for Council

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**TO:** Lord Mayor and Councillors

**FROM:** Kim Woodbury, Chief Operating Officer

**THROUGH:** Monica Barone PSM, Chief Executive Officer

**SUBJECT:** Information Relevant To Item 7.3 - Project Scope – Robyn Kemmis Reserve Renewal, Glebe / Item 7.4 - Project Scope – Minogue Reserve and Playground, Glebe

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### For Noting

This memo is for the information of the Lord Mayor and Councillors.

### Purpose

At the Meeting of the Environment Committee on Monday 12 February 2024, further information was sought in regard to the design of our general park renewal projects and in relation to Item 7.3 - Project Scope – Robyn Kemmis Reserve Renewal, Glebe / Item 7.4 - Project Scope – Minogue Reserve and Playground, Glebe.

### Access to Public Toilets

The Peter Forsyth Auditorium is a self-managed community venue for hire, meaning it is used by a range of community and other hirers for a variety of activities and sports. Toilets within the building are not accessible to the public.

When designing our park renewals, the key documents we are guided by in regard to public toilets are:

The Inclusive and Accessible Public Domain Policy and Guidelines  
<https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/policies/inclusive-and-accessible-public-domain-policy>

The Public Toilet Strategy <https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/strategies-action-plans/public-toilet-strategy>

We aim to provide toilet facilities in neighbourhood town centres, as well as in major neighbourhood parks with large playgrounds and sports fields. Facilities within our parks are generally open from sunrise to sunset. In areas with heavy pedestrian traffic, such as central Sydney, we aim to make toilets available every 400 metres.

Currently the closest public toilets to Minogue Reserve are located within the adjacent Broadway shopping centre. These facilities are accessible to the public during shopping centre opening hours (10am-7pm weekdays, 9am-6pm Saturday, 10am-6pm Sunday).

There are a number of City owned public toilets in close proximity to Minogue Reserve and Robyn Kemmis Reserve - these include:

- Foley Park Public Toilets - open daily from sunrise to sunset (Approx. 600 metre walk)
- Wentworth Park Public Toilets (located at playing fields) - Open 24 hours (Approx. 700 metre walk)

### **Integration of historical context and local Aboriginal history in design elements and signage**

#### *All Parks in the Local Government Area*

The City's standard park signage incorporates histories of the local area or park, this includes local Aboriginal history of the area.

In 2015, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Panel suggested the Acknowledgement of Country be done by adding the Gadigal language words for 'good day' – 'bujari gamarruwa' and a sentence 'You are on Gadigal country.'

All park signage includes an Acknowledgement of Country message.

#### *Minogue Reserve*

There are numerous artworks in the immediate area surrounding the park including on and within the Peter Forsythe Auditorium. There is also Aunty Barbara McGrady's Deadly Sports Heroes exhibition on the outside of the auditorium.

Photos included below.



Image 1 - Murals on inside of the Peter Forsythe Auditorium. The Mural is called 'Kurrilwan', which sends a message of friendship and sharing. The name 'Kurrilwan' is the Gamilaraay word for the home of Baiame the Maker and the mural tells the story of Yooneeara who sets out on a journey of initiation, magic and discovery as he makes his way to Baiame's home. Students at Glebe Primary School first thought up the idea of Kurrilwan in 1997 as a project for Reconciliation Day.



Image 2 - Aunty Barb's Deadly Sports Heroes art installation adorn the outside of the Auditorium which features photographs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander sports stars.

### *Minogue Reserve and Robyn Kemmis Reserve*

During detailed design we will look to incorporate Indigenous plantings within the park.

### **City parks accessibility strategy / City network of parks catering for different needs**

During design of our parks and playground renewal projects, the City looks to provide play equipment that provides an improved level of inclusivity and accessibility for children of varying ages and abilities. As well as improving accessible path entries, lighting, park furniture and updating our signage panels to ensure we are in line with current City of Sydney inclusion policies.

Generally, project teams undertake a review and consideration of how the community will access into and around the park, how they will use the park and/or playground and further consider equal access, the provision of play for all, such as sensory play, all abilities play equipment, and the provision of quiet spaces for those with sensory disability.

Design is undertaken in line with the following relevant inclusion policies:

- Open Space, Sports and Recreation Needs Study 2016 Volume 1 - The Strategy
- Inclusive and Accessible Public Domain Policy
- Inclusive and Accessible Public Domain Guidelines
- City's inclusion (disability) action plan - Implementation Plan: <https://record.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/2021/212176.ref> . An Annual report attached to the City's Annual Report. The 22/23 report was endorsed by the Minister of Disability Services and Disability Council.
- [Everyone Can Play Guidelines for inclusive play spaces](#)

As outlined in the City's Inclusive and Accessible Public Domain Guidelines: People socialise, exercise, play and relax in green open spaces. These spaces support people in living active and healthy lives and provide numerous opportunities for social connection. The City is committed to delivering inclusive, dignified and equitable access to parks and playgrounds and to the experiences they offer to everyone. There are more than 400 parks and open spaces in the local area. The City of Sydney's parks cover an area of more than 188 hectares. There are a variety of parks in the City of Sydney, of varying size and functions:

- **Iconic parks** – Parks of significance in size, botanical features, heritage, or containing significant facilities attracting high visitation,
- **Neighbourhood parks** – typically parks above 1500m<sup>2</sup> that contain a range of recreational facilities such as playground and/or courts and/or toilets and/or off-leash areas and/or sports fields and/or BBQ picnic shelters,
- **Pocket parks** – typically less than 1500m<sup>2</sup>. Some may include recreational facilities such as small playgrounds and/or off-leash area, and
- **Sportsfields** – Sportsfields and facilities that provide opportunities for active recreation and ball games typically less than 1500m<sup>2</sup>.

Some parks may include recreational facilities such as small playgrounds and/or off-leash area.

Not all parks are large enough to accommodate amenities and infrastructure to meet all needs.

When planning parks and playgrounds, the City adopts a network approach to ensure that within a network of parks within each neighbourhood, on balance a variety of experiences and amenities are provided.

These guidelines require that the City's pocket parks and playgrounds be designed to be as accessible as possible, by ensuring the provision of a continuous accessible path of travel and accessible furniture where provided and inclusive play spaces and play elements, where they are provided. Neighbourhood and district parks and playgrounds will typically provide the opportunity for best practice inclusive park design and amenity, toilets, shade, seating and parking and or drop off points.

### **Site constraints and restrictions – Robyn Kemmis Reserve**

During the detailed design of our playgrounds we undertake shade modelling to ensure that in the winter and summer months, the heaviest used areas of the playground are shaded. Noting: UV radiation levels are highest between 10am and 2pm (11am and 3pm during daylight saving).

As sites are most used between these times and have a greater need for shade. Also given the position of the sun changes through the day and year, we need to ensure the angle of the shade sails accommodates for these changes.

#### *Robyn Kemmis Reserve*

The playground is very well shaded by established mature trees which surround the playground from the south-west, west and north, providing the proposed playground with shade from the morning, midday and afternoon sun.

The existing tree canopies will provide shade directly above the proposed play structure and swing-set. Additional play items will be shaded by the existing mature trees from the afternoon sun. The nature play area will have shade throughout the day from the existing overhanging tree canopy.

### **SydneyYourSay statistics and how site visit numbers are calculated**

The City's web team uses a Google Analytics Data Studio Report to track visits to all corporate pages. This report can be used to view visits to a page between a determined time period.

### **Consideration of renaming the park to acknowledge the local Aboriginal community – Minogue Reserve**

The City is currently reviewing the naming of two parks (which have recently been upgraded) in the local area to acknowledge the local Aboriginal community - the parks under review are the Park on Lyons Road and Minogue Crescent Reserve

The City engaged an Aboriginal consultant to produce a Narratives Report during the design phase for the renewal of these parks. Themes and information from the Aboriginal consultant's report were woven into the designs for both parks and the Naming Proposal Working Group is currently progressing the naming of the Park on Lyons Road by engaging an Aboriginal consultant. Once this process is complete, the Working Group will consider renaming for Minogue Crescent Reserve.

Staff will progress the renaming of Minogue Reserve after the above is complete.

### **Renaming process/policy**

The City's Naming Policy - <https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/policies/naming-policy> - provides clear direction for the naming of suburbs, roads, parks, open spaces, places and buildings that are owned, operated or managed by the City of Sydney. The Policy supports recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures in the public domain, dual naming, and the precinct distinctiveness of our village.

Implementation of the Naming Policy rests with the Naming Proposal Working Group. If a naming proposal is endorsed by the Naming Proposal Working Group for a Road or Place name, a formal process through Council and the Geographical Names Board must take place. Employees follow the steps outlined in the Naming Proposal Procedure to progress a naming proposal in a timely manner.

The Naming Proposal Working Group will confirm the naming proposal:

- is appropriate for the asset to be named,
- conforms with the principles and intent of this Policy,
- conforms with the Geographical Names Board policies for place names and addressing,
- embraces appropriate consultation with the Aboriginal community, and
- is checked for eligibility and reserved in the NSW Place and Road Naming Proposal System (as appropriate for the Asset).

**Memo from Kim Woodbury, Chief Operating Officer**

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Approved

*P. M. Barone*

**MONICA BARONE PSM**

Chief Executive Officer