

Attachment C

Engagement Report



Engagement report

Upgrading Green Park, Darlinghurst

September 2025

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Engagement summary

From 24 July to 21 August 2025, we asked the community for feedback on a concept plan to upgrade Green Park, Darlinghurst.

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

Consultation activities included:

- Letters to nearby residents and businesses
- project signage in the park
- a pop-up event in the park
- emails to key stakeholders

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 concept design.
-

Outcomes from the engagement

Submissions received during consultation

We received a total of 54 submissions during the consultation period.

32 submissions were received via the Sydney Your Say survey portal and 22 email submissions.

The Sydney Your Say page was visited 1318 times during the consultation period.

Key findings

Online feedback form – rating the design and elements of the proposed upgrade

Respondents who completed the online feedback form were asked whether they supported the proposed design as well as to rate how important elements of the proposed design were to them.

The overall design was strongly supported by **90.63%** of survey responders.

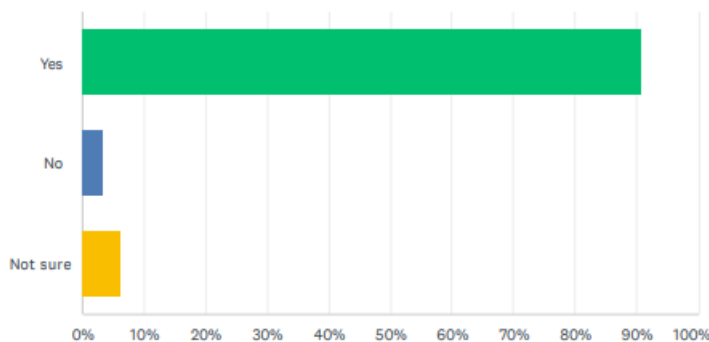
The five design elements in the park were also strongly supported or supported by survey responders:

- more seats throughout the park were strongly supported or supported by **98%** of survey responders
- new lighting on main paths was strongly supported or supported by **96.89%** of survey responders
- maximalising usable areas of the park, including lawns was strongly supported or supported by **97%** of survey responders
- increase and improve garden areas was strongly supported or supported by **98%** of survey responders
- improve the pathway networks was strongly supported or supported by **96%** of survey responders

The full results from the survey are below:

Q1 Do you support the proposed improvements to Green Park?

Answered: 32 Skipped: 0

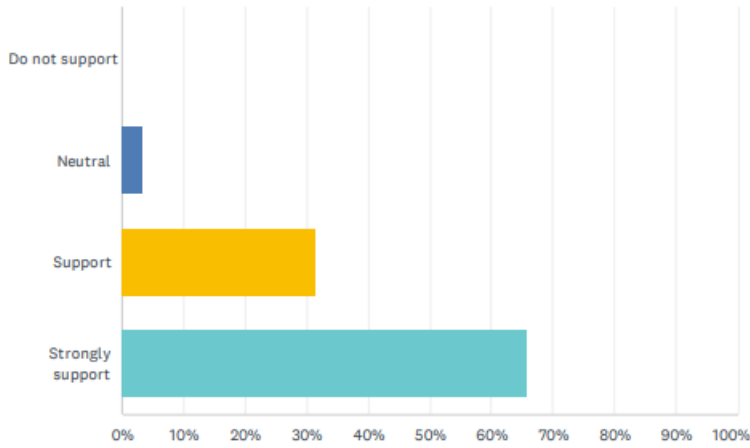


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	90.63%	29
No	3.13%	1
Not sure	6.25%	2
TOTAL		32

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Q2 More seats throughout the park

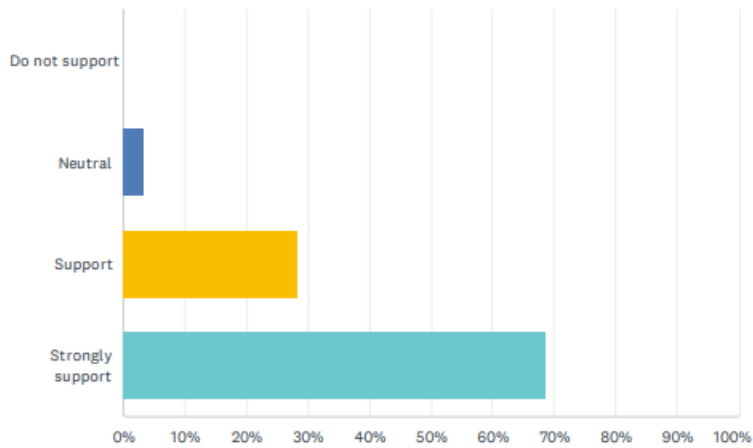
Answered: 32 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Do not support	0.00%	0
Neutral	3.13%	1
Support	31.25%	10
Strongly support	65.63%	21
TOTAL		32

Q3 New lighting on main paths

Answered: 32 Skipped: 0

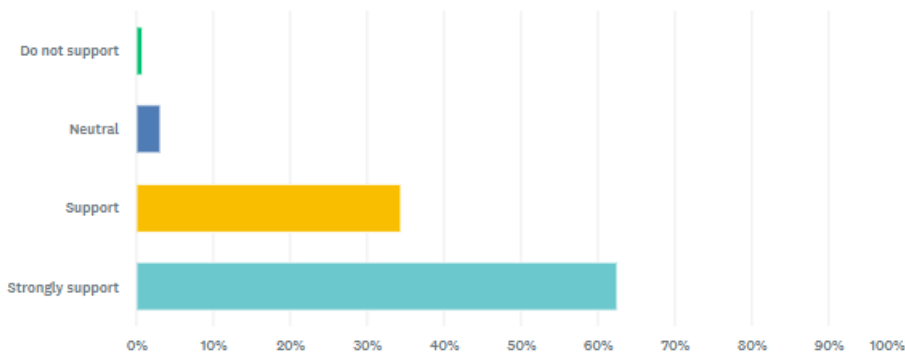


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Do not support	0.00%	0
Neutral	3.13%	1
Support	28.13%	9
Strongly support	68.75%	22
TOTAL		32

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Maximise usable areas of the park, including lawns

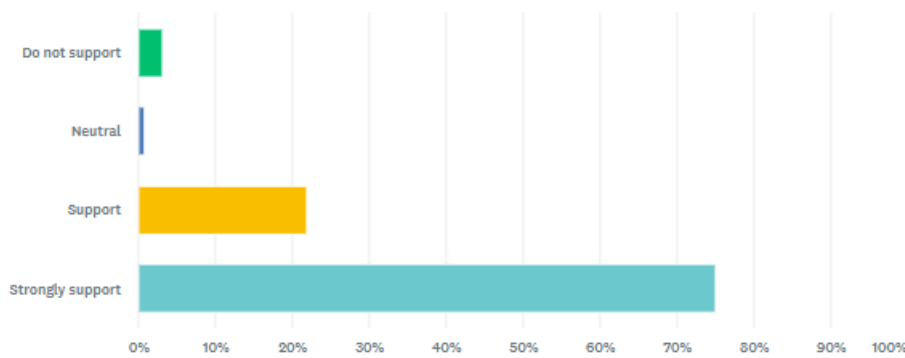
Answered: 32 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices ↓	Percentage ↓	Responses ↓
● Do not support	0%	0
● Neutral	3.13%	1
● Support	34.38%	11
● Strongly support	62.5%	20
Total		32

Increase and improve garden areas

Answered: 32 Skipped: 0

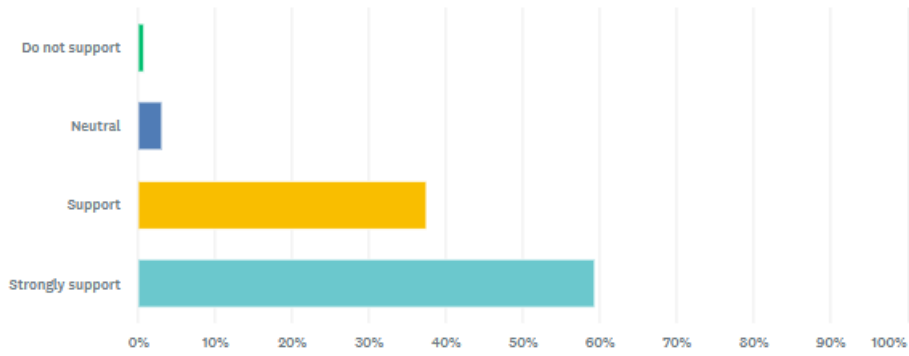


Answer Choices ↓	Percentage ↓	Responses ↓
● Do not support	3.13%	1
● Neutral	0%	0
● Support	21.88%	7
● Strongly support	75%	24
Total		32

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Improve the pathway network

Answered: 32 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices ↓	Percentage ↓	Responses ↓	
● Do not support	0%	0	...
● Neutral	3.13%	1	...
● Support	37.5%	12	...
● Strongly support	59.38%	19	...
Total		32	

Subjects/topics raised in submissions

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

This feedback was received through the survey as well as individual emails during the consultation period and discussions with the community at onsite events and is summarised below.

Comments	Total	City of Sydney Response
PARK UPGRADE		
General support for the design	13	Noted
Include acknowledgement of the aboriginal community	1	This will be incorporated into the signage design of the park upgrade.
More seating in the park for nearby workers and students visiting the Jewish Museum	2	The park upgrade includes a variety of new seating options and locations throughout the park.
Include table and chairs to encourage picnics	1	The park upgrade includes a variety of new seating options and locations throughout the park. Inclusion of picnic tables and chairs will be considered during the detailed design process.
Oppose sitting walls unless they serve a dual purpose (retaining walls) as they are uncomfortable	1	The seating walls are part of a variety of new seating areas in the park. They serve a dual purpose and will retain areas of the park to improve lawn and planting areas.
Exercise equipment should be installed in the park	1	Council's Park Fitness Equipment Plan sets out a plan to ensure all members of the community will be within a 10 minute walk (800 metre radius) of outdoor fitness equipment. The area around Green Park is serviced by existing fitness equipment at James Hilder Reserve, Rushcutters Bay Park and Bourke Street Park.
Install a public toilet in the park	1	Council's Public Toilet Strategy recommends that public toilets are located within a 5-10 minute walk (400-800 metres) of any point within central Sydney and at all village centres and major neighbourhood parks. Green Park is serviced by the new automated public toilet at Taylor Square (approx. 300 metres walk).
Install bike parking around the park	1	Bike parking is available at a number of locations in close proximity to the site on

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		<p>Darlinghurst Road, Burton Street, and Victoria Street.</p> <p>Installation of additional bike parking around the park will be considered during the detailed design process.</p>
Include a playground in the space	1	<p>The City aims to ensure all members of the community are within a 10-minute walking distance (800 metre radius) of their local playground.</p> <p>The area near Green Park is well serviced by existing playgrounds at Lacrozia Playground, Surry Street Playground, Albert Sloss Reserve, and Frances Newton Reserve.</p>
Ensure there are adequate bins throughout the park	1	The park upgrade has increased the number bins in the park and will consider their best locations in the detailed design.
Include a water feature in the design	1	The park upgrade will not include a water feature in the design.
Trim larger trees to improve lighting in the park and make it more inviting	2	The project team will work with arborists to determine if this can be achieved.
Increase planting in the park	1	The park upgrade proposes to increase the planting areas in the park.
Include elements of re-wilding to the park which includes re-introducing native bees	1	“Re-wilding” is not part of the proposal, however there will be increased planting areas and the selection of planting species that attract pollinators will be considered in the detailed design.
Native plants should be used with information about the plants or Aboriginal names	1	The planting design will use a mix of native and exotic planting species. Signage for plant names is not part of the park upgrade.
Drainage in the park needs to be addressed as it is often muddy for multiple days after rain	1	Park drainage issues will be reviewed as part of the detailed design.
Engineering issue that needs to be addressed is the mud which accumulates on the concrete on the western side around the bandstand when it rains	1	Park drainage issues will be reviewed as part of the detailed design.
Address the drainage issues on the Eastern edge of the park. Water often flows from the park over the footpath	1	Park drainage issues will be reviewed as part of the detailed design.
The new path network takes up too much open space in the park	1	The new path network has been proposed to maximise open space and lawn areas in the park and considers the ‘desire lines’ of visitors to the park

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The two main paths should be in an "X" shape when viewed from above, intersecting each other at the band stand - otherwise the public will just create a muddy 'desire path'	1	The new path network has been proposed to maximise open space and lawn areas in the park and considers the 'desire lines' of visitors to the park
Park should be designated as an off-leash area	1	Green Park is currently identified as an off-leash dog park. It is not proposed to change this.
Restrict pets in the park	1	Green Park is currently identified as an off-leash dog park. It is not proposed to change this.
The design is plain and uninspired	1	Noted
BANDSTAND		
Would like to see the upgraded bandstand used for public performances	2	<p>The bandstand was erected in 1925 to host public band concerts which were a popular feature of Sydney life in the interwar years.</p> <p>The bandstand was converted to a café in the early 1990s and following a short period of operation it has been vacant for an extended period due to the constrained nature of the building.</p> <p>It is proposed to restore the bandstand to its original form to allow for the space to once again be used by the public including for public performances.</p>
Would like the bandstand turned into a café	2	The building is not suitable for use as a café (refer above) and it is proposed to restore the bandstand to its original form to allow for the space to once again be used by the public.
Would like the bandstand repurposed to be utilised as a community outreach centre to be used by homeless and vulnerable people in the area	1	The building is not suitable for community use and it is proposed to restore the bandstand to its original form to allow for the space to once again be used by the public.
Oppose renovation of the bandstand unless it will be utilised	1	Restoration of the bandstand to its original form will allow for the space to once again be used by the public including for public performances.
AIDS MEMORIAL		
Support the inclusion of an AIDS memorial garden	16	Noted
Include an acknowledgement to Professor David Cooper AC (former Director UNSW's Kirby Institute) as part of the AIDS memorial garden	13	The requests for acknowledgement of Professor David Cooper AC will be considered as the detailed design for the AIDS Memorial garden is developed.

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Include an acknowledgement to Bill Whittaker AM (first CEO of the AIDS Council of NSW) in the AIDS memorial garden	1	The request for acknowledgement of Bill Whittaker AM will be considered as the detailed design for the AIDS Memorial garden is developed.
A more respectful option for the AIDS memorial should be considered rather than a garden	2	The AIDS Memorial garden is proposed to be integrated with the renewed landscape of Green Park, providing space for memory, commemoration and reflection.

Preconcept consultation

Prior to undertaking community consultation on the concept design, the City undertook some early consultation work in early-2024 to ask residents how often they use the park and what they would like to see in the new design.

41 submissions were received during the early consultation period. Ideas and suggestions received during this time helped to shape the concept plan. Key themes from the pre-consultation were:

- **Improved pathways and park amenity** – enhance planting and turf areas, access to more formal seating benches around the park and to rationalise the path layout.
- **Better lighting** - park feels dark and gloomy during the day, improved lighting at night (doesn't feel safe)
- **Revitalise the bandstand** – the building is admired and well loved by the community and should have more activation.

Engagement activities

Overview of engagement

1. Sydney Your Say webpage

A Sydney Your Say webpage, "[Your say on the proposed design for Green Park, Darlinghurst](#)" 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 in properties surrounding the park, inviting them to give feedback on the proposal. 850 letters were distributed.

4. Signage

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

5. Park pop-up

City staff attended the park on Saturday 9 August from 10am to 11:30am. This was attended by approximately 6 residents.

6. Sydney Your Say e-newsletter

An email was sent to 6643 of our Sydney Your Say e newsletter