



Community and Stakeholder Engagement Report

Frenchs Forest Town Centre Park Upgrades (Stage 1 of 2)

Impact level: Two (high, local)

Consultation period: 24 March 2022 to 4 May 2022

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1. Summary

This report outlines the outcomes of community and stakeholder engagement conducted from 24 March 2022 to 4 May 2022 as part of Stage 1 of the proposed Frenchs Forest Town Centre Park Upgrades project.

The feedback collected during consultation primarily indicated strong support for the concept plans for each park. The concepts received very high levels of support across the board. The volume of support without any changes was high for each park. The volume of responses of support with changes was quite low much. Respondents who were either neutral or did not support the concepts was very low at less than 10% of total respondents.

Respondents who commented in support of the plans indicated that the proposed embellishments to the parks were welcomed, with each of them being highly underutilised and in some cases fallen into disrepair. Comments reflected that the community was strongly in support of the natural aspects of the designs, while also being family friendly and catering to all ages.

Respondents who suggested changes generally indicated that facilities such as play equipment and basketball courts should be provided and/ or are made larger than proposed to cater to the families within the area.





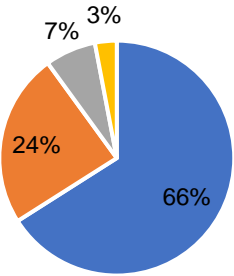





Respondents who commented against the plans generally indicated concern around removal of natural areas to provide infrastructure along with an increase in mosquito activity around wetland and water outlet areas. Comments also reflected on open areas being preferred for recreational activities and that older children also need to be catered for.

1.1. Key outcomes

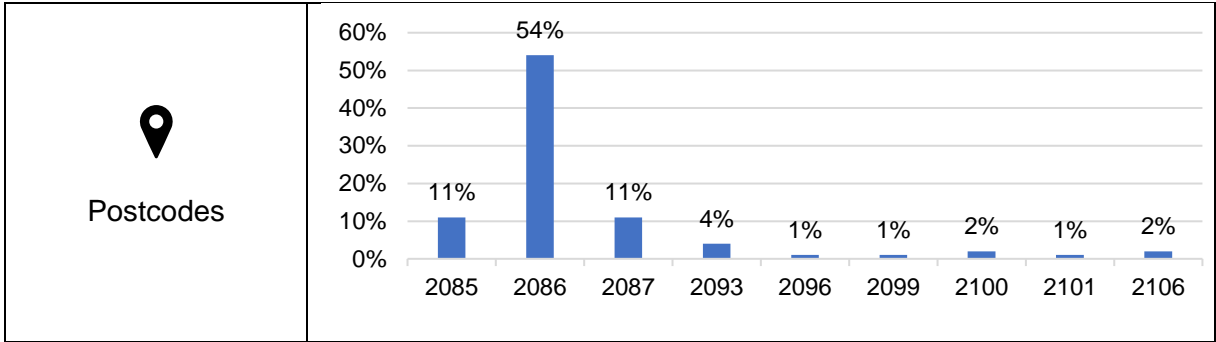
The total number of visits to the Your Say Frenchs Forest Town Centre Park Upgrades landing page was 3,261 and the number of visitors was 2,734.

A total of 242 comments were received across the three Your Say pages created for each reserve, and eight via email. This number includes five emailed comments in support/against and three additional emailed comments in relation to general Frenchs Forest Town Centre and suburb upgrades, including roadways which are outside the scope of this engagement.





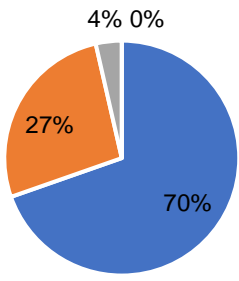




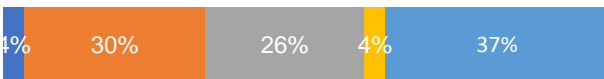
Brick Pit Reserve

 <p>Total unique responses</p>	<p>77*</p>		
 <p>Have Your Say: visitation stats</p>	<p>Visitors: 1,237</p>	<p>Visits: 1,432</p>	<p>Average time onsite: 1min 37secs</p>
 <p>How responses were received</p>	<p>Comment Written responses (email/letter)</p>		<p>Completions: 100 Number received: 1</p>
 <p>Online sentiment question: What do you think of the concept plan for Brick Pit Reserve?</p>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Support ■ Support with changes ■ Don't support ■ Neutral/undetermined <p>Total responses = 100</p>		
 <p>Feedback themes</p>	<p>e.g. Great for the area e.g. Good balance of nature and infrastructure</p>	<p>e.g. Dog friendly e.g. Mosquito control e.g. Keep bike track</p>	
 <p>Gender</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Male ■ Female ■ Other id. ■ N/A 		
 <p>Age groups</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ <25 yrs ■ 26-50 yrs ■ 51-75 yrs ■ 76+ yrs ■ N/A 		

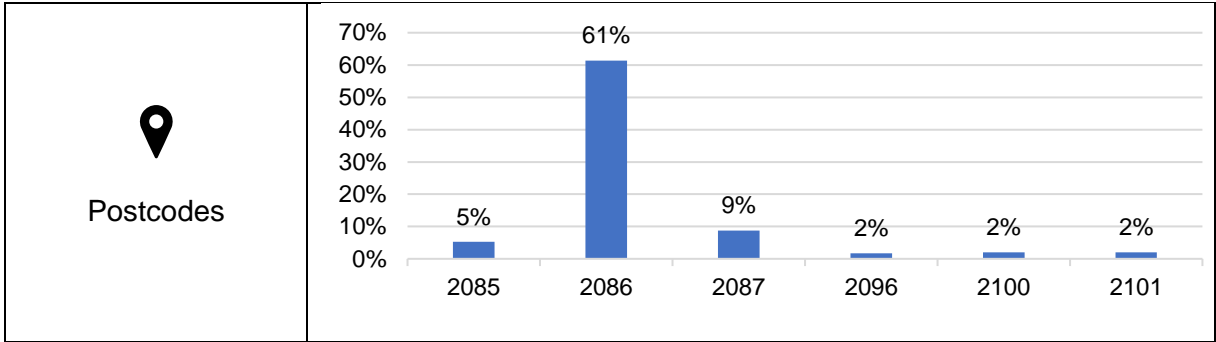
*Not every respondent made a comment in addition to answering the sentiment question







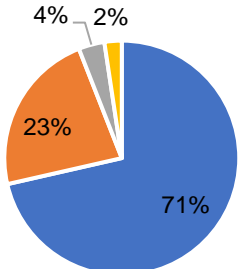




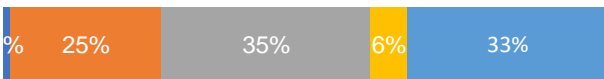
Akora Reserve

 <p>Total unique responses</p>	<p>42[*]</p>		
 <p>Have Your Say: visitation stats</p>	Visitors: 825	Visits: 957	Average time onsite: 1mins 2secs
 <p>How responses were received</p>	<p>Comment</p> <p>Written responses (email/letter)</p>		<p>Completions: 57</p> <p>Number received: 2</p>
 <p>Online sentiment question: What do you think of the concept plan for Akora Reserve</p>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Support ■ Support with changes ■ Don't support ■ Neutral/undetermined <p>Total responses = 57</p>		
 <p>Feedback themes</p>	<p>e.g. Larger playground</p> <p>e.g. Keep basketball court</p> <p>e.g. Keep open space</p>	<p>e.g. Support local wildlife</p> <p>e.g. No need for community garden</p>	
 <p>Gender</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Male ■ Female ■ Other id. ■ N/A 		
 <p>Age groups</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ <25 yrs ■ 26-50 yrs ■ 51-75 yrs ■ 76+ yrs ■ N/A 		

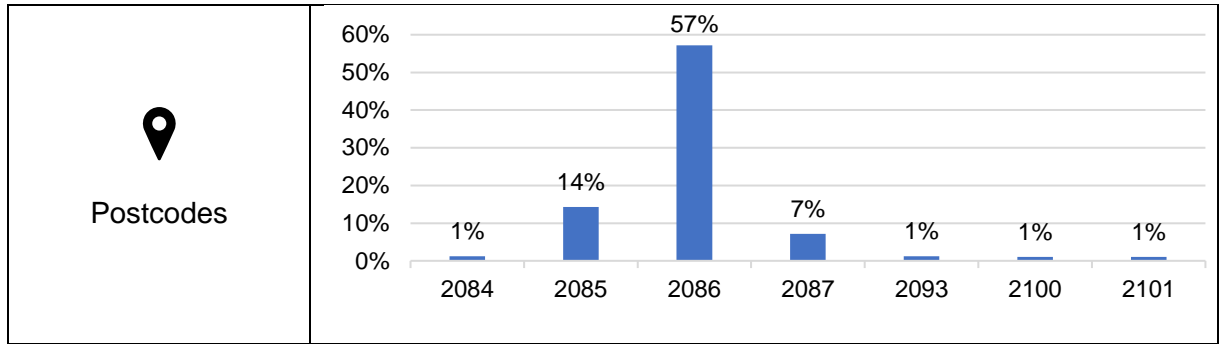
*Not every respondent made a comment in addition to answering the sentiment question



Rabbett Reserve

 <p>Total unique responses</p>	<p>57[*]</p>		
 <p>Have Your Say: visitation stats</p>	<p>Visitors: 1,269</p>	<p>Visits: 1,440</p>	<p>Average time onsite: 1mins 12secs</p>
 <p>How responses were received</p>	<p>Comment</p>		<p>Completions: 84</p>
 <p>Online sentiment question: What do you think of the concept plan for Rabbett Reserve?</p>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Support ■ Support with changes ■ Don't support ■ Neutral/undetermined <p>Total responses = 84</p>		
 <p>Feedback themes</p>	<p>e.g. Improve water quality e.g. Keep playground e.g. Keep natural areas/ wildlife habitat</p>	<p>e.g. Enhance the creek</p>	
 <p>Gender</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Male ■ Female ■ Other id. ■ N/A 		
 <p>Age groups</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ <25 yrs ■ 26-50 yrs ■ 51-75 yrs ■ 76+ yrs ■ N/A 		

*Not every respondent made a comment in addition to answering the sentiment question



1.2. How we engaged

 Social media	Post: 3 (2 Facebook and 1 LinkedIn)	Reach: 22,000 (views) Clicks: 345
 Print media and collateral	Letterbox drop: 2095, 2096 and 2097 Site signs used: Collateral availability: Service Centres	Letters: 687 Signs: 6
 Electronic direct mail (EDM)	Community Engagement (fortnightly) newsletter: 3 editions Council (weekly) e-News: 2 editions e-News: News story – Fri 1 Apr 2022 e-News: Your Say item – 25 Mar 2022 Stakeholder email	Distribution: 23,000 subscribers Distribution: 164,937 subscribers 1,935 clicks, 1,771 views 885 clicks Distribution: 1,875
 Key stakeholder engagement	Interview: 5 Meeting: 10	Attendance: 12 Attendance: 25

2. Background

This report outlines the community and stakeholder engagement conducted from 24 March 2022 to 4 May 2022 as part of the proposed Frenchs Forest Town Centre Park Upgrades project.

Community engagement on the project is in two stages:

- Stage 1: to understand community sentiment and obtain feedback on the initial concept designs of each park; and

- Stage 2: to understand community sentiment and obtain feedback on the detailed designs for each park, review environment factors studies (where applicable) and to ensure the designs are acceptable to the community before proceeding to construction.

The delivery of the park upgrades from detailed design to construction will follow a staggered schedule. Community consultation on the detailed designs will be at approximately three-quarters complete to allow adequate time for consultation and revision prior to construction. The phasing of the delivery of each park runs from July 2022 until December 2024. Details of the delivery phasing for each park will be available on the Your Say page.

Frenchs Forest was declared a Planned Precinct by the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment on 1 June 2017. The Planned Precinct implements Phase 1 of Council's adopted Hospital Precinct Structure Plan. To provide for the future space needs of this precinct, Council intends to embellish existing open space areas ensuring recreational opportunities are provided to meet community need resulting from the increased population, with a focus on multiple use and enhanced linkages.

Council has received grant funding from the NSW Government Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) to upgrade three parks as part of the Frenchs Forest Town Centre. Concept designs were developed during the Hospital Precinct Structure Plan to give the community an idea of what might be possible at each location.

During the community and stakeholder engagement, input was sought from the community regarding the prepared concepts (stage 1) with feedback obtained being used to refine the concepts and feed the detailed design process (stage 2).

3. Engagement objectives

Community and stakeholder engagement aimed to:

- Objective 1: build community and stakeholder awareness of participation activities (inform)
- Objective 2: provide accessible information so community and stakeholders can participate in a meaningful way (inform)
- Objective 3: identify community and stakeholder concerns, local knowledge and values (consult)

4. Engagement approach

Community and stakeholder engagement for the Frenchs Forest Town Centre Park Upgrades project was conducted between 24 March 2022 and 4 May 2022 and consisted of a series of activities that provided opportunities for community and stakeholders to contribute.

The engagement was planned, implemented and reported in accordance with Council's [Community Engagement Matrix](#) (2017).

A project page was established on our have your say platform with information provided in an accessible and easy to read format.

The project was primarily promoted through our regular email newsletter (EDM) channels.

We also utilised site signage at each park, providing QR codes which took the community to the Your Say page for further information and to allow them to make comments on the concept plans.

A notification letter was posted out to 687 residents/properties and the same letter was emailed to 1875 residents who have provided their details to Council for the purposes of Council proposal and Your Say projects.

Feedback was captured through an online comment form embedded onto the have your say project page. The form included a question that directly asked respondents for their level of support on the proposal.

An open-field comments box provided community members a space to explain or elaborate on their support, not support or neutral sentiment as well as any other feedback they wished to contribute.

Email and written comments were also invited.

4.1. Reaching diverse audiences

A thorough stakeholder mapping exercise was completed to identify and understand the needs of the whole community.

It was determined for this project that it was particularly important to hear from resident associations, young families, and youth within the area.

5. Findings

The consultation process attracted a diverse range of responses which supported the need for improved open space within the Frenchs Forest community.

Respondents said they valued the area for its natural areas, local fauna and flora, family friendly atmosphere and various passive and active recreational opportunities.

Overall, there was general support for the proposed upgrades to the three parks, with the majority of respondents supporting the activation of somewhat underutilised spaces. Many felt that the proposed embellishments would be a significant improvement to the area, specifically for active recreation for young people through to providing greater opportunities to explore the natural aspects of the parks. Some expressed that the designs were aesthetically pleasing and had a good balance of preservation of natural areas and activation of recreational spaces.

- *This is a great concept to revitalise this reserve and make it a useable and enjoyable space for the community. I fully support this concept.*
- *It will be great to see this piece of wasteland utilised in this way. I know families who like to take their young children "on adventures" and this would certainly provide that opportunity.*
- *The concepts appear to be considerate of the natural environment, something we are very protective of up here in 'The Forest'. Well done Northern Beaches Council - keep them coming!*
- *This looks well thought out and a good mix of facilities, with attention to the natural beauty of native bushland, despite the small area.*

While overall supportive of the proposal, many people provided suggestions for how Council should move forward. These included suggestions about larger playground areas, more active recreation areas such as basketball courts, material choices and dog access to the parks.

- *I think the childrens playground should be bigger, with a section dedicated to water play as we often have to travel out of area to access this.*
- *It looks good but I think it's important to have a dog friendly area, or enclosed area for them away from the children's playground.*
- *Overall I am very excited about this concept, but ideally I'd like to see two basketball half courts incorporated into the space, the removal of the herb garden and the incorporation of possum boxes in the tree canopy to support our local wildlife.*
- *Please do keep the bike track - even better if it's enhanced. The mountain bike tracks parallel to Bantry Bay Rd have, and do, provide many of the kids in the neighbour plenty of fun without being pressured out of Manly Dam by adult riders. This includes the jumps at Brick Pit.*
- *Can you make a nice kids playground there and also a dog walking area please. We have been going there as live next door. Heaps of water dragons around there.*

Some respondents felt that the parks should be left alone and kept natural and did not support the proposal. Others worried about the new boardwalk and viewing platforms at Rabbett and Brick Pit Reserve, bringing more people to the area, and an influx of mosquitos from the improved wetland areas, along with impacts on local wildlife and loss of native vegetation.

Issues and suggestions are further outlined in table 2 below along with Council's responses.

5.1 Brick Pit Reserve

Table 1: Issues, change requests and other considerations

Theme	What we heard	Council's response
Preservation of natural environment	Concern that the upgrades will result in significant tree loss at the site.	The embellishment of Brick Pit Reserve will look to rehabilitate and enhance indigenous vegetation, and to assist the regeneration of local flora and fauna.
Parking	Support for additional parking	Additional parking is not proposed as part of the park upgrades.
Additional Amenity	Support for additional facilities, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public toilets - Fitness station 	A playground is proposed as part of the park upgrade and can be identified by

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Additional seating - Shelters - Basketball court - Skate park 	<p>number 4 on the concept plan.</p> <p>By way of context, the draft open space and recreation strategy is currently on exhibition to the community and in such a strategy, playgrounds are typically categorised as regional, district, neighbourhood or local. The strategy includes an outline of the typical facilities, for each park classification. Additional amenity is based on these classifications which also considers access, inclusivity, and diversity of experiences.</p> <p>All feedback is being considered in the next stage of design development including the possibility of including a public toilet.</p>
Wetland	Concern that wetland may attract mosquitos.	<p>The concept proposes to embellish the existing functioning wetland within Brick Pit Reserve.</p> <p>The current wetland is overgrown with its banks</p> <p>Vegetation and water quality management with a focus on mosquito control will form part of the design development.</p>
Bike Track	Support for the retention of existing bike jumps and track and incorporation of bike racks.	<p>An existing bike trail loop is located within the park, retention of these jumps and tracks will be investigated as part of the design process, taking into account the impacts on the natural environment and other park users.</p> <p>The incorporation of bike racks will be considered during development of the design and in response to community feedback.</p>

Playground	Support for a larger playground that caters to a range of age groups.	<p>A playground is proposed as part of the park upgrade and can be identified by number 4 on the concept plan.</p> <p>By way of context, the draft open space and recreation strategy is currently on exhibition to the community and in such a strategy, playgrounds are typically categorised as regional, district, neighbourhood or local. The strategy includes an outline of the typical facilities, for each park classification. Additional amenity is based on these classifications which also considers access, inclusivity, and diversity of experiences.</p> <p>All feedback is being considered in the next stage of design development.</p>
Site history	Support for comprehensive interpretation of the history of the site.	<p>The history of the site will be incorporated into the overall design of the park which will be further detailed during design development.</p>
Impacts on neighbouring properties	Concern over privacy for residents in adjacent properties.	<p>The concept designs were created during the Hospital Precinct Structure Plan development and were exhibited during this time.</p> <p>The concepts give the community an idea of what might be possible at the park with the design to be further detailed during design development in response to feedback received from the community.</p> <p>As we progress through the process, the community are kept up to date on how the designs</p>

		are shaping up and given an opportunity to provide further comments.
Pathway conflicts	Concern for conflicts between pedestrians and cyclists.	The network of paths will be further refined during design development and in response to community feedback.

5.2 Akora Reserve

Table 1: Issues, change requests and other considerations

Theme	What we heard	Council's response
Playground	Support for a larger playground that caters to a range of age groups, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Creative play - Water play 	<p>A playground is proposed as part of the park upgrade.</p> <p>By way of context, the draft open space and recreation strategy is currently on exhibition to the community and in such a strategy, playgrounds are typically categorised as regional, district, neighbourhood or local. The strategy includes an outline of the typical facilities, for each park classification. Additional amenity is based on these classifications which also considers access, inclusivity, and diversity of experiences.</p> <p>All feedback is being considered in the next stage of design development.</p>
Material choices	Support for material choices that consider the area, including local wildlife and climate change.	Materials will be considered during the design development stage of the project and in compliance with Australian Standards and Council's policies and guidelines
Impacts on neighbouring properties	Concern for privacy and noise impacts to neighbouring properties.	The concepts give the community an idea of what might be possible at the park with the design to be

		<p>further detailed during design development in response to feedback received from the community.</p> <p>As we progress through the process, the community are kept up to date on how the designs are shaping up and given an opportunity to provide further comments.</p>
Dog Friendly Area	Support for dog friendly enclosed area.	<p>New off-leash areas are considered based on a range of criteria including demonstrated need, impact on local residents and the environment and current and future use of the proposed area.</p> <p>We continue to reassess the number, distribution, and diversity of off-leash areas.</p>
Open Space	Concern that the proposed upgrades removes large areas of open space that are currently provided at the site.	<p>The draft open space and recreation strategy is currently on exhibition to the community and in such a strategy, playgrounds are typically categorised as regional, district, neighbourhood or local. The strategy includes an outline of the typical facilities, for each park classification. Additional amenity is based on these classifications which also considers access, inclusivity, and diversity of experiences.</p> <p>All feedback is being considered in the next stage of design development.</p>
Basketball courts	Support for the basketball court, with request for additional half court.	<p>The draft open space and recreation strategy currently on exhibition to the community. It outlines a</p>

		<p>hierarchy of park classifications such as regional, district, neighbourhood, and local level.</p> <p>Consideration of the overall distribution of facilities to create diversity and different challenges within parks will be undertaken during development of the design and in response to community feedback received.</p>
Path usage	Concern over pathway conflicts between pedestrians and cyclists.	<p>The park will be embellished for the enjoyment of all members of the community.</p> <p>The network of paths will be further developed during development of the design and in response to community feedback.</p>
Parking	Support for additional parking	<p>The draft open space and recreation strategy is currently on exhibition to the community and in such a strategy, playgrounds are typically categorised as regional, district, neighbourhood or local. The strategy includes an outline of the typical facilities, for each park classification. Additional amenity is based on these classifications which also considers access, inclusivity, and diversity of experiences.</p> <p>All feedback is being considered in the next stage of design development.</p> <p><i>Additional parking is not proposed as part of the park upgrades.</i></p>

Preservation of the natural environment	Support for additional native plantings.	<p>The embellishment of Akora Reserve includes the retention of existing trees along with additional trees and shrubs planting.</p> <p>Consideration of the overall distribution of facilities to create diversity and different challenges within parks will be undertaken during development of the design and in response to community feedback received.</p>
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5.3 Rabbett Reserve

Table 1: Issues, change requests and other considerations

Theme	What we heard	Council's response
Overcrowding	Support for the retention of open space over built form.	The draft open space and recreation strategy is currently on exhibition to the community. It will consider the typical facilities for each park within a hierarchy of classifications and will be assessed in context of the precinct and suburb.
Playground	Support for a larger playground that caters to a range of age groups.	<p>A playground is proposed as part of the park upgrade.</p> <p>By way of context, the draft open space and recreation strategy is currently on exhibition to the community and in such a strategy, playgrounds are typically categorised as regional, district, neighbourhood or local. The strategy includes an outline of the typical facilities, for each park classification. Additional amenity is based on these classifications which also</p>

		<p>considers access, inclusivity, and diversity of experiences.</p> <p>All feedback is being considered in the next stage of design development.</p>
Impacts downstream	Concern for impacts down stream	The focus for the creek is on improving water quality and stream health.
Path usage	Concern over pathway conflicts between pedestrians and cyclists.	<p>The park will be embellished for the enjoyment of all members of the community.</p> <p>The network of paths will be further developed during development of the design and in response to community feedback.</p>
Parking	Support for additional parking	<p>The draft open space and recreation strategy currently on exhibition to the community outlines a play space categorisation including an outline of the typical facilities including parking for each of the play space hierarchy classifications of regional, district, neighbourhood and local.</p> <p>Additional parking is not proposed as part of the park upgrades.</p>
Basketball court	Support for half-court basketball court	<p>Consideration of the overall distribution of facilities will be undertaken during development of the design and in response to community feedback received.</p> <p>The draft open space and recreation strategy currently on exhibition to the community outlines a play space categorisation including an outline of the typical facilities for each of the play space hierarchy classifications of regional,</p>

		district, neighbourhood and local. Best practice criteria such as access, diversity, inclusivity, quality and walkability are outlined.
Cost	Concern for project funding and budget allocation	The project is fully funded by Grants which have been awarded for the purpose of embellishing the open spaces only.
Northern end of reserve	Support for further enhancements to the northern end of the park	The concepts give the community an idea of what might be possible in the park. The designs may change based on detailed design development and in response to feedback received from the community.
Preservation of the natural environment	Concern for loss of natural habitat	The design includes opportunities for nature appreciation, retention of mature native trees, improving water quality and stream health are priorities for maintaining and improving the existing habitat for native animals and birds. It seeks to nestle open spaces amongst mature trees and low native plantings.

5.4 Overall

Table 1: Issues, change requests and other considerations

Additional Amenity	Support for additional amenity at the site, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public toilets - Shelters - Seating 	The draft open space and recreation strategy is currently on exhibition to the community and in such a strategy, playgrounds are typically categorised as regional, district, neighbourhood or local. The strategy includes an outline of the
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		<p>typical facilities, for each park classification. Additional amenity is based on these classifications which also considers access, inclusivity, and diversity of experiences.</p> <p>All feedback is being considered in the next stage of design development.</p>
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Appendix 1 Verbatim community and stakeholder responses*

Some of the online Your Say submissions do not appear in this table as the respondent only answered the sentiment question and did not provide further comment.

a) Comments received in online submissions

Brick Pit Reserve

1	<p>I think this is a great idea. My one suggestion would be to add some bicycle racks there as this park links very closely with the existing mountain bike trail network that is well used. It would be a great place to stop after a ride and chat with friends after doing a lap of the Manly Dam network.</p> <p>Cheers</p>
2	<p>Are you confident that the pond will be deep enough to sustain the wetlands function? How are the gross pollutants from the SW line under Wakehurst Parkway controlled. How will algae development be managed</p>
3	<p>The whole concept looks fantastic !</p>
4	<p>Would be nice to add a small public toilet area near picnic area Would be good also to have a bbq near the picnic area Playground should have more than just swings, please make it enjoyable similar to wingala reserve playground. Will dogs be allowed? Would be nice As a home owner who enjoys outdoor time it would be great to have a facility where kids will enjoy. Please expand the playground. All else is fine</p>
5	<p>Go ahead, build is asap</p>
6	<p>The concept is good but I think it would be nice if a couple of shops were allowed in there, like a corner store and a cafe as a mark of respect to the old bantry bay road shops.</p>
7	<p>Please go ahead</p>

*Personal details and inappropriate language have been redacted where possible. Spelling and grammatical errors have been amended only where misinterpretation or offence may be caused.

8	That area does not need a pond! That area is already mozzie central so it does not need any more water in the area. Plus, have you consulted with the roads people of built the underpass... I was told that wall they were worried about the water in the area pushing it down or seeping through it, that's another reason they don't need more water in the area! Not to mention those poor houses that this will intrude upon their bush outlook. No from me.
9	- will there be consideration to mosquito control in this wetland area
10	Perfect area for a dog park not a park with a pond which brings mozzies and hazard for kids.
11	there is already a significant mozzie issue to the homes around this area and water issues. There is also a lot of wildlife behind us, wallabies, snakes, lizards, echidnas, possums and do much more, I worry we are displacing all these animals by inviting more people to the area. Please vote no for the brick pit reserve suggestions for us as a family that back onto this area it will be significantly disruptive to us, we already have a lot of soil erosion at the back of our property and this will cause further issues
12	The area is effected by mozzies so not sure about the pond. The park needs to be done in away that it does not effect the immediate residents
13	I don't like the idea of a pond for water safety reasons so close to a kids park. Plus won't this create huge mosquito issues for people who use the area and those who live directly on that fence line. Have those people been consulted about this? It will have a huge impact on the noise level of their houses.
14	I think the plans look fantastic, but there is significant mountain bike traffic in this area, so I do have some concerns about pedestrian safety. The wetlands concept is going to be great for local wildlife, but could there also be possum boxes incorporated into the plans. Could the overhead walkway from Bantry Bay Road to the Warringah Aquatic Centre - across Wakehurst Parkway - be widened, as it is simply too narrow to allow the constant flow of mountain bikers to coexist with pedestrians and dog walkers. I do note on the 3rd pdf image that there is a commercial building on the corner of Bantry Bay Road and Warringah Road, with "Retail Ground Level". I do not support re-zoning this street to allow for commercial development - it should be residential only. The whole of the Forest High School precinct is going to be developed as a town centre, so why is it necessary to allow commercial development in this residential street? Other than my objection to the commercial property with retail, I fully support this initiative.
15	I feel the council should not be spending money on 'updating' parks as there are too many other facilities which should be done first. For example, footpaths have been requested frequently without any result, together with other services more serious. Why can't these next generations just enjoy an expanse of grass to kick a ball, have a picnic or just walk?
16	Just do it!!
17	Green spaces that are family and access friendly are always welcome.
18	Really pleased that you are going to retain and improve the current mountain bike track - this is a highly used area by the local youth. A skate park area in one of the proposed grass areas would also be a huge benefit to the local youth, it would align with the mountain bike track and create a destination for this reserve, increasing value to the new businesses that will be across the road. This area currently is very wet and mosquitos are an issue. There are also lots of possums and bandicoots in the area, please consider a turf or a synthetic soft fall surface in the playground area. There are no public toilets in the area - addition of a single toilet in either/both Brick Pit or Akora Reserve is necessary. Location of a road crossing on Bantry Bay Rd should be further away from Warringah Rd as cars turn into Bantry Bay Rd at considerable speed due to the speed required on Warringah Rd

	- a crossing at the proposed location would be a significant risk to pedestrians and bike riders. (The current angle of the turn into Bantry Bay road is very good and should not be altered)
19	I like the concept plan except for the provision of a mountain bike path. This is an isolated park which is ideal for walkers. There are plenty of mountain bike trails around Frenchs Forest which residents can use.
20	This is a great idea. Please ensure we allow dogs in the park as well as this is a park friendly area.
21	Will it be maintained because nothing else is in Forestville or Frenchs Forest? This would have to be the most neglected area of the council. We don't have bikinis or beaches so they don't want to know us.
22	Very nice shared space. Thank you for including the mountain bike track.
23	The area is small. Please keep the paths to WALKING PATHS only. I now avoid walking along Warringah Road because with the noise generated by the traffic, you cannot hear cyclists approaching.
24	As long as there is offstreet parking for visitors I'm all for it!
25	I think there is a lovely balance of nature for calm and relaxation, but also able to be accessed by families with kids with the playground area and the exercise area as well. The wetlands will be amazing and all the new trees will be a welcome addition to the area. Will be lovely to have this area open and utilized again. My son loved the playground that was here previously.
26	Looks interesting.
27	This looks brilliant. Thank you.
28	This is a fantastic idea. As a local resident in the Bantry Bay area, this pocket has been neglected. This is a great opportunity to provide a green space for locals and visitors and hospital workers and also learn about the unique history of early settlers and workers in the Brick Pit. The area itself feels quite abandoned and neglected at the moment. I look forward to hearing more about it. Great initiative
29	Looks like an excellent plan to improve a degraded area. Will your detailed plans include ongoing maintenance to avoid vegetation overgrowth & accumulated rubbish, including in the wetland? Do you intend to time-limit the parking spaces so they aren't monopolised by boats, trailers & other long-term parkers, as occurs now?
30	This is an exciting concept plan. The history of the Brick Pit is unique and deserves to be told. At the moment, the area looks quite neglected. The location of the concept plan is good because it will draw the local Bantry Bay community to the area, as well as bring visitors from the hospital. Thank you
31	I use to visit this area before the kids equipment was taken down, it would be great to see it developed and have some play areas for the kids.
32	Love it great for the area
33	Save the jumps there or build more bike jumps as hundreds of kids use those jumps and would be shattered if it is destroyed and replaced by a stinky pond

34	Given this little pocket of Frenchs Forest is quite devoid of playgrounds, and if the local area inputs significant amounts of high density residential which attracts young families - the plans don't seem to show a significant amount of play equipment. Take for example the Manly Dam playground, isn't huge but has a good amount of play space.
35	it would be good to keep as much bush as possible for the animals that have been impacted by the construction of the hospital and surrounding infrastructure
36	I like the number of paths for exploring the area.
37	The community playground needs to be targeted to older children. There are few very young children in the area. It needs a basketball hoop and primary/high school aged playground equipment incorporated for the surrounding demographic.
38	I think the idea is great. It would be nice to have a small café that would attract people to sit and enjoy the ambience of the park.
39	I'm missing the extension of the 'acoustic wall' to the north, i.e. to shield the noise levels from Warringah Road! ... I can see it along Wakehurst Pkwy, but it doesn't seem to extend around the corner. Also, please add another half court for Basketball players - this park is big enough to incorporate one. Among the 3 parks proposed for the areas, you proposed 3 playgrounds (1 in each), but only 1 contains a basketball half-court! ... please spend some time on weekends at the new courts built in Warriewood Valley Sports court - it's buzzing, it's busy, it's fun, full of action as the community loves this place. Please consider another court (ideally 'full court', but at least another 'half court' here as well! Thank you!
40	You have already destroyed the Frenchs forest area with the Northern beaches hospital bring back the public hospital
41	This is already an established area of trees and vegetation with an area of open space bordering Bantry Bay Rd. Would be better to keep existing vegetation perhaps with slightly increased open space and some seating/ picnic tables on Bantry Bay Road side of the area. Maintain the vegetation screening the main road.
42	Great to see the Brickpit paths are shared paths. There are important linkages for mountain bikers in this area to other bike paths.
43	I would like a basketball hoop for the children to use. There are a lot of teenagers in the area and nothing for them to do. They aren't going to stand looking at a pond. Marie Grady
44	Like the 'wild/natural' nature of the park Like the signage explaining the former history of the site Like the stormwater management interventions Good buffer zone adjacent to busy Wakehurst Parkway - will mitigate the perception of negative effects of this roadway
45	The overall proposal has much to commend it. However it needs to include a more comprehensive interpretation of the history of this site for the benefit of present and future generations
46	Fine concept, however even a proposed costing give people something more to work with. What was the cost of the landscape design?
47	The playground area seems very small. I would like it to be larger - or perhaps for there to be a second or third one in the reserve. I hope that the playground will be similar to the Lionel Watts Reserve Playground, which has proved to be extremely popular. (It too could have been much

	larger!) I would like to suggest lots more seating in various places around the reserve. Lots!
48	What are the provisions for seating or seated shelters?
49	I think that all of these upgrades are fantastic. So good to see the council working to improve our environment and facilities
50	Fantastic idea and much needed upgrade
51	* I'd like to see some exercise equipment - pull up bars, inclined table etc. This is a large area and perfect for some exercise, specially for lunchtime from the hospital * What's the access from the hospital like? This is a perfect park to take someone for an outing (medical advice considered). Is it wheelchair accessible from the hospital? * Is there enough parking?
52	When the works were being done on the hospital and road upgrade there was a passionate community art group established to add something to the park to honour the blinking light intersection. The groups worst nightmare was that a plaque would be the result of all their hard work and that's what RMS did. Councils art team manager met with the group multiple times and there were some lovely designs put forward by the group. Emilo a Frenchs forest local even went to the trouble of developing a wooden proforma of a resting seat that was beautiful in design, honored the light and was practical for the space. It would be lovely to involve the group again for one piece of the park as promised to them. Please call Mel 0402446055 for more info or talk to Michael I think it is from councils Art team.
53	Looks like an excellent concept - a good alternative to adding more properties.
54	It will be great to see this piece of wasteland utilised in this way. I know families who like to take their young children "on adventures" and this would certainly provide that opportunity. I also like the idea of linking the pathway from Forestway with the Aquatic centre and playing fields in this way.
55	In general a good idea, I used to bring my kids here to play, is there going to be a playground incorporated?
56	Where there are children's play equipment, please do make a fence around so children can stay safely inside and not wander off to the water bodies. It will be good to have toilet facilities near by the play/rest areas as well.
57	Looks terrific. Strongly recommend the relocation of The Blinking Light Commemorative Plaque currently situated at Parkway & Warringah Road intersection (where it basically cannot be seen unless you make a special trip to do so) to be placed in a suitable location within the Brick Pit Reserve;; possibly in the corner closest the the main roads intersection. Plaque to be augmented with photographs of the original Blinking Light and intersection together with its history.
58	As a resident in one of the properties identified on the map on Bantry Bay Road I am concerned that the proposed wetland could significantly increase the volume of mosquitos in the area. What actions are you taking to ensure the wetland does not become a stagnant water pool or other actions to limit mosquito breeding?
59	A huge 'thank you' to Northern Beaches Council for planning the upgrade of Brick Pit Reserve, Akora Reserve and Rabbett Reserve. Here in Frenchs Forest we often feel neglected by Council. It's nice to see ratepayer funds being funnelled into projects up here instead of along the beachfront, where the majority of funds always seem to be spent. Congratulations on the great design concepts, too. They concepts appear to be considerate of the natural environment, something we are very protective of up here in 'The Forest'. Well done Northern Beaches

	Council - keep them coming! P.S. For future consideration, Patanga Park Frenchs Forest is long overdue for some TLC.
60	Please do keep the bike track - even better if it's enhanced. The mountain bike tracks parallel to Bantry Bay Rd have, and do, provide many of the kids in the neighbour plenty of fun without being pressured out of Manly Dam by adult riders. This includes the jumps at Brick Pit. And it would be good to remove all the trailers, boats, trucks, caravans, campers, etc. that are now a permanently parked feature in the parking bays by the reserve!
61	It looks great. Please do it asap!
62	Excellent, just do it
63	excellent use of water and historical features - and more could be made of these. Assuming that a non-labelled feature on diagram represents the walkway/cycleway over Wakehurst Pkwy mentioned in the news recently? - this is an important link which must be created, esp considering the future re-location of Forest High School to Allambie Road. More pedestrian routes must be developed.
64	Further to my previous feedback, these comments relate to the current path from Bantry Bay Rd (south of the church) to the current bridge towards the Aquatic Centre. I hope that when the new shared bridge over Warringah Rd is built, access will be provided from the current path. Assuming that current path will remain & that the enhanced access trail will join it (as the plan seems to show), can an area be provided at the end of the access trail for bike riders to congregate? I make this suggestion because, during peak times, the current path can be blocked by groups of riders waiting to start on the access trails either north & south of the path.
65	As a resident closest to the proposed new reserve, I am disappointed that we have not been consulted before the plan was proposed. It is a bit late now to ask what we would like to see. The plan is a bit waffly with swirls I presume are trees. It seems that there will be a path running along our side fence. Which trees will be cut down and where will the new trees go? Will there be viewing platforms where people can look into our yards? I like the idea of ponds but will there be fish so that there will not be plagues of mosquitoes in the area. Will the parking spaces be timed or will we still have lines of boats surrounding the area. I would like the play area to be more suitable for older children e.g. basketball hoops.
66	Great idea and would be great for the local community Just 1 concern, is their any chance it could become mosquito infested?
67	A fabulous use of this space. We used to come here for Mother's Group but could never really enjoy the full extent of the site. Is there any possibility of incorporating toilets? We let the kids wee behind the trees, but it was very quiet then, and this could be an issue if the park becomes popular.
68	A kiosk for a cafe would be nice, as a historical reference to the old Bantry Bay Shops, which were there for a long time.
69	Points - Indigenous planting native to area - There is a good variety of paths and make sure mountain bike tracks are separate - Wetlands and habitat for birds other wild life - Seating suitable for summer shade and winter sun - Fenced playground
70	Please leave as it is, not disturbed, I would like to know how many trees will be butchered to create this new wetland, we do not need this , spend our money on fixing the roads all over our

	Northern Beaches which desperately need repairing, like other Council's do for example Bayside Council I am a frequent visitor there and all the roads there are in excellent shape so why does it take so long to fix a pothole here or maintain the roads and footpaths plus streetscapes that constantly need attention in our Northern beaches area please explain??? where is our money going??? we do not need the change leave the Brick Pit Reserve as it is untouched and serene .
71	Looks good, but I think it needs additional parking - perhaps off Fitzpatrick Ave East.
72	I commend the concept for Brick Pit Reserve. I am also aware of the proposed park improvement / expansion nearby west of Nandi Avenue. Would Council please consider how these two parks could be linked together somehow for pedestrians physically and with signposting. Perhaps in the future all the parks in Frenches Forest, Forestville, Belrose and Davidson could be linked together by a pedestrian path and perhaps in some places by a combined pedestrian / cyclists path. The Forest suburbs are surrounded by parks but little has been done to link them. Food for thought.
73	I think its fantastic. I'm assuming this connects with the existing mountain bike path along Wakehurst Parkway. It would also be good to connect it to the Engraving walking track, even just with signage.
74	this looks well thought out and a good mix of facilities, with attention to the natural beauty of native bushland, despite the small area. thanks!
75	Generally looks good. Concerns include: 1. Any runoff to Manly Dam. 2. Any impacts to existing floors and fauna. 3. How does it fit with planned roadworks for FFHS and the major intersection upgrade of Wakehurst Parkway and Aquatic Drive?
76	
77	POND / WETLAND FEATURE "Proposed wetland to provide community amenity, stormwater improvements, habitat and central feature in the reserve." The proposed wetland or large pond is not a naturally occurring feature at the top of the catchment of Manly Dam. The pond has wetland vegetation around the perimeter and may be designed to function as a stormwater biofiltration basin. The concept plan does not provide information about the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inflow and outflow (rate and volume) and the performance of the pond in large storm events. • Water quality, discharge or dispersal of treated stormwater into surrounding and downstream areas. • Impacts on hydrology, soils and vegetation in this location in the upper reach of Manly Dam Catchment. Concerns / potential impacts include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nutrients, pollutants and weed invasion in downstream waterways. • Changes to water quality parameters, such as temperature and turbidity, which would adversely affect freshwater ecology. • The spread of pest species, such as gambusia, that pose a threat to native aquatic species, such as frogs.

“Specifically, increased nutrient loads would support further incursions by invasive aquatic and terrestrial flora, reducing shaded areas of indigenous flora critical for meeting the habitat requirements of freshwater ecosystem macroinvertebrates and other fauna.”

Other concerns

The man-made pond may require further excavation with the removal of soil and vegetation within the Reserve.

The pond structure will provide a landscape feature and viewing platforms but would displace an area that could be used to restore indigenous forest and provide a walking trail.

The area allocated for the pond could be used to re-generate indigenous vegetation, which includes the endangered Duffys Forest Ecological Community.

The pond will be a central feature of the site but without the amenity of shade that trees provide.

INDIGENOUS VEGETATION

Biodiversity Corridor

- A positive aspect of the Concept Plan is the proposal to rehabilitate and enhance indigenous vegetation.
- The indigenous vegetation includes the endangered Duffys Forest Ecological Community..
- The revegetation and regeneration of this ecological community would contribute to its recovery.
- It would also protect and enhance the bushland along Wakehurst Parkway as a biodiversity corridor.

Section 5.2 in the Green Plan states “The plan recognises the bushland along Wakehurst Parkway as a biodiversity corridor which requires protection and enhancement”.

Concerns re bushland and forest vegetation:

- The biodiversity corridor will require protection from informal access and high intensity use.
- The bushland area will be fragmented for infrastructure and multiple pathways.
- The man-made pond will remove soil and vegetation within the bushland corridor.
- The man-made pond will remove trees and shade that are attributes of the indigenous forest.

RECREATION

A limited area for passive and active recreation is appropriate.

This includes:

- A walking trail.
- A passive space with shade and seating.
- An active space for playground and outdoor gym.

Brick Pit Reserve has limited scope for recreation due to its small size, location and function as a biodiversity corridor.

HISTORY

Frenchs Forest site history.

- Acknowledge the natural heritage and history of Brick Pit Reserve.
- Describe the tall native forest growing in Frenchs Forest on ridge-top areas with lateritic soils.
- Provide written information and photos.

Brick Pt Reserve Feedback

I have resided at [REDACTED] for 13 years now. When we purchased this property, it felt like we were cut into the natural bushland that surrounded us on the East and North sides. We felt like we were living in the Blue Mountains with natural bush views all around us. We couldn't have been happier with the house that is now our home.

Since purchasing the property, we endured the building of the Northern Beaches Hospital and the expansion of the Wakehurst Parkway. The green view on the East side of our property is now gone. We can now see and hear the traffic on the Wakehurst Parkway. The quality of living we enjoyed has diminished significantly, but we accepted it as there was nothing, we could do about it.

This latest proposed change imposed on me and my family is more than I can bear. I have drawn a red square around where my property sits in the picture below. On the North side is our outdoor area and in the North East corner is where we have our spa. If these plans go through as drawn, I will no longer enjoy any privacy at all and I will have increased foot traffic right on top of my home. I can't think of anything worse than sitting in my spa while people are walking past staring at me. We will no longer be able to use my outdoor area without members of the public being able to see us.

I could understand and live with this if I had purchased the house, and this was already here. But there was no way for me and my family to know that this is what would happen to us all these years later.

(IMAGE REMOVED TO PROTECT PRIVACY)

I don't want to seem unreasonable as I do want to see the land used in a way that all the community can enjoy. As I hope you can appreciate – I just don't want it to be at the expense of me and my family's privacy. My daughter's bedroom window is facing North and I don't want her to live with her curtains always closed to avoid people looking into her room.

I respectfully request that the Council consider leaving the existing land between the back of my property and the Wakehurst Parkway as is. If anything, I would like to see a plan to regenerate the natural vegetation in this area, so I no longer see or hear the traffic from the Wakehurst Parkway.

(IMAGE REMOVED TO PROTECT PRIVACY)

I further request that if there is a desire to have a "wetland" that there be a bigger break between the [REDACTED] North side of my property and where the wetland begins.

I have placed a red rectangle in the pic to the left as an example (IMAGE REMOVED TO PROTECT PRIVACY). This break will ensure that my family's privacy is maintained.

Also, having a wetland so close to my home will bring more mosquitoes and make using my outdoor area less enjoyable.

As a complete alternative to the Wetland concept, can I suggest you build an enclosed off lead dog park instead, like the Frenchs Forest Show Ground next to Lionel Watts Reserve. Again, as long as there is an adequate break between my property and the dog park (natural vegetation to maintain my privacy) I would have no concerns.

If there is a strong desire from within the community that these plans go ahead as is, I know that I am the only property owner that is negatively impacted. With that in mind I respectfully request additional vegetation be planted to create a natural gap between the new picnic area, the lower viewing deck and my home (as shown in with the red rectangles on the pic to the left) (IMAGE REMOVED TO PROTECT PRIVACY). Preferably some sort of hedging to deter people walking up to and congregating on my fence line.

As a third and final alternative to maintain my privacy with minimal changes to this proposal, I request that I be given the opportunity to purchase small amount of land of the East side of my property. This would give me the ability to extend the fence line on the [REDACTED] side and [REDACTED] side of the property. I can then build 6-foot-high brick walls which will then block all views into my home and maintain our privacy.

Note that there is a steep decline off the [REDACTED] corner of my property, which is why the read area I am proposing to purchase in the pic is not rectangular in shape. I would not be able to build a wall over this decline. (IMAGE REMOVED TO PROTECT PRIVACY)

I thank you in advance for hearing my concerns and giving me the opportunity to provide feedback.

Akora Reserve

1	<p>- Definitely needs more creative play equipment (ie musical instruments, puzzle games, a steering wheel, climbing frame) as young children will instantly get bored. My son currently calls it "the boring park" and I don't see a huge difference apart from a lot more seating and an upgrade to the basketball court.</p> <p>- A bike track as there's no safe pathways for kids to ride their bikes in the area.</p>
2	<p>I think the childrens playground should be bigger, with a section dedicated to water play as we often have to travel out of area to access this. I live close to this park and no one uses the basketball half court nor the grounds for exercise. It's generally a place people walk their dogs. Down the road at Bantry bay there are lots of areas/ovals for exercise. It would be great to have a place for kids and families similar to Lionel watts park in belrose (skate park, playground, bbq area and restrooms) instead of landscaped gardens. It would also be fantastic if the playground could be fenced in.</p>
3	<p>We live on Akora st and can not see how the plan is situated with the existing neighbouring housing. We think it looks a much bigger area than the existing reserve. We would love to have it upgraded however do not want bright lighting at night and would want the noisier activities not to close to the boundaries where the private housing is.</p> <p>I would appreciate a better understanding of how the surroundings of the area fit in. Not just a artist unrealist outline Looks like acres which it is not</p>
4	<p>There's a tap / bubbler in the park at the moment that is super handy for giving our dog a drink in the summer when we walk past (several times a week). It would be great to make sure something similar is put into the new park.</p> <p>Otherwise this looks great. Thanks.</p>
5	<p>Hi There,</p> <p>Love the walk paths and sitting areas but ensure you remember the new demographic entering the area. The kids park needs an upgrade. You could use Lionel watts park as an excellent example but on a smaller scale.</p> <p>If you incorporate that and allow a cafe truck parking location, you could be on a winner.</p> <p>Cheers</p>
6	<p>It looks good but I think it's important to have a dog friendly area, or enclosed area for them away from the children's playground.</p>

7	<p>The beauty of the park is that it is an open space to play footy, soccer, cricket and to run around. The current plans mean there will be no or very little open space.</p> <p>The basketball is constantly in use and I hope that it will be at least the size, preferably bigger, than the current court.</p> <p>It seems to be catering to young children by creating small spaces but the older kids need room to run around too.</p> <p>It looks like the current trees will be cut down which is sad.</p>
8	<p>I would like to understand the following</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - will the areas be dogs on leads given the children play zones ? - is there a plan to deal with the magpies diving the area which currently happens - will the council commit to maintenance and grass cutting so the areas can all be used ?
9	<p>Please keep the basketball half court as detailed, this is the thing that is used the most in the current park. Thank you.</p> <p>Instead of mulch, it would be appreciated to have soft fall instead as there are young families in the area with young children. Shade over the junior playground would be appreciated.</p>
10	<p>Keep the basketball court - there are not enough of these in the area</p>
11	<p>Overall I am very excited about this concept, but ideally I'd like to see two basketball half courts incorporated into the space, the removal of the herb garden and the incorporation of possum boxes in the tree canopy to support our local wildlife. There are no water stations on the plans, although there is an existing tap in the park with a dog bowl - there needs to be a water station incorporated in the plan. Personally I don't believe there is any real value to a herb garden or sensory garden space. These are always completely underutilised, so are a waste of money. The local kids need well maintained basketball courts and skate board facilities - not herb gardens.</p>
12	<p>Be great to have the basketball area.</p>
13	<p>Just do it</p>
14	<p>There are lots of possums and bandicoots in the area, I think there will be issues with the playground areas being mulch surfaces - potential diseases like have occurred in other Northern Beaches playgrounds. You would be better with turf or a synthetic soft fall surface.</p> <p>There are no public toilets in the area - addition of a single toilet in either/both Brick Pit or Akora Reserve is necessary.</p>
15	<p>Please keep the paths to WALKING only!</p>
16	<p>Brilliant. Keep up the excellent work!</p>
17	<p>Looks like an excellent plan to improve this park, which is currently a bit sad.</p> <p>In recent years, this area has been plagued by swooping butcher birds. As you know, the swooping became significantly worse in late 2021. Do you have any control measures planned, to ensure the nice new park isn't off-limits for months?</p>
18	<p>Some bike jumps and bigger play equipment would be nice</p>
19	<p>Good pedestrian thoroughfare and useful community spaces for an otherwise underutilised park.</p>
20	<p>This is already an urban park area. The proposed improvements may encourage more use of it.</p>
21	<p>The half sized basketball court will be great. Please put one at Brick Pit Reserve too.</p>

22	I am in full support of the concept plan for Akora Reserve, It will make it a more usefu;l reserve both in the day and at night.
23	Costing versus use.
24	Please provide more covered areas for any weather conditions. We are excited to see the new coming park.
25	* Is there enough parking?
26	Synthetic grass please as abrupt climate change will not allow for grass to be established before 1st blue ocean event (BOE) in early 2025 (and every year thereafter) . Need shade sails across entirety of reserve to protect ground cover as prolonged drought will expose and kill vegetation.
27	The plans appear to cater for all age groups particularly the Nature Age Group for once just so long as it is NOT a Skateboard Park as the younger generation requested, I already have enough problems with cyclists and skateboarders thinking the newly installed are for them only with the skate ramps taking up the footpath preventing older residents from walking safely on them!!!!!!
28	I like the layout of this park. Caters to all ages. Just a question, will there be toilet blocks?
29	Having lived nearby for 15+ years it is great to see this park being improved. I wonder if there really is enough space for "informal" ball games - hopefully as there are few other options close by. The half basketball court is great idea, the current one is probably the best used "feature" (although there isn't much competition!) so it is pleasing to see an improved version being retained.
30	Looks awesome. A big improvement
31	Excellent news! The park has been in need of an update for years. It's hardly used due to limited facilities. I hope this upgrade will bring life into the area. I'm a couple houses away from the park and use it mainly with my son to kick a ball around. Any chance you can add a soccer goal? :-)
32	Excellent, just do it
33	especially the provision of some physical activity spaces
34	I suggest keeping either a half court basketball area or enough open grass space to engage in physical activity. I'm neutral but for the elevation.
35	<p>Dear Ms , Sir</p> <p>In regards to the Akora Reserve upgrade.</p> <p>The Half Court basketball, I think moving this to the southern end of the park is a mistake. Put it next to the play area.</p> <p>Keeping the play areas together.</p> <p>That way you won't be moving it from its original position.</p> <p>Don't move the bouncing basketball noise . It's in a central point now.</p> <p>It will keep wayward balls used on the court , from going on the road.</p> <p>The proposed court area is too close to Akora St. And the gradient of the natural land now is already sloped, so you would have to cut & fill into the natural slope of the grass.</p> <p>Basketball half court too close to house adjacent to the park , one of the existing and oldest neighbour's in the street.</p> <p>Use the proposed half court space as more green space and seating.</p> <p>Thank you</p>

36	Needs more noise protection from the main road
37	I like it but I think there should be more bushland and less grass. We have lost a lot of our native trees in the area and think it's important to put back some of this habitat. We don't need more recreational grassy area, plenty of ovals around. I never see anyone throwing a ball around here and it's currently all grass...
38	<p>Points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Native indigenous vegetation and wildlife habitat - Seating for both summer shade and winter sun - Fenced playground - Full basketball court as it is very popular
39	<p>Not enough green space for running around, active kids games . Too much shrubbery and benching.</p> <p>Don't need herb gardens - we are not in apartment blocks. We all have yards. who will maintain these? The street cats already use the chip bark around the slide as litter litter, will these just become big kitty litter boxes too?</p> <p>Shade trees are useful, lots of small shrubs will need maintenance and take up useable green space.</p> <p>Important for basketball hoop to retain - this is a council court used by many.</p>
40	<p>Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Akora Reserve plans. The reserve is a great place with a lot of potential and the upgrade is definitely needed.</p> <p>My main comment is in regard to the kids play equipment. It needs to be thoroughly thought out and planned to cater to a wide range of ages. The reserve currently caters to many families and will definitely grow in popularity once the upgrade is completed and the town centre/zoning is in place.</p> <p>For example. One set of junior swings would not be sufficient. Consider a set on either side of the play area. Some other things to consider would be in ground trampolines (see Willoughby Park as an example, they have three sizes and are very popular with the kids!). Two slides, one for very young children and another for older kids would also be an idea, as well as climbing equipment and a flying fox.</p> <p>Another note is that a maintenance plan of the updated reserve is also in place once completed. Currently the grass is seldom mowed and the equipment is delapidated.</p> <p>Also consider a shade cloth or planting large trees to cast shade over the kids equipment and some park benches or logs for parents around the outskirts of the play area</p> <p>Finally, some informative signage of native wildlife would be great for the kids. Small plaques of the different insects, mammals or birds for example, including some small and strategically placed statues that kids can go around the playground and seek.</p>
41	<p>I noticed in your plans there are no plans for parking.</p> <p>This upgrade is likely to attract more families coming to enjoy the park and our streets are already fairly narrow. What parking allowances have you made for this new park?</p> <p>There is plenty of space on both ends of Akora Park (Akora end and Karingal end) to supply nose/tail in parking so as to not cause congestion in our quiet streets.</p> <p>Could you please factor in parking for these parks.</p>

Rabbett Reserve

1	Water surges into the current GPT. How will the current Gross Pollutant Trap function be replaced? A lot of gross pollutants are collected in the existing grate
2	Looks great! Makes it into a usable space - hopefully the underground treatment of storm water might reduce the number of mosquitos (as many breed there in the still/trapped water)!
3	Concept photos look great, perhaps a few more outdoor exercise equipment.
4	It seems too much for a small area. Also there needs to be plenty of garbage bins. None now so there is rubbish everywhere.
5	Can you make a nice kids playground there and also a dog walking area please. We have been going there as live next door. Heaps of water dragons 🐸 around there.
6	A great addition to the area, I can't wait for the changes.
7	Love the plan but please keep in some kids play equipment - my kids love the swing and see saw it would be very sad for those to go. The design concept shows a photo of natural look play equipment - that could be fun but I see it is not included in the plan (only exercise stations which I'm guessing is for adults and not for kids play).
8	I would love for the little park to stay, even get an upgrade my kids go there most days after school on our walk home.
9	I live across the road Improving the water quality in the stream is needed as it smells at times. Having natural spaces with additional native plantings is great while the idea of a board walk is great. Space for people to enjoy the park
10	Childrens play needs more work. I'm all for nature play, but these creative play/sensory play spaces were dotted all over Belrose/Frenchs forest, and they don't get used.
11	Looks good I live right opposite it all your design need is to keep the swings and seesaw they get used every day
12	This is a great concept to revitalise this reserve and make it a useable and enjoyable space for the community. I fully support this concept.
13	Would be wonderful to see that space used by the community but also restored in the way proposed. It's a wasted area.
14	It will be beautiful to walk in natural environ for daily exercise without crossing busy and dangerous Forest way. P.S. I wonder when the work will start and how long till finish.
15	I feel the council should not be spending money on 'updating' parks as there are too many other facilities which should be done first. For example, footpaths have been requested frequently without any result, together with other services more serious. Why can't these next generations just enjoy an expanse of grass to kick a ball, have a picnic or just walk?
16	Just do it!!
17	Love the idea of fitness stations as they were never reinstalled at Frenchs Forest Showground

18	I like the look of that loop. Great for families and kids.
19	As a local resident, it will be great to be able to access the creek area safely
20	I like this idea, I do feel that more Childrens play equipment should be placed. Currently there is just 2 swings and a rusty seesaw. There are so many children from my street and surrounding streets that play here. The grass also needs to be maintained more regularly as snakes have been sited here and it's hard to spot them when the grass is long.
21	Please keep the paths to WALKING ONLY!
22	If you are attracting people to this new reserve where do you expect them to park? The road ways are already highly congested. Any cars parked in this street cause major delays. With so may other areas that need some investment why is this a priority? We have significant natural bush in the area - why make another bush park? Why not instead invest in a park that has plenty of parking/ area & include some exercise equipment?
23	Waste of money. Hundreds of kilometers of walk ways with ten minutes of this location. Spend some money on the bloody footpaths which are a hazard (on rabbett and beyond).
24	I love the use of the natural materials for the climbing structure but it would be great to see a swing set or seesaw added as well
25	Love the idea to turn this spot into a family friendly spot or just somewhere to sit. One question though is what will be done to reduce the ticks in the area. It is well known to locals as tick ally.
26	Some natural children's play equipment
27	Please add playgroubd that includes slides
28	This idea is great, the current reserve is such an eyesore!
29	There are so many family's in the area and play equipment would be used much more than a walkway.
30	with more play activities and games for kids it will be good
31	shelter from sun or rains BBQ grill few seats extra gaming activities for kids
32	Providing natural recreation spaces is always a good development. So how about the Council gets on with the rezoning and new developments in the Hospital Precinct area. There is a desperate need for a variety of "house/home" options on the Northern Beaches. The quarter acre block with a single dwelling only suits a small section of the population. It's what was wanted in 1954...not in 2022. The sooner the developers can get started, make the financial contributions that will enable the improvements in amenities such as parks and transport the better. Frenchs Forest need to be a vibrant area...for all residents, now and in the future.
33	Need more love the improvement
34	The plan looks amazing, much better than its current state.

35	<p>It is interesting to see the council discussing what to do with Rabbett Reserve at the same time as wondering what to do about flooding on Wakehurst Parkway without realising that the two are connected. The water that runs through Rabbet Reserve flows directly over Oxford Falls and when there is enough water it floods Wakehurst Parkway.</p> <p>The answer to flood mitigation on Wakehurst Parkway is in improving water flows upstream. In the past, it was incorrectly thought that the best way to handle storm water at Frenchs Forest was to get rid of it as quickly as possible, as can be seen with the use of the storm water drain that flows into Rabbett Reserve. What that does is make flooding downstream much worse.</p> <p>Observing the impact of a brief amount of rainfall on the stream, it can be see that within minutes of rain starting, the amount of water flowing through Rabbett Reserve increases dramatically and on the other side of Epping Drive it turns into a raging waterfall. There is nothing to stop or slow the water down. The stream has been streamlined, straightened and narrowed so water does not pause anywhere along this stretch.</p> <p>Rabbett Reserve's best use would be to slow the flow of water by planting out the park with water loving trees and organising dirt culverts to temporarily hold water during rain bursts so that flood waters can build up there and are not instantly sent downstream.</p> <p>Using Rabbett Reserve for flood mitigation would rule it out for being a great tourist destination.</p> <p>The plans for a viewing platform are a little crazy and don't really understand what people want to see. The viewing platform looks over a cement pipe one way and if you turn around, you are looking directly into the lounge room of the people living next door to the reserve. It is not a wonderful natural environment in the city, but a little creepy, a little pervy, not really what normal people want to do. Except of course if there was a flood, then people would stop to film the disaster unfolding and show all their friends on Facebook.</p> <p>The idea of cutting down trees to build a jogging track is also a bit misguided. We need more trees there, more winding of the stream, culverts, things to slow down water, not a clear passage that flood water will travel down faster.</p> <p>Rather than building the best park to make selfies in, the council should seriously consider the issue of flooding which will only get worse as Frenchs Forest gets more built up.</p>
36	Attractive concept. I would want to spend time there.
37	Instead of a turfed space next to the playground, can you please add a basketball half-court!? ... we need more basketball courts in the area, and it's a popular sport that attracts more youths and young adults to make use the park area. Please consider a half-court! Thank you
38	Generally supportive but should retain more existing trees especially along the boundary with the road.
39	Rabbett Reserve has the potential to be a beautiful natural park. I really like the plans but could you also please consider the following 2 points: 1. there is a lot of traffic that goes very fast down Rabbett St to avoid Forest Way and Naree Rds and take a short cut. Please ensure that there are traffic calming measures are introduced near the park to minimise the risk of children being injured. 2. Some teens like the hidden nature of the park and the reserve should be opened up and planting kept low to reduce any safety/delinquency issues.
40	The concept design for Rabbett Reserve is outstanding and meets with my full approval
41	Improvement on existing stormwater catchment. Costing allowance?
42	A good improvement.

43	The design looks lovely, however I would like to suggest: Toilets; also an extension to the path/boardwalk linking the northern end of the path with the north end of Rabbett Street or Adams street so walkers can cut through the reserve area.
44	Good planning in maintaining and improving the existing habitat for native animals and birds. In regards to the current outbreak of mosquitoes due to the rain/flooding. As this park is located near homes, are there ways ensuring that the stagnant water near the banks will not become a breeding ground for Ross river virus mosquitoes (like that in Narrabeen Lake).
45	This is a fantastic idea and great addition to the area. I live directly opposite the current park and am in full support of this proposal. Glad to see this happening now, it's been a long time to see improvement to the park.
46	Rabbett Reserve for our family has always been a beautiful place to visit. I would ask that you find it in your heart to keep the iconic ponies that are part of the see-saw. My children have grown to love them and would often bring them bundles of grass and talk to them. We would be sad to lose them. (Or perhaps find some way to add a similar horse sculpture or carving if they cannot be salvaged.) If some part of the childrens playground could be undercover this would be good as i have noticed our area receives a high amount of rainfall. A community garden would also provide a great learning opportunity for kids and a hobby for the local retirees. I don't see the need for two exercise zones for adults. One should be sufficient. I rarely see these being used in other parks.
47	Who's brilliant idea is this. What a waste of electorate money. Leave it as it is...
48	I think that there needs to be a secondary northern entrance off Rabett Street, because if one is not created, people wlikely make their own short cut track into the park.
49	There is very little detail about the northern part of the reserve and what will be done to improve and stabilise it around the adjacent properties. It appears to be neglected when compared to the extent of the works and finances (eg stone wall, park spaces, viewing platforms) spent elsewhere in the reserve.
50	Excellent, just do it
51	What do " A " and "B" refer to? - they are in all the plans, but no explanation
52	Love the elevated viewing platforms and boardwalks (latter should increase opportunity for new types of park users such as parents with prams, mobility impaired, etc.) Love the restoration of natural pond/creek forms Love the provisoin of new seating/picnic areas, exercise stations and children's play equipment
53	As there is space, it would be good to see some more play equipment throughout the reserve. The current proposal for the play area, although interesting looks small, so it would be good to extend this so there is more on offer. The idea of gym equipment is great.
54	I am in agreement to create a nature-based environment, but I am totally opposed to the additions of open areas for 'recreation' and 'exercise' for humans. There are plenty of those facilities in the local vicinity, we dont need more, and dont need more areas where human activities come before the needs of our local wildlife, whose habitat is constantly disappearing. I

	am in favour of the area being improved and enhanced but only so as to create a better and cleaner habitat for native wildlife. The board walk and lookout should non invasive, and be only so humans can visit the area with minimal impact so as to observe, and learn to appreciate the flora and fauna.
55	Major changes that is! I am totally opposed to the area having additional spaces cleared for human 'recreation'. The area should be improved purely to benefit native flora and fauna, and only with the minimal and non invasive additions of the boardwalk and lookout so humans can visit and learn to appreciate our ever disappearing native habitats and the local wildlife that depend on that habitat. Thank you!
56	Such a great idea. I live near there and explored that park with my kids when they were younger. The storm water trap was gross and the play equipment was old. I wanted to walk along the creek but it was overgrown and looked dodgy so I didn't proceed and didn't bring the kids back. But I drive past a few times a week and would love to see it utilised in a way that highlights the creek!
57	Points - Native indigenous vegetation and wildlife habitat - Seating for both summer shade and winter sun - Like the loop idea - Fenced playground -Like the exercise areas - Full basketball court as it is very popular

b) Feedback received in emailed submissions

1	<p>I like the park upgrades but am only concerned about the lack of 2 things:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Barbeque facilities - Dog off-leash exercise areas/dog parks <p>If these items are integrated into the existing designs of the parks with the BBQ facilities close to kids play areas it will better activate the space and cater to family events such as birthday parties etc. There is a lack of dog off-leash areas in Frenchs Forest which are severely needed and also provide the added benefit of creating opportunities to meet locals and create a better sense of community.</p> <p>Lagoon Reserve Queenscliff is a park that has incorporated an exercise area, dog off-leash area, kids playground, and BBQ facilities which are all well used by the local community. Emulating this will provide great functionality and see the parks better used by the community.</p> <p>Being a local in the area, I am excited for these parks to be upgraded and to see them actually being used by the local community.</p>
2	<p>The overall layout looks excellent however my one concern was in relation to the basketball half court. I'm thrilled for the provision of this but it would be a great shame if it wasn't actually constructed with functionality (correct dimensions, ring quality and regulation court lines). In Australia we follow the FIBA dimensions and markings. Details can be found at: msfsports.com.au</p> <p>With some extra consideration for these details, the half court can be used not only for fun/general recreation, but also for training or casual games on a court with regulation markings and dimensions.</p> <p>Mosman Council constructed a half court only a few years ago down at Balmoral Oval, however unfortunately it was too small, contained no three point line and the court line markings were</p>

	<p>seemingly made up, with no similarity to regulation markings used on competition courts within Australia.</p> <p>As someone who has played basketball for many years and can see how great the game is for all ages, it would be great to ensure this proposed half court at Akora Reserve is done properly and not a poorly executed project as seen at Balmoral Oval.</p> <p>Appreciate the consideration of this email and hope it is taken on board, if it has not already been suggested.</p>
3	<p>In September 2019, RMS in conjunction with NBC were seeking EOI from artists interested in creating a public art work to commemorate "The Blinking Light Intersection" This work was to be erected in the Brick Pit Reserve.</p> <p>On that occasion I did prepared a proposal commemorating, the Aboriginal People, the first people to set foot in the area, the Soldiers Settlement Volunteers also the First Settlers, the enterprising Hews and Forest families and others Due to financial constraints the project was abandoned by the RMS Please advise if NBC are considering to have an art work in the present proposal to commemorate all the events in the area, past and present .</p>
4	<p>I am somewhat disappointed over the hidden purpose of the letter. Each of the Frenchs Forest reservations nominated for "Park Upgrade" is, I believe connected with the aborigine "land grab" but no mention is made of this in your letter. If I agree with your letter and the "upgrades" go ahead, as indicated, I ask "what next." I am 88 years of age and have lived in my Frenchs Forest home now for 60 years and I have no confidence that the land I purchased in Romford Road would never be part of the "land grab" somewhere down the track, by the aboriginal people. Am I entitled to express my long held view that the indigenous people have as their chanting theme — "Gimnny Gimmy Gimmiland in a pacifying short sighted act, we "give, give, give." I express my belief that the Council letter was written with a considerable degree of cynicism and further I believe I have the right to so hold his view for you have extended your invitation to me for feedback. Please explain what is intended by the phrase "upgrade." I write with respectful pen and believe I am entitled to say what I have now written.</p>

c) Feedback received out of scope of this project

1	<p>You have already destroyed the Frenchs forest area with the Northern beaches hospital bring back the public hospital</p>
2	<p>I have looked at the plans for Frenchs Forest town in great detail. If all the planned development goes ahead it will go from being a busy intersection during peak times to being heavily congested all the time. Is this a good thing?</p> <p>The plans for the three green areas to be developed are lovely but tiny when compared to the large green space which is the present grounds of Forest High which is to be sacrificed to housing.</p> <p>One criticism I have to make of the new roadway coming from Narrabeen through to Warringah Road. It has been my experience as an older driver that Australians generally are reluctant to give way or merge. Who thought it was a good idea for drivers coming from Narrabeen to have to merge THREE times in less than half a kilometre? It's difficult enough now but after the development I'm predicting these three merges will be a nightmare.</p>
3	<p>It would actually be a good idea to put more concrete footpaths around FF FIRST, before doing park upgrades . And some seats along the way, to encourage and facilitate walking in our suburb. This is very difficult , walking along boggy nature strips, tripping over tree roots because of the neglect of these. Not even many seats at designated bus stops . And very dangerous for people pushing children in strollers . They are obliged to walk on the road .</p>

Document administration	
Version	1.0
Date	10 August 2022
Approval	Content provided and approved by Park Assets – Planning, Design and Delivery Team. Responsible manager: Barbara Stack
Status	Final
Related Projects	Frenchs Forest Town Centre (Precinct)
Notes	Community and stakeholder views contained in this report do not necessarily reflect the views of the Northern Beaches Council or indicate a commitment to a particular course of action.