



FUTURE CITY PLAYGROUNDS

The City Renewal Authority is committed to creating places for people that enable positive experiences within public spaces. In partnership with the University of Canberra's Play, Creativity and Culture Project, the City Renewal Authority undertook a study to contribute to the development of public spaces in Canberra through identification and analysis of world-leading city play areas to establish a benchmark for what could be achieved in the City Renewal Precinct.

Following this study, the University of Canberra's Play, Creativity and Culture Project, conducted an audit of Canberra's destination and city playgrounds to inform the design of future play spaces in the city precinct, including the design of a play space for West Basin.

The audit assessed and gathered information including:

- input from the community;
- data collection of available play facilities and amenities;
- observation of playground usage and activity types; and
- on-site surveys of users about attitudes to play facilities.

In early 2018, the community was invited to have their say on what they'd like to see in new city centre play spaces along with understanding people's current attitudes towards play facilities in Canberra. We received over 1,300 survey responses to form the final report.

THE CONVERSATION

In early 2018, the community was invited to have their say on what they like to see in play spaces along with understanding people's current attitudes towards existing play facilities in Canberra. We received over 1,300 survey responses – 958 online and 412 face-to-face – to form the final report. The Survey opened in February and closed on 21 March 2018.

WHO ENGAGED

Respondents to the survey live throughout the ACT and across the NSW border in the Queanbeyan area. There were also responses from Hall, Murrumbateman and Yass. The majority of respondents to the on-site survey were female, with a fair percentage of respondents (from 25% to 49% for each park) were male. The majority of online survey respondents were between 18-35 (45%) and 36-55 (49%).

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What we heard report



Key insights from the community

The study found that Canberra playgrounds – both destination and local – play an essential role in people’s lives. Your feedback in the online and face-to-face survey helped develop the [study](#) which highlights eight recommendations for current and future destination playgrounds in Canberra (and playgrounds in general):

- 1. Shade, age appropriate enclosures and extreme weather protection**
- 2. More challenging and diverse forms of play**
- 3. More and better facilities**
- 4. Equipment for a wider range of ages**
- 5. Natural features – including trees, grass and water features**
- 6. Make larger, quality playgrounds NOT more, smaller playgrounds**
- 7. Improve older playgrounds**
- 8. Proximity – location of the playgrounds**

WHAT'S NEXT?

The study will be used to:

- Help us design a unique play space for West Basin and parks in the city centre.
- Contribute to the Better Suburbs conversation.
- Show community expectations and help us plan for the future play spaces in the city area.

To find out more about Future City Playgrounds and other initiatives, policies and projects in Canberra visit www.yoursay.act.gov.au or follow us on [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#).

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What we heard report



Key Timings

Step 1 – June 2017/Determine scope of research to be undertaken

Step 2 – January 2018 – Audit of playground sites within Canberra and face to face surveying

Step 3 – February 2018 – Online survey open

Step 4 – March 2018 – Online survey closed

Step 5 – March to August 2018 – report prepared

Step 6 – August 2018 – Report publically released

Step 7 – Ongoing – report to help inform the design of future play spaces, including the design of a play space for West Basin. The report will also contribute to the Better Suburbs Conversation.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FEEDBACK

4,418

We reached 1,890 people via YourSay

412

We spoke to 412 individuals

958

We received 958 online survey responses

8

Recommendations for current and future playground design

10

Destination playgrounds were selected for the study

4

On-site surveys and observational studies

302

Social media interactions

15,100

Reach on social media