

William Street Reserve

Consultation Summary – Saturday 9th September, 2017

1.0 Introduction

Bayside City Council has developed a plan to upgrade William Street Reserve. This is part of Council’s \$162 million four year plan to deliver on the priorities of the Bayside community. The proposed upgrade aim to provide high quality facilities for organised sport as well as improved opportunities for informal recreation. It includes new sportsground lighting, a new pavilion including public toilets plus renewal of the cricket nets and playground.

Feedback from the community was sought through:

- Community information session held onsite on Saturday 9th September 2017
- Council’s Have Your Say online portal open from Monday 21st August to Friday 15th September, 2017.

Community Information Session

An information session was held onsite, 9am – 10am was dedicated to adjacent residents, whereas the second session from 10am – 11am was open to the wider community and park users.

The following Council Officers were available onsite to answer questions and take feedback about the pavilion, lighting and playground improvements:

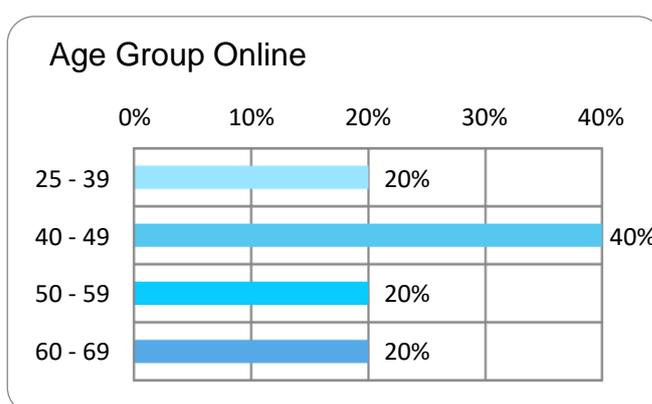
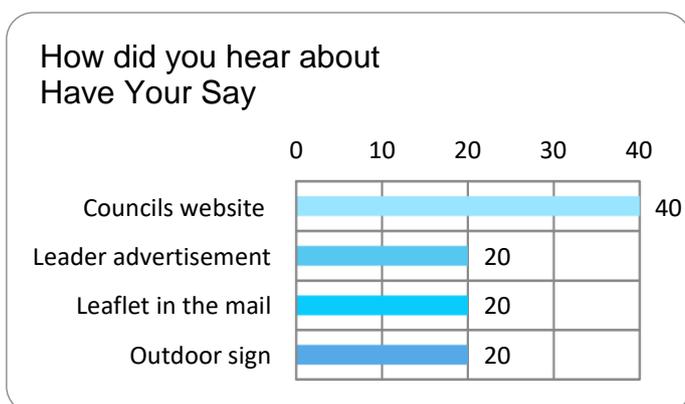
- Sara Townsend – Recreation & Events Coordinator, Bayside City Council
- Candice Gallagher – Recreation Development Officer, Bayside City Council
- Cindy Plowman – Community Engagement Coordinator, Bayside City Council
- Abraham Albatat – Project Manager, Bayside City Council
- Rob Hamilton – Lighting Engineer – Webb Australia

Approximately 40 people attended the information session across the two-hour period this included:

- Residents from surrounding streets William Street, Tucker Avenue, Alverna Grove included.
- General park users including those that use the reserve for dog walking, playing (playground, courts) and walking.
- Members of the Cluden Cricket Club.

Have Your Say Online

A total of 22 people participated in the project online, that is downloaded a document and contributed feedback online. Shown below are key demographics from online.



2.0 Community Feedback – William Street Reserve

Summarised below is the feedback collected from both the online and face-to-face engagement. Feedback is collated under key themes in order of importance. Feedback that can-not be used by the Recreation Department to inform the upgrade of William Street Reserve will be passed onto the relevant department within Council.

Location of the Pavilion

The proposed location of the pavilion was unacceptable to the residential community. The overwhelming preference was to use the existing site for the pavilion, extending it forward and backwards. This was due to changes in views (current) of the park as well as current siting of the building, offset currently to the goals.

Parking and Traffic Movement

Parking within the reserve and along William Street is well used by park users, teachers and parents (drop off) for nearby Brighton Primary School and is a popular departure point for senior excursions. Reducing carpark was a concern as this would increase the use of offstreet carparking along William Street. Both residents and park users had reported being involved in collisions and near misses in recent times along William Street already.

Suggestions to improve access and traffic safety include:

- Seal and line market the carpark to organise parking and maximise car parking spaces available
- Consider installing parking restrictions along William Street to discourage all day parking
- Consider ways to improve sight lines along William Street (angle parking, reverse park only)
- Consider ways to improve the safety along William Street (speed limits, marking carparking).

Access to William Reserve by Dog Walkers

Park users that walk their dog believe that active sport has decreased the time available to use the reserve. This group is concerned that increasing the size of the pavilion and adding lighting will decrease the amount of time currently available to this group. Many believed that it was possible for both active sport and dog walkers could coexist and made the following suggestions:

- Build relationships with the cricket club users, dog walkers ensuring dog poo is collected and holes created by dogs digging is filled in.
- Council increasing the number of local laws patrols of William Street Reserve to educate owners.
- Signage at the ground to advertise training and competition times, so dog walkers can plan when they can use the park.
- Install and/or repair the water fountain at the Halifax side of the reserve. Water pressure is low and a dog bowl would be useful.

Maintenance and Safety

Some residents and park users noted a decline in maintenance of the reserve and would like the maintenance of the ground to be increased (holes, unevenness).

Lockable toilets was of key importance as was the location and visibility.

Swapping the position of netball with basketball was seen as an advantage if the carpark is to remain in its current site as a blackboard may stop children running into the carpark.