Fern Street Children’s Centre and Tricks Reserve playground

- Early Years Infrastructure Plan 2018 – 2028 provides Council with a strategic framework for future provision of council-owned early years facilities across the municipality.

- Black Rock has been identified as being unable to meet future early years service needs.

- The existing three buildings recently demolished had reached the end of their useful life. The new centre will be a fit for purpose facility to meet current and future demand for early years services.

- The State Government is contributing $1.6 million towards the project.

- The Centre will comprise two 33 place kindergarten rooms, two Maternal and Child Health/Allied Health consulting rooms, toy library, community room for hire, occasional care and playgroup rooms, outdoor play spaces and car parking.

- The natural environment will strongly influence the “look and feel” of the new building.

- The landscape design will include a sensory playscape.

- The Playground upgrade at Trick’s Reserve will be upgraded as part of the project to ensure a holistic outcome for the park.

More information
Fiona Campbell
9599 4403
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Map Legend

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Design drivers

Design/Built Form

- Utilise existing building frontages to Fern Street and provide passive observation for neighbourhood safety.
- Proposal to place community facilities to front Fern Street and Bluff road intersection, children’s facilities to front onto parkland.
- Provide additional pedestrian pathways through the building bringing the landscape in and creating multiple points of access into and through the building.
- The roof structure is to provide northern light to all habitable rooms.

Car parking

- Options for car parking are being explored with a traffic engineer. Approximately 12 bays for the Centre is required to support the long term parking demands of the services. The locations being explored for parking are directly off Fern Street, or to the east of the site.
- The first approach is to use the road reserve for parking so as not to encroach on parkland.

- Any new car parking will be sealed with kerb and line channel markings and include accessible bays.
- The traffic assessment has surveyed street parking availabilities which will likely accommodate some of the short term parking requirements.
- Due to the nature of the services of the Centre, peak times of approximately 30 minutes will reduce the load for long term parking.
- The project team is exploring the use of operational measures to stagger drop off and pick up times associated with the kindergarten and occasional care facility, as well as staggering times of the activity room with the other uses.

Trees

- Maintain high value trees. The building form will be designed around the existing trees.
- The existing trees will enhance the landscaping and sensory garden within the site.

Open Space

- Open space within Tricks Reserve is to be enhanced by the upgrade of Tricks Reserve playground and the sensory garden of the Fern Street Centre, which is to accessible by the community.
- The sensory garden design of the Fern Street Centre will include connective pathways from Fern Street through to Tricks Reserve.
- It is the intention that the built form will remain within the previous fence line where the old buildings were sited.

Look and feel of the building

- The materials of the building will be sympathetic to the natural environment and the character of the local neighbourhood. The “look and feel” of the building will have natural materials and colours and be sympathetic to the parkland setting.

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Inspiration

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Fiona Campbell
9599 4403
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Please leave us your feedback

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Fiona Campbell
9599 4403