

Fitzroy Gardens and Lawrence Hargrave Reserve

Stage Two Report
14th October 2008 Workshop



November 2008

the people
for places
and spaces



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Executive Summary

Background to the project

As part of the Local Action Plan consultation for City East, the community placed a high priority on upgrading Fitzroy Gardens and Lawrence Hargrave Reserve to create more useable and attractive green space for the area.

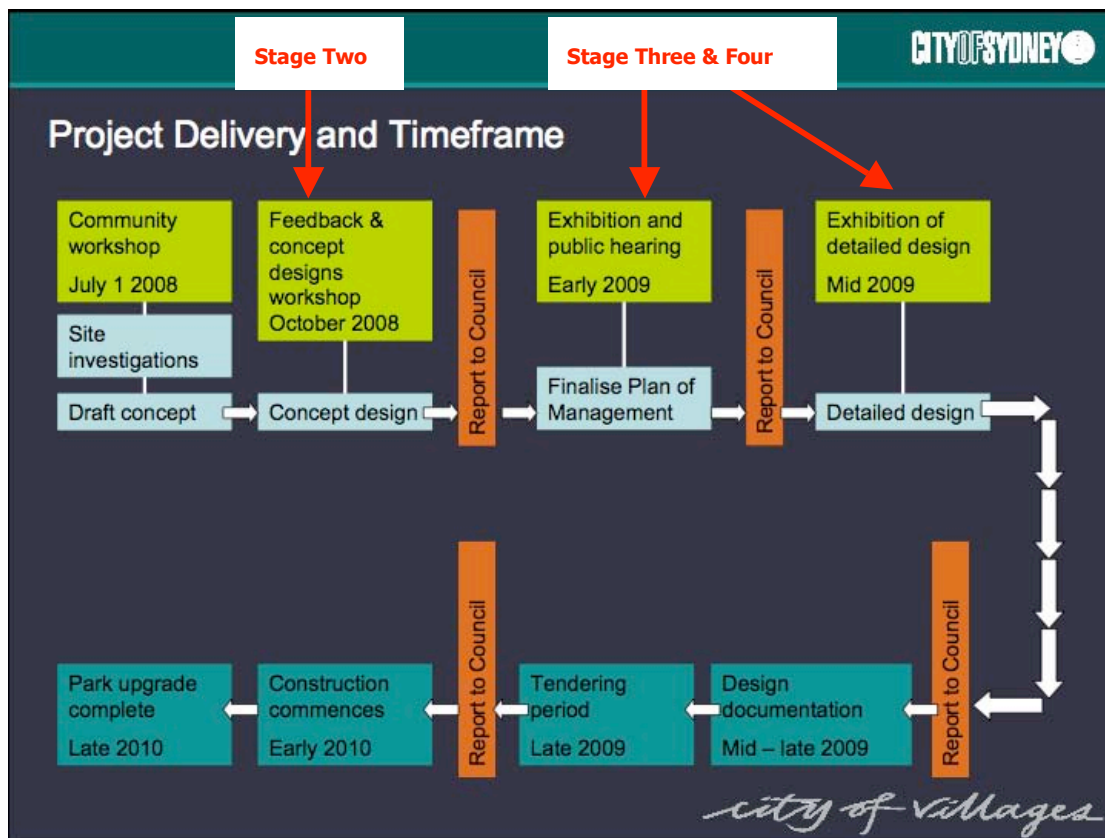
Council subsequently resolved to undertake the upgrade of Fitzroy Gardens and Lawrence Hargrave Reserve at Kings Cross on the basis of an extensive community consultation process, which was designed to collaborate with local residents and stakeholders in a four-stage process of designing the upgrades for each park.

The People for Places and Spaces was appointed on the basis of a competitive tender, to undertake the four-stage community consultation processes; to report the outcomes to Council and to brief its project team on the community issues and aspirations for the upgrades.

The Four Stage Consultation Process

This report covers Stage Two of the four-stage process, shown in the diagram below.

The diagram shows two remaining stages planned for early 2009 (Stage Three) and mid 2009 (Stage Four).



Stage One has been completed

A Community Workshop on Tuesday 1st July 2008, hosted by The Lord Mayor, Clover Moore, MP was the first stage in planning for the upgrade of Fitzroy Gardens and Lawrence Hargrave Reserve.

This initial Stage One consultation workshop was designed to elicit initial ideas and aspirations from participants for the upgrade projects, which Council and the design team would consider in relation to its early design approaches for the upgrades.

The detailed report of Stage One findings is available on the City's website at:

<http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/Development/CityImprovements/ParksAndReserves/FitzroyGardensLawrenceHargravesReserve.asp>

Stage Two Community Workshop – This Report

A Community Workshop on 14 October 2008, hosted by The Lord Mayor, Clover Moore, MP was the second stage in planning for the upgrade of Fitzroy Gardens and Lawrence Hargrave Reserve.

At this workshop, participants were informed about the outcomes of the Stage One Community Meeting (1 July 2008), which were used by Council and the design team to develop a series of design approaches for both parks.

The workshop commenced with an overview presentation of the various design approaches presented by Adam Fowler from the City of Sydney and George Gallagher from Tract Landscape Architects.

Staff from the City of Sydney, Tract Landscape Architects, and The People for Places and Spaces were present to assist participants with the process and to answer clarifying questions about the various design approaches.

45 people attended this Workshop. Together, they produced 468 comments and ideas in response to the above questions.

The running order for this workshop appears on the following page.

Stage Two Workshop Running Order

Fitzroy Gardens and Lawrence Hargrave Reserve

14 October 2008 6.00pm – 8.15pm

Rex Centre, Kings Cross



6:00 pm	Welcome and Overview The Lord Mayor Clover Moore MP
6.10 pm	Introducing the running order and workshop processes Tony O'Brien – The People for Places and Spaces
6.15 pm	Fitzroy Gardens and Lawrence Hargrave Reserve <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project objectives, the staged consultation process• Feedback from July 1st Workshop and Emerging Design Principles Adam Fowler, Senior Landscape Architect, City of Sydney Presentation of design concepts for each park George Gallagher, Tract Landscape Architects
6.35 pm	Fitzroy Gardens and Lawrence Hargrave Reserve <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Working on the emerging Design Concepts in their workbooks, assisted by explainers Participants
8.00 pm	Your major messages to Council about the design concepts for both parks Participants
8.15 pm	Close The Lord Mayor Clover Moore MP

Reading the data in this report

Method

The workshop was based on a qualitative (open-ended) research method, which in this case, has been designed to gain an in depth understanding of people's ideas and experiences of both parks.

To assist participants in understanding the information and design approaches presented, a consultation workbook was presented that contained copies of each of the diagrams presented for each design approach for both parks.

Participants at the workshop were asked to provide detailed written feedback on the following issues in their workbooks:

- Three Design Approaches for Fitzroy Gardens,
- Principles and Common Features of Fitzroy Gardens
- Two Design Approaches for Lawrence Hargrave Reserve,
- Principles for Lawrence Hargrave Reserve, and
- The Connecting Streets Plan

Readers are reminded that:

- As qualitative research carries no statistical significance, we do not claim the data is representative of the views of the wider community. We do confirm however, that the findings represent an accurate recording of all the views of those who chose to participate in this workshop.
- The findings are presented in the form of a theme analysis, which is designed to enhance reader understanding by grouping large amounts of qualitative data into themes.
- The themes have been constructed by grouping similar individual comments for each question. The themed comments are presented in full verbatim form in the main part of the report.
- The themes are presented from the strongest themes (those containing the largest number of related individual ideas) to the least strong (themes containing the least number of related ideas). These are followed by individual ideas that could not be placed within themes.
- This method of presenting themes does not imply that the stronger themes are more important than less strong themes or individual ideas. Readers should consider each theme and individual idea on its own merits.

Finally, Council received some written submissions from people, after the workshop. As these were not part of the workshop, these have been included in full in the section entitled *Written Submissions* commencing on page 57.

Introduction to the Summary Findings

Fitzroy Gardens – Summary Findings

As it is important for the design team to fully understand the strengths and weaknesses of each design approach, participants were asked to respond to each approach (A, B, and C) by providing feedback on:

- What attracted them to each approach;
- What they did not like in each approach and
- What they felt was missing from each.

Figure 1: Comparison number of comments received about each design approach

Design Approach	What attracts you to this? No. of comments	What you don't like about this? No. of comments	Things that are missing No. of comments	Total comments
Approach A	38	30	21	89
Approach B	49	20	16	85
Approach C	14	53	2	69

Participants gave clear responses to each of the design approaches and were very positive about the consultation process, in general (see *My Messages to Council* pages 53-56).

The above table indicates clearly that *Approach B* received a far greater number of positive comments (49) than either A (38) or C (14). In addition, *Approach B* received the least number of *don't like* comments (20) than either Approach C (53) or Approach A (30).

The messages contained in the Main Report – which are presented in summary below – indicate there has been a stronger positive response to *Approach B*, in comparison to either approaches *A or C*.

Although *Approach A* received 38 positive comments, the strength of these was reduced somewhat by reference to 30 negative (*don't like*) comments covering the same issues. This indicates that participants were only slightly more in support of *Approach A*, and they were opposed to it.

Positive comments in *Approach C* were outweighed almost 3 to 1 by opposing comments covering the same issues.

We remind readers that the Main Report contains all comments in full verbatim form. These provide detailed insights about what participants think about each design approach.

Fitzroy Gardens...cont'd

Design Approach B – the clearly favoured approach

What attracts you?

There was a very positive response to this approach, related to the overall layout, position of the playground and markets, the walkways and the central fig tree.

What don't you like?

By contrast, *don't like* comments were confined largely to the location of the markets – some participants did not feel the perimeter location was entirely appropriate and may contribute to a loss of atmosphere or interfere with the surrounding shops (see pages 11 to 18 for full details).

Anything missing comments about Approach B

A broad range of comments were made (see pages 17-18).

Design Approach A – an equal split between supportive and opposed comments

There is an almost equal number of participants who commented that they are attracted to Approach A and who said they *did not like* approach A (see pages 3 to 10 for full details).

What attracts you?

Participants who responded positively to this approach appeared to like the design of the park and the position of trees and playground staying more or less the same. It was a positive response therefore, to retain the status quo, with a 'clean up'.

Some participants commented on the retention of the existing design as a positive aspect of 'adding interest to the space' in direct contrast to aspects of Approach C, which some thought "looks like a football field or a hot, bare expanse of grass".

What don't you like?

By contrast however, a number of comments centred around *not liking* the fact that this approach retained the essentials of the existing park – which many described as "too cluttered or not open, dark, difficult circulation and not easier for markets".

A number of negative comments were also received about the placement of the market stalls around the periphery of the park. Participant responses seem to indicate they would like the stalls to be more integrated into the park, rather than in single rows around the outside.

Anything missing comments about Approach A

A broad range of comments were made (see page 9)

Fitzroy Gardens...cont'

Design Approach C – attracted minimal support

What attracts you?

Six comments were made about the open space and three comments were made about the trees.

What don't you like?

There were far more comments opposed to the open space (25) and moving trees (11 comments) as well as a broad range of other negative comments related to other aspects of the plan.

Anything missing comments about Approach C

By contrast to the other approaches, there were only two *anything missing* comments. This appears to indicate that most participants had 'abandoned' this approach, as they did not offer any suggestions as to how it could be 'improved' in their view (see page 25)

Principles and Common Features

Discussion of comments received related to the Principles and the Common Features for Fitzroy Gardens can be read on pages 27-32 respectively.

Lawrence Hargrave Reserve

The same method was used for participants to respond to each Lawrence Hargrave Reserve approach A and B by providing feedback on:

- What attracted them to each approach;
- What they did not like in each approach; and
- What they felt was missing from each.

Figure 2: Comparison number of comments received about each design approach

Design Approach	What attracts you to this? No. of comments	What you don't like about this? No. of comments	Things that are missing No. of comments	Total comments
Approach A	37	19	21	77
Approach B	8	29	8	45

Lawrence Hargrave Reserve...cont'd

Design Approach A – the clear choice

What attracts you?

There was a positive response to this approach (37 comments), related to the overall layout, space, facilities, views, playground and markets.

What don't you like?

By contrast, *don't like* comments were covered a wide range of issues such as: *the playground and trees* plus a range of single comments such as *boring, or passive, or Plan B is better* (see pages 33-40).

Anything missing comments about Approach B

A range of comments were made (see page 46)

Design Approach B – dislike of the hard surfaces/courts

What attracts you?

Participants appeared to be much less enthusiastic about this Approach, with only eight overall positive comments, four of which referred to the playground.

What don't you like?

The *don't like* comments were centred around the hard surfaces and courts (17) as well as a range of general negative comments, amounting to a total of 29 *don't like* comments (see page 43-45).

Anything missing comments about Approach B

A range of comments were made (see page 46)

Principles – Lawrence Hargrave Reserve

Comments received related to the Principles proposed for Lawrence Hargrave Reserve can be read on pages 47-50.

Connecting Streets Plan

Thirteen generally positive single comments were received about the proposed Connecting Streets Plan. These can be reviewed on page 51.

Main Report: Reporting the Major Findings



Fitzroy Gardens: Design Approach A

Overview of Response to 'Please tell us what attracts you to *Design Approach A*:'

Themes	No. of Comments
Park remains more or less the same	12
Trees/Position of trees remains the same	9
Sightlines	4
General positive comments	4
Walkways/Paving	3
Playground	3
Small lawn area	2
Markets	1
Total	38

Table 1. Summary of themes and number of comments for Fitzroy Gardens: Design Approach A 'Please tell us what attracts you to *Design Approach A*:'

Verbatim Response to 'Please tell us what attracts you to Design Approach A:'

Park remains more or less the same -12 comments

- Leaving the design almost as it is
- I like that this plan is not too over engineered. I like that only the edge near Baroda Street is being levelled to give a sense of widening and un-complicating the visual side of the park
- It maintains the leafy, shady atmosphere that presently exists
- We retain the different levels and planting, which adds interest to the space. Examples of opened up areas: Wynyard park = boring, Surry Hills park on Crown = boring
- Retaining same general layout with central tree as focus
- Retainment of tiered areas. Adds interest
- It doesn't look like a football field
- This is a unique park doesn't turn it into a hot, bare expanse of grass
- Retains different areas/lawn
- 3 grassed areas I like and level paving around these areas
- The circular nature of the garden, that revolves around the central focus fig is maintained which allows people to enjoy a more intimate space and creates various "pockets" around the focus
- Prefer A –The least done and changed the better

Trees/Position of trees remains the same -9 comments

- It doesn't remove trees
- Not relocating the trees but lowering and improving the planter beds around them
- Retains fig tree in centre
- Keeping the trees in situ, good for flow for pedestrians
- Central tee
- Canopy
- The shaded areas –skin cancer problems essential to be protected when outside
- "A" is my preferred Design approach for the following reasons: The trees remain in their present locations. I oppose vehemently any proposal to relocate the trees as they are well established, thriving and beautiful and everyone loves them!! Just the way they are so why move them? The focus fig will continue to provide its wonderful dappled shade which allows people to find areas of sun, or shade, depending on the season or heat of the day (as opposed to full sun as would be the case if the fig were moved, as proposed by Design Approach C).
- Support A because none of the key trees get moved

Verbatim Response to 'Please tell us what attracts you to Design Approach A: '.... cont'd

Sightlines -4 comments

- Not necessary to see the fountain all the time
- Sight lines radiating out from Police station creating a perception of over seeing the space and therefore a sphere of influence
- Level the sight very positive
- Good views to Macleay St

General positive comments -4 comments

- Creates interest
- New
- Step in the right direction
- Nothing bothers me about A. It seems the most beautiful and manageable.

Walkways/Paving -3 comments

- Hard surface walk-ways
- Mending paving
- Walk way marking old Elisabeth Bay Rd

Playground -3 comments

- Children's play area
- Playground in corner (less noise for people wanting to sit quietly)
- Children's park stays the same

Small lawn area -2 comments

- I support the addition of small areas of lawn since they are likely to stay green, be easier to maintain and less expensive to establish etc.
- Less lawn

Markets -1 comment

- The market around the perimeter

Overview of Response to 'Is there anything that you don't like about *Design Approach A*?'

Themes	No. of Comments
Park remains more or less the same	11
Markets around the periphery	8
Playground	4
Trees	3
Prefer plan B	2
Single comments	2
Total	30

Table 2. Summary of themes and number of comments for Fitzroy Gardens: Design Approach A 'Is there anything that you don't like about *Design Approach A*?'

Verbatim Response to 'Is there anything that you don't like about Design Approach A?'

Park remains more or less the same -11 comments

- Maintains the status quo. Don't think it goes far enough to address the park – very much maintaining as it is
- It is just more of the same. Too similar to what's already here, irregular paving, dark dangerous
- Too much the same
- Too much the same as current. Doesn't capitalise on the opportunity for improvement
- Not open, too much shade, more impacts from birds, difficult circulation, not easier for markets
- Doesn't create enough open feeling
- Still too cluttered!
- Bit cluttered
- Too many stairs
- Dark feeling
- Too many of the old planters kept

Markets around the periphery -8 comments

- I don't like the markets being made to single rows. I think it needs to be the way it currently is –close together to give a feeling of closeness. I think having them as per plan A is too formal and structured
- Market stalls along Baroda St
- Would like market stalls through centre of park, make paths wider to accommodate stalls
- Would like to see more paved area in the centre of the park to maintain the "heart" of the Saturday market
- Prefer market stalls in the centre not around the edges
- At present, the market stalls are not round the edge
- The shops may be worried about stalls opposite
- Market stalls should be integral part not a sideline

Playground -4 comments

- No. 4 Children's playground
- Playground too big, takes too much space
- Playground not under big trees
- Are there that many kids in the area to enlarge the play area?

Verbatim Response to 'Is there anything that you don't like about Design Approach A?.... cont'd

Trees -3 comments

- I see that we lose the tree on Baroda/Ward Ave. That tree hides a large part of the police station
- Trees still a bit messy
- Deprivation of trees

Prefer design B -2 comments

- Approach B seems like a better use of space
- Prefer design B

Single comments -2 comments

- Too much paving not enough grass
- Covering over walkway

Verbatim Response to 'Is there anything missing from *Design Approach A*?'

21 Single comments

- Can the paving match the current bluestone paving on the street for continuity?
- The Fountain Café is encroaching more and more into public space. Canopy is in need of a good clean
- Will water tanks (underground?) be included?
- Some other goods have to be sold out of vans –meat, fish etc. Parking for vehicles that are necessary for food refrigeration
- I didn't see mention of what was to be done with the clay/gravel area. It would be lovely as another grassed area
- "Monet" feeling
- Built in tables/seating perhaps?
- Can we have more of the J.C. Decaux type furniture please? And if there's going to be a kid's play area what about some of the beautiful wooden playground type design used in France and Scandinavia?
- Interesting lighting e.g. electric 'candles' (like Jean Nouvel's lighting architect in the grass/trees etc –could be solar powered. Two fold benefit 1. Increases the beauty of the park 2. Makes it lighter and safer
- I think the lighting should be kept and not changed
- Avoid having grass in areas where tree/root system will predict die off at a certain time of year, do not want 'dust bowl' areas
- Very concerned about the lack of toilets, water fountain, injection needle bins
- Usage of the park by apartment owners to be encouraged as a 'piazza' an extension of their living spaces this creates social capital
- Evening jazz is a social and civilising activity
- More evening lights and usage creates safer places people feel comfortable
- More grass
- Very concerned about lack of toilets, water fountain, injecting needle bins
- Seasonal planting adds a bit of colour – so long as the fallen leaves area collected quickly
- No grey pavers please
- A water fountain would be useful –the less people rely on plastic water bottles (which create waste and rubbish) the better.
- Visibility of police station has a deterrent effect on littering and antisocial behaviour

Fitzroy Gardens: Design Approach B

Overview of Response to 'Please tell us what attracts you to *Design Approach B*'

Themes	No. of Comments
Layout/general	27
Playground	7
Position of Market	4
Walkway/paving	4
Fig tree as focal point	5
Birds	2
Total	49

Table 3. Summary of themes and number of comments for Fitzroy Gardens: Design Approach B 'Please tell us what attracts you to *Design Approach B*'

Verbatim Response to 'Please tell us what attracts you to *Design Approach B*?

Layout/General -27 comments

- Interesting layout of the park area
- Breaking down into three grassed area
- More grassed areas
- Retains different areas/lawns for different uses
- Plenty of lawn
- Gentle slope
- Great layout of trees
- Sunny lawn
- Sorts out the messy small trees
- Removes some of the messy planters
- This design is the best of the 3 designs
- The levelling
- The retention of different lawn spaces –maintain the feeling of rooms
- Having a focal point
- I think B strikes a nice balance between grassed areas and shades trees. Removing “non-super” trees will certainly open up the feel of the park.
- Canopy
- Less cluttered
- Opening one park area to fountain and vice versa
- Mix of paved and grassed areas
- Like seasonal planting
- Better than A
- Good focal point to the neighbourhood
- Compromise solution
- More integrated
- Seats
- It's cool
- Fewer steps

Verbatim Response to 'Please tell us what attracts you to Design Approach B? ...cont'd

Playground -7 Comments

- Better surface to children's play area
- Playground not too prominent
- Playground under shady trees
- Playground opens out to a lawn
- Brings the playground into the park
- Toddler area under shade/part shade
- Children's playground has better shade

Markets -4 Comments

- Markets in the outside of the park
- Market stalls along Macleay St
- Market in perimeter
- Market stalls on the periphery is a great idea.

Walkway/Paving -4 Comments

- Walkway recognises old Elisabeth Bay Rd
- Mending paving
- Clearing pathways through the park
- Radial paths reflect foot traffic

Fig Tree -5 Comments

- Fig tree central to centre of park
- Makes the wonderful fig tree the focal point EXCELLENT!
- Reclaiming large tree central to the design
- It maintains the fig as a central feature, spreading dappled shade
- After "A", "B" is my next preferred Design Approach for the following reasons: the focus fig and key trees remain in their current positions. Please, please do not move the trees –I think this would be a huge mistake. Everyone I know loves the way they provide a tropical and shady atmosphere

Birds 2 Comments

- I'm fine with the birds –we should be grateful that we live in an area with so much wildlife
- Like some birds (but not mess)

Response to 'Is there anything that you don't like about *Design Approach B?*'

Themes	No. of Comments
Position of markets	6
Playground	5
Grass area	3
Single comments	6
Total	20

Table 4. Summary of themes and number of comments for Fitzroy Gardens: Design Approach B 'Is there anything that you don't like about *Design Approach B?*'

Verbatim Response to 'Is there anything that you don't like about *Design Approach B*?'

Position of markets -6 comments

- Markets are sidelined
- Would like paths wider through centre of park to accommodate market stalls
- Shops maybe unhappy about stalls
- Prefer paved areas in the centre for market
- Market stalls along Baroda St
- The moving of the market stalls into a row –loss of atmosphere on market days and less community aspect

Playground -5 comments

- By placing the gated child's playground in the centre of this design means that it will dominate the area unfairly. Noise from the area will be heard from most of the park area
- Not sure about relocating playground. Think I would prefer free access to walk/sit around the tree. Playground would create central noise when one wants peaceful place
- Don't like the children's playground in the centre as a focus
- Children's playground
- I don't want the toddlers' play area located at the heart of the garden because it would be better space for seats etc. The demographic of Potts Point doesn't support this change and it makes more sense to give priority to regular seating or more planting (as opposed to kids area)

Grass area -3 comments

- I would be worried that grass could become worn and scruffy and people might leave rubbish? Is there a hard path all round the central tree?'
- Increased lawns risk the grass drying out, looking unsightly and becoming brown and unpleasant
- More lawns encourages drunks to lie down and sleep which would be a problem, paving avoids this

Verbatim Response to 'Is there anything that you don't like about Design Approach B?' ...cont'd

Single comments -6 comments

- Fountain café situation needs to be improved. Maybe replacing plastic canopies with something more interesting
- Don't like the way it's weighted against concept A
- With parking both sides only a small amount of road (one way traffic) very busy
- Covering over the walkway on Old Elizabeth Bay Rd
- Would feel reluctant to move that beautiful fig tree –it's been here longer than we have! I don't want to do anything that might damage it –it provides the most wonderful shade –happy with the position –our cities area contributing to global warming because of all the bitumen and paving (see Michael Mobbs book 'Green/sustainable architect' from Annandale who designed the 100% self sufficient office block in Double Bay and has also led a movement towards 'useful' nature strips. Planted with beautiful citrus trees that provide amazing scent from the flowers and fruit –as in Valencia Barcelona etc.) We lose the different levels and it doesn't seem as intimate
- I don't support the increase of "solar access" to the gardens –particularly in summer. The beauty of the existing layout is its ability to give a mixture of sun and shade, so that people can seek out areas of sun and shade depending on how they feel. Removing coverage exposes people in the park. During summer especially when days are longer and people are outdoors more) people may be less likely to use the lawns because it is too hot.

Overview of Response to 'Is there anything missing from *Design Approach B?*'

Themes	No of Comments
Markets	5
Tables/benches	3
Singles comments	8
Total	16

Table 5. Fitzroy Gardens Design Approach B Overview of Response to 'Is there anything missing from *Design Approach B?*'

Verbatim Response to 'Is there anything missing from *Design Approach B*?'

Markets -5 comments

- Wider paths through park
- Have market stalls in park through path
- If there is a better way to arrange the market as having it around the edge disperses the crowd a bit. However if the lawn would be damaged, leave as it is.
- Maybe widen the radial paths do markets could go on them and around the tree a s then move the lawn out a bit on the space currently covered by the market umbrellas
- Some market goods have to be sold out of vans –meats fruits etc.

Tables/benches -3 comments

- Some tables/benches on lawn perhaps
- Seats for careers to supervise children in toddler's park
- Would really like the tables and chairs in this area (1)

Single comments -8 comments

- Must edge lawns so vehicles do not go on
- Must have kids crossing
- Can we up light the fig tree? It would look great.
- Please no more grey granite. What about the sandy red stone used as a strip in front of St Mary's Cathedral.
- Will water tanks underground be included?
- A herb garden and/or community vegetable gardenJekka McVicar (organic gardener) has just been out here from UK. She has been largely responsible for the resurgence of herb gardens in UK –Prince Charles and Jamie Oliver are both fans –her book is amazing. Perhaps we would have fewer problems of alcoholism and socially undesirable activities if people had a garden to work on or could take home the fruits of their labours –beautiful passion vines, fruit trees, veggies. In Auckland there is a great community farm worked by people with mental illness and depression. They sell their produce. SLOW FOOD and 'Permablitz' in Melbourne are doing wonderful things in this respect. The vacant plot next to the Tilbury –could that be a community vegetable garden? Please email me if possiblePh 04163745169 Claire Montgomery montyzuma001@pacific.net.au or Ian Kortland @ ian.kortlang@fdthirdperson.com.au
- More seasonal plantings
- A water fountain would be useful –the less people rely on plastic water bottles (which create waste and rubbish) the better

Fitzroy Gardens: Design Approach C

Overview of Response to 'Please tell us what attracts you to *Design Approach C*'

Themes	No. of Comments
Open space/grass	6
Trees	3
Birds	2
Single comments	3
Total	14

Table 6. Summary of themes and number of comments for Fitzroy Gardens: Design Approach C 'Please tell us what attracts you to *Design Approach C*'

Verbatim Response to 'Please tell us what attracts you to *Design Approach C*'

Open space -6 comments

- More open space
- Can see through
- More grass
- Good circulation
- The grass area during a sunny winters day would be attractive
- The open space

Trees -3 comments

- Still enough trees
- Fig tree kept
- Canopy

Birds -2 comments

- Less mess from birds
- Like some birds (not mess)

Singles comments -3 comments

- Playground covered by shade
- This is my most favoured design
- Market stalls at edges

Response to 'Is there anything that you don't like about *Design Approach C*'

Themes	No. of Comments
Open space	25
Moving fig tree	11
General negative	10
No path through lawn	2
Single comments	5
Total	53

Table 7. Summary of themes and number of comments for Fitzroy Gardens: Design Approach C 'Is there anything that you don't like about *Design Approach C*'

Verbatim Response to 'Is there anything that you don't like about *Design Approach C*?'

Open Space -25 comments

- Too open
- Too hot in summer
- Too similar to other open parks in Sydney
- The green space leads to a loss of intimacy of the areas
- A wide space loses the intimacy and multipurpose use of a park
- Too much of a football pitch
- Not very interesting layout, very exposed grassy area
- Too open –not many seats skin cancer
- Don't like big central lawn
- Lawn, one big space –much better to have it broken up as different users use different areas.
- Having spent many Saturdays in the park –shade is normally what you are after.
- This design really commits the park to one use
- Too limiting in its use because the area is too open, better to have distinct areas for different uses
- The open grass area may become a windy area as there would be not surface break it being flat.
- Would like a balance between people sitting on grass and chairs
- Less intimate and interesting
- Can be windy in Elisabeth Bay would open area become a wind tunnel?
- Hate the large lawn area –this is Potts Point not Castle Hill
- Too much grass
- Headed towards a football field
- The big flat green area should be broken up with sculptures, garden bed, maybe circular seating?
- Too much open and loss of focus and pathways
- Creating a large area of lawn risks the grass dying out (especially during droughts) and the area becoming a dust bowl. The notion that people are going to read papers and picnic on the 'lawn' is deluded. In reality people will pass out there from heavy drinking at the Bourbon and other bars. At least with paved areas people are less likely to lay down and sleep. This is a huge consideration that needs to be acknowledged, especially given it is Kings Cross we are talking about
- The increased exposure to the sun is inappropriate in an Australian climate. In Sydney it is better to have plenty of shade. The trees in their current locations provide such shade

Verbatim Response to 'Is there anything that you don't like about Design Approach C?' ...cont'd

Open space continued

- Don't like the big lawn –too exposed to the sun. Big lawn will just encourage people to drink and booze and sleep and I don't like that. Dogs will poo on the lawn –if people don't clean up the poo it will mean people less likely to use or sit on the lawn. Don't want a big exposed lawn with no shade in the middle

Fig Tree -11 comments

- What if fig tree does not survive?
- Don't like fig tree moved to the side
- Don't risk the fig tree by moving it –spend the money on an underground water tank instead
- This is an historic fig tree and must be left on site
- Please do not move any of the trees, especially the large one in the centre
- We lose character of park by moving fig tree. Where it is emphasises the circular relationship to the fountain, Gazebo and the fountain
- Moving the fig tree from the "heart" of the park is a mistake
- The moving of the fig tree –cost, risk, historical significance
- Don't want trees moved, has taken years for other trees to recover when moved
- Moving the fig tree is wrong. It is happy and beautiful where it is and it provides what I think is a 'green heart' and the centre of the garden. To move it is expensive, ethically stupid and contrary to what many people want. Most of my friends and neighbours simply love the trees where they are
- I don't want the trees to be moved. Don't move the key trees

General negative -10 comments

- The worst design –Boring!
- Park loses its character
- This design is my worst nightmare
- It would be just like any other soulless park
- Boring it would look like any other dull standard park
- Maybe hot in summer
- Might encourage semi nude sun baking
- We don't want special events
- I don't like the way "what stays the same" is so weighted in favour of their design i.e. with no negatives
- Nothing attracts me to design C. I object to C

Verbatim Response to 'Is there anything that you don't like about Design Approach C?' ...cont'd

Path -2 comments

- No path through the lawn –people will track paths through anywhere
- As people walk from NS to SE the grass will wear away and in rain could become a muddy area.

Single comments -5 comments

- If people picnicked might feed birds
- Cover over walkway on Elisabeth Bay Rd
- Café next to El Alamein needs to be cleaned up
- Why two children's playground?
- Don't like market layout. Straight lines

Response to 'Is there anything missing from *Design Approach C*?'

Missing a focal point -2 comments

- A focal point –leave the big fig tree where it is as the majestic focal point of the park.
- Some "feature" grass, does not serve as a focal point.

Fitzroy Gardens: Principles and Common Features

Overview of Response to 'Please tell us your comments on Fitzroy Garden's Design Principles and Common Features:'

Themes	No. of Comments
Markets	9
General positive	8
Small areas	6
Fig tree/trees	6
El Alamein fountain	4
Play area	4
Big open space	3
Community space	3
Paving	3
Birds	2
Police station	2
Single comments	8
Total	58

Table 8. Summary of themes and number of comments for Fitzroy Gardens: Principles and Common Features

Verbatim Response to 'Please tell us your comments on Fitzroy Garden's Design Principles and Common Features:'

Markets -9 comments

- The Saturday markets have revitalised the park
- Markets are important and integral part of the park –should be retained –not sidelined.
- Having a central market area on Saturdays adds appeal and interest
- What negative impacts from markets?
- Don't understand -2 markets enhance the park
- Suggest a lockable cupboard with sink and hot water for hygiene. Signage? Space for refrigerated vehicles. Power –lots of power points. Water for stall holders use. Fixing points for tents
- Markets are business, the cars in the park are dreadful. NO AMPLIFIED loud music, it is not an entertainment centre. No room for locals and peace; taken over every weekend is unfair to locals. Markets are good but not every weekend Saturday and Sunday plus no loud music we want peace! We do not want our park to become "market place" orientated i.e. we don't want water points to be built. DO NOT THINK about installing water/taps and hot water the local homeless will be attracted to wash. We do not want our park to become "market place" orientated i.e. we don't want freshwater having to be built to provide water for stall holders and have grass to accommodate more stalls IT'S A PARK NOT A MARKET PLACE
- Markets around edge
- Great market (Saturday) Quiet market (Sunday)

General positive -8 comments

- All great proposals
- Like DESIGN APPROACH C best!!!
- Good
- On the right track
- Have listened to the people
- On the good track
- More potential
- Agree with those listed

Verbatim Response - Fitzroy Garden's Design Principles and Common Features: '...cont'd

Small areas -6 comments

- Separate areas in park make it interesting –should be retained (even if on one level)
- At present, Fitzroy Gardens is a series of “rooms”. Intimate spaces. This is achieved partly through the use of different levels and partly through plantings. I agree that the ramps and rails from Baroda St/Ward Avenue could be tiered.
- I like the different spaces and levels for different uses
- Definitely more grass area and trees not big football field but trees and grass everywhere and winding paths in between
- Very busy with the different levels flat and winding –keep flatter with small pathways not cobbled
- Retain distinct areas (say 3 or 4), retain some paved areas, introduce additional (in place of some pavers) grassed areas

Fig tree/trees -6 comments

- Keeping the major fig tree
- Note that the tree in Fig 4 goes a long way to hiding part of the police station
- Love the trees!
- It will always be a focal point, no trees need to be cleared
- Retain the trees, do not move central tree
- I support each of the ‘principles’ and ‘features’, I particularly support the proposal to retain and restore the trees and increase the ‘green’ spaces in the park. I oppose vehemently any move to uproot and relocate key trees which I think is needless and arrogant. Please please keep the trees in their current locations. On that note if any design principle or feature is to take priority over others, I would give precedence to the trees

El Alamein fountain -4 comments

- Love the fountain!
- Fountain as part of a wading pool for birds and children
- Doesn't matter that the fountain is not visible from all angles
- Fountain more visible from street says this is a people space

Verbatim Response - Fitzroy Garden's Design Principles and Common Features: '...cont'd

Play area -4 comments

- Like the idea of a toddler's play area
- Keep enhance play area
- Toddler's area –it is located in the worst possible area, next to the road and in straight view of two bars "dirtying" Gazebo and Maggies. Needs moving to centre area –keep small for toddlers and have another toddlers and bigger children facilities across the road.
- Given the demographic of Kings Cross, I would suggest that the toddlers play area stay the same size. I don't think it should be extended beyond its current 'footprint'

Big open space -3 comments

- Not a big boring lawn
- Not one big football area size of grass, not a big bland football field
- Not one large open space

Community space -3 comments

- Emphasis this is more a people space. Community is lacking and should be a the expense of grass (not sustainable or useful only for dogs)
- More community seating with small tables and café style service facilities –as in Europe
- Great as a community meeting place

Paving -3 comments

- Keep paving simple –have a look at Warooga Point flat ground. No small pavers/cobbles they get wobbly and cigarette butts and rubbish get caught in it.
- Renew all surface areas
- Bricks replaced –support that

Birds -2 comments

- The birds are only a real problem in the evening (the Ibis I mean) when they roost
- Maybe need to find a new home for the Ibis

Verbatim Response - Fitzroy Garden's Design Principles and Common Features: '...cont'd

Police Station -2 comments

- Get rid of police station (hide it)
- I support the idea of improving the Police Station façade and wonder whether it might itself be a 'green' feature –could it support a creeper or plant, such as ivy or some other creeping vine? A screen covered in a vine could be a possibility?

8 single comments

- Link the two parks with an access way (share space)
- Great for walking dogs
- Emphasis and improve green. MORE NATIVE species please to encourage little birds and bees (in Paris and New York bees are being kept on rooftops and gardens, eg Jardin de Luxemburg -15,000 bee keepers in France have lost their jobs because bees in Europe are dwindling –we need to support the bees and wildlife Normal
- Do not install more toilets as they attract trouble –the locals go home to use toilet and we already have two and I have neve ever seen a clean one.
- Be happy to see the area that is currently clay/gravel converted to grass
- Please add and underground water tank so that the lawns can be watered and to wash the dog piss and pooh off.
- Nothing said about the wind
- Better circulation

Lawrence Hargrave Reserve: Design Approach A

Overview of Response to 'Please tell us what attracts you to *Design Approach A*:'

Themes	No. of comments
General positive	15
Open space	8
BBQ/seats/tables	4
Views	3
Playground	3
Market	3
Walkway leading to the reserve	1
Total	37

Table 9. Summary of themes and number of comments for Lawrence Hargrave Reserve: Design Approach A 'Please tell us what attracts you to *Design Approach A*?'

Verbatim Response to 'Please tell us what attracts you to *Design Approach A*:'

General Positive -15 comments

- Yes to different play areas which are artificial parts of the landscape is functional and valuable in many ways active and passive, for people of all ages and does not preclude anyone from enjoying it.
- Like it
- More potential,
- Would look more like a park
- A more informal space against a more formal Fitzroy Gardens
- I like option A as in option A for Fitzroy Gardens
- I like this because there is less change and I would prefer that the park remain pretty much as it is
- Active use of the park
- The greener plants shrubs, natives, flowers, scented flowers, e.g. wisteria and honeysuckle
- This design is the most user friendly
- Walkway over the road
- Connection to the street
- Trees moved to the side
- Paving up to the lawn
- 'A' is my preferred Design approach

Open Space -8 comments

- Open space
- Open grass allows for many users
- More open space –safer
- A great open grass space for events
- More open street –safer
- It's more open and friendly
- Green area good for dogs
- The grass is a very welcome aspect and provided doggy bags would allow Fitzroy Gardens to be a prohibited area for dogs as it should be

Verbatim Response to 'Please tell us what attracts you to Design Approach A:' ...cont'd

BBQ/Seats/Tables -4 comments

- BBQs -2 comments
- Like the BBQ area, good opportunity to meet your neighbours
- BBQ tables/benches
- Bench seats and table

View -3 comments

- Views -2 comments
- Optimise view
- Open the area to view from the street –I didn't know it was there!

Playground -3 comments

- Playground -2 comments
- Play area for children
- I support the play area

Market -3 comments

- Can have more of the market, access for market.
- Space for market stalls
- Introduction of the market stalls

Walkway leading to the reserve -1 comment

- I think broader walkways leading into the Reserve is a good idea

Overview of Response to 'Is there anything that you don't like about *Design Approach A*?'

Themes	No. of comments
Playground	5
Views/tress	4
General negative	3
Single comments	7
Total	19

Table 10. Summary of themes and number of comments for Lawrence Hargrave Reserve: Design Approach A 'Is there anything that you don't like about *Design Approach A*?'

Verbatim Response to 'Is there anything that you don't like about *Design Approach A*?'

Playground -5 comments

- Maybe too exposed playground
- Consider playground for children aged 5-10 years
- I.e. small soccer net, basketball hoop, safety child net, just space for kids to chase each other
- Play area too open
- Do we really need another playground?

Views/Trees -4 comments

- There are too many trees on N/E perimeter where there is a pleasant district outlook
- Better viewing area (south east) corner like sloped grass to sit on. Area 3 more open to relax
- Trees in sections 2+3 should go, and replaced with low hedging
- More seating to enjoy views would be good

General Negative -3 comments

- Boring
- Passive
- Plan B is better

Single Comments -7 comments

- Open space –is the effect of the wind. Are windbreaks needed?
- 2 entrances to park by cement
- Think the market would be isolated on this side of the road –would rely on passing foot traffic off Macleay St.
- Not environmentally friendly/sustainable. Too much lawn –need lots of H2O. Can we please have a beautiful community garden? E.g. rows of herbs for kids to play amongst, fruit trees/raspberry/blueberry vines. There is a huge lawn just nearby at Rushcutters Bay. Lets have some diversity in our parks!
- I do not think that people will really use the BBQ area. People do not tend to BBQ out in Sydney and are probably more likely to go to Centennial Park if so inclined
- I think the artwork is a waste (despite being an art collector). If anything the space and money directed to purchasing an artwork would be better spent on a garden bed or tree to provide shade
- I prefer this Design option since it doesn't include a Basketball area

Overview of Response to 'Is there anything missing from *Design Approach A*?'

Theme	No. of Comments
Activities area	8
Facilities/views	7
Security	2
Single comments	4
Total	21

Table 11. Lawrence Hargrave Reserve: Design Approach A Overview of Response to 'Is there anything missing from *Design Approach A*?'

Verbatim Response to 'Is there anything missing from *Design Approach A*?'

Activities Area -8 comments

- Have a boule court
- Add a small court area to grassland area for children to play handball
- Ensure there is actual play area for older children as well as toddlers play area, consider playground for children aged 5-10 years i.e. small soccer net, basket ball hoop, safety child net, just space for kids to chase each other.
- Or leave this area all older children and toddler area in Fitzroy only
- Tennis/Basketball courts, areas at the cliff edge.
- Gravel bowls court a la François
- Maybe it could introduce a gravel bowls court 'a la François'
- Boule Court

Facilities/Views -7 comments

- More of a view area 3
- BBQs,
- Drinking Water
- Bins
- Directional grass seating
- Perhaps have an elevated lookout
- BBQ areas at the cliff edge.

Security -2 comments

- Put camera's here
- Keep open at night but lots of light

4 Single comments

- Not environmentally friendly/sustainable –too much lawn need lots of H2O, can we please have a community garden? E.g. rows of herbs for kids to play amongst, fruit trees/raspberry/blueberry vines
- Walkway could be more obviously a pedestrian refuge and incorporate surface elements present in hard surfaces of the park.
- No dog specified area
- I think more areas of planting or trees could be useful since in summer we need shade to really enjoy parks

Lawrence Hargrave Reserve: Design Approach B

Response to 'Please tell us what attracts you to *Design Approach B?*'

Themes	No. of Comments
Playground	4
Single comments	4
Total	8

Table 12. Summary of themes and number of comments for Lawrence Hargrave Reserve: Design Approach B 'Please tell us what attracts you to *Design Approach B?*'

Verbatim Response to 'Please tell us what attracts you to *Design Approach B*:'

Playground -4 comments

- Great for growing children –tricycles and balls.
- Better location of play ground
- Position of playground o.k.
- Children's play area

Single comments -4 comments

- Love it
- Market around the perimeter
- Walkway over head
- Active use

Response to 'Is there anything that you don't like about *Design Approach B*'

Themes	No. of Comments
Hard surfaces/courts	17
General negative	7
No space for dogs	4
Wind	1
Total	29

Table 13. Summary of themes and number of comments for Lawrence Hargrave Reserve: Design Approach B 'Is there anything that you don't like about *Design Approach B*'

Verbatim Response to 'Is there anything that you don't like about *Design Approach B*?'

Hard surface/courts -17 Comments

- Lots of hard surfaces which precludes general use
- No hard courts
- No tennis court please! We have them in Rushcutters park.
- Multifunctional courts take up too much space for a small number of people. Too much noise for people living in the drop
- The large court area makes the park use too limited, not enough passive recreational/ reset areas
- Perhaps a half court
- Hate the hard court approach limits use of the area.
- Don't like hard surfaces
- Activities could be noisy
- Very hard sports area –too cold and barren
- We do not need artificial courts!
- Hate the hard courts
- We've got enough problems with global warming and microclimates in cities because of all the paving and bitumen.
- As Jean Nouvel says we have such a beautiful climate in Sydney yet all our buildings are so dry. Can we please have more green, native birds to attract bees and little birds/ diversity of wildlife and less paving! Aren't there basketball courts at Cook and Philip pool and Woolloomooloo for people to use?
- Don't like the inclusion of tennis hard court area.
- Multifunctional courts
- I think the multifunctional courts are good in theory but except they would be very underused. I think this public space should be 'green' –no more asphalt or concrete please! The more green areas in the city the better!! There is a last remaining area of land that could be used for planting/trees –why waste it on more concrete jungle? Let people play sports in the areas provided in Rushcutters Bay park. We have enough 'man made' areas in the city. We should capitalise on areas that can be devoted to green spaces, and planted with trees and plants

Verbatim Response to 'Is there anything that you don't like about Design Approach B?' ...cont'd

General negative -7 comments

- Less potential
- Feels like the park is taken away from the residents.
- Don't like it
- Don't like!
- Idiotic
- Don't like!
- I oppose Design Approach B

Dogs -4 comments

- No dog space
- No place for dogs
- This design intends to have a basketball court –this is not going to satisfy the dog owners in the area –so keep to the user-friendly grass option.
- Also provides a place for people with dogs (which are many in Kings Cross and Pots Point) to play with their dogs

Wind -1 comment

- What is effect of wind?

Verbatim Response to 'Is there anything missing from *Design Approach B*?'

8 Single comments

- Small outdoor gym workout areas
- More seating
- Grass areas
- Clean drinking area with a view, night lights
- Grass!
- Open Space!
- Maybe half a court
- Incorporate a BBQ area and small tennis pavilion at the cliff edge on eastern side.

Lawrence Hargrave Reserve: Principles

Overview of Response to 'Please tell us your comments on the *Lawrence Hargrave Reserve Principles:*'

Themes	No. of Comments
Activities area	8
General positive	7
Connecting the two parks	3
Single comments	13
Total	31

Table 14. Lawrence Hargraves Reserve: Principles Overview of Response to 'Please tell us your comments on the *Lawrence Hargrave Reserve Principles:*'

Verbatim Response to 'Please tell us your comments on the *Lawrence Hargrave Reserve Principles:*'

Activities area -8 comments

- I think a multifunctional play court would be fantastic
- Some hard surfaces for basketball, handball and tennis
- A small tennis pavilion
- Great opportunity for an active focus area
- Small gym
- Some children's play area
- Activities
- I support all design principles and agree it might be the best location for activities and events. In my view the Reserve is a more appropriate place for an open lawn, rather than changing Fitzroy Gardens to have lawn

General positive -7 comments

- Agree with all
- Agree -they are good
- I am in favour of all design principles as outlined
- Definitely heading in the right direction
- Anything is an improvement
- More opportunities
- All the ideas mentioned at the feedback session seemed like good one to me

Connecting the two parks -3 comments

- I like the use of the pedestrian refuge, created as part of garden's in the middle of the road –as a way of linking the two parks (and reducing road width)
- Better connection between the two parks
- Strongly agree that the link to the street needs to be raised –haven't been there after living in the area for 7 years

Verbatim Response to Lawrence Hargrave Reserve Principles: ' ...cont'd

13 single comments

- A Casuarina hedge to soften impact of building
- Very good idea for the view
- Some dogs off the leash spaces (but dogs are small so make then small spaces and make with children –see Rushcutters Bay park –very successful).
- I think I'd like it gated although it does provide useful shelter for homeless people.
- Would a community garden be possible, as featured in your booklet "Sydney Residents Guide 2008/9" pp. 84-5
- A BBQ area overlooking the view
- Some seating and reading spaces
- Better grading
- Level ground not in area for viewing
- We don't need more grass but we need more community spaces
- The issue with Lawrence Hargraves Reserve is that we'll always be looking up – and it's hard to get people to go up
- Events
- If anything however I do not support the idea of a basketball area. I see that as a wasted space, since I don't think it would be used and I am concerned it would encourage drinking etc, people using it to shoot up etc.

Connecting Streets: Principles

Verbatim Response to 'Please tell us your comments on the *Connecting Streets Approach*:'

13 Single comments

- Good idea, widen the footpaths connect the two areas!!
- Like emerging design principles
- Make Fitzroy garden pavers some material as pedestrian refuge island
- Very good
- Good
- Better connection
- Better option for police cars
- Safer
- I thought the idea of a bridge connecting the two parks had been suggested
- Does the whole process have to take so long? Enthusiasm lost by 2010
- General improvement
- Perhaps dedicate a few parking spots for teacher/instructors who come to the Rex Centre.
- I have little to say about this issue and generally support the approach

Post it Notes: My messages to Council

Post it Note Overview

Themes	No. of Comments
Fig tree	5
Consultation process	4
Markets	4
Plan C/open space	3
Parking	3
Playground	2
Single comments	12
Total	33

Table 15. Overview of Post it Notes: My messages to council

Post it Note Verbatim response

Fig Tree -5 comments

- Don't move the fig tree keep it in central position
- Don't move the poor fig tree
- Retain trees
- Not moving figs positive –lowering their planter beds positive
- Don't lose the heart of Fitzroy Gardens by removing the tree and paving

Consultation Process -4 comments

- Your efforts are greatly appreciated –involving residents and stakeholders is a great way to go.
- Well designed consultation process –Thanks!
- Welcome consultation process. Well done. Good not being pressured into Council's preferences. Makes one more aware of area.
- Process is fine, outcome is an improvement

Markets -4 comments

- The local residents would like to have their park as a park at least one day of the weekend –the markets have taken over.
- The markets should not have “amplified” music on the weekends. Locals need their peace on the weekends
- The markets take over the park, cars everywhere, noise, no space for family to laze around in peace.
- The market works well in the centre of the park

Plan C/Open space -3 comments

- Don't like plan C –too boring
- Like separate areas/lawn –not big central lawn
- Don't lose the feel of Fitzroy Gardens by making it too open

Parking -3 comments

- In Springfield Avenue we need 5 minute drop off parking as previously promised
- Parking in Springfield Ave, it's a disaster. Can we please have a 5 minute drop off zone? So we can at least put our groceries unload car without being persecuted by the police?
- Make parking for the locals

Post it Note Verbatim Response ...cont'd

Playground -2 comments

- Please move the little toddlers park built alongside the road, looks onto two bars Maggie's and Gazebo, even though both are lovely bars with nice clientele they see 'alcohol' all the time
- Yes to play area that are useful to people of all ages –practical and aesthetic eg water play areas

13 Single Comments

- There are lots of competing interests –compromise is expected.
- Focus on people in the area not smart design
- Lets remember how it was and try not to outbuild it. More people live here now and NOISE is a big problem.
- Leave the natural habitats intact –i.e. trees and plants, herb garden and flowers, scented and edible! Put in facilities for events so they don't have to be brought in!
- Don't remove trees, remove the plater boxes, level the park.
- Don't throw the baby out with the bath water.
- Removal of the 311 bus seat at corner of Darlinghurst and Bayswater Road. Many elderly bus passengers who are feeble –use walking sticks etc have no seat.
- Keep all Heritage please
- More plant species in park. Good safety. Better furniture.
- Water tanks instead of moving tree
- Levelling the site positive
- BIKES + BALLS Lawrence Hargraves Reserve Plan B.
- YES to practical and visual connection of the two parks

Written Submissions

Council received 12 written submissions following the workshop on 1st July, 2008.

Some of these submissions were from people who had attended the workshop, while others had not.

These submissions have been included separately in the report, as it is normal research practice identify research that has come from methods and to report the outcomes separately.

Overall, the range of views in the submissions accord broadly with the range of views expressed in the 1st July workshop, with people expressing varied preferences for Design Approaches A or B, with no support for Design Approach C for Fitzroy Gardens.

For Lawrence Hargrave Reserve, Design Approach A seems to be the most preferred. There are a range of associated comments and suggestions, which should be read and taken on their merits.

The submissions are included in full, on the following pages. In all cases, the writers identified themselves and provided contact details. Submissions received from organizations or companies are identified.

For reasons of maintaining the privacy of individuals, the names and addresses of individuals have been withheld from this public report.

Submission One

Hi Kathleen

Thanks very much for dropping in.

As mentioned we would love to be involved in setting up a small eating area within the park.

Our thoughts are the following:

- We could set up a Gazebo style area, chairs and tables which can be packed down at sunset
- We can deliver all coffees and small food items from our venue
- No setup in park would be needed for cooking equipments etc
- We believe the opportunity to have a small amount of European styled foods etc will bring life and 'the want' for people to visit the park
- We would also take full responsibility of keeping the area tidy

- The other point I noticed was the moving of the police cars, to around on Elizabeth Bay rd. We are also fully supportive of this as it will also beautify the area

Thanks again Kathleen

Look forward to hearing from you



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Submission Two

Dear Kathleen

This letter is a plea.

At this week's public meeting about Fitzroy Gardens, I was left with a sense of déjà vu and dread. I had no idea council was proposing to repave & anaesthetise the gardens which have so much character & are lovely as they are. I don't understand why everything has to be repaved in our city hell bent on wiping out perfectly good historical paving for the sake of some uptight notion of uniformity and sterility. It's bad enough that Lucy Turnbull repaved the Cross; why continue her tragic legacy and ruin the one oasis she didn't destroy?

As for option 3 and moving the tree – I could not believe my ears. Moving it will risk destroying it. Nature is more important than our landscaping whims. I believe we should show some respect for the organic layout of the park. The people who created the park built it round the tree and knew the tree should be central. It is sacrilege to think we should move the tree to the edge.

The proposed plans are out of step with community feeling. They are radical and inappropriate to an area that has special historical significance and is the home of an iconic fountain. I'm stunned that council purports we want paving when we have spoken out and said we don't. Trust me, the locals don't want this. We would love to see the money spent more fruitfully. Just spend a fraction of the budget could be spent on maintenance that improves any safety issues but does not stamp out character, history and grace.

Terrifyingly, all 3 options involve complete repaving. Now Kings Cross will have to endure another year as a construction zone with its fallout of damaged businesses, noise and greenhouse gas emission increases. Not a very green strategy.

Please please don't move the tree & repave.

Please listen to the community.

(Name withheld) was famous for not listening but I have supported this council steadfastly and have faith that you will do the right thing by us.

Regards

(name supplied but withheld from public record)

Submission Three

Hi Kathleen,

I just wanted to send some resident's feedback in relation to the proposals for the park, as mentioned in Clover Moore's eNewsletter, Fri 3 Oct.

I would like to oppose the creation of a children's playground in the park as it would be inconsistent with King Cross' place in Sydney as being the centre for adult entertainment and more mainstream nightclubbing.

Not only could the playground pose a prime site for drug users to inject, and hence create real risk of needle stick injury to children the following day, but it would also send a message to the Kings Cross community (who live there for the reasons for which it is famous) that the area is being homogenised and turned into Double Bay.

A playground would be expensive and troublesome for council to maintain, dangerous for the few local children who use it, and it would make Kings Cross a laughing stock for those who enjoy it's 24 hour magnetic appeal and are already bemoaning some of the more excessive attempts to change its historic character.

Thanks for your time,

(name supplied but withheld from public record)

Submission Four

Hi, Kathleen,

It was great to put a face to the name and to meet you tonight.

I missed putting down a couple of points on my feedback sheets would you mind adding these to the mix?

1. I would not like to see large open space in Fitzroy Gardens...makes one feel too exposed and i suspect that the open space (in Plan C) would become a wasteland.

2. I quite like the higgledy-piggledy nature of the markets...there's a surprise around every corner. Not always a great surprise, but a surprise nevertheless. I feel that having stalls in rows would look tidier but lack interest (visually).

Thanks

(name supplied but withheld from public record)

Submission Five

Dear Kathleen,

I'd be grateful if you could add the following suggestion for the Fitzroy Gardens & Lawrence Hargrave Reserve project:

I love the signpost in the park indicating the distances to other major world cities, but the direction each of these face bears no relation to the actual city's location! eg The direction to Singapore is directly opposite to the direction of Bangkok, Rome Vs London, etc! Could these be made to point in the correct direction? It's a great idea for tourists, but it makes us look very ignorant.

(name supplied but withheld from public record)

Submission Six

Dear Clover,

I attended the above meeting last night.

It was disappointing the half an hour was taken up at the beginning with political puff - what the council is doing elsewhere and patronising and repetitive introductions to the work at hand.

I was also almost physically pushed around by council staff. I did not have time to inclination to stay for the workshop.

The future of Fitzroy Gardens and Lawrence Hargrave Reserve is however important. Here is my response to the workbook:

Design Approach A. Fitzroy Gardens

It is my understanding that the majority in the community did not want any major changes to the park. Plan A is the only plan which comes close to honouring that. I will therefore only talk about Plan A.

The best thing about Plan A is that there is NO Increase in solar access. Any increase through removal of trees will create heat and glare. It would attract sunbathing backpackers - or become unusable at certain hours of the day.

Plan A does not state in writing that there will be a large screen in front of the police station. This screen is too big. A small screen in front of the toilet doors [even a few large potted trees] and a coat of white paint on the station to make the bird shit disappear would greatly improve the look there.

STEPS and levels at different heights provide a much needed barrier to traffic from the Cross and Ward Ave. Remove the steps and we will have dangerous skate boarding, bicycling - and even motor- bikes going through on wild nights.

Improving the grass areas is good. Some more silky oaks planted along Baroda Ave would provide shade in that area.

The levels provide nooks and crannies for reading and sitting. Fitzroy Gardens works well NOW as a haven from the Cross. It just needs a bigger cleaning budget - and more vigilance in repairing tiles. That means job creation in the hard times ahead.

Design Approach A, Lawrence Hargrave reserve

I like this idea. However there should be NO LOSS of street width. There has been a massive increase in traffic over the last three years. If streets are narrowed there will be accidents.

I would like to suggest a COFFEE KIOSK in the reserve as well - for mothers watching children in the play area.

Moving the play area from Fitzroy gardens would create a space [with shady trees planted] for events suggested in Plan C for Fitzroy Gardens.

ART CURATING

The Angled Wheels of Fortune obstructs that walkway especially in rush hour. I would love to see it removed to the forecourt of Sydney Police Centre in Surry Hills. The anonymous donor may be deceased so we could find out who it was - Robert Askin? Abe Saffron?

The other art works are OK. An exciting new contemporary art work could be commissioned or advertised in the art community for proposals.

Thank-you for reading this. It would be gratifying if the budget for this juggernaut determined to do a major makeover at great expense could be diverted to a major vision and renovation at the Reg Murphy Centre.

(name supplied but withheld from public record)

Submission Seven

Dear Kathleen,

I am the owner of apartment (address supplied but withheld from public record). I am very pleased to see the progress the Council are making with the revitalisation of Fitzroy Gardens & Lawrence Hargrave Reserve. Both areas are currently under-utilised and have the potential to really improve the quality of life of local residents and visitors to the area.

My comments on the schemes are below;

1. Fitzroy Gardens

Prefer design approach B.

2. Lawrence Hargrave Reserve

Prefer design approach A.

In my opinion, good quality public open space is much more important to the area than any sporting facilities.

3. Connecting Streets

The improved pedestrian linkages to the east of Kings Cross Police Station is integral to the success of the project. The existing pedestrian movement is very poorly planned. I am very supportive of the proposal to change the access to the carpark and widen the footpath in this area. The proposed shareway to Barncleuth Lane is also a very good idea. The design proposals contained in the 'Connecting Streets' pages should be implemented by Council.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any queries regarding the comments above.

Regards

(name supplied but withheld from public record)

Submission Eight

Dear Kathleen

I am an owner resident of Elizabeth Bay and have attended both of the planning meetings re the Fitzroy Gardens & Lawrence Hargrave Reserve upgrade. Further to my input at the work shops I need to provide you with the following additional feed back. I am a very interested party, in particular what happens in the Fitzroy as my apartment is in the Gazebo building and looks directly onto the Fitzroy Garden park.

It is very difficult to make comments on the night of the work shop, we really need time to take home the options and digest it at our own pace. I would suggest that the proposed plans be posted out with at least 2 weeks so we can carefully read and digest the implications.

To even consider to transplant the huge Fig Tree "with all due respect" is ludicrous, even if it would survive. It is too beautiful a tree to risk.

The tree has been there probably some hundred years, it is healthy happy and provides lovely shade.

The root system would more than likely be growing almost up to the road or possible under the road? In any case it would be a huge sized root system. Once the Fig was moved to the proposed new location you would need to dig up the road and a large area of the park for replanting in order for the roots to be spread. The anchors needed to hold a tree of such magnitude would expand a very large area of the park and we would not be able to use / walk in this area for some years.

The park is a small park which can not afford to have such restrictions as above no 4.

Levelling the raised areas so that the park is almost flat would be boring and the raised areas give privacy and all the little separate areas are interesting. Take a look at Mackell Park at Darling Point it is beautiful with its different levels very interesting and people have their own little grass areas in which to picnic.

Everywhere in Fitzroy is already accessible via wheel chair prams etc As it is there is not one place that is not accessible to get to via wheel chair / pram.

Under no circumstances should the park be designed around what is best for the "markets". The markets need to fit in with the park. Priority for any upgrade should be in keeping with nature peace and serenity.

Submission Eight...cont'd

Why not move the markets to a bigger location where there is room for everyone i.e. Rushcutters Bay Park. RBP already has toilets power and washing facilities, room for everyone and no effect to local business. Near the café in the park at the Edgecliffe end of the park. This location is in view of major traffic passing by to see the markets.

There are too many negatives with the markets being held at Fitzroy

Markets monopolising by being held every Sat and Sunday – Move it or cut it back to once a month.

Noise from amplified music every Saturday morning for 4 hours. Noise carries into my apartment which the rangers have confirmed Sat 1 Nov 08.

Park is unsightly and ugly on the weekends due to the vans and vehicles parked in the park by the stallholders. Vehicles have no place in a park. It is only a matter of time before a van backs over children in the park. The quality / standard of the markets is very poor on Sundays, mostly old junk.

No hygiene for food handling on Saturday i.e. no washing up facilities. Water for cleaning etc. The bird droppings onto the food stalls, how does this get cleaned?

Saturday Markets are supposed to be Organic, only two or three stalls are organic.

Markets on Saturday are hurting local business. Nothing is worse than seeing vacant shop fronts and this may happen as our local florists, fruit shop, Maggies and coffee shops lose business, they can not compete with the market prices.

We do not want to see extra toilets or any facilities for washing etc being built in our park to accommodate markets being held for profit. I have never seen a line up for the toilets in the years I have lived here and we do not want to sacrifice any of our green space for such utilities that only benefit the market stallholders. Resident's who use the park have never had a problem waiting to use the toilets already provided but usually we just pop home and come back – the park is like our back yard please don't encourage drug users and homeless to come which they would if there are more toilets and washing facilities. We do not need these facilities! A park is not an "entertainment venue" or a "business centre" a small area such as Fitzroy park should be left for locals to enjoy as their own back yard. Give the park back to the local residents on the weekends which is when we need it most.

Best regards

(name supplied but withheld from public record)

Submission Nine

HI Kathleen

Thanks for the info.

We have had another look at the design suggestions and are keen to encourage Council to retain much of the current appeal of the park, which is its sense of different spaces for different uses. The broken up spaces and different levels give it a real sense of a park that can be used simultaneously by different users.

To this end, we really don't like Design Approach C as it essentially turns it into one space and it would look just like any other park in the inner city.

Our preference would be for a design like Approach B, with the following changes: retain the step down to the different levels on the eastern side, as in Approach A widen the central paths so that they can accommodate the market stalls, if necessary moving the grassed areas outwards over the area currently marked for market umbrellas so that the overall grass area is maintained.

We are unsure about covered walk way next to the police station as it seems a pity to cover even a tiny bit of what little open space we have in the area. Maybe if it was a pergola-type arrangement, covered in vines it might be ok, but otherwise maybe delete it?

We are pleased to see the awful Fountain Cafe is in for a redesign.

The proposed redesign of Baroda St and corner looks good and the proposal to get rid of the second entrance to the car space and widen the footpath behind the police station is fantastic. We use the current mean little passageway all the time and would love to see it become more civilised. Could the space in the ramp to the car park that is to be cut off be used for a water storage tank so that the parks can be kept green?

In relation to Lawrence Hargraves Reserve, we prefer Approach A and the space is too small for so much of it to be turned over to a court.

I hope our thoughts are of use.

Regards

(Name supplied but withheld from public record)

Submission Ten



2011 RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION INC.

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Committee

Tuesday 11 November 2008

Kathleen Ng
Senior Project Manager
City Projects
City of Sydney
GPO Box 1591
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BY E-MAIL: kng@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au

Dear Ms Ng,

The 2011 Residents' Association (2011RA) is making a submission to the City of Sydney on the proposals for the upgrade of Fitzroy Gardens and Lawrence Hargrave Reserve.

The key points of our submission are:

- Of the three options for Fitzroy Gardens, we prefer Design Approach A over Design Approaches B and C
- Of the two options presented for Lawrence Hargrave Reserve, we prefer Design Approach A over Design Approach B
- We do not support the change in Fitzroy Gardens from a mixed paved/grassed area to a predominantly grassed area, nor moving the trees in Fitzroy Gardens
- We support the playground in Fitzroy Gardens being extended towards Macleay St, and for a children's playground to be established in Lawrence Hargrave Reserve
- We support Lawrence Hargrave Reserve being a multi-use area

Submission Ten...cont'd

Fitzroy Gardens

We partially support the Emerging Design Principles, in particular the following principles:

- *enhance safety and comfort, day and night,*
- *improve access and circulation,*
- *increase the sense of space and sense of place, and*
- *emphasise and improve the garden aspects of the park.*

However, we are unsure about the remaining design principles:

- *emphasise and improve the green aspects of the park* – as greatly enlarging the grassy area changes the nature of the Gardens from its current combination paved / grassed area to emphasise more so grass. This is a change in the nature of the Gardens the community support for which we are unsure of
- *reduce steps, walls and barriers* – we are unsure about this as these elements can help emphasise individual areas with their own character in the Gardens
- *reinforce El Alamein Fountain as a focal point* – while the El Alamein Fountain is a much loved element of the Gardens, it is unclear whether it needs to be further reinforced given its current prominence

All of the Design Approaches incorporate a great deal more grass than there currently is in Fitzroy Gardens. We are unclear about the reason for this and support Fitzroy Gardens retaining its existing mixed paved/grassed character.

We support the children's playground being extended – perhaps doubled in size.

It is unclear from the Plan for Design Approach A what happens to the convict wall in Fitzroy Gardens.

Lawrence Hargrave Reserve

We support the Emerging Design Principles for Lawrence Hargrave Reserve.

Of the two options presented, we prefer Design Approach A as it supports a greater range of activities taking place than does Design Approach B. Establishing a basketball-style court on the greater part of the eastern part of the Reserve could alienate that part of the Reserve from other uses.

We agree that it would be beneficial to improve safety and perceptions of safety in the Reserve. One way to do this may be to improve sight lines from Elizabeth Bay Rd through the Reserve. Another way may be to activate the space more than it currently is.

Some residents support installing soccer and/or cricket nets to facilitate the activity of older children.

We support having picnic areas and children's play areas.

We are undecided about whether the area near Elizabeth Bay Rd should be ungrassed.

One matter that may be relevant is that the Reserve is a dog off-leash area and that this may interact with having a children's playground in the Reserve.

Submission Ten...*cont'd*

The upgrade of Fitzroy Gardens and Lawrence Hargrave Reserve should be informed by the experience of the upgrade of Beare Park, Elizabeth Bay. We understand that local residents of the area have noted a number of elements in the upgrade of Beare Park that could be improved upon.

Kind regards

Dr Sacha Blumen

President

2011 Residents Association Inc.

e-mail: 2011rai@gmail.com

Submission Eleven

Dear Kathleen,

I'd be grateful if you could add the following suggestion for the Fitzroy Gardens & Lawrence Hargrave Reserve project:

I love the signpost in the park indicating the distances to other major world cities, but the direction each of these face bears no relation to the actual city's location! eg The direction to Singapore is directly opposite to the direction of Bangkok, Rome Vs London, etc! Could these be made to point in the correct direction? It's a great idea for tourists, but it makes us look very ignorant.

Best regards,

(Name and address supplied but withheld from the public record)

Submission *Twelve*

Dear Kathleen,

I am the owner of apartment 31/3 Ward Avenue, Potts Point. I am very pleased to see the progress the Council are making with the revitalisation of Fitzroy Gardens & Lawrence Hargrave Reserve. Both areas are currently under-utilised and have the potential to really improve the quality of life of local residents and visitors to the area.

My comments on the schemes are below;

1. Fitzroy Gardens

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The improved pedestrian linkages to the east of Kings Cross Police Station is integral to the success of the project. The existing pedestrian movement is very poorly planned. I am very supportive of the proposal to change the access to the carpark and widen the footpath in this area. The proposed shareway to Barncleuth Lane is also a very good idea. The design proposals contained in the 'Connecting Streets' pages should be implemented by Council.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any queries regarding the comments above.

Regards

(Name and address supplied but withheld from the public record)



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for places
and spaces

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