

Engagement report

Bakery Park, Waterloo

June 2024

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Background

Over the next 10 years, we're upgrading more than 60 parks across the City of Sydney area, from small pocket parks to larger local parks.

Quality green open spaces are a high priority for our residents, workers and visitors. This network of park upgrades will create better quality open spaces for everyone to enjoy, help keep our city cooler, and support biodiversity in our local areas.

Prior to finalising the designs, we are consulting the community and stakeholders on these proposed park improvements.

Engagement summary

From 6 May to 27 May 2024, we asked the community for feedback on a concept plan to improve Bakery Park in Waterloo.

Consultation on the plan provided an opportunity for stakeholders and the community to review and comment on the design.

Consultation activities included online engagement, a letter to residents and project signage at the park.

This report outlines the community engagement activities that took place to support the consultation and summarises the key findings from the consultation.

Purpose of the engagement

The purpose of the engagement was to:

- gather feedback from stakeholders and the community about the proposed upgrade.
 - determine the level of satisfaction with the revised concept design.
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Outcomes from the engagement

Submissions received during consultation

We received a total of 38 submissions during the consultation period.

33 submissions were received via the Sydney Your Say survey portal and 5 email submissions.

The Sydney Your Say page was visited 217 times during the consultation period.

Key findings

Overall feedback on the concept design was not supportive. Of the submissions received, 75% of respondents did not support the proposed upgrade.

The main objections to the proposed upgrade were related to the proposed seating (79%) and the potential for this to exacerbate existing anti-social behaviour in the park.

Other feedback related to perceived soil instability and impacts on vegetation (64%).

Finally multiple respondents (33%) sought to have the gates adjacent to the park removed to provide through access to the lane which is adjacent to the northern and western sides of the park.

Email submissions

5 email submissions were received from local residents. The email submissions did not support the park upgrade for the reasons outlined above.

Online feedback form

Respondents who completed the online feedback form were asked if they supported the proposed improvements to the park.

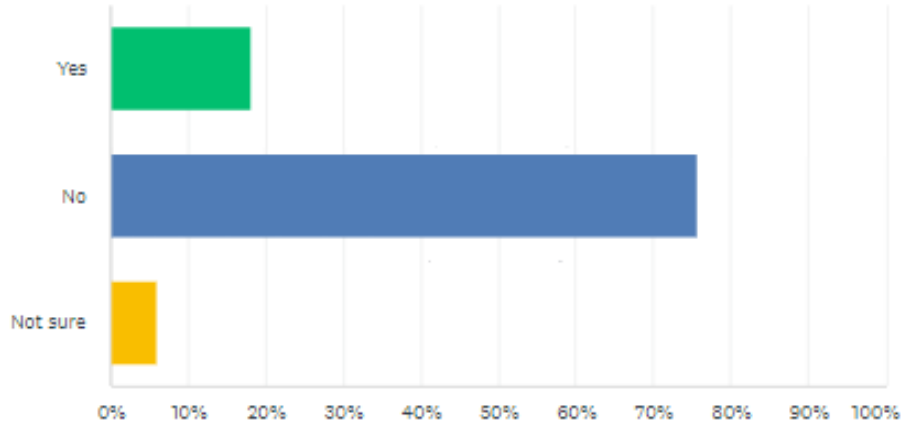
Of the 33 survey responses, 75% of people did not support the proposed improvements to the park.

The results are below:

Figure 1. Graph and results table for ‘Do you support the proposed improvements to Bakery Park’ survey question

Do you support the proposed improvements to Bakery Park?

Answered: 33 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	18.18% 6
No	75.76% 25
Not sure	6.06% 2
TOTAL	33

Respondents who completed the online feedback form were asked to rate how important the following elements of the proposed design were to them:

- New brick paver pathway
- New raised boardwalk
- Upgraded turf area and landscaping
- New seating circle and informal seating on sandstone blocks
- New adventure trail and ground level lighting

Residents overwhelmingly did not support any of the 5 design elements. The lack of support ranged from 64 to 78%.

Figure 2. Table of support for design elements

	DO NOT SUPPORT	NEUTRAL	SUPPORT	STRONGLY SUPPORT	TOTAL
New brick paved pathway	63.64% 21	12.12% 4	18.18% 6	6.06% 2	33
New raised boardwalk	63.64% 21	9.09% 3	15.15% 5	12.12% 4	33
Upgraded turf area and landscaping	66.67% 22	6.06% 2	24.24% 8	3.03% 1	33
New seating circle and informal seating on sandstone blocks	78.79% 26	6.06% 2	6.06% 2	9.09% 3	33
New adventure trail and ground level lighting	66.67% 22	9.09% 3	15.15% 5	9.09% 3	33

Subjects/topics raised in submissions

Several subjects/topics were raised in the feedback received. These were presented as concerns, suggestions and/or requests. This feedback was received through the survey as well as individual emails during the consultation period and is summarised below.

Comments	Total	City of Sydney Response
Impacts on anti-social behaviour		
The new seating arrangements are not appropriate for the secluded area and will encourage anti-social behaviour	14	Based on community feedback the project is not proposed to proceed at this time. There would be no change to pathways, seating or landscaping.
There are currently issues with anti-social behaviour in the park and the upgrade will make this worse, particularly for residents in Cains Place	13	Based on community feedback the project is not proposed to proceed at this time. There would be no change to pathways, seating or landscaping.
Funds should be used to upgrade lighting and install security cameras to discourage antisocial behaviour	3	Renewal of park lighting, which is at the end of its life and requires renewal, will proceed to construction.
Design elements		
The seating circle will damage the existing palm trees	8	Based on community feedback the project is not proposed to proceed at this time. There would be no change to pathways, seating or landscaping.

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Comments	Total	City of Sydney Response
The play elements are not suitable for the site and should be removed	7	Based on community feedback the project is not proposed to proceed at this time. There would be no change to pathways, seating or landscaping.
Do not want seating in the space	5	Based on community feedback the project is not proposed to proceed at this time. There would be no change to pathways, seating or landscaping.
The proposal will damage the roots of the existing trees	3	Based on community feedback the project is not proposed to proceed at this time. There would be no change to pathways, seating or landscaping. Construction of lighting would be undertaken in a sensitive manner in accordance with expert advice and would not damage trees.
Install a gate on the park to stop dogs running onto the road	1	Based on community feedback the project is not proposed to proceed at this time. There would be no change to pathways, seating or landscaping.
Include design elements to reflect the name Bakery Park	1	Based on community feedback the project is not proposed to proceed at this time. There would be no change to pathways, seating or landscaping.
Other comments		
The park was only recently upgraded and does not need another upgrade	11	Based on community feedback the project is not proposed to proceed at this time. There would be no change to pathways, seating or landscaping.
The staircase and passage to Raglan Street should be opened to the public	10	This is not supported by Homes NSW who own and manage this area.
The area will provide an area of respite for residents	2	Based on community feedback the project is not proposed to proceed at this time. There would be no change to pathways, seating or landscaping.
Please install signage discouraging people from stealing plants	1	Based on community feedback the project is not proposed to proceed at this time. There would be no change to pathways, seating or landscaping.

Engagement activities

Overview of engagement

1. Sydney Your Say webpage

A Sydney Your Say webpage, "[Have your say on the proposed design for Bakery Park](#)" was created. The page included an electronic copy of the revised concept design, survey and other key information about the consultation.

2. Online feedback form via Survey Monkey

The community and stakeholders were able to give feedback using an online feedback form. A link to the feedback form was provided on the Sydney Your Say website.

3. Consultation letter

A letter was posted to residents in properties surrounding the park, inviting them to give feedback on the proposal. 161 letters were distributed.

4. Signage

Two signs were placed in the park directing people online to leave their feedback.

5. Sydney Your Say e-newsletter

An email was sent to 6643 of our Sydney Your Say e newsletter