

Hyde Park Plan of Management

Round One Community Consultation
Hyde Park Intercept Survey



Prepared for
The City of Sydney
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the people
for places
and spaces

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Executive Summary

This Executive Summary presents the highlights from the Hyde Park Intercept Survey. The survey was undertaken as part of the Round One Hyde Park consultation program, designed to gain public and stakeholder ideas and comments to inform the development of a new Plan of Management for Hyde Park and is the first report to be completed and presented.¹

The Intercept Survey was conducted in Hyde Park between Tuesday 17th January and Saturday 4th February, 2006. It was carried out day and night, on week days and weekends and it engaged 1,026 Park users of all ages, who generated a total of 26,213 ideas and responses about the Park. The survey achieved its target of 70 percent of respondents who stated they were spending time in the park and 30 percent who stated they were walking through. Appendix A contains a full listing of the dates and times during which the survey was conducted in the Park.

As the new Hyde Park Plan of Management is intended to build on the existing strengths of Hyde Park— which is the City's most important heritage park — the Round One consultation program was not designed as a visioning exercise that would seek to identify major changes in Hyde Park. Rather, the consultation was designed as a vehicle to canvass a wide range of issues that could be used to inform and guide the development of the new Plan of Management.

Highlights of the Intercept Survey

Overall – confirmation of a dual role and function for Hyde Park

Hyde Park users who completed the survey responded very positively to most aspects of the Park and provided constructive comments on a range of issues they felt could be improved.

In addition, a clear and positive duality in Hyde Park's role and function emerged from the findings. An overwhelming majority of the Park users regard Hyde Park as a quiet and tranquil oasis in the centre of the city – one that is extremely highly valued and frequently used. In this role, users told us the Park functions very well as a series of multi-dimensional spaces that provide different areas where the majority feel comfortable to undertake both active and passive activities. Importantly, they feel they can do this without feeling that they are encroaching on the comfort of others.

There would be no argument from these park users that Hyde Park should retain these characteristics as a primary function and there would be a corresponding high level of expectation that any future changes to the park should only enhance these characteristics.

¹ Other Round One consultation activities for Hyde Park are presented in separate reports, which are in preparation at the time of writing this report. The draft titles are:

- Hyde Park Plan of Management Round One Stakeholder Consultation, Survey of Key Institutions, Hyde Park Amenity Providers and other Government Stakeholders
- Hyde Park Plan of Management Round One Stakeholder Consultation Survey of Property Owners

Executive Summary

Highlights of the Intercept Survey...cont'd

It also emerged from the findings that most park users see Hyde Park as having a second primary role and function. Most regard the Park as playing a prominent and active role in the civic and community life of the city. In this role, they see Hyde Park as appropriately providing a centrally located and adaptive space – indeed, a series of spaces – that the city can use to stage civic and community events that enhance the life of the city and which provide the basis for community interaction and cohesion.

It is reasonable to conclude that most respondents would regard both roles and functions as mutually inclusive and would feel that the Park is sufficiently flexible and adaptive to accommodate both modes. Within this however, a minority of respondents voiced a strong concern about closing off sections of the park for private events and functions – many cited closing off the area surrounding the Archibald Fountain for private events – which they believe is completely inappropriate for a park with Hyde Park's stature. These people believe that only public events are acceptable in Hyde Park.

A minority of respondents also raised the issue of damage to the fabric of the park caused by crowds attending events. There was however, no overall sense that the Park's important civic and community role and functions should be limited in the face of occasional damage to its fabric.

It follows therefore, that most Park users would expect that any future changes to the Park should also recognise a requirement to enhance Hyde Park's civic and community role and functions. It would also be expected that such changes should ameliorate, where possible, the potential for such activities to cause damage to the Park.

The issue of removal of trees

The removal of trees from the Park hardly rated in the findings – no more than ten people raised it as a direct criticism. This is not to say that Park users are indifferent to the 'fate' of the trees – clearly, they love them and care passionately about them. The outcome appears to indicate that the sensitive handling of tree removal and ongoing public education as to why this needs to occur is the appropriate course of action. The findings suggest that the City should continue this approach with at least the same amount of vigour in the lead up to future tree removals.

More specific findings in summary form

Reason for visiting Hyde Park – on the day of intercept survey

The largest response was *undertaking a range of activities* (27 percent), which included: *reading, picnicking, relaxing, ball games, walking dogs and meeting people*. The second largest response (23 percent) was *to escape from the stress and traffic of the city* and the third largest was *to eat lunch* (20 percent).

Read more about this topic in Question 3 commencing on page 15 in the main report.

Length of time spent in Hyde Park

67 percent of park users who completed the survey stated they spend up to one hour in Hyde Park. Of these, 25 percent spend 30 minutes or less, with the remaining 42 percent spending up to one hour. Long stayers are relatively rare – only 4 percent of respondents reported spending between three and five hours in the Park.

Read more about this topic in Question 3b commencing on page 18 in the main report

Highlights of the Intercept Survey...cont'd

Other regular activities undertaken in Hyde Park

The Intercept Survey recorded two types of activities – those that respondents were undertaking on the day of their intercept survey and *other regular activities undertaken in the Park*.

Clearly, users of Hyde Park undertake a wide range of activities in Hyde Park and it is also used regularly by tourists who have read in their tourist guides to Sydney that Hyde Park provides a great transit route between different attractions in the city.

In addition to those activities recorded on the day of survey (above) Park users recorded other regular activities as; *eating and drinking; walking and strolling in the park; other passive activities, meeting friends, lunching in the café and, attending*, as well as a multitude of other activities.

Read more about this topic in Question 12 commencing on page 103 of the main report.

Highly valued aspects of Hyde Park

Users highly value the Park's flora and vegetation and its function as an oasis in the centre of the city, which provides an escape from city stress, noise and traffic. They also value the variety of open spaces it provides, which enable a range of both active and passive user activities to take place without encroaching on other users.

Read more about this topic in Question 4 commencing on page 21 in the main report.

High levels of satisfaction with the Hyde Park visitor experience

87 percent of respondents reported they were *satisfied* or *highly satisfied* with their Hyde Park experience, citing the 'tranquil oasis', the trees and greenery and standards of maintenance as the primary reasons for their satisfaction. *Neutral* responses totalled 6 percent and raised some concerns with maintenance and upkeep issues.

Only 7 percent expressed dissatisfaction, citing poor standards of maintenance, some reservations about the fauna (in particular the Ibis) or unhappiness with the removal of trees. Tree removal however, was ranked only as a very low concern within this 7 percent group who stated they were not satisfied with their overall park experience. Only 5 percent of this group raised tree removal as an issue, which means in effect, that no more than 11 respondents raised the issue.

Read more about this topic in Question 5 commencing on page 27 in the main report.

The presentation and maintenance of Hyde Park

Overall, 76 percent of respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the statement: *the look, feel, presentation and maintenance of Hyde Park is at a standard appropriate to Sydney's premier park*, many citing the Park is well presented and very clean and the main reasons for this high rating. 15 percent were however *neutral* about this comment, citing room for improvement in both issues as the reason. Of the 9 percent that *disagreed* or *strongly disagreed* with the statement most were quite firm that the Park did not meet the required standards appropriate to Sydney's premier park and that major improvements should be undertaken.

Read more about this topic in Question 6 commencing on page 45 in the main report.

Executive Summary

Highlights of the Intercept Survey...cont'd

Suggested improvements to Hyde Park

Following their rating of the *look, feel, presentation and maintenance* of Hyde Park, respondents were asked to provide suggestions about what things should be fixed, to address any shortcomings. The two top issues mentioned were: *More flowers and greenery* (14 percent) and *Better maintenance of amenities and hard surfaces* (7 percent). These were followed by a raft of other constructive suggestions.

Read more about this topic in Question 6c commencing on page 53 of the main report.

Visiting Hyde Park at Night

62 percent of respondents stated they felt comfortable visiting Hyde Park at night, the overall sense of security, the level of lighting and the presence of other people were the most common reasons for this response.

Safety at night however, is an issue with 38 percent that stated they did not feel comfortable to visit at night, with the two greatest responses being *fear of attack* (27 percent) and *fear of other people in the park* (26 percent). With regard to *other people*, most identified these as “homeless people”, or people they identified as “druggies”, “riff-raff” or “alcoholics”.

Read more about this topic in Question 7 commencing on page 61 of the main report.

Events in Hyde Park

The survey respondents highly value Hyde Park as a place to attend civic and community events. The majority of respondents felt that Hyde Park plays a primary role for the community and provides many opportunities for members of the community to celebrate together the city's important civic and community events and social occasions. Many commented that the Park plays a critical role in community cohesion. Respondents reported the most attended the events as: 1. Art in the Park; 2. The Food and Wine Festival; 3. Good Living Food Festival; 4. Australia Day and 5. the Noodle Market. They also commented overwhelmingly that they felt that Hyde Park was the most appropriate venue for these events and that they enjoyed attending events in the Park amongst the ‘nature’.

When asked to consider the frequency of events in Hyde Park, respondents told us there should be *more events* (49 percent); *about the same number* (39 percent); *fewer events* (6 percent); or *no events* (6 percent) held in Hyde Park. Clearly, there is overwhelming support (88 percent) among respondents for Hyde Park's role and function as a multi-faceted events venue, with the largest response (49 percent) favouring *more events* to be held in the Park.

Read more about this topic in Questions 8 and 9 commencing on page 71 of the main report.

Frequency of visits to Hyde Park and day of visit

A large proportion of Hyde Park users are very regular visitors to the Park. 58 percent of respondents stated they visit Hyde Park at least once a week. Of these, 21 percent visit *daily*, 24 percent visit *several times per week* with the remaining 13 percent visiting *once a week*.

47 percent visited on weekdays and 27 percent on weekends. 21 percent visit either during their vacation period or during school holidays. (70 percent of the Intercept Survey was conducted during the Christmas holiday period in January and 30 percent after the holidays had finished.)

Read more about this topic in Question 10 commencing on page 95 of the main report.

Highlights of the Intercept Survey...cont'd

Visiting Hyde Park with...

The largest single group of users visited Hyde Park *alone* (35 percent); followed by those with *friends* (26 percent); with a *spouse or partner* (18 percent); with *children* (12 percent). Of those with *children*, 48 percent were between 0-5 years, 34 percent from 6-12 years and 18 percent from 13 to 16 years.

Read more about this topic in Question 13 commencing on page 109 of the main report.

Mode of travel to Hyde Park

Walking was the most reported mode (55 percent), followed by *train* (20 percent); *bus* (13 percent) and *car* (6 percent). The main report contains a breakdown of the carparks and streets that the 6 percent who drive to Hyde Park nominated as parking locations.

Read more about this topic in Question 16 commencing on page 121 of the main report.

Demographic information about the survey respondents

Demographic information about those who completed the survey can be found in Questions 14: Gender and Age (page 113) and Question 15: Place of Residence and Work (page 117).

Concluding remarks

Hyde Park clearly holds a very special place in the hearts and minds of those who use it. The findings of the Intercept Survey can only be described as very positive about the Park as a place that the vast majority of users highly value, actively use and above all enjoy.

Park users were not all positive in their responses and they raised a long list of helpful suggestions and constructive criticisms that they wished to put before the City for consideration of action.

Overall, respondents would see the new Hyde Park Plan of Management as a very positive approach to improving the Park in a planned and evolutionary manner – in other words, to improve and enhance what already exists in the Park. There was no evidence in the findings that Park users would have any taste for radical change to what they regard as a most special place.

Main Report



A busker at the Elizabeth Street entrance

Introduction

After a public tender process, the City of Sydney Council (the City) appointed The People for Places and Spaces (PPS) to plan and implement a comprehensive public and stakeholder consultation program to inform the preparation of a new Plan of Management for Hyde Park.

The consultation program has targeted Hyde Park users, surrounding institutions, residential and other property owners and other key stakeholders. The City's objective for all of its public consultation activities is to *involve* the public and stakeholders in open and transparent consultation processes, to ensure that stakeholder issues are highlighted and to enable the City to respond appropriately to these during the development of the new Hyde Park Plan of Management.

This report presents the findings of the Intercept Survey, which was undertaken as part of the Round One Hyde Park consultation program, designed to gain public and stakeholder ideas and comments to inform the development of a new Plan of Management for Hyde Park.

The Intercept Survey was conducted in Hyde Park between Tuesday 17th January and Saturday 4th February, 2006. It was carried out day and night, on weekdays and weekends and it engaged 1,026 Park users of all ages, who generated a total of 26,213 ideas and responses about the Park. The survey achieved its target of 70 percent of respondents who stated they were spending time in the park and 30 percent who stated they were walking through. Appendix A contains a full listing of the dates and times during which the survey was conducted in the Park.

Considerations on the design of the Hyde Park consultation processes

As Hyde Park is the City's most significant heritage park, Council was clear that the new Plan of Management should not deliver a new vision for Hyde Park, but rather the new Plan of Management should identify improvements to the Park's existing fabric.

For this reason, the consultation program was not designed to be a visioning process that would deliver a new spatial vision for Hyde Park. Instead, the consultation was designed to present a number of topics to participants to comment on and also to elicit other broad comments. In practical terms, this has meant that the Round One consultation is quite detailed in its approach – using predominantly survey-based qualitative methods that seek comment on a broad range of issues.

This approach has also maximised the number of stakeholders that can be involved in the consultation. This ensures that the input they provide is robust and will provide the City with a solid fact base upon which to make confident decisions related to the new Plan of Management for Hyde Park.

Introduction

The survey was undertaken as part of the Round One Hyde Park consultation program, designed to gain public and stakeholder ideas and comments to inform the development of a new Plan of Management for Hyde Park and is the first report to be completed and presented. Other Round One consultation activities for Hyde Park are presented in separate reports, which are still in preparation at the time of writing this report, which is the first report to be completed. The draft titles of these subsequent reports appear below¹. Those seeking an in depth understanding of all the consultation outcomes are referred to the full set of reports listed below.

Method – Self completion Intercept Survey

The self-completion intercept survey was selected as the most appropriate method to engage Hyde Park users, as it provided a mechanism for engaging a large number of respondents (1,026) and to generate a broad range of park user issues. Importantly, the survey took place on site in the Park. This was considered critical, as it allowed participants to reflect directly on their park experiences as they completed their questionnaire.

The intercept survey was designed and administered by PPS staff as a self-completion questionnaire, with a primary focus on qualitative (open-ended) questions, supported by a number of quantitative questions. Questions were developed by PPS in consultation with Clouston and Associates – the landscape architects appointed by the City to develop the new plan of management – following interviews with Council's internal management team related to Hyde Park. Before the full survey was administered, the survey was pilot-tested with 20 park users to ensure it was robust and provided a range of responses. This testing allowed for the survey to be modified before surveying in the park commenced.

The data analysis revealed a number of deficient survey responses that were finally excluded from the data analysis due to inconsistent data. After exclusion, the number of questionnaires analysed was 974. A copy of the intercept survey is found in Appendix B.

Data analysis and presentation of findings in this report

Limits of the data

As the survey was qualitative in nature — designed primarily to understand the nature of the visitor experience in the Park — results do not carry any statistical significance, nor should the data be considered as representative of all Park users or of any other group of people. The results do however, represent the range of ideas and responses of those who chose to participate in the survey.

Readers will note that the findings in the main report are presented in two ways that vary according to whether the question was open-ended (qualitative) or a closed question (quantitative). As these differences can cause confusion, as readers encounter a series of data tables that present information in different ways, we have carefully explained the nature of each table in the main report. These tables emerge from the following considerations:

-
- ¹ Hyde Park Plan of Management Round One Stakeholder Consultation, Survey of Key Institutions, Hyde Park Amenity Providers and other Government Stakeholders
 - Hyde Park Plan of Management Round One Stakeholder Consultation Survey of Property Owners

Introduction

A theme analysis of the qualitative (open-ended) questions

Each of the open-ended questions generated multiple responses and the number of responses varies from question to question. We have indicated the number of responses below each question. This variation in responses occurs for several reasons, related to the general level of interest in that question and whether a primary or secondary question is being addressed.

In each case, a theme analysis was undertaken of the ideas that emerged from each of these open ended questions. The objective of a theme analysis is to present the participants' views in a meaningful way to facilitate an understanding of the individual ideas that emerged in each question.

Ranking themes in qualitative data

These themes are reported in rank order in the data tables, commencing with the strongest themes, which we refer to as the *top five* or the *top* themes. These are the themes that contain the greatest number of related ideas and the rank order of each theme is determined by the percentage of the total number of ideas contained in each theme.

Following the *top five* or *top* themes, we list the *other* themes, which contain a lesser number of ideas per theme. These are followed by the individual ideas that did not fit into any themes.

Quality rather than quantity

It is important to note that this system of ranking is meant only as a descriptive way of presenting the large quantity of qualitative data in a way that enhances reader understanding of how individual suggestions came together to tell a story. The ranking does not imply that any of the *top five* themes or numerically stronger themes is more important or carries any greater meaning than any other themes or single ideas.

Data tables – the quantitative (closed) questions

Findings from the quantitative (closed) questions are presented in data tables with accompanying commentary to explain emerging meaning and trends in the data, where it is appropriate to do this.

For reasons of clarity, each quantitative data table contains an explanation that shows the number of responses for each question, which again vary because:

- not every participant completed each question and,
- although most closed questions permitted only one response, a number did call for multiple responses.

For this reason, the percentage of responses within each quantitative question should be noted against the total number of responses for that question, as the responses in the quantitative questions do vary considerably.

Walking through or spending time in Hyde Park



Mothers sitting in the Park

Question 1: What is your reason for visiting Hyde Park today?

Summary findings

Table 1: Walk through or staying in park – 956 respondents

	%	Number
Walk through	31	302
Stay	69	672
Total	100	974

Table 1a: Time of survey – 877 respondents

	%	Number
Morning	33	287
Midday (12 Noon – 2pm)	32	281
Afternoon	32	282
Night	3	27
Total	100	877

Summary comments on reason for visiting Hyde Park

Question 1 was the initial 'sorting' question, which was designed only to separate those walking through the park from those staying and undertaking activities.

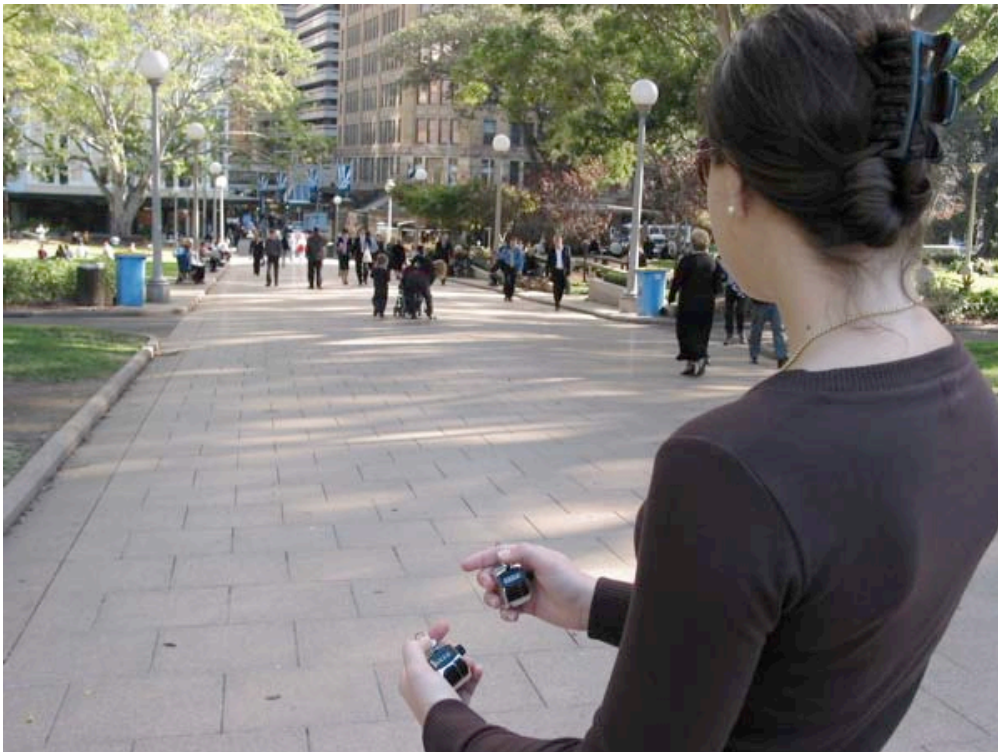
Walk throughs were not asked to describe the activities they were undertaking in Hyde Park today (Q3a) or how long they planned to stay in Hyde Park today (Q3b). Conversely, those who indicated they were *stayers* did not complete question 2, which related to *walk throughs* only.

Otherwise, both groups completed the same questions for the remainder of the survey from question 4 to question 16 inclusive.

The target for walk-throughs versus stayers for the intercept survey was 30/70 percent respectively and Table 1 shows this target was achieved.

Table 1a shows the range of times over which the intercept survey was completed. We aimed to achieve an even spread of times across the day with a much smaller percentage of time spent at night and again, this objective was achieved.

Reasons for walking through Hyde Park



People walking through the Park

Question 2: Why did you choose to walk through Hyde Park today?

Summary findings

Table 2: Reasons for walking through Hyde Park

Rank	Themes	% of responses
The top five themes		
1	A quiet and peaceful place	23
2	Walk to/from home/work	22
3	The shortest route	21
4	Walk to/from other activities	20
5	Enjoying the Park's greenery	6
The other themes		
6	Experience nature	5
7	Sightseeing	2
Single comments		1
Total		100

Question 2 was a qualitative or 'open-ended' question that asked respondents to explain why they walk through Hyde Park, with multiple responses encouraged. Respondents gave 373 reasons, which were coded into themes. Table 2 presents these themes and the percentage of the 373 ideas that are contained in each theme. The themes are discussed in more detail commencing on the next page.

Discussion of the *top five* themes

1. A quiet and peaceful place – 23 percent

Respondents choose to walk through the Park as it is a quiet and peaceful, and the surroundings are pleasant and beautiful.

2. Walk to/from home/work - 22

Comments received showed that people walk through the Park to travel to and from home, and work.

3. The shortest route – 21 percent

Responses received stated that walking through Hyde Park was the shortest, quickest and most convenient route for people to travel.

4. Walk to/from other activities – 20%

Some respondents use Hyde Park to travel to other activities such as shopping, having lunch in the city and meetings. Hyde Park is also a recognised tourist route through the city.

5. Enjoying the Park's greenery – 6 percent

Respondents commented that they enjoyed walking through and looking at the greenery and trees in Hyde Park.

Discussion of the *other* themes

6. Experience nature – 5 percent

Respondents commented that they enjoyed walking through the Park as it was an opportunity to experience nature.

7. Sightseeing – 2 percent

Visitors to Sydney are drawn to Hyde Park as a part of their sightseeing tour.

Single Comments – 2 percent

- Always do
- Prefer it to walking the streets

Reasons for spending time in Hyde Park and length of stay



Park users playing chess

Question 3: Reasons for spending time and length of stay

Summary findings

Question 3 was completed only by respondents who stated in Question 1 that they were spending time in Hyde Park on the day of the intercept survey. Respondents who stated they were walking through the Park on that day did not complete this question.

Reasons for spending time in Hyde Park – Table 3a on page 16

Undertaking a range of activities was the largest single reason given by 27 percent of respondents – these included reading, picnicking, relaxing, ball games, walking dogs, and meeting people.

The second largest reason for visiting the Park (23 percent) was that Hyde Park is seen as an oasis that enables visitors to escape from the city and surrounding traffic. This was followed by 20 percent of respondents who stated they use Hyde Park as a place to eat lunch.

Length of stay in Hyde Park – Table 3b on page 18.

The largest proportion of respondents (67 percent) stated they stayed up to one hour in Hyde Park, with 25 percent of this group spending 30 minutes or less and 42 percent spending between 30 minutes and less than one hour.

The next largest group (27 percent) stated they spend between one and two hours in the park.

Longer stayers represented only a small minority of respondents, although twice as many (4 percent) stated they spend between three to five hours, than those who spend up to three hours (2 percent).

As Table 3b indicates that two-thirds of respondents spend up to one hour, it appears that Hyde Park has a relatively high 'churn' factor of visitors who stay in the Park, quite apart from those who are walking through. This would indicate that facilities planned for 'stayers' can expect to endure a consistently high turnover of users, with attendant impacts on the facilities and the surrounding landscape areas.

Q 3a: Why are you spending time in Hyde Park today?

Table 3a: Reasons for time spent in the park

Rank	Themes	% of responses
The <i>top five</i> themes		
1	To undertake a range of activities	27
2	The Park is an oasis	23
3	Eating lunch	20
= 4	Park flora and shade	8
= 4	The Park's central location	8
The <i>other</i> themes		
= 6	The Park's open space	4
= 6	Children's activities	4
= 8	The Park's fauna	2
= 8	Anzac Memorial and Archibald fountain	2
Single comments		2
Total		100

Question 3a was a qualitative or open-ended question that asked respondents to give reasons for spending time in Hyde Park with multiple responses encouraged. Respondents gave 850 reasons, which were coded into themes. Table 3a identifies the themes and the percentage of the 850 reasons that are contained in each theme. The themes are discussed in more detail on the next page.

Discussion of the *top five* themes

1. To undertake a range of activities – 27 percent

Most respondents stated they were in the Park to undertake a range of different of activities including reading, walking their dog, meeting and waiting for people, picnicking, discovering art and riding scooters.

2. The Park is an oasis – 23 percent

A number of respondents commented that the park was an oasis and refuge allowing them to escape from the city and surrounding traffic. Others commented that the park is a pleasant, peaceful and tranquil place to relax

Discussion of the *top five* themes... cont'd

3. Eating lunch – 20 percent

Comments received indicated that respondents were spending time to eat lunch and have their lunch break and/or coffee break in the Park.

=4. Park flora and shade – 8 percent

Respondents indicated that they were spending time in the Park to enjoy the flora, green trees, vegetation, flowers and shade.

=4. The Park's central location – 8 percent

Respondents commented that the location of the Park was central and convenient for them to access.

Discussion of the *other* themes

=6. The Park's open space – 4 percent

Responses received indicated that respondents were spending time in the Park to enjoy the fresh air and sun.

=6. Children's activities – 4 percent

Responses received suggested that the Park is a place to show children and somewhere for children to play.

=8. The Park's fauna – 2 percent

Respondents indicated that they were spending time watching the Park's fauna including possums, birds and dogs.

=8. Anzac Memorial and Archibald Fountain – 2 percent

Respondents commented that they were spending time visiting the War Memorial and Archibald Fountain.

Single comments – 2 percent

- Working
- Homeless
- It is my front garden
- Breast feeding

Q 3b: How long do you plan to stay in Hyde Park today?

Table 3b: Length of stay in Hyde Park

Length of stay	%	Number
<30 mins	25	155
30 – 60 mins	42	263
1 – 2 hrs	27	165
2 – 3 hrs	2	11
3 – 5 hrs	4	25
6+ hrs	-	3
Total	100	625

Question 3b was a 'closed' question that allowed only one 'tick-box' response. 619 responses were received and Table 3b shows the percentage of responses given in each time period. Question 3 did not include people who indicated they were walking through Hyde Park on the day they completed the intercept survey.

Most valued aspects of Hyde Park



Park users completing the Intercept survey

Question 4: What do you value most about Hyde Park?

Summary findings

Table 4: The *most valued* themes

Rank	Themes	% of responses
The top five themes		
1	The Park's flora and vegetation	26
2	The Park as an oasis in the city	20
3	A variety of open space	11
=4	Central and convenient location	6
=4	The water features	6
The other themes		
6	The Park's fauna	5
=7	Architectural beauty	4
=7	Well maintained	4
=9	Facilitates a range of activities	3
=9	Available seating	3
=11	Anzac memorial	2
=11	The view	2
=11	A place for people	2
Single comments		6
Total		100

Question 4 was a qualitative or 'open-ended' question that asked respondents to state what they value most about Hyde Park, with multiple responses encouraged. Respondents gave 2044 ideas, which were coded into themes. Table 4 presents these themes and the percentage of the 2044 ideas that are contained in each theme. The themes are discussed in more detail commencing on the next page.

Discussion of the *top five* themes

1. The Park's flora and vegetation – 26 percent

The respondents in this theme valued Hyde Park's flora and vegetation in general, including specific mention of plants, green, the trees, flowers and large grassed areas that offer opportunities for both passive and active recreation.

2. The Park is an oasis – 20 percent

Respondents described the Park as an oasis and an escape from the traffic. They commented that it is pleasant, quiet and a tranquil place that offers a good atmosphere. Respondents also value that it is not commercial or over-crowded.

3. A variety of open space – 11 percent

Respondents stated they valued the variety of different open space offered that enabled a variety of activities to be undertaken.

=4. Central and convenient location – 6 percent

Respondents commented on Hyde Park's central and convenient location in relation to work and other activities they need to undertake in the city. It is a major convenience for those living close.

=4. The water features – 6 percent

Respondents valued the Archibald Fountain as the main water feature; other water features, including the Pool of Remembrance were also mentioned.

Discussion of the *other* themes

6. Park fauna – 5 percent

Respondents commented on the Park's fauna, valuing the possums and birds. Some also stated that the Park offered good walking tracks and play area for dogs.

=7. Architectural beauty – 4 percent

- Hyde Park has an overall attractive appearance.
- The Park is a "Victorian Beauty".
- Hyde Park is a traditional park and valued as such.
- The Park's history is reflected through its architecture.

=7. Well maintained – 4 percent

The Park is well maintained and clean

Discussion of the *other* themes...cont'd

=9 Facilitates a range of activities – 3 percent

The Park facilitates activities such as; reading, walking the dog, meeting people, waiting, busking, discovering art, relaxing, playing chess and attending events.

=9. Available seating – 3 percent

Hyde Park offers benches and seating.

=11. Anzac Memorial – 2 percent

- The Anzac Memorial
- The Pool of Remembrance

=11. The view – 2 percent

Hyde Park offers nice views to different parts of the city.

=11. A place for people – 2 percent

- The Park is a place for people
- Hyde Park attracts a lot of people

Single comments – 6 percent

- Safe cycle route
- National treasure in my backyard
- The art in the park
- Memories of childhood
- Provides a home to the homeless
- Offers shade
- It is safe
- Offers good access
- Safe for children to play and run
- I value everything about the Park
- The Hyde Park café
- The Park offers a short cut

Satisfaction with the Hyde Park experience



Park user completing the Intercept survey

Question 5: Satisfaction with the Hyde Park experience

Summary findings

Respondent's level of satisfaction with their Hyde Park experience – Table 5a on page 28

Hyde Park enjoys extremely high levels of satisfaction among respondents with 87 percent expressing either *very satisfied* or *satisfied* with their Hyde Park experience. By contrast only 6 percent were *neutral* and 7 percent either *unsatisfied* or *very unsatisfied*.

Reasons stated for levels of satisfaction – Tables 5b 1-3 commencing on page 29

Some of the reasons given for this high level of satisfaction were the Park's function as an oasis in the middle of the city where visitors feel they can escape traffic and noise in particular; its levels of trees and greenery and its standards of maintenance. Respondents in this group often talked about Hyde Park in very fond terms and it is clear that the Park is highly valued by this large majority.

Those who were *neutral* (6 percent) expressed some reservations about maintenance issues, the upkeep of flora or some facilities in the Park. Overall however, it appeared it is only one or two issues that were spoiling what would otherwise be a satisfactory experience for these people.

Those who were *dissatisfied* expressed elevated levels of dissatisfaction with maintenance issues; criticised standards of maintenance of flora; expressed reservations about some aspects of fauna (such as the Ibis) or were unhappy with the removal of trees.

The issues of tree removal however, ranked very low among the dissatisfying factors in this group, with only 5 percent of the total responses in this group mentioning they were dissatisfied with the trees.

By contrast to the *neutral* group, it did appear that this small group of dissatisfied park visitors (7 percent) would require concerted action on all of the issues they raised, if they were to improve their overall opinion of Hyde Park.

Changes suggested to improve the Hyde Park experience – Table 5c on page 36

The high levels of satisfaction with Hyde Park were also demonstrated when 10 percent of respondents stated that no changes were required to the Park.

Improving the maintenance and facilities was the most demanded change that respondents felt would improve the quality of their Hyde Park experience, in particular the removal of rubbish, the provision of recycling bins, bird proof bins and 'dog doo' disposal facilities.

Other changes included the provision of colourful flora and gardens, additional seating, more large trees and plantings, children facilities, water features and improved toilet facilities.

Q 5a: How satisfied are you with your Hyde Park experience?

Table 5a: Satisfaction with the Hyde Park Experience

Level of satisfaction	%	Number
Very Satisfied	40	383
Satisfied	47	455
Neutral	6	61
Unsatisfied	2	21
Very unsatisfied	5	49
Total	100	969

Question 5a was a 'closed' question that allowed only one 'tick-box' response. 969 responses were received and Table 5a shows the percentage of responses given in each level of satisfaction.

Q5b: Reasons stated for levels of satisfaction with the Hyde Park experience

Table 5b.1: The very satisfied/satisfied themes

Rank	Themes	% of responses
The top five themes – Very satisfied/satisfied		
1	An oasis or escape from the city	22
=2	Greenery and vegetation	13
=2	Adequate maintenance and facilities provided	13
=4	Facilitates a range of activities	8
=4	Attractive appearance	8
The other themes – Very satisfied/satisfied		
6	Good layout and design	7
7	Convenient location and access	5
=8	Open space	4
=8	A place for people	4
Single comments – Very satisfied/satisfied		16
Total		100

Question 5b was a qualitative or 'open-ended' question that asked respondents to give reasons for their level of satisfaction, with multiple responses encouraged. Respondents gave 1365 reasons for why they were very satisfied/satisfied, which were coded into themes. Table 5b.1 identifies the themes and the percentage of the 1365 reasons that are contained in each theme. The themes are discussed in more detail commencing on the next page.

Discussion of the *top five* themes – Very satisfied/satisfied

1. An oasis or escape from the city – 22 percent

Respondents described Hyde Park as an oasis, a refuge, and escape from the traffic, romantic, tranquil, relaxing, peaceful and pleasant. It is a contrast to the city that offers Park users a sense of privacy.

=2. Greenery and vegetation – 13 percent

Respondents have expressed satisfaction with the Park's greenery and vegetation, including its selection of flowers and trees.

=2. Adequate maintenance and facilities provided – 13 percent

Respondents stated Hyde Park is well maintained and presented. The Park is clean and offers sufficient maintenance facilities, toilets and drinking water.

=4. Facilitates a range of activities – 8 percent

Hyde Park is an area for users to engage in a range of activities, such as reading, walking the dog, meeting friends and socialising, eating lunch, relaxing, waiting, sight seeing, playing chess, people-watching and an opportunity to see displayed artworks.

=4. Attractive appearance – 8 percent

Respondents commented on the overall attractive appearance of Hyde Park, expressing it as inviting. It also offers Park users nice views within and beyond the Park.

Discussion of the *other* themes – Very satisfied/satisfied

6. Good layout and design – 7 percent

The Park's layout and design offers a good balance of sun and shade, with sufficient seating and rest areas.

7. Convenient location and access – 5 percent

- Hyde Park is central and well located
- Access to the Park is convenient
- There is good access to and from the Park by public transport

=8. Open space – 4 percent

- The Park provides a big, open space to users

Discussion of the *other* themes – Very satisfied/satisfied... cont'd

=8. A place for people – 4 percent

- Hyde Park is people-friendly
- It attracts a mix of people
- The Park is family-friendly

Single comments: Very satisfied/satisfied – 16 percent

- Meets needs and expectations
- It is very impressive
- Cannot imagine a better park
- On par with the world's parks
- Hyde Park is truly amazing
- It is a special place
- It is my backyard
- The Park is vibrant
- Respondents enjoy the buskers in the Park
- Respondents suggest that cars or bikes should not be allowed in Hyde Park
- Respondents appreciate that there are limited cafés and built structures
- The Park is constantly evolving
- The Park does not dramatically evolve
- There are no dogs in the Park
- Respondents appreciated refreshments being available
- The Park does not display commercial advertising
- The Park offers a good environment
- Hyde Park is always accessible

Table 5b.2: The neutral themes

Rank	Themes – Neutral	% of responses
1	Average standard	38
2	Questionable upkeep of flora	19
3	Activities issues	10
4	Toilet amenities issues	5
Single comments – Neutral		28
Total		100

Question 5b was a qualitative or 'open-ended' question that asked respondents to give reasons for their level of satisfaction, with multiple responses encouraged. Respondents gave 21 reasons for why they were neutral, which were coded into themes. Table 5b.2 identifies the themes and the percentage of the 21 reasons that are contained in each theme. The themes are discussed in more detail commencing on the next page.

Discussion of the *neutral* themes

1. Average standard – 38 percent

Hyde Park is considered average to the world's parks. It is neither spectacular nor lacking, however there is potential for the Park to improve. Some respondents also expressed that they had no significant dissatisfaction with the Park, but no real satisfaction either.

2. Questionable upkeep of flora – 19 percent

Respondents expressed that Hyde Park needs more plant life, and some questioned the standard of upkeep of the existing flora.

3. Activities issues – 10 percent

The Park needs to cater for an increase in activities. Some respondents were also dissatisfied with skateboarding being outlawed.

4. Amenities issues – 5 percent

Respondents showed some dissatisfaction in having to pay for toilets.

Single comments: Neutral – 28 percent

- Questionable design and layout (size and formal style)
- Better sense of community/interaction is required
- Noisy
- Annoying birds
- Sections are blocked off

Table 5b.3: The unsatisfied/very unsatisfied themes

Rank	Themes	% of responses
The top themes – Unsatisfied/very unsatisfied		
=1	Unsatisfactory maintenance and cleanliness	14
=1	More flora with a greater selection of flowers	14
3	Poor layout and design	9
4	Dislike the birds and possums	7
=5	Feels neglected and unloved	5
=5	Removal of trees	5
The other themes – Unsatisfied/very unsatisfied		
=7	Timing of noisy maintenance activities	4
=7	Needs developing/upgrading	4
=7	Needs more facilities	4
=7	Anti-social behaviour	4
=7	Noise from traffic surrounding the park	4
=7	More/improved security required	4
13	Charity collectors	3
Single comments – Unsatisfied/very unsatisfied		19
Total		100

Question 5b was a qualitative or 'open-ended' question that asked respondents to give reasons for their level of satisfaction, with multiple responses encouraged. Respondents gave 223 reasons for why they were unsatisfied/very unsatisfied, which were coded into themes. Table 5b.3 identifies the themes and the percentage of the 223 reasons that are contained in each theme. The themes are discussed in more detail commencing on the next page.

Discussion of the *top* themes – Unsatisfied/very unsatisfied

=1. Unsatisfactory maintenance and cleanliness – 14 percent

Respondents stated that there is unsatisfactory maintenance and cleanliness of Hyde Park, and found the renovation of Archibald Fountain to be poor.

=1. More flora with a greater selection of flowers – 14 percent

Hyde Park's landscaping needs to include more flora, with a greater selection of flowers and the inclusion of native Australian flora. Respondents mentioned that there is unsatisfactory maintenance of the existing flora, and the need for more money to be invested in its upkeep and the seasonal garden displays.

3. Poor layout and design – 9 percent

The layout and design of Hyde Park was described as poor, with unsatisfactory landscaping, lack of shaded areas, and the poor arrangement of seating throughout the Park. The Park's design lacks enough flat areas to play sport, and ledges for skateboarding on. Some respondents also dislike the division of the Park created by Park St running through the middle of it.

4. Dislike the birds and possums – 7 percent

Respondents dislike the birds; the ibises rummaging through the bins is an annoyance to Park users. Hyde Park also inhabits too many possums.

=5. Feels neglected and unloved – 5 percent

Respondents have stated that the Park feels neglected and unloved.

=5. Removal of trees – 5 percent

Respondents did not like the recent removal of the trees in Hyde Park.

The *other* themes – Unsatisfactory/very unsatisfactory

=7. Timing of noisy maintenance activities – 4 percent

- Needs developing/upgrading

=7. Needs more facilities – 4 percent

- Needs more cafes
- Needs more toilets
- Needs more water
- Chess cancelled on rainy days
- Paying for toilets
- Lacks signs directing to amenities

The *other* themes – Unsatisfactory/very unsatisfactory... cont'd

=7. Anti-social behaviour – 4 percent

- Homeless and alcohol/drug users
- Bag snatchers

=7. Noise from traffic surrounding the park – 4 percent

- Noise from traffic surrounding the park

=7. More/improved security required – 4 percent

- More/improved security required

13. Charity collectors – 3 percent

- Keep charity collectors out of the Park

Single comments: Unsatisfactory/very unsatisfactory – 19 percent

- Insulted by the lack of consideration of indigenous population of Captain Cook statue
- Needs more reference to indigenous people
- Inconsistent appearance
- There are no playgrounds
- No one is responsible
- There are not enough activities catered for
- The Park is too tidy
- Car access dangerous for Park users
- Needs more public art and entertainment
- Needs to be vibrant
- Needs more lights
- Not safe
- Too small
- Unsatisfactory compared to parks in the world
- Fountain was barricaded off for a charity lunch
- Crowded at times
- Park is under-utilised
- Construction
- Not as intimate as it used to be
- Poor access for strollers/prams

Question 5c: What changes would you suggest to improve the quality of your Hyde Park experience?

Table 5c: Changes suggested to improve the quality of the Hyde Park experience

Rank	Themes	% of responses
The top themes		
1	No changes	10
2	Improve park maintenance and facilities	7
=3	More colourful flora and gardens	6
=3	Improve landscape maintenance	6
=5	Provide additional seating	5
=5	More large trees and plantings	5
=5	Children's facilities	5
=5	Additional water features	5
=5	Better toilet facilities	5
The other themes		
=10	Drinking fountains	4
=10	Bans and prohibitions	4
=12	Event and entertainment issues	3
=12	Better management of birds e.g. seagulls, crows and ibis	3
=14	Security issues	2
=14	Additional commercial facilities	2
=14	More shaded areas	2
=14	Better lighting including, more fairy lights and solar lighting	2
=14	New / more activities in the park	2
=14	Create designated areas	2
Single comments or themes attracting 1 percent or less		18
Total		100

Question 5c was a qualitative or 'open-ended' question that asked respondents to suggest changes that would improve the quality of their Hyde Park experience, with multiple responses encouraged. Respondents gave 1529 ideas, which were coded into themes. Table 5c identifies the themes and the percentage of the 1529 reasons that are contained in each theme. The themes are discussed in more detail commencing on the next page.

Discussion of the *top* themes

1. No changes – 10 percent

Respondents said that no changes were required in Hyde Park.

2. Improve park maintenance and facilities – 7 percent

Requests were made for improvements in maintenance and cleanliness, especially early morning rubbish pick up and weekend maintenance. The provision of recycling bins, bird proof bins and 'dog doo' disposal facilities were also requested.

=3. More colourful flora and gardens – 6 percent

More colourful flora and gardens were suggested, especially around the entrances of the park. Requests were made for variety of plants e.g. seasonal and tropical, as well as native flora to reduce the amount of grass in the park and to attract more bird life. Some comments were received asking for the removal of the palm trees.

=3. Improve landscape maintenance – 6 percent

Respondents commented that improved grass and flora maintenance is needed. They also commented that maintenance equipment is too noisy with one request made for the use of a broom as an alternative. Suggestions were also received for softer and more densely laid grass. The appointment of a full time caretaker for the Park was also suggested.

=5. Provide additional seating – 5 percent

Additional seating and benches were requested, particularly at the southern end of the Park and with some positioned away from paths. Additional seating should be more comfortable than the current and the maintenance of seating and benches need to be improved.

=5. More large trees and plantings – 5 percent

More large trees and plantings were suggested to provide shade and to insulate the park from surrounding noise.

=5. Children's facilities – 5 percent

A fenced playground for children was suggested.

=5. Additional water features – 5 percent

Comments were received requesting additional fountains, interactive water features and a swimming pool.

Discussion of the *top* themes... cont'd

=5. Better toilet facilities – 5 percent

Requests were made for additional toilet facilities that are free of charge and include baby change rooms. More signage directing people to the toilet facilities was also suggested.

Discussion of the *other* themes

=10. Drinking fountains – 4 percent

Additional drinking fountains were requested.

=10. Bans and prohibitions – 4 percent

Comments were received requesting the banning of play gyms, skateboards, roller blades and cyclists as well as cigarette smoking and alcohol consumption. Some respondents asked for the banning of music or ball games, charity collectors, vendors and cars permitted. Respondents also commented that boot camps, personal trainers and joggers should be prohibited in the Park. Some respondents asked that people be prevented from sleeping in the Park at night and were also concerned with anti social behaviour.

=12. Event and entertainment issues – 3 percent

- More events and entertainment needed
- More multicultural events
- More entertainment e.g. music and a bar

=12. Better management of birds e.g. seagulls, crows and ibis – 3 percent

- Respondents requested that the management of the birds be improved.

=14. Security issues – 2 percent

- Increase security and surveillance
- Appoint a park ranger
- Increase police presence

=14. Additional commercial facilities - 2 percent

- Include some retail facilities
- Provide vending machines / ice-cream parlours
- Additional food outlets that are cheaper and provide drinks and ice-cream
- Need more bars and restaurants.

Discussion of the *other* themes... cont'd

=14. More shaded areas – 2 percent

- More shaded seating
- Seats facing the lawns
- Provide shelters
- Provide protection from the elements
- More shaded areas required around the chess tables

=14. Better lighting including more fairy lights and solar lighting – 2 percent

- Improved lighting
- Additional fairy lights in the trees
- Use solar lighting

=14. New and more activities in the park – 2 percent

- More activities e.g. exhibitions, chess, public speaking, classes, buskers
- Access to chess on weekends
- Markets
- Extreme sports

=14. Create designated areas for other activities – 2 percent

- Designated smoking areas with ashtrays
- Barbecue facilities and designated picnic areas
- Designated exercise areas
- Designated entertainment areas
- An area allocated to camping
- Themed sections of the park
- Aboriginal history reflection area
- Have a speakers corner
- Designated area for sleeping
- Area for playing ball games

Q 5c: Changes suggested to improve the quality of the Hyde Park experience

Single themes and comments attracting 1 percent or less– 20 percent

Features and facilities

- Construct a graffiti wall
- No more sculptures
- Wireless internet access
- More public art, including community projects, sculptures and statues, preferably made from organic materials
- Australian flags and Aboriginal flags
- Skate park
- More decorations
- Include fun street names for paths
- Remove food outlets/cafes
- Increase café trading hours
- A gazebo
- Mini train ride
- Deckchair hiring facilities
- Rock feature for meditation
- Indoor arena
- Telephone booths

Provide more information about the Park

- No smoking signs
- Fence/signs keeping people to paths
- Provide educational and environmental information about the park and its history
- Include information boxes around the park
- Place signage on flora
- Erect a screens showing tourists around Australia
- Upgrade signage/ information points at intersections
- Include a discovery area

Design and layout issues

- Include knee high ledges made of marble
- Widen the footpaths
- Return the historical fencing
- Upgrade entrances in the southern end of the Park
- Include banks in the park design
- Need more modern and consistent landscaping
- More private spaces
- More paving needed around seats
- Fix up area in front of St Mary's Cathedral and Cook and Philip Park
- More colour in the Park's design
- Increase the amount of open space and size of the Park

Q 5c: Changes suggested to improve the quality of the Hyde Park experience

Single comments and themes attracting 1 percent or less... cont'd

Access

- Access for cyclists and skateboarders
- Reduce the number of entrances to the Park
- Improve pedestrian access from surrounding streets including disabled and pram access
- Improve traffic lights at Park street crossing
- More paths for access through the grass areas
- Don't block access to the Archibald Fountain
- Maintenance issues
- Reduce the smell
- Reduce amount of maintenance
- Appoint a homeless person as park ranger to maintain rubbish
- Maintenance at off peak hours
- More attention needed at the southern end of the Park
- Improve irrigation system to save water e.g. drip water

Anzac Memorial issues

- Prevent access to the Pool of Remembrance
- Allow bathing in the Pool of Remembrance
- Re instate the original design of Anzac Memorial
- Include water jets in the Pool of Remembrance
- Improve maintenance of the Pool of Remembrance

Traffic issues

- More hedges around the border of the Park to reduce noise
- Manage traffic around the Park
- Reduce noise from traffic in and around the Park
- Include an overpass to link the Northern and Southern ends of the Park

Fauna issues

- Get rid of rats
- Better care of animals e.g. Feed the birds, provide bird baths/animal pools, provide possum boxes
- More birds and animals
- Reduce commercial use of the Park

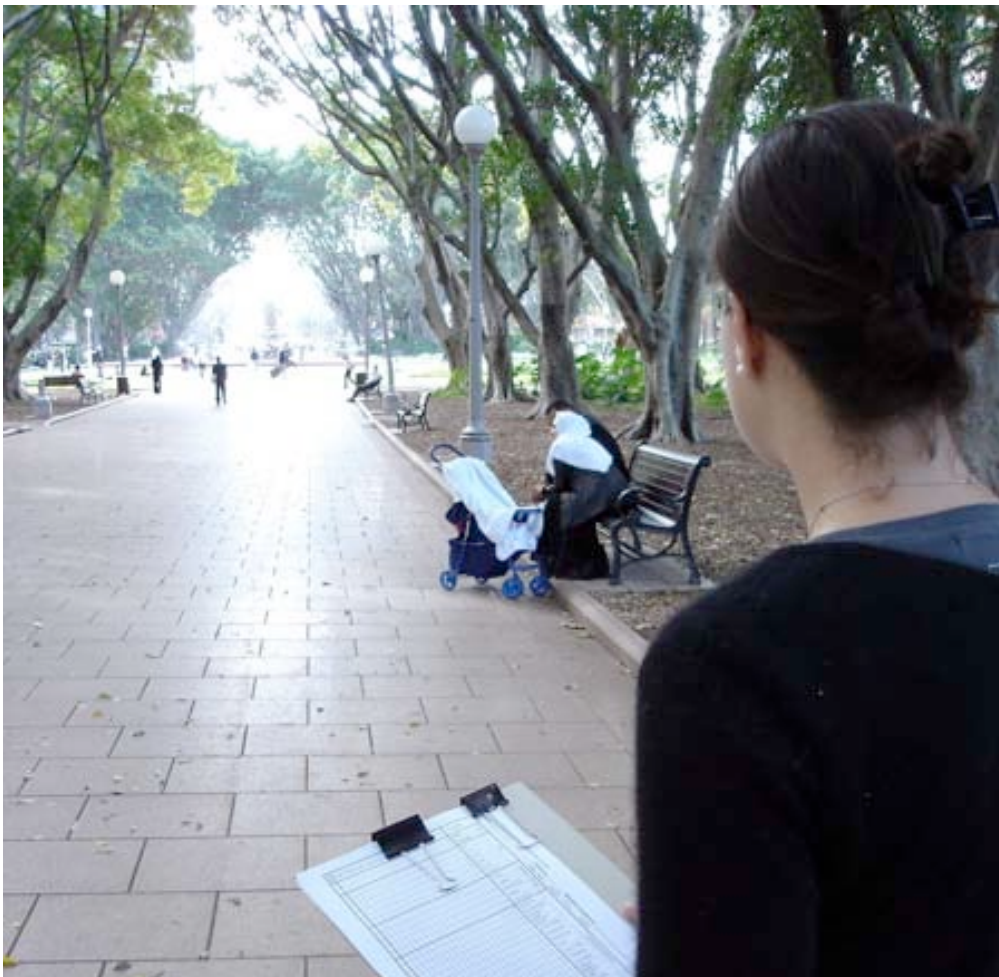
Q 5c: Changes suggested to improve the quality of the Hyde Park experience

Single comments and themes attracting 1 percent or less... cont'd

Single comments

- Less events
- Protect the Park's heritage values
- Stop big groups at night
- Reduce anti social behaviour
- Less students in the Park
- The Archibald Fountain should rotate
- Create public awareness about park management
- Have a suggestion box
- More surveys

The look, feel, presentation and maintenance of Hyde Park



Sitting on benches on the main walkway

Question 6: The look, feel, presentation and maintenance of Hyde Park

Summary findings

Respondents level of agreement with the statement “The look, feel, presentation and maintenance of Hyde Park is at a standard appropriate to Sydney’s premier park” – Table 6a on page 46

Over three quarters of respondents either *strongly agreed* (20 percent) or *agreed* (56 percent) that Hyde Park is at a standard appropriate to Sydney’s premier park. In contrast seven percent of respondents *disagreed* and 2 percent *strongly disagreed*, while 15 percent of respondents remained *neutral*.

Reasons stated for levels of agreement – Table 6b 1-3 commencing on page 47

Of the 76 percent of respondents who *agreed* or *strongly agreed* with the statement, most people mentioned issues related to the overall high standard of presentation of the Park, good levels of park maintenance, good design and layout and landscaping as issues that formed their positive opinion. Indeed, the third largest theme in this group was *no complaints*, where respondents stated they could find nothing to criticise about Hyde Park.

The 15 percent of respondents who stated they were *neutral* in response to this statement, cited *room for improvement* or *not sure* as reasons for their neutrality. The tone of responses of this group signifies that most would be more likely to move towards agreement with the statement, if they were to see issues such as look, presentation and maintenance improved.

Perceived poor levels of maintenance was the largest reason cited by the 9 percent of respondents who *disagreed* or *strongly disagreed* with the statement. Many named particular areas of the park or features in need of improvement. In relation to presentation issues, they wish to see more trees or flowerbeds planted within the park. Others criticised what they see as a “mish-mash” of paving and fixtures throughout the park.

Things to fix that would improve the look, feel, presentation and/or maintenance of Hyde Park – Table 6c on page 53

Responses received in this question emphasised the changes suggested in question 5c. Respondents requested the planting of more flowers and greenery, better maintenance of amenities and hard surfaces, an upgrade to the design and layout of the Park, the repair of bare parts of the lawn, the control of birds in the Park and the installation of more seating.

Q 6a: Please indicate your response to the following statement:
 “The look, feel, presentation and maintenance of Hyde Park is at a standard appropriate to Sydney’s premier park.”

Table 6a: Levels of agreement that the look, feel, presentation and maintenance of Hyde Park is at a standard appropriate to Sydney’s premier park

Level of agreement	%	Number
Strongly agree	20	194
Agree	56	535
Neutral	15	142
Disagree	7	62
Strongly disagree	2	14
Total	100	947

Question 6a was a ‘closed’ question that asked respondents to indicate their level of agreement with the statement: “The look, feel, presentation and maintenance of Hyde Park is at a standard appropriate to Sydney’s premier park” Respondents were allowed only one ‘tick-box’ response. 947 responses were received and Table 6a shows the percentage of responses given in each level of agreement.

Q 6b: Reasons given for the level of agreement with the statement “The look, feel, presentation and maintenance of Hyde Park is at a standard appropriate to Sydney’s premier park.”

Table 6b.1: The *strongly agree/agree* themes

Rank	Themes	% of responses
The top five themes – Strongly agree/agree		
1	Well maintained and presented	28
2	Cleaning staff dedicated to its upkeep	18
=3	No complaints – don’t change anything	11
=3	Excellent design and layout	11
5	Attractive and well maintained landscaping	10
The other themes – Strongly agree/agree		
6	A pleasant escape	8
7	Good atmosphere	5
8	Good location	3
9	Above standard	2
Single comments – Strongly agree/agree		4
Total		100

Question 6b was a qualitative or ‘open-ended’ question that asked respondents to give reasons for their stated level of agreement in Q6a with the statement: “the look, feel, presentation and maintenance of Hyde Park is at a standard appropriate to Sydney’s premier park”. Respondents were encouraged to provide multiple responses. Overall, respondents gave 770 reasons for why they strongly agreed or agreed with the statement and these were coded into themes. Table 6b.1 identifies the themes and the percentage of the 770 reasons that are contained in each theme. The themes are discussed in more detail commencing on the next page.

Discussion of the *top five* themes – Strongly agree/agree

1. Well maintained and presented – 28 percent

Hyde Park is well maintained and presented and respondents appreciate the Park’s beauty and its presentation. Many people in this theme used words to describe the Park, such as “magnificent”, “impressive” or “beautiful”.

2. Cleaning staff dedicated to its upkeep – 18 percent

Respondents described Hyde Park as very clean, with plenty of cleaning staff dedicated to its upkeep.

=3. No complaints – 11 percent

Respondents indicated that they had no complaints about Hyde Park, and recommended not to change anything about it.

=3. Excellent design and layout – 11 percent

Respondent commented on the excellent design and layout of Hyde Park, with its easy access and good walking paths, its large size and the open space available, sufficient shaded areas, the provision of good facilities such as the chessboard. Respondents also valued the inclusion of interesting monuments such as the Anzac Memorial and the Archibald Fountain.

5. Attractive, well maintained landscaping – 10 percent

Respondents commented on the Park’s attractive trees and grass areas, appreciating also its gardens and well maintained landscaping.

Discussion of the *other* themes – Strongly agree/agree

6. A pleasant escape – 8 percent

- Experience of nature
- There are great areas available to sit and relax
- It is a peaceful oasis and a place to escape to for some quiet time

7. Good atmosphere – 5 percent

- Hyde Park has a good atmosphere
- The atmosphere is friendly and well behaved
- Respondents appreciate the sunshine accessible in the Park

8. Good location – 3 percent

- The Park is well located
- It is a private location
- Being close to city buildings makes the Park easily accessible

Q 6b: Reasons given for the level of agreement with the statement “The look, feel, presentation and maintenance of Hyde Park is at a standard appropriate to Sydney’s premier park.” Please explain your reasons



Discussion of the *other* themes – Strongly agree/agree... cont’d

9. Above standard – 2 percent

- Hyde Park is above standard
- The Park is a role model to other parks
- Hyde Park is unique

Single comments: Strongly agree/agree – 4 percent

- Hyde Park is a nice place for family and kids
- It is child-safe
- Hyde Park represents Sydney
- Respondents like the music and other events
- More innovation is needed
- Respondents request that the trees are protected, which may require more research
- The Park is safe and well lit
- Hyde Park attracts a mix of people, especially tourists
- The Park is open to all

Table 6b.2: The *neutral* themes

Rank	Themes	% of responses
All themes – Neutral		
1	Room for improvement	33
2	Not sure	27
3	Improve the look and presentation	16
4	Maintenance issues	11
5	Hyde Park lacks uniqueness	9
Single Comments – Neutral		4
Total		100

Question 6b was a qualitative or ‘open-ended’ question that asked respondents to give reasons for their stated level of agreement in Q6a with the statement: “*the look, feel, presentation and maintenance of Hyde Park is at a standard appropriate to Sydney’s premier park*”. Respondents were encouraged to provide multiple responses. Overall, respondents gave 79 reasons for why they responded as neutral to the statement and these were coded into themes. Table 6b.2 identifies the themes and the percentage of the 79 reasons that are contained in each theme. The themes are discussed in more detail commencing on the next page.

Discussion of the themes - Neutral

1. Room for improvement – 33 percent

Respondents indicated that Hyde Park needs work and that there is much room for improvement.

2. Not sure – 27 percent

Respondents said that they were not sure the standard of Hyde Park is appropriate to Sydney’s premier Park.

3. Improve the look and presentation – 16 percent

Respondents indicated that the Park’s look and presentation could be improved and that there is not enough greenery. However, Hyde Park generally has a lovely feel.

4. Maintenance issues – 11 percent

Respondent commented on the need for maintenance of the Park and a better effort made by Park staff. The maintenance of Park Street has been drawn out and the grass throughout the park is patchy and dry.

5. Hyde Park lacks uniqueness – 9 percent

Respondents describe Hyde Park as average, lacking uniqueness and not being to the standard of Sydney’s Premier Park, or that of parks around the world.

Single comments: Neutral – 4 percent

- The Park inhabits undesirable people
- The respondent’s opinion of the Park changes depending on the time and day

Q 6b: Reasons given for the level of agreement with the statement “The look, feel, presentation and maintenance of Hyde Park is at a standard appropriate to Sydney’s premier park.” Please explain your reasons

Table 6b.3: The *disagree/strongly disagree* themes

Rank	Themes	% of responses
The <i>top five</i> themes – Disagree/strongly disagree		
1	Improve the maintenance of the park	48
2	More trees and flowers	15
=3	Poor design and layout	7
=3	Does not meet the standard as Sydney’s premier Park	7
5	Requires more facilities	4
The <i>other</i> themes – Disagree/strongly disagree		
=6	Requires more security	3
=6	Fauna issues	3
=6	The Park is boring and unattractive	3
Single comments – Disagree/strongly disagree		10
Total		100

Question 6b was a qualitative or ‘open-ended’ question that asked respondents to give reasons for their stated level of agreement in Q6a with the statement: ‘the look, feel, presentation and maintenance of Hyde Park is at a standard appropriate to Sydney’s premier park’. Respondents were encouraged to provide multiple responses. Overall, respondents gave 222 reasons for why strongly disagreed or disagreed with the statement and these were coded into themes. Table 6b.2 identifies the themes and the percentage of the 222 reasons that are contained in each theme. The themes are discussed in more detail below.

Discussion of the *top five* themes – Disagree/strongly disagree

1. Improve the maintenance of the Park– 48 percent

Respondents requested there be better maintenance of the Park, particularly of Sandringham Gardens, the Pool of Remembrance, the seats and the flora. Maintenance is also not consistent throughout the Park, and it is sometimes littered and dirty. Respondents suggested that more workers are required to improve the maintenance of the Park.

2. More trees and flowers – 15 percent

Respondents in this theme wish to see more trees and flowers in Hyde Park, and for the uprooted trees to be re-planted.

Discussion of the *top five* themes – Disagree/strongly disagree... cont'd

=3. Poor design and layout – 7 percent

The design and layout of Hyde Park lacks colour, is too small in size and has a ‘mish-mash’ of paving and fixtures. Some respondents have also suggested that the Archibald Fountain be replaced.

=3. Does not meet the standard as Sydney’s premier Park– 7 percent

Hyde Park does not compare to any of the world’s parks. It also does not meet the standard as Sydney’s premier park, which the Botanic Gardens or other gardens may do.

5. Requires more facilities – 4 percent

Hyde Park needs more facilities such as tables, chairs and toilets. There is not only a shortage of bins, but the existing bins need to be upgraded.

Discussion of the *other* themes – disagree/strongly disagree

=6 Requires more security – 3 percent

The Park is unsafe and requires more security

=6 Fauna issues – 3 percent

- Rid park of rats/ibises
- Needs more wildlife

=6 The Park is boring and unattractive – 3 percent

The Park is boring and unattractive

Single comments: disagree/strongly disagree – 10 percent

- Not enough footpaths
- More of a thoroughfare as opposed to a place to relax
- Close to traffic
- Lacks peaceful atmosphere
- Machinery too noisy/annoying
- Hyde Park South-end neglected
- Needs more planning and investment
- Remove exotic plantings
- Over-developed poor landscaping
- Overrated
- Too close to city: not quiet enough
- Lacks atmosphere
- Overused

Q 6c: If you could fix three things related to the look, feel, presentation and/or maintenance of Hyde Park, what would they be?

Table 6c: Things to fix that would improve the look, feel, presentation and/or maintenance of Hyde Park

Rank	Themes	% of responses
The top themes		
1	More flowers and greenery	14
2	Better maintenance of amenities and hard surfaces	7
=3	Upgrade the design and layout of the Park	6
=3	Repair bare parts of lawn and grass maintenance	6
=3	Fauna issues	6
=3	More seating	6
The other themes		
=7	Improve security	5
=7	Bans and prohibitions – various	5
=9	No changes are required	4
=9	More toilets	4
=11	Park management	3
=11	Provide more rubbish bins	3
=11	More public art and exhibitions	3
=14	Children's playground	2
=14	More water features	2
=14	More drinking water	2
=14	Connect Northern and Southern ends of the Park	2
=14	Events in the Park	2
=14	More shaded/sheltered areas	2
=14	Improve maintenance of the Pool of Remembrance	2
Single comments and themes attracting 1 percent or less		14
Total		100

Question 6c was a qualitative or 'open-ended' question that asked respondents to suggest three things to fix that would improve the look, feel, presentation and/or maintenance of Hyde Park. Respondents gave 1569 ideas, which were coded into themes. Table 6c identifies the themes and the percentage of the 1569 ideas that are contained in each theme. The themes are discussed in more detail commencing on the next page.

Discussion of the *top* themes

1. More flowers and greenery – 14 percent

Respondents requested more flowers and greenery including, colourful flora, shrubs, Australian natives and formal planting. Respondents also requested an increase in flora maintenance particularly for the trees and the removal of leaf litter.

2. Better maintenance of amenities and hard surfaces – 7 percent

Respondents requested an increase in the maintenance of the Parks' amenities and hard surfaces. Suggestions were also made to repair broken paths and to have more uniformity in the paving materials used; replace the dirt paths around the Park, with paved walkways improve the pathway drainage and repair the metal initialling of the HP sign in the Northern end of the Park.

=3. Upgrade the design and layout of the Park – 6 percent

A number of responses requested an upgrade of the design and layout of the Park. Suggestions received requested more open spaces, more separate gardens and themed areas, the inclusion of bicycle lanes and routes, hedging around borders and extra paving around seats and benches.

=3. Repair bare parts of lawn and grass maintenance – 6 percent

Respondents cited grass maintenance as an area for improvement and requested that bare parts of the lawn and dirt paths be repaired.

=3. Fauna issues – 6 percent

A number of responses discussed issues relating to animals in the Park, including the control or removal of birds (in particular the Ibis), the removal of rats and animal care such as possum boxes and some wanted to encourage more fauna.

=3. More seating – 6 percent

A number of responses requested more seating and benches to be installed in Hyde Park. Suggestions were made for the extra seating to be positioned in the shade and on grassed areas. Requests were also made for the new seating to be more comfortable than the current seating.

Discussion of the *other* categories

=7. Improve security – 5 percent

- More lighting
- Better night security eg cameras, police patrols
- Protect the Park from vandalism
- No shrubs/bushes to hide in

Q 6c: If you could fix three things related to the look, feel, presentation and/or maintenance of Hyde Park, what would they be?



Discussion of the *other* categories... cont'd

=7. Bans and prohibitions: various – 5 percent

- Ban skateboards
- Prohibit personal trainers and exercise groups
- Prohibit/control underage drinking
- Ban smoking
- Stop 'Jay walkers'
- No protests permitted in the Park
- Prohibit alcohol (and glass) consumption
- Prohibit charity collectors
- No advertising
- No bird feeding
- No chewing gum
- Prevent people from sleeping in the Park at night

=9. No changes – 4 percent

Respondents could not recommend any changes to the Park and stated that the Park is fine as it is.

=9. More toilets – 4 percent

- More toilets/changing rooms
- Free toilets/amenities

=11. Park management – 3 percent

- Better rubbish removal
- Appoint a Park ranger
- Maintenance workers to have safer work practices and better presentation
- Fines for littering

=11. Provide more rubbish bins – 3 percent

- Provide more rubbish bins including needle and syringe deposits and recycling bins
- Bird proof bins

=11. More public art and exhibitions – 3 percent

- More art exhibitions
- More public art

Discussion of the *other* categories... cont'd

=14. Children's playground – 2 percent

Respondents requested a children's playground be installed.

=14. More water features – 2 percent

Respondents requested more water features.

=14. More drinking water – 2 percent

Requests were received for Hyde Park to have more drinking water facilities.

=14. Connect the Northern and Southern ends of the Park – 2 percent

Respondents suggested that there be a better connection between the Northern and Southern ends of the Park, including the suggestion of an underpass.

=14. Events in the Park – 2 percent

- More events
- Less events
- Advertising for future events
- Outdoor concert/theatre area
- Better access during events

=14. More shaded/sheltered areas – 2 percent

- More shaded areas
- More rain shelters

=14. Improve maintenance of the Pool of Remembrance – 2 percent

Respondents requested improved maintenance of the Pool of Remembrance and the trees surrounding it.

Q 6c: If you could fix three things related to the look, feel, presentation and/or maintenance of Hyde Park, what would they be?



Single comments and themes attracting 1 percent or less – 14 percent

Features and facilities

- Provide 'dog-doo' bins
- More representation of indigenous culture/history
- No additional artwork
- Include sporting activities such as a skate ramp, exercise stations and an area for ball games
- More to look at
- More buskers
- Free parking
- No children's play area
- More ashtrays
- More displays down walkways
- More shops/cafes
- Picnic areas with tables and chairs
- More tree lights

Signage and information

- More signage and wayfinding amenities
- Provide information about the trees and history of Hyde Park
- Guided tours
- More public signage regarding Park rules

Anzac Memorial

- Removal of the Memorial
- Allowance to sit on Memorial steps
- Easier access to war Memorial
- Reduce glorification of war

Access points

- Improve access to Hyde Park by; providing additional ramp access, level the stairs on Park Street South and provide a more appropriate vehicle entrance at the corner of Liverpool and College streets.
- Additional entry and exit points and improve the current ones.

Maintenance issues

- More attention other than only maintenance
- Reduce pollution and provide an alternate watering system such as bore water or stormwater irrigation



Q6c: If you could fix three things related to the look, feel, presentation and/or maintenance of Hyde Park, what would they be?

Single comments and themes attracting 1 percent or less... cont'd

Single comments

- Improve the maintenance and lighting of the Archibald Fountain
- Tree replacement plan for improved trees
- Reduce noise from car/surrounding areas
- More relaxed feel needed
- More activities on weekends
- Look after the homeless
- Less cameras
- Change caption on Captain Cook statue
- Increase park size
- More people interaction
- Stop road-works
- No more licenses to private groups
- Permit alcohol consumption

Visiting Hyde Park at night



Pinicking on the grass after dark

Question 7: Visiting Hyde Park at night

Summary findings

Response to 'would you feel comfortable visiting Hyde Park at night' – Table 7a on page 62

Although 61 percent of respondents stated they are comfortable visiting Hyde Park at night, a large minority of 39 percent are not and 6 percent stated that they were unsure.

Reasons stated for why respondents do or do not feel comfortable visiting Hyde Park at night – Tables 7b 1-3 commencing on page 63

It is worthwhile looking at the reasons behind both responses, as they are quite revealing. Of those who are comfortable at night, the largest single response was that Hyde Park engenders a *feeling of security* at night (30 percent) followed by the closely related factor that the park is *well lit* (27 percent), followed by *plenty of people* at a more distant 9 percent.

Conversely, of the group who expressed reservations about visiting at night, *fear of attack* (27 percent) and *fear of other people in the park* (26 percent) were the two most frequent reasons given. *Poor lighting* was mentioned in fourth place by only 12 percent of respondents in this group.

It seems therefore, that the *fear of attack/people in the park* factor is very high within this group, rather than criticism of physical features of the park, such as lighting or design related issues. Whether this *fear of people* is perceived or real, caused by direct experience of an incident at night, is less clear from their responses. It appears that more people reported hearing indirectly about incidents from others, rather than having experienced an actual attack or some harassment while in the park at night. Some mention was also made of fear of the homeless and some used quite pejorative terms to describe others in the park, such as “druggies”, “riff-raff” or “alcoholics”.

In either case, the ‘fear factor’ – *fear of attack or people in the park* is more difficult to address, than if physical or design issues were mentioned by respondents as the more dominant reasons.

Q 7a: Would you feel comfortable visiting Hyde Park at night?

Table 7a: Comfort factor visiting Hyde Park at night

Comfort factor	%	Number
Comfortable	57	564
Not comfortable	36	356
Unsure	6	61
Total	100	981

Question 7a was a 'closed' question that asked respondents to indicate Yes or No if they would feel comfortable visiting Hyde Park at night. Respondents who could not answer Yes or No wrote unsure next to the question. 981 responses were received and Table 7a shows the percentage of responses given for *comfortable* and *not comfortable* and *unsure*.

Q 7b: Reasons given for level of comfort when visiting Hyde Park at night

Table 7b.1: The 'Yes, I feel comfortable' themes

Rank	Themes	% of responses
The <i>top five</i> themes – Yes, I feel comfortable at night		
1	Feeling of security	30
2	Well lit	27
3	Plenty of People	9
4	Only when with people, but not alone	8
5	Pleasant to visit at night	7
The <i>other</i> themes – Yes, I feel comfortable at night		
6	Open spaces for good visibility	6
7	Sufficient security provided	3
8	Walk through only	2
Single comments – Yes, I feel comfortable at night		8
Total		100

Question 7b was a qualitative or 'open-ended' question that asked respondents to give reasons for their level of comfort when visiting Hyde Park at night, with multiple responses encouraged. Respondents gave 564 reasons for why they feel comfortable when visiting Hyde Park at night and these were coded into themes. Table 7b.1 identifies the themes and the percentage of the 564 reasons that are contained in each theme. The themes are discussed in more detail below.

Discussion of the *top five* themes – Yes, I feel comfortable at night

1. Feeling of security – 30 percent

Respondents commented that there was a general feeling of security in the Park that allowed them to feel safe and comfortable. Responses in this theme were non-specific about the actual reasons why they felt there was a general level of security.

2. Well lit – 27 percent

Respondents stated that the good lighting enabled them to feel safe while walking in the Park at night.

Discussion of the *top five* themes – Yes, I feel comfortable at night... cont'd

3. Plenty of people – 9 percent

According to these respondents, the number of people in Hyde Park at night enabled them to feel comfortable visiting at night.

4. Only when with people, but not alone – 8 percent

While these respondents stated that they felt comfortable visiting Hyde Park at night, they commented that they only felt safe when with a group of people and would not necessarily feel comfortable if alone.

5. Pleasant to visit at night – 4 percent

Respondents commented that Hyde Park is peaceful and pleasant to visit at night especially with the lights on in the trees.

Discussion of the *other* themes – Yes, I feel comfortable at night

6. Open space, good visibility - 6 percent

Respondents commented that the open space in Hyde Park provided good visibility that enabled them to feel comfortable when visiting the Park at night.

7. Sufficient security provided – 3 percent

Respondents stated that the security cameras and police patrols provided sufficient security that enabled them to feel comfortable visiting the Park at night.

8. Walk through only – 2 percent

While these respondents stated they felt comfortable visiting Hyde Park at night, they commented that they would only walk through and would not spend any time in the Park.

Single comments: Yes, I feel comfortable at night – 8 percent

- Possums are an attraction
- Use it often at night
- Main path only and only where the lights are
- Location, in the heart of the City
- Safer than other parts of Sydney
- Familiar with the Park
- Feel protected by God
- Avoid Friday and Saturday nights
- Not allowed, too young
- Clean
- Homeless – live in the Park
- Good place for a drink

Q 7b: Reasons given for level of comfort visiting Hyde Park at night

Table 7b.2: The 'No, I do not feel comfortable' themes

Rank	Themes	% of responses
The <i>top five</i> themes – No, I do not feel comfortable		
1	Fear of attack	26
2	Other people in the Park	25
3	Generally avoid all parks at night	13
4	Lighting issues	12
5	No security, patrol	8
The <i>other</i> themes – No, I do not feel comfortable		
6	Violence and Crime	7
7	Feeling of isolation	5
Single comments – No, I do not feel comfortable		4
Total		100

Question 7b was a qualitative or 'open-ended' question that asked respondents to give reasons for their level of comfort when visiting Hyde Park at night, with multiple responses encouraged. Respondents gave 356 reasons for why they do not feel comfortable when visiting Hyde Park at night and these were coded into themes. Table 7b.2 identifies the themes and the percentage of the 356 reasons that are contained in each theme. The themes are discussed in more detail below.

Discussion of the *top five* themes – No, I do not feel comfortable at night

1. Fear of attack – 26 percent

Respondents stated that they felt scared as they had been warned against being in the Park at night, had heard of stories of attacks in the Park and felt that the Park was dangerous.

2. Other people in the Park – 25 percent

Respondents in this theme commented that other people in the Park particularly "druggies, thieves, gangs, homeless people and alcoholics" prevented them from feeling comfortable at night.

3. Generally avoid all parks at night – 13 percent

While these respondents stated that they would not feel comfortable visiting Hyde Park at night, they also said that they would not visit any park at night.

Discussion of the *top five* themes – No I do not feel comfortable at night... cont'd

4. Lighting issues – 12 percent

Respondents commented that inadequate lighting that created dark areas, particularly near Oxford Street, prevented them from visiting the Park at night.

5. No security, patrol – 8 percent

Respondents stated that a lack of security, such as a police patrol prevented them from feeling comfortable when visiting the Park at night.

Discussion of the *other* themes – No I do not feel comfortable

6. Violence and crime – 7 percent

Respondents recalled incidents where they had been attacked, hassled or robbed when visiting Hyde Park at night.

7. Feeling of isolation – 5 percent

Respondents commented that feelings of isolation particularly in the large open spaces prevented them from being comfortable in the Park at night.

Single comments: No, I do not feel comfortable at night – 4 percent

- Don't like it at night
- Location
- Too many rats, bats and cockroaches
- Unsure, unfamiliar with the Park/City
- Only when there are organised events on
- Not with children

Q 7b: Reasons given for level of comfort visiting Hyde Park at night

Table 7b.3: Themes in response to 'Unsure'

Rank	Themes	% of responses
The Top Five Themes – Unsure or conditional response		
1	Not alone, but accompanied by others	18
=2	Don't know	15
=2	Depends the situation	15
4	Unsure of type of people around	13
5	Only if well lit	10
The Other Themes – Unsure or conditional response		
=6	North end okay, but not South	5
=6	Safety concerns	5
=6	Heard stories of violence, been warned not to visit at night	5
Single Comments - Unsure		14
Total		100

Question 7b was a qualitative or 'open-ended' question that asked respondents to give reasons for their level of comfort when visiting Hyde Park at night, with multiple responses encouraged. Respondents gave 61 reasons for why they were unsure if they would feel comfortable when visiting Hyde Park at night and these were coded into themes. Table 7b.3 identifies the themes and the percentage of the 61 reasons that are contained in each theme. The themes are discussed in more detail below.

Discussion of the *top five* themes – Unsure

1. Not alone, with people only – 18 percent

These respondents stated that they were unsure if they would feel comfortable visiting the Park at night, commenting that they would only visit the Park when accompanied by others and definitely not by themselves.

=2. Don't know - 15 percent

These respondents stated that they were unsure if they would feel comfortable visiting the Park at night and did not provide a reason for this.

Discussion of the *top five* themes – Unsure... cont'd

=2. Depends on the situation - 15 percent

These respondents commented that it would depend on the situation if they felt comfortable visiting the Park at night. Factors that would influence them included the time of visit and whether there is an event on in the Park

4. Unsure of type of people of around – 13 percent

Respondents commented that they were unsure if they would feel safe with some of the people in the Park such as 'druggies', alcoholics and homeless people.

5. Only if well lit – 10 percent

Respondents stated that they would only visit Hyde Park at night if it was well lit. These respondents commented that they would only stay in areas with good lighting such as the main pathway and would not venture into other darker areas of the Park.

Discussion of the *other* themes – Unsure

6. North end okay, but not South – 5 percent

Respondents commented that they would only feel comfortable in the North end of the Park and would not go to the Southern end.

7. Safety concerns – 5 percent

Respondents expressed that they felt unsafe visiting the Park at night and were fearful of being attacked.

8. Been warned away from visiting the Park at night – 5 percent

Respondents expressed concern over their safety commenting that they had been warned not to visit the Park at night and had heard stories of attacks in the Park.

Single comments: Unsure – 14 percent

- Unsure if patrolled, help points, safety
- Quick walk through, not stay long
- Drug use
- Dark

Organised events in Hyde Park



An event held in Hyde Park: Light Sculpture with torches

Question 8: Please advise which (if any) organised events you have attended in Hyde Park in the past 12 months.

Summary findings

Table 8: Organised events attended by respondents (n=386)

Rank	Event	% of responses
The top five events		
1	Art in the Park festival	25
2	Wine and food festival	14
3	Good Living food festival	11
4	Australia Day	9
5	Noodle market	8
The other events		
6	Sydney Festival	7
7	Mardi Gras launch	5
=8	Blue Invasion	4
=8	Political rallies/protests	4
=10	AIDS Trust Fair	3
=10	Anzac Day	3
=10	City to Surf	3
13	St Patrick's Day	2
Additional events		3
Total		100

Question 8 asked respondents to advise of any organised events they have attended in Hyde Park in the past 12 months, with multiple responses encouraged. For each event listed respondents were asked if they felt Hyde Park was the most appropriate place to hold each event. If respondents did not feel it was the most appropriate place, they were asked to state where else the event could be held. 386 responses were received, Table 8 lists the events and percentage of respondents that mentioned them. Table 8.1 lists the events and the percentage of respondents that felt Hyde Park was an appropriate or inappropriate venue. Each event is then discussed in greater detail commencing on Page 73.

Q8: Please advise which (if any) organised events you have attended in Hyde Park in the past 12 months

Table 8.1: Percentage of respondents who attended events and felt Hyde Park was an appropriate or inappropriate venue.

Event	Appropriate %	Inappropriate %
The top five events		
1. Art in the Park (n=96)	96	4
2. Wine and food festival (n=53)	89	11
3. Good Living food festival (n=41)	98	2
4. Australia Day (n=33)	97	3
5. Noodle market (n=30)	87	10
The other events		
6. Sydney Festival (n=26)	96	4
7. Mardi Gras launch (n=21)	81	19
=8 Blue Invasion (n=16)	100	0
=8 Political rallies/protests (n=15)	93	7
=10 AIDS trust fair (n=9)	89	11
=10 Anzac Day (n=13)	100	0
=10 City to Surf (n=11)	82	18
13 St. Patrick's Day (n=8)	100	0

Q8: Please advise which (if any) organised events you have attended in Hyde Park in the past 12 months

Discussion of the *top five* events

1. Art in the Park – 25 percent

Event	Appropriate %	Inappropriate %
Art in the Park (n=96)	96	4

Reasons why Hyde Park was *appropriate*

- Hyde Park provided a perfect location because it is very accessible to public transport and is the focal point of the City.
- The event made the Park beautiful, and the artworks were nice to look at whilst walking through.
- It was welcoming change to have the artworks positioned outdoors instead of in a museum
- The Park provided a relaxing setting
- Event was free of charge
- Did not cause damage to the Park
- Good use of space that brought people to the Park

Reasons why Hyde Park was *inappropriate*

- There were too many people
- Damage was done to the Park

Where else could it be held?

- The Domain

2. Wine and food festival – 14 percent

Event	Appropriate %	Inappropriate %
Wine and food festival (n=53)	89	11

Reasons why Hyde Park was *appropriate*

- Hyde Park was a good location because it provides convenient access to public transport and is a focal point of the City.
- The event attracted lots of people to the Park
- It had a good atmosphere
- Good use of space

Reasons why Hyde Park was *inappropriate*

- Places stress on the Park
- Too commercial
- Hyde Park is a place to relax not party
- Too crowded

Q8: Please advise which (if any) organised events you have attended in Hyde Park in the past 12 months

Discussion of the *top five* events... cont'd

2. Wine and food festival – 14 percent... cont'd

Where else could it be held?

- The Domain
- Opera House steps
- Darling Harbour
- Shopping mall
- Moore Park
- Square outside of St Mary's Cathedral
- Martin Place
- Wynyard Park

3. Good Living food festival – 11 percent

Event	Appropriate %	Inappropriate %
Good Living food festival (n=41)	98	2

Reasons why Hyde Park was *appropriate*

- A central location that is close to transport
- A nice place for lots of people to gather
- Good use of space for Park
- Nice places to sit
- Enjoy beauty of Park

Reasons why Hyde Park was *inappropriate*

- Blocked the public thoroughfare
- Was overcrowded – scale down the selection of food

Where else could it be held?

- In corner of Park

Q8: Please advise which (if any) organised events you have attended in Hyde Park in the past 12 months

Discussion of the *top five* events... cont'd

4. Australia Day – 9 percent

Event	Appropriate %	Inappropriate %
Australia Day (n=33)	97	3

Reasons why Hyde Park was *appropriate*

- A good location with convenient access to public transport and close to the CBD
- Provided a large space that was attractive with trees and shade
- Right place to celebrate
- Good to meet people/lots of people
- A good change from Circular Quay and Darling Harbour

Reasons why Hyde Park was *inappropriate*

- Not enough space

Where else could it be held?

- The Domain

5. Noodle market – 8 percent

Event	Appropriate %	Inappropriate %
Noodle market (n=30)	87	10

Reasons why Hyde Park was *appropriate*

- Close to the City and public transport
- The design and layout enabled a good use of the large space
- Provided a good atmosphere making it a fun night
- Family friendly event that brought people to the Park at night
- Perfect venue
- Worked well

Reasons why Hyde Park was *inappropriate*

- Too many people

Where else could it be held?

- The Botanical Gardens

Q8: Please advise which (if any) organised events you have attended in Hyde Park in the past 12 months

Discussion of the *other* events

6. Sydney Festival – 7 percent

Event	Appropriate %	Inappropriate %
Sydney Festival (n=26)	96	4

Reasons why Hyde Park was *appropriate*

- A good location that is accessible to public transport
- The open space was suited to the theme and looked great
- Comfortable
- Correct atmosphere
- Public exposure
- Good place for kids
- Attracted people to the Park

Reasons why Hyde Park was *inappropriate*

- No reasons were given for why respondents felt Hyde Park was inappropriate

Where else could it be held?

- Opera House steps

7. Mardi Gras launch – 5 percent

Event	Appropriate %	Inappropriate %
Mardi Gras launch (n=21)	81	19

Reasons why Hyde Park was *appropriate*

- Good day for the community
- Lots of people
- Open space
- Close to the city
- Great venue
- Great atmosphere

Reasons why Hyde Park was *inappropriate*

- Too open

Where else could it be held?

- Opera House steps
- Circular Quay

Q8: Please advise which (if any) organised events you have attended in Hyde Park in the past 12 months

Discussion of the *other* events... cont'd

=8. Blue Invasion – 4 percent

Event	Appropriate %	Inappropriate %
Blue Invasion (n=16)	100	0

Reasons why Hyde Park was *appropriate*

- Attracted lots of people to the Park at night
- Something fun and different
- Good use of space
- Appropriate ambience
- The event was free of charge

=8. Political Rallies/Protests – 4 percent

Event	Appropriate %	Inappropriate %
Political rallies/protests (n=15)	93	7

Reasons why Hyde Park was *appropriate*

- A good location that is close to public transport
- Close to Parliament House
- Good meeting point
- Good space
- Not private

Reasons why Hyde Park was *inappropriate*

- Ruins pleasant atmosphere of the Park

Where else could it be held?

- Respondents did not provide an alternate venue

=10. AIDS trust fair – 3 percent

Event	Appropriate %	Inappropriate %
AIDS trust fair (n=9)	89	11

Reasons why Hyde Park was *appropriate*

- Central location
- Accessible
- Easy to attend
- Good space
- Didn't disrupt the Park

Q8: Please advise which (if any) organised events you have attended in Hyde Park in the past 12 months

Discussion of the *other* events... cont'd

=10. AIDS trust fair – 3 percent... cont'd

Reasons why Hyde Park was *inappropriate*

- No reasons were given for why respondents felt Hyde Park was inappropriate

=10. Anzac Day – 3 percent

Event	Appropriate %	Inappropriate %
Anzac Day (n=13)	100	0

Reasons why Hyde Park was *appropriate*

- Location
- Beautiful
- Large area

=10. City to Surf – 3 percent

Event	Appropriate %	Inappropriate %
City to Surf (n=11)	82	18

Reasons why Hyde Park was *appropriate*

- Open space
- Logical location

Reasons why Hyde Park was *inappropriate*

- Places a strain on the Park

Where else could it be held?

- Respondents did not provide an alternate venue

13. St. Patrick's Day – 2 percent

Event	Appropriate %	Inappropriate %
St. Patrick's Day (n=8)	100	0

Reasons why Hyde Park was *appropriate*

- Large space
- Nice trees
- Lots of people
- Away from streets
- Good location

Q8: Please advise which (if any) organised events you have attended in Hyde Park in the past 12 months

Additional events – 3 percent

Scottish celebrations (n=5)

Appropriate %	Inappropriate %
80	20

Reasons why Hyde Park was *appropriate*

- Central location
- Good atmosphere

Reasons why Hyde Park was *inappropriate*

- No reasons were given for why respondents felt Hyde Park was inappropriate

Where else could it be held?

- The Domain

Music event (n=2)

Appropriate %	Inappropriate %
100	0

Reasons why Hyde Park was *appropriate*

- Good space
- Central location

Christmas concert (n=2)

Appropriate %	Inappropriate %
100	0

Reasons why Hyde Park was *appropriate*

- Large space

Q8: Please advise which (if any) organised events you have attended in Hyde Park in the past 12 months

Additional events – 3 percent... cont'd

Children's concerts (n=2)

Appropriate %	Inappropriate %
50	50

Reasons why Hyde Park was *appropriate*

- No damage to Park

Reasons why Hyde Park was *inappropriate*

- Not a children's space

Where else could it be held?

- All loud music events should be held in the Domain

Beck's Festival (n=1)

Appropriate %	Inappropriate %
100	0

Reasons why Hyde Park was *appropriate*

- Attractive setting

David Jones arrival of Santa (n=1)

Appropriate %	Inappropriate %
100	0

Reasons why Hyde Park was *appropriate*

- Location

Tango in the Park (n=1)

Appropriate %	Inappropriate %
100	0

Reasons why Hyde Park was *appropriate*

- Location
- Ambience
- Relaxing

Q8: Please advise which (if any) organised events you have attended in Hyde Park in the past 12 months

Additional events – 3 percent... cont'd

Movie/media festival (n=1)

Appropriate %	Inappropriate %
100	0

Reasons why Hyde Park was *appropriate*

- Good space
- Brings people to the Park

Frequency of organised events in Hyde Park



Completing the Intercept survey

Question 9: Frequency of organised events in Hyde Park

Summary findings

Responses related to the number of events in Hyde Park – Table 9a on page 86

A vast majority of park visitors clearly enjoy attending events in Hyde Park and feel that the park is indeed an appropriate venue to hold major events in the City. Table 9a shows that the largest group of responses (49 percent) called for more events to be held, with a further 39 percent stating that the current number of events should be retained in the park,

Reasons given for the number of events that should be held in Hyde Park – Tables 9b 1-3 commencing on page 87

Those who called for more events (49 percent) appear to show a great affection for Hyde Park as a major event venue. They commonly mentioned the appropriateness of the Park as a place for major gatherings and the fact that they enjoyed events being held close to 'nature'. They also felt that events bring people together and engender a sense of community. Access to the Park and its proximity to transport services was also a big plus for these people.

Of those who called for the same number of events, although they generally like Hyde Park as a venue, concerns begin to be expressed about the affect of large events on the fabric of the Park.

Those who called for *fewer events* (6 percent) or *no events* in the Park (6 percent) are most concerned about destroying the privacy and fabric of Hyde Park by what they see as intrusive, noisy or destructive events.

Question 9a: In relation to organised events in Hyde Park, do you think there should be *more, the same number, fewer or none?*

Table 9a: Responses related the quantity of events in Hyde Park

No. of events in Hyde Park	%	Number of
More events?	49	327
Same number of events?	39	265
Fewer events?	6	41
None at all?	6	39
Total	100	672

Question 9a was a 'closed' question that asked respondents whether there should be more, the same number, fewer or no organised events in Hyde Park. Respondents were only allowed one 'tick-box' response. Overall 672 responses were received and Table 9a shows the percentage of responses for each option.

Q 9b: Please give a reason for the number of organised events your feel should be held in Hyde Park

Table 9b.1: The 'more events in Hyde Park' themes

Rank	Themes	% of responses
The top themes – More events		
=1	An attractive setting for events	21
=1	Events attract and involve people	21
3	Events require more publicity	12
4	Create a good atmosphere	10
=5	A good location	9
=5	Greater variety of events	9
The other themes – More events		
7	Child and family friendly events	3
8	Time of events	2
Single comments – More events		13
Total		100

Question 9b was a qualitative or 'open-ended' question that asked respondents to give reasons for the number of organised events they feel should be held in Hyde Park, with multiple responses encouraged. Respondents gave 281 reasons for why they would like more events and these were coded into themes. Table 9b.1 identifies the themes and the percentage of the 281 reasons that are contained in each theme. The themes are discussed in more detail below.

Discussion of the top themes – More events

=1. An attractive setting for events – 21 percent

Responses commented that Hyde Park provides an attractive setting for events, by providing an opportunity to get outdoors and experience nature.

= 1. Attracts and involves people – 21 percent

According to the responses received, events in Hyde Park bring people together, involve groups in the community and attract more people to visit. One respondent stated that 'it is a public park and should be available for all to enjoy.'

Q 9b: Reasons given for number of events that should be held in Hyde Park

Discussion of the *top* themes – More events ...cont'd

3. Events require more publicity – 12 percent

Respondents commented that there should be more events in Hyde Park and these should receive more publicity to encourage people to attend.

4. Creates a good atmosphere – 10 percent

The events currently held in Hyde Park provide a good community atmosphere that brings the Park to life.

=5. A good location – 9 percent

Respondents stated that Hyde Park is a good location because it is easy to get to and has reasonable parking.

= 5. Greater variety of events – 9 percent

Requests were received for a greater variety of events held in the Park including suggestions for music events, light shows, charity events, art events and cinema.

Discussion of the *other* themes – More events

7. Child and family friendly events – 3 percent

- Free events for family
- More under 18 specific events
- More events for children

8. Time of events – 2 percent

- More daytime events
- Yes, but not so many on weekends
- More weekend events

Single comments: More events – 13 percent

- More/all free events
- Its safe/makes it safer
- Makes it more enjoyable
- Yes, if events are meaningful
- More proactive activity
- Yes, but never attended organised event
- Under-utilised
- Yes, especially on Oxford Street side
- Utilises the park rather than only walkway

Q 9b: Reasons given for number of events that should be held in Hyde Park

Table 9b.2 The 'same number of events in Hyde Park' themes

Rank	Themes	% of responses
The top five themes – Same number		
1	Current amount is good	32
2	Causes damage to the Park	19
3	No private events in Hyde Park	17
4	Commercialises the Park	9
5	Noise issues	6
The other themes – Same number		
6	If they don't interfere with everyday usage	5
Single comments		12
Total		100

Question 9b was a qualitative or 'open-ended' question that asked respondents to give reasons for the number of organised events they feel should be held in Hyde Park, with multiple responses encouraged. Respondents gave 150 reasons for why they would like the same number of events and these were coded into themes. Table 9b.2 identifies the themes and the percentage of the 150 reasons that are contained in each theme. The themes are discussed in more detail below.

Discussion of the top five themes – Same number

1. Current amount is good – 32 percent

According to these respondents the number of events currently held in Hyde Park is sufficient

2. Causes damage to the Park – 19 percent

Respondents commented that too many events could cause damage to the Park with costly repairs and requests were made that all events should be cleaned up immediately.

3. No private events in Hyde Park – 17 percent

These respondents requested that no private events be held in Hyde Park and that all events should be open to the public.

4. Commercialises the Park – 9 percent

Respondents expressed concern that too many events will commercialise the Park, destroying its peaceful atmosphere.

Q 9b: Reasons given for number of events that should be held in Hyde Park

Discussion of the *top five* themes – Same number... cont'd

5. Noise issues - 6 percent

Respondents expressed concern over the amount of noise generated by the events, preventing Hyde Park from being a place to relax.

Discussion of the *other* themes – Same number

6. If they don't interfere with everyday usage – 5 percent

Respondents commented that events could be held in Hyde Park provided that they don't interfere with everyday usage.

Single comments: Same number – 12 percent

- Occasional day events only
- Longer passive events – such as Art in the Park
- If enclosed
- Park not entertainment centre
- I don't care
- If it doesn't make it a busy place
- Needs more toilets for events
- Fountain should remain in full view/open
- Better publicity
- Should be held elsewhere

Q 9b: Reasons given for number of events that should be held in Hyde Park

Table 9b.3: The 'fewer or no events in Hyde Park' themes

Rank	Themes	% of responses
All themes – Fewer or no events		
1	Impacts on Park atmosphere and uses	53
2	Causes damage to	16
3	Access issues	14
4	The Park is too small	3
Single comments – Fewer or no events		14
Total		100

Question 9b was a qualitative or 'open-ended' question that asked respondents to give reasons for the number of organised events they feel should be held in Hyde Park, with multiple responses encouraged. Respondents gave 136 reasons for why they would like the fewer or no events and these were coded into themes. Table 9b.3 identifies the themes and the percentage of the 136 reasons that are contained in each theme. The themes are discussed in more detail below.

Discussion of themes – Fewer or none

1. Not a place for events – 53 percent

Respondents stated that Hyde Park is a peaceful oasis in the city that provides privacy, space and an opportunity to escape noise, it is not a place for events.

2. Maintenance issues – 16 percent

Respondents were concerned that events in Hyde Park could cause damage that is costly to repair and interrupts maintenance.

3. Access issues – 14 percent

Events held in Hyde Park cause areas to close making access difficult.

4. The Park is too small – 3 percent

Hyde Park is too small to hold events without there being overcrowding.

Q 9b: Reasons given for number of events that should be held in Hyde Park

Discussion of themes – Fewer or none... cont'd

Single comments: Fewer or none – 14%

- Events are annoying
- Daytime events only
- Not big events
- Needs of residents and children
- Creates heavy traffic
- Unsafe at night
- No children

Frequency of visits to Hyde Park



Interviewing park user sitting on bench

Question 10: How often do you visit Hyde Park?

Summary findings

Table 10: Frequency of visits to Hyde Park

Frequency	%	Number
Daily	22	191
Several times/week	24	209
Once/week	13	112
Once/fortnight	8	72
Once/month	13	115
2-6 times/year	4	30
Once/year	3	24
Less than once/year	10	86
First visit	3	27
Not sure/don't know	0	0
Total	100	866

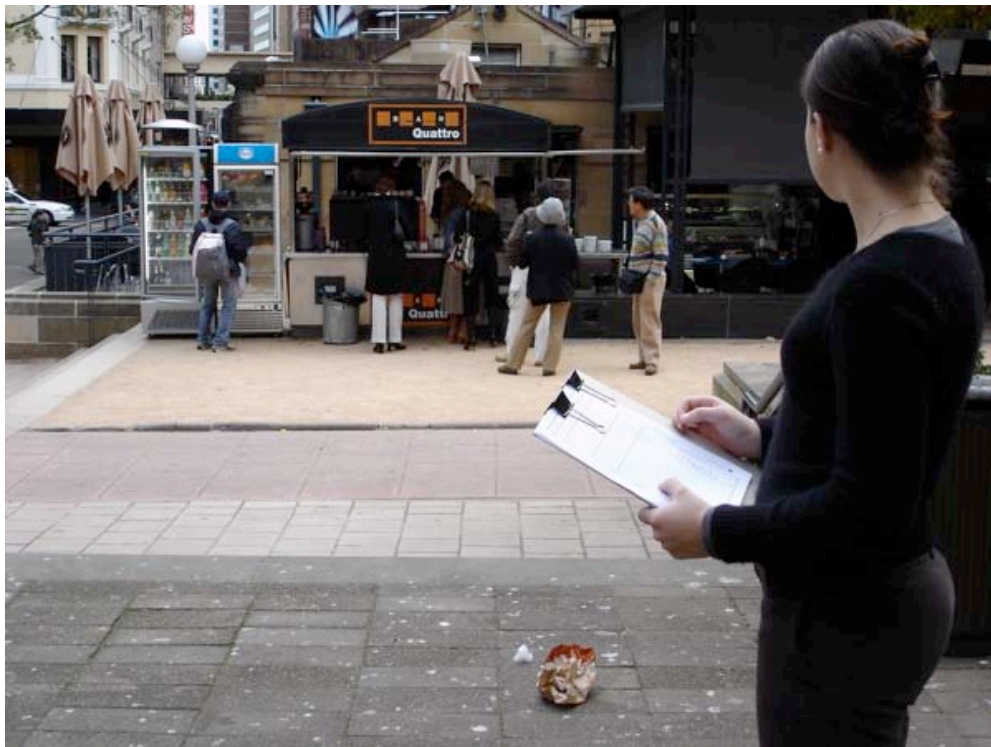
Question 10 was a 'closed' question that allowed only one 'tick-box' response. 866 responses were received and Table 10 shows the percentage of responses for the frequency of visits to Hyde Park.

Hyde Park is clearly a popular place with 59 percent of respondents visiting the park at least once a week. Of these, almost one quarter (24 percent) visit several times a week, while just over one-in-five of respondents (22 percent) visit Hyde Park on a daily basis. This amounts to 46 percent of respondents who visit at least several times a week.

This extremely high repeat visitation rate amongst those who visit week in and week out throughout the year, indicates that the park is subject to extremely high 'churn' rates, both by those who transit through the park and by those who stay – both of which are included in the above figures.

This is indicative of significant and relentless 'wear and tear' on the park's overall infrastructure, whether these relate to the walking paths and steps of those who transit, or the lawn areas, sittable ledges, benches or other infrastructure that is consistently used by those who spend time in the Park. And this is quite apart from the impacts of large events on the Park.

Timing of visit to Hyde Park



Ordering coffee from one of the cafes inside the park

Question 11: When do you mainly visit Hyde Park?

Summary findings

Table 11: Timing of visits to Hyde Park

Timing of visits	%	Number
Mostly on weekdays	48	501
Mostly on weekends	27	282
In school holidays	7	76
When on vacation	13	139
For special events	5	55
Other	0	0
Total	100	1053

Question 11 was a 'closed' question that asked respondents to indicate when they visited Hyde Park, with multiple responses permitted. 1053 responses were received and Table 11 shows the percentage of responses for the timing of visits to Hyde Park.

Almost half of the respondents (48 percent) stated they visit Hyde Park during the week, whereas just over one quarter stated they visit on weekends (27 percent). [A small caveat is noted here that suggests our data collection pattern of 72 percent of collection time on weekdays and 28 percent on weekends may have influenced this outcome, but it is not possible to determine this definitively.]

Holiday periods are also a popular time to visit the Park – with 13 percent stating they visit when *on vacation* and 7 percent during *school holidays*. This equals just over one-in-five visitors who visit during holiday periods – with the Christmas holidays being an obviously large period of holiday visitation, as this was period during which 70 percent of the intercept survey was completed.

As multiple responses were allowed for this question, visitation for reason of *events* attendance seemed quite low at 5 percent. This may not be a typical pattern for events visitation. One reason for this may be that respondents overlooked the *multiple response* possibility for this question and only completed one time period of visitation. The response rate of n=1053 is very low for a multiple response question within an overall sample size of 974 participants in the survey.

Regular activities undertaken in Hyde Park



Jogging in the park

Question 12: Please describe any other activities you regularly undertake in Hyde Park

Summary findings

Table 12: Activities regularly undertaken in Hyde Park

Rank	Themes	% of responses
The 'top' themes		
=1	Rest and relaxation	13
=1	Eating and drinking	13
3	Walking in the Park	11
=4	Passive activities	10
=4	Walking through the Park	10
=4	Sitting in the Park and talking with friends	8
The other themes		
7	Meeting friends/meeting point	4
8	Picnicking in the Park	3
=9	Talking	2
=9	Enjoying music	2
=9	The Park's wildlife	2
=9	People watching	2
=9	Attend events	2
=9	Exercise	2
=9	Sunbathing	2
=9	Kill time/hang out	2
=9	Exploring and sightseeing	2
Single comments		10
Total		100

Question 12 was a qualitative or 'open-ended' question that asked respondents to state what activities they regularly undertake in Hyde Park, with multiple responses encouraged. Respondents gave 1177 ideas, which were coded into themes. Table 12 presents these themes and the percentage of the 1177 ideas that are contained in each theme. The themes are discussed in more detail commencing on the next page.

Discussion of the *top* themes

=1. Rest and relaxation – 13 percent

Respondents in this theme use the park to rest and relax with some commenting that they enjoy lying down on the grass and having a sleep or nap.

=1. Eating and drinking – 13 percent

Hyde Park offers a place for people to eat lunch and enjoy a coffee. This is a particularly popular activity for workers in the city, who use Hyde Park on a regular basis for eating their lunch.

3. Walking in the Park (rather than walking through)– 11 percent

Respondents commented that they regularly enjoy a walk in the park for a leisurely stroll, as opposed to using the Park for walking through to another destination.

=4. Passive activity – 10 percent

Respondents regularly use the park to undertake a variety of passive activities, including reading, drawing and writing. The tranquillity of the park is a major drawcard for such activities.

=4. Walking through the Park – 10 percent

Respondents regularly use Hyde Park to walk through when walking to other destinations in the city. Its central location means the park facilitates 'short-cuts' through the park.

=4. Sitting in the Park – 10 percent

Hyde Park is a place for people to sit alone or to sit and talk with friends.

Discussion of the *other* themes

7. Meeting friends/meeting point - 4 percent

Respondents meet friends to spend time, or as a meeting point to move to other places.

8. Picnicking in the Park – 3 percent

A number of respondents regularly enjoy picnicking in the park with friends and family.

=9. Talking – 2 percent

Hyde Park provides a place for people to talk and chat with others.

=9. Enjoying music – 2 percent

Some respondents enjoy playing and listening to music whilst some like to sing and whistle.

Q12: Please describe any activities that you regularly undertake in Hyde Park

Discussion of the *other* themes... cont'd

=9. The Park's wildlife – 2 percent

Respondent regularly come to the park to feed and watch the wildlife.

=9. People watching – 2 percent

Respondents sit and watch other people who are walking through and spending time.

=9. Attend Park events – 2 percent

Some respondents come to Hyde Park to attend events.

=9. Exercise – 2 percent

Respondents use Hyde Park as a place to exercise and jog through.

=9. Sunbathing – 2 percent

Hyde Park provides a place for people to sit in the sun and sunbathe.

=9. Kill time/hang out – 2 percent

Respondents use Hyde Park as a place to kill time and hang out before undertaking other activities.

=9. Exploring and sightseeing – 2 percent

Hyde Park is a popular place for exploring, sightseeing and showing visitors to Sydney. Respondents commented that they enjoy visiting the Anzac Memorial and Archibald Fountain whilst others come to experience the Park's art and exhibits. Some respondents indicated they enjoyed dangling their feet in the Archibald Fountain whilst one respondent enjoys paddling in the Pool of Remembrance.

Single comments – 10 percent

- Playing games, walking and visiting with children
- Bird feeding and possum watching with children
- Have lunch in the café
- Watching and playing chess
- Outdoor games
- Meditation, yoga and tai chi
- Working in the Park
- Think things over
- Work breaks
- Cycling, skating and rollerblading
- No other activities
- Enjoy looking at the Park's gardens and trees

Discussion of the *other* themes... cont'd

Single comments... cont'd

- Climb trees
- Attract the opposite sex
- Make phone calls
- Walk the dog
- Listen to St Mary's Cathedral bells
- Study
- Walk through lighted trees at night
- Busking
- Smoking
- Spend time with family
- Pick up rubbish
- Critical mass
- Photography
- Watch jugglers
- Attend weekly church gatherings

People you visit Hyde Park with



A group of people spending time in the park

Q13: Who do you generally visit Hyde Park with?

Summary findings

Table 13: Who people visit Hyde Park with

People	%	Number
Alone	35	522
With friends	26	378
With spouse/partner	18	264
With children*	12	168
With adult family	4	62
As part of a group	4	61
With dog	1	21
Other	0	0
Total respondents	100	1476

*** Breakdown of the *with children* category**

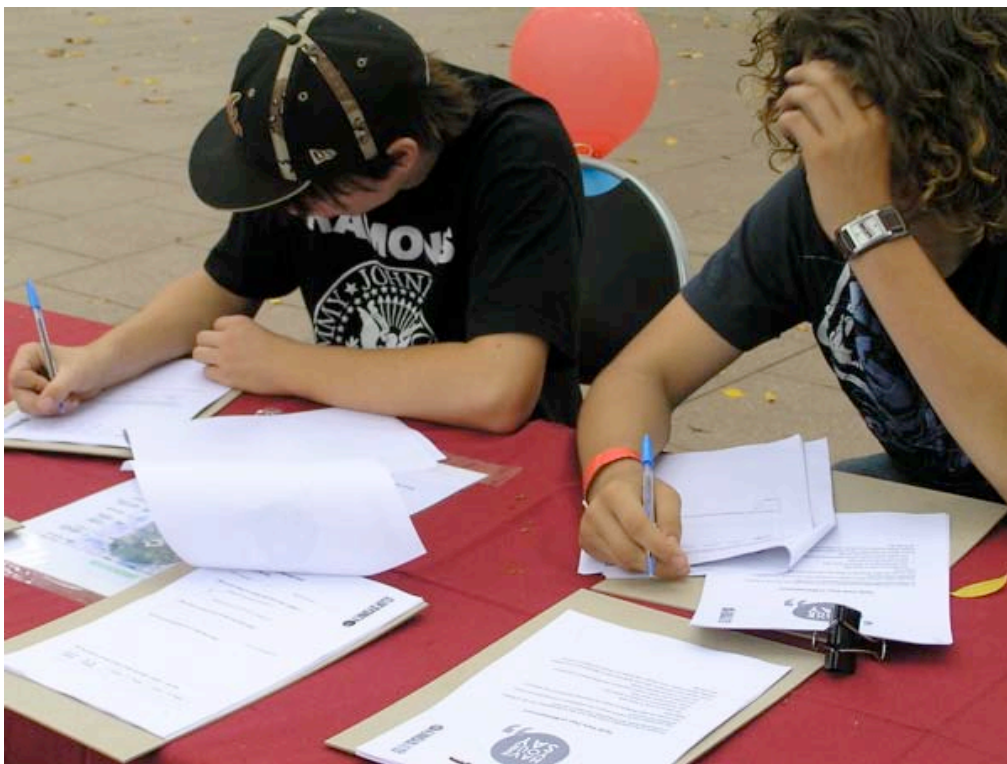
With children 0-5	48	81
Children 6-12	34	57
Children 13-16	18	30
Total	100	168

Question 13 was a 'closed' question that asked respondents to indicate who they would visit Hyde Park with, multiple were responses permitted. 1476 responses were received and Table 13 shows the percentage of responses per person/people.

The largest single group of visitors are those who visit *alone* (35 percent) followed by those who visit *with friends* (26 percent), *with spouse/partner* (18 percent) and with children (12 percent).

Of those visiting with children the 0-5 age group represented almost half (48 percent), followed by the 6-12 age group (34 percent) and unsurprisingly by the 13-16 group (18 percent). The *with children* group (12 percent) represents the group for which there appears to be least provision in the park in relation to user infrastructure, across all ages within this group. By contrast, Questions 3a, 4, 5a and 8 reveal a large range of activities – both passive and active – that adults are satisfied with undertaking in the park.

Gender and age of park users



Youth completing the Intercept survey

Question 14: Please tell us about yourself

Summary findings

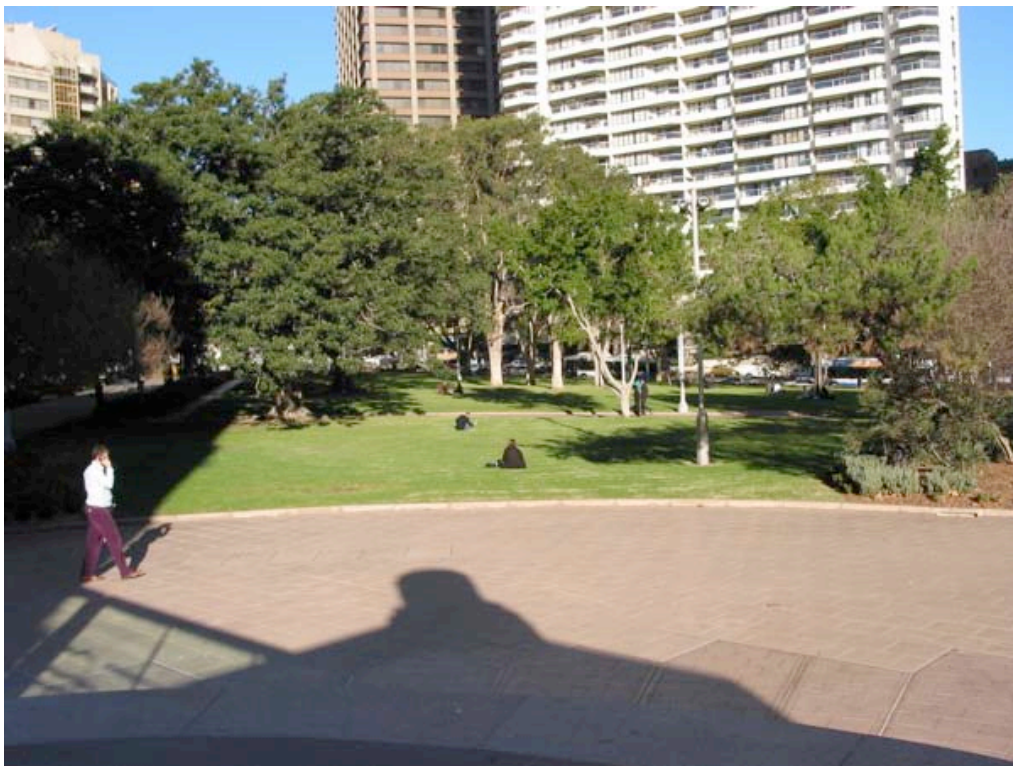
Table 14: Sex of respondents – 962 respondents

Sex	%	Number
Male	54	515
Female	46	447
Total	100	962

Table 14a: Age of respondents – 961 respondents

Age	%	Number
9-14	1	10
15-21	22	210
22-35	35	333
36-49	21	199
50-65	17	167
66-79	4	37
Total respondents	100	961

Place of residence of park users



Apartments that surround the park

Question 15: Please tell us where you live

Summary findings

Table 15: Area of residence of Hyde Park visitors

Area of residence	%	Number
City of Sydney	21	185
# Worker (see table 15b)	16	146
Greater Sydney (see table 15a)	30	273
Regional NSW/rest of Aus.	10	89
Overseas	22	200
Homeless	1	8
Total respondents	100	901

Park visitors were categorised as 'workers' if they indicated on the survey that they worked in the CBD. Their actual place of residence is listed in Table 15b.

Table 15a: Area of residence of visitors from Greater Sydney

Area of residence	%	Number
East	19	53
North Shore	19	50
Inner West	19	52
South	11	51
South West	9	24
North	7	19
West	7	20
North West	6	16
Northern Beaches	3	8
Total	100	273

Summary findings...cont'd

Table 15b: Area of residence of workers who responded to survey

Area of residence	%	Number
East	25	36
Inner West	22	32
South	12	18
South West	7	10
City of Sydney	7	11
North Shore	10	15
North West	5	8
West	5	7
North	3	4
Outside Sydney (Blue Mountains, Central Coast Wollongong)	3	4
Northern Beaches	1	1
Total	100	146

The location and size of Hyde Park ensures that it is in effect, a regional park that serves residents, workers and visitors from all parts of Sydney and indeed, from other parts of New South Wales, Australia and from overseas.

Of visitors who are resident in Greater Sydney (31 percent), those from the East (19 percent), North Shore (19 percent) Inner West (18 percent) and South (10 percent) represent the largest of the stated areas of residence of Greater Sydney visitors.

In total, respondents resident in Greater Sydney (31 percent) outnumbered those from the City of Sydney LGA (21 percent).

Mode of travel to Hyde Park



A child on a scooter completing the Intercept survey

Question 16: How do you usually travel to Hyde Park?

Summary findings

Table 16: Mode of travel to Hyde Park

Mode of travel	%	Number
Walked	55	700
Train	20	259
Bus	13	169
Car	6	75
Cycled	2	26
With a baby stroller	2	21
Skateboard	1	11
Rollerblade/skates	1	8
Scooter – foot powered	0	2
Motorbike/scooter	0	6
Wheelchair	0	3
Ferry	0	4
Other	0	0
Total	100	1284

Question 16 was a 'closed' question that asked respondents the mode of transport they used to get to Hyde Park, with multiple responses permitted. 1284 responses were received and Table 16 shows the percentage of responses for the timing of visits to Hyde Park.

Summary findings...cont'd

Table 16a: Where did you park?

Location	%	Number
Parking Station – see table 16b	39	24
Street – see table 16d	36	22
Dropped off	6	4
In the Park (park workers)	6	4
Home railway station	3	2
Various	3	2
Hotel	2	1
At work	5	3
Total respondents	100	62

Table 16b: Breakdown of parking station information – 24 respondents

Parking stations	%	Number
Domain Carpark	37	9
Cook & Phillip Carpark	25	6
Goulburn Street Carpark	9	2
QVB Carpark	9	2
George St (?)	4	1
MLC Centre Carpark	4	1
Riley St	8	2
St Andrew's Cathedral Carpark	4	1
Total respondents	100	24

Summary findings...cont'd

Table 16c: Break-down of on-street parking

Location	%	Number
College Street	27	6
Unnamed Streets	22	5
Behind St. Mary's Cathedral	18	4
Elizabeth Street	14	3
Domain – Streets	9	2
Cathedral Street	5	1
Flinders Street	5	1
Total respondents	100	22

Appendix A: Dates and times surveys were conducted in Hyde Park

Date	Survey Times	
	Begin	End
Thursday 19 th January	7am	2pm
Friday 20 th January	8am	4pm
Saturday 21 st January	10am	4pm
Sunday 22 nd January	10am	4pm
Friday 27 th January	10am	3:30pm
Wednesday 1 st February	11:30am	6pm
Thursday 2 nd February	3pm	9:30pm
Saturday 4 th February	11am	3pm

Weather conditions were fine and sunny for most of the days the surveying was undertaken. Due to rainy conditions on the afternoon of Thursday 19th January scheduled surveying from 2pm was cancelled.

Appendix B



Hyde Park Plan of Management

To assist in the preparation of the Hyde Park Plan of Management, the City of Sydney is conducting public and stakeholder interviews in the Park.

This information will be used to assist in the preparation of concept plans for future exhibition and comment

This survey has been designed to obtain the following information from visitors to Hyde Park:

- The nature of visits to Hyde Park
- The characteristics of visitors to Hyde Park
- Visitor values about Hyde Park
- The quality of the current visitor experience, including levels of satisfaction
- The extent of future desired change.

If you require any information about the Hyde Park Plan of Management Consultation Phases please contact Tony O'Brien, The People for Places and Spaces on phone 0410 450 381

Hyde Park Plan of Management

Intercept Survey

Date of interview

Time of interview

1 What is your reason for visiting Hyde Park today? *(please ✓)*

☐

Walking through *(go to Question 2)*

OR

☐

Spending time in the Park *(go to Question 3)*

2 Why did you choose to walk through Hyde Park today?

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..... *(now go to Question 4)*

3a Why are you spending time in Hyde Park today?

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3b. How long do you plan to stay in Hyde Park today? *(please ✓ one only)*

Up to 30 minutes	30 – 60 minutes	1 - 2 hours	2 - 3 hours	3 - 5 hours	6 + hours

4. What do you value most about Hyde Park?

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5a. How satisfied are you with your Hyde Park experience? (please ✓ one only)

Very unsatisfied	Unsatisfied	Neutral	Satisfied	Very satisfied

5b. Please comment on the reasons for your choice in 5a above.

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5c What changes would you suggest to improve the quality of your Hyde Park experience?

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6a. Please indicate your response to the following statement (*please ✓ one only*).

“The look, feel, presentation and maintenance of Hyde Park is at a standard appropriate to Sydney’s premier park.”

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree

6b. Please explain your reasons for your response in 6a.

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6c If you could fix three things related to the look, feel, presentation and/or maintenance of Hyde Park, what would they be?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

7a. Would you feel comfortable visiting Hyde Park at night? (*please ✓*)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
<input type="checkbox"/>	No

7b. Why?

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8. Please advise which (if any) organised events you have attended in Hyde Park in the past 12 months

Name of event	Do you think Hyde Park is the most appropriate place to hold this event and why?	If 'No', where else could it be held?
1.	<p>Yes or No <i>(please circle)</i></p> <p>Why</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	
2.	<p>Yes or No <i>(please circle)</i></p> <p>Why</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	
3.	<p>Yes or No <i>(please circle)</i></p> <p>Why</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	

9a. In relation to organised events in Hyde Park, do you think there should be:
(please ✓ *one only*)

<input type="checkbox"/>	More events?
<input type="checkbox"/>	About the same number of events?
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fewer events?
<input type="checkbox"/>	Events should not be held in the park

9b. Please give reasons for your response

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10. How often do you visit Hyde Park? (please ✓ *one only*)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Daily
<input type="checkbox"/>	Several times a week
<input type="checkbox"/>	About once a week
<input type="checkbox"/>	About once a fortnight
<input type="checkbox"/>	About once a Month
<input type="checkbox"/>	About 2-6 times a year
<input type="checkbox"/>	About once a year
<input type="checkbox"/>	Less than once a year
<input type="checkbox"/>	First visit
<input type="checkbox"/>	Not sure/don't know

13. Who do you generally visit Hyde Park with? (please ✓ multiple choices possible)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Alone	
<input type="checkbox"/>	With spouse/partner	
<input type="checkbox"/>	With adult family	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Children 0-5 yrs	No. of children _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Children 6-12 yrs	No. of children _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Children 13-16 yrs	No. of children _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	With friends	
<input type="checkbox"/>	As part of a group	What type of group _____ No. of people _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	With dog	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	Please specify _____

14. Please tell us about yourself: (please ✓)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Male
<input type="checkbox"/>	Female

<input type="checkbox"/>	9-14 years
<input type="checkbox"/>	15-21 years
<input type="checkbox"/>	22-35 years
<input type="checkbox"/>	36-49 years
<input type="checkbox"/>	50-65 years
<input type="checkbox"/>	65-79 years
<input type="checkbox"/>	80 years+

15. Please tell us where you live:

A. I am a visitor to Sydney, I live in:

City/town..... Country.....

OR

B. I am a Sydney Resident:

Live (*suburb*)..... Work (*suburb*).....

16. How do you usually travel to Hyde Park? (*please ✓ multiple choices possible*)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Walked to Hyde Park
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cycled
<input type="checkbox"/>	Skateboard
<input type="checkbox"/>	Rollerblade/rollerskate
<input type="checkbox"/>	Scooter (foot powered)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bus
<input type="checkbox"/>	Train
<input type="checkbox"/>	Car - Where did you park? _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Motorbike/motor scooter - Where did you park? _____ _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wheelchair
<input type="checkbox"/>	With a Baby Stroller
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other - Please specify _____

Public Exhibition of Draft Plan of Management in 2006

The City of Sydney will hold a Public Exhibition in the first half of 2006 where the results from these surveys, together with other research undertaken to inform the future development of Hyde Park will be presented.

During this workshop, participants will be given the opportunity to review and comment on the emerging masterplan options for Hyde Park

Would you like to attend the Hyde Park Draft Plan of Management Exhibition?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
<input type="checkbox"/>	No

If yes please complete contact details below, so we may inform you.

Name	
Address	
Phone	
Email	
Fax	

(Note: the City of Sydney is bound by privacy legislation and will not disclose your contact details to third parties.)

Thank you for completing this survey. Please hand it back to one of the Survey tables in Hyde Park or send to:

Hyde Park Plan of Management

Mr Jeff Kerr

Project Manager

PO Box 1591

SYDNEY 2001

Fax 92659116