## **Binalong Park masterplan**



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### Introduction

Binalong Park, located in the heart of Old Toongabbie, is a popular park for families, sporting groups, local residents and other recreational users. The City of Parramatta Council is developing a twenty-year masterplan for Binalong Park as part of their commitment to the community to improve parks and recreational facilities across the local government area.

To understand the needs of the local community and diverse park users, the City of Parramatta Council commissioned a series of engagement activities with the local community to inform and refine the development of a draft masterplan.

The draft masterplan was placed on public exhibition between 31 May and 25 June 2021, with 88% of submissions fully supportive or supportive to an extent of the draft masterplan. 10% of formal submissions were unsure or unspecified in their support for the draft masterplan and 2% (which equates to one submission) did not support the draft masterplan.

#### Why a masterplan is needed

The Binalong Park masterplan is a long term document that sets out a 20-year vision to align

As the project has evolved... my support for the project has increased as Council appear to [be] listening to the feedback received.

Feedback received during the public exhibition

future work at the park. It provides a blueprint and layout for the park, identifying opportunities to improve the layout of recreational facilities, review existing amenities buildings, plan for future recreational requirements such as providing local meeting rooms or social spaces, and guides the delivery of sports fields and community assets.

The masterplanprovides a shovel ready plan to apply for State and Federal grant funding where

## It's large and that allows me to enjoy it for many activities, even just to escape from the house some days and take a break. It's great because it doesn't cost me money to enjoy it and I don't have to travel far to enjoy an open space. Feedback received phase 1 consultation Binalong Park masterplan - Community Consultation Program December 2020 - June 20

#### Binalong Park Consultation Program Report

This report has been produced by KJA on behalf of the City of Parramatta Council. Overviews of phases 1 and 2 of community engagement have been provided, with detailed reports produced and made publicly available following the close of each engagement phase. The focus of this report is on the feedback received during the public exhibition of the masterplan.



#### Early community consultation December 2019



Feedback from initial community consultation to improve Binalong Park included proposed water play facilities. Following this engagement, Binalong Park was assessed as not suitable for a water park. Council remains committed to delivering a water park in the local area, and a review of Arthur Phillip Park in Northmead is underway.



#### Phase 1 community engagement 7 December 2020 - 4 February 2021



The purpose of this phase of engagement was to understand community needs to inform the development of the masterplan.

- What did the community like or loathe?
- What ideas did the community have for future improvement?



#### Phase 2 community engagement

19 April - 10 May 2021



The purpose of this phase of engagement was to better understand key concerns and issues raised in phase 1, test some ideas and work through site constraints.



Phase 3 public exhibition of the draft masterplan

31 May - 25 June 2021



The purpose of this phase of engagement was to seek the support of the local community and park users for the draft masterplan, understand what the community did and didn't like about the masterplan and any additional comments the community had.

#### Engagement methods and activities:



Community notifications and survey/written submissions



In-park information sessions and stakeholder interviews by phone



In-park intercept interviews



Community kept informed via the project website https://participate.cityofparramatta. nsw.gov.au/binalongpark



Draft masterplan February -**April 2021** 

Needs assessment, undertake technical studies and develop a draft masterplan based on phase 1 feedback.



Refine masterplan May 2021

Refine draft masterplan based on phase 2 feedback.



Masterplan endorsement July 2021

Final outcomes report and final masterplan put forward to Council for adoption.



### **Phase 1 Community Engagement**

#### **Engagement summary**

Community engagement period: 7 December 2020 – 8 February 2021

The purpose of the phase 1 community engagement was to understand and define the differing needs of park users, including organised sports, recreational users, local families, visitors, neighbours and residents. The feedback received from the community during this phase informed the development of the masterplan for Binalong Park.

Engagement activities included



1,715 visitors viewed the project page 2,052 times



79,242 impressions on social media, viewed by 26,737 people





Club

stakeholder interviews with sporting clubs: Pendle Hill Cricket Club, Mark Cowper Tennis Coaching, Parramatta District Cricket Association, Pendle Hill

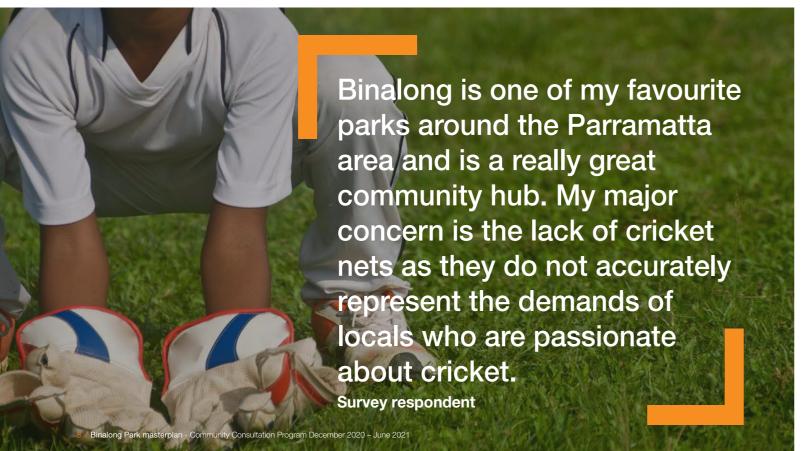
Football Club, Starlights Netball



in-park intercept interviews



3/4 online and hardcopy surveys completed



#### Users of Binalong Park love:



Access to sporting activities



The location and accessibility of the park



The opportunity for families to play together



The overall use of space

#### Users of Binalong Park want:



More trees, parking and play equipment



Maintenance for existing equipment and facilities



New amenities such as more sporting activities, a café and better safety measures

#### Key themes and feedback:



#### Car parking:

There is strong support to increase the number of carpark spaces and to change the carpark configuration. This is due to the demand for parking during peak use and concern for the safety of drivers and pedestrians. Cost and potential crowding during peak times were raised as the most common concerns. Other suggestions include opening the second carpark more frequently to relieve demand for parking, and upgrading the signage and carpark markings.

#### Amenities:



General park users are supportive of the proposal to combine the two amenities buildings into one. However, some stakeholder groups prefer two separate toilet facilities, noting it reduces crowding during organised sport training and events. Several general park users commented that the toilet facilities were usually locked during their visit.

#### Indoor meeting space:



Organised sports users of the park such as Starlights Netball Club, Pendle Hill Football Club and Pendle Hill Cricket Club would use indoor meeting space. For general park users this option had a lower level of priority.

#### Storage



Storage would be welcome and used by most sports clubs.

#### Lighting:



Some users of the park raised lighting of the courts, carpark and cricket pitch as an issue. Upgraded lighting should be considered in the masterplan.

#### Seating and shade:

Park users would like additional shaded seating areas and more trees.

# No.

Additional exercise and play equipment:
A walking/circuit track and adult exercise
equipment would be supported. A bigger

equipment would be supported. A bigger playground with more play equipment for a broader range of ages was suggested by parents and children using the playground.





### **Phase 2 Community Engagement**

#### **Engagement summary**

Community engagement period: 19 April - 10 May 2021

The purpose of the phase 2 community engagement was to better understand key concerns and issues raised in phase 1, and further understand site constraints and identify opportunities for improvement to inform the draft masterplan. The five themes explored were:

- 1. Park and site access
- 2. Parking and traffic
- 3. Park layout
- 4. Variety of activities
- 5. Safety

Engagement activities included:



1,916 visitors viewed the project page 2,325 times



119,610 impressions on social media, viewed by 32,537

people



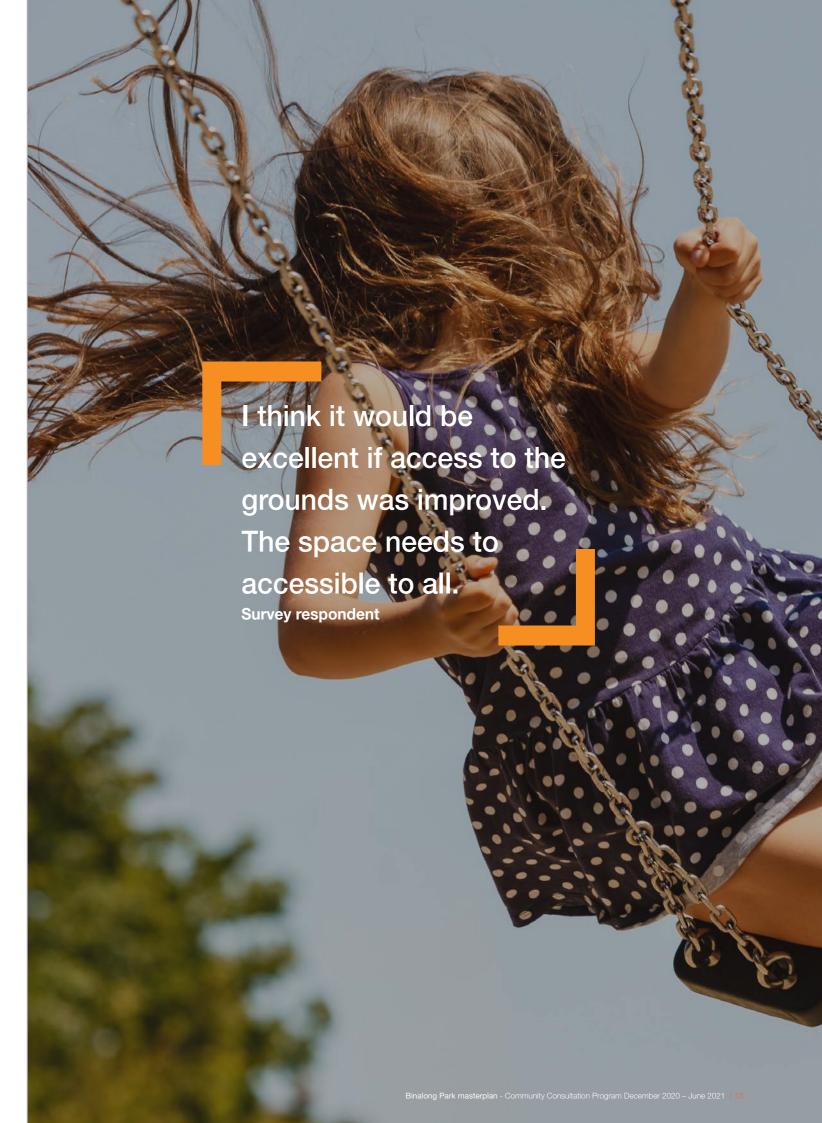


#### What we heard:

Overall, the **variety of activities** was the most popular theme selected to improve Binalong Park.

- Park and site access: respondents were supportive of Council's suggestions to improve park and site access through the installation of a circuit path, improved levels of the fields, a DDA compliant accessible toilet, and a DDA compliant building.
- » Parking and traffic: respondents agreed with Council's suggestions to improve parking and traffic by reconfiguring car parking to improve traffic flow and sight lines, and to improve the entrance and exit to the carpark. The suggestion for timed parking on Binalong Road was not supported and will not be introduced without further community consultation.

- Park layout: respondents were supportive of Council's suggestions to improve the park layout through co-locating courts, combining amenities buildings and planting more trees.
- » Variety of activities: respondents were supportive of Council's suggestions to improve the variety of activities offered at Binalong Park through more social spaces, adult fitness stations, multipurpose courts and a new district playground.
- Safety: respondents were supportive of Council's suggestions to improve safety at Binalong Park through the relocation of the carpark, improved pedestrian flow to recreational spaces, and parkway lighting.



How the draft masterplan responded to the findings of the previous rounds of engagement

## How the draft masterplan responded to the findings of the previous rounds of engagement

#### Indoor meeting/social spaces

Organised users of the park would use a meeting space regularly. For general park users this option had a lower level of priority.

#### Masterplan response

The draft masterplan includes a multifunction community space to provide alternative recreational activities such as yoga or karate classes, birthday parties, and music lessons.

An upgraded tennis amenities building, compliant with the Disability Discrimination Act, will include a kitchenette, public toilet and surrounding picnic areas.









#### Lighting

Lighting and park safety was a concern for the community. Some users of the park raised lighting of the courts, carpark and cricket pitch as an issue and opportunity for improvement.

#### Masterplan response

A lighting strategy is included in the draft masterplan. It highlights significant adjustments to the topography of the park to remove areas of low visibility and improve sight lines across the park.

Floodlighting is shown in indicative locations around the sports fields, multi-use courts, tennis courts and cricket nets to ensure that all areas of the park are well-lit for night games or training.

Pole top lighting is proposed for the carpark area and circulation paths surrounding the new playground.

Lighting from the proposed building's awning would provide well-lit and covered spaces to better facilitate night and day usage of community facilities such as the public toilet and multi-function community space.

#### **Storage**

Storage would be welcome and used by most sports clubs.

#### Masterplan response

Two storage areas are identified in the draft masterplan at 50m<sup>2</sup> and 40m<sup>2</sup> each contained in the two new public amenities buildings.



Park users would like additional shaded seating areas and more trees.

#### Masterplan response

A central band of **public seating**, including picnic tables, seating edges, bleachers and sheltered areas are proposed in the draft masterplan adjacent to both fields.

Shade sails and raised seating edges are incorporated into the youth plaza and playground.

New trees are are planned to frame the proposed circuit path walkway. Additional shade trees are provided in the spectators area, as well as around the perimeter of the new playground. All tree plantings, including both existing and proposed trees should be crown-lifted where appropriate to improve sight lines and passive surveillance across the park.

#### **Amenities**

General park users were supportive of the idea to combine the two amenities buildings into one. However, some of the stakeholder groups preferred two separate toilet facilities, noting it reduces crowding during organised sport training and events. Several general park users commented that the toilet facilities were usually locked during their visit.

#### Masterplan response

Two new public amenities buildings are included in the draft masterplan to reduce crowding. The northern public amenities building includes a public toilet,  $50\text{m}^2$  sports storage area, and a referee's room. The southern public amenities buildings includes a kiosk, two unisex change rooms,  $40\text{m}^2$  sports storage area, community store, and the multi-function community space. The upgraded tennis amenities building is to retain its toilet facility.





#### Additional exercise and play equipment

Many park users requested a variety of play and social activities. A walking/circuit track and adult exercise equipment would be supported. A bigger playground with more play equipment for a broader range of ages was suggested by parents and children using the playground.

#### Masterplan response

In the draft masterplan a circuit path and fitness station is included to support the fitness and wellbeing of the community, in addition to a larger district playground and youth plaza with activities for different age groups and abilities. The playground and youth plaza include a bouldering wall, table tennis and nature play.



#### Car parking

Strong support to increase the number of carpark spaces and to change the carpark configuration.

#### Masterplan response

In the draft masterplan the carpark is relocated to reduce congestion at the corner of Binalong Road and Fitzwilliam Road. A separate entrance and exit have been included to improve carpark circulation and provide an opportunity for a school drop-off zone, enabling students to enter the school via a pathway to the back entrance.



## Public exhibition of the draft masterplan

#### Overview

#### Public exhibition period 31 May – 25 June 2021

The purpose of the public exhibition was to seek the support from the local community and park users for the draft masterplan for Binalong Park. Council also wanted to understand any local resident concerns relating to implementation of the masterplan.

The draft masterplan for Binalong Park was made publicly exhibited and available for comment via an online platform. Additionally, hardcopy versions were available for viewing at the Parramatta CBD and Constitution Hill libraries and Council's Customer Service Centre. Submissions could be made online and in writing. Hardcopy submission forms were distributed to 1372 surrounding properties and residences. In addition several information sessions were held on site in the park as well as phone interviews with sporting clubs and the local public school.

Engagement activities included:



1,386 visitors to the webpage with 1,746 views



93,431 impressions on social media, viewed by 25,991 people



survey submissions



128

visitors across three in-park drop-in sessions held on:

- » Saturday 12 June9am 11am
- Thursday 17 June3pm 5pm
- » Saturday 19 June 20212pm 4pm



13

email/letter submissions



Public exhibition of the draft masterplan



#### What we heard

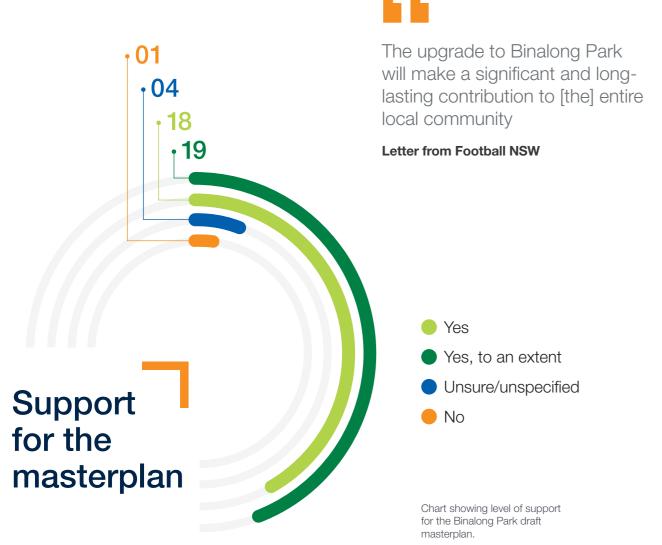
#### Overview

Overall there was a high level of support for the Binalong Park draft masterplan. Of the formal submissions received, 43% indicated they supported the masterplan, and 45% indicated they support it to an extent. Qualitative feedback gathered during the three information sessions and seven stakeholder interviews also indicate a good level of support for the masterplan.

Issues raised during public exhibition included changes to the netball courts, the timeframe for delivering the masterplan, safety, capacity for growing sporting demands and enrolments, and neighbour impacts. There were also several comments about vandalism and existing poor behaviour in the park, with concerns this would continue in the future.

Key themes from the feedback gathered during the public exhibition include:

- » Lighting to enable night time organised sports games and recreational use, improved safety and better sightlines into the park.
- Carpark location, configuration, capacity, improved safety and accessibility.
- » Improved and accessible toilets and amenities for all park visitors.
- » Adult exercise equipment and a circuit path
- » A large playground for all ages.
- » Shaded areas, seating and shelter for park visitors and spectators.
- » Improved and increased facilities for sports clubs and groups.
- » Variety of sports catered for by the proposed multi-use sports courts and their compatibility.
- Fencing and drainage to mitigate neighbour impacts.





## Results and feedback from formal submissions

A submission form was available for local residents and users of the park to complete during the public exhibition period. This was made available online via the Participate Parramatta website, and a hardcopy flyer with submission form was distributed to 1372 surrounding properties and residences. A total of 39 survey submission forms were completed, with 33 received online and six in hardcopy format. Three additional written submissions were received in the form of two emails and a letter.

Detailed feedback from these formal submissions has been summarised below.

#### Access & lighting

- » Circuit path: there was strong support for the proposed circuit path around the site, noting it improved accessibility and exercise opportunities day and night. Respondents asked for a path suitable to cater for a range of accessibility requirements (wheelchair, pram, etcetera.) and pedestrian flow.
- » Park access: several respondents commented about the number of planned entry points to the park, noting the need for them to be accessible for all abilities and for emergency services.
- Signage: a small number of respondents asked for signage about rubbish disposal, a statement on inclusiveness for all park users, and general park entry signage.
- Lighting: there was strong support for the proposed upgrades to lighting to improve safety, sightlines across the park and support night-time sport games, so long as there are no impacts to neighbouring residences.

#### Masterplan – general comments

- Most respondents indicated general support for the draft masterplan, welcoming the proposed changes and noting they will positively impact the local community.
- Two respondents commented the proposed changes are excessive or disappointing.

#### **Design elements**

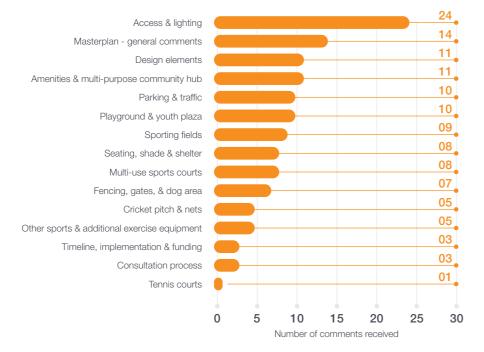
- Comments were received around design elements of the circuit path including finishes, public artwork and off-path tree plantings.
- » Some requests were made about lux levels of the lights and other lighting design elements.
- » Specific requests were made for garbage bins and water fountains, that include compostable dog poop bags and water bowls for dogs.
- Respondents were supportive of additional and varied tree plantings, with one referencing the environment should promote bird habitat.

#### Amenities and multi-purpose community hub

- » Several requests were received for toilets and change rooms to be accessible for disabled people, inclusive/equitable for all genders and ages, and for toilets to be open every day rather than restricted to during sport events and practice.
- One respondent asked if the community hall would have capacity for yoga or meditation classes for up to one hundred people.
- » Some sporting clubs were keen to continue their use of the facilities, with comments about sufficient storage capacity.
- » One sport club suggested a double-storey amenities building to allow for additional covered seating capacity.



Graph showing the number of comments received through formal written submissions by tonic



#### Parking and traffic

- » Two respondents indicated specific support for the proposed changes to the carpark.
- There were a small number of comments about parking capacity both in the carpark and surrounding streets.
- » Two respondents raised concerns for safety issues around the entry and exit point close to Henson Street.
- Two respondents commented on the location of the school pick-up and drop-off zone and its distance from the school.
- » One respondent requested bicycle access and parking.
- » Specific concern was raised around potential disruption caused to sporting activities during construction of the new carpark.
- » One respondent noted timed parking within the carpark in the evening and on weekends is not supported.

#### Playground and youth plaza

- » Most respondents indicated support for the proposed expanded playground area.
- » One respondent particularly noted support for the proposed youth plaza.
- The importance of sufficient shade around the playground was mentioned.
- » Some requests were made for specific playground equipment, including nature play and a small splash park.

## Sporting fields (cricket grounds and soccer fields)

- The plans to level the fields were supported, although concerns were raised around neighbour impacts associated with the fill.
- There was some concern noted about sports balls landing in neighbouring properties and residences.
- » Sports clubs asked for at least some of the fields to be in artificial turf to enable them to be all-weather proof.

#### Seating, shade and shelter

- There was support for increased shade and shelter around the park, including both trees and shelter sheds. Sufficient shade and shelter around the playground area is of particular importance.
- » Respondents showed support for increased seating capacity for recreational visitors and spectators.
- One sporting club asked for a large covered spectator seating area for at least one of the fields.

#### Multi-use sports courts

- » Concerns were raised about the different line markings used on multi-use courts and potential confusion this could cause.
- » Safety issues were also mentioned when combining basketball and netball fields.
- » A request was made for wooden flooring for use as volleyball and badminton courts, noting this may result in maintenance issues.

#### Fencing, gates and dog area

- » It was noted that many residents would welcome an off-leash dog area at the park.
- There was support for increased for increased fencing to avoid balls from flyin gover to areas adjacent to the park.
- » A request was received for access to the fields when no sporting events are on.

#### Cricket pitch and nets

- » Some respondents noted that the cricket nets get used a lot. An increase in the number of nets was supported, with some respondents requesting an additional increase in the number of nets.
- » Respondents supported a fully enclosed net to avoid potential safety issues.

#### Other sports and additional exercise equipment

- » Respondents supported the proposal for adult exercise equipment with reference to including senior exercise equipment.
- There were a small number of requests for accommodating other sports in the park, including volleyball and badminton.

#### Timeline, implementation and funding

- There were a small number of questions asked about the timeframe for implementing the proposed changes and the continued use of facilities during upgrades.
- One respondent noted that it would be disappointing if the size and scale of the aspiration led to no short term improvements and only long term delays due to the feasibility.

#### **Consultation process**

- One respondent commented positively on the thorough community engagement in the master planning of Binalong Park.
- » One respondent commented that they found the proposed changes excessive given the feedback received during community consultation.

#### Tennis courts

One respondent asked to swap the location of the tennis and netball courts. They noted moving tennis courts closer to the playground area permits young children to see parents on courts.

#### Information session feedback

Three community information sessions were held on-site at Binalong Park in June 2021. Two sessions were held on the weekend and predominantly attracted participants and spectators of sports events held at the park at the time. Another session was held on a Thursday afternoon, attracting predominantly parents or carers collecting children from school and visitors to the playground. These sessions were attended by project staff from Council, supported by KJA consultants.

A summary of the verbal feedback received during the community information sessions is outlined below.

#### Health and safety

Health and safety was a common theme at the information sessions. Parents and carers commented that a more secure fence for the school is a positive addition at Binalong Park for child safety. They also noted that gate access to the school through the area must be improved for safe drop off and pickup. Another shared concern related to emergency access. During sporting games, there is a need for ambulance access to the fields. It was also noted that Binalong Park needs an accessible defibrillator for emergencies.

Local residents and community members spoke about concerns in relation to the gates, lighting, and fencing in the park, particularly after hours. They noted the canteen currently has a gate that is very heavy. Several neighbours to the park suggested the fencing be made higher for residents whose properties back onto the park to prevent balls from the sporting games entering their property and causing damage.

Some participants noted concern about poor behaviour currently experienced in the area. This includes setting off fireworks, burnouts, people who are disruptive, noisy, and dangerous, and participants are keen to see this issue identified and addressed in the masterplan. With the current proposed parking plans, some local residents are optimistic this will prevent or minimise burnouts and fireworks. One suggestion made was to add CCTV to prevent theft, vandalism, late night noise and crime.

#### Parking and traffic

Car parking at Binalong Park was a consistent theme at information sessions.

Most frequently, participants noted parking capacity, including on side streets, is an important issue. It was noted that that the carpark is particularly busy during sporting games, school pick up and drop off, and during weekends. Participants noted the masterplan will slightly reduce the carpark capacity.

One local resident noted the carpark should accommodate children and the school better than it currently does. Some residents commented that additional parking onsite in the carpark would help minimise cars parking on adjacent side streets.

Traffic congestion from cars and buses (at bus stops) was mentioned by a participant.

#### **Design elements**

There was a significant number of suggestions about various design elements for Binalong Park. This included the range of sports accommodated by the multipurpose courts, the type of playground equipment, tree plantings and surface types for the sports fields. Shade, trees, a fitness area, improved playground for all ages, and a BBQ picnic area were supported as important improvements.

Participants showed interest in the proposed amenities building, with one local resident voicing a preference for a functional design over aesthetics. Additional storage capacity for the sports clubs was raised by some participants, while others suggested a booking system for community events and sporting games, especially cricket. Some community members also suggested a smaller field to accommodate younger players.

One local resident suggested inviting food and beverage vendors to cater for all visitors to the park.

#### Access and lighting

Participants supported the proposed changes for park access, particularly the circuit path, noting the need for it to accommodate for people of all abilities.

Participants noted improved lighting would accommodate evening and night matches and training, with one person suggesting the use of solar power.

Covered social spaces would be amazing and a better all ages playground.

Survey respondent



#### Stakeholder interviews

During the public exhibition period, six stakeholder interviews were conducted with sporting clubs and organisations that currently use Binalong Park. Many of these clubs had also provided feedback through a similar interview process during the phase 1 engagement. In addition, Council representatives met with the Principal from the adjacent Toongabbie Public School. It should be noted that Starlights Netball Club, a regular user of the netball courts, provided a formal written submission and attended a drop-in session. Their feedback is captured in the relevant sections of this report.

Adequate lighting for night games was raised as an area of interest for several clubs, and several noted their support for the amended carpark location and access, additional storage and increased spectator seating. Cricket clubs were keen for more pitches or turf wickets, the football clubs noted a preference for artificial turf, while the netball club was concerned about changes to the courts and safety for young female players. Separate change rooms and bathrooms were preferred.

Summaries of the feedback gathered during the interviews are outlined below.

#### Pendle Hill Football Club

Pendle Hill Football Club was supportive overall of the draft masterplan, including the levelling of the fields, layout of the courts, and the relocated carpark. A few suggestions for the detailed concept design of the fields included raised fencing, and ensuring that the floodlighting lux was suitable to support night games.

## Granville and Districts Soccer Football Association

Overall, the Granville and Districts Soccer Football Association were in support of the draft masterplan. Particular support was noted for the levelling of the fields, additional storage, spectator seating, referees' room, and indoor space which would be used for registration days.

It was emphasised that shaded, spectator seating that had sightlines across all fields was essential so spectators can comfortably observe multiple games being played at once. The importance of sufficient ambulant space in the bathrooms was also noted, as well as adequate privacy in the proposed unisex referees room/change rooms. Easy access to the fields for emergency services was noted as being essential.

Other suggestions included additional pedestrian crossings to Binalong Park, as well 500 lux floodlighting to enhance night time game play.

#### **Parramatta District Cricket Association**

Parramatta District Cricket Association expressed that cricket is experiencing a 'boom' in registrations, particularly for women's cricket. They commented that to support the increased participation additional spaces are needed in the wider area. They noted that Binalong Park is also an ideal candidate for turf wickets. Concern was raised that a cricket pitch would be lost, and while the addition of an extra lane in the cricket nets was supported, it does not meet the current demand and forecasted growth of cricket in the community and wider area.

## Pendle Hill Colts Cricket Club and the Binalong Park Committee

One stakeholder gave feedback on behalf of both the Pendle Hill Colts Cricket Club and the Binalong Park Committee. They showed support for some elements of the masterplan were supported.

Reducing the number of cricket pitches was not supported, particularly given the popularity of junior cricket. It was suggested that the full-sized cricket pitch be converted to a turf wicket to support the need for A-grade cricket.

The two storage areas were well supported as the cricket club needs more storage capacity. The multifunction community space was also supported as the Binalong Park Committee is in need of a suitable meeting room. The need for additional shaded areas for spectator seating was emphasised, as well as shade for the playground and youth plaza.

While the proposed adult exercise equipment was supported, concern was raised that they may be subject to vandalism in the future. Support was also expressed for the circuit path, with a suggestion that Council could provide path lighting around the fields as a priority. The brightness of the floodlighting for the tennis courts was queried.

It was suggested that the parking spaces be angled to create additional capacity in the carpark. There was a preference expressed for the toilet facilities to be closed overnight.

#### Mark Cowper's Tennis Coaching

Overall the tennis coach, who currently provides tennis lessons at the Binalong Park facilities, was supportive of the draft masterplan. The proposed separate entry and exit points of the carpark was commended as it enhanced safety, particularly for children. Retaining the tennis amenities building in close proximity to the courts was also supported as it allowed for surveillance and monitoring for young tennis students using the facilities. Interest was expressed in hiring the multi-use courts for spill-out activities, as well as for pickle ball.



#### Pendle Hill Netball Club

Pendle Hill Netball Club was supportive of some elements of the draft masterplan. This included the amended car parking arrangements, additional spectator seating, the relocation of the amenities building, the circuit path, and floodlighting for the courts. It was emphasised that the entire surface area of the courts need to be well lit for safety and to enhance game play. The need for shaded spectator seating was noted.

Concern was raised that in the masterplan the netball courts would be replaced with multipurpose courts, noting the level of demand for the existing netball courts. It was discussed that reversible basketball / netball hoops could pose a safety hazard if they require the use of a long hook. Additional line markings on the court were also perceived as a negative outcome. If unisex change room facilities were included in a concept design, this would not be supported from a safety perspective, particularly for young children and teenagers.

#### Toongabbie Public School

Overall, the Principal at Toongabbie Primary School was supportive of the draft masterplan for Binalong Park. Located adjacent to the park with the main school entrance on Binalong Road, several considerations were raised during the interview.

They included, reviewing school fence and security requirements, ball screens to limit stray balls from entering the school, improving pedestrian access and school back gate entrance, opportunities to provide feedback to inform circuit path and retaining wall design and opportunities to provide feedback to inform kiss and ride drop off zone and car parking review.





## **Next steps**



## Endorsement of the masterplan July 2021

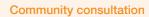
Masterplan endorsed by City of Parramatta Council

The Binalong Park masterplan is a long-term document and funding for detailed design and construction is not yet secured. An adopted masterplan provides Council with a shovel ready plan to apply for State and Federal grant funding where applicable.



#### Develop draft Concept Plan

As funding becomes available Council will engage relevant specialists i.e. a sports field designer, architect, civil and structural engineers to develop a draft concept plan to understand the spatial requirements of the sports and recreational amenities and inform any construction requirements. The concept plan development identifies the finishes, materials and embellishments that will be used i.e. fence will be used, such as fence materials and playground equipment.





The draft concept plan will be subject to further community consultation before progressing to detailed documentation and consequent construction.

Council will engage further with the community to finalise the draft concept plan to for each upgraded or new component of the park such as the playground, community building, carpark, sport fields and multipurpose courts.



#### Implementation

As funding becomes available, implementation of the masterplan and subsequent concept plans may be staged if appropriate.



## **Appendices**

A. Public Exhibition flyer distributed to nearby residences and properties in June 2021



Please return this survey to the dropbox located at the Constitution Hill Library	①	3
	Do you identify with any of the following? (tick all that apply)	Do you support the Binalong Park Draft Master Plan? Required
Constitution Hill Library 20 Hollis Street, Constitution Hill	☐ I am Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander	O Yes
	$\square$ I speak a language other than English	<ul> <li>Yes, to an extent</li> </ul>
NSW 2146	☐ I live with a disability	O No
	<ul> <li>I care for someone with a disability</li> </ul>	O Unsure
	☐ None of the above	
	☐ Prefer not to say	
About you		4
Supply of personal information This form asks you to include your name, best contact		Do you have any final comments on the Draft Master Plan?
number, residential address and contact email address.	②	
The supply of personal information by you is voluntary.  If you do not wish to provide personal information,	Have you provided feedback previously to	
Council may be limited in dealing with your comments.	inform the Draft Master Plan?	
The intended recipients of any submissions, including	(tick all that apply)	
your personal information are Councillors and officers within Council.	Yes, I provided feedback during first phase of consultation (7 Dec 2020 - 4 Feb 2021)	
Please note that your submission may be made public as it may form part of a public report.	<ul> <li>Yes, I provided feedback during the second phase of consultation (19 Apr - 10 May 2021)</li> <li>No</li> </ul>	
Further information is provided in the City of Parramatta Council's <u>Privacy Statement.</u>		
Any personal information collected can be accessed by you and may also be available to third parties in accordance with Council's <u>Access to Information Policy</u> .		
☐ By ticking this box I agree to the above and confirm that I am at least 16 years old. Required		
First Name:		
Last name:		
Best contact number:		_
Your email address:		CITY OF

**Phase 2 Community Engagement** 

# Have your say

Earlier in the year, you told us there were 4 areas in the park that needed improvement. We need your help to better understand the park requirements and issues identified. We will use this feedback to ensure that the Draft Masterplan (on public exhibition late May 2021) accurately reflects our community requirements.

What you told us Binalong Park needed during initial consultation (4 Dec 2020 to 4 Feb 2021)



Variety of activities



Improved parking and traffic flow



Improved park layout



Improved access

## SCAN the QR code to have your say.

Alternatively, please visit the Constitution Hill Library to provide your feedback.

Consultation closes 5pm, 10 May 2021

For more information

Visit: participate.cityofparramatta.nsw.gov.au/binalongpark Email: placeservices@cityofparramatta.nsw.gov.au Phone: 9806 5050







Phase 3 Public exhibition of the draft masterplan



## **HAVE YOUR SAY**

#### **Draft Binalong Park Masterplan**

Over the past 12 month, City of Parramatta, sought community feedback to understand long term requirements and plan for future improvements to Binalong Park, Old Toongabbie. Using what we heard, Council has developed a draft masterplan. The draft masterplan is on public exhibition until 5pm Friday 25 June 2021.

#### To view the draft masterplan scan the QR code or visit the locations below

City of Parramatta Library, 1-3 Fitzwilliam Street, Parramatta Council's Customer Service Centre,126 Church Street, Parramatta Constitution Hill Branch Library, Hollis Street, Constitution Hill

#### To make a submission to the draft Binalong Park Masterplan:

Scan the QR code or visit participate.cityofparramatta.nsw.gov.au/binalongpark

Email: placeservices@cityofparramatta.nsw.gov.au

Mail to: Place Services. C/O City of Parramatta PO Box 32 Parramatta NSW 2124 Visit the Constitution Hill Library to submit a hardcopy survey Submissions close 5pm, 25 June 2021.



Talk to the project team at the below drop in sessions Saturday 12 June 9-11am at Binalong Park, Old Toongabbie Thursday 17 June 3-5pm at Binalong Park, Old Toongabbie Saturday 19 June 2-4pm at Binalong Park, Old Toongabbie





## **Binalong Park Draft Master** Plan

#### How your feedback informed the new design

We used your feedback collected across the 2020/21 to develop a Draft Master Plan. Scan the QR code to have your say on the draft masterplan.

7 Dec 2020 Phase 1 consultation Understand the site

19 April 2021 Phase 2 consultation Issues and mitigation options

**Amenities** 

General park users are

combine two amenities buildings into one. The draft

masterplan provides two

public amenities to reduce crowding. Council is reviewing public toilet

operating times at Binalong Park outside the masterplan process.

supportive of plan to

31 May to 25 Jun 2021 Public exhibition of Draft Master

4 Feb 2021 Phase 1 consultation closes

10 May 2021 Phase 2 consultation concludes

Jul 2021 Final outcomes report and final Master Plan put forward to Council for adoption

#### Indoor social spaces

The draft masterplan identifies a multipurpose indoor facility that can provide alternative recreational activities such as yoga/karate classes, birthday parties, music lesson rooms etc. The tennis amenities building will be upgraded to ensure that it is DDA compliant and will include a kitchenette, public toilet and picnic areas.

#### Lighting

Lighting and park safety was a concern for the community. A lighting strategy is included in the draft masterplan.

A storage facility is identified in the draft masterplan. Storage would be welcome and used by most sports clubs.

#### Seating and shade

Park users would like additional shaded seating areas and more trees. Extensive spectator seating and picnic areas are incorporated into the draft masterplan

### Car parking

Parking and traffic issues was identified during phase 1 and 2 consultation. The draft masterplan relocates the carpark to reduce congestion at the corner of Binalong Road and Fitzwilliam Road, A separate entrance and exit have been included to improve car park circulation and provide an opportunity for a school drop-off zone enabling students to enter the school via a pathway to the back entrance.

#### New exercise and play

equipment Many park users requested a variety of play and social activities. The draft masterplan provides a circuit po and fitness station to support fitness and well being in addition to larger district playground with activities for different age groups and abilities

#### Community identified park priorities



Improve access to sport



activities

<del>(</del><u>↓</u>) Improve park layout

Improve

parking and



Scan QR code to learn more or provide a submission

#### For more information:



Visit: participate.cityofparramatta.nsw.gov.au/binalongpark Email: placeservices@cityofparramatta.nsw.gov.au



CITY OF PARRAMATTA

#### C. Comments received from the public exhibition formal submissions



#### **Access & Lighting**

The embellishment around the fields seems underdone, the paths around the fields should be more flowing organic, people use the park to walk this should be revisited.

Concrete Perimeter Path

I do not like the plan for the concrete path around the perimeter of the park for the following reasons;

a) Many people such as myself go to the park to get away from concrete and get onto grass!

I like to walk the perimeter of the park on grass and enjoy the greenery abounding around me - not marred by a concrete path.

b) Not only do I see it as a backward step for the park, it will also be very disruptive and expensive. And as far as I am concerned a flagrant misuse of rate-payers money.

Please ensure there is adequate lighting around the park. In oval street it's so dark and young kids like to gather set fireworks, drink.

Don't worry about a circuit path there as accessibility is fine in my opinion.

I strongly recommend to have running or jogging track around the ground helps people who wants to walk in the morning or evening.

The pedestrian footpath/pedestrian park gateways intersections should include full width pavement along the road verge for about 5 metres to provide adequate room for all pedestrians to move including people with a disability as well as providing visual cues for pedestrian entry to Park.

These hard paved areas could include artwork in their surface as I don't recall any mention of public arts being included in the Park environ?

In that regard the design of all DDA amenities and facilities should be clearly outlined and stated at this strategic point to be clear on the park being focused on inclusiveness and equity for all family members.

As the plan does not show exact dimensions. I would like to comment that it would be excellent if the circuit path of the fields were at least a path of 3m wide with lane markings that would accommodate both pedestrians walking, people running and then a lane for bicycles etc. This makes the circuit path suitable and safe for both spectators moving around the venue and people wishing to exercise.

I like the new proposal particularly, (...) the walking path around the fields.

Some of the pedestrian access points on each edge of the park either appear to be missing or not DDA compliant? For example pedestrians with a disability entering from the southern edge should not be expected to walk around the Binalong Road to gain access to the Park.

School access?

Football NSW strongly supports the installation of floodlighting on all four fields at Binalong Park as part of the masterplan. Lighting should be installed to a minimum of 100 lux to allow for training and most importantly night competition for community football. Sports lighting allows players of all ages and abilities to train safely at night and provide the opportunity to play competition football providing flexibility in scheduling.

Lighting is a crucial aspect for football venues. Adequate lighting for football fields is now an essential element in the ongoing viability of any venue. While community football clubs are unlikely to need the standard of lighting required for televised matches, all clubs need to be able to light their grounds so players of all ages can train and compete safely and effectively in the evenings.

We also encourage that the lighting installed should be LED in line with modern technology. The long lifespan of LEDs coupled with the floodlights strong mechanical design means few maintenance interventions will be needed. Furthermore, LED lighting directs the light directly onto the field (football or baseball), eliminating the light spill that old lighting systems have previously had.

The addition of a walking path, (...) will ensure that the entire community will have access to Binalong Park seven days a week, 365 days of the year.

It would have been good if the carpark was at the other end of the plan so it was closer to the school for school drop off & pick up. I guess that is not likely to happen since the tennis courts were refurbished prior to the rest of the park being upgraded.

Also at least one field needs a covered grandstand for spectators; at the initial stage it does not have to have more than 100 seats but it needs to be built so it can be expanded in the future so that at least one artificial ground can be fenced appropriately with increased lux floodlighting and used for State League matches. This should be located next to the carpark and could be tiered with the top section built above the carpark

More landscaping rather than concrete should introduced between the fields.

No fences around playing fields to permit access to open grass areas when fields are not in use

Water stations, dog friendly, night time lighting, higher fence behind the goals

The new playground should state clearly that it's 'all abilities' to support all members of the family attending the park together.

Provision of Rubbish bins

It is upsetting for me to see how people leave their rubbish around the park and I am at times picking it up.

I take my rubbish with me, but many other people will not do this.

So there needs to be bins provided so that people can "do the right thing". Especially around the cricket nets.

Council needs to lead the way and train people to put rubbish in the bin (by availability of bins) and not train people to dump it on the ground! This seems to be getting worse over the years.

It might be helpful to put a sign up at the bins something like "Be respectful - please put your rubbish in the bins provided".

Ideally, it would be great if there could be bins for rubbish as well as a separate bin for recyclables.

The new playground should state clearly that it's 'all abilities' to support all members of the family attending the park together.

The inclusion of a sporting amenities building at Binalong Park is an essential aspect to footballs operation. It is vital that venues provide the right facilities for the future particularly ensuring facilities are gender neutral. The female portion of the game will no doubt see a substantial rise in participation before, during and after the FIFA Women's World Cup that is being hosted in Australia in just over two and half years. This will be a once in a lifetime opportunity for female footballers in Australia to see the Matilda's in a home World Cup and have the best females' players across the world on our home soil.



#### Masterplan - general comments

I think overall the master plan is very good and I support the changes.

Whilst I support the master plan (...)

As the project has evolved, I my support for the project has increased as Council appear to listening to the feedback received (positive).

Congratulations on the great development plan and I can see lovely attractions for all ages in the plan.

I am in favour of all changes, it is a great update to the old Park!

I like the new proposal (...)

I don't support the changes, they seem excessive given feedback received during community consultation. The scope of works should be reduced as they do not really deliver any additional benefit over the current facility.

I support the Draft Master Plan to an extent, but there is some other ideas and other comments that I would like to submit on the Plan as set out below;

While the vision is fantastic and would lead to a wonderful regional and local open space facility (...)

Overall I consider the masterplan disappointing.

The Binalong Park Masterplan compliments the NSW Football Infrastructure Strategy well, in fact it links directly with two of the NSW Infrastructure Priorities:

- Improve Existing Venue Capacity maximising the safety, carrying capacity and activation of existing football grounds and venues.
- Inclusive Football Facilities support diversity of game formats and participants through inclusive facilities.

The upgrade to Binalong Park will make a significant and long-lasting contribution to entire local community.

Facilities such as Binalong Park not only enable growth in the game, but they also enable broader community development. Ensuring communities have adequate spaces where people can actively and safely engage in sport and recreation can provide improved social, health, educational and cultural outcomes for all.

Football NSW supports the Binalong masterplan. The masterplan for the site will play a large part in ensuring suitable infrastructure upgrades are provided for the future growth of the site and the future growth of community football. By providing the correct infrastructure at Binalong Park it will ensure the community has a terrific site to enjoy all year round.



#### Design elements

Please make sure there are lots of garbage bins they are formed over flowing after weekend sport.

Please include a water fountain with water bowl for dogs. I was disappointed that there was not one installed at Gallery Gardens tennis courts even though it was listed in the initial proposal. Water fountain only, with no facility for giving your dog a drink.

More landscaping rather than concrete should introduced between the fields.

#### Provision of Rubbish bins

It is upsetting for me to see how people leave their rubbish around the park and I am at times picking it up.

I take my rubbish with me, but many other people will not do this.

So there needs to be bins provided so that people can "do the right thing". Especially around the cricket nets.

Council needs to lead the way and train people to put rubbish in the bin (by availability of bins) and not train people to dump it on the ground! This seems to be getting worse over the years.

It might be helpful to put a sign up at the bins - something like "Be respectful - please put your rubbish in the bins provided".

Ideally, it would be great if there could be bins for rubbish as well as a separate bin for recyclables.

#### Compostable Doggy Bag Station

Again encouraging and supporting people to do the right thing. And leading the way and educating the public by providing COMPOSTABLE doggy bags.

I use compostable bags myself and I have seen this provided at another park in the city and was very impressed. Houses along Merryl Avenue have had problems with tree roots in sewer line. House no 11, 13, 15. Shrubs not deer rooted trees required.

The middle hard paved 'facility' area between the two fields could be a wonderful 'green spine' softening up the views, promoting bird habitat and creating a cool shade retreat in an open expanse of grass. The spines vista should be terminated by collourful tree spp selections to create some visual interest in the park environ.

The selection (and number) of tree species across the Park do not appear to be playing a priority role in the 'look, feel and function' of the park. They appear to be a 'native planting' add on. Their role in the Parks design and future should be prioritised and clear.

#### Concrete Perimeter Path

I do not like the plan for the concrete path around the perimeter of the park for the following reasons;

1. Many people such as myself go to the park to get away from concrete and get onto grass!

I like to walk the perimeter of the park on grass and enjoy the greenery abounding around me - not marred by a concrete path.

2. Not only do I see it as a backward step for the park, it will also be very disruptive and expensive. And as far as I am concerned a flagrant misuse of rate-payers money.

These hard paved areas could include artwork in their surface as I don't recall any mention of public arts being included in the Park environment?

The Accessible toilets should include an adult change table due to the popularity of the site for families particularly during sporting days.



#### Amenities & multi-purpose community hub

Aspect not detailed in the plan for consideration when detailing the final park design:

Will there be adequate changeroom facilities for both Male and females? The Football club in particular has a significant participation rate of women and girls. So having dedicated change rooms for women will be essential to encouraging further growth in women and girls participating in sport at the venue. Netball and Football teams use the facilities for training 3 nights a week during the season and again having dedicated facilities for changing for men and women just makes the whole experience better, particularly for women and girls, when there is consideration of their needs and dedicated spaces for them to change etc.

We would love the toilets to be open during daylight hours for kids and parents at the park to use, not just when sports events are on. They could have a door locking system like the ones at Redbank oval.

.....

Community Hall should be big enough for yoga and meditation classes for upto 100 people.

The community facility building is unnecessary. Constitution hill library is close by, and can be used as a meeting place

Is there an adult changeroom for people whose disability prevents them sitting on a toilet? E.g. Changingplaces.com

The Accessible toilets should include an adult change table due to the popularity of the site for families particularly during sporting days.

The inclusion of a sporting amenities building at Binalong Park is an essential aspect to footballs operation. It is vital that venues provide the right facilities for the future particularly ensuring facilities are gender neutral. The female portion of the game will no doubt see a substantial rise in participation before, during and after the FIFA Women's World Cup that is being hosted in Australia in just over two and half years. This will be a once in a lifetime opportunity for female footballers in Australia to see the Matilda's in a home World Cup and have the best females' players across the world on our home soil.

The local netball club is using the netball courts for training on a regular basis. Please consider their needs to continue using the facilities, including the use of netball courts. Please reconsider having netball courts only as it is not acceptable to have all to be multicourts due to different configuration of goal posts and line markings.

Also the amenities block (canteen, change rooms, toilets, etc) should be a double story building so that a clubroom can be installed on the upper floor with a covered viewing area to watch games If the amenities building was kept where it is now then with a two story building the clubroom area could be used to view games on the two fields closest to Binalong Road.

Cricket nets, storage, parking

In that regard the design of all DDA amenities and facilities should be clearly outlined and stated at this strategic point to be clear on the park being focused on inclusiveness and equity for all family members.



#### Parking & traffic

Aspect not detailed in the plan for consideration when detailing the final park design:

- There is mention of the park being serviced by on street bike routes and close to a number of shared use paths. Yet there isn't any mention of parking for bikes, nor can I see it in any of the diagrams. Having suitable bike parking facilities is key to ensuring that people can come to the park by bike. As part of the Amenities building it would be good to provide secure racks (preferably undercover) for bike parking and further encourage people to use bikes as their transport mode to the park. This could also ease pressure on the carpark which is losing some spaces. Without bike parking, those who use bikes to access the park will chain bikes to fences and furniture which limits access to the facilities, while others won't come by bike due to not having a secure place to park the bike whilst they participate in their other activities adding to cars in the carpark on on street parking.

Concern for exit/entry point of carpark close to Henson Street entrance which can already be a crash hazard area

It would have been good if the carpark was at the other end of the plan so it was closer to the school for school drop off & pick up. I guess that is not likely to happen since the tennis courts were refurbished prior to the rest of the park being upgraded.

They did a survey for parking issues, they only conducted the surveys on-site during a Thursday and during a Saturday when the cricket is on, NOBODY CONDICTRD S SURVEY WHEN THE SOCCER OS ON ?!?!?

Whilst I strongly support the idea of converting the existing carpark area to other sports play turf and children's play area (...)

Council also counted the following streets:
HENSON STREET, MERRYL AVE, OVAL STREET
as ON STREET PARKING, it is not fair to the
residents of those streets to put up with parking
DURING SOCCER, loose their parking spaces
on front of their houses so when they come home
from grocery shopping on sat and Sunday to have
to search for a parking space and walk home with
heavy bags of groceries, I myself am disabled
and am wearing an orthotic and it is just totally
inconsiderate to have those streets loose their
parking DURING SOCCER

The existing carpark provides a community benefit by providing off street parking for the school for parents, moving it further away may lead to illegal parking etc closer to the school.

Traffic entry and exit to parking is nearby/adjacent to Binalong Road/Henson St intersection and appears too close. Will this close proximity create long term traffic difficulties and increase unsafe pedestrian movements/behaviour? Road redesign options need to be considered to make this workable and safe for everyone.

The proposal of 92 parking spaces in the carpark is supported and much needed inclusion to the site.

Timed parking within the carpark on weeknights (4pm to 9:30pm) and weekends (8am to 6pm) is not supported.



#### Playground & youth plaza

The playground also needs to have shade. The current one doesn't provide sufficient shade for the children to play.

Please make sure the playground caters to a wide age range of children. It is used from toddlers up to young high schoolers. It also needs good shade, preferably natural shade.

I feel that the playground is too small for the amount of children in the area. I expected a larger playground.

I like the new proposal particularly, the expanded playground  $(\ldots)$ 

Kids play area shall have scientific/nature play equipment so they can increase their knowledge while playing.

A small splash park to keep the heat away for kids use during summer.

Can we get a bigger swing and flying fox? Thank you

The new playground should state clearly that it's 'all abilities' to support all members of the family attending the park together.

The addition of a (...), playground (...) will ensure that the entire community will have access to Binalong Park seven days a week, 365 days of the year.

The addition of a (...) youth plaza (...) will ensure that the entire community will have access to Binalong Park seven days a week, 365 days of the year.



#### Tennis courts

Swap tennis and netball courts - moving tennis courts closer to play area - permits young children to see parents on courts.



#### Timeline, implementation & funding

Whilst I strongly support the idea of converting the existing carpark area (...) I am concerned with the related closure and the start and completion of the project. How does the Council plan to carry out the proposed upgrade with minimal disruption to sporting activities?

Would we still be able to use part of the park during the upgrade?

(...) it would be disappointing if the size and scale of the aspiration led to no short term improvements and only long term delays due to the feasibility.



#### Consultation process

It is wonderful to see Parramatta City Council undertaking such a thorough community engagement in the master planning of Binalong Park.

As the project has evolved, I my support for the project has increased as Council appear to listening to the feedback received (positive). I don't support the changes, they seem excessive given feedback received during community consultation. The scope of works should be reduced as they do not really deliver any additional benefit over the current facility.



#### Sporting fields

Welcome the upgrade of the field however, I previously suggested that at least a couple of fields nearest to Binalong Road should be made all weather and constructed from artificial material. Other councils have several artificial all weather fields but Parramatta only has one at Rydalmere Park which was helped by community funding as well as council money. Perhaps, the same can be done at Binalong Park?

There is a chance to have a first class facility for both football (soccer) and cricket so we should waste it by not looking forward to the long term viability of the site. Not just as per this proposal which falls short of football and cricket needs but not investing in at least two all weather pitches meaning than the fields can be used whether it is raining or not. There would be less need for field repair and the artificial turf would last much longer than normal grass fields before any requirement to be changed. So with fields that could be used all year round during the day and night it would mean more revenue for the council log term and more cost effective to maintain. A win win situation for the future for all community sports into the future. Yes, there will be a pay back period but long term the council and the community would gain considerable in the future. Delaying doing it now means costing the council much more when it finally has to be done, as it surely will, in the not too distance future.

I am really concerned with the extent of fill to the lower field and privacy impacts associated with it. The eastern side of this field already exceeds natural ground level. Two to three metres of fill will cause significant impacts. The proposed fill will also provide a poor interface to the school. Details of the the fill, such as a site section should be provided in the masterplan to clearly convey the intended outcomes.

Field 4: very close to houses keep as cross field training no goal kicking.

......

For all competitions administered by Football NSW and our Associations, at elite and grassroots levels, the FIFA laws regarding field dimensions and pitch markings are used. So fundamental to the game are the field markings that they are contained within Law One of the game, and while there is significant flexibility in the dimensions allowed, to accommodate for greatly differing available spaces to play, there are nonetheless maximum and minimum measurements that must be followed. The four football fields should ideally be constructed at 105m x 68m as recommended by FIFA with 100m x 64m being the minimum dimensions for a full-sized field.

The inclusion of irrigation and drainage to the four football fields at Binalong Park is vital to the ongoing upkeep and maintenance of the fields. Drainage and irrigation have a significant impact on the continued capacity of playing fields and is required to enable effective ground maintenance. Without this infrastructure in place, playing fields are significantly restricted in terms of the capacity to accommodate use.

The direct correlation between the provision of functional drainage and irrigation infrastructure and playing field surface quality is evidenced by, 72% of very poor fields (in NSW from our NSW Facility Audit) have no drainage or automated irrigation infrastructure, this figure is 56% for poorly rated playing fields.

We urge the City of Parramatta to continue to increase the capacity of all sporting fields across the LGA as the population steadily grows over the next 20 years

Lighting is a crucial aspect for football venues. Adequate lighting for football fields is now an essential element in the ongoing viability of any venue. While community football clubs are unlikely to need the standard of lighting required for televised matches, all clubs need to be able to light their grounds so players of all ages can train and compete safely and effectively in the evenings.



#### Seating, shade & shelter

Also at least one field needs a covered grandstand for spectators; at the initial stage it does not have to have more than 100 seats but it needs to be built so it can be expanded in the future so that at least one artificial ground can be fenced appropriately with increased lux floodlighting and used for State League matches. This should be located next to the carpark and could be tiered with the top section built above the carpark

Also the amenities block (canteen, change rooms, toilets, etc) should be a double story building so that a clubroom can be installed on the upper floor with a covered viewing area to watch games If the amenities building was kept where it is now then with a two story building the clubroom area could be used to view games on the two fields closest to Binalong Road.

Bbq outdoor areas shall have seating arrangements in vicinity so can be used for smaller functions.

Being such a large open area there is an obvious need for lots of shade to be included in the Master Plan. both trees and shelter sheds.

The playground also needs to have shade. The current one doesn't provide sufficient shade for the children to play.

Please make sure the playground caters to a wide age range of children. It is used from toddlers up to young high schoolers. It also needs good shade, preferably natural shade.

The middle hard paved 'facility' area between the two fields could be a wonderful 'green spine' softening up the views, promoting bird habitat and creating a cool shade retreat in an open expanse of grass. The spines vista should be terminated by collourful tree spp selections to create some visual interest in the park environ.

The selection (and number) of tree species across the Park do not appear to be playing a priority role in the 'look, feel and function' of the park. They appear to be a 'native planting' add on. Their role in the Parks design and future should be prioritised and clear.



#### Multi-use sports courts

The local netball club is using the netball courts for training on a regular basis. Please consider their needs to continue using the facilities, including the use of netball courts. Please reconsider having netball courts only as it is not acceptable to have all to be multicourts due to different configuration of goal posts and line markings.

Just a general comment and wish;

Sheltered/Enclosed multi-use sports courts with wooden flooring for possible use as volleyball and badminton courts, and use all year round. Understandably, this may result in the need for higher maintenance as well as increased cost in developing an indoor sports centre structure, so it is not the most viable possibility.

The netball courts have been converted to multipurpose courts. Starlight's Netball Club use these courts and feel that the use should remain as it is at present. 3 netball courts and 1 basketball court. It is difficult to teach the rules and player placement when there are multiple lines on the court.

In addition, most of our players are juniors and the grouping of teenagers playing basketball is not conducive to the gathering of very young female players. As a coach I have had to approach the teenagers to remind them to curb the use of foul language as it has upset our younger players.

If the number of basketball courts is increased, then we can assume the number of basket balling male teenagers will increase as well. This does not provide a safe environment for young female's.

The addition of (...) multi-use sports courts will ensure that the entire community will have access to Binalong Park seven days a week, 365 days of the year.

Otherwise, something not concrete and can fall onto as ground material would be nice, and have net access for a sports like volleyball or badminton.

Swap tennis and netball courts - moving tennis courts closer to play area - permits young children to see parents on courts.



#### Fencing, gates, & dog area

Many locals like to take dogs to the area. It would be great to have a small fenced section for off lead dog activities.

I've only just moved to the area, but have noticed quite a number of dog owners/walkers (myself included). It would be great if the plans could include an enclosed off-leash area for dogs to run around safely, or even just space to safely walk dogs around the edge of the park without getting in the way of other people or ball games.

..., is it possible to allow dogs off leash in the flood zone area outside of the fields, or to make the fields off leash during low use times of day (e.g. before 7am and after 6pm)? There is a real shortage of off leash areas for dog exercise in this neighborhood.

An off leash dog park would have been a great addition since the water play area is no longer being considered any more.

No fences around playing fields to permit access to open grass areas when fields are not in use

Water stations, dog friendly, night time lighting, higher fence behind the goals

Just a general comment and wish;

Sheltered/Enclosed multi-use sports courts with wooden flooring for possible use as volleyball and badminton courts, and use all year round. Understandably, this may result in the need for higher maintenance as well as increased cost in developing an indoor sports centre structure, so it is not the most viable possibility.



#### Cricket pitch & nets

I think you need to revisit the cricket nets though, as a resident i am up the park everyday and I can honestly say that this is the most busiest part of the park all year round. They are often overcrowded and it is not uncommon for people to wait upwards of 1.5hrs to use them.

I would make the nets a 4 lane system as they would all get used and it would take a great deal of traffic off the centre wicket pitches which could be used for club training.

I am concerned about the significant risk created by the positioning of the cricket nets close to other facilities. What risk mitigation strategies are in place to prevent the ball hitting someone?

Cricket nets: have a high use and must be included

Cricket nets, storage, parking



#### Other sports & additional exercise equipment

Perhaps add a volleyball net which people could use on the far right side of the oval as there is a lot of un utilised space there.

Also an open gym for adults in the play area.

Seniors exercise equipment shall be installed.

I do have a suggestion to include skateboard/ scooter ramp/field for kids who love riding their scooters. The closest field for the scooter is in Parramatta/Baulkham Hills, and we would love to see one in Binalong Park.

Otherwise, something not concrete and can fall onto as ground material would be nice, and have net access for a sports like volleyball or badminton.



