



CITY OF PARRAMATTA

Arthur Phillip Park Masterplan Renewal

Phase 1 Engagement Outcomes Report

May 2021

JOCCONSULTING
creative urban planners



JOCCONSULTING
creative urban planners

© JOC Consulting 2021
All care has been taken to prepare this
report for the City of Parramatta Council
If you have any queries regarding this
report please get in touch:

John O'Callaghan, Director
+61 0400 471 469
john@jocconsulting.com.au

jocconsulting.com.au

Acknowledgement of Country

This Engagement Outcomes Report acknowledges that Arthur Phillip Park is on Aboriginal land where the traditional custodians, the Darug People, have been caring for Country for more than 70,000 years.

We pay our respects to the traditional owners of this land, their Elders past, present and emerging, and acknowledge the continued rich culture and heritage of all Aboriginal people on this land.

Contents

Executive summary	5
About the engagement	9
About the project	10
What the community want	12
Community survey	16
Stakeholder interviews	22
Submissions	24
Conclusion	26

Appendices

Appendix A – Community Survey Analysis

Appendix B – Intercept Survey Snapshot Report

Appendix C – Stakeholder Interview Minutes

Executive summary

“I always see a lot of families with young children, people exercising, people doing sports or people in general wanting to enjoy a day out”

– Community Survey Participant

Arthur Phillip Park (the park) is in transition to a district park that provides recreation and facilities for the wider area of Northmead, Westmead and North Parramatta. Council is renewing the masterplan for Arthur Phillip Park to update the masterplan prepared in 2000 to provide for additional and improved recreational and sporting facilities. Council has identified this as a key priority.

Community engagement is important to renewing a masterplan. It puts people at the heart of the design process by understanding their needs and desires and identifying the community’s priorities for improvement. This will be a key input for the renewed Arthur Phillip Park masterplan.

The engagement is being delivered in three phases and will guide the development of a renewed masterplan.

- **Phase one - Ideas:** We want to know what is working and what can be improved to make Arthur Phillip Park safer, more inclusive and active for everyone. (This phase was completed on 4 February 2021)
- **Phase two – Let's get designing:** We will use your ideas and propose some potential activities, pathway, social and play space improvements for your consideration.
- **Phase three – Feedback:** We will publicly exhibit the draft masterplan and seek community feedback before presenting to Council for endorsement.

Phase 1 consultation – what we have heard so far

A total of 273 people participated in the Phase 1 Engagement between December 2020 and February 2021. The mediums employed to engage with the community and stakeholders included:

- Intercept Survey – 23 park user and local resident participants (5 December – 8 December 2020)
- Online and Paper Survey – 23 community participants (4 December 2020 – 4 February 2021)
- Stakeholder Interviews – 5 sporting group participants (16 December 2020 – 13 January 2021)
- Public Submissions – 3 received from local residents and Cricket NSW (at 4 February 2021)
- Council website and social media
- Flyer mail-out to 650 surrounding residences

The different mediums employed has ensured a well-rounded input from sporting groups and users, local and district-wide casual users, and surrounding local residents. This is confirmed by the cross-section of participants responding.

This report summarises the key themes and community priorities emerging from the Phase 1 engagement for Council and the design team’s consideration.

Key observations

The following observations have been collated by JOC Consulting based on site visits and analysis of the engagement data:

- **The walking loop is a hit! (and the top priority for further improvement)**
- **The community want more trees, while also keeping the open field**
- **The priorities for play facilities are water play and play for older ages**
- **The community desires the park to be a social destination**
- **There is an identified need for contemporary all-ability access facilities**
- **Lighting is a priority, more so for the walkers and informal use**
- **The sports field is underutilised and an issue for sports**
- **Walking / cycling connections are a higher priority than parking**
- **The community value functionality over aesthetics**

Priorities

The community highly values the facilities at Arthur Phillip Park and would like to see many improvements that will strengthen its role as a multi-purpose park for the local neighbourhood and wider district. JOC Consulting has prepared the following community priorities based on phase 1 engagement data:



Increase shade trees in strategic locations around the edges of the park



Expand the walking/cycling loop for more users, including passing and connection points



Improve lighting, especially along the walking/cycling path for safety and increased use



Introduce rest stops, informal seating and meeting areas for socialising



Introduce new water play and facilities for all ages and abilities

Introduce additional play equipment for a wider range of ages and abilities

Upgrade amenities to meet contemporary needs for a wider range of people

Regrade the playing field to the lower level with seating for meeting and spectating

Maintain parking and identify opportunities for improved active transport connections

Investigate opportunities for cricket nets and a complimentary café/food use in the park in the longer term

Park role

Survey data provides an insight into the current and future users of the park; such as the location of people providing feedback (42% from the surrounding suburbs of Westmead, North Parramatta, Old Toongabbie and Winston Hills) and reported facilities used (72% of participants using the walking loop and sporting groups year-round use of the playing fields)). Arthur Phillip is beginning to serve as a district park by servicing the needs of a larger community, and the breadth of ideas captured during the first phase of engagement indicates that the community is generally supportive of making future improvements that will enable it to better transition to that role.

Who participated in the consultation:

273 people participated in the Phase 1 engagement for the renewal of the Arthur Phillip masterplan. The community and stakeholders were made aware of the engagement via:

- Intercept surveys in the park
- Letterbox drop of flyers to 650 residences in Northmead
- Council website and social media posts
- Email and phone calls to key stakeholders

The attributes of participants in the engagement are summarised below.



273

participants across three platforms:

- 265 surveys (including 32 intercept surveys)
- 5 stakeholder interviews
- 3 submissions



55%

live in Northmead

Another

42%

live in the Parramatta LGA



Participants ranged in age from **18 to over 65** years old

The main age groups were 35 - 44 years old (40%) and 25 - 34 years old (25%)



96%

have visited the park in the past



90%

visit the park on a regular basis (daily, weekly, fortnightly or monthly)



25%

speak a language other than English at home



7%

live with a disability



10%

Care for someone living with a disability

About the engagement

“(Arthur Phillip Park) is just convenient to us and helps us to keep our health in check and have a good social connection with neighbours”

– Community Survey Participant

Consultation Completed

The 273 community members and stakeholders participating in the Phase 1 engagement were engaged through three different types of activities held. The table below summarises each engagement activity:

Method	Details
Community Surveys:	
- Online Survey	Date: 4 December 2020 – 4 February 2021 Audience: General public Participants: 233 (including one hard copy survey received at a branch library)
- Intercept Survey	Date: 5 December 2021 (12 – 1pm) 8 December 2021 (9:30 – 10:00am; 5:00 – 5:30pm) Audience: Park users and local residents (in or near the park) Participants: 32
Stakeholder Interviews	Date: 16 December 2020 - 16 January 2021 Audience: Sports groups Participants: 5 (three sports clubs and two sports representative bodies)
Submissions	Date: 4 December 2020 – 4 February 2021 Audience: Community Participants: 3 (written submissions received via post or email)

For the purposes of this report, the online survey and the intercept surveys have been collated and analysed together. These methods contained the same questions, with the intercept survey also providing the opportunity for more detailed feedback.

To promote participation in the engagement activities, 650 flyers were letter box dropped to surrounding residents, informing them about the project and how they could participate.

About the project

“(Arthur Phillip Park) is perfect for Northmead... It is perfect for all residents - young singles like me or my parents or even seniors”

– Community Survey Participant

Arthur Phillip Park

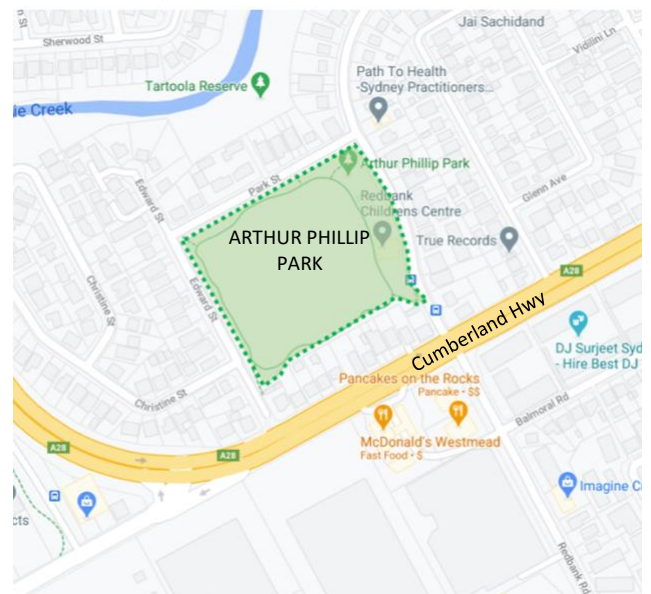
Arthur Phillip Park is located in Northmead, less than 5km away from the rapidly growing Parramatta CBD and Westmead Health and Innovation Precinct. It is a 3.2 hectare park with frontage to three streets – Redbank Road, Park Street and Edward Street. The main access road to the park is Redbank Road.

While currently classified in the City of Parramatta Cultural Infrastructure Strategy as a local park that serves the immediately surrounding neighbourhood (principally for passive enjoyment of the outdoors and space to informally gather and play), the Park already functions as a district park servicing the Westmead and North Parramatta Precincts in addition to the Hills Districts.

Arthur Phillip Park is well utilised and valued by the community as a place to play, exercise and do sports. The park contains the following facilities:

- A double-sized playing field
- A walking / cycling loop path
- Public toilets and an amenities building
- A children’s playground
- Outdoor exercise equipment
- Covered picnic areas with BBQs, seating and bins
- A one-third basketball court

There is also a childcare centre co-located within the park, on Redbank Road.



Project Background

The City of Parramatta is expected to have continued rapid growth with its population expected to double to over 460,00 people in the next 20 years and 87,900 dwellings forecasted. Three-quarters of this growth will be concentrated the GOP area around Parramatta and most of the new housing will be in the form of high-density housing.

The City of Parramatta's Community Infrastructure Strategy (CIS) aims to equalise access to open space. It aims to deliver high quality public space within 250m (for high-density neighbourhoods) or 400m (for low density neighbourhoods) from dwellings. This is supported by the City's aim to create "a city in nature".

In order to meet increasing community demands and ease the pressure of growth on infrastructure, maximising on the capacity and potential of existing spaces is essential. The City of Parramatta's Community Infrastructure Strategy has identified a 316 ha deficit in the provision of sportsground. Council is developing a renewed masterplan for Arthur Phillip Park in response to this need for more open sports fields, recreational spaces and active sporting programs.

The renewed masterplan will see Arthur Phillip Park transformed into a district park that is responsive to the active recreation needs of the growing Northmead, Westmead and Parramatta North Precinct. The park is a much-loved large local park. Upgrading the park into a district sports and play ground will need to be sensitive to a broader community perspective as well as local needs.



What the community want

“I like the park because... it's a community hub. It caters for a variety of activities”

- Community survey participant



Throughout the Phase 1 engagement, the community were energetic, eager and passionate in their responses, expressing their support of the masterplan and upgrades to Arthur Phillip Park. The ideas they shared along with community values and priorities in relation to the Park have been captured in this Engagement Outcomes Report.

Overall, the community love the park and appreciate the facilities and amenities provided. They are used by all groups for sporting and recreational activities at a local and district level. They value the range of facilities and activities the park caters for and want to see this strengthened.

This report has been structured by engagement output to give appropriate weight to each engagement event and to better distinguish what different groups prioritise. The following lists capture the findings and most common priorities for improvement to Arthur Phillip Park across all of the engagement activities.

Key statistics from the Phase 1 engagement

- 265 people participated in the survey, 5 sporting groups were interviewed and 3 written submissions were received.
- 90% of survey respondents used the park at least once per month and half of those visited at least weekly.
- Only 53% of participants indicated that they travelled to the park by car (more walk or cycle).
- 72% of survey respondents indicated they use the walking loop and more than half of all participants identified it as the park feature that they liked most.
- 52% of survey respondents indicated they use the playground and more than one quarter of participants indicated the playground and large green space as features they like most.
- Only 30% of all respondents indicate they use the sporting field at all and sporting groups indicated this as their priority for improvement.
- 47% of respondents indicated they visit after 4pm on weekdays and lighting was identified as an important improvement by survey respondents and sporting groups.
- No sporting groups use the sporting field on Sundays, but it is used year-round for organised sports on Saturdays and some weekdays for training.
- Only 20% of participants use the amenities and sports groups indicated this was outdated and in need of upgrade

What we heard about priorities

- Participants identified all existing elements of the park as important for improvement, with the exception of the gym equipment which was neutral.
- The top priorities for improvement (with a score of 3.8 or more out of 5) were increased shade trees, improvements to the walking loop, lighting and additional play space.
- Waterplay was identified as the form of 'play' space people would like to see more of, followed by traditional play equipment and spaces for leisure / social activity opportunities.
- Suggestions for facilities and amenities improvements (such as rest stop/spectator seating, bins and drinking fountains) were highly mentioned by the community and sports groups.
- The sloping field was the most mentioned issue for sports groups, and while it was the 7th highest priority in survey responses, its apparent low casual use provides a case for upgrade.

Overall summary of insights from the Phase 1 engagement

The walking loop is a hit! (and the top priority for further improvement) – this was the most used facility in the park by 72% of respondents, and was what people liked most about the park. The community want to see further improvement to the loop such as widening, connections and seating rest stops, as well as associated shade trees and lighting. Shade trees and the walking/cycling loop were identified as the top two existing park elements for improvement.

More shade trees are desired in the right location – while this was identified as a top priority by respondents, there was also a strong theme of also retaining the large open field in the centre of the park through survey responses and stakeholder sports group feedback.

Lighting is a priority, more so for walkers and informal use – it was identified as the fourth highest community priority, over 25% of park users visit after 4pm (nearly half of weekday visitors) and the presence of walkers in the park after dark was identified in intercept and sporting group stakeholder surveys.

The community desires the park to be a social destination – one-quarter of park users visit with friends and one-third with their partner. Respondents indicated strongly that they would like to see more leisure and social activity opportunities.

Water play and play equipment for a wider range of ages are a priority – 61% of respondents visit the park with their children and young families, the group that most respondents felt the park could better cater for. Playspace was rated a high priority for improvement. The community indicated they would like to see water play and traditional play. Feedback through intercept surveys indicated new facilities should cater for older children, teenagers and even adults.

Contemporary all access facilities are important – participation by carers and people with a disability (7% and 10% respectively) indicated the use of the park by people with a disability appears to be high. Feedback through the intercept survey was that play equipment is important, for adults as well. The facilities and amenities building scored low (below 10%) in the facilities liked or used and the sports groups indicated the amenities format was outdated and did not provide for women.

The sports field is underutilised and an issue for sports – only 30% of respondents use the open sporting field and it is only used for organised sports groups on Saturdays and some weekdays for training. The top priority across all sports groups was the levelling of the field, which would also likely increase its use by the wider community for informal sports and games.

Walking and cycling connections are a higher priority than parking – only half of visitors drive to the park and parking was not identified as a high priority (not in the top 4 and not featuring strongly in suggestions for improvement) nor an issue for sports groups interviewed. 56% of participants walk to the park and 14% cycle.

The community values functionality over aesthetics – feedback on the ranking of elements for play indicates a community preference towards the functional (water play, traditional play and space for leisure/social activities) over aesthetic outcomes (such as aboriginal and indigenous design or public art and creative play spaces). Though all scored high (3.47 or more out of 5).

The park is already beginning to serve as a district park – while 55% of survey participants lived in the local area of Northmead, 42% lived in the wider surrounding suburbs of Westmead, North Parramatta, Parramatta, Old Toongabbie, Constitution Hills and Winston Hills. With its walking look and sports field, Arthur Phillip Park is used by people from outer neighbourhoods.

The next sections of this report present the data and results of each of the different methods of engagement that have formed the basis of the Phase 1 engagement findings.

Community Survey

“It's pretty quiet and peaceful, so it's a good place to chill”

– Community Survey Participant

What we heard

A total of 265 surveys were received between 4 December 2020 and 4 February 2021. This included:

- 232 online surveys
- 32 intercept surveys
- 1 hard copy survey

The large majority of responses (90%) were from current users, providing detailed and nuanced feedback.

Current Visitation

How people get to Arthur Phillip Park

Noting that responses were received from local residents in Northmead, but also people from the surrounding suburbs, responses on method of travel to Arthur Phillip Park highlighted that:

- Only 53% of participants indicated that they travelled to the park by car.
- More people travel to Arthur Phillip Park by active transport, 54% of respondents walk and 14% cycle there.

It is noted that many respondents travel to Arthur Phillip Park through more than one method of transport.

When people visit Arthur Phillip Park

The community surveys were mostly completed by people who visited the park (95%). The responses received indicated the following frequency of visitation:

- Most respondents (90%) visit Arthur Phillip Park on a regular basis, at least monthly.
- Almost half of those people visit frequently, daily or at least weekly.

Nearly half of all weekday visits are in the late afternoon and early evening. Most respondents (47%) indicated they visited the park from 4pm onwards on weekdays. This is likely due to work commitments, school and after-school sporting commitments.

During the weekends and school holidays the park appears to be busiest in the morning. Respondents were more likely to visit from 9am – 12pm (38% of weekend visits and 46% of holiday visits). Weekend visitation is more evenly spread across the day.

In general, people are less likely to visit the park before 9am. Weekdays after 4pm was the most popular time nominated for visiting the park, followed by 9am – 12pm on weekends then 9am – 12pm on school holidays. Those attending for organised sports, indicated they visited from 9am onwards on sports days (consistent with feedback from the sports clubs indicating whole day use on Saturdays).

Park Features for Improvement

The survey asked participants to identify what they liked best about the park (Q6) and what they felt could be improved (Q8, Q10). In general, the feedback received indicates park is valued and well-loved by the community. They feel it offers a wide range of activities and uses for the community but they also acknowledge there is room for improvement.

Survey responses highlighted what facilities or features are valued and used:

- Over half of all participants identified the walking loop as the park feature that they liked most. 72% of respondents indicated they use the walking loop.
- The large treed green space and playground were highly valued, each by more than a quarter of participants. 52% of respondents indicated they use the playground.
- Only 30% of all respondents indicated they use the sporting field at all and less than that use the amenities, BBQ, basketball court and gym equipment facilities.

The table below summarises the most common elements participants liked and the common ideas for improvement.

Park features	What the community liked	What the community did not like	Additional ideas from the community
Facilities and amenities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The relatively clean and well-maintained toilets ▪ BBQ and picnic facilities close to the playground 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The format and accessibility of amenities ▪ The lack of shade and seating around the loop 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lighting along the walking and cycling loop ▪ Lighting in the play space ▪ Extend opening hours of bathroom facilities ▪ Water stations throughout the park ▪ More seating along the walking/cycling loop ▪ Accessible bathrooms for people with impairment ▪ More bins stationed throughout the park
Playgrounds and spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The play equipment ▪ The basketball court ▪ The range of activities provided ▪ The fencing creating a sense of safety and security 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The lack of play equipment for older kids / teens ▪ The lack of shade over playground 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Waterplay for all ages and abilities ▪ Diversify the play equipment to cater for a range of ages ▪ Re-locate basketball hoop away from playground ▪ Extend fencing around the playground ▪ More lighting at night
Green space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The existing mature trees ▪ The large friendly open space with good visibility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The amount of shade trees 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Expand the tree canopy cover along the path

Park features	What the community liked	What the community did not like	Additional ideas from the community
Sports and exercise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The walking loop ▪ The large open field ▪ The workout equipment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The slope of the field ▪ The lack of rest stop seating 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Widening the loop path and separate walking/ cycling lanes ▪ Levelling out the playing field
Maintenance and appearance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Generally clean and well-maintained 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Litter left in the park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ More regular cleaning, particularly around the bins ▪ More bins around the park

Survey Findings on Priorities

The findings of the survey in regards to priorities for future improvements are:

- Participants identified all existing elements of the park as important for improvement, with the exception of the gym equipment which was neutral.
- The top priorities for improvement (with a score of 3.8 or more out of 5) were increased shade trees, improvements to the walking loop, lighting and additional play space.
- Waterplay was identified as the form of 'play' space people would like to see more of, followed by traditional play equipment and spaces for leisure / social activity opportunities.
- Suggestions for facilities and amenities improvements (such as rest stop/spectator seating and drinking fountains) were highly mentioned by participants.

Consideration of Functional Elements

Sports and exercise:

When identifying what they liked most about Arthur Phillip Park, sports and exercise opportunities was the top answer, nominated by 51% of respondents.

Of the people discussing sports and exercise, the majority of the comments related to the walking and cycling loop. It is the most used facility in the park, with 72% of respondents reporting to using it regularly.

The circuit also ranked second in terms of what people want to see improved. While it was popular all around, improvements to the track are particularly supported by people aged over 55 (90% rating its improvement as important or very important), people living with disabilities (78%), and carers (77%).

The sporting field is only used by 30% of participants, indicative of underutilisation, but ranked relatively low (7th out of 9) in terms of priorities for improvement.

Respondents value the large green space, second only to the walking loop. They want to see the large open space that comprises of the sporting field remain in the park. Community participants saw the need for improvements to the sporting field i.e., levelling the field, but most consider this to be minor – '(levelling the field) would be nice but is not a priority'.

Green space:

Green space was the second most mentioned park element by participants answering what they liked best about the park.

Among people living with a disability, green space is what they liked most about the park. Green space was also more popular with people aged over 55, with 48% identifying open green as an element they like about Arthur Phillip Park.

When discussing elements for improvement, shade trees were ranked as most important element. This was identified as being particularly important for people living disabilities (94%) and their carers (78%). Interestingly, a large majority of people aged over 55 (97%) also noted the importance of expanding the tree canopy cover to provide adequate shade for park users.

The Community's top 4 priorities for park improvement:



Shade trees



Walking/cycling loop



Playground/play spaces



Lighting

Playgrounds and play spaces:

Playgrounds and play spaces were the third most mentioned park element by participants answering what they liked best about the park. It is also the second most used park facility.

Question 8 asked people to prioritise what they want improved in Arthur Phillip Park. All options received a relatively high score but playground ranked as the third most important element for improvement. Of the 175 respondents who ranked play as important or very important, 49% were aged 35 – 44.

Of survey respondents who are living with a disability, 38% ranked playground upgrades as important or very important. Interestingly, 64% of people who care for someone with a disability believe rate the upgrades of play spaces as important or very important.

When discussing what type of play they'd like to see more of in the park, water play was the most popular response. This was closely followed by traditional play and space for leisure/social activities. In open response questions, waterplay was closely linked to opportunities to cool down in the summer.

The need to create a more accessible park was evident throughout the survey with 37% of respondents reporting that the park could better cater for people living with disabilities.

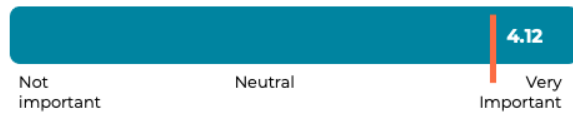
Other considerations:

There were mixed reviews regarding the provision of parking, some responses reported sufficient availability of parking whereas others felt more parking is needed cope with the influx of people to the area.

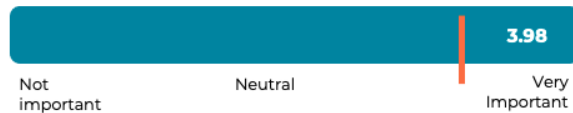
Participants also noted that some nearby workers use the carpark as all day parking while at work. They felt that this issue should be addressed in order for park users to better utilise the carpark.

How important is it to see these facilities at Arthur Phillip Park? People said:

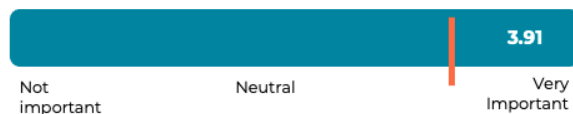
1. Waterplay



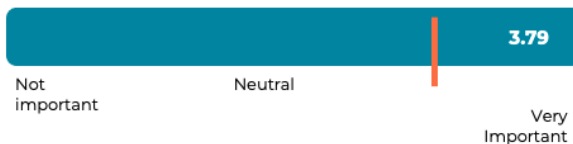
2. Leisure/social activities



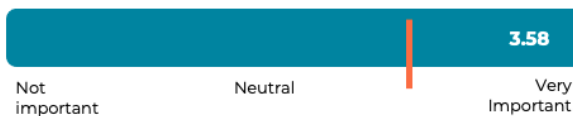
3. Traditional Play



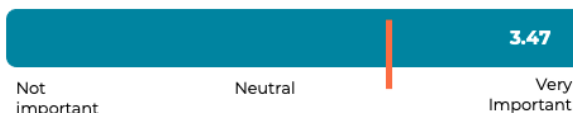
4. Imaginary and sensory play



5. Designing with Country



6. Public art and creative play spaces





Interesting Insights from the Intercept Survey:

The intercept surveys were completed by JOC Consulting on site through face-to-face interviews with community members. While the data from the intercept survey was combined with the general community survey into one data set, there were some unique insights that could only be gained by talking with the community.

- **Play spaces for teens and adults** – Participants saw the need for interactive teen and adult play spaces that encourage physical activity and exploration. A park user commented *'kids aren't the only people who play. We need play for adults too – things that are colourful and sensory. It would be really beneficial for people living with disabilities too'*.
- **Creating spaces for young people** – Young people (teens to early twenties) would like to see a space for them reflected in the park i.e., locating the basketball court further away from the children's play spaces where they can play basketball and come together while listening to music. Parents also saw the need for play equipment for older kids/teens (rope climbing, larger swings etc) that excite and challenge their kids.
- **Catering for different park users** – Participants from sporting groups prioritised upgrades relating to the sporting facilities, such as the levelling of the field and spectator seating, whereas casual park users, parents and carers saw the need to improve the paths and create greater play opportunities, especially waterplay.
- **Sports players more likely to drive to the park** – Participants from sporting groups were more likely to drive to the park due to the convenience of location and parking.

Stakeholder Interviews

“It’s a great open space and we are appreciative of having a double ground that we can use.”

– Stakeholder interviewee

What we heard

A total of 5 sports groups were interviewed between 16 December 2020 and 16 January 2021 with the aim of understanding their current usage of the park and potential future needs.

Current Visitation

How people get to the park:

All sports clubs and associations indicated that the majority of their members travel to Arthur Phillip Park by driving. While most members tend to live locally, driving is generally more convenient when transporting sports equipment. The ‘local’ nature of players extends beyond the suburb of Northmead to surround suburbs of the City of Parramatta LGA and lower Hills Shire.

When people visit:

Sports groups reported to using Arthur Phillip Park year-round between cricket in summer and football in winter. The feedback indicated that current usage by sports groups:

- Saturdays from 9am until 4pm-5pm (year-round)
- Weekdays from 4pm for training (football and rugby league in winter)
- Sundays not used

Park Features for Improvement

The interviewees were asked to identify any issues they’ve faced in the park and how to improve their overall experience. The table below summarises the most common elements participants liked and the common ideas for improvement.

Park features	What stakeholders liked	What stakeholders did not like	Additional ideas from the sports groups
Facilities and amenities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Good provision of facilities ▪ A store room for equipment ▪ The toilets ▪ The pavilion ▪ The picnic area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The location, design and amount of spectator seating 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Contemporary change facilities with cubicles for men and women ▪ Additional lighting ▪ Water fountains for drinking throughout park ▪ Easier locking system for toilets and change rooms
Sports and exercise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Size of the sporting fields ▪ Double grounds ▪ The provision of outdoor exercise equipment ▪ The walking loop 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The slope of the field 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Levelling the playing field ▪ More lighting ▪ Add in cricket nets ▪ Include soccer posts ▪ Upgrade the existing cricket pitch
Park features	What stakeholders liked	What stakeholders did not like	Additional ideas from the sports groups

Playgrounds and spaces

- Proximity of the playground to the field

- Lighting in the playground

Maintenance and appearance

- Address the park drainage – water pools at the bottom edge of the park

Consideration of Functional Elements

Facilities and Amenities:

Overall, clubs had positive reviews of their experience at Arthur Phillip Park and reported the Park is well-provided for in terms of facilities and amenities.

However, a club highlighted the need for change and shower facilities for women. They noted that the current facility only has open showers and change rooms, providing little privacy. They reported that there are generally fewer facilities for women in contact sports, and emphasised the need to provide these facilities to see gender parity in sports.

When discussing change and shower facilities to cater for the new waterplay facilities, clubs felt that these should be located in a new building. They noted that having them in the existing building could lead to tripping hazards. A club also reported the need to consider the impact on storage should the change and shower facilities be incorporated into the existing building.

Playgrounds and play spaces:

Sports groups were generally ambivalent or positive about the incorporation of waterplay in Arthur Phillip Park. Their main concern is the new addition doesn't impact the sporting field as there is already a shortage of sporting fields in the Parramatta LGA.

A sports group noted it would be safer to keep the waterplay facilities at a distance from the sporting fields as a measure against stray balls.

Sports and Exercise:

The clubs noted that while the field is uneven, they are appreciative of having a ground to play on at all. They want for the sporting field to remain as result of any upgrades and to be available and accessible during the construction period. The groups noted they would face significant resourcing problems if they lose access to Arthur Phillip Park during construction. While the sporting groups would appreciate the levelling of the field, they acknowledge that it could be a costly endeavour and the field in its present state can accommodate their games.

Parking:

Similarly to the general community survey, there were mixed responses when discussing parking. Some groups reported there is a sufficiently supply of parking whereas other groups see the need for more. A participant acknowledged that while there might be sufficient provision, the existing parking might be insufficient as the area continues to grow.

Participants noted that any additional parking needs to be carefully considered as to not impact the sporting fields and the surrounding residents.

Other considerations:

Participants reported that sports fields in Parramatta are in particularly high demand with heightened competition for the facilities amongst different sporting groups and between sporting groups and the community.

Submissions

“...the path is quite well used by walkers each day and the playground used by children and parents.”

– Local resident

What we heard

In addition to the survey responses, 3 individual submissions were received during the Phase 1 community and stakeholder engagement. These submissions were from:

- A resident who lives opposite the park in Park Street
- A resident who lives near the park in Edward Street
- Cricket NSW as a stakeholder representing sporting groups who use the park

Park Features for Improvement

The local resident submissions provided the following feedback and suggested ideas for improvement.

Park features	What the submitters liked	What the submitters did not like	Additional ideas from the community
Facilities and amenities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The time limited parking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The overflowing rubbish bins 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The provision of more bins throughout the park
Playgrounds and play spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The provision of a playground for residents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The mulch in the playground 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Upgrade the playground ▪ Install a child-safe water play feature
Green space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The outlook to the park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The tree branches and broken fence logs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Plant new shrubs and trees ▪ Repair or replace the log fence
Sports and exercise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The walking / cycling loop ▪ Fields well-used by sports groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The slope of the playing field 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Level the playing field for sports ▪ Improve irrigation measures on the field
Maintenance		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The level of maintenance of gardens 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ More regular maintenance of park grounds and facilities ▪ More frequent maintenance of garden and gum trees

Cricket NSW submission indicated their support for the development a masterplan that will set out a 10 to 15-year vision for the Park and that they *“foresee an opportunity to increase cricket utilisation of the Park and ensure the provision of essential on and off-field infrastructure meets current and future needs for the Parramatta cricket community”*.

The following suggestions were made by Cricket NSW for consideration in the masterplan:

- The retention and renewal of the existing synthetic cricket pitch
- A minimum two to three-lane synthetic cricket practice facility
- The inclusion of junior format crease markings/identifiers within the playing pitches
- An upgrade or renewal of the amenities building and the provision of gender-neutral toilets and change facilities

Conclusion

The intention to upgrade Arthur Phillip Park has been well received by participants in the consultation process. Through the course of community engagement, ideas and elements were identified for the consideration of the design team. While the community appreciate the available facilities and amenities in the park, they identified a wide range of facilities as important for improvement

The Phase 1 Engagement involved online and intercept surveys, as well as stakeholder interviews and public submissions. These were designed to understand how the community and stakeholders use Arthur Phillip Park and their needs and priorities for future improvements. The level of response to the Phase 1 engagement provides a sound basis for decision making on the revised masterplan upgrades to Arthur Phillip Park.

A number of key findings emerged out of the Phase 1 Engagement, relating to the desire to expand the parks facilities for and improve the amenity and usability of the park for all, as outlined below.

- Participants identified all elements of the park as important for improvement, with the exception of the gym equipment which was neutral.
- The top priorities for improvement (with a score of 3.8 or more out of 5) were increased shade trees, improvements to the walking loop, lighting and additional play space.
- Waterplay was identified as the form of 'play' space people would like to see more of, followed by traditional play equipment and spaces for leisure / social activity opportunities.
- Suggestions for facilities and amenities improvements (such as rest stop/spectator seating, bins and drinking fountains) were highly mentioned by participants and sports groups.
- The sloping field was the most mentioned issue for sports groups, and while it was the 7th highest priority in survey responses, its apparent low casual use provides a case for upgrade.

These engagement participation and feedback will provide a firm foundation for the development of a new Arthur Phillip Park masterplan. Based on the findings of the engagement, the following are suggested as the priorities for the renewed masterplan

1. Increase shade trees in strategic locations around the edges of the park
2. Expand the walking/cycling loop for more users, including passing and connection points
3. Improve lighting, especially along the walking/cycling path for safety and increased use
4. Introduce rest stops, informal seating and meeting areas for socialising
5. Introduce new water play and facilities for ages and abilities
6. Introduce additional play equipment for a wider range of ages and abilities
7. Upgrade amenities to meet contemporary needs for a wider range of people
8. Regrade the playing field to the lower level with terraced steps for spectating/meeting
9. Maintain parking and identify opportunities for improved active transport connections
10. Investigate opportunities for cricket nets and a complimentary active café/food use in the park in the longer term

Next steps

This findings from this report, along with the findings from the phase 2 community consultation (conducted 19 April to 10 May, 2021), will be used to inform the renewed draft Arthur Phillip Park Masterplan. The draft Masterplan will be made available for exhibition in June 2021.

Appendix A – Community Survey Analysis

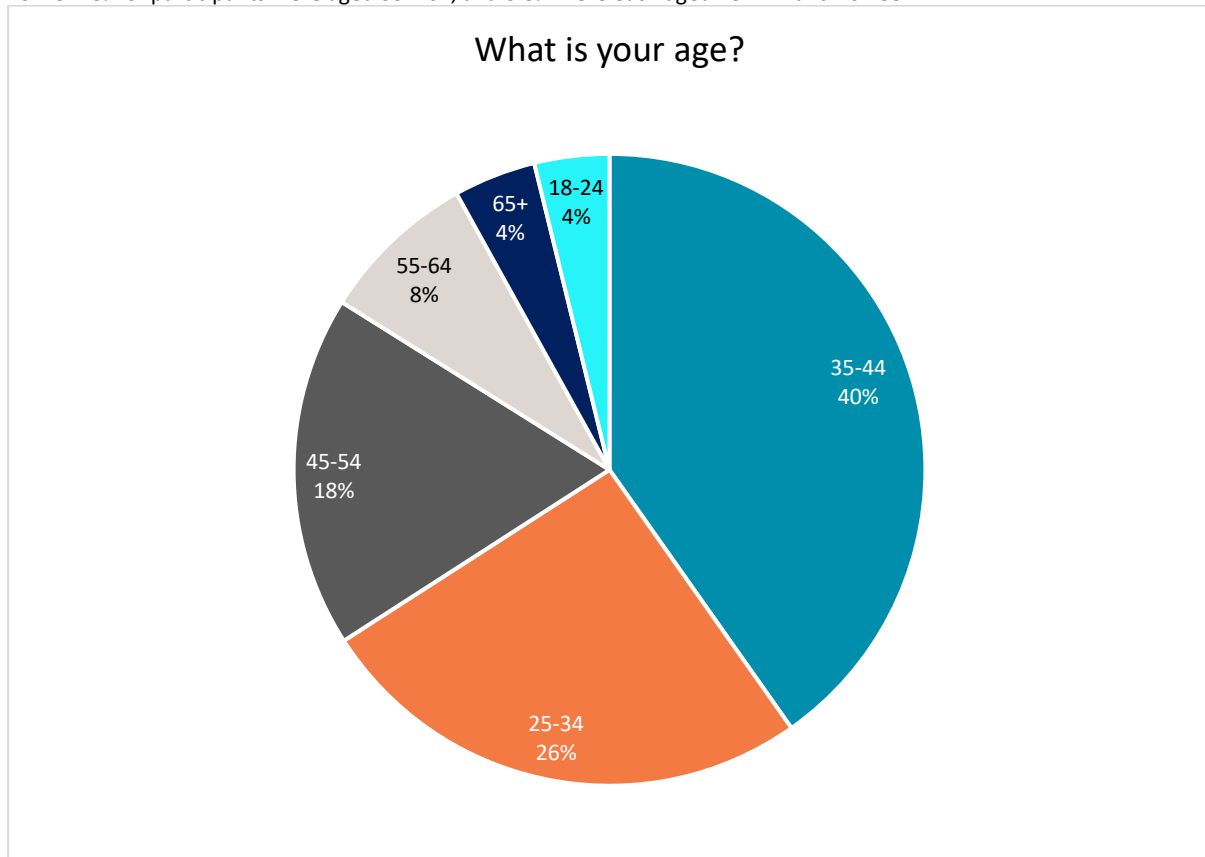
Overview

A total of 265 people participated in the survey.

Demographics

What is your age? (Q12)

The largest age group among participants was 35 – 44 year-olds (40%). 26.7 % of participants were aged 25 – 34 and 18% 45 – 54. 8% of participants were aged 55 – 64, and 3.8% were each aged 18 – 24 and 46 - 55.



Where do you live? (Q11)

The majority (55%) of participants live in the suburb of Northmead, while another 42% also live within the Parramatta LGA. The remaining people reside in Baulkham Hills (3), Concord (1), Greystanes (1), Rouse Hill (2), South Granville (1), Bexley (1), Armidale (1), Artarmon (1), Ryde (1), Fairfield (1), Eastwood (1). One elected to not answer.

Of the people that don't live in the Parramatta LGA, two have relatives residing in Northmead.

Do you identify with any of the following? (Q13)

4 participants identified as Aboriginal.

7% (18) of all participants live with a disability while 10% (26) of all participants care for someone with a disability.

Over a quarter (25.6%) of all participants spoke a language other than English at home.

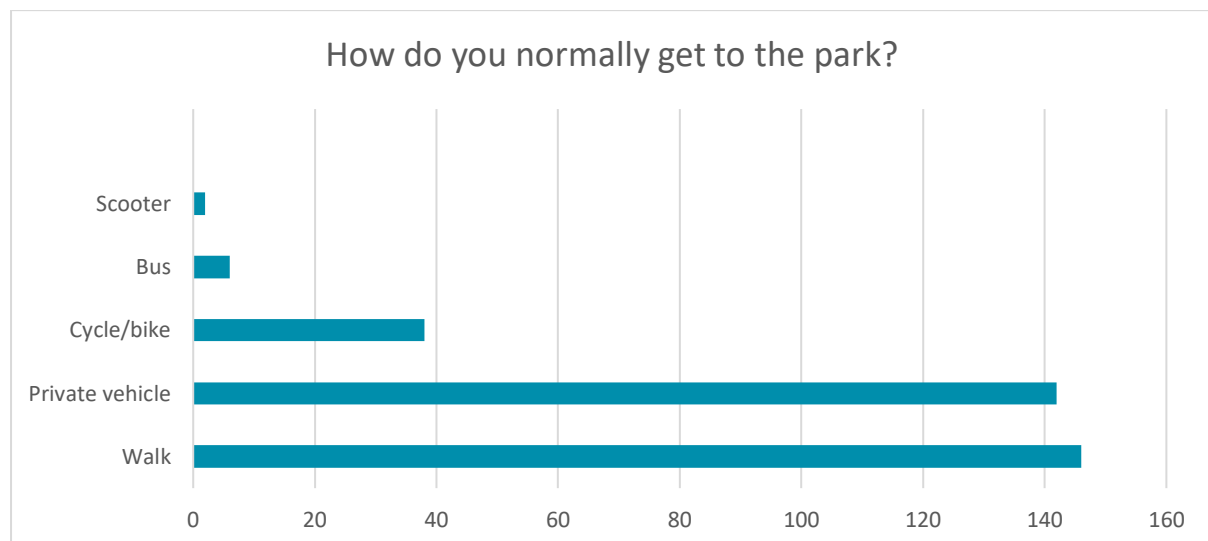
56.5% of participants identified with none of the above and another 3.5% preferred not to say.

Visitation Pattern

How do you get to the park? (Q1)

Some respondents nominated more than one method of transport.

54% (146) of respondents reported they walked to the park, closely followed by 53% (142) of respondents who reported they travelled to the park via private vehicle. Others travelled by cycling/biking (38), taking a bus (6), and scootering (2) to the park.



How often do you visit the park? (Q2)

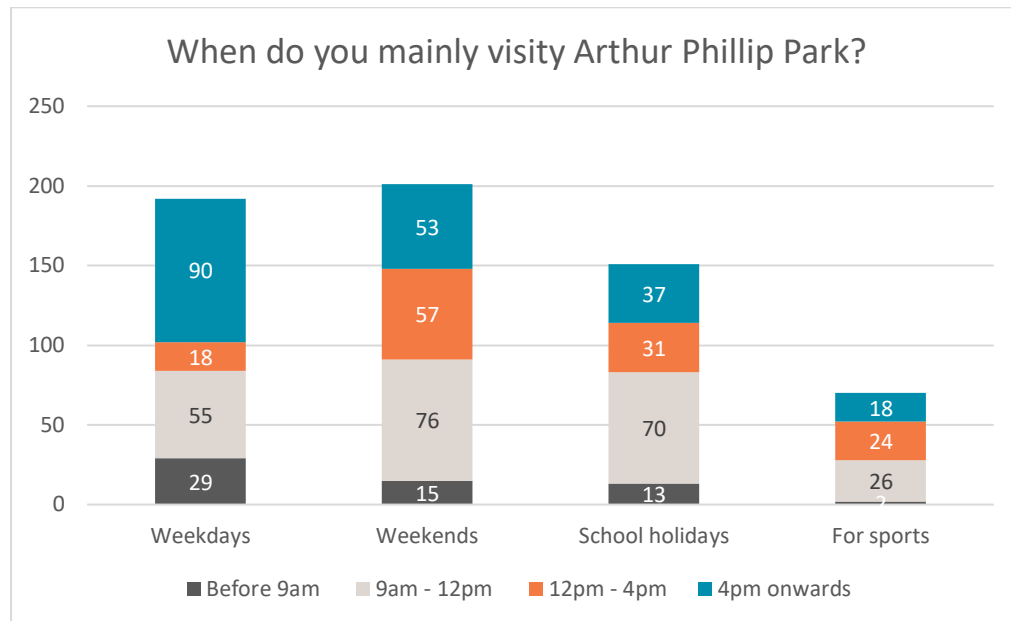
Of the 263 people who answered the question, almost all (238 people, equalling 90%) were regular users of the park, with 46% (124 people) of total survey responses indicating daily or weekly use of the park, and a further 44% (115 people) stating they visit the park fortnightly or monthly.

Only 10 people indicated they had never visited the park and two people did not answer the question.

When do you mainly visit the park? (Q3)

More people generally visit the park throughout the day on the weekends but weekdays after 4pm is the most popular time to visit the park (90 people). The next most popular timeslots for visitation are 9am – 12pm on weekends then 9am – 12pm on school holidays.

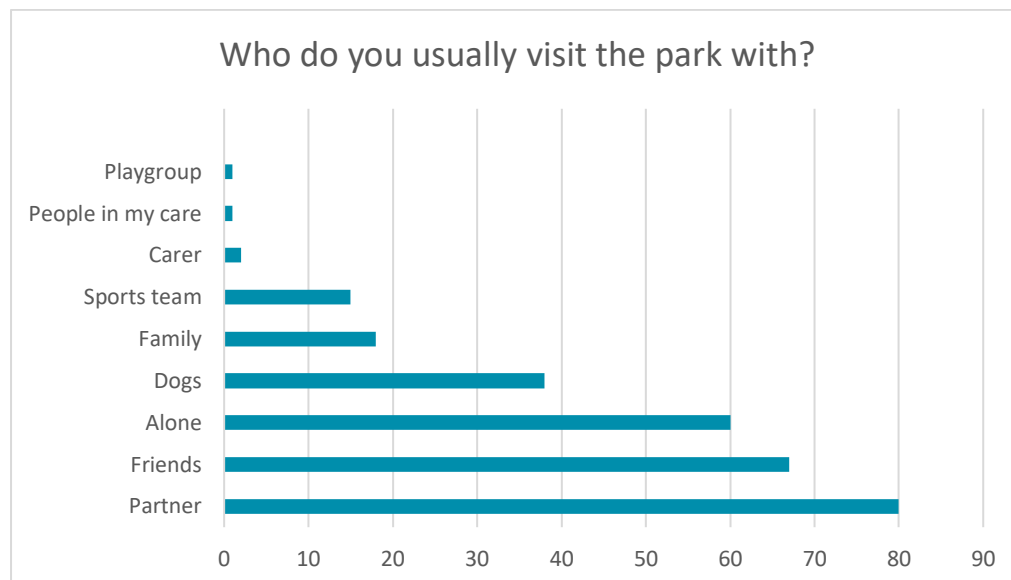
Overall, people are less likely to visit the park before 9am. On weekdays, most respondents visit the park from 4pm onwards. During the weekends, school holidays and sporting events, respondents are more likely to visit from 9am – 12pm.



Who do you usually visit the park with? (Q4)

Some respondents nominated more than one answer.

The vast majority of participants visit the park with their children (61% of respondents). This was distantly followed by their partner (30%) and friends (25%). People also visit the park alone (23%), with their dog (14%), various family members (7%, including grandchildren, parents, siblings as well as their nieces and nephews), their sports team (6%), their carers (0.8%), people they care for (0.4%) and their playgroup (0.4%).



Community aspirations

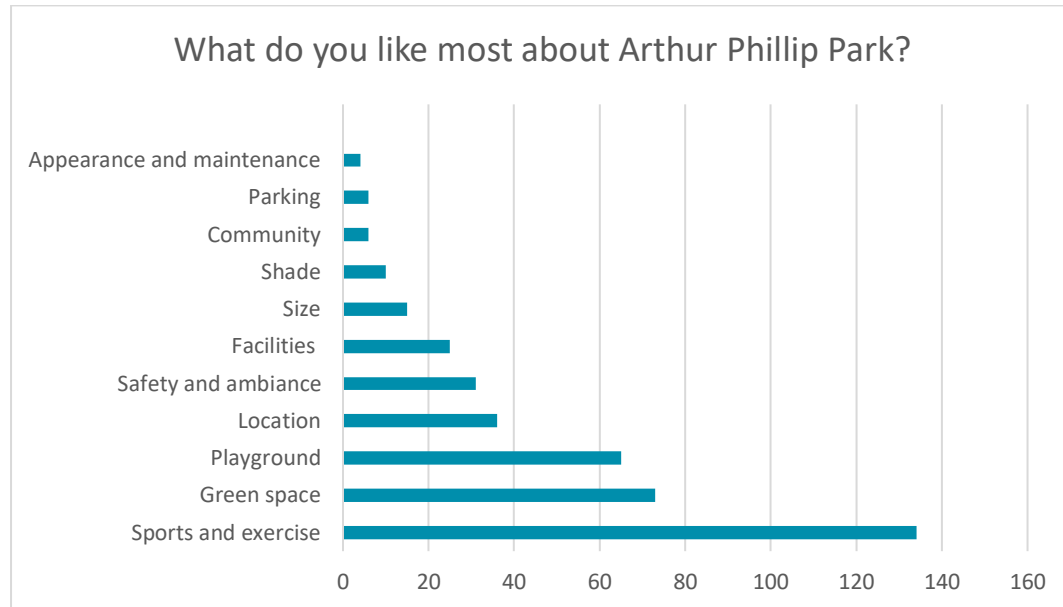
Who can the park better cater for? (Q5)

Some respondents nominated more than one answer.

Most think the park can better cater for young families (78%), distantly followed by older residents (39%), people living with disabilities (37%) and sports and recreational clubs (31%).

What do you like most about Arthur Phillip Park? (Q6)

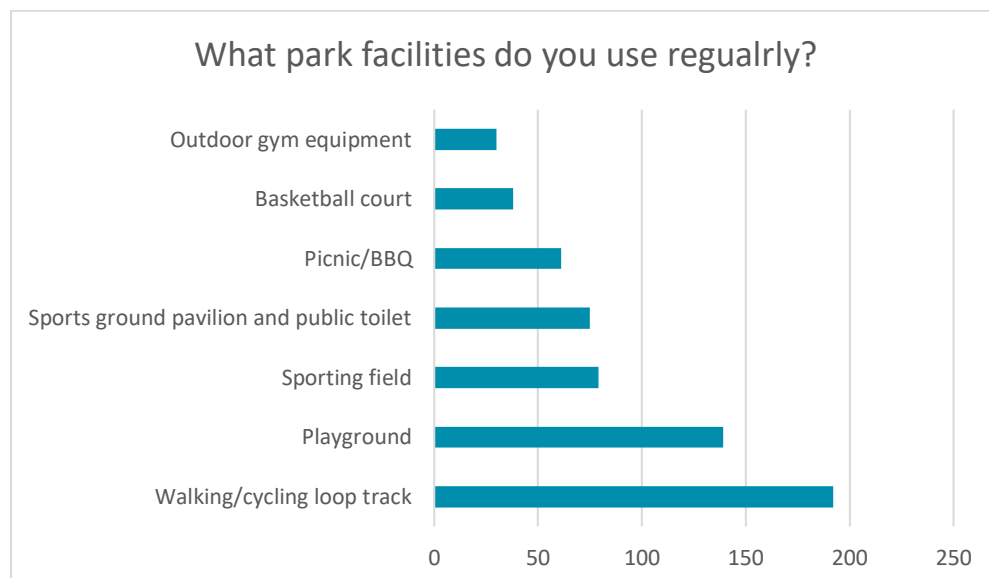
The comments for this question were themed and counted. When discussing what they liked most about the park, sports and exercise opportunities including the sports fields and walking/cycling track (mentioned by 134 participants, equalling 51%) was the most mentioned followed by green space (mentioned by 73 participants, equalling 28%) and the playground (mentioned by 65 participants, equalling 25%).



What park facilities do you use regularly? (Q7)

Some respondents nominated more than one answer.

Of the existing park facilities, the walking/cycling loop (72% of respondents) is what people use most regularly. This is followed by the playground (52%) and the sporting field (30%).



Which of the following elements need to be improved the most at Arthur Phillip Park? (Q8)

Participants were asked to weigh the improvement of the following park elements from a scale of 1 – 5, with 1 being not at all important and 5 being very important.

The table below shows the ranking and the weighted average of the park elements.

Ranking of park element	Weighted average (out of 5)
1. Shade trees	4.12
2. Walking/cycling loop	4.06
3. Playground/play spaces	4.05
4. Lighting	3.8
5. Parking	3.62
6. Picnic/BBQ	3.42
7. Sporting field	3.37
8. Basketball court	3.13
9. Outdoor gym equipment	3.05

Overall, people want to see more shade trees in the park and for improvements to be made on the walking/cycling loop and the playground.

Which of these would you like to see more of at Arthur Phillip Park? (Q9)

Participants were asked to weigh what play elements they'd like to see more of in the Park from a scale of 1 – 5, with 1 being not at all important and 5 being very important.

The table below shows the ranking and the weighted average of play elements.

Ranking of park element	Weighted average (out of 5)
1. Water play	4.12
2. Traditional play	3.98
3. Leisure/social activities	3.91
4. Imaginary and sensory play	3.79
5. Aboriginal and Indigenous design	3.58
6. Public art and creative play spaces	3.47

Participants want to see more water play, traditional play and leisure/social activities in Arthur Phillip Park.

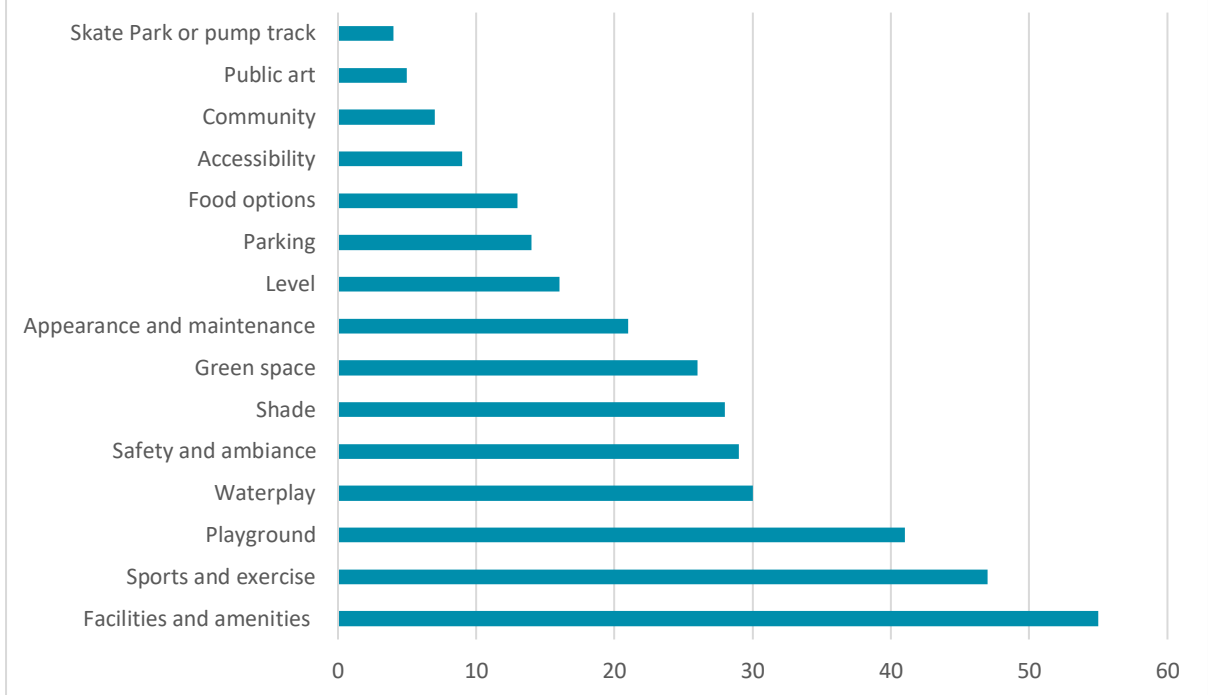
Have you got any other suggestions or ideas for making Arthur Phillip Park even better? (Q10)

The comments for this question were themed and counted.

When sharing ideas for improvement, comments centred around improving the facilities and amenities in the park (mentioned by 55 participants, equalling 21%). This was followed by comments mentioning sports and exercise (mentioned by 47 participants, equalling 18%) and the playground (mentioned by 41 participants, equalling 15%).

Most comments mentioning to sport and exercise related to improving the walking and cycling track. People want to see the track widened with increased shade provision and lighting

Have you got any other suggestions or ideas for making Arthur Phillip Park even better?



Appendix B – Intercept Survey Snapshot Report

Executive Summary

Council is developing a masterplan for Arthur Phillip Park to ensure it can meet the demands of a rapidly growing community. JOC Consulting (JOC) has been engaged by Council to deliver community and stakeholder engagement for the project.

As part of the engagement, JOC delivered a series of intercept surveys on 5 and 8 December in place of on-site pop-ups. A total of 28 people in Arthur Phillip Park were spoken with. The focus of the intercept survey was understanding the experience, needs and aspirations of the different user groups of the Park. As a whole, people were happy with the park and its provision of amenities and facilities but noted there is some room for improvement.



Overview of Engagement

Who we spoke with:

JOC Consulting conducted intercept surveys on 5 (midday to 1:00pm) and 8 (9:30am – 10:00am; 5:00pm – 5:30pm) December.

Through the course of the engagement, JOC spoke with 32 park users. Of these:

- 12 (38%) were members of a sports club (with 2 cricket teams on-site during the visit)
- 21 (66%) spoke a language other than English
- Two (6%) were people living with a disability
- 13 (41%) were women

Key insights:

- **A park for all** – Participants felt the park should cater to all members of the community, particularly prioritising the unique needs of young families, older residents, people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds (CALD) and people living with disabilities.
- **Creating a level playing field** – Participants, particularly those from sporting groups, prioritise the landscaping of the green space to create a level sports field.
- **Play spaces for adults** – Participants saw the need for interactive adult play spaces that encourage physical activity and exploration.
- **Creating spaces for young people** – Young people (teens to early twenties) would like to see a space for them reflected in the park i.e., the basketball court further away from the children’s play spaces.
- **Need for better maintenance** – Participants saw the need for better park maintenance, particularly around the perimeters of the park that experience a greater flow of traffic.
- **Catering for different user groups** – Male participants prioritised upgrades relating to the sporting facilities whereas female participants saw the need to improve the paths and create greater play opportunities.

- **A local park serving the district's needs** – Though Arthur Phillip Park is currently classified as a local park, it serves a wide catchment of people with most participants (20, equalling 71%) travelling to the park via private vehicle.

The Intercept Survey

General sentiment

The participants were eager to be involved and appreciated the opportunity to provide feedback to Council. They are positive about the plan to upgrade the Park, commending Council's upgrades to other parks in the area.

Participants were generally quite happy with the park and its provision of facilities and amenities, citing it as a quiet place to relax and be active. However, they did note some elements could be improved.

Elements of improvement raised

This section discusses issues raised by participants during the course of the meeting.

Sports field

- Participants noted that the sports field is well-used, particularly by sporting clubs and organisations. They reported the need to landscape and even out the field to improve its sporting capabilities.
- The two cricket teams prioritised the addition of cricket nets.

Sports pavilion and public bathrooms

- Participants saw the need to upgrade the sports pavilion, particularly the seating. They reported the seating was unstable and unfit to sit on.
- Participants appreciate the provision of public bathrooms but feel that there needs to be more signage to facilitate better usage of the facility.
- The sports team reported the building is largely unused barring the seating and the toilets.

Playgrounds and play spaces

- Participants saw the need for more varied play equipment, particularly the addition of play spaces for adults. One participant commented, "When you're an adult, people assume that the play has to stop and that's not the case. Especially for people living with disabilities, having adult play equipment or things they can interact and play with is a great thing."
- Participants felt the park could benefit from the addition of play equipment for younger and more mature children with a participant noting that the current provision is suitable for children aged between 5 – 10 years of age but is too difficult for those younger and not imaginative or explorative enough for those older.

Fences

- Young mothers appreciate the sense of security provided by the fence that partially encloses the playground noting that it is a good deterrent in preventing their young children from running onto the road. They feel the park could benefit from the extension of these fences to enclose the entirety of the park.

Paths and tracks

- Participants noted the need to widen existing tracks due to the high volume of traffic during peak hour and to better enable access for wheelchair users. This was of particular interest to participants living with disabilities and their carer.
- Participants reported that smoother tracks with fewer undulating sections would also result in greater accessibility.

Basketball Courts

- Youth felt the park could be improved by creating separate areas for younger kids and youth.
- They reported the existing placement of the Basketball Courts adjacent to the playground is a safety risk for younger kids i.e., there is a risk of them being hit by a stray ball.

- Youth also noted that while hanging out in the park, they like to play music some of which is explicit and not fit for younger ears. They reported the creation of a separate space (by moving the court away from the playground) will reduce competition over the space.

Greater shade provision

- Participants reported the need to cool the park down. Participants living with disabilities in particular noted they would only venture down to the park if it wasn't too hot. They noted that the addition of more trees, specifically to provide shade to the benches, the walking/cycling loop and the playground, would help cool the park.

Waterplay

- Participants felt the addition of water elements in the park would help cool the area down and would draw in more visitors from out of area.
- Parents from the playground noted that water play would be beneficial in the hotter months and could be incorporated as part of sensory play, creative art and indigenous design elements.

Park maintenance

- Participants reported the need for better park maintenance, particularly in regards to keeping the more activated perimeter of the Park cleaner.
- Participants also noted the need for more bins around the park and for more regular cleaning of the area around bins.

Lighting

- Participants felt the provision of more lighting at night would help create a more welcoming park.

Provision of parking

- While other participants appreciate the provision of parking along the edges of the park, young mothers note the need for more parking spaces in closer proximity to the playground. They reported the parking spaces near the playground are amongst the first to fill up and getting to the playground with a pram from across the park can be a hassle.

Next Steps

The findings of this report will be incorporated into the overall Engagement Outcomes Report that will be submitted to Council.

Appendix C – Stakeholder Interviews

WINSTON HILLS SOCCER CLUB

Details

Purpose:	To understand from existing user groups the opportunities the site can provide, how it can be improved for the audience and how to increase the capacity at the site. The meeting will help inform the development of Council's masterplan that looks at park upgrades and improvements over the next few years.
Date:	11:00 – 11:30am, Friday 18 Dec 2020
Location:	Phone
Attendees:	JOC Consulting: Beatrice Tan Winston Hills Soccer Club: Rodney Carra

Notes:

- 1. Can you tell me a little about your club? How many members are there? What is the make-up of the club – mainly kids or a mix?**
 - There are approximately 1500 players. Of these, approximately 350 are under 8s, 700 play in the juniors and 450 play seniors.
 - Women make up approximately 15-20% of our membership across all age groups.
- 2. How often do you use the Park? How do you use it?**
 - We use 6 different sporting grounds across the Parramatta and the Hills area to cater for all the players. Arthur Phillip Park we use for full field games.
 - We use Arthur Phillip Park nearly every Saturday between April and August. In an 18 round season, we might use it for 10-14 rounds depending on the draw.
 - We hire the park for the full day, so we have it from 8:30am to 4:30/5:00pm and it's in constant use in that period.
 - In terms of how many people use the park, we have 5 games with 30 players so that's 150 players every Saturday and we generally get around 100 or so spectators (of these, most are for the junior matches and are generally parents and carers or siblings).
- 3. Where do most members live? Do they travel far to come to Arthur Phillip Park?**
 - Most members live in the Parramatta-Hills area, generally in Winston Hills, Toongabbie, Pendle Hill and Parramatta.
 - The seniors are more likely to live out of area. They're generally people who grew up in the area but have gotten married and moved out but want to continue playing for the club.
 - In terms of getting to the Park, most people will drive to the park. There is a bus along the edge of the park but its timings can be a bit awkward.
- 4. What is your experience of Arthur Phillip Park? How does it compare to other fields?**

- The facilities are great from a club's point of view.
- In terms of what we use, we use the oval, the store rooms to store our nets, the toilet facilities, the benches on the pavilion. The spectators also use the seats and benches near the BBQ. We don't tend to use the canteen though.
- The park is quite busy and there's been instances where we've had to ask people to vacate the field but it's generally been okay and they've been happy to move along.

5. Are there any complaints or issues you regularly hear from your members?

- The only complaint we've had is around the slope because there is quite a steep slope but other than that everyone is very happy with the park. It's got great facilities and amenities.
- Due to its slope, water pools along the bottom edge of the park when it rains which impacts our ability to play.

6. Council will be considering accessible change and toilet facilities for water play that will be incorporated onsite within the existing or new building. What are your thoughts around this proposal and the current building?

- Having waterplay facilities in the park wouldn't impact us. It might be best to keep those facilities away from the sports grounds just in case as a safety measure against stray balls.
- Due to COVID, we haven't been able to use the change facilities this year but we do sometimes use them. Slippery floors would be an issue for us.
- If the change and toilet facilities for waterplay are incorporated into the site, the main thing to consider would be to keep the storage available for different clubs. For example, we store the nets in the storage room throughout summer and whenever we're not playing.

7. What is your experience of the onsite parking? Is there enough space? Do you run out of parking when using the site?

- From what I've heard, on-site parking isn't an issue even with approximately 250 people using the park. Generally, when parking becomes an issue the residents and players let me know quite quickly but we haven't had any comments around parking.
- However, if the park is improved and the area grows and more people use the park the current provision might be insufficient. In that case, it'd be ideal to create more parking spaces.

8. We're running a survey where we are asking all of these questions, it would be appreciated if you could share a link to the survey with your members.

- Happy to share the survey. Send the link through and I'll forward it onto our communications person and have them share it via Facebook.

9. Any other comments

- No other comments

ALL SAINTS JRLFC

Details

Purpose:	To understand from existing user groups the opportunities the site can provide, how it can be improved for the audience and how to increase the capacity at the site. The meeting will help inform the development of Council's masterplan that looks at park upgrades and improvements over the next few years.
Date:	2:00pm, Wednesday 13 of Jan 2021
Location:	Phone
Attendees:	JOC Consulting: Beatrice Tan All Saints JRLFC: Tim Moggridge

Notes:

1. Can you tell me a little about your club? How many members are there? What is the make-up of the club – mainly kids or a mix?

- We have 500 members all up including approximately 380 players and 120 officials.
- Of the players, around 75 are adults (18 years old and up) as well as 100 women. In terms of women, we have open women's as well as under 18s, under 16s, under 14s and under 12s.

2. How often would you say your organisation uses the park? How do you use it?

- In the on season, we use the park from Monday to Friday for training. At least 15 – 20 teams use the park, under 10s and up train at the park.
- We would love to play games on there but it's in high demand.

3. Where do most members live? Do they travel far to come to Arthur Phillip Park?

- All members are local mainly from the southern side of the Hills and tend to be from Northmead, Westmead, Parramatta, Toongabbie and Blacktown.
- I would say about 99.5% of people drive to the park but parking can be a challenge on training days but so far, we've had no complaints from the neighbours.

4. What is your experience of Arthur Phillip Park? How does it compare to other fields?

- It's a great open space and we are appreciative of having a double ground that we can use.
- There are no facilities for females, and they can be uncomfortable using the open showers and change rooms as it gives them no privacy.
 - Generally, there is less support for females in contact sports in terms of the provision of facilities. This isn't isolated to just Parramatta, it happens across the board with a range of councils. Women need their own facilities to shower and change.
- I love the training pieces around the grounds including the walking track and gym equipment. They get used quite a bit, sometimes parents will use them while waiting for kids.
- As a general improvement, I would say there needs to be more lights. When we turn the lights off after training, generally at around 8:30pm, there are generally still people walking. I feel a bit sorry for them. Lighting is also for the playground. Sometimes after the kids train, they'll go up to the playground and wait for their parents there or will play there for a bit so some lighting would be good.

- More bubblers around the tracks would also be very much appreciated. The only water access point is up in the sports pavilion, people training need to walk up to access water if they get thirsty.
- Other than that, our experience with the park has been good. The surface is hardy but there's an issue with the slope. It needs to be flattened out but the main thing is having access to green space that we can train on.

5. Are there any complaints or issues you regularly hear from your members?

- There have been no real complaints from our members. It's just around access to the toilets. I think they're locked after around 5. The current lock system isn't the most convenient and it's a bit hard to open the doors, it doesn't help the doors automatically lock.

6. Council will be considering accessible change and toilet facilities for water play that will be incorporated onsite within the existing or new building. What are your thoughts around this proposal and the current building?

- Water play would be great in the park as long as it doesn't impact the double ground. The double ground is vital to us. A new building would need to be built for changing and toilet facilities related to water play there are risks of people slipping on water if they were in the same building. The current building isn't quite ready to accommodate this.

7. What is your experience of the onsite parking? Is there enough space? Do you run out of parking when using the site?

- Parking can be a challenge but we currently find parking ok as there is a lot of carpooling with kids.
- The site needs more parking but it needs to be planned out well so it doesn't impact the neighbours or the playing fields. I know workers who work nearby tend to park there during the week, sometimes you see them walking in and then driving off during training.

8. We're running a survey where we are asking all of these questions, it would be appreciated if you could share a link to the survey with your members.

- Yes

9. Any other comments

- No other comments

HILLS FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

Details

Purpose:	To understand from existing user groups the opportunities the site can provide, how it can be improved for the audience and how to increase the capacity at the site. The meeting will help inform the development of Council's masterplan that looks at park upgrades and improvements over the next few years.
Date:	10:00 – 11:30am, Wednesday 13 Jan 2021
Location:	Phone
Attendees:	JOC Consulting: Beatrice Tan Hills Football Association: Matt Rippon

Notes:

1. Can you tell me a little about your club? How many members are there? What is the make-up of the club – mainly kids or a mix?

- Hills Football Association governs 21 clubs in the Hills District. This covers a few LGAS as football association boundaries differs from LGA boundaries. We cover the area stretching from Kenthurst and Glenorie to Kellyville and North Rocks.
- Winston Hills is one of the biggest clubs. They have 1300 members and were established in 1970s. Currently their growth has plateaued as they can't accommodate more players due to the lack of space. The club is dependent on facilities to continue growing and green space is a priority.
- The Winston Hills Football club has a variety of programs and they're a team we showcase to other member clubs for best practice.
 - They have a Mini Roos program which caters to under 5s to 12s.
 - The league is trying to engage more women at all levels and the challenge lies in how do we draw in new players for the first time. Winston Hills in particular is a strong advocate for women female football, they have two female teams within the premier league.
 - Winston Hills also runs one of the biggest all abilities programs, the Football for All program, where players run internal skills clinics.
- A major goal for the league is to re-engage teenagers as we often lose people in those teenage years. We want to help them get active.

2. How often would you say your organisation uses the park? How do you use it?

- The Winston Hills Football club uses the park fairly regularly.

3. Where do most members live? Do they travel far to come to Arthur Phillip Park?

- Looking at the data, the vast majority are local. Winston Hills in particular, because they cover a large area, the members live locally to the club. But there's nothing stopping people from out of area coming in an joining a club, which a small number of people choose to do because they want to play with friends etc.
- The club would be the best to advise around the travel but I would think car is the most popular mode of transport especially for younger kids – carpooling tends to happen more with kids.

4. What is your experience of Arthur Phillip Park? How does it compare to other fields?

- The feedback we've gotten is that the club like the facility. The field is uneven but it goes back to the club size and growth.
- There is more focused on access to a field to accommodate growth of the club. In Arthur Phillip Park, the club only has access to one field in the park but are probably the largest club in the area so having access to a second field with soccer posts would be great.

5. Are there any complaints or issues you regularly hear from your members?

- The only complaint is the around the need to level the field. In general, we see Arthur Phillip Park as a huge opportunity more than anything. Greater access to a second field is a huge opportunity and priority for us.
- Another thing we would like to see is more seating. The park needs more seating as it is currently limited and we have to live stream the matches but there are limitations in doing this.

6. Council will be considering accessible change and toilet facilities for water play that will be incorporated onsite within the existing or new building. What are your thoughts around this proposal and the current building?

- I am not completely across this and can't really give much comment. It also isn't something that really affects play so we don't really have any concerns.

7. What is your experience of the onsite parking? Is there enough space? Do you run out of parking when using the site?

- I haven't seen a match there yet on a playing day but more parking is always welcomed as long as it doesn't compromise the field.

8. We're running a survey where we are asking all of these questions, it would be appreciated if you could share a link to the survey with your members.

- Yes

9. Any other comments

- No other comments

PARRAMATTA JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE

Details

Purpose:	To understand from existing user groups the opportunities the site can provide, how it can be improved for the audience and how to increase the capacity at the site. The meeting will help inform the development of Council's masterplan that looks at park upgrades and improvements over the next few years.
Date:	2:00pm, Monday 11 Jan 2021
Location:	Phone
Attendees:	JOC Consulting: Beatrice Tan Parramatta Junior Rugby League: Matt Brady

Notes:

- 1. Can you tell me a little about your club? How many members are there? What is the make-up of the club – mainly kids or a mix?**
 - The league goes across multiple regions and Parramatta is just a small part of the area we look after.
 - We cover areas across 5 LGAS from Fairfield through to Parramatta, Cumberland and the Hills, as well as a small portion of Blacktown.
 - Our membership is a mixed bag, we have teams from under 6 right up to under 18.
- 2. How often would you say your organisation uses the park? How do you use it?**
 - As a league, we don't play out at Arthur Phillip Park. I'm not certain who trains in the park as the teams are responsible for booking in training sessions at different parks.
- 3. Where do most members live? Do they travel far to come to Arthur Phillip Park?**
 - I'm not really sure where most members live - it's hard to say, they could live anywhere. They tend to travel and play wherever but live fairly locally to where their junior league is.
 - Most of our people tend to drive or be driven to the sports fields.
- 4. What is your experience of Arthur Phillip Park? How does it compare to other fields?**
 - As a league, we don't play out at Arthur Phillip Park. We only play at Ollie Webb Reserve and Old Sales Yard Reserve for games so it's incredibly hard for me to say.
 - School football might use Arthur Phillip Park but we don't really look after that. Some of the teams in the League could use the park but again, I can't really comment on their experience of the park.
- 5. Are there any complaints or issues you regularly hear from your members?**
 - Specific to Arthur Phillip Park, I can't really comment on because we don't use it in an official capacity for games so I don't know much about it. But generally, people will raise the condition of the playing surface as an issue. From what I've heard from members, the playing surface at Ollie Webb is pretty good but some other grounds in other areas can be a bit too dry. Having grass in good condition is the main thing for us.

6. Council will be considering accessible change and toilet facilities for water play that will be incorporated onsite within the existing or new building. What are your thoughts around this proposal and the current building?

- As we don't really use the park, it's hard to make a comment.

7. What is your experience of the onsite parking? Is there enough space? Do you run out of parking when using the site?

- While we don't use the park, probably more parking would be better as most people will drive to a location if they're playing sports.

8. I know you don't use Arthur Phillip Park but generally speaking what makes a space attractive for your purposes?

- Looking at the venues we have, there are a few things that make them ideal for us. They need to have enough amenities (i.e., toilets and change rooms) that are well looked-after. We need something with two rugby fields and canteen facilities. Fencing around the fields are also ideal for better crowd control and to keep the spectators off the field.

9. We're running a survey where we are asking all of these questions, it would be appreciated if you could share a link to the survey with your members?

- Yes

10. Any other comments

- No other comments

PARRAMATTA DISTRICT CRICKET ASSOCIATION

Details

Purpose:	To understand from existing user groups the opportunities the site can provide, how it can be improved for the audience and how to increase the capacity at the site. The meeting will help inform the development of Council's masterplan that looks at park upgrades and improvements over the next few years.
Date:	12:30 – 1:00pm, Wednesday 16 Dec 2020
Location:	Phone
Attendees:	JOC Consulting: Bea Tan Parramatta District Cricket Association: Frank Pitt

Notes

1. Can you tell me a little about your association? How many members are there? What is the make-up of the club – mainly kids or a mix?

- The association looks after 30 separate clubs across 4 LGAs that use 75-80 separate venues. Currently, 4-4,500 people are registered with the association.
- Arthur Phillip Park (APP) is currently the home ground of the Winston Hills Cricket club as well as the Cheetahs cricket club. The association centrally arranges and allocates the grounds, this is an involved process as there are 300 separate teams and 50 separate competitions.
- The association is now 102 years old.

2. How often would you say your organisation uses the park? How do you use it?

- In the summer, it gets used every Saturday morning and afternoon by one of our clubs - juniors in the morning, senior in the afternoon.
- This park, along with other parks in the LGA, is running over capacity – Parramatta is worst served LGA with the poorest/lowest supply in terms of fields. There are a lot of teams in the LGA that play outside the LGA which other Council's don't always like.
- The area has grown quite a bit in the last few years and there's a large community who come from the Indian subcontinent who love cricket.
- There are lots of unregulated sports played by community groups who organise their own games/competitions (e.g., cricket tournaments off the books). They often use the grounds without permission from Council and don't fall under the control of an affiliated body.
 - They could be brought under our umbrella but there are not enough parks. Council's hiring model makes it difficult to change the association's practice.
 - There's more competition for the grounds. We want to hire APP in the afternoon for practice but there's too much competition for the space, and it's too much trouble.

- There's too much competition for the facilities; last season there was an unregulated game of soccer being played at a time when a junior cricket game was scheduled. Even after explaining the situation, the soccer players refused to vacate the field.

3. Where do most members live? Do they travel far to come to Arthur Phillip Park and how do they get there?

- Most people drive to the park even if they live locally

4. What is your experience of Arthur Phillip Park? How does it compare to other fields?

- We only use the paddock and the pitch
- The park is substantially sloped to the west and the pitch is worn out but they're not too much of an issue for us as we are so disadvantaged in terms of supply and available sporting fields that we will use anything that's available.
- What we really need is a park to play games so the continuity of supply is an issue in the process of upgrading the park.
 - If the park is remodelled and out of action for a year, we are so stretched and overcapacity that we would be unable to accommodate 4 cricket teams.
 - We are thinking of re-jigging the way we do it and are now considering playing on a Friday afternoon. Due to the nature of cricket, these games would go well into the evening and if we were to move to this model we would need.
 - Flood lights and new facilities
- If you are upgrading the park, maybe consider having 2 small cricket fields instead of one big one.

5. Are there any complaints or issues you regularly hear from your members?

- Not really. The amenities and facilities in the park are good, and the field is big and well-located.
- The sharp slope of the field makes it hard to play high-level cricket but it's okay for community cricket.
- Since Arthur Phillip is quite good, I think it'd be more prudent to spend money on Harold West, John Curtin and other poorer parks.

6. Council will be considering accessible change and toilet facilities for water play that will be incorporated onsite within the existing or new building. What are your thoughts around this proposal and the current building?

- I don't really have any thoughts on this - our need is just for parks we can play cricket on, everything else we can work around.

7. What is your experience of the onsite parking? Is there enough space? Do you run out of parking when using the site?

- The car park is very small but it's not an issue for us. In cricket, we only have 20 or so participants in the morning session and the game will go on for about three hours and then the kids will leave and go home. The senior team will show up about 1pm and there will only be 20 to 30 people. There is rarely any overlap so parking isn't an issue for us. Rather, traffic and parking are the least of our concerns.
- It is a different story for organised soccer games where there are multiple sessions a day and there's more overlap in terms of people coming to and leaving the park.

8. We're running a survey where we are asking all of these questions, it would be appreciated if you could share a link to the survey with your members.

- Happy to share

9. Any other comments

- In terms of your process for both this park as well as other parks that are or will be upgraded, it feels odd that you're chasing the perceived demand from the community (i.e., waterplay etc) rather than addressing the existing need of users i.e., meeting the demand for sports fields.