
Community and Stakeholder Engagement Report

North Harbour Reserve Landscape Improvements Plan (Stage 1 of 1)

Impact level: Four

Report date: February 2021

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1. Summary¹

This report outlines the community and stakeholder engagement conducted as part of the North Harbour Reserve Landscape Improvements Plan project.

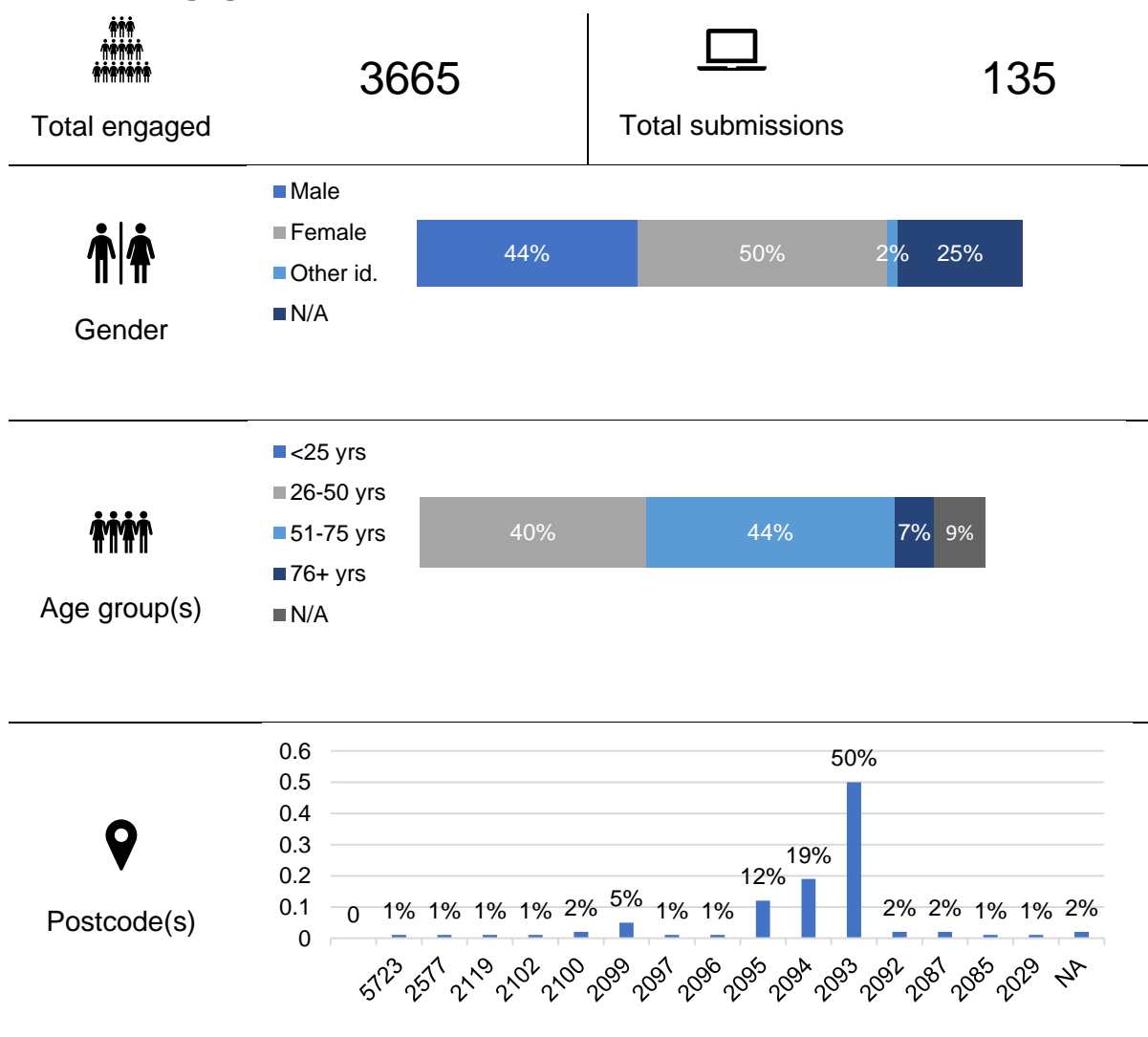
The consultation period documented is from 24 July 2020 to 23 August 2020.

The reports content reflects the insights of 135 participating community members and stakeholders, including local community groups and the public.

Overall, the majority of the comments expressed a positive sentiment toward the proposed improvements outlined in the draft concept plans for North Harbour Reserve.

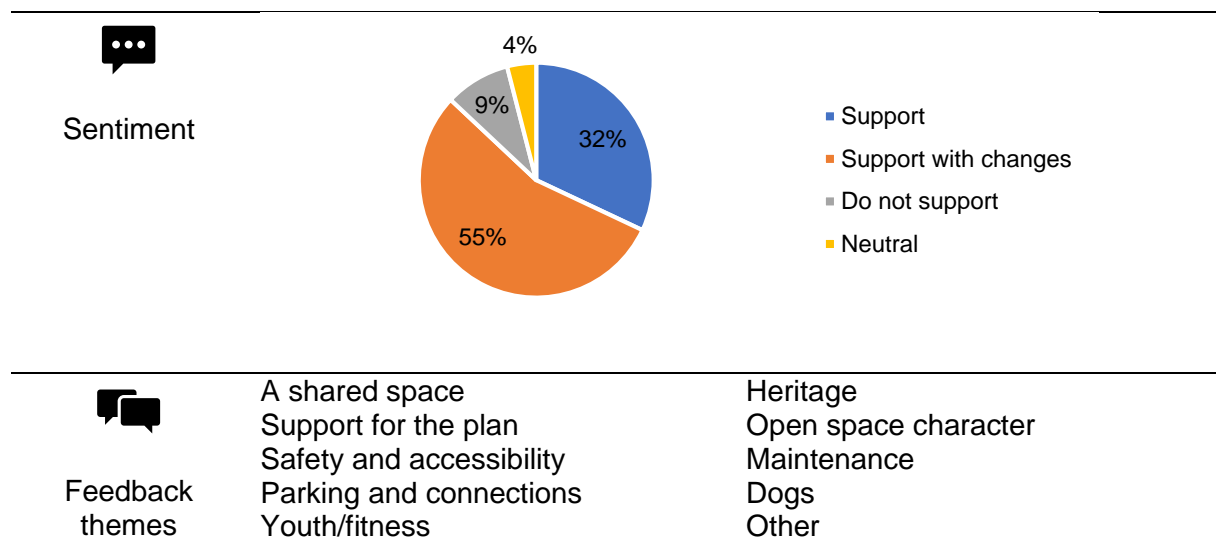
The main concerns raised about the proposal related to accessibility, pedestrian safety, parking and dog management.

1.1. Who we engaged²









¹ Community and stakeholder views contained in this report do not necessarily reflect the views of the Northern Beaches Council or indicate a commitment to a particular course of action.

² No demographic data was captured for respondents who contributed feedback outside of the Your Say submission form.



1.2. How we engaged

 Your Say	Visitors: 2363	Visits: 2862	Av. time onsite: 1m12s
 Social media	Post: 1 KALOF Facebook post		Reach: 258
 Print media and collateral	Resident notifications: 2093	Distribution: 1000	
	Site signs: Yes	Number: 6	
 Electronic Direct Mail - EDM(s)	Community Engagement newsletter: 2	Distribution: 20,000	
	Council eNews: 2	Distribution: 150,000	
	Disability newsletter: 1	Distribution: 1333	
	Schools EDM: 1	Distribution: 71	
 Key stakeholder	Meeting: 1 (North Harbour Community Group)		Attendance: 7
 Survey and form	Form: 1	Completions: 129	
	Email submissions: 6		

2. Background

This reserve is highly valued by many for its environmental, heritage, social and scenic qualities. It is dog friendly and caters to a diverse range of active and passive recreation activities such as picnicking, walking, informal sport / fitness, children's play and more.

Council is developing this plan in response to issues that continue to affect the operation and aesthetic of the park. The plan looks to identify future works to resolve these issues and to ensure they are coordinated and designed to meet the current and future needs of the community.

Draft concept designs for the landscape improvements were developed in consultation with key internal and external stakeholders, with a set of recommendations provided by the North Harbour Community Group.

Improvement works will be prioritised and staged based on:

- community feedback
- available funding in future Capital Works Programs
- grant opportunities
- alignment with other related works.

This project refines remaining actions from the [2010 North Harbour Reserve Concept Plan](#), in accordance with objectives from the [North Harbour Reserve Plan of Management](#).

3. Engagement objectives

- Objective 1: build community and stakeholder awareness of participation activities (inform)
 - We promoted the project via onsite signage, resident notifications, Council's eNews, our Have Your Say community engagement newsletter, our Disability Newsletter, liaison with adjoining preschool and café owner, and a KALOF Facebook post.
- Objective 2: provide accessible information so community and stakeholders can participate in a meaningful way (inform)
 - We provided some information online via the Your Say project page³ clearly outlining the reasons for the landscape improvements plan and its intended benefit. We provided a link to the draft concept plan with details about the proposed design features. We also had image on the Your Say page with 'hotspots' highlighting some of the proposed improvements. Further details about the project were provided in the 'Frequently asked questions' section.
- Objective 3: identify community and stakeholder concerns, local knowledge and values (consult)
 - Opportunities to comment both online and in writing were available via a Your Say comment form and by phone via a Calendly appointment. Contact details for the project manager were also provided.

³ <https://yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/north-harbour-reserve>

- Opportunities to comment were promoted to diverse audiences, as per the above information.
- We met with the North Harbour Community Group to further discuss the plan.

4. Engagement approach

North Harbour Reserve Landscape Improvements Plan community engagement was planned, implemented and reported in accordance with Council's [Community Engagement Matrix](#) (2017).

Community engagement on this project aimed to inform the community about the draft concept plan and provide an opportunity for people to comment, provide suggestions, prioritise improvements needed and ask the project team some questions.

To ensure we heard from as many local residents as possible, we created and dropped off a simple but eye-catching postcard with info about the project and a QR link to the Your Say page.

We liaised with the North Harbour Community Group, a key stakeholder group on this project, at various points during the consultation period. They too promoted the project to local residents.

Since there were still restrictions on onsite information sessions, we provided an opportunity for community members to book a one-on-one phone appointment with the project manager to ask questions and have a discussion. The adjoining childcare facility and nearby café business were also directly notified of the project.

The engagement approach gave consistent and accessible information and asked a uniform set of questions of participants in all activities. Results provide responses across a spectrum of demographics, expertise, experience and understanding of our local government area.

4.1. Engagement with hard to reach communities

Lack of access to information [AG1] or activities [AG2] is a key barrier in engaging our 'hard to reach' communities. This project's approach took engagement to community, rather than expecting community to come to Council.

We worked with our Youth and Community Development teams (liaisons to our young people, multicultural communities and not-for-profit organisations/community services) and utilised their platforms and networks to reach a diverse audience. We also had access to recent engagement data from the Open Space and Recreation Strategy consultation, including with Council's Youth Advisory Group and with representatives of the disability sector.

5. Findings

Overall, the majority of the comments expressed a positive sentiment toward the proposed improvements outlined in the draft concept plans for North Harbour Reserve.

Many people commended the plans, emphasising that the improvements and additional facilities would provide for a more inclusive and shared space.

Where there were concerns or suggestions, some key themes are identified in the table below along with suggested refinements to the design.

Theme	What we heard	Council response/Suggested refinements to the design
Support for the plan	<p>The majority of respondents either supported fully of the plan or supported with suggested modifications.</p> <p>Many respondents were happy to note that only minor enhancements were planned and in keeping with the open space character of the reserve.</p> <p><i>"The plan is respectful of the current set up."</i></p> <p><i>"I fully support the proposed changes especially the widening of paths to make water access easier."</i></p> <p><i>"Shows Council understand reserve usage."</i></p> <p><i>Excellent plan, when's it happening? Not soon enough</i></p> <p>Some felt that the proposed improvements are timely with the increased usage in recent months.</p> <p><i>"A heavily used reserve, especially during Covid times, needs an upgrade."</i></p>	<p>Support noted.</p> <p>Comments noted on the timing of improvements as soon as feasible, development of staged implementation schedule in future works program.</p> <p>Council worked closely with the NHRCG to develop the overall design and proposed improvements and the group provided an initial list of existing issues/concerns that they wanted addressed in the process.</p> <p>Only minor revisions are required to finalise the plans.</p>
A shared space	<p>Responses indicated a desire for this reserve to cater for people of all ages, for a diverse range of passive and active recreation, and for both humans and canines.</p> <p><i>"A place for both locals and visitors".</i></p> <p><i>"It's great that there will be more for older children to do"</i></p> <p><i>"I love that the space is dog-friendly."</i></p>	<p>Support noted.</p> <p>The improvements aimed to benefit the recreational and social needs of the community.</p>
Safety and accessibility	<p>Safety concerns, especially for children and off-leash dogs, were often mentioned with regards to the Condamine Street park frontage.</p> <p>A couple of people questioned that the hedging would not be sufficient for stopping kids running through it onto the street.</p> <p>There were many requests for the management of road speeds and a visible and well-marked formalized.</p> <p>It was suggested that accessible parking and wheelchair access be more suitable in Lower Beach Street and adjacent</p>	<p>It is proposed to monitor the hedge planting once implemented to determine if fencing may be necessary.</p> <p>Wheelchair access and one accessible parking space is to be incorporated in Lower Beach Street;</p>

Theme	What we heard	Council response/Suggested refinements to the design
	<p>amenities building rather than the western carpark.</p> <p>Several responses requested suitable accessible ramp access at the Boyle Street entrance, instead of stairs, for both wheelchairs and prams. Other have requested handrails on the stairs for safety.</p> <p>Some people wanted additional and safer access to the water. Some proposed stepping-stones to the water and a safer viewing platform over the water.</p>	<p>We acknowledge the number of requests for accessible ramp access from Boyle Street and have reconsidered this proposal in detail. Council does not think this proposal is feasible due to the inaccessibility of Boyle Street itself. Handrails will be included on the renewed stairs.</p> <p>Priority is to be given to upgrading/widening of the existing stair access ways to improve access and safety.</p> <p>Better access to the water has been investigated but there is difficulty in providing an option that would be safe in all conditions without replacing a large section of the existing rock revetment.</p>
Parking and connections	<p>Many agreed to formalising of the western carpark however some were concerned that carpark spaces should be maximised to reduce impact on local streets</p> <p>Some felt the resurfacing or softening of the carpark was important, especially as relates to capturing stormwater runoff/drainage and dust.</p> <p>Many agreed that there was a need for improved signage for the Manly to Spit walk.</p>	<p>Support noted.</p> <p>The car park design and configuration will consider maximising spaces, managing stormwater in detailed design.</p> <p>Improved signage for the Manly to Spit Walk is currently being investigated as part of another Council project.</p>
Youth/fitness	<p>There were numerous requests to include basic fitness equipment for adults, including a pull up bar.</p> <p>There were a few requests for additional basketball hoops (including requests for a full basketball court) to cater to the demand, especially during Covid-19.</p> <p>While many were happy that there will be more for older children and youth to do, there were also requests for a netball hoop, better bicycle access, a longer bike track, a circuit around the park for bikes/scooters, a dirt bike rising area/bumps and more play equipment for older children.</p>	<p>Support noted; design caters for some fitness/parkour elements and play for older children.</p> <p>Site constraints limit opportunities for including some of these suggestions without compromising the objective of maintaining the existing landscape character.</p>

Theme	What we heard	Council response/Suggested refinements to the design
Heritage	<p>Many respondents agreed that it was important to recognise and celebrate the reserve's history and heritage.</p> <p>Many people requested that we highlight the aboriginal history of the area, environmental heritage, and the more recent park's development</p>	Support noted
Open space character	<p>For many respondents, the open space is the best feature of this reserve.</p> <p>Many people asked that Council not 'over landscape' the reserve, to keep it as natural as possible and move away from concrete or synthetic materials, instead use recycled materials.</p> <p>Some said they wanted more trees/plantings for shade, others wanted less.</p> <p>Someone suggested adding deciduous trees only and adding picnic tables in the open space, to ensure people aren't too cold in winter.</p> <p>A few people asked that we ensure the protection of native flora and fauna.</p>	A balanced design approach was taken in developing the improvements to ensure the reserve's existing open space character is conserved and enhanced.
Maintenance	<p>A number of people wanted more focus on maintenance.</p> <p>Someone noted that the remediation of ponding issues should apply to the entire reserve.</p> <p>People asked for more rubbish bins in the reserve, and in more accessible locations (e.g. by the playground).</p> <p>There was a request to think of the aesthetics when choosing bin locations.</p> <p>Some wanted better path maintenance (e.g. path outside of playground) and drainage.</p>	<p>Comments noted</p> <p>A number of maintenance/renewal works have been scheduled in Parks Maintenance work program in Feb/March 2021 to address concerns raised by NHRCG.</p> <p>The grass resurfacing/irrigation works are programmed for 22/23.</p>
Dogs	<p>Various comments about dogs were made in the submissions.</p> <p>Many comments related to the importance of retaining the off-leash dog area.</p> <p>Several comments related to management / control of dogs, pet supervision, and the issue of dog</p>	<p>Comments noted.</p> <p>Off-leash area to remain.</p> <p>Provide new park signage incorporating regulatory information to assist with managing off-leash dogs behaviour/issues.</p>

Theme	What we heard	Council response/Suggested refinements to the design
	<p>excrement, through better signage and reminder that it's a shared space.</p> <p>There were requests for more dog water bowls throughout the reserve.</p> <p>Some people asked if there could be a picnic / bbq area fenced off from dogs, that the food attracts the dogs.</p>	<p>Provide dog bowl to new drinking fountain.</p> <p>Reposition water taps with dog bowls to avoid conflicts</p>
Other miscellaneous comments	<p>Consider integration of bowling green frontage.</p> <p>Additional bubblers/water refill stations in all picnic areas.</p> <p>Additional settings were requested, including sheltered structures such as a gazebo</p> <p>Will toilets be refurbished? Toilet entrance facing the park for safety</p> <p>Lipped paths to address impact of heavy rain/mud.</p>	<p>Altering the landscape in front of the bowling green will be difficult without changing the nature of the open space in this area and will have an adverse effect on drainage.</p> <p>There are a number of additional and upgraded water fountains included in the plan</p> <p>These structures do not fit in with the objectives to maintain the existing landscape character</p> <p>The toilets were refurbished and expanded in 2017. There are no plans to modify the toilets.</p> <p>The paths will be designed to allow for a constant run off rather directed run off to one area to prevent water ponding in one spot</p>

Appendix 1 - Verbatim community and stakeholder responses⁴

No.	Your Say comments	
	Further comments or suggestions:	What improvements do you think need to be prioritised?
1	<p>Area 1: Formalising the Car Park is a good idea but I believe the new plan will result in fewer spaces than the number of cars that currently squeeze in. You could consider an additional parking area within the reserve itself on the Eastern side of Condamine Street (either like Manly Lagoon, or creating angled parking similar to that next to Graham Reserve).</p> <p>Area 1: Formalising the access to the car park to</p>	<p>(1) Additional covered seating/picnic areas</p> <p>(2) Installation of wall to prevent high tides destroying grass with seawater</p> <p>(3) pedestrian crossing to new or improved car park.</p>

⁴ Personal details have been redacted where possible. Spelling and grammatical errors have been amended only where misinterpretation or offence may be caused.

	<p>improve pedestrian safety is a good idea but I think it is essential that this be made into a formal Pedestrian Crossing (zebra crossing). Remembering both kids and dogs require access from the car park to the reserve.</p> <p>Area 1: The proposed hedged delineation of the park from Condamine St is a good idea but it is only a short step from there to providing a full fence between the park and the road. This should be considered as I have seen a number of incidents over the years when both children and dogs stray from the park into the road (parents of course paying most attention to their mobile phones!)</p> <p>General: An objective is to improve lawn quality, particularly in the South East corner. However one of the main reasons for poor quality is the regular flooding of this area with salt water from periodic high tides and swells. You could consider installing a low wall (30-50cm?) between the path and the existing sea wall to minimise these events. This wall could also have a secondary purpose to provide additional seating for walkers along the Bondi Manly trail.</p> <p>Area 2: The plan appears to remove an existing table /chair area near the existing BBQ. There is already a shortage of tables and chairs, which is exacerbated when people holding childrens' parties "reserve" a setting in the early morning by throwing a table cloth over it, making it inaccessible to other casual users for the rest of the day. It would be good if (1) additional settings were included in the plan and (2) a few of these were included within sheltered structures (not just shaded by trees) so that the park remains accessible even when it is raining.</p> <p>General: I think the park in general needs more rubbish bins, people are lazy when camping in the centre of the park and don't walk the 50 metres or so to the bins located at the perimeter of the park. Possibly include a bin area in the centre of the park (ugly as that would be!)</p> <p>Area 3. I understand the desire to move the dog bowls away from food preparation areas but the dog bowls need to be in the areas where the dogs are, not tucked away out of sight. You should probably talk specifically to dog owners in the park to determine the best locations for these. An alternative is to fence in the BBQ areas to prevent dogs getting too close to the BBQs.</p>	
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2	<p>Space at the northern end of the park to the West of Area 3 (formerly the bowling greens), is a little devoid of the character of the rest of the park overall. Whilst it does provide a nice level self contained area for small groups undertaking fitness exercises & children practising football skills informally, I feel it could be improved to assist its integration with the rest of the park. Perhaps some more park furniture, or planting, to eventually provide better shade, whilst still leaving sufficient areas for the above mentioned informal exercise activities to continue. If done in the right way, I believe this would help give this space a feel more consistent with the Park overall.</p>	<p>I think the proposed improvements to the prime access points to all 3 Areas as outlined, is important, both for general safety & on the eastern end to improve identification, for participants on the Spit to Manly walk - many of these are "first timers" not familiar with specifics of the route in this area.</p>
3	<p>The concept design print is too small to read; however with the fencing of the child play area in place I can't see anything wrong with the Reserve as it is.</p> <p>Doubtless there will be more astute judgements than mine as to changes to improve: just as long as the Reserve doesn't finish up being 'landscaped' into something that is removed from the convivial, open & pleasing green space that it is now.</p>	
4		<p>The access through to Jackson St and the car parking area are the parts that need upgrading most of all.</p>
5	<p>Please ensure that the interpretation educates the visitor to the fact that this is ground zero for colonisation and the severe impact this had on the local ingenious population once known for their "manly" stature</p>	<p>* Could we have more trees across the site? In summer it becomes a dust bowl in the centre</p>
6	<p>Please do not plant any further native trees (or any other trees). The area has an abundance of trees already, so much so that the large grassy area to do some yoga, exercise, jogging, running around with the kids (not all kids are interested in the play area); so that just a good flat big clear space of grass is required. This space needs to be kept clear and not further infringed. Otherwise the whole reserve will feel too built up with lots of other structures etc popping up. It needs to be kept as natural as possible. BBQ areas/basketball court etc will be a magnet for the local teenagers to hang out late at night causing noise in an otherwise quiet area.</p>	<p>The main trees that are already in situ could do with some much needed maintenance/trimmed back as extremely large branches have been falling off in the recent high winds/storms. This is very dangerous to the locals who use the reserve as could cause serious injury. I'm no expert but some of the trees seem to be susceptible to uprooting and being blown down completely and some of them don't look like healthy growing trees, just scrappy eyesores. . Can you therefore prioritise the old trees already there before even considering planting even more new ones. We need to keep as much grass mass area as possible.</p>

7	<i>No further comments provided</i>	
8	<p>Remediation of ponding issues (noted for Area 3) apply to the entire Reserve and need to be mitigated otherwise large parts of the lower lying grassed areas becomes unusable after heavy rain.</p> <p>The proposal needs a proper and thorough hydraulic engineered design (not just minor landscaping works) to address and resolve the ponding issues.</p>	<p>As Council no doubt knows, prior to the reclamation of the foreshore and creation of the Reserve, the natural basin was a major water course for North Harbour. Has Council considered introducing (child safe and low impact) landscape water features that express as well as interpret the water course?</p> <p>Other forms of interpretation about the significant history of the area including the natural history of the original shoreline, indigenous occupation, land subdivision and land grants as well any historic images of the locality would add a lot to the project's appeal.</p>
9	Congrats - it looks great.	Bubbler near the waterfront (in part 2). Eastern Parking area with circular driveway and pedestrian access from street above.
10	All makes sense and looks like an excellent improvement	Western area
11	Please could Council provide an area suitable for picnics that is fenced off from dogs. We would love to enjoy this park but it is impossible to sit on the grass and have a picnic without being jumped on by dogs. Just a low fence (we don't need a pool height fence) is enough. A separated area would also allow young children space to play as they are often scared of dogs. And the third benefit is that the grass would probably be much nicer in an area that is restricted from dogs (and without any dog poo). Thank you.	Just a small grassed area that is fenced off from dogs.
12	Please could Council install some basic fitness equipment. Just a chin up bar would be OK. There is so much equipment for children, but nothing for an adult to use. Thank you.	Just a chin up bar would be OK
13		Improvement to pathways, bins and children play.
14	The plan looks fine in terms of being respectful of the current set up. My main comment is that I believe the King Avenue access (part of the Manly to Spit boardwalk from the Fairlight side) would very much benefit from a pram / wheelchair accessible pathway. I can not count the number of times trying to get up and down	Access on foot from Fairlight side, please see my detailed comment above.

	with the pram either down the three sets of stairs or the rocky side path with an old staircase. It is near impossible on the way up, and I struggle on the way down. Taking a detour via Condamine street is an option, but the boardwalk there is very steep indeed and narrow too (a pedestrian in opposite direction can not fit safely with a pram and either has to enter the road or wait). I like the idea of an improved carpark, but I believe the locals would also very much benefit from easing the access on foot, ideally via the King Avenue.	
15	Please do not use synthetic (plastic) turfing. It may seem convenient and low maintenance but it is bad for the environment.	
16	It's great. Can we please have a no dogs area. It's a wonderful park but unfortunately it's difficult to sit peacefully without getting the unwanted attention of dogs. Not asking for much. It's still an area for everyone to enjoy.	A peaceful area that can be enjoyed away from dogs.
17	Could you have a small exercise/gym station like seen in other parks in the manly area?	n/a
18	I fully support the proposed changes especially the widening of paths to make water access easier.	As one of the many locals who kayaks and paddleboards regularly from the park I would love to see an extra access point to the water somewhere near the centre on the foreshore path. This could be a set of sandstone stairs from the existing path down into the water. The present stairs to the water are very well used by walkers, dog owners and those using the harbour for kayaking and paddle boarding. Currently, at low tide there is often a long drag or carry to get to the water. At present sand at the foot of the stairs is badly eroded by recent seas and newly exposed dangerous rocks can be very hard to see when tides muddy the water.
19	Outdoor gym would be well used in this area.	Outdoor gym
20	In Area 3 it would be more suitable for the current stair access to be Converted to ramp access to enable easy access for prams / wheelchairs to the reserve. Currently in order to access the park and playground area from the MSW, people with prams have to either walk around via busy White and Condamine streets (dangerous with young children) or carry prams	Ramp access to the reserve from King Ave

	and children up and down the stairs. By making access to the reserve from King Ave a ramp rather than stairs there would be full access for prams and wheelchairs between manly wharf and north harbour reserve (and beyond to 40 baskets beach)...	
21	add some better steps from the park down to the water	
22	In area 3, the stair access out of the park (with the viewing platforms) should be changed to a ramp so it is pram friendly. The park is amazing for young families and without this ramp in and out, parents will have to continue to carry prams and babies up the stairs which isn't safe at all, or take a long and inconvenient detour up Condamine Street. Please help make this park amazing and include a ramp.	Ramp out of the park as per comment above. The new nature play equipment updates and recreation areas around the basketball court. That will be fantastic.
23	Please consider ramp access from Lower Beach Street into the playground area of the reserve.	
24	Just brilliant	Section 1
25	More parking space in area 1. We don't need a green garden space there. Change to stairs to a path so it's inclusive in area 3. Viewing platform is obsolete. This harbour front park has had an upgrade not so long ago, why is more of our rates money being used here? A lot of other green spaces inter area need urgent attention.	Parking Rubbish bins Pedestrian Crossing
26	1. If you had asked me what was the one thing you would change about this park, it would be the toilets. I can't seem to find reference to them other than that the greenery around them is to be changed, I apologise if an upgrade is mentioned and I haven't picked it up (also these toilets give me the creeps and I haven't been been in the building in a few years so it could have been upgraded since ... so if this is the case, please ignore my comments). As it was when I last used the amenity building, I felt it was the scene of a crime waiting to happen. It is hidden away in a corner, the entrances are hidden away, the building is old and dirty. With so many crimes against kids these days, it is time Council changed its thoughts about public toilets. They should have entrances openly facing the park. The inside should be bright and have hygienic surfaces.	Other than what I have suggested above, making the park more accessible is important.

	<p>2. The basketball area. There are 2 basketball rings in the Balgowlah Seaforth area - one at North Harbour Reserve and the other at Seaforth oval. During covid, the hoop in this park was overcrowded with teenage boys doing what they enjoy. Obviously we couldn't take our son there because the area was crowded. What about adding similar basketball area in a couple of other spots in the park. There is ample space, the hoops are fantastic for keeping kids engaged, and they encourage friendship building.</p> <p>3. I can't make out from the plan how much additional seating will be installed, but much more is required than currently available. Quite often on a Saturday afternoon the park is busy and no seating is available (I am unable to sit on the grass due to disability).</p>	
27		It would be great if there could be a circular kids cycling path. At the moment you can cycle a little bit but outside of the playground area the path doesn't go all the way around to reconnect in a circle.
28	<p>The improvements will be welcome. A huge number of people use North Harbour park to access the water, kayakers, SUPs and others. As do dog walkers, walkers and children. The only current access is via the SE stairs which are very tight. Please provide a separate water access point. A simple but wide set of stairs to the water, maybe positioned where the EW realigned path meets the Spit to Manly path. The reserve should reinstate the access to the water which was lost when it was created. Thank you. (kayaker and local resident who uses the park daily)</p>	
29	<p>Hello</p> <p>I would like to see stone access steps to the water near the Northern end of the park added for safety. In summer the southern access steps get too busy with people bringing stand up paddle boards and kayaks to the water and I have seen many people take a risk climbing down oyster covered rocks at the northern end to get to the water. Perhaps also a short wooden platform/wharf out over the water would be nice for children to look at the fish rather than the viewing platform up higher in the trees.</p>	<p>Road speed and shade tree plantings. Thank you</p>

	I do have concerns over the placement of the proposed hedge running along Condamine St. This will allow dogs/children to run through the hedge onto the road blocking the broader vision as currently exists for drivers. Maintenance costs are also high to maintain the hedge. I think some form of speed control on the road would be a better solution as the chicane seems to be more of a challenge for some drivers to go through it as fast as possible.	
30	bike access should be included in Area 3, from King Ave to the park down through the existing slope towards the bbq area and then across the open area to the street where the cafe is. This would create a bike path to Dobroyd.	
31	will the presentation of heritage plaque area at the end of King Ave be improved.	
32	Would be great to get another basketball court and an area to lock up or store Kayaks	Another basketball court and an area to lock up or store Kayaks
33	Parking is a problem most days and very difficult on weekends	Increase parking if possible but certainly don't decrease it
34	The basketball court is a fantastic part of the existing and proposed design. There are often teenage boys making good use of it and I am happy that this will continue. I never see girls using it. I wonder whether council has considered installing a netball practice space anywhere, to also encourage healthy use of the park by teenage girls.	Facilities for teenage girls
35	Don't like the hedging along the park in area 1. Don't agree with the changes in area 3 leave as is	Nothing more. Remove/ change the ramp at the toilets v intrusive into the park. Make it less conspicuous. The park has enough "human" influence recently it is beautiful left as natural as possible with maybe more trees but no more concrete or benches
36	<p>I have four separate comments.</p> <p>1. It would be great if the park included exercise equipment as has been installed at East Esplanade and at Keirle Park.</p> <p>2. Please include bubblers and bottle refilling at all picnic areas to reduce waste.</p> <p>3. Area 3, point 1 - Please note that the reason the area next to the top of the path at King Avenue loses grass and soil is NOT human traffic.</p>	The child safety aspects should be a priority: the hedge to prevent kids running onto Condamine St and the unsafe barrier above the drain at the bottom of King Avenue steps must be made child safe.

	<p>It is because in heavy rain the run off from the steps above to Boyle St runs off the concrete as a full stream and creates mud. Therefore the recent widening of that path has merely moved the muddy area. Please ensure any new path there is lipped or with a gully to direct water flow away from the grass.</p> <p>4. Area 3, point 4. The area at the bottom of the steps is not child-safe and, in a rising tide, a toddler could fall and be swept up the storm-water drain (which has no safety grate). Please ensure that the viewing platform addresses this. The rest of the foreshore is fine as the rocks provide a natural child barrier.</p>	
37	<p>* Add a boat ramp for people to launch their small water craft (ie kayaks)</p> <p>* Add some large stepping stones to the base of the southern steps into the water to assist walkers at medium tide to keep dry when trying to get to the other side (only needs a few along the front of the houses)</p>	
38	<p>Agree on upgrades to secure access to park (Condamine street access and crossing currently very dangerous) but leave as much natural space as possible</p> <p>Disagree as a result on Area2 proposals partially: drop Nature space and limit upgrades to youth space. We want as much grass as possible and less enclosed/cement human built spaces.</p>	As above stated: those linked to secure access to park from Condamine street which is currently dangerous. All the rest is a nice to have and not desirable if it eats up on natural grass and trees.
39	<p>It looks like the grassed areas are giving way to concrete pathways through to Queenscliff beach. Do we really need more concrete in a grassed area which currently functions very well? Will there be artificial grass? This would be truly awful but I know it is proposed for some of the areas but I can't see it mentioned.</p>	None. It's nice as it is. Maybe the crossing of Condamine Street.
40	<p>Highly recommend for a pram access for Area 3 location numbered 1 so that It is possible to access the park when walking from Manly via King Street</p> <p>There is a good pram access on the other side of the park near the children's playground</p>	
41	<p>Parking needs to be maximised. It can be hard to park on weekends.</p> <p>The kids love climbing the rocks, and hide in the trees.</p> <p>A 2nd, lower basketball hoop for kods would be really nice. The current one is hard to practice on</p>	parking and pedestrian crossing.

	for 5-10yo. Love that the space is dog friendly	
42	Please stop wasting rate payers money and reduce our rates instead. Waste of money	
43	I'd love to see the rubbish bins in more accessible locations. People dump their rubbish because they're no located conveniently.	I'd like to see a play area for children 6 - 10 years. The current play equipment is great for when they're little, but as they get older it's a bit boring for them. Rock climbing wall on the existing rock face would be amazing,
44	<p>I would really like to see a memorial to the Aboriginal families who lived here. They were the "Manly" people who waded out to meet Captain Arthur Phillip on January 22 1788. The shell middens are still visible on the southern side and remind us that they lived here in this protected northerly facing enclave for uncountable generations and loved it as much as we do today. Arabanoo should also be mentioned as he was kidnapped from this spot on New Year's Eve of 1788 to become an interpreter.</p> <p>The memorial should be on the southern end of the walk along the harbour at the bottom of the steps that come down from Lower Beach St as it is close to where families lived. This is a great opportunity to respectfully remember those who lived here before us, acknowledge how much their lives were changed and to gently educate those who enjoy this place today.</p> <p>I would also like to see refuse bins at the entrance so that visitors can dispose of last minute rubbish on their way out and those with dogs can deposit doggy bags.</p> <p>I would also like to see at least one disabled parking space near the toilet facilities. This then links on to accessible pathways so that the foreshore is accessible to the disabled. I am disabled and if all the close parking is taken I have to go home. Access to the toilet is important.</p> <p>I am concerned about the proposed hedging along the road as it will reduce visibility for those driving down Condamine St. Currently I can see if any dogs or kids are moving towards the road and can take appropriate action. With a hedge, a toddler or a dog could be bolting and I won't know until it is too late.</p>	<p>Disabled parking spaces near the toilets.</p> <p>Bins at the entrance to the park</p>

	<p>██████████</p> <p>Thank you.</p>	
45	<p>Add history of site to any signage. Signs adjacent to picnic tables to state that dogs are NOT allowed on tables (Yes, unfortunately this is a regular occurrence, which is extremely unhygienic).</p> <p>Area 1 : (i) formalise pedestrian island on Condamine St as a legal “pedestrian crossing”; (ii) widen Condamine St on the park side by 0.5m by re-aligning the gutter, allowing safer access and egress of occupants (esp. the many children) from cars which park along the street. Such a small re-alignment would not detract from the park’s utility, in my opinion; (iii) ensure the drain at the pedestrian island is kept clean of debris, as it regularly floods</p> <p>Area 2 : (i) suggest more picnic tables be placed in the open, as current location is very cold in Winter; (ii) re No. 18 - native shade tree plantings. Suggest deciduous native trees as the Southern end of the Reserve is very cold in Winter under the evergreen trees. Whilst I appreciate that Council is keen on planting native trees (and there are very few deciduous native trees), the Plane trees within the Reserve serve an excellent purpose and are very attractive.</p>	<p>The Southern steps on the Manly to Spit walk are a hazard and should be widened.</p> <p>Council has already done an excellent job on refurbishing the toilet facilities and the playground. Please refrain from making the Reserve too “busy”. Simple is good!</p>
46	<p>Are the toilets being refurbished.</p>	
47	<p>██████████ great to see a well thought out plan for the beautiful North Harbour Reserve. I spent most of my life staying in King Ave Balgowlah, the northern entry point. My father, ██████████ was a local historian who did much to research the history of this area. His books on Jenkins Road (that led from here along the Nth Beaches) and others should still be in the Manly Library/ Historical section. The History Society, together with our family, funded the seat that is positioned in Area 3 of your draft plan, looking out to sea. We have had recent communication with Council about replacing the large tree that used to shade the seat - a Brachycton was planted there & we look forward to seeing it grow and shade the seat once again. Dad was part of the group that installed historical signs along the Manly to Spit walk. The sign in Nth Harbour reserve that</p>	<p>I have seen many walkers, pregnant women, elderly folk and more love the seat looking out over the harbour. Perhaps another could be installed at the other side of the bay? I would suggest Dr Peter Macdonald, also in King Ave, deserves a seat for all his contributions to the local area.... if you want another seat with a name that is so important to this area. Since it is an important dog park, can I suggest more dog poo bins to keep the park clean. The viewing platform could point out significant points of interest - the historic boat shed, Nth Harbour Sailing Club, Treharnes boatshed at Fairlight (family made a huge contribution to sailing during the Americas Cup), & Sir William Walkelys home in King Ave (oil tycoon & founder</p>

	<p>showed the first map of this area has since disappeared. It would make a great addition to the viewing platform you suggest. I have copies of it if needed.</p>	<p>of the journalists Walkley Awards.). There are great historic photos of the bay before it was reclaimed as a project during the Depression, and the stone wall put in place. Dad and Peter Macdonald had photos of this work. As part of the popular Spit to Manly walk, the Reserve needs to have clear maps of this walk, and historic photos/ pictures and maps that add to the experience. All the very best with this project.</p>
48	<p>Recommended modifications are:</p> <p>Area 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In area 1, install a zebra crossing, not raised but at street level, as cars speed through there and rarely stop, it is very dangerous for pedestrians to access the park especially children. - In area 3, I suggest only one disabled carpark and upgrade to two if demand is demonstrated at a later date. 2 places from 15 or 13% seems excessive. - In area 5, install a Handrail on the rocky ledge up the path to Jackson St which our community loves and frequently uses to improve safety. <p>Area 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Great to see a new nature based play area with climbing ropes for bigger children. Can we get details on what changes will be made in the existing playground to play equipment? It would be good to ensure there are good options for toddlers and older kids as well as teenagers. <p>Area 3</p> <p>Great to see a viewing space with the relocation of the plaque as most people are unaware of the historical significance of this site. Since this is such a significant Aboriginal area, can we incorporate Aboriginal elements throughout the park and play areas in sections 1, 2 and 3?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Elements that improve safety first, such as a zebra crossing at street level across Condamine, handrails and the hedge along Condamine which helps keep little children away from the road, as well as functionality, like the needed irrigation works. 2. Elements that improve accessibility second, such as widening of paths, and usability, such as the upgraded picnic and play areas. 3. Elements that improve the cohesive look and feel of the park while highlighting it's cultural and historical significance, such as the viewing space and including Aboriginal elements throughout the park.
49	<p>It looks as if there are steps on the pathway to the Manly Scenic Walkway. If that is the case the reserve will remain inaccessible for wheelchair users. Surely there is a way that a landscaped ramping system could be introduced.</p>	<p>Accessibility from the Manly Scenic Walkway for wheelchair users.</p>
50	<p>Number 10 in Area 2 is a concern putting a large piece of sandstone close to the basket ball court and walking running path is a big potential hazard. I would get rid of that idea.</p>	<p>You should look at replacing the non native trees in the park with native trees.</p> <p>I think there needs to be a vacuuming of</p>

	<p>I think replacing the basketball court with netball court would be fair as it gives netballers a go and basketball has had a fair run at the site so how about catering for netball or just turning it back into grass. The probe with the basketball is that you have large men chasing and throwing a hard ball next to a playground, picnic areas and walking paths people with kids going from the grassed areas to the picnic playground areas have to watch their kids don't get trampled or get hit by a ball . It is dangerous spot to have an open basketball court.</p> <p>I also think the seating in Number 11 is facing the wrong way and should face the playground and not have parkour elements as people won't be able to sit on it if people are jumping on and of it.</p>	<p>the grassed areas to pick up up the bottle tops plastic glass ect at least once a week.</p>
51	Very needed. The numbers of people using this park have increased since COVID restrictions	Children's nature play area, safer crossing Condamine St
52	I support the proposal. I use the pathway and I think that the improved views will improve the utility of the path.	Raising the pathway.
53	<p>I'm so glad to see the use of sandstone in this project - it makes for such an aesthetic and durable material in keeping with the native flora and I encourage you use it as much as possible in this and any other local projects!</p> <p>I'd also ask that the proposed viewing/heritage interpretation space be as detailed and informative as possible (you can read more about the area's history here: https://dictionaryofsydney.org/entry/balgowlah). Local history is important and viewing spaces like these are often the only way many people will learn anything about a given suburb. Space permitting, information about the local flora and fauna would be interesting for a lot of people as well.</p>	<p>I understand that the park is primarily an open space for families to enjoy and you don't want to overdevelop it, but I do think it's worth considering adding fitness equipment to the area. It would be great if the Manly Scenic Walkway could have exercise equipment spread across the entire walk in a similar way to the Bondi-Coogee Walk.</p>
54	The brief covers mostly important issues that needed to be addressed and keep the main area of the park free which the best feature of the park	Parking and pedestrian safety
55	It's a heavily used area and it needs an upgrade.	The hedging between the park and road needs priority.
56	I think your outline of planned improvements is excellent. I move through the reserve several times a week on route to Forty Baskets and it is	

	currently a very plain uninteresting and basically barren environment. The improvements will make it a focus for the local community. Congratulations.	
57	<i>No further comments provided</i>	
58	Those changes look excellent, fixing the car park and creating a barrier to the road would have been very welcome when my kids were younger. It would be great to have more signage to remind dog owners that this is a shared space and their pets should be under their control /supervision - not just let of leash to run unsupervised while the owners ignore them. I've had dogs jump on my kids, stick their heads in our bags - owners ignored it. And they should pick up their poo. Not the dogs fault. Better manners & More responsibility from dog owners would be great.	
59	the upgrade to the park itself will be welcome. However, it seems as though the changes to the parking area will result in significant loss of parking spaces with a reduction to 17 parking spaces and no capacity for trailer parking. This will divert parking to suburban streets which are already congested at times of high park usage. At significant cost there will be a substantial loss of amenities for park users and a significant impost on local residents.	park upgrade
60	It would be good to have an exercise station! Chin ups, dips, sit ups etc	It would be good to have an exercise station! Chin ups, dips, sit ups etc
61	<i>No further comments provided</i>	
62	That all flora in North Harbour Reserve be trimmed to a recommended height from the ground to provide for clear visibility and ease of environmental maintenance. Where flora is perceived to provide a back stop, and such, provision be made for suitable netting or other appropriate solutions.	incorporated in the early planning stage
63	Think the car park (section 4) should be maximised further & reduce the natural runoff / foliage proposed area. Lots of local families with cars & prams etc. People will drive / park over it anyway, as they currently do. Maximise parking to reduce the spill into neighbouring streets.	Access for spit to manly walk.
64	Please build a ramp at the Manly Scenic Walkway North entry so families with prams and wheelchairs can access the park and playground.	A ramp please.

	<p>I live in Fairlight and walk the MSW to take my kids to the playground but the stairs are very steep and difficult to carry a pram up or down. A nice wooden ramp that zig zags back and forth (like the one at Taronga Zoo) would make the park much more accessible to families like mine with young children.</p> <p>We currently walk around to Condamine Street, and down that steep hill to the park but it has busy traffic and the sidewalk is narrow.</p>	
65	I like what I see and the overall details as also retaining dog areas.	
66	<p>Plastic Forests (https://plasticforests.com.au/) can supply fence posts, garden edging etc made entirely of recycled plastic. The grass/sand dune borders at Nth Curl Curl Reserve have recently been installed using Plastic Forests' (PF) recycled borders. Coles is giving farmers grants to install PF's recycled fence posts which won't rust, have a steel post inserted for durability, and look great. I am a family member, but as a local member I know the community want to know their plastic bread bags etc are actually producing good products which councils are using.</p>	
67	The overall plan looks great. The only concern I have is in area 3 - the northern end near the bridge. You can often see Herons roosting around the rocks and trees when looking across the water from the bridge. The birds come right up to the edge of the rocks. I am hoping the dog's drinking area and seating area proposed won't stop the birds coming to this spot.	
68	It appears that Council has closely looked at the parks usage and the enhancements will make it more attractive.	drainage and grass growth
69	It doesn't matter how much parking there is - it will not be enough!!!!	Parking!!
70	The NHR has got enough trees and plants. More plants including hedges will make the parkland looked very busy and man made. Currently it's a large open space with beautiful lawn and trees, looks very natural.	NHR is a very popular place for kayaking and paddling. Currently kayakers, dogs and people sharing narrow stairs to the water. It will be a great benefit to the community if small ramp is built for launch kayaks and paddle boards.
71	A lot of runners use the space and people working out. Would be nice to have some work out areas and equipment in zone 2 and 3 on either side of reserve (not in middle as don't want up take away from the view). Would be	Tables and sitting areas

	similar to the areas on the coggee to Bondi run. Equipment that would be good to have pull up bars, bench for crunches, elliptical machine. This would then give the best use of space for ever one.	
72	any additional parking would be appreciated.	
73	The plan as proposed is a big improvement and I welcome it. I would suggest in order of priority, three things: 1 maximise car parking as much as possible 2 longer and more interesting bike track for the children 3 Better access to the water	Improved picnic areas Car park
74	All planned improvements should please both locals and visitors.	planned plantings,
75	Area 3 A accessible path for prams should be installed from king avenue to the BBQ area. Currently the steps from King Ave prohibit the access for families living on the northern side of the North Harbour park walking with prams and young children to the park facilities. The current steps are narrow and uneven.	
76	I like the plan. I have one comment which pertains to plant selection. I fully support native plant selection as this delivers to sustainability of the native flora and fauna, therefore, is it possible to replace buxus with a native alternative?	My priorities would be Area 1 in its entirety and the garden and pathways, viewing platforms in Area 3 as the park sees a lot of foot traffic and many walkers shortcut through Burtons Bush which then impacts the flora.
77	20 years ago the initial 'Plan' provided for future pedestrian access over a raised 'low key' timber walkway to the rear of the houses in North Harbour st (effectively over the intertidal area). it provided the missing link and negated having to move from a pedestrian friendly area to a shared roadway. What Happened???	Getting pedestrians off the road consistent with State Government guidelines and the basic principles of accessibility.
78	Will it still be an off leash dog area, this needs to stay off leash Exercise area for dogs	The basketball court should be marked with pickleball lines that can also be used for badminton. The council has committed to marking more Pickleball courts. These courts could be used during the day by elderly people in the area to encourage More exercise
79	There needs to be access for strollers from Boyle St. We access North Harbour Reserve this way several times a week but it is very dangerous.	


	<p>Unfortunately trying to negotiate the footpath on Condamine St on garbage day is even worse! Having spoken with many parents/ grandparents/ carers in the park all agree they wouldn't need to drive if they could access Boyle St path.</p> <p>Better still would to make the pathway accessible for disabled. Surely funding is available from State and Federal Governments.</p>	
80	<p>Sorry to sound a little sceptical, but we've had many excellent plans (Fairlight Beach, Manly Lagoon, Little Manly Beach) and now this one, but very little seem to happen. Manly Lagoon Pk is fast becoming a dust bowl, for example, and I note for N Harbour the first expenditure won't be until 22/23!</p>	<p>The N end connection to the foreshore walk posits a 1.5m path, which is inadequate - as are so many paths on the N Beaches, considering their heavy and growing usage. Where space permits I believe the minimum width for new paths should be 2m.</p> <p>Also, why isn't there a zig zag path in addition to the steps, for those with mobility issues or parents with strollers. This is a feature of the Collaroy Beach improvements, so why not at N Harbour, which is part of the hugely popular Spit-Manly walk.</p> <p>I don't see any mention of a widening of the existing waterside path, which is also inadequate as the worn areas of adjacent grass indicate. It should be 3m wide to cater for the level of foot traffic.</p> <p>Perhaps Lia could address the issues I've raised, either by phone or email, thanks.</p>
81	<p>Please include a bicycle access ramp or 'runnel' in your plans to improve the concrete staircase in area 3 (access to King Avenue)</p> <p>Condamine St is too busy for younger kids & families to push their bikes up & they can't cycle the steep hill yet. This would make Balgowlah heights more bike friendly to link cycling to Manly & back.</p> <p>Bike access ramps = A shallow trough that runs alongside staircases to provide an easy way for cyclists to roll their bikes up or down.</p>	
82	<i>No further comments provided</i>	
83	<p>This area is crying out for a fitness area, please consider a mini outdoor gym.</p>	

	The youth area is just going to encourage more underage drinking that all ready happens in the park. Perhaps a gym wouldn't be used in this manner.	
84	A few more benches wouldn't go astray along the view out to the bay.	
85	I'm a frequent user of this park and the proposed plans look great, [REDACTED] Just wondering, is there any opportunity in any of the proposed concreted areas / paths, to use crushed sandstone or a similar more porous surface? Aren't we moving away from concrete, especially in this foreshore environment?	Probably areas 1 and 2.
86	<p>We love North Harbour Reserver and are excited to see these new changes. As the mother of two boys 11 and 13 yrs I am thrilled to hear about the additional sensory and climbing equipment for older children. Parents are trying hard to keep their children outside being active and off screens and the basketball court and climbing rocks is what we have here.</p> <p>I would like to suggest would it be possible to make the walking sealed path from the street to the water front into a circuit that goes around the whole park. This would enable children to practice riding bikes and scooters around the park. Also can we have a full basketball court? Another suggestion from my son is can they have a dirt bike riding area with bumps so the kids can do circuits.. ? possibly over towards the side by the play ground. This would keep the slightly older school kids entertained?</p> <p>From a waste perspective is there any way we can do some thing to better deal with our waste such as introducing a paper collection bin and or a food waste bin for any food waste form the wonderful bbq and birthday parties that happen in the park? it might be and interesting trial for the council to see what sort of response they get for the food waste - obviously it would need very clear signage.</p> <p>Another suggestion is a small ramp so that kayaks or canoes can be easily wheeled into and out of the water.</p>	
87	Great to see Council upgrading this beautiful park. Good to see the northern entry to the Manly scenic walkway will be improved and	Access points for the Manly to Spit walkway.

	<p>widened as it is currently really a one way zone. This should also stop people cutting across the bush. I often see moutain bike riders bush bash through the bush there which is not ideal.</p> <p>In area 2, item 15. this stairway is lovely but again is hard to pass people safely, particularly as we'll be social distancing for a long time. the 2 entry points to the park are real pinch points and make me not go there because of this.</p> <p>This park has turned into a dog park - those without dogs do not feel safe to walk in this park. Ideally, there would be a zone specifically for dogs, like Graham reserve. they take over the entire park and it's not safe, particualarly with young children around.</p>	
88	<p>My main concern was the giant fig in area 2. I've painted in a couple of times, once when it went deciduous, two or three winters ago. I asked an arborist-researcher about it then, as I was afraid it was dying. He works some in the Botanical Gardens and told me that there are a couple of fig species there that sometimes go deciduous, but if it same back in full leaf that spring, it was fine. It did and has been a giant green tree ever since. I'm very fond of it - and that image of it (reprinted by an art printing group in Sydney) is also one of my best selling paintings. It shows a bit of bud break and clients have said "It shows hope."</p>	
89	<p>Can you please install some outdoor gym equipment. It doesn't have to be much - say some pull up bars etc. For example, see the outdoor gym equipment along the eastern suburb beach parks.</p>	
90	<p>The proposed changes are fine but minimal. More could be done with the space. Areas for groups to use. This happens today informally but in front of the child care centre sections could be marked out and made bookable. Also this park offers great access to the water at a very safe and shallow point. Used by Kayakers and stand-up-paddle borders. But only via stairs at southern end. It would be great to add a small ramp and the midpoint or northern end for improved access that is less of on impact to the houses at the southern end. This would be minimal cost as it could be laid over the top of the existing stone sea break.</p>	<p>Water access improvements at minimal cost but to great benefit.</p>

91	I use the park on a daily basis to exercise my dog and allow the kids to run around. I love that it's open and for the most part empty. It feels that there's a lot of investment going into the park, which makes me wonder whether all the changes are necessary or the best use of public resources. Why are new playground and parkour areas being developed? Was the playground not only recently refurbished?	The area the other side of Condamine street is already looking much better. I would encourage the council to look into further traffic abatement measures on that road. The small island in the road at the crossing hardly provides any protection to pedestrians and drivers often speed outrageously quickly along that stretch of road.
92	The parking area desperately needs to be resurfaced. Currently there is parking for 23-24 vehicles. The new plan shows 18 parking spaces including 2 disabled spaces which is a loss of 5-6 spaces. The planting of gardens & trees would be unnecessary as it is a parking area. Additional spaces can be found on the northern boundary of the area. Surely wheelchair access would be more sensibly located adjacent to the amenities area in Condamine St. It would be far safer than crossing Condamine St.	Existing commemorative seats in the centre of the park need to be uniform as those in areas 2 & 3 to remedy the mud holes surrounding them. It goes without saying, the park is desperately in need of top dressing and levelling, A.S.A.P.
93	We are residents who live across the road from the park (a few houses up on Condamine street). We strongly believe that installing a fence would be a very important improvement to the park and very welcomed by the community. A secure fence around the park and particularly on the side of the park facing the street would improve the safety of the park for the many pedestrians that access the park on a daily basis including many young children who use the playground. Additionally, it would enhance the park and make it an attractive area for those with dogs, many of whom very much appreciate fenced dog parks to improve the safety of the park for their off-leash dogs.	We think installing a fence is a straightforward feature which would be quick to install and improve the safety and accessibility of the park to many members of the community and is the feature that should be prioritised.
94	Please no cheesy corflute signs , how about nice signs that match the environment , like wooden or beach style signs . Sailboats or surfboards , pelicans or swans to match the ones that live there in the harbour	
95	Plan looks good on the whole. I would suggest the new playground being made gets enclosed with a fence. Fenced play areas are a win-win – parents know their little ones aren't able to 'disappear / run off' and dog-owners can easily ensure their dogs aren't entering the play area by accident (so as to comply with dog/playground prohibitions).	
96	My former wife was a long time Manly resident and I have visited the area. My suggestion is to	

	do the pathing first with safety rails where needed but delay further development of any description for a period of two years then re-advertise the plan after more people have had time to properly consider the changes suggested. We are too quick to destroy natural environmental areas by so-called improvements. The first to lose their habitat is the birdlife and I consider this of more importance than the desires of humankind. [REDACTED]	
97	It would be good to provide a small ramp to facilitate putting kayaks in to North Harbour from the reserve.	
98	I think the area 1 changes are a waste of money. There is no safety concerns of the existing and this area won't be used for recreation purposes. The carpark is mostly used by residents living in the area.	
99	I would like to see the path that leads from Condamine Street on the southern side of the playground kept free of rubbish, dirt and leaf litter. It is often dirty. Would also like to see a path right around the outside of the playground.	
100	I am a regular user of this park. This is building well on existing features. Looking forward to improved stairs in area 3. Good to see planned parking changes in area 1. How much will be used by residents and how much will be available for drive-ins. Safer pedestrian crossing 'in the dip' will be a boon and making it highly visible and an actual 'marked pedestrian crossing' will be useful. Pedestrians will still have to be very alert for speeding cars getting a 'run up' for the hill on either end.	
101	Improve walkway at south exit to beach	
102		Have you thought about installing a small water park for children. I have seen them throughout Queensland on the foreshores.
103	Congratulations! I think the plan looks excellent. I'd like to suggest one improvement. Lots of small kids and people with dogs use the park. Right next to a busy road.	

	<p>If you could add a fence and couple of gates along the road side, you'd be making a major safety improvement.</p> <p>Thank you for consulting the community on this.</p>	
104	<p>The current basketball area is very small and there is only one net. Smaller children get pushed out by bigger children and adults, especially male teenagers.</p> <p>I suggest that the playing area could be at least doubled in size to the North and another net installed at the North end so that at least 2 different groups could play at the same time. My daughter and I frequently come with her children (10 and 8) and find that they are unable to practice on the court.</p>	See above.
105		<p>I believe enclosed fencing along Condamine Street would be a great addition to the park for two reasons. It would keep the park safer for families with small children and for dog owners to ensure that their children and dogs are not at risk of being hit by cars.</p> <p>We have a rescue dog that does not have good recall or road sense and we cannot use the park as a result. A fence along Condamine street would make the park more inclusive for all types of families and people with pets.</p> <p>The proposed inclusion of a hedge along Condamine St would also mean that a fence would not significantly alter the aesthetics of the park.</p> 
106		<p>Hello!</p> <p>I've lived in the area for 34 years. I spent many childhood afternoons playing at North Harbour (even before there was a playground!) and now, as an adult, I walk my dog there everyday. All of which to say, North Harbour is a very special place for both myself and my family.</p>

		<p>Admittedly, I haven't closely looked at the upgrade plan (although honestly anything would be good), but for me, it seems clear that more than anything, we need more shade.</p> <p>We are so incredibly lucky to have those 2 beautiful trees sitting side by side, could we plant another? Obviously not something to be enjoyed in the short term, but just one more would mean so many more birthday parties, picnics, gatherings etc.</p> <p>More generally, the more trees, the better. Folks stake out space under those two trees from 8am for their kids' birthday parties, because they provide the only shade in the wider park (of course, the benches close to the playground are wonderful, but they're mostly taken as well during the spring and summer months).</p> <p>OK that's it, thank you!</p>
107	The draft concept plan appears to cover useful upgrades to North Harbour Reserve.	Area 3 - path and stairs at the northern end linking the reserve with the King Avenue culdesac. The scenic walkway is often very busy in this area so widening the pathway and stairs will allow more room for two-way walking traffic
108	<p>Dedicated area for dogs - currently dogs are offleash and the amount of residual dog excrement is a disgrace. Any local family with young kids would be able to confirm dog excrement is an ongoing issue.</p> <p>Dogs off leash also an annoyance if public are using grassy areas or picnicing.</p>	As above- dedicated areas for dogs and balance of park dog free/dogs on a leash.
109	<p>Can there be some low level down lights near the steps on the north side? Or repaint edges of stairs.</p> <p>With global warming, sea level rise and the fact that this is reclaimed land will the Seawall need to be increased in height?</p>	Traffic and pedestrian safety is a priority.
110	The changes are great, however as a mother of a newborn & toddler I find the access from the park to Beach Lane car park very hard to manoeuvre with a pram. The footpath ends and becomes grass where the cars are parked and	New Playground, filtered water station & picnic facilities.

	there is no kerb ramp there either. So to get down from the footpath to the road it is hard with a pram (or wheelchair). I would suggest continuing the footpath along all the car park and have a ramp at some point	
111	<i>No further comments provided</i>	
112	In addition to comments I have already made. Could you make a provision for a gazebo type structure for all weather purposes. This will allow some protection if the rain suddenly turns.	
113	I would like to see the dog park be fenced for the safety of the dogs and reserve users. I cannot let my dog off the leash at present as I am afraid she will run on to the busy road. The fence would also stop dogs annoying people having a picnic both by scrounging for food and scaring young children who may be afraid of dogs. It would be remiss not to include the fence while this upgrade is being undertaken.	The pedestrian crossing
114	Please add more basketball hoops!	
115	A fence along the road for safety purposes :)	the fence :)
116	I do not agree with these plans as they restrict 25 plus parking spaces that currently exist in the parking area across the road to 17 or less. Also there has been no call for additional disabled parking spaces and these would be better off in the provision of additional parking spaces in the current traffic quieting system that directly adjoins the park. It would be better to leave the current parking across from the park as an organic self park system.	As above
117	I do not agree with these plans as they restrict 25 plus parking spaces that currently exist in the parking area across the road to 17 or less. Also there has been no call for additional disabled parking spaces and these would be better off in the provision of additional parking spaces in the current traffic quieting system that directly adjoins the park. It would be better to leave the current parking across from the park as an organic self park system.	

118	<p>I do not agree with these plans as they restrict 25 plus parking spaces that currently exist in the parking area across the road to 17 or less. Also there has been no call for additional disabled parking spaces and these would be better off in the provision of additional parking spaces in the current traffic quieting system that directly adjoins the park.</p> <p>It would be better to leave the current parking across from the park as an organic self park system.</p>	As above
119	<p>I do not agree with these plans as they restrict 25 plus parking spaces that currently exist in the parking area across the road to 17 or less. Also there has been no call for additional disabled parking spaces and these would be better off in the provision of additional parking spaces in the current traffic quieting system that directly adjoins the park.</p> <p>It would be better to leave the current parking across from the park as an organic self park system.</p>	As above
120	<p>I do not agree with these plans as they restrict 25 plus parking spaces that currently exist in the parking area across the road to 17 or less. Also there has been no call for additional disabled parking spaces and these would be better off in the provision of additional parking spaces in the current traffic quieting system that directly adjoins the park.</p> <p>It would be better to leave the current parking across from the park as an organic self park system.</p>	As above
121	<p>I do not agree with these plans as they restrict 25 plus parking spaces that currently exist in the parking area across the road to 17 or less. Also there has been no call for additional disabled parking spaces and these would be better off in the provision of additional parking spaces in the current traffic quieting system that directly adjoins the park.</p> <p>It would be better to leave the current parking across from the park as an organic self park system.</p>	As above
122	<p>I do not agree with these plans as they restrict 25 plus parking spaces that currently exist in the parking area across the road to 17 or less. Also there has been no call for additional disabled parking spaces and these would be better off in the provision of additional parking</p>	As above

	spaces in the current traffic quieting system that directly adjoins the park. It would be better to leave the current parking across from the park as an organic self park system.	
123	I do not agree with these plans as they restrict 25 plus parking spaces that currently exist in the parking area across the road to 17 or less. Also there has been no call for additional disabled parking spaces and these would be better off in the provision of additional parking spaces in the current traffic quieting system that directly adjoins the park. It would be better to leave the current parking across from the park as an organic self park system.	As above
124	1.WE NEED TO CATER FOR OLDER CHILDREN (5-12 YEARS) WITHIN THE PLAYGROUND AREA. 2. FOR SAFETY AND SECURITY REASON THERE NEEDS TO BE ADEQUATE LIGHTING ALONG THE WATERS EDGE (NORTH TO SOUTH) OF THE RESERVE. ESPECIALLY AS IT IS PART OF THE MANLY SCENIC WALKWAY	THE PLAYGROUND AREA LIGHTING ALONG THE WATERS EDGE IMPROVEMENTS TO THE BBQ AREA (MORE SEATING AND MORE BBQ'S) A CYCLE PATH AROUND THE RESERVE
125	2. INSTALL ADEQUATE LIGHTING AT THE WATERS EDGE (SAFETY REASONS) 3. UPGRADE THE PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT TO CATER FOR OLDER CHILDREN 5-12 YRS - MAYBE A SEPARATE PLAYGROUND AREA 4. INSTALL A CYCLE TRACK AROUND THE RESERVE 5. INSTALL MORE SEATING ALONG THE WATERS EDGE 6. IMPROVE THE GARBAGE COLLECTION AREA AND MORE BBQ'S ARE NEEDED	AS ABOVE
126	Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the North Harbour Reserve Landscape Improvements Plan. The design objectives, as stated below, are fully supported. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvements aim to conserve and enhance the reserves open space landscape character, highly valued for its environmental, heritage, social and scenic qualities; • Address pedestrian safety and provide be 	It is requested that Council do more to actively promote responsible dog-owner behaviour, to address the ongoing problem of uncollected dog faces left in the reserve itself, and on the pavement and bushland of the Manly Scenic Walkway between North Harbour Reserve and Forty Basket's Beach.
127	Firstly, I would like to congratulate [REDACTED] for the effort and wonderful plans for the Reserve.	The document mentions that stairs on northern side are to be widened as are the stairs near the toilets, however the

	<p>Area 1. Proposed footpath 1.5 m wide should finish on northern side of one way entry road to carpark. To maintain soft/informal look, maintain the green lawn area on southern side of entry to car park. If cement path there, cars will treat it as parking area!!</p> <p>Believe only one disabled park required as car park extremely busy on weekends,</p> <p>Drainage of car park a real problem in heavy rain as street drains always block, water lays right across road which is very dangerous as cars skid. Blockage caused by fallen leaves from big deciduous trees into drain and compacted.</p> <p>Terrible dust problem in car park particularly in summer or any windy weather Eg 23 August 2020.</p> <p>Area 2. Bins at no 3 need to remain and not be moved as parents have picnics with kids in playground then after eating and drinking, kids need to go to toilet, so parents pick up rubbish and put in bin on way to toilets or on e icing the park. Bins also used by coffee shop customers on way to park.</p> <p>Bins at No 7 will be a total eyesore. Bins currently in inconspicuous places , not visible from road however place them near entrance to playground and will be highly visible from road.</p> <p>The straight path has always been controversial due to spoiling the aesthetics of the park and it's mentioned in document that the pathway needs to be softened. Why add ugly, dirty, highly visible bins to the centre of the panoramic view.</p> <p>Currently there is a drainage problem with the path. When it rains, the water drains from higher up, travelling along the western playground fence depositing mud and dirt on the pathway.</p>	<p>stairs on southern side, are not mentioned for widening. Those stairs were And still are, a real problem during this Covid period particularly as the stairs are extremely heavily used by joggers and people on Spit to Manly walk. They are so narrow and with the bend, you get half way up, and a jogger or people with dogs, rushes down, catching you half way up and there's no where to stand aside.</p>
128	<p>It is pleasing to see the NBC looking to upgrade North Harbour reserve. That said, as a frequent user of the park with my family, I couldn't help but feel underwhelmed by the suggested changes. Yes, these are good but so much more could be done! The reserve has tremendous potential and is incredibly popular with locals and visitors alike. From casual coffee catch ups to birthday celebrations, this park could offer so much more to everyone.</p>	<p>At a high level, I feel the plan only partially meets the objectives put forward.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It suggests some landscape improvements but these are mostly focussed on the southern end of the park and the stairs at the Northern end- leaving a large proportion of the park unaddressed. - It barely enhances the character of the space and fails to maximise its potential. - While it makes some improvements from a connectivity and accessibility perspective, it heavily neglects the

		<p>Northern side of the park and the foreshore.</p> <p>- The amenity of the facilities is not improved for a diverse range of users. The plan pretty much maintains the status quo that favours dog owners, walkers and joggers.</p> <p>For context: We are a young family and don't own a dog. At least one of us goes to this park almost daily, by any type of weather. We cross it, starting from the Northern side of the park before returning on our steps (time allowing, we walk to Forty Baskets and back). Our son is an avid user of the playground and we also use the park as the starting point of our family kayaks adventures. We have organised picnics and catch up with family and friends at the park. I think it's safe to say we know the reserve back to front!</p> <p>What I feel is missing from the plan is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. increased vegetation and shade (and at the same time, improved visual amenity) 2. improved footpath along the shoreline and seating 3. better connection between the northern side of the park and the rest of the space 4. better use of the space in front of childcare (former lawn bowling space?) 5. widen northern entry stairs access or consider going through the adjacent bush 6. improved seating plans 7. the need to reconsider if the whole space (aside from the small playground) really needs to be off leash for dogs 8. a kayak storage facility (run by Council) <p>1. increased vegetation and shade (and at the same time, improved visual amenity): I understand that not everyone would want their views blocked and I'm not suggesting planting out the whole park with large trees. That said, I invite Council staff and Councillors to try to find a shady spot for a picnic in summer on the weekend... It's near mission impossible!</p>
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		<p>In a country like Australia, it defies any logic that such a large park doesn't offer more shaded space.</p> <p>2. Improved footpath along the shoreline and seating: why Manly Council didn't make this path wider when they upgraded it is a mystery: you only need taking a look at the killed grass all along the footpath to realise it's necessary. And if you are the unfortunate person walking along the rocks, it's not uncommon getting nearly pushed onto them by joggers and 'power walkers'. With social distancing, it's even more important that this path is widened. A few more benches would be nice too!</p> <p>3. better connection between the northern side of the park and the rest of the space: I fail to see how the Northern side of the park is in any way better connected with the rest. As per now, you have to trek 'cross country' across the park to access the Southern side which has most of the facilities.</p> <p>4. better use of the space in front of childcare (former lawn bowling space?): it's well defined space that has no purpose. Why not put some landscaping to make it more attractive and connect it better with the rest of the park?</p> <p>5. widen northern entry stairs access or consider going through the adjacent bush: it's not clear if the plan actually suggests widening it aside from near that platform. If it doesn't, then it definitely should. It's far too narrow which makes it dangerous when you 'compete' against joggers and dog owners. You literally get pushed of the way or risk tripping over the dogs. Social distancing is totally impossible. If the stairs can't be widened, I suggest you consider going through the adjacent bush: people do anyway!</p> <p>6. improved seating plans: it's good to see a few more seats but as noted, it would be good to see a few more along</p>
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		<p>the shoreline and also rethink where the suggested seats are. Putting a picnic table under a fig tree seems a pretty bad idea (it'll be covered in fruit and bats' poo!)</p> <p>7. the need to reconsider if the 'whole' space really needs to be off leash for dogs: I don't have anything against dog but having been to the park on regular occasions with babies and young kids, I can tell you, it's not nice to be harassed (and sometimes terrorised) by dogs which are let roaming free by owners who barely keep an eye on them. Mothers Groups with babies sitting on the ground? Be prepared to have dogs coming right in the middle of the group, scaring the bubs: Picnic? Each time we have had dogs sniffing all over our food. Playing ball with the kids? Twice they ended up taken away and punctured by large dogs who thought it was a game. I also saw local wildlife such as bush turkey being attacked. What if it had been a young child as opposed to birds? I feel there needs to be some parts of the park (and not just the SMALL playground) where people who wishes to don't have to deal with off leash dogs.</p> <p>8. a kayak storage facility (run by Council): this is very much because of our personal interest but it would be so good not to have to carry the kayak on the car, then have to park, take it off the car and have to carry it across the entire park... All kayak owners would tell you that! Again, I'm not suggesting taking over all the space but a dozen (?) spots with racks close to the foreshore or even near the toilets would be fantastic (and a source of revenue for Council).</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to comment, I look forward to seeing the (hopefully) revised plan.</p>
129	There is poor connectivity between northern and southern sides of the reserve, other than via the foreshore path. Entering from the north, you basically skirt the boundary and walk to the	<p>Plantings - reduce lawn areas but maintain sight lines</p> <p>Paths - connectivity and access, widen foreshore path due to high pedestrian</p>

	<p>southern exit point, before a path invites you to turn right into the park proper.</p> <p>Part of the problem is that there is an imbalance between flat open space/lawn and other landscape features and plantings. While implementation of the draft concept plan would improve the appearance of the lawn, it would also reinforce the mown grass monoculture and poor connectivity.</p> <p>I believe there is an opportunity to link both sides of the of the reserve by connecting Area 3 back to Areas 1 and 2. The informal bush track from Boyle St could be upgraded and the regeneration of the area enhanced as part of a link to the Manly-Spit Walk. This would provide better access to Area 3 facilities from both Boyle and Condamine Sts, which may be otherwise be under-utilised.</p> <p>I think the bigger part of the problem is that the reserve is treated as a thoroughfare for anyone on the Manly-Spit Walk and a platform that others use to take in the view of North Harbour. It will always be a beautiful spot highly valued by locals, but it could be so much more if the park itself (landscaping) did more to hold your interest rather than just give a view of somewhere else.</p>	<p>traffic</p> <p>Seating - viewing along foreshore</p>
Verbal comment	<p>During an informal meeting with a community member, comments were made about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for recognition of historical significance of North Harbour and the creation/development of the reserve; information on existing heritage plaque verified by the Manly Warringah Historical Society. Further liaison with MWHS on heritage proposals eg: moving plaque, interpretive signage/artwork etc. • Additional seating along waterfront; • Planting additional shade trees • Erosion of northern bushland embankment through informal walking tracks • Sensitive design of any new access ramp/structures • Restoring existing stone access steps from northern embankment to reserve 	

No.	Comments received via Email
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130	<p>██████████</p> <p>We live on Condamine Street ██████████ from North Harbour Reserve.</p> <p>I have just made a submission about the proposed changes, we believe installing a fence around the park to make it safe and secure for all park users, particularly for young children and dogs, would be a very important addition and very welcomed by the community. We believe this feature is particularly important due to the park being situated on such a busy street.</p> <p>We were also wondering when the proposed developments are due to take place?</p> <p>██████████</p> <p>██████████</p> <p>██████████</p>
131	<p>Dear Northern Beachers Council,</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the North Harbour Reserve Landscape Improvements Plan.</p> <p>The design objectives, as stated below, are fully supported.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvements aim to conserve and enhance the reserves open space landscape character, highly valued for its environmental, heritage, social and scenic qualities; • Address pedestrian safety and provide better connectivity and accessibility to and within the reserve for park users and pedestrians along the popular Manly Scenic Walkway; • Improve the amenity and management of existing facilities that cater for the diverse range of active and passive recreation activities in this dog friendly reserve such as picnicking, walking, informal sport / fitness, children's play etc; • To protect and enhance the site's bushland areas and sandstone rock outcrop <p>It addition, it is requested that Council give consideration to incorporating additional water quality improvement features within Area 1 (to the west of Condamine Street), to reduce the pollution load entering Sydney Harbour from the upstream stormwater runoff. This could be achieved by the addition of a landscaped "rain garden" within the north western corner this area, with all low-flow water diverted from the current piped drainage system.</p> <p>It is also requested that Council do more to actively promote responsible dog-owner behaviour, to address the ongoing problem of uncollected dog faces left in the reserve itself, and on the pavement and bushland of the Manly Scenic Walkway between North Harbour Reserve and Forty Basket's Beach.</p> <p>Recent US studies of impacts on water quality at swimming beachers have found that dog faces can contribute the bulk of the total enterococci load, whereas humans, birds, and shrimp contributed a much smaller amount.</p> <p>(Source: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2771205/)</p> <p>While the vast majority of dog-owners are responsible, and consistently do the right thing, there is a very small minority who allow their dogs to roam off-leash on the Manly Scenic Walk Way and at</p>

	<p>Forty Baskets Beach, with the result that uncollected dog faeces is frequently encountered at these locations.</p> <p>Council is urged to address this significant health and safety concern by promoting responsible dog-owner behaviour through the use of additional signage. Suggest locations and wording for this signage are shown on the attached illustrations.</p> <p>I would also like to commend Council on the high quality of the recent landscape improvements to Clontarf Reserve, Forty Baskets Reserve, and across the former Manly Council area generally – these improvements are very much appreciated.</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>
132	<p>A neighbour, [REDACTED], also not keen on placement of new bins, moved bin from inconspicuous southern side, east of playground to visualise bins in centre of park. Highly visible.</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>
133	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>I was looking at your excellent 'Have your say' site on the council website and looking particularly at the proposal to upgrade the North Harbour Reserve.</p> <p>While the proposal is generally a good one I note that one of the objectives outlined on the front was to improve accessibility.</p> <p>It seems as if that was just words as little was done that improves accessibility beyond moving the two disabled parking spaces.</p> <p>What would have been worthwhile would be some form of landscaped ramp to allow wheelchair access from the Manly Scenic Walkway instead of several lots of steps.</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>PS Another thing that would be really good for the disabled and mobility impaired would be some form of advisory group to have input on a regular basis for all such plans and proposals. E.</p>
134	<p>We have lived in this area since 1981. Our children have grown up in this area and our grandchildren. The North Harbour playground has been sorely missed when it comes to planning and we welcome new ideas. For children over 7 the playground needs to incorporate the "rocks" area, and a bridge, bike path to learn with trainer wheels etc. Otherwise the equipment offered atm is not sufficient for them to extend and to play on and be active. Mothers with babies are "inside" the gated playground (which is needed to keep dogs off kids picnic mats, food etc), are you extending this fence line? The older kids (7 plus) want to extend themselves with play equipment as their isn't anything suitable, they end up on the rocks, (which is not safe) or on the basketball court etc.</p> <p>A brick wall would also be good for tennis, either next to the basketball court using same synthetic grass; or maybe at the other end of it.</p>

	<p>The only bike track safe for children is Manly Vale opp Mackellar HS. It would be wonderful to have a bike track around the Reserve. Undercover areas like Clontarf with seating and BBQs. LIGHTING; PLEASE ...For safety and people walking along the Scenic walkway once you are at North Harbour Reserve it is dreadfully dark... No Lights at all!! the path along the water, then up steps, (area 2) and to the bridge which comes out to Gourlay Ave. It is in total darkness and very unsavoury for anyone to walking home at night. We feel we can't walk their ourselves at all, at night; let alone younger children or teenage children .</p> <p>It seems like an open invitation to get molested/ mugged or worse around all this area.</p>
135	<p>NHCG Response</p> <p>Refer below</p>



**Response by the North Harbour Community Group
to the Northern Beaches Council
North Harbour Reserve Landscape Improvement Plans.**

1. Overview and Objectives

This document is a consolidated response by members of NHCG community group to the proposed NBC's North Harbour Reserve Landscape Improvement Plan as a consequence of workshops with residents, emails, and park visits.

The North Harbour Reserve Improvements Plan represents the culmination of a joint community and NBC consultation process which began in April 2018 as the result of a Community Plan of Action Submission to NBC aimed at addressing the neglected North Harbour Reserve, its car parks and access points. Over two years many meetings have been held between NBC's Executive Manager Assets, Jeremy Smith, and Senior Landscape Architect, Lia Skoutznos, in response to our submission. In addition, and ongoingly, meetings have been held with Scot Hedge, in charge of Park Maintenance, and various NBC tree and stormwater experts.

We thank NBC staff and our committed NHR Working Group as well as other passionate and interested residents for their enthusiastic and thoughtful input to this submission.

We are mindful that this Plan is the third landscape plan seen by many residents. Works were implemented which were not in those Plans, and without community consultation, such as the fencing around the playground and the straight, unimaginative access path from Condamine St to the eastern side of the Reserve. We hope that this final Plan now informs all short- and long-term actions undertaken by various NBC departments and that NBC should agree not undertake works that are not in the Landscape Improvements Plan without firstly consulting the community.

Response by North Harbour Community Group to NBC North Harbour Landscape Improvement Plans Dated 23 August 2020 1

2 Outcome of the Review by the Community

In general, we are very pleased with the proposed Improvements Plan and the incorporation of our feedback in iterations during the design development, and the manner in which all stakeholders have enthusiastically embraced the development process.

Whilst the design objectives are differently expressed by both parties, the objectives set out in our May 2018 Submission have been achieved and the guiding principles and scope adhered to, which included the reserve, car parks in Lower Beach Street and Condamine Street and all access points including the important Manly to Spit, Palm Beach to Bondi Walk.

Both NBC and NHCG strongly agree on the preservation of the openness of the reserve, the preservation of the panoramic view of North Harbour, the maintenance of the recreational public open space character of the reserve, and a light touch recommended to the upgrade of parks facilities which are to be undertaken in a way that has a cohesive look and feel whilst bringing to the fore the park's significant historic background, which has largely been hidden under a tree, both figuratively and physically.

3. Priorities of the Community

Priority 1: Both NBC and the Community strongly agree that the surface of the reserve needs significant investment in terms of new irrigation, stormwater management and revitalised turf, especially the turf on the eastern half of the reserve is the top priority. It will require a large capital outlay. Given consideration of all the other capital investment priorities across the peninsula, NBC have scheduled this upgrade for the 2021/22 budget period.

Priority 2: The second priority, supported by both major stakeholders are improvements to the car park areas, especially the addition of disability parking off the western side of Condamine St, the formalisation of the layout of the car park, the one way traffic flow and new surface treatment, as well as the resurfacing of Lower Beach Street with an improved parking layout. However stormwater mitigation from water flowing over the GPT and the gully at the rear of the car park will need to be addressed first.

Low Cost Short Term Actions: In this document we recommend short, low cost actions that can be implemented within the existing maintenance and /or small capital works annual 2020/21 budget. These address safety issues as we see them, plus a number of small actions that would tidy up the reserve in line with the bigger picture improvement plan.

It is recommended we meet with NBC after the final Landscape Improvement Plan has been approved to determine what is doable within the next one to two years whilst awaiting the major capital works program to improve the surface of NH Reserve and car park.

4. The Plan's Objectives

NBC plans have addressed all NHCG objectives.

However, whilst the important heritage aspects of the reserve such as the relocation of the historic Captain Phillip landing monument to a more public viewing area has been

Response by North Harbour Community Group to NBC North Harbour Landscape Improvement Plans Dated 23 August 2020

addressed, other heritage highlights pertaining to the development of North Harbour village and Jenkins House and Road need further elaboration in the detailed design and signage.

NHCG Objectives	NBC Design Objectives	Difference between NBC and NHCG
Enhance amenities within the Reserve, ensuring the Reserve is socially inclusive of all age groups.	Provide planning and design direction for implementing landscape improvements to existing park facilities that benefit the social and recreational needs of the community;	Nil
<p>Preserve the essential public open space character of North Harbour Reserve</p> <p>Principle: Maintains the beauty and integrity of the park as passive open space</p> <p>Enhance amenities within the Reserve, ensuring the Reserve is socially inclusive of all age groups.</p> <p>Principle: provides flexibility of open space for passive recreational activities</p>	Improve the amenity and management of existing park facilities that cater for the diverse range of active and passive recreation activities in this dog friendly reserve such as picnicking, walking, informal sport / fitness, children's play etc	Nil
<p>Our Principles also included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessibility • Public safety 	Address pedestrian safety and provide better connectivity and accessibility to and within the reserve for park users and pedestrians along the popular Manly Scenic Walkway;	Nil
Remediate the Reserve in an environmentally responsible manner in the short term and for the longer term sustainability of the Reserve.	To protect and enhance the site's bushland areas and sandstone rock outcrops.	Nil
Short term: Relocate the heritage monument from	Heritage not articulated in design objectives	Partly met.

Response by North Harbour Community Group to NBC North Harbour Landscape Improvement Plans Dated 23 August 2020

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<p>southern end of King Avenue to the main entrance of the Reserve at the western entrance on Condamine Street.</p> <p>Long term: Erect a heritage sign that highlights the historical significance and aboriginal settlement of the area next to the relocated monument.</p> <p>Erect a heritage sign somewhere in the vicinity of the shop in Lower Beach Street highlighting the historical significance of the area which would include Jenkins house</p>		<p>Relocation of heritage monument to the base of the King Street steps on the Manly to Spit walk provides greater prominence and interest to visitors and the community.</p> <p>It is assumed that the erection of heritage signs and information on area to be part of detailed design plans.</p>
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5 Community Feedback by Area

5.1 Area 1: Car Park Condamine St

General

The formalisation of this car park is welcomed. Greater use of planting, one way traffic flow system with a bitumen surface, complemented by permeable surface treatment of car spaces to visually soften and enhance the area, and the addition of disability parking and better signage to deter overnight visitors and boat storage, is greatly supported.

However, this suggested makeover is at risk unless the stormwater run off from the gully off Jackson St is addressed first. Whilst the newly constructed GPT is designed to trap the waste before entering North Harbour, lots of water still rushes over the trap wall, down into the car park and across onto Condamine St. Stormwater management expertise is required to determine how this run off can be contained/mitigated or managed so as not to damage the surface and proposed enhancements.

A detailed survey of the area needs to be undertaken to identify precisely the boundaries. No 6 Jackson St residence has an area right next to 149 Condamine St which it needs access to for parking of a trailer. This will also provide the limits on the numbers of car spots.

NBC Concept Design Features by point	NHCG Feedback Agree	Suggestions/comments

Response by North Harbour Community Group to NBC North Harbour Landscape Improvement Plans Dated 23 August 2020

1. Widen existing pedestrian pram ramps, proposed footpath (1.5m wide) to western reserve frontage and widen existing footpath (2.0m wide) to eastern frontage for pedestrian safety and better accessibility;	Agree	Consider a 2 m wide pram ramps (not 1.5m) as parents with several children plus dog cross together and need wider access.
2 Formalise existing carpark area with separate entry and exit points; one-way sealed access road;	Agree	
Other		Drainage in the car park and Condamine St is an issue. Water originates uphill from the trash rack to the west of boundary. NHCG suggests a special meeting be called with the NBC storm water specialists to determine the origins and paths of all storm water that goes into this car park area, North Harbour Reserve and North Harbour and how it can be managed/mitigated.
3 17 No. parking spaces & 2 No. Accessible car spots. Consider permeable surface treatment.	Agree with permeable surface treatment for car spaces which would visually soften the area and make it look more natural and in harmony with the surrounds.	Only have one accessible car spot. Given there is approximately space for only 17 car spots, 2 accessible spots as a ratio of 17 appears very generous. If the area was to remain informal more cars could be accommodated. Therefore to get more cars into the space we recommend only one accessible car spot. However there may be regulations that need to be considered that we are not aware of.
4 Proposed garden areas for softening and capturing stormwater run off	Agree	

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	plus additional tree planting. Low hedge planting to reserve frontage		
5	Implement minor landscape works to existing local pedestrian link through drainage reserve to Jackson St including safety hazard signage, sandstone treads and steps, handrails where required	Agree. This largely has been dealt with in the GPT works.	
6	Eastern Reserve Frontage Provide central feature paved park entry to reserve including gateway signage for park identification, heritage, wayfinding, regulatory information) sandstone flagging and timber bollard landscape treatment.	Agree	One caveat -the signage to be sympathetic to the low key environment of the reserve so as not to invade the ambience of the park. The signage to be discreet. We want to avoid signage clutter in particular one message per post which seems to be commonplace.
7	Proposed hedge plantings eastern reserve frontage with Murraya and provide a barrier to the road to be maintained at 1 m height; buxus adjacent amenities to frame ramp and to be maintained at 0.6 m height.	Agree	A suggestion (only one) was made to have native hedges. Recommendations from the NBC horticulturalist would need to be sought on the appropriate species for this purpose if it was considered. However, we also note that the use of Murraya is in keeping with the existing hedges in the park. Consequently, the proposed Murraya hedge would provide cohesion to the design and linkages to other hedges.

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8	Proposed backed seat in keeping with recently installed seats under trees	Agree	
	Other		<p>From the plans it would appear that the footpath is to be extended from 149 Condamine St to 147 Condamine St. The footpath cuts across a nice area of green grass, one of very few, (difficult to grow in this area) and it is suggested that this be terminated at the northern entrance of the car park area and leave the grassed area untouched next to 147 Condamine St</p> <p>Clarify location of proposed footpath along western side of Condamine street</p>
	Other		Regulatory parking signage in the car park needs to address overnight camping and parking of trailers and boats.

5.2 Area 2 : Southern side of NH Reserve

This is the most heavily used area of the Reserve so widening of paths, more seating, the inclusion of the play area onto the rock face for various age groups and drinking fountains are strongly supported.

NBC Concept Design Features by point	NHCG Feedback Agree	Suggestions/comments
1. Provide widened feature paved threshold to existing pathway entry to North Harbour Reserve open space including sandstone flagging, timber bollard, feature garden landscape treatment;	Strongly agree. This softens the very hard straight path that leads past the play area.	
2 Proposed hedge planting to delineate park frontage, provide barrier to road and soften amenities building	Strongly agree as the lack of a barrier/deterre	

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and ramp with Buxus species, to be maintained at 0.6m high;	nt to little kids and dogs running onto busy Condamine St poses a very great safety risk.	
<p>3 Widen pedestrian ramp access, new repositioned bike parking, bin and drinking fountain facilities;</p> <p>- Widen existing access stairs (2.0m wide) with new handrail, sandstone block edging and repositioned seat;</p>	<p>Partly agree.</p> <p>Agree</p>	<p>Remove current bike racks and do not replace. These racks have never been used. NH Reserve is not a bike destination point.</p> <p>The design shows the new bins to be placed at the entrance to the playground -point 8.-As we are trying to preserve the lovely open panoramic view of the reserve, the location of the bins at point 8 would blight the view. After further discussions with residents, it is now suggested that the bins stay in their current location at Point 3 for functional and visually aesthetic reasons. Here they are accessible to people using the amenities block in particular, playground, picnic areas and café.</p> <p>The bins should have a concrete apron to prevent wear and tear of surfaces.</p>
1 Proposed feature paved gathering space (sandstone flagging/coloured concrete) adjacent playground entry.	Partly agree	We suggest the community notice board be placed in a more prominent position on the northern side of the

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Upgrade and reposition community notice board and way-finding signage;		<p>playground, just on the eastern edge of the proposed native planting tree. Most local residents, especially those with children, use this pathway and a notice board placed here is likely to attract more attention.</p> <p>Review the location and type of drinking fountain required. As NH Reserve is an off-leash dog park, drinking facilities with dog bowl, would be much appreciated, similar to that found on Marine Parade in Manly near the ocean pool.</p>
2 Replace and reposition existing picnic tables under fig tree;	<p>Agree. It would improve the visual amenity to have a cohesive look to park furniture that tables are located on coloured concrete oval pads.</p> <p>The location of the table is good as parents use it whilst supervising children in the playground.</p>	Low priority
<p>3 Proposed sandstone blocked edging to existing native garden area;</p> <p>Additional native garden beds to surrounds of accessible ramp & embankment area adjacent stair</p>	Agree	

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access;		
7 Upgrade existing access pathways 2m to foreshore with coloured concrete	Agree	
8 Larger paved threshold to highlight playground entry from reserve, new bin station set into existing fence line	Partly agree: Disagree with recommended new bin location	Bin location to remain as is.
9 Realign pathway from playground to foreshore	Agree	
10 Large feature sandstone sitting rocks set in synthetic turf area.	Agree	
11 Feature curved bench seats, parlour elements, timber stage set in rubber surfacing	Agree	
12 Nature based play area inspired by local fauna with ramped access, mulch softfall and sandstone seat surrounds	Agree	
13 Play equipment offering climbing timber and rope elements for various ages and abilities; sensory play with timber musical elements, carved totem poles and sandstone art	Agree	
14 Reconfigure and upgrade existing picnic facilities including new table settings, backed seats, accessible BBQ- double hot plate-, bin station , sandstone seat walling	Agree	Make table at 14 a long table to accommodate larger groups
15 Manly Scenic Walkway Southern Entry New handrail and minor repair work to existing stair access. Upgrade existing storm water pit to ensure	Partly agree	It is assumed this suggestion includes low tide access to the sandflats and the alternate route around the rocks. Handrails and repair work

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capture of water run-off from roadway.		<p>should be done sooner rather than later as it is a safety issue.</p> <p>In line with widening stair access from King St to 2 meters and Condamine St access to 2 m,, the stairs from the eastern end of Lower Beach Street should be similarly widened for safety and easier access. Many kayakers and paddle boarders park in Lower Beach and use the stairs to access the water carrying their craft. It is very difficult to pass on the stairs given the volume of walkers now using the walkway and consequently wider, safer access is needed</p>
16 Reposition existing seat for views	Agree	
17 Install new drinking fountain at path junction	Agree	This should be a refill station.
18 Proposed native shade tree plantings within the reserve	Agree	
Other		<p>There is significant drainage and ponding of water on the western side of the playground near the proposed new paved threshold to existing pathway and under the fig tree near 1 on Area 2 map. The water washes dirt and debris onto the path and ponding occurs which takes a long time to clear.</p> <p>This needs to be addressed by the stormwater experts before enhancements are made to this section of the</p>

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		Reserve.
	Condamine Street crossing	<p>Crossing Condamine St is like “dodging a bullet and that we request NBC consider zebra crossing at the pedestrian refuge.</p> <p>Whilst this issue has been previously raised over the years, it is worth revisiting the suggestion of a zebra crossing given there are number of changes that need to be made to traffic management of the car park.</p>

5.3 Area 3: Northern Section of NH Reserve

The relocation of the historical monument to a more prominent position at the base of the stairs with a native garden backdrop and sandstone flag paving, the widening of the stairs, and the reconfiguration of the picnic areas, bins and fountain are strongly supported.

NBC Concept Design Features by point	NHCG Feedback Agree	Suggestions/comments
<p>1 Manly Scenic Walkway Northern Entry</p> <p>Construct new widened coloured concrete entry and access path and fibre reinforced plastic stair access including viewing platform with curved seat for resting</p>	Partly agree	<p>The repositioning of the pathway from King Ave to the viewing platform is not necessary. The expenditure required for this change outweighs any benefit. It may look nicer but it is only a marginal improvement for the cost. The funds could be better applied elsewhere.</p> <p>We agree widened stairs would be very useful as one has to wait at either the top or bottom of the stairs for users to pass by. We suggest 2m wide stairs and path as these are heavily used by runners and walkers.</p>

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		The viewing platform is unnecessary as the view to the harbour is limited so it is suggested this be removed from the plan.
2	Reconfigure and upgrade existing picnic facilities including new table settings, BBQ (double hot plate) bin station and sandstone seat walling.	Agree New bin station to have apron to reduce wear and tear around the bin area.
3	Upgrade and relocate bubbler with dog drinking bowl to the edge of new garden area away from food preparation area	Agree
4	Proposed viewing/heritage interpretation space to recognise the site's significant history. To include sandstone flag paving and seat wall, relocating existing heritage plaque and plinth and incorporating interpretative signage	Agree
5	Undertake irrigation upgrade, minor works for addressing ponding and maintenance regime to aid upkeep of grassed areas	Agree
Other		This area is adjacent to an important bushcare site. Recommend placement of new signage about the bushcare site, and the importance of preserving our native bushland for our native plants and animals.

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6 Statement of Priorities

6.1 Long term with significant expenditure

- 1** New irrigation, stormwater management and new turf, especially for the eastern side of the Reserve
- 2** Area 1: car park formalisation

Both of these priorities are dependent on capital works funding. No 1 scheduled for 21/22 budget year. No 2 for 20/21 year to be confirmed. However, before planning for the car park is commenced, storm water management/drainage is required.

6.2 Short Term Actions – requiring moderate expenditure

These are safety issues and ideally it is requested they be addressed in the 20/21 budget year

- Area 1 – point 7- Proposed hedge to delineate park frontage on Condamine St
- Area 2 - point 2 Proposed hedge planting to delineate park frontage, provide barrier to road and soften amenities building and ramp with Buxus species, to be maintained at 0.6m high

Address poor bubbler location and resulting muddy area





6.3 Short term – tidying up the Reserve within the existing maintenance budget




- Remove out of date/unnecessary signs
- Remove old fencing and unused bike rack
- Reposition community notice board and seat on

Remove unused bike rack



<p>Is this sign a legal requirement?</p>	
<p>Remove the unsightly fencing on the western side of the old bowling green</p>	
<p>Remove personal trainer sign. No one polices it and little personal training is done at the Reserve.</p>	

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<p>Remove old sign on King Ave stairs</p>	
<p>Remove old bushcare sign</p>	
<p>Reposition bench to better viewing point on escarpment</p>	

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Reposition community notice board to north side of playground near native tree



7. Funding Opportunities

We understand there are funding a variety of funding sources (other than NBC) who could be approached to co-fund the implementation of some of the proposed works. For example, heritage funds could be approached given the historical significance of NH Reserve, or our State and Federal MPs could be approached for funds for infrastructure to widen the access points on the Manly to Spit Walkway.

NHCG have a wide range of experience in writing submissions/proposals and would be happy to assist NBC in this process.

8. Thank you to all our passionate park residents

[REDACTED]

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