
Community and Stakeholder Engagement Report

Commercial Centre Upgrade, Forestville

Impact level: Three

Report date: 25 June 2021

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1. Summary¹

This report outlines community and stakeholder engagement results from the public exhibition of the Commercial Centre Upgrade, Forestville.

The community consultation revealed that the majority of respondents were supportive of the proposed landscaping improvements to The Centre at Forestville.

Many comments, however, requested slight modifications to the design to generally improve access and minor design inclusions.

A key issue raised was relating to the width and length of the proposed garden beds restricting the outdoor dining space, which some believed may negatively impact restaurants and cafes.

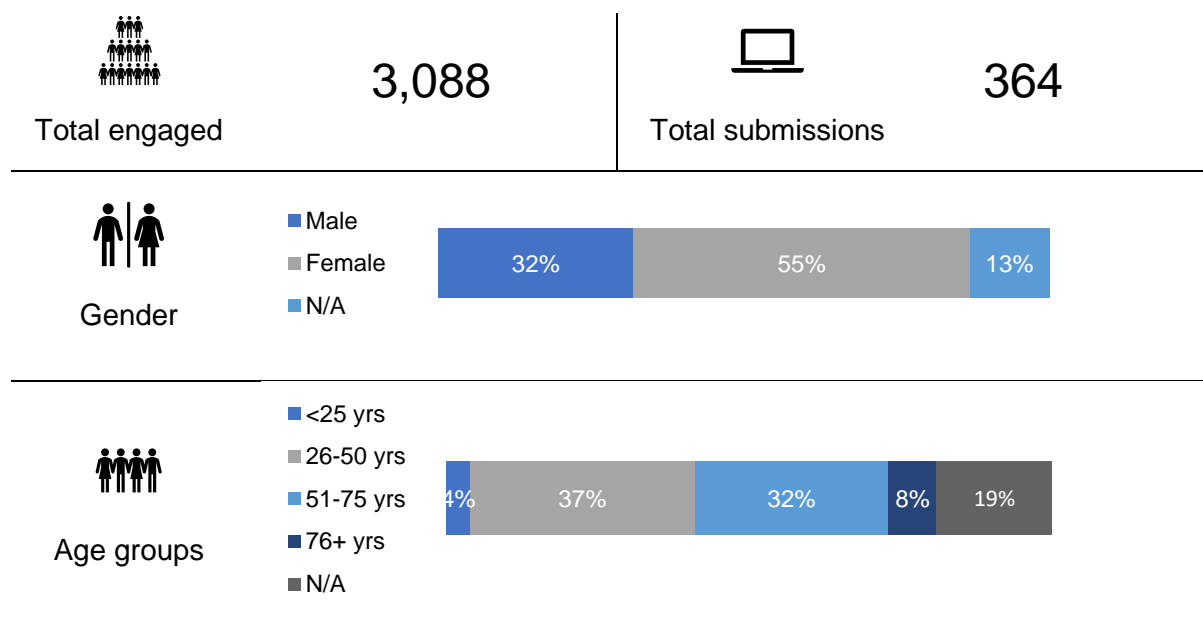
More seating was generally supported with some concern raised regarding design and placement of seats in the shopping precinct. There was a mixed response to the type of lighting proposed.

The proposal to investigate the construction of a permanent public amenities facility at a later date received considerable support.

1.1. Engagement date

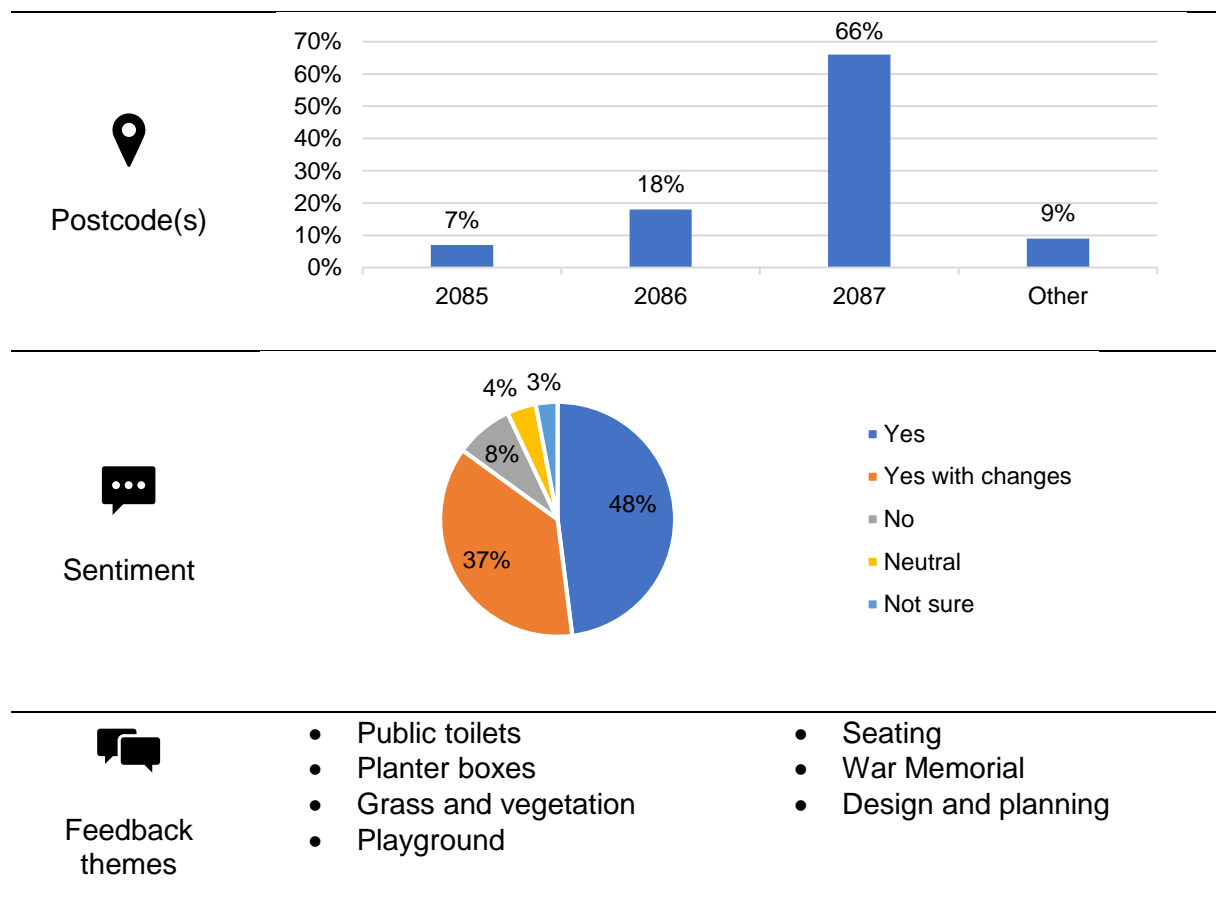
23 October to 23 November 2020

1.2. 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 in writing.



1.3. How we engaged

 Your Say	Visitors: 3088	Visits: 3537
 Print media and collateral	Site signs: Yes	Number: 4
 Electronic Direct Mail	Community Engagement newsletter: 3 Council eNews: 1	Distribution: 20,000 Distribution: 150,000
 Key stakeholder	Business meeting: 1	Attendance: 26

2. Background

A key part of making the Northern Beaches a liveable, vibrant and connected place is making our commercial centres attractive for business and visitors.

In May 2018 Council commissioned Placescore to survey 14 town/villages across our local government area, asking the community what they value most about their local village or commercial centre and how certain attributes such as cleanliness, maintenance, natural environment or night time economy were performing.

The results of the Placescore survey showed that the community's top two priorities for The Centre, Forestville were enhancement of the natural environment and maintenance of public spaces and street furniture in and around the shopping area.

Based on these outcomes, concept designs were developed to improve the landscaping within the shopping precinct, including new seating, lights, bins and bollards as well as widened garden beds and grass in the central meeting area.

3. Engagement objectives

- Build community and stakeholder awareness of participation activities (inform).
- Provide accessible information so community and stakeholders can participate in a meaningful way (inform).
- Identify community and stakeholder concerns, local knowledge and values (consult).
- Gauge local appetite for the construction of a permanent amenities block sometime in the future.

4. Engagement approach

The Commercial Centre upgrade, Forestville community engagement was planned, implemented and reported in accordance with Council's [Community Engagement Matrix](#) (2017).

Project information and an opportunity to provide feedback was included on the Council's Have Your Say project page. Behavioural economics principles guided the development of the online content to ensure clear and consistent information was provided to our community. A concept plan was used to support the page content.

Feedback was primarily collected through an online comment form with email and written responses also accepted.

To promote the engagement to visitors to the shopping area, signs were installed in prominent areas around the shops and a meeting with the local businesses was held on Wednesday 23 September 2020.

The project was also promoted through the Community Engagement Newsletter and Council eNews.

5. Findings

The vast majority (85 percent) of comments were supportive of the concept design to make landscaping improvements to The Centre at Forestville. Many comments spoke about The Centre being in desperate need of renewal and others thought that the proposed concept

didn't go far enough and they would like to see greater refurbishment of the shops and pedestrian area.

Some comments indicated that they would like slight modifications to the design such as reduced garden bed size, synthetic turf not natural turf and flexibility around seating spaces to ensure outdoor dining is accommodated.

There was a strong thread running through the comments of the desire to support local businesses and respondents wanted the landscape improvements to reflect this. A few of the comments regarding the proposed wider planter boxes were concerned that the size of the beds would narrow path width and impact on available outdoor dining space currently being utilised by local businesses.

More seating was generally supported, but there were numerous comments about the design and placement of seats in the shopping precinct.

There was a mixed response to the proposed pole and catenary lighting, with some responses indicating gentle lights would improve the atmosphere and dining ambience, while others felt the choice of lighting appeared cheap.

The proposal to investigate the construction of a permanent public amenities facility at a later date was supported by 86 percent of respondents.

The key themes from the comments are listed and summarised below.

Theme	What we heard	Response
Public toilets	<p>General support for building a permanent toilet block in the carpark sometime in the future, with many comments saying the construction of public toilets should be a priority and not delayed further.</p> <p>There were some comments that raised concerns about the impact on car parking spaces if a new amenity block was built in the carpark or that it is not necessary as the current Exeloo is adequate and there is an existing toilet in the Community Arts Centre.</p>	<p>Although out of scope for the current project, this feedback will be used to inform future engagement if the project progresses (subject to future grant funding).</p>
Seating	<p>Responses on the proposed seating were positive with many agreeing there is a need for more seating and commenting on the preferred design.</p> <p>Several comments suggested more outdoor dining in general, with separate tables and seats rather than integrating the seating with the planter boxes.</p> <p>Other comments wanted to see no change in the seating, with concerns that it may impede access or compete with the cafes' seating.</p>	<p>These comments will be considered in the design review.</p> <p>The static seats built in the garden beds are designed to be used for outdoor dining in some cases.</p>
Lighting	<p>There were mixed feelings about the lighting. A few comments thought that catenary lighting would add atmosphere</p>	<p>A lighting consultant is reviewing the specifications to ensure</p>

	and 'vibrancy' of the cafes while others felt the lights would look 'untidy' and 'cheap'. There were suggestions for coloured and LED lighting.	the lighting scheme is of high quality commercial grade to enhance night time activation.
Planter boxes Pedestrian Access/flow	<p>A considerable number of comments were about the size and position of the proposed widened planter boxes.</p> <p>While there was general support for planter boxes and increasing the greenery of the area, there were concerns that the increased size of the garden beds would impact pedestrian access and flow through the pedestrian zone.</p> <p>Other comments felt that larger garden beds would restrict the area for outdoor dining which would adversely affect the cafes and restaurants.</p>	The design will be reviewed following the feedback in order to achieve a balance between garden beds being large enough to accommodate tree growth and the need for space and access for pedestrian.
War Memorial	<p>Feedback indicated the need for more information regarding the plans for the existing war memorial.</p> <p>Whilst some respondents would like to retain the memorial, others feel that the space could be utilised for outdoor dining.</p> <p>Council also received a suggestion to relocate the memorial locally.</p>	To be considered in the design review and in consultation with the RSL.
Grass and vegetation	<p>The proposed new grassed area met with mixed responses in the comments.</p> <p>Many liked the concept of a grassed lawn area, however, several respondents felt that because of high pedestrian activity, the grass would not last and the area would turn into a 'dust bowl'. Other materials were suggested as alternatives, such as synthetic grass, paving or another non-reflective surface.</p> <p>Multiple comments questioned the choice of proposed and existing plant species in the garden beds, with suggestions for large shade trees, use of natives and inclusion of flowering plants.</p>	To be considered in design review.
Play equipment	The inclusion of children's play equipment or a small playground in the central gathering area.	There is insufficient space to accommodate this in the memorial area of The Centre. There is a playground at the Community Arts Centre.
Bins and bollards	The placement of rubbish bins was mentioned a few times in the comments.	Comments noted.

	<p>A couple of respondents would like seats outside the toyshop for waiting parents, rather than rubbish bins.</p> <p>A few comments thought that new bollards were a good idea as a safety barrier at the carpark, while one thought they could be an opportunity for public art.</p>	
Additional Facilities	A few respondents mentioned that they would like bike racks, dog tie up areas and a drinking fountain included in the design.	To be considered in design review and will be catered for.
Non-support (general themes)	<p>The reasons given for not supporting the proposal included that it was small scale and short sighted.</p> <p>Some felt the centre hadn't changed in years and the area needed major upgrades. Others thought it needed a wider urban planning approach, with a design made to meet the future needs of the area.</p> <p>A small number of respondents felt the proposal is a waste of money and the precinct didn't need upgrading.</p>	

Appendix: Submissions received (verbatim)*

No.	Comments
1	Too many rumours floating around about redesigning the Forestway site. I would like to hear wait before making a choice.
2	We have the library toilets which are maintained very well. If their usage hours are maintained or better, increased, then why duplicate for an inferior outcome
3	Great concept designs! Love the proposed improvements to community spaces. One detail I can't see are any additional spaces for securing bikes. I try to reduce use of our petrol car as much as possible by riding with my kids for short trips to the local village at The Centre. When I do ride bikes, there are very few spaces to secure our bikes. Can more bike racks be added so our bikes can be secured in front of relevant shops safely?
4	<p>The only change I would suggest is to the central square, which is shown in the plan as a lawn. It should contain a water feature, such as a pond with a fountain in the centre, as a refreshing, cooling device for this area which can be hot in summer, and containing comfortable seating; this could become a popular meeting place for gatherings, as well as to meet friends. Please also retain the war - and soldier settlement - memorial and flag post here as an important reminder of local history. A lawn here may not be very practical, but it is worth trying!</p> <p>Along the walkway, do not replace the existing trees or planter boxes - the arrangement works well, provides pleasant seating and shade, and the foliage is healthy and attractive. The pavers are perfectly suitable. I do not like the proposed new lighting - these random "fairy lights" look untidy. Perhaps a few extra lights on poles matching the existing ones would be helpful and contribute to a safe and attractive space for evening strollers. Otherwise, the Centre at Forestville is an excellent example of urban planning - I have been coming here for 23 years, I enjoy the space and its community feel every time, and it does not need any further updating, apart from my two suggestions, above.</p>
5	well over due project, particularly the toilets
6	<p>Hi... I think keeping the chinese tallowoods is a mistake... their roots will continue to destroy structures.... planters and paving as they are nowhere near being mature. The birds make a mess of them and the leaf and flower drop must be a maintenance nightmare.</p> <p>Havent read the detail completely but I hope the "lawn" is actually artificial grass as opposed to the real thing as it wont last 2 seconds with the wear and tear that this area of the centre strip gets.</p>
7	A permanent toilet block is a very high priority
8	The concept and the project sounds really good, but I don't think the garden beds need to be widened ,as it would make the pathway narrower. People with prams ,walkers or electric wheelchairs etc , would find it difficult passing people walking ,as a lot walk in groups and take up a lot of the pathway, as they move through the shopping center .The shopping center has a good feel about it, these improvements would make it even better.Thank you .
9	It would be very helpful to most shoppers but particularly to elderly people on rainy or hot sunny days if the roofing that is outside the shops from Darley Street to Mike Pawleys shop was extended through to Starkey Street.
10	See attachment 1

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

11	Wonderful idea, Forestville is beautiful suburb thanks for making it even better
12	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please retain the existing mature trees and provide some native plantings. 2. Provide some type of barrier in the garden beds as many dog owners tie their dogs to the trunks and the vegetation is damaged. More dog tie-up facilities would help (like those outside Coles) 3. New seating be of a material that does not become too hot to sit on; metal seats can get too hot on 30+ degree days. 4. Provide artful signage in the mall to the Forestville Library, Forest Community Arts Centre and public toilets (the existing signage is insufficient and the pole is displaced) 5. Provide an accessible public notice board within the mall. This will help stop public notices defacing shop walls and light poles. 6. Provide better signage warning "no bike or skateboard riding in the mall". (Many young people do this which is a danger to some people.) 7. I am against a larger public toilet block in the carpark. For more than 10 years I was a Council Community Centre Manager in the local area and am aware of the many problems associated with the demolished old brick public toilet block, including it being a known meeting place for casual sexual encounters, even in daylight. The then local Community Centre Management Committee discussed this topic at length many times. I believe the solution is to provide a second small toilet amenity (such as the existing one at the end of the laneway) but in another easily seen location in the village, for the use of restaurant diners when the Library and Arts Centre is closed. <p>Thank you for the opportunity to comments. Thank you to all the hard working Council staff.</p>
13	<p>Re the WW1 Memorial.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The design plan says very little about the new memorial except "new memorial on raised plinth" (Page 4.2 dot point 5) and "Option for memorial sculpture" (Page 6.1 "Materials" where it shows an artist's impression of a cylindrical "cage", floodlit and surrounded by paving". 2. The siting of the new memorial is in a new position, the current memorial site now having a tree and seating. <p>Before I could agree with this aspect of the plan I would want to know that the new memorial incorporates the sentiment and spirit of the old (flagpole, commemorative plaque and specific wording on the plaque).</p> <p>I would want to be assured that the memorial continued to "honour the Men and Women of the Armed Forces" (etc as on the current plaque) and that the siting of the memorial recognized that the Forestville Shopping Centre was the area on which the original Soldiers Settlement of 1916 was established.</p> <p>I would not want the memorial site moved, as it is proposed, as currently the site was determined after much deliberation (in 1998) as the central point of the shopping centre, visible from all directions, and not (as seems likely) to be moved to one side in favour of a tree and seating.</p> <p>I understand that the RSL at Forestville has agreed with the plans but this approval has been objected to on the basis that the RSL could not have seen detailed plans of what is intended (there are none) and the fact that the memorial is to be moved was not understood.</p> <p>We must also remember that the Governor Sir Gordon Samuels dedicated the memorial in 1998 and so the memorial, its flagpole, the plaque, the wording on the plaque and the specific site have the highest approval and these aspects are of historical importance.</p>

14	<p>I am all for providing more green spaces and places for people to sit and relax. However I believe the current plan will reduce the space for people to walk through The Centre from one end to another as they will be required to move through the spaces in front of the retail areas where outdoor dining currently exists.</p> <p>I believe to build a thriving community centre, more thought needs to be given to the outdoor spaces that can be used in retail, such as covered areas for restaurant seating and appropriate night lighting to encourage more vibrancy in the cafes and restaurants. Retailers such as Tilt, Michel's Patisserie, the Japanese restaurant, Forest Brunch Bar, Lucky's and Peps Pizzeria and the fish and chip shop all have outdoor seating in areas that seem to be, in the new plan, taken up by garden beds and casual seating.</p> <p>I am all for playground areas being provided for children, however I would want this area to be adequately maintained and suggest either fake grass or the rubber surface be provided for this rather than real grass, which I have heard turned to dust and dirt when previously located in The Centre.</p> <p>I acknowledge that the staircase from the carpark below Coles is owned by that retail space, however the plans do not address the lack of access from the car park to The Centre, or lighting down the ramp next to Coles towards the back carpark. It would be good to see more wide access given from the car park. It has been particularly difficult to social distance in the stair wells in 2020, and better lighting needs to be provided.</p>
15	<p>I am totally against removal of the Memorial Seat and flag pole at the Forestville S/Centre as shown on the new draft Plan. It is being replaced by a tree. As a member of the Forestville RSL sub-Branch I was requested to design a memorial with Flag pole in 1997. The memorial was to the returning servicemen from World War 1 and their struggle to build in the bushland of French's Forest, then known as Soldier's Settlement - now Forestville. This memorial site was portion 1251 and was originally owned by James Little 24/4/1916 and the first transfer officiated by the then Governor General. Mr Little had just been discharged from hospital after service in Gallipoli.</p> <p>With the support of the Deputy Mayor and many Councillors approval was given by Warringah Council and built with my supervision. The Governor General Gordon Samuels AC dedicated this memorial on 27/6/1998. Please note the Memorial's existing position.</p> <p>(1) Keep clear for pedestrian traffic</p> <p>(2) Most importantly the Memorial Flag pole and Australian Flag is in a position where it is in view to shoppers between Starkey Street and Darley Street and the flag and light can be seen by all at night.</p> <p>(3) The four plaques are in a position for children to observe.</p> <p>Looking at the draft proposed plans the Memorial and Flagpole with Australian flag are hidden from view and cannot be seen unless you are in front of it. This is a total waste of ratepayers money to remove and then rebuild a Memorial.</p> <p>I am totally against removal of the dedicated Memorial Seat and flag pole and will speak at the sub-branch meeting on the 2nd December as no one on the committee of the sub-Branch know the full history of the Memorial and I should have been in the discussion .</p>
16	<p>There was previously a lawn area which was very hard to maintain and so was removed. Dry in summer, wet when heavy periods of rain, worn areas where people walk through Artificial lawn could be used to provide greening effect, however consideration must used because this can also become slippery when wet or heavy dew.</p>
17	<p>Yes clean facilities are required, the current toilets are unacceptable for a shopping centre like The Centre at Forestville. The Community Centre toilets are great but are closed after hours.</p>
18	<p>Public toilets are a must</p> <p>I would like to see the staircase under the Coles supermarket lift car park improved. It is way way way to narrow. Particularly noticeable in these COVID times, I could never understand why it was built so narrow given how much use it gets. In comparison the ramp is very underutilized .</p>

19	The boxing around the trees will be too big and will take away outdoor seating from cafes. We are supposed to be supporting the businesses as much as we can but the businesses will lose out if you take away outdoor seating space
20	Dear Sir/Madam, I would like to comment about the new bin (number 10). That area is a little spot for us (parents) to look into the shop ABC Kids Paradise and look at our children decide on what toys they want as well as a sitting and resting area for us to talk. Could you please move the bins to a different place. Thank you,
21	The size of the garden beds are big enough all they need is to be maintained by Northern Beaches council staff at times the gardens can look run down. Another thought ask for volunteers to help maintain the garden landscaping.
22	1. The planter boxes should remain with the bullnose style bricks and rounded corners for public safety, kids play jump run and ride in the area and head injuries are lessened in a fall if sharp corners are minimised. 2. Build a second deck to the outside car park with a roof covered in solar panels for EV charging.
23	Amenities block is desperately needed. I always went to other shops with my kids due to the lack of amenities (library and public toilet not sufficient). Whilst the landscaping looks amazing, the buildings still look old and tired and there are many empty shops. Compared to other shops in the area (Glenrose, new planned Forestway) Forestville shops are disappointing. I know it is challenging as I imagine they are individually owned. I think a further investment is required to bring the shops into the modern day.
24	The bathroom is very much needed!
25	Looks great nice seating and plant areas. Love the glass area in the central area. Would absolutely love a toilet block. The current toilet facilities and seating is poor. Thanks for the upgrade.
26	I like it
27	Toilet blocks should be a priority
28	The toilet block is desperately needed but instead of removing car parking spots could it not be built into one of the many vacant shops?
29	It would be good to have a permanent toilet block closer than the library. The one near the post office is awful.
30	Bigger Public Toilets would be great.
31	The stairwell from Viles to the underground car park is so dirty and old. It's needs proper cleaning and painting. The shopping precinct needs modernising along the lines of Glenrose shopping experience. Forestville is so out dated and tired looking.
32	This is pretty important. The bathroom facilities have long been inadequate. I love this community shoong centre. It needs a tidy up and we the community need to but snd support local so that we continue to have these businesses open for us.
33	The actual issue is the shipping precinct itself. The whole mall and surrounds needs to be redeveloped. This can't be kept being out off, we need council to prepare a rezoning plan to allow a developer to completely rebuild the entire site, from Darley to Starkey. Run a design competition to ensure we get a great outcome with a mix of retail commercial and residential as well as community services space. Simply revamping the mall is just kicking the can down the road.

34	Dense and tall landscaping down the middle of the shops can block line of sight which is annoying when you are shopping and searching for services. Please provide seats of varying heights and with back supports as the elderly can't "perch" easily on hard surfaces like brick walls nor on wooden benches without back supports. Many of the shoppers are seniors and it would be great to cater for their needs.
35	Just worried that by extending the current flower beds that the gap between the flower beds and shops will become very tight! I currently worry when the young faster people try push past the older slower pedestrians...
36	I'm wondering why new bollards are required? Could that be some money saved? I think some of the budget needs to be put towards the ongoing maintenance and cleaners. The paving is often so grotty and bins overflowing. Also suggest better/more signage about 3 hour parking limit because I think many visitors exceed the time limit. Or designate the lower level of the carpark under Coles as unlimited time for commuters, but everywhere else is 3 hours max.
37	In addition to the grassy meeting area I'd like to see something for families with young children. Eg a small play structure. Also, more alfresco Dining of an evening would lift the whole suburb and be great for local economy
38	Years ago there was a grassed area which was gradually covered with concrete as it was a dust bowl where people walked. Also if gardens are made bigger there won't be space to walk as outside most shops the owners put so much stock on the paved area it's difficult to get passed people on a busy day or if it's raining. <u>Save your money and spend it elsewhere. On the memorial hall garden maybe.</u>
39	A central (fenced) playground and outdoor dining areas would be great. - Better traffic flow around that area would be nice. Especially morning and afternoon peak. A designated left turn lane/on ramp onto Warringah road from Starkey/Darley or other parallel road would help. As well as enhanced access to Coles underground car park from Starkey Street
40	A proper amenities block should be built prior to anything else. What is there at the moment is a disgrace particularly in this modern era of providing appropriate and proper amenities for shoppers who cover a large spectrum of people, able, old, young, disabled etc etc
41	Generally the design is good with additional lawn and trees. However I would suggest: * Instead of ornamental plants to plant edible plants and for new trees, choose fruit trees and/or native edible plants and trees. Flowering plants to attract insects and butterflies. * Too much use of red bricks and paving which makes it look very hard. Instead to use more softer material like wood or cream coloured material like sandstone/cladding. * Sustainable garden beds like Wicking beds. Solar powered lights and lighting. * Allow local community to maintain the garden beds and plant edibles and herbs or whatever they choose.
42	Previous grassed area around the flagpole was tracked and never grew. Muddy in the wet and dead in the summer. I would not reinstate this. Need a non-reflective hard wearing surface to cope with pedestrian foot traffic
43	I don't like the proposed catenary lighting. It looks cheap and like a country side show alley. No costs are advised, which is pretty poor. I think money could be spent on improving council enforcement of illegal parking and monitoring private building projects in the area ie increased council parking rangers and building inspectors to be on the ground in the area. The public space/appearance of the centre was ungraded several years ago and I don't know why money needs to be spent on something that is still very contemporary and not in need of repair or restoration.

44	We love the upgrade plans, but are not a fan of the fixed seating in front of the cafes. We enjoy the outdoor dining at the cafes and if those seats are placed there we will lose the cafe seating. We need to try and support the local businesses as much as possible. They are the heart and sole of the centre.
45	See comments in file below. The Centre does not need these major changes - it is a waste of ratepayer funds.
46	Grass tends to require regular watering and maintenance especially if it encounters heavy use. Looking at the grassed areas around the lighthouse development in Dee Why for example those areas become run down fairly quickly with bare patches and weeds invading them. Perhaps a harder wearing environmentally friendly approach is required that needs less maintenance and looks attractive without suffering from heavy use wear and tear. There's no information suggesting any storm water retention is planned to offset water use on the site. Due to our propensity for drought I'd suggest that this is needed to ensure gardens can be maintained any any water features on site can be maintained under water restrictions expected in future years.
47	To Sir/Madam, I find that the new bins (10) in front of kids paradise could be moved elsewhere as other parents and I enjoy sitting there as we wait for our kids in the toy store to choose their toys. We chat there and place their bikes there because it is a convenient spot. Is it possible to move that to a different location to preserve the convenient spot?
48	Diagram 4.1 indicates trees marked as 1 in the diagram are to be retained. The roots of those trees have caused the paving to lift and created a slope towards the shops making another obstacle for the disabled getting from the two disabled car spaces. They should be replaced with trees that do not interfere with the pathway
49	The council for some reason moved two disabled parking spaces out onto Darley Street. for we people who use walkers the pathway around to the main shops is getting more congested each time i park there . It is now full of table & chairs ,plus the every increasing table with the produce of the bread shop. The trees have lifted the pavers making the paving sloped in towards the shop fronts. In wet weather there are large pools of water making the area slippery and dangerous. It is very difficult and dangerous to reverse into the spots . when one is parked and with a shopping trolley with a number of bags ,the slope from the rear of the vehicle down to the road makes it impossible (for disabled) to keep the trolley adjacent to the boot of the car . NB I have lived in Forestville since 1968 (see attachment 4)
50	the current toilet in the car park has been disgusting any time that i have gone to use it. what provision will there be for frequent cleaning?
51	Proposed plans look great and will really enhance the existing pedestrianised area. Catenary lighting will modernise the space and create 'laneway' style vibe. Toilet block essential. New paving stones essential - a number of pavers are currently loose and pose a trip hazard. Curved timber seating proposal looks appealing. New Memorial essential - ensure it's designed so kids can't climb it, as currently happens.
52	Think the building of the toilet block needs to be fast tracked as it is long overdue
53	Support improvements and retaining existing trees with the exception of Triadaca sebiferia ("Chinese tallow") trees. Triadaca (aka Sapium sebiferum) are invasive, non-native species and should not be retained. This is an ideal time to replace these non-native weedy species with sustainable trees, such as Eleocarpus or other locally relevant tree species.

54	<p>DRAWING 4.2 There are FOUR places in the mall where there are discontinuous awnings.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. On north side between Coles and Blooms. 2. On the west side of the former Bakery / on the east of the central grassed area. 3. On the south side from the Medical Centre to McGraths Real estate. 4. From the north side of the mall to the south side. <p>All of these situations are particularly annoying especially for older people and gaps of cover means that both customers and goods get wet. This is a put off for some and leads to customers choosing Forestway Shops or Glenrose where they can shop and NOT get wet.</p>
55	Excellent ideas. Fully supported.
56	The overall concepts as shown in the diagrams are appealing. Having rest spaces for shoppers and some grass area for soft play for children are good. The idea of a central column of seating and gardens etc. is ok but make sure there are enough gaps for shoppers to access both sides of the retail areas. We do need a more accessible toilet block.
57	I feel that a permanent toilet block is essential. Is it possible to somehow incorporate one of the many empty shops to lessen the impact on the carpark.
58	The toilets are required as soon as possible. The current lack of multiple toilets for both male and female is totally unacceptable. The toilet facilities MUST be built as soon as possible - NOT just "sometime in the future". They must be in a more central position NOT just "in the carpark". The toilets must be well lighted so it is safe to use at night. TOILETS are part of an integrated approach to the redevelopment NOT just an afterthought.
59	<p>I wrote earlier about the grassed centre becoming a mud bath in wet weather. I now suggest it will be a dust bowl in dry weather. I was reminded that it was originally grass that had become unusable and concrete was laid to overcome the problem. Diagonal movement across the space will not be possible when it becomes either!</p> <p>Why move the memorial, it will reduce the acessability to the corner shop?</p> <p>Why change to shape of the planters, it will only reduce the walk space?</p> <p>Seems a lot of money for little gain.</p>
60	<p>From pictures above not sure if that is BEFORE or AFTER?</p> <p>Forestville centre fine with existing garden beds... DONT overspend as already good as it is (other places much worse) eg childrens park Wellman rd ...no seats for parents and council workers dumped a ton of coarse gravel and roadfill on a beautiful grassy surface adjacent to play area... !!</p> <p>Like the idea of a centrally located greenspace (with shade for kids) and free water fountain/bubbler like Corso?</p> <p>Lights look great BUT ripe for vandalism and breakage...plus wasting power?... fewer well placed LED illumination of foliage better?</p> <p>Call me a cynic, but there's bored teens around as no DY PCYC locally around here!!</p>
61	I would like the exteriors of shops here not to be so cluttered with merchandise outside on what should be pedestrian areas. On a wet day, or when you're seeking shade on a hot day, it's frequently necessary to walk around the merchandise, out from beneath the awning shelters and into drenching rain or hot sun. Can shop owners be enforced to restrict the amount of footpath space they encroach upon please ?
62	This looks good
63	<p>Good food retailers, such as bakeries and delicatessens. Possibility of holding a monthly local market. Better restaurants, such as pizzeria, sushi, etc.</p> <p>Toilets would have to be maintained impeccably.</p>
64	The inclusion of a toilet block is essential.
65	Don't need a new amenities block. The car park area is always full. Don't want to lose more space. The current loo is adequate. The rest is great, but I think a lawn will need a lot of upkeep. Nice idea but lots of traffic and wear

66	Hello, I was looking through the plans on the new improvements on The Centre and I think it looks amazing. However, I would like to make a change on the bins that are placed outside Shop 27. This area I usually sit with other mothers when kids are going into Kids Paradise and I wish for this spot to be free. It may also be a safety hazard as many kids use that spot to place their scooters and bikes when entering the store. Not only kids, parents also use that spot to place their prams, strollers or trolleys. It would be great if that spot is freed and for the bins to be placed elsewhere. Thank you
67	I run a business oat the Starkey Street end of the street. ill there be any changes at the Starkey end of the shopping precinct? The images appear to show the changes in the centre section and towards Darley St.
68	There are a lot of photos of Darley St end of the centre, but what about the Starkey St end? Its horrible What will be done about Coles' trolleys everywhere at the Starkey St end? Seen them damage more than 1 car and another person hit by a runaway trolley.
69	I WOULD LIKE THE DISABILITY PARKING SPACES TO BE RETURNED. I HAVE NOT BEEN TO THIS CENTRE FOR MANY MONTHS BECAUSE, THE LAST TIME I WAS THERE, THERE WAS NO DISABILITY PARKING. ALSO, I EXPECT THAT THE NEW TOILET BLOCK WOULD HAVE A DISABILITY TOILET WHICH DOES NOT HAVE A BAR ACROSS THE BACK, WHICH PREVENTS THE SEAT BEING RAISED, AS IS THE CASE AT ST MATTHEWS FARM, WHICH IS MOST UNSATISFACTORY.
70	The Forestville Centre landscaping is pretty good as is. It would be distressing to see all the existing trees and plants ripped out. New seating and a grassed area would be an improvement on all the concrete / paved space. Maybe a small pavilion / gazebo could be added for the wonderful performers / musicians who frequent the centre. Car parking is always difficult outside the community centre, and would become worst during construction. A new toilet block would be a vast improvement, as once the community arts centre is closed there isn't much else.Wouldn't ever use that Exeloo thing myself.
71	Love the proposal of a grassed village green type area. A real gathering area. The placement of the current memorial has always prevented this area being properly utilised, so it will be good to get rid of that. If some kind of memorial is seen as being required, perhaps it could be a garden bed or tree with a plaque at the base. The area is very hot in summer, so the replacement of the hard bricks with the turf will make a huge difference. Perhaps local groups could take some responsibility for caring for certain garden beds by assisting with maintenance. A deciduous tree would be the best choice, so as to allow the much needed shade in the summer and sun in the winter. The whole area definitely needs suitable trees in the area to provide shade and ambience. The current eucalyptus /corymbias do not provide this and pose a risk of branches shearing off. Replacement of the ones on Darley by ones with a broader shady habit would enhance that entrance. - Rather than the proposed circular seating, small individual tables/barbecue tables, etc would work better. People usually look for somewhere they can sit and chat with friends or by themselves and always look very awkward perched on those communal seats. They might look attractive but they are not what people choose to use. If the current trees need their growing area increased, then that should be done. The French cafe that used to be on Darley, had a wall of plants which looked amazing. It would great to see more lush greenery included in the plantings - a tropical feel.
72	The proposed planting list is not provided but I would like to see the use of all native plants for any new plantings. I would also like to see a water refilling station be included in the design.
73	Centre needs revitalising and better toilet facilities are desperately needed.

74	<p>This centre desperately needs a facelift. It is old, unattractive and with the modernised Glenrose not far away, it is losing patronage. There is nothing redeemable about it right now in what is an affable suburb.</p> <p>As the parent of young children, I won't go here if I have the children with me due to the inadequate amenities block (used by tradies & usually left in a vile state). Please consider updating it as part of the landscape update. No one will mind losing a few car spots if we finally get a decent amenities block! It is probably the biggest problem about the Centre.</p>
75	Permanent toilet block would be a great addition
76	I like the addition of the trees/grassed areas and seating. A permanent toilet would be a good addition in the long run
77	a permanent toilet block is a must, the facilities are less than adequate at the moment.
78	Looks lovely. Be good to see more of a village feel, similar to outdoor spaces in Lane Cove with seating around the grass. I'm not sure how the permanent toilet block was deprioritised. It seems that this is where the more urgent need is.
79	The diagrams make it look fresh and useful. the basic layout seems the same but this would be difficult to change and it seems to work ok
80	It looks pretty much the same...maybe some lighter tiles and more wood added in? Just make it more bright. I would not spend money in this design as no difference...
81	The new memorial structure on a raised plinth without seating (unlike the current memorial) is a good idea, as long as it is also dedicated (like the current one), incorporates the existing plaques which must be refurbished, includes a flag pole, and is lit at night.
82	It's Great , Thanks
83	<p>Can the leased outdoor seating areas be shown on the plan. Without this detail, the plan is incomplete and potentially misleading. Why no artists impression of the eastern end? I really like the idea of the grassed area (detailed plan 4.2), but it will not work. Pedestrians will take shortcuts over the grass as it will soon mostly be dirt paths, not "lawn". This grass will need to be enclosed on 3 sides to prevent transit over the lawn - perhaps some inward facing benches forming a continuous barrier on the west and north sides. If you get rid of the lawn, please put some shade cloth in this area - it can get hot with the concrete.</p> <p>"Shrub and grass underplanting" in the raised beds is not what is shown in the artist's impression. The plants selected by the artist (looks like a monstera) looks better.</p> <p>Existing brick paving and new bollards needs to be extended to the concrete path in the west car parking area between the centre and the library. Similarly, the brick paving needs to be extended into the laneway next to the post office leading to the library. Why does the catenary lighting not continue east in front of Coles?</p> <p>Isn't there already toilet facilities in the car park? I like the existing "auto" style more than a "toilet block", but perhaps there is room for another "auto" toilet somewhere else as well. Is there maintenance problems with this existing toilet that you want to get rid of it? Perhaps a single seat is insufficient capacity?</p> <p>PS Do not be tempted to put any permanent public art into the Forestville Centre. 90% of public art is rubbish. Perhaps some temporary art, with a vote to keep or chuck after 12 months, or rotate it from centre to centre so we don't get stuck with what the arts industry can flog to us.</p>

84	<p>Already it's hard to find a parking spot during peak times which can be from 8.45am right through till 6pm on weekdays. Can we please hold on the number of car parking spaces we have and not take any away and rather add some more if we could. Perhaps build a multi storey car park or a 2 floor car park. This would really help the community. There are already toilets in the library building which should be enough.</p> <p>I like the thought of widening the garden beds and adding a row of lights in the Centre. Lights have such a lovely effect at night and make you feel like you're on holidays. A grassed central meeting area sounds great too. Maybe install a small children's playground like they have at the Killarney Hts Tramore Place shopping area so that families can gather and chat. More bins would be great too. I have to walk out of my way to throw things out when I'm at Coles. Bollards are a good idea too. I look forward to the planned improvements.</p>
85	<p>WE MUST HAVE A TOILET BLOCK!!!! This would be a priority over and above any landscaping.</p> <p>Landscaping - who maintains these? - the gardens always looked neglected and uncared for and I know that some shop owners take it upon themselves to maintain these.</p> <p>In the proposed image of the "central lawn area" - remove those ridiculous looking tall poles - these serve no purpose whatsoever - put that money towards the toilet block!</p> <p>Who will maintain the lawn area? The same people who currently don't maintain the garden beds?</p> <p>I hope that there is some funding to fix the uneven tiles throughout the entire strip - quite dangerous. The new images show an even ground so assume this is the case?</p> <p>Why have the "No Skateboard" signs been removed from the images - these signs state that "penalties apply" but I have never seen a Council ranger monitoring this in Forestville shops. Please do that as skateboarding is rampant there, especially in the afternoons.</p> <p>Why have the signs if you don't monitor this?</p> <p>It would be nice to have a more attractive and useful centre - but not before you put a toilet block in. If you are not putting a toilet block in now, please leave the Library building open for longer hours so the toilets there can be used - especially now as summer is coming and some shops are planning on late evening special dinners - like the Brunch Bar on Thursday nights. When there for dinner - where are we expected to go if a toilet is required? Thank you.</p>

86	<p>Pros: Extra seating and greenery is great and catenary lighting will boost atmosphere. Improvement/addition of communal gathering spaces good too.</p> <p>Changes: Any new planting should be with natives, ideally local native flora. This will encourage native birds and support the local natural ecosystem. The new design should make it easier for hospitality businesses to have outdoor seating, not impede it (but concept design seems to impede this with large planters and benches to break up spaces). Some new bench seating and lighting poles make the spaces cluttered and difficult for adaptive use - try to declutter and think about people flow more. The spaces need to accommodate both thoroughfare and lingering. The main central gathering space in particular could better accommodate the option of being a performance space, so having an open central lawn with seating and trees around the W, N and E perimeters should allow for this, not impede it too much. Can't see benefit of having two light poles right next to each other. While gathering spaces are an improvement, the areas at the far ends where the mall meets the road are somewhat dead spaces/not that pleasant - more could be done to turn those into attractive gathering spaces in their own right, perhaps by giving them a more enclosed, intimate feel (rather than the exposed, harsh places they are now). Would be worthwhile to add a few spaces that expressly cater for people with limited mobility to park themselves easily alongside other seating. Equally, bench seating can be challenging for older or less mobile people, so some hand rails/arm rests in some spots would be helpful and make the space more inclusive. The whole area must be clearly non-smoking and this enforced - having smokers and cigarettes floating around is a massive detraction.</p>
87	<p>Get rid of the dangerous 90deg parking adjacent to the pedestrian crossing in Starkey St. It impedes traffic flow and should never have been permitted. Also it is all very well to upgrade the Fville shopping precinct but there is insufficient parking already given the peak school demand.</p>
88	<p>The project's objectives are not very clear. The new design is pretty much a repetition of the existing?</p> <p>The design does not seem to improve much on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - urban island heath (new pavement is darker than the existing one) - water discharge - new pavement does not seem to be water permeable - light pollution at night - street lamps should disperse and direct the light downwards only - existing brick planters rarely work as benches, the surface is prone to catch dirt and does not seem inviting to most people (spend some time observing the place) - timber or concrete seating tops should be installed if it is council's plan to promote outdoor seating there. <p>On such projects, the council could, as a policy, engage designers skilled in environment improving principles - heath reduction, water-smart design, application of upcycle materials, cradle-to-cradle lifecycle of material etc., there is plenty that an environment-sensitive approach can improve on such a project. The proposal does not seem to do the job. The concept design does not speak about any of these environmental points.</p>

89	<p>As a business owner in the centre we are very excited for the new development and upgrade to the centre.</p> <p>The plans are beautiful, our only issue is the fixed seating proposed for the planter boxes in front of the cafes and the widened planter boxes. This area is essential for the operation of our business, and the addition of the fixed seating and widened boxes will effect all cafe/restaurant operation.</p> <p>We applied and pay our for outdoor seating area which is essential for our business. The outdoor seating is a draw card for the centre as alot of our clients enjoy to dine alfresco. If the seating is added to the planter boxes as proposed, we (the cafe owners) will lose alot of our trade and council will lose the income from the outdoor seating permits.</p> <p>The toilets are a must, as alot of the community complain about the the current toilets and the other issue within the centre is the slippery nature of the pavers. There has been a number of accidents due to the pavers.</p>
90	Can the raised respites/seating be usable lawn instead of plants?
91	I think the most important thing about any changes you make is that pedestrian traffic is not impeded along the Centre. Peak times of school drop off and pick up can get very congested. Parking is at a premium, I do not support any plan that means that the is less parking spaces, even if it is a very needed loo block.
92	The soil in the garden beds will likely need to be replaced/added as its been quite some time since it has been refreshed. Towards the darley street end there is regularly an issue of thoroughfare between the cafes. and it is important that the thoroughfare won't be inpacted my new furniture. Thanks
93	The Centre is looking very tired with some garden beds looking barren. Unfortunately there are a number of empty shops but we don't want any more gyms or fast food venues. A decent dine in restaurant would be welcome. We have lost all our banks, fruit shops and only have one butcher left. Definitely The Centre needs a public amenities block. I will not use the current facility. Thank goodness for Coles as The Centre would be dead by now. A refurbishment of the whole Centre would be very welcome.
94	Please make the green space as large as you can. I can't wait to have many picnics there
95	<p>Inclusion of a playground area in the grassed area would be a great inclusion and help to revive the area and get more patrons using the cafes.</p> <p>Artificial turf to the grasses area would be a more durable option. The real turf.</p>
96	New fresh signage identifying the Centre at both entry points of Darley and Starkey Streets.
97	lack of suitable toilets is a limiting feature,
98	The car park is dirty, dingy and in need of a make over.....Will the toilets be open at night time, and be considered safe.
99	I think the toilet block should be the first issue rectified. Absolutely ridiculous there isn't one there already.

100	Currently the areas works quite well and is a pleasant local shops, it is great to have the cafes and restaurants with outdoor seating and there is room for children to play safely nearby. I think the concept plan is OK, but by adding the built elements of brick seats/planters etc between all the existing trees/ planters, it will be too cluttered and there will not be enough room for people to pass by with their trolleys, prams, children etc. I don't think the lawn area will survive, there is a desire line right across this (people want to walk diagonally across this area from entry near post office across towards Coles). Also much of understorey planting under the trees is already well established, I don't see the point of rebuilding the planters and replacing the planting for no real benefit and probably putting the trees at risk by disturbing their roots. This redevelopment could be much more subtle with perhaps some areas of new paving, addition of lightweight seating, lighting etc. But don't need the additional brick seats and rebuilt planters etc. Save the money and put it towards a small permanent toilet block.
101	seems suburban and restrained enough to fit in. Its OK.
102	A grassed area used to be there and was a dust bowl in summer. Last time upgraded trees were broken off etc. Waste of money when council won't provide new footpath in Nicholas Avenue which is more important. Maybe the gutters above shops could be fixed. Maybe the shop keepers could stop using covered areas which make it look so ugly and mean no dry walkways on wet days.
103	We need to upgrade the retail that is in the centre. There are retailers closing down everywhere so we need to Incentivise retailers who will add value to the space and be a part of the lifestyle elements you are trying to add. This upgrade will be so valuable to the community!
104	I have always felt that Forrestville Coles area would look a lot nicer if the big Coles windows opposite Tilt coffee shop, Japanese restaurant and tax agent, contained some lovely scenes from around our suburb instead of just white blank windows.
105	The changes look good as long as sufficient space is left for restaurants to provide adequate outdoor seating to their establishments, without blocking the pedestrian access. Many people frequent the coffee shops and like to sit outside and the government is encouraging this. Also are there frequent cross over breaks in the seating for getting to both sides of the shopping centre.
106	Permanent toilet block is crucial. Astro turf gets hot and no one likes synthetic. Would like mature, evergreen trees planted for shade. Car parks should get priority over the aesthetics, esp the open air carpark which is a hazard at school pick up time. Perhaps a green, shady area could be built from the middle of the shops and extend down the side of the car park (where portable toilet is) to join up with the playground near library. This could then be a destination where people could sit, children could play (rather than running along the side of the carpark & across the roads) and maybe have occasional entertainment or special outdoor dining events rather than just a brick wall to perch on half way through the shopping trip.
107	Would prefer not to reduce walking space. Consider space for musicians . Added seating space great. Appreciate desire to improve village amenities and atmosphere
108	These plans are just a band-aid to a disease that requires proper surgery to remove. A real waste of money. This shopping precinct is uninviting, disfunctional, and logistically unpractical. What is needed is a proper town centre design, creating improved retail and living spaces. That's what council should focus on.

109	Please consider installing the new lighting with colour changing LEDs. Being able to have different coloured lighting of an evening or fade the light in as the sunsets each day and have different colours at different times of year (Easter and Christmas/Australia Day/Halloween or to tie in with any future mini-vivid style events) would be an incredible value add to the atmosphere of the shops and be operated/programmed remotely.
110	More seating is a great idea. But we need more parking as well. It's so hard to find a parking spot at times. It's nice to have all the areas to sit and enjoy, but you also need to be able to park somewhere.
111	<p>Thank you for investing in the Forestville shops. My feedback is as follows. I'm a local resident with children at the primary school. I visit the shops nearly daily. We are very concerned about the many empty store fronts, lack of upkeep of shop fronts, awnings, and old/dirty looks small feel of the frontages. The car park beside the library is in urgent need of a redesign to ensure only short term parking. The traffic flow on Darley St in front of the school crossing is a huge bottleneck for the entire peninsula and needs an urgent traffic study to ease congestion in and out of the community.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cafes and restaurants need outdoor space for tables and seating, so whatever landscaping needs to be cafe friendly. 2. Toilets block necessary. 3. Building owners need to be held accountable for keeping frontages clean. Currently they all need a pressure wash and maintenance 4. A weekly market or similar event would increase foot traffic 5. Some child friendly play equipment would be wonderful 6 Ellis Park in Killarney Heights is gorgeous land beside the schools that is underutilized. Perhaps an adventure playground could go there to cater to the older children of the area? The new Killarney shops playground is good for younger children but the 8-13 year olds don't have anything interesting. 7. Forestville shops need some new anchor shops to bring pedestrians back! (see attachment 5)
112	Support turf, however my be very difficult to look after, suggest it is a 400-450mm raised large turf punter / seat wall.
113	Lack of a toilet block (the existing "singing toilet" is disgusting and disgraceful) should be the first priority at Forestville Shops! The second priority should be offering some covered areas linking the two retail sides as when it rains you can't cross without getting wet. While the open air aspect of the shops is lovely, there should be a way to cross during wet weather.
114	protection is needed around plants as young children destroy them through lack of discipline.
115	The design has completely ignored the pedestrian accessway/ramp between Coles and the Blooms Chemist. This is a pedestrian access point, a disabled access point, and a loading ramp. Even during the day, this is a dark and awkward space. In the design, it needs to be recognized for its pedestrian traffic and considered for a substantial increase in lighting. Additionally, the extremely busy stairway to the carpark at both ends of Coles need to be assessed for WHS and have increased lighting for safety.
116	Please provide water drinking facilities for visitors of the centre.
117	the greener the better
118	Great
119	<p>I support the improvements. The Centre is a fantastic place, it needs some work to activate the spaces for businesses and the community.</p> <p>It looks like the design retains some of the red/orange paving? It would be better to start from scratch to provide a new aesthetic.</p>
120	A new toilet block should be done now and not later.

121	Xxx
122	A permanent toilet block would be very helpful however not at the expense of losing parking spots. Parking in the carpark, and the area, is at a premium as it is. However I strongly support the proposed upgrades - excellent.
123	<p>Many of us have discussed and support these following improvements which have been posted by a local woman on your facebook post.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Include a covered music kiosk located in the centre that only locals could book on a rotation basis (same as bulky goods system:)). Music program to be made available online to make sure we don't miss out. - Let tenants open up later in the evening with terraces, not sure if bars or restaurants close because of staff costs/lack of customers or rules? But there should be more terraces at night and definitely warm lights for atmosphere, not ugly LED bright white sticks as suggested in the design. - look for ways that council could help shop fronts have a more homogeneous style to them throughout the strip. Killarney shop fronts are untouchable because somehow « heritage » listed. Isn't there a way that council could require a minimum standard of style that shops owners need to adhere to? Home owners do face this with their DAs after all. It feels like there is a lot of pressure on tenants but not on owners for the upkeep of their property fronts. The result is what we all see, a general grubby look for most shops except for the well established brands.
124	this is so needed
125	It doesn't seem to be much worth commenting on here. Some new brickwork and seating doesn't inspire me much as a shopper or nearby resident. What about a playground, or bike racks, or a dog run, or a place to take a Zoom meeting outdoors when working from home? I simply think more could be done for the money.
126	<p>A permanent toilet block is absolutely essential.</p> <p>However, it would need to be landscaped and preferably integrated into the centre for security and to prevent its being used for illegitimate purposes, ultimately costing a fortune in cleaning, maintenance, and, policing.</p>
127	Needs improved lighting not bright white maybe strings of lights across to the opposite side similar to the lighting that's been done on Sydney Road Balgowlah. Don't need the garden beds wider but let the cafes use more of the space for tables and chairs. I don't think the grass will work - it didn't before and who is going to mow it every week in the summer! Definitely need toilets for nighttime diners the ones there are disgusting. And a wine bar would be fantastic.
128	maybe an incentive to encourage new restaurant spot- eg no fees outdoor dining strip and create outdoor dining platform??? just an idea
129	Please take into account that there are many young skateboarders in the area. It would be ashame to spend all that money and not have provisions to prevent skateboard damage to new - upgraded seating, walls etc
130	Great ideas! Nice to see consideration towards a toilet block. I believe there is enough parking facilities with the Coles underground car park and the car park outside the library. Very rarely is it difficult to find a park, but I think some planning should go ahead in the future. Well done.
131	The upgrade to the Killarney shops is great - it added a lot to the space and improved the playground and created more space to sit and eat takeaway food - though no toilet block. A public toilet block seems like a fundamental amenity for a set of local shops where the main shoppers are parents with children, or the elderly. Many of the restaurants, takeaways and cafes do not even have a toilet or are unwilling to allow access due to Covid. In my opinion, a decent public toilet block, although out of scope, should be prioritised over the minor enhancements that have been proposed. Thanks for the chance to contribute.

132	I think an upgrade to the Centre is much needed and welcomed. It seems quite outdated as it currently stands so suggested improvements sound good.
133	Where in carpark? When dark, toilets can be misused or hang out spots. Safety for kids, elderly, women alone or those with a disability when using facilities to be considered please.
134	<p>We all appreciate the fact that there is even a proposal in place however it is now outdated and needs updating before development.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Making garden beds wider will impact new rules that we live with now of social distancing - even without those rules, two-way foot traffic will be compromised 2. Won't help shop front displays as it creates an obstacle for the full front display, putting retailers further in the dark and compromise their curb appeal and real estate 3. Trolleys and strollers will catch people's feet when sitting facing outwards with less space to get by for passing foot traffic. Basic health and safety rules and circular seating seems a better option. <p>3. As far as any human is concerned, toilets are an essential or we may as we not call it a centre - just a bunch of shops! Are we not trying to maximise dwell time so retailers perform better and have a community space? Look around us, Glenrose Village, ForestWay etc. We aren't a third world country so providing amenities is pretty basic and a no-brainer - hand washing, cleanliness, something for everyone, seniors, kids, mums, dads etc... have we learnt nothing?</p> <p>Spin the plans around now and reallocate the budget to current needs - it's not rocket science and not only about making it a pretty landscape - sorry but seems more about that than anything that the community wants or needs. It's a landscape concept and not anything to do with improving the centre. We are all surrounded by trees and grass at our homes.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Who are the companies that will tender for the works? 5. Are they a local company? 6. There is no shade provided, so not inclusive to the community at all and no one will be sitting in that area for more than 5mins during hot weather or rain. <p>Letting the plane fly with a faulty wing and wait until it gets to it's destination to be serviced doesn't seem like a great idea.</p>
135	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The brick garden bed design could potentially now be non-compliant with social distancing regulations if needed to be exercised. 2. Circular seating would work as opposed to in the areas of the proposed brick and plant garden bed design. Shoppers move around with trolleys and strollers in these areas which doesn't leave much egress to two-way pedestrian traffic when there is a huge plant box and people's feet around the outside to get caught in walking traffic. <p>Sorry, it just will take up too much space and invites people to be run into.</p>
136	<p>I find it difficult to understand what is trying to be achieved by all the sketches. I would prefer to see an artist's impression of what is being planned.</p> <p>If the toilet block takes up car spaces, then I am not in favour, as there are never enough spaces there anyway</p>
137	Looks great, maybe some assistance from council can be provided to help lease the 5 or so empty shop spaces
138	Festoon lighting strung across the plaza would give it a vibrant alfresco feel
139	Desperately in need of an upgrade. I hope that the changes will help to support the small businesses in this strip. So many vacant premises at the moment.
140	<p>Not sure if the grassy bit essential but small children would no doubt love it.</p> <p>A toilet block would be very welcome, especially as there are so many elderly shoppers. It is a very nice little shopping centre and deserves a bit of cheering up.</p>
141	Any design that puts more vegetation into these areas is positive as we know canopy reduces heat.

142	I like the idea of a grassed area and new lighting. However, the new widened garden beds will make foot traffic harder to navigate, as it is already very busy with kids at school pick up and drop off times. There is already a bottleneck at this end of Darley st, with kids, prams, bikes and skateboards all competing for space. Maybe the widened garden beds could be near the grassy area only, and not near the Darley st carpark. I am concerned that widening the garden bed in this area will overflow people onto the carpark and in the disabled parking spaces. Thank you for your time.
143	Toilet block should be prioritised.
144	Do not agree to grass area. Previous one not maintained just dirt when weather dry! Garden beds do not need enlarging, will require more maintenance!! Public internet could be improved ! Agree we need a proper toilet block !
145	Toilet block is essential in the Forestville shopping centre IT SHOULD NEVER BEEN TAKEN AWAY.
146	Looks to me like a waste of money fiddling around at the edges and making no real changes to the actual amenity of the area much beyond what is there. This looks more like maintenance and repair of what is there than any real plan to improve the area. A bigger picture view with more style and substance would be good. It could be a great pedestrian mall and deserves a better longer term plan
147	Need to be cleaned regularly but such a large Centre requires good toilet facilities.
148	Area desperately needs the sort of upgrade proposed. Make sure there are plenty of convenient bike racks.
149	Overdue as the volume of foot traffic has significantly increased together with dining operators.
150	The residential areas of Killarney Heights and Forestville do not have pedestrian walkways on most of its streets. It would be good if this were addressed for safety reasons as a priority.
151	Ensure brick paving is maintained properly. When bricks/pavers are not flush with surroundings they present a tripping hazard - many elderly frequent the area. Build toilet block soon please. Meanwhile, when the library building is closed we have to use the "kiosk" in the car park and its condition is often disgraceful. It must be properly cleaned at least once every day, preferably more often. It would be good to have at least two, preferably four, covered crossing points from one side of shops to the other so one can escape rain. Something must be done about the lane behind the south side shops where bins overflow and the area is mostly pretty disgusting.
152	The toilet block should be the first priority. Given the number of shops and cafes, not having a permanent toilet seems odd. The exe toilet is really unpleasant to use.
153	Excellent changes, love the random light poles, not sure about the overhead catenary lighting, suspect they will be a continual maintenance issue. Personal preference would be to put floor wash lighting in the new planter box bases. The lawn in the centre is going to be problematic, thousands of people track from Coles to the rear car park and when the lawn was there previously they wore the grass to dust in a very short period. I urge a rethink about that option. Is artificial lawn an option? As for the toilet block, absolutely replace it asap, the current capsule toilet is only used by people with absolutely no other choice.
154	Wonderful. I love the garden beds with wide retaining walls to double-up as seating. Honestly more beautiful green space makes the area more inviting for people to want to spend time there which is great for the residents but also advantageous for the businesses. Lots of different types of seating is great (I LOVE the new sandstone/wood seating you did at Killarney Shops) - plus under shade or dappled shade is important. Pleasant and accessible toilets are something I never worried about too much until being pregnant - and then it was vital to know where all the public accessible toilets were located for fast access! And now that I am older and have more to do with aging parents I can see how important it is for older people to have somewhere nice that is close (they can't just

	run off to find somewhere). The evening lighting is so lovely and makes it feel more intimate and welcoming, and gives the feel that this small place is special and matters. So, thank you. My only extra suggestion is to have a few plants that flower at the different seasons for something a little extra.
155	Please provide bicycle parking
156	Needs more local shops & safer access to underground parking
157	The gardens and paving are fine and functional. Priority should be to improve toilet amenities. The current solution does not work at all, is always broken and disgusting. On the weekend when the library is closed there is nowhere to go to the toilet. I'm often at the shops with 3 kids and someone nearly always has to use a toilet. The toilets are a massive issue.
158	1. The proposed planter and therefore seating configurations are not conducive to one on one or small groups meeting face to face. The scale of the central respite zones should be more intimate to support couples and groups. 2. The current planters as seating are not comfortable or encouraging to sit on and as they are brick they do not dry out quickly after rain. The proposed design appears to include the same type of brick planters? Suggest seating comfort with seat backs is considered in the design.
159	Surely the sewer connections to the Centre would cope to the addition of a amenities block without too great an effect on roads and parking.
160	Looks good
161	1) Ensure all aspects of redevelopment use water sensitive urban design concepts such as permeable pavers, tree pits etc to improve quality and reduce quantity of stormwater running off hard surfaces. Use stormwater to keep new lawn area irrigated, there will be quite a bit of overshadowing of lawn so choose appropriate grass species 2) New lighting to be solar powered LED with battery storage 3) I personally don't like the existing "red brick" decor used on pavement and in planter boxes and would prefer something more modern. 4) Use new bollards as public art opportunity, similar to Copenhagen 5) Fairy lights on major trees - will improve night time appeal 6) Any room for a small children's play area, even just a couple of items? I know there is a small playground next to library but having a small area will encourage parents to sit around in the area whilst they watch their children.
162	Forestville shops should be upgraded like lane Cove canopy project or glenrose shops. A bigger centre with more parking.
163	It looks good
164	I think that some space should be retained and some of the planter boxes removed in the centre of the shopping centre so that an entertainment space could be included. This could encompass some school singing performances, local dance school or aerobic performances, or busking.
165	1. I love the idea of larger garden beds with seating 2. The new grassed central meeting area sounds and looks great but I am concerned that with summer heat and high density usage that it may become dead grass and eventually dirt. Is that what happened to the previous grass section there. 3. Thanks for moving ahead with this!
166	Probably need to help local business by having more outdoor seating for the cafes restaurants, maybe outdoor undercover seating? More mature trees? Native? Better facilities will encourage better retailers to move in and bring in more custom.
167	Yes
168	I like the idea of more seating around the planter boxes but would prefer a wooden seat on top of the brickwork - bricks are not comfortable to sit on.

169	Improved lighting will increase and encourage usage at night because its very dark and gloomy at the moment. The construction of a permanent public toilet must also be prioritise. Its pathetic that this was not included from day one when the Centre was built!
170	Add drink water for people and dogs
171	Please prioritise the toilet block
172	This looks great. I have an inquiry about the bins (10) next to the tree in front of shop 27. That area is regularly used by kids to place their bikes and scooters before entering the store. Parents also use that spot to place their prams or trolleys before entering the kids store. Having the bins there in my opinion is a safety hazard and I would like to recommend placing them near the bench on the right side facing the pathway down to the Coles car park. The toilets are too small at the moment. I think it would be better if they were separated between male and female and to be cleaned regularly.
173	I am an Architect , my comment relates to the provision of a lawn area, it won't work and will be a black hole for your finances , a defined plaza area that invites license table and chairs for outdoor dining would be better in my opinion Also removal or 90 degree parking opposite shops on Starkey st will improve safety around pedestrian crossing . And create amenity Encourage Coles to improve presentation to pedestrian street and contribute.
174	Na
175	Planters don't need to be bigger but they do need better planting choices than what is there currently and they need more regular maintenance. The trees are good and should stay. If planters made bigger they will cause crowding for foot traffic and will be unnecessarily large. The green space lawn is a nice idea but will be difficult to maintain without it looking awful in a very short time and will be a problem in wet weather. There is too much foot traffic for a grassed area in that location. If there is available money to spend on the shop area, spend it on helping shop owners improve their frontages. Put in tables and seating so people can buy food and spend more time in the centre socialising and networking. Or put in kid activity features in the area where the lawn is planned.
176	The provision of public toilets is the only important thing the council has to do for the Forestville shops. Making cosmetic landscaping changes is unimportant compared to the responsibility the Council has to fix the twenty year absence of public facilities.
177	Mustn't take away from the outdoor seating area for food businesses - grass will just encourage teenagers to loiter, and become messy, muddy or weedy without a lot of care. Need better lighting. Don't want a playground in the shopping centre, the one by the carpark is enough. Keep it clear In the centre so we can have more market events. Biggest problem is the lack of public toilets. Also please level the pavers outside Coles, it's hard to push a heavy trolley along there.
178	Great idea.
179	I would like to see upgrades to the shop fronts and guidelines to the signage. I would also like some consideration for how the businesses on the first floor can be better presented. Finally, there was recently a French cafe/bar which was sensational. Is there anything needed to promote similar places? Like consideration for micro pubs?
180	With all the shops it would greatly enhanced the shopping experience to have a permanent toilet black. The current toilet option is not suitably clean enough for young children!
181	This pedestrian only strip is very unique and should be planned very carefully. It should be the hub of the community, where locals can come together to eat/drink/play. We need to accomodate: - pop up events like craft markets - more outdoor restaurant/cafe seating (like Europe) - Better facilities like toilets

	- the above will attract better standard of eating/drinking venues, which we badly need These plans do not address these issues.
182	We need decent toilets. We do not need grass areas, or a reduction of outdoor Restuarant space.we do not need more seating to get dirty. We need shops to be painted and clean. Roof repairs. Even paving. Killarney upgrade is terrible. It needed decent outdoor Restuarant areas on level ground. Not big sandstone rocks everywhere. No one likes the new play area.
183	We have a lot of young children who play in and around the central courtyard as parents have coffees and family dinners both during the day and in evenings. This would be a really good opportunity to add some small play equipment to meet the obvious need to entertain the kids. They run around all the walls and climb the war memorial at the moment. I know there's one at library but it's not in line of sight of the parents
184	some great ideas that would definitely add more atmosphere to the centre.
185	Such a great space being poorly used..
186	Would like to see toilets as a priority of the design - its one of the main reasons I don't visit the area especially with the children. Toilets has to be the priority. There also seems to be very large planters and an awful lot of public seating, and I rarely see people sitting on the public seating now. Would rather swap those out for more lawn space, a small children's play area and encourage the restaurant venues to have really nice seating outside their venues. Love the lights - would help with ambience on an evening.
187	As an Interior Architecture student this proposal is extremely disappointing as was the Killarney Heights project just finished. My problem with these proposals is the lack of research and understanding of how the spaces are actually used. In justifying the reason in why you are upgrading these spaces one of the reasons should be to propel business for the shops within these spaces. In Killarney the cafes over the last 2 years began to propose a Friday night dinner, why not propose a space not only for the day but also the night. A simple idea of lights and a pop up integrated projected movie area would have propelled the business for these shops, and therefore justifying the reason to upgrade the space. Not what was the exact same as before, with a few new touches. The Forestville proposal is no different, this would just be a waste of money for the sake of appeasing to the survey. There are so many other ways to propel this space and help the businesses in making this space a place where more people come too and exist within.
188	Yes definitely build a permanent toilet block. It is very needed. Do not widen the garden beds. Provide more free seating for people including the elderly. Increase car parking spaces.
189	Great idea
190	Wonderful improvements are being made but there a lot of different coloured pavers on the ground. Some a very dark which will be very hot, especially around the grass in the middle. Why blonde and red pavers outside ichiban in the photo and brown outlining and more dark brown. A bit messy. Red pavers are a bit old fashioned. On another note, shame the shops are looking so old and dirty. Look under the eaves! Coles is so tired looking with a grubby carpark too.
191	What planned maintenance is being considered to maintain the green spaces, in particular the reintroduction of the grassed area? How will the new gardens and seating spaces impact those retailers who currently trade out in the common mall.
192	It all sounds great. Only consideration is that at Darley Street end, it can be quite a squeeze getting through passed the cafe tables and op shop rails so if the garden beds are any wider, this will be more difficult. Considering 1.5metre distancing, prams and electric disability scooters. Thanks!

193	Landscaping, shaded areas, new seating, a toilet block, improved lighting, cctv cameras for security
194	The old tree cause so much dust and issues. At night rats and possum climb around placing droppings everywhere
195	Will outside seating from cafes still be available? It must be to continue the feel of the space.
196	We need a toilet close to the shops!
197	The enclosed, automatic toilet can be pretty hit and miss plus when it is on the fritz and the library/community centre is closed, there are no public amenities. Have you taken toddlers shopping and they need the toilet, this second, right now and the public toilet is broken down waiting for repairs? Regarding the play area for children, there needs to be a soft fall coverings on the ground plus overhead sun sails for protection. The stairs that lead down to the catpark is an accident waiting to happen and need to be re-engineered.
198	This would improve the centre and the toilet block is so necessary ASAP.
199	I support changes to the Forestville Shops and think this is a good start. I think the lawn outside the post office and the extra lighting are is a lovely ideas. But I'm not sure adding extra seating will make the place more comfortable or busy to the point it would be tricky to get through with restaurant seating. You'd have to make sure mums with pram or people with trolleys can still navigate the pavement area during peak times! Thanks for continuing to improve our local community!
200	Why not redo the whole Centre it doesn't work
201	The whole shopping area needs a facelift - the shop fronts look dated - they should have to have an updated look to suit a particular set aesthetic. Instead it looks like it did in the 80's. Glenrose shopping centre should be the guide to a modern aesthetic- until then people will not spend much time hanging out there spending money.
202	The existing toilets are appalling! Sooner rather than later please. Went. Once Never again
203	We are so fortunate to have a pedestrian shopping strip, and I am strongly in favour of updating the landscape. However the area is currently tired, dirty and run down an I'm concerned the suggested updates won't assist with this. Different materials like sandstone, instead of brick, could help here, as well as the night planting. Lighting will help too. The approach to streetscapes in Avalon, Newport and Mona vale does a great job of this. More could be done with the central area, which is very under-utilised. Improve seating, even a kids playground, will help encourage more foot traffic. I'd also love to see a more unified approach to awnings and frontage of shops to make it more harmonious, but not sure how feasible this is as I believe the shops are privately owned. Longer term, I love to see better pedestrian access between the shops and the library. The car park layout is woeful and hazardous to cross with children. Established walkways and plantings would help tremendously.
204	This is no different to what is there now! Get a professional landscaper and spend more than \$100!
205	It is about time a permanent toilet block was built at the Forestville shopping centre. It's been so long since the initial makeover and still no permanent facilities. Often I avoid the Centre as there is no facilities if the Library is closed. It more important than ever that the public can access clean toilets and hand washing facilities. It would entice me to visit and do my shopping if I can go to a clean toilet and wash my hands when necessary. In addition I don't feel comfortable using the current toilet due to its isolated location.
206	May I suggest that access to the the new improved toilets is by some form of identity document eg an Opal Card or something similar so that the possibility of having the toilets trashed is minimised.

207	Support facelift and toilets
208	Not if it reduces already poor parking.
209	Looks good. I know you can't influence tenancy mix, but encourage more food / bar in central square / lawn through allowance and provision of outdoor seating. Check intensity of use with plans for lawn. Consider microclimate, acoustics and glare in material selection. Consider durability of material selection.
210	I don't think this is anywhere near enough to improve this strip of shops
211	Needs lots of shade (trees or shade cloth)
212	As long as it is not closed over with roof of any description such as most modern centres any upgrade to the centre great!
213	It would be fantastic if the toilets were fast tracked and all plantings could be native with some bush tucker
214	Increased grass area if possible.
215	looks good
216	Forestville needs to freshen up, it need the toilet more than anything. You feel like you are living in the third world when you go there. If you able bodied you can walk or run to the library's toilet, instead of try to work out how to get in the tin toilet that left there behind the post office. The residents of Forestville have been waiting a long time for this.
217	There is a toilet in the library.
218	Since co-vid is with us I think there should be more outside eating space and the same for the established cafes. Even without co-vid it looks like you are making more circular seating without any thought to the eating spaces that are currently there . It is a very enjoyable easy shopping centre for the local residents and I do not wish to see it overdeveloped like Warringah Mall. The openness of the area is it's best feature so please reserve it. A toilet block for night time eating would be beneficial as long as it does not get vandalised and kept very clean. Perhaps the cafes could have toilets for their patrons.
219	Time to have all the strata owners to sell to one major developer and start from scratch. we need a mix of one two bed residential units. retail and commercial. we are being too small town thinking fixing trees and putting pot plants in. Fix the problem not window dress it.
220	This is absolutely necessary. I have chronic bowel.disease and need access to toilets when I'm out and about. The ones currently available are disgusting.
221	Toilets are sorely needed. More bicycle parking also
222	The toilets for that shopping centre need urgent attention - a date ought to be set ASAP rather than "some time in the future". They are unsafe and unhygienic - there is no change table for babies either. While there are amenities in the Library/Community building nearby, they are too far for patrons of the Centre to get to easily from the shopping centre. It requires getting across traffic to access the toilets in that building - which children, elderly and disabled have difficulty doing in a hurry. Also, the library building isn't open the same hours as the centre for access to the amenities for the general public. While the changes in the pictures look pleasant, they're not materially different to the current asset of the shopping centre. The main requirement of the Centre that is in dire need are clean accessible toilets and baby change facilities.
223	The shop fronts need updating. It's like your walking back to the 1980s - remember Glenrose! You have people buying 2mil plus properties - you want to support the ongoing growth. Not for the suburb to fall flat because people view the shops as neglected. Let's build capacity and future for years to come. This shopping centre should be a high priority- lots of people driving past, lots of young families moving into the area. Time to be future thinkers. And get stuff done!

224	More plants and seating will face no effect Need to make it more appealing to young families
225	Carpark entry/ exit darley side needs to be altered as well.
226	Definitely
227	We can move the memorial as we already have one at Melwood oval and at the RSL, this area would make a great outdoors area with green and possible outdoor restaurant dining area.
228	Just looks like some more plants. Would like to see something kids/play near cafes. Worried about shops closing more than this, hope it doesn't mean higher rent and more closures.
229	The landscaping plan is great but unless the majority of shop fronts are upgraded the centre will still look shabby!
230	The area looks tired at present and would definitely benefit from some beautification.
231	More human traffic in terms of pedestrians and cyclists and more outside eateries will always require accessible toilets. Just remember, there should be more facilities for women than men.
232	I think the concept design looks dated (circa 1965!) and would like a more timeless design using local sandstone or at least bricks and pavers in lighter colours in lieu of red bricks and red pavers. There could also be more 'softness' in the design - more rounded corners on seats, planters and curves in the paving.
233	Modern, clean toilet facilities are an urgent priority.
234	Redesign the library and park and maybe a roofed of section inside of the shopping centre
235	The concept is good and the extended green space is to be applauded, One issue is that the additional width of the central green spaces will cause problems with cyclists that continue to ride through the centre especially on weekends. This is a current problem that needs to be addressed by more regular fines/cautions being enforced. There are far too many elderly patrons of the Forestville shops that will be severely affected if a bike rider collides with them. The access through the centre where the bikes ride will be narrower adding to the chance of collision and injury. Please look to patrol this offense more regularly, Note that the sign indicating no bike riding has been removed from the Eastern end of the shop.
236	Some vegetation in The Centre will make it more pleasant. Toilets in the area have been good, I have needed them.
237	Toilet/Amenities should be a priority item as the rest of these (mainly aesthetic) changes are not overtly necessary nor are they in any way changing the "vibe" Some additional shaded public seating would be beneficial.
238	I think the lights are a good idea. More room for seating and eating would be nice like a fake grass area to sit on would be cool.
239	Would rather see open shops than landscaping and seating
240	I would love new landscaping but I hope the existing trees will remain
241	I grew up in forestville and very surprised it's bearily changed in 35-40 years..
242	The precinct is tired and needs an upgrade. Public toilet would be a very welcome inclusion
243	A simple climbing frame or similar on a grassy area in the centre (where the fish and chip shop is) would allow mums to have coffee in peace.
244	Agree with the changes to garden beds, etc. Do not think we need a grass area in the middle of the Shopping complex. The area would be a high traffic area, and would wear down the grass. The increase in seating would be good. Think the building of a permanent toilet block in the carpark is excellent - the sooner the better.
245	Better seating similar to what was installed at the Killarney heights shops area.

246	Lighting is definitely needed. A toilet block is a must. Better shops is really important.
247	Would love to see you paving through the centre. Is it possible to get the landlords of some of the shops to do something about the look of their facades as this would make amazing difference to the look of our shopping centre
248	Playground needs an upgrade and a bin nearby. Gate doesn't close properly and now usually a teenage hangout
249	It doesn't look like much has changed from the images?
250	Not at the expense of parking - make the library toilets accessible after hours.
251	Please build thr toilet block as a priority. It is needed more than extra plants and seats.
252	We need an amenities block but putting it in the carpark in full view of everyone isn't very appealing. Forestville is very short on car spaces so if this were to take up additional spaces, this is also not desirable. The changes are all fine, though I can't help but think that there is a focus to continually upgrade the landscape without consideration of the village itself and what it can offer the residents of forestville, modernising and keeping up with the times with a good range of cafes/ restaurants appropriate to the large number of families you have in the local area.
253	of course, never enough public toilets
254	Can't believe the toilets are second on the agenda. The current facilities are totally unacceptable.
255	This Centre has been neglected for a long time and upgrade is sorely needed. The improvement proposed will do much to enhance the appearance of the centre, but additional works could do much more, in so much, that individual properties could be encouraged to improve the facades and signage of their respective businesses.
256	This is essential. Personally I would attend more regularly but that mobile convenience is a turn off. Not my local Shopping area, but , Coles is a big draw card and the outdoor cafes etc are most appealing and well attended.....please lift this up on your priority list.....As I am sure many Elder citizens would agree with me ...
257	Pls don't put grass on the main thoroughfare where ppl wheel their trolleys! Grass will get trashed and will need ongoing maintenance. Garden beds are fine. However already the walkways in front of shops Are limited with retail sandwich boards blocking access. Very difficult for elderly and pram users. Pls don't widen the garden beds which will reduce the pathway width. Toilets are really needed as are additional bins that are emptied more often. Thx.
258	This shopping strip desperately needs revamping however the proposed changes are not extensive enough nor vary that much from what exists now. Better paving could be used and the central garden beds should be offering specific seating built in, possibly made from a sandstone or timber design. These designs look like they are the most minimal and cheapest version possible.
259	Definitely agree with extra lighting. I am not very good at reading these drawings, but seems to me this will take up too much pedestrian space. it is hard enough to walk thru from one end to the other now with social distancing. don't make it more difficult. we love our cafes & want to keep as much outdoor seating as possible during these times & going forward. Don't take away their space either. What about outdoor seating space down the centre of the mall for the cafes which would leave a clear walkway for pedestrians. A separate concern-Find a way to keep bicycles from riding thru the mall please. Don't forget about the amenities block. I am claustrophobic & can't even entertain using the current toilet. Why aren't grocery stores & cafes required to provide a toilet ?
260	This is a great idea. Would also love to see an area where a busker or an entertainer can perform on Friday nights and Saturday mornings when the cafes were bustling.

261	Is it worth making such changes if really, a large scale rebuild is in order in the future. The centre is outdated and the finishes grow old which is evident when you visit the space. Is it worth spending money now if in reality, a knockdown of the centre and development of a new commercial area is most likely to follow in the future.
262	There are more important things to spend money on, such as pavements. Re the toilet block, there are amenities in library block during the day. I fear it may become a gang hangout in the evening
263	It depends which car park. Underneath would be hard for elderly people who aren't very mobile
264	The toilet block could be moved to a less conspicuous place than its current location if it is clearly indicated with a sign in the Mall area. It is not particularly pleasant to walk past the current cubicle on our way to the shops. Apart from this, I have no objection.
265	The proposals seem to reduce the circulation space. There is no need to increase the size of the planters. A 'green space' would be ridiculous. It would be a quagmire in two minutes flat! It would be difficult to retain the brick paving if too much work were to be undertaken. With more and more empty shops what is needed is a plan to attract more businesses.
266	As long as a toilet is provided I don't think it matters if it stays as it is or becomes permanent.
267	Realistically the Centre needs a major facelift and more alfresco seating for the eateries to give it a better vibe in the evening. Obviously understand this is difficult due to the individual ownership structure. This is a good improvement - the lighting and greenery will make it more enticing for people that choose to come and eat there in the evening. If you are removing the existing marble War Memorial structure to replace it with a new one then we have use for the old one at Aquatic Reserve where we would happily recycle it at the base of our flagpole in front of the Manly Baseball Clubhouse to reflect the links to the Frenchs Forest Soldiers Settlement.
268	1. With the high number of retirement villages nearby I'd like to see an AED unit similar to the Council installation in Melwood Oval to support the community. 2. Current Paving can be slippery when wet, it would be great to see non-slip paving installed. 3. Drains in the paved area of the Centre get really smelly and are a turnoff when dining. 4. Alcohol consumption prohibition signs expired in 2016, 4 years ago and should be removed. 5. Riding of bikes, scooter, skateboards etc. should be prohibited through the Centre, especially for the safety of the many elderly residents of the area. Dedicated bike racks may assist in this.
269	Ensure correct native trees are chosen to provide shade in summer and habitat and food source for native animals. The toilet block would have to be regularly cleaned and patrolled to avoid vandalism.
270	Sounds good, please do.
271	I support the upgrading of the landscaping to the centre and I totally agree with an improvement to the lighting however if it were possible to install fairy lights throughout the area it would provide a more festive atmosphere rather than stark pole lights. It would be welcoming encouraging more use of the area during the evening with increased greenery having the same effect both day and night.
272	Suggestion for circular seating - instead of wood which will require maintenance, look at a Mod Wood or Eco wood? The permanent toilet block adjacent to the carpark is essential for the community and needs to be opened sunrise to sunset. The current Exceloo is dirty and smells and is not an option I would use.

273	<p>In my opinion the quality of shop fronts needs better control, rather than public areas. Changes look minimal and don't look like they will make much difference. Grass looks nice, but will it be able to grow well and be maintained. I am sure a lower maintenance solution is possible.</p> <p>Look like this is focused on day time use. It is popular and has the opportunity to be even better as an outside dining space. This looks like it will reduce the cafes/restaurants ability to offer outside dining. Understand only graphic representation but lights look for show, rather than functionality.</p> <p>Agree with nice toilet in car park, PLUS trolley return area.</p> <p>Suggest the car parking under Coles is given serious consideration as part of plan, currently dark, damp and uninviting.</p>
274	<p>I think it's important to have safety bollards in front of the parking areas that face both sets of shops on Darley and Starkey streets. In light of numerous recent accidents where vehicles have accidentally accelerated into shop fronts I think it should be a top priority. As it will no doubt happen again</p>
275	<p>It would be great to see the centre rejuvenated.</p>
276	<p>I am unhappy about only one thing and that is the removal of the phone box. The reduction in access to public phones in shopping centres is not a good thing especially in areas where there are nearby schools and there are a significant number of older people who may not carry a mobile phone.</p>
277	<p>great to see council looking to update this area, as it is looking tired and dated</p>
278	<p>I said no because I am happy with the way things are now. I gather from your plans that by extending the garden areas you will be preventing the various cafes from having outdoor seating which to me is part of the uniqueness of the area. However I would agree if that is not the case.</p>
279	<p>Don't use black bricks. Too hot in the summer for children and animals. I would appreciate this being taken into serious consideration.</p>
280	<p>If means removing parking spaces then i don't think it will be of any benefit</p>
281	<p>The building of a new amenities block should be a priority. The exeloo is disgusting and no one in their right mind would want to go in there unless it was an emergency.</p>
282	<p>I really like the plan for the landscaping, it's just what is needed. However, I would also like to see a safe clear pedestrian route between the library, and playground, through the car park to the Centre. Especially as this is where the toilets are commonly used.</p>
283	<p>Parking still is a problem, commuters also take shops parking.</p>
284	<p>Lawn area needs to be artificial grass. It was real grass many years ago - it gets to much foot traffic for real grass to survive. Love the circular wooden seats and lighting.</p>
285	<p>This has been needed for some time as the Centre is beginning to look its age. Landscaping a good idea, and I would suggest a permanent toilet block sooner than later, present facilities are badly neglected.</p>
286	<p>It needs some sort of further cover to protect customers during both hot and cold and wet weather. When it rains it is impractical for people with kids and the elderly. Some higher level cover over the middle section will make it more user friendly all year round and later at nights in summer.</p>

Appendix 2 - Submission (received as attachments)

Forestville Landscape Upgrades – Draft Plan

Watermark Planning provide this response to the Draft Landscape Concept Plan for The Centre, Forestville shops, as both an occupant of commercial property at The Centre, and on behalf of the retailer at 51 The Centre, Cocco Rocco Deli.

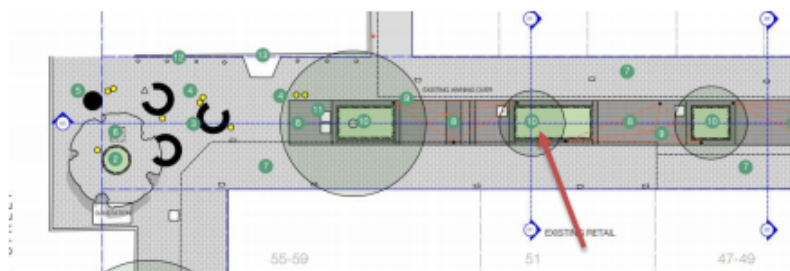
Both myself and the owners of Cocco Rocco are supportive of the plans for upgrade and renewal works within The Centre. We agree that revitalisation of this key local centre will be to the vast benefit of the local economy and the local community, who regularly use the facilities and services of The Centre. However, following our initial review of the draft plan, we have some significant concerns about the workability and fairness of some aspects of the Draft proposal.

We note that a combination of seating, paved areas and planter beds are to be utilised in the central strip of the mall. Currently there are planter beds, and many of the local cafes have seating which occupies areas of this central strip of the mall area. See the photo below of outdoor tables in use at Cocco Rocco Deli, with planter beds either side.



These outdoor tables, licenced by Council, add vitality and life to The Centre. They bring people into the outdoor space and provide the community character and atmosphere, which is what Council needs to encourage with any planned landscape redevelopment.

Looking at the proposed plan, and concentrating on the western end of the mall, where Cocco Rocco is located (no. 51), it is evident that the size of the new proposed planter beds varies, with no obvious pattern to the size chosen. Some planters are double the size of others. We are concerned that the location of the largest planter appears to be immediately in front of Cocco Rocco Deli and entirely within their outdoor licenced seating area, as seen in the photo on the previous page.



The result of this siting for the long planter bed will be an inability for Cocco Rocco to continue to lease the central outdoor space from Council. The assumed impact of this would be a drop in customers and income. It will also mean a reduction in activity and life within the central mall area, which is certainly a loss for not only this retailer but other shops at this end of the pedestrian mall.

We suggest that the choice for location of the planters is not well thought out, and has not considered the existing café and restaurant locations, as other existing cafes appear to retain the space immediately in front of their premises, and would be able to continue to use this for outdoor seating.

Cocco Rocco Deli has operated in this location for 10 years and are a key contributor to keeping The Centre shops vibrant. It is a busy retail deli, who have loyal clientele, including myself. They are a large part of The Centre, Forestville community, and a design which is to the detriment of their business, is not to the benefit of The Centre.

We request that when the Draft is revisited, that Council look at the existing retailers and the limited number who provide outdoor seating, and ensure that these crucial retailers retain ample immediately accessible outdoor seating areas to continue to operate as they currently do. We believe that any landscape design must, as a first step, map out the location of existing retailers and consider as essential that such outdoor seating areas are retained. This is particularly key at the moment, with COVID-19 making outdoor seating a preferred space for café customers to dine.

We are very hopeful that Council will continue to offer leasing of outdoor seating within the central area of the mall. As a part of this landscape design strategy, retailers and the community should be advised if the intention is to change the existing Council licencing agreements with retailers. Should this situation arise, Council must consider that this may result in some businesses becoming unviable. This is of particular concern, when the impacts for some retailers are a loss of space and others are not impacted. It is the responsibility of Council to equitably consider all cafe and restaurants in the mall and ensure that no existing long-term retailers are more detrimentally impacted.

It is essential that the next stage of planning includes all details of all existing leasing of seating and details how and if this will be impacted. A change of this nature would have a major impact for occupants and clientele of existing businesses. The community consultation process must be transparent and clear so that the community and retailers can make a judgment on fairness and consider how such a detrimental loss would impact on The Centre.

We strongly urge Council to redevelop the current design to a more equitable layout, which has considered existing long-term retailers. We welcome discussion with Council and are happy to assist should you have any questions regarding our concerns and the impacts on existing local businesses including Cocco Rocco Deli.

Submission regarding the proposed upgrade to Forestville shops

In general, I am for upgrading and updating the Centre. However I have some significant objections to some of the proposed changes.

Lighting

The light columns - great, makes the place better at night.

Catenary lighting - might look nice, but I'm concerned about birds sitting on them and pooping on people below.

Bollards

p4.1 item 12 - bollards. Excellent idea. These also need to be implemented at the Arthur St, Forestville shops where there was recently an incident.

The current bollards at the Darley St carpark entry are too widely spaced to prevent an incident, so should be made closer.

Access

p4.2 Detail

The proposed bench seats outside shops 39 and 37 will impede access along that important corridor, and should be moved further north.

The rendition on page 7.1 is completely out of scale, and shows the access near (the previous) Ichiban restaurant completely broken.

Eating areas

The nighttime dining outside "Lucky and Peps" and also Thai Garlic is really valuable, yet I see no mention of it at all in this plan. Also, daytime eating outside the Deli, the Brunch Bar and many others should be taken into account in this plan. There is no mention of it, yet this is really important. This would be a great time to improve this important aspect of the Centre. I would really like to see consideration being made for lots more of this, especially as it provides an eating area that is safer regarding Covid.

In the renditions on page 7.2 and 7.3 I can see no consideration to this. All I can see is huge planters with no actual space for the actual eating areas.

I wonder if these shops were approached about their needs before this concept was created.

As the design brief includes "flexible spaces for socialising and connectivity", this appears to be a significant omission.

Lawn

p4.2 Detail

A lawn here is a terrible idea. There used to be lawn here, and the traffic and lack of sunshine in winter turned it into a dust bowl. Please no.

RSL flagpole

There's no explicit mention of it, but it looks like it's proposed to remove the flagpole and Returned Service members' memorial. Is this what is proposed? I think many would disagree with this (if it was known about). Is the "New memorial sculpture" a replacement, or something different?

Water bubbler

There is no mention of it in this concept, yet the "Placescore" report mentions the people were not happy with the lack of a water bubbler. A water bubbler / water fill station should be included.

Other issues

There is occasionally a foul smell that comes out of the drains down the middle, often near shops 8 / 35. The drainage system, storm water and sewerage should be checked and corrected as part of this upgrade.

Cost

I'd be interested to know what the proposed budget for this is. While some improvements would be nice, I fear that an excessive amount of money is being proposed to be spent on something that's not really that crucial.

"Have your say"

I was disappointed that this proposal was not included in the council newsletter of 20/11.

Resident feedback re Landscaping Improvements The Centre, Forestville

I have lived in Forestville for over 40 years and therefore feel I am well qualified to comment on the above, having seen many of the past upgrades to the Centre.

Positive points

- 1) Improved and more modern lighting – needed
- 2) Bin upgrades – need larger/more bins and more frequent collection. In busy times current bins overflow
- 3) Public toilet upgrade- yes please

Negative points

- 1) We do not need central grassed meeting areas. Some years ago there was grass around the war memorial in front of the TAB and was eventually replaced by the Council with a hard surface as it became a dusty, and in the rain, muddy with the excessive foot traffic. It was a mess and the current surface does not require change.
- 2) Additional seating is not required but perhaps replacement of existing benches with a more modern style. The current seats work really well and the walls around the trees/gardens are very effective.
- 3) The current landscape/garden arrangements are low maintenance and are pleasing to the eye. We do not need widening of the current beds - also extra work will be required to maintain larger garden areas. Who is going to do this - additional work for Council ?
- 4) The current open areas work well for the cafes and shops – there is space for outside tables for lunch/breakfast/dinner and sipping coffee. Under the proposed plans much of this will disappear with the larger garden beds and additional seating which are not needed. Have the shop owners been consulted re this plan?
- 5) A free public internet service needs to be there to attract foot traffic. Council did offer this service but it was never reliable and has now completely disappeared.
- 6) Looking at the concept design, the cost for the proposal will be significant with limited benefit. As a ratepayer, I object to these funds being spent on something that works very well now. Some reduction in scope should be considered required but I suspect the Council is already committed to doing this with a great deal already spent on the design phase. Did the Council get local input before proceeding to the concept design ?
- 7) There needs to be a better mix of shops – too many gyms, coffee shops and empty premises – some of the awnings and shop fronts are in need of an upgrade. Appreciate this is probably beyond the Council's responsibility but it is something to consider as it will improve the ambience of the area.
- 8) If any work does take place, please ensure the current paving is relaid properly and not like the NBN instal. Also Council will need to co-ordinate with utility organisations to ensure there are not future works requiring future disturbance of the paved areas.

