



WAVERLEY
COUNCIL

O'Donnell Street Reserve

Consultation Report October 2015



Caring for Country

Waverley Council respectfully acknowledges our Indigenous heritage and recognises the ongoing Aboriginal traditional custodianship of the land which forms our local government area.

The O'Donnell Street Reserve Consultation Report was prepared by Waverley Council in 2015.

Rev	Date	Name	Signature
A	01.10.15	O'Donnell Street Reserve Consultation Report 2015	Scott Spiers

Contents

Background	4
O'Donnell Street Reserve	4
Relevance to Council's Play Space Strategy	4
Project Planning and Consultation Process	4
Consultation Summary	5
Consultation Summary - Play Space Concept	6
Consultation Summary - Other Facilities	6
Recommendations	8
Improving safety	8
Recommendations	8
Shade Structures and Shade Trees	8
Recommendations	8
Playground Surfacing	8
Recommendations	8
Next Steps	8
	9
Appendix A	10
Online Survey Results	10
Frequency of Visit	10
Duration of Visit	10
Getting to the Reserve	10
What do users do in the Reserve?	10
Appendix B	11
Draft Play Space Concept	11
Appendix C	12
Consultation notification flyer (page 1)	12
Consultation notification flyer (page2)	12
Appendix D	13
Site Notification Signage	14
Appendix E	14
Online 'Have your Say' Survey Responses	15
	15

Background

This Consultation report summarises feedback received from the draft O'Donnell Reserve and Play Space Upgrade community consultation, which was undertaken in June / July 2015 for a period of 3 weeks, closing 18th July.

The findings of the consultation will help guide the proposed upgrades to the reserve which are scheduled early next year.

O'Donnell Street Reserve

O'Donnell Reserve is located at the street closure of Frederick Street, Vicars Avenue and O'Donnell Street in North Bondi. The existing play space caters primarily to younger children with traditional play structures that are nearing the end of their useful lives. The play space includes an artificial grass 'kick about' space which is also used by parents and carers for informal picnics and socialising.

Relevance to Council's Play Space Strategy

The Principles and Strategies relevant to O'Donnell Reserve include:

Develop this play space to:

- Include 'Active and Free' play spaces.
- Investigate opportunities to incorporate wheeled play such as paths for scooters or bicycles.
- Investigate places for informal ball games with consideration of actions as set out in Council's Recreation Needs Study 2008.

Council's Play Space Strategy identifies that play experiences in neighbouring play spaces should complement each other and offer a range of play types in any locality.

Project Planning and Consultation Process

To ensure upgrades meet community needs, community consultation was undertaken. The methodology for upgrading the Reserve and play space is set out below.

Project Planning

In February 2015, council officers undertook a site assessment of the entire Reserve to discuss the state of facilities and to identify opportunities for asset renewal and opportunities to improve the user experience in the Reserve. The play space upgrade has also been identified in Council's Play Space Strategy as a high priority to be upgraded.

Consultation Process

Consultation was designed to canvas community responses to the draft O'Donnell Street Reserve Play Space Concept and to inform the ongoing upgrade process by gaining a better understanding of:

- how people get to the Reserve and how often they visit;
- how long they stay and what they do in the Reserve; and
- what they like about the Reserve and what they would like to see in the future.

A consultation survey based on these objectives was made available on the Waverley Council 'have your say' website and distributed on a flyer to approx. 1200 letterboxes within a 250m radius of the Reserve. Surveys were also distributed at the consultation day in the Reserve.

- A total of 88 people viewed the 'Have your Say' website and were made aware of the project proposals
- A total of 46 people were informed of the details of the project via the 'Have your Say' website
- A total of 40 responses were received, these we made up of 10 online survey responses, 24 onsite surveys and 6 written email responses.

The consultation day was held in O'Donnell Street Reserve on a Saturday 4th July, 2015. On the day council officers staffed a station which included: A1 sign of Reserve upgrade concept, paper surveys and an opportunity for children to draw their favourite play space on paper. The consultation day was promoted on the Waverley Council 'have your say' website, at a Bondi precinct meeting and via the letterbox flyer drop. The consultation day was attended by approximately 40 members of the public.

Consultation Summary

In this section feedback, both written and verbal, is summarised into common themes. Each theme is accompanied by recommendations on how to incorporate the feedback into the upgrade works in the



Photo: Existing play equipment in O'Donnell Street Reserve, currently reaching the end of its useful life. The community have asked for similar types to be installed as part of new upgrade.

following section. A full table of written responses is located in Appendix F.

Consultation Summary - Play Space Concept

48% of respondents requested climbing structures or similar play elements to the existing structure.

28% of respondents requested artificial softfall surface to replace the mulch softfall surface.

23% of respondents were generally positive about the play space upgrade concept

13% of respondents suggested the use of natural colours rather than prominent bold colours

Additionally about 3 out of 40 people suggested either equipment for older kids, more swings, imaginary play, or nature play experiences.

Consultation Summary - Other Facilities

48% of respondents requested fencing or low level barriers.

40% of respondents requested more shade from trees or structures

25% of respondents requested more benches and picnic tables

13% of respondents requested additional litter bins

Additionally 3 people requested bike racks, 2 people suggested an alternate name to the park, 2 people requested shelter from rain, 1 person requested that the proposed shade structure did not obstruct sunlight into their property.



Photo: Council staff and some of the local residents during the community consultation day .

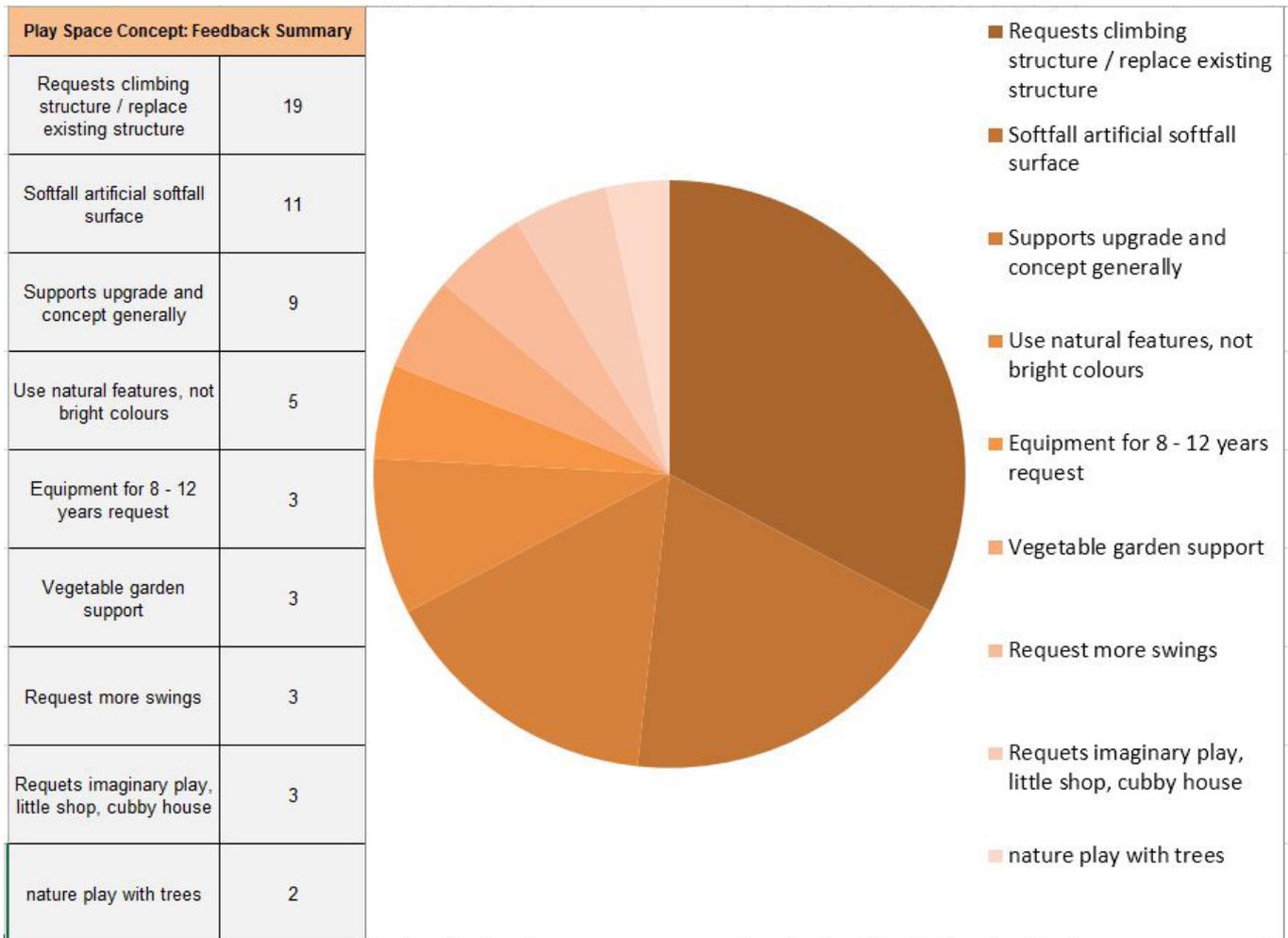


Fig. 1 Play Space Concept Consultation Summary

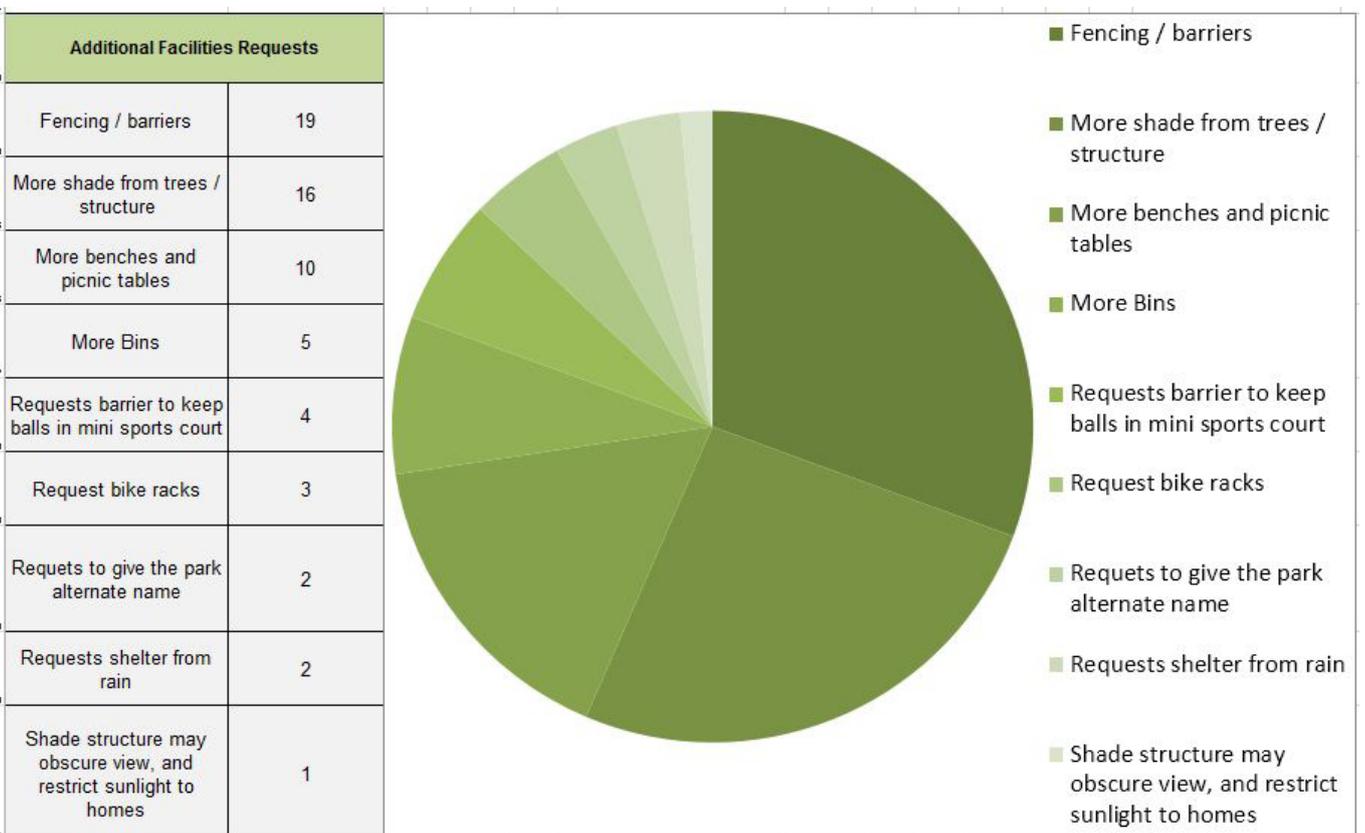


Fig. 2 Other Suggestions



Drawings from Children on the consultation day requesting their favorite play pieces

Recommendations from Community Consultation

Improving safety

There was a strong view that new fencing or barriers to the roadway would improve safety, particularly to reduce the risk of children running out onto the roads and to prevent balls from rolling out. Some people suggested fencing extend around the perimeter of the play space, while others suggested low fencing, at critical locations.

Some people commented on the use of the reserve, particularly around the perimeter footpaths, by cyclists passing through the site. Although this posed little concern to residents on the day of the consultation, there were some suggestions on how to improve safety for children using the site, and reduce risk of conflict with cyclists.

Recommendations

Council investigate the use of low barrier fencing combined with native plantings to create physical barriers to 'high risk' edges of the play space, particularly adjacent to roads. New seating will be strategically located to maximise opportunity for carers to supervise children.

To reduce the conflict of cyclists and children, Council officers will investigate the use of line marking and graphic stencils to delineate the edges of the play space and to improve cyclist awareness of children playing.

Shade Structures and Shade Trees

The existing trees were widely recognised as a valuable part of the Reserve, a source of shade and a suitable place to play or relax. Verbal feedback generally supported proposed tree planting as a source of additional shade for the play area.

Increased shade cover over play equipment was a common request at the open day and in survey responses. Some people requested shade sails while others were more supportive of trees. Some residents were also concerned with the 'look' of the shade structures and noted their preference for less visually obtrusive colours and styles of structures.

Recommendations

Undertake an assessment of existing trees onsite and investigate alternate plantings to maximise shade during summer. Ensure the new tree planting compliment the shade structure locations.

Ensure new tree planting does not obstruct overhead wires, resident's views and solar radiation to homes.

Given the close proximity of residential properties and the small size of the reserve, Council will investigate the locations of multiple smaller single posted shade sails (rather than one large structure) to reduce the visual prominence of the shade structures, while also providing additional tree planting for shade. This will also reduce the issue of blocking sunlight to residential homes and allow a more attractive outlook both into and out of the reserve.



Photo: People playing in and passing through the reserve

Playground Surfacing

There was a large proportion of respondent's that suggested the use of artificial softfall rather than mulch softfall.

Recommendations

Council investigate costs associated with installing artificial turf surfacing or natural coloured rubber softfall.

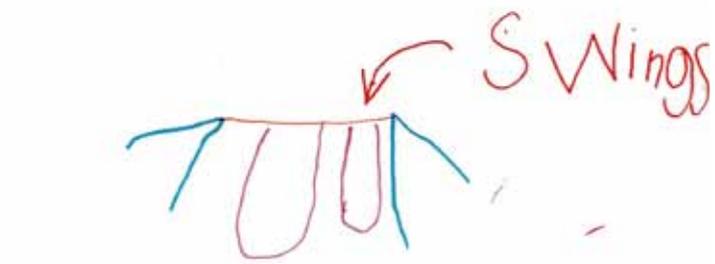
Acknowledgement of the need to balance colour for 'play value' versus reducing the impact of the built form in the park through the use of natural materials and natural colours.

Next Steps

Waverley Council wish to thank all the community members who made contributions throughout the consultation process. The draft O'Donnell Reserve Play Space Concept will now be modified, in light of the community feedback received. The modified plans will be displayed on the Waverley Council website, along with this consultation summary report. A detailed design will then be prepared, followed by construction of the play space (currently scheduled for early 2016 to avoid any construction works over the school holiday period). The detailed design and tendering process will include:

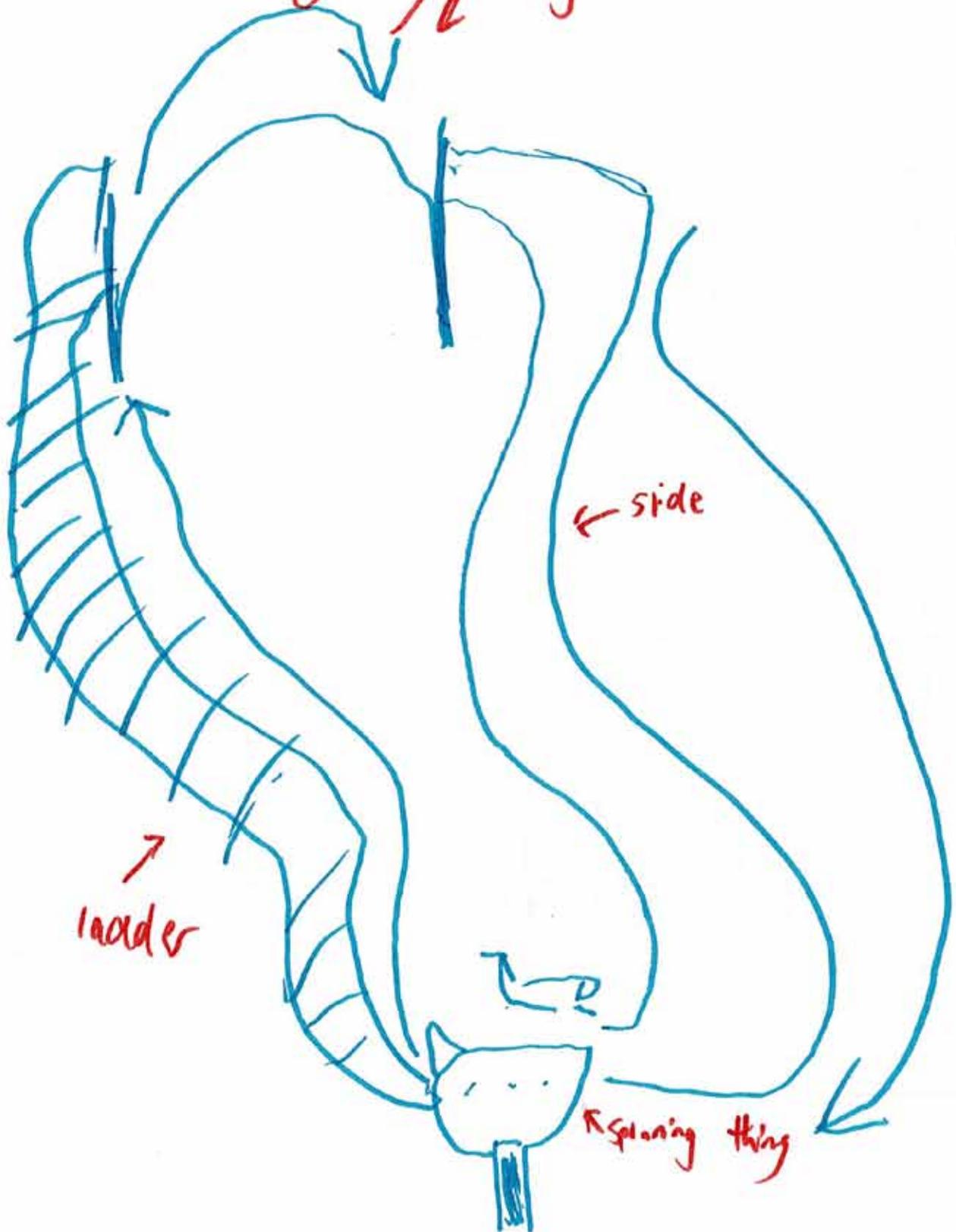
- Underground services search and coordination
- Shade sail design and shade study
- Play Equipment selection and procurement
- Prepare Tender documents
- Tender process & tender review
- Report to Council on Tender Selection
- Finalise contracts
- Begin Construction

For More information on the project please contact Council's Senior Landscape Architect on scott.spiers@waverley.nsw.gov.au or 8306 8671



Drawings from Children on the consultation day requesting their favorite play pieces

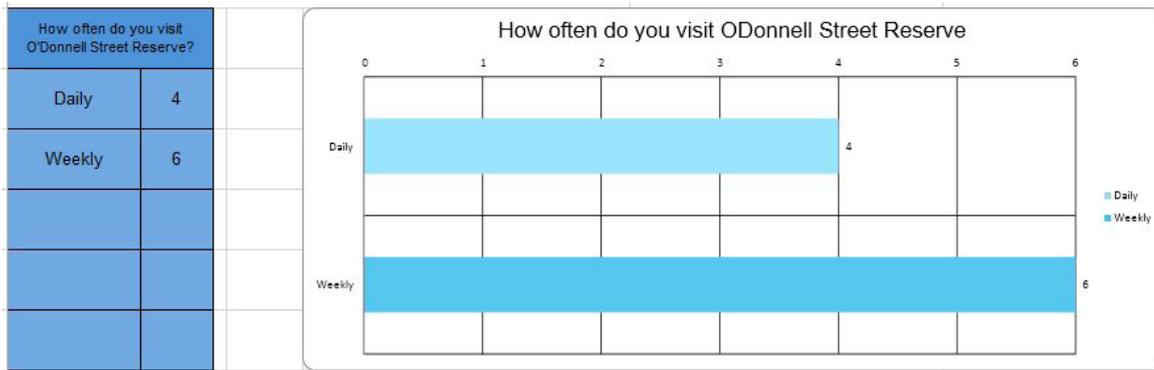
Toby 5
bridge



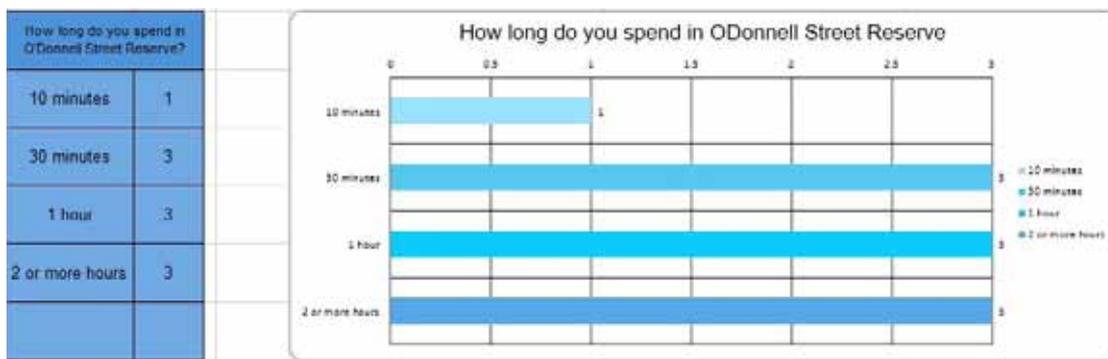
Drawings from Children on the consultation day requesting their favorite play pieces

Appendix A

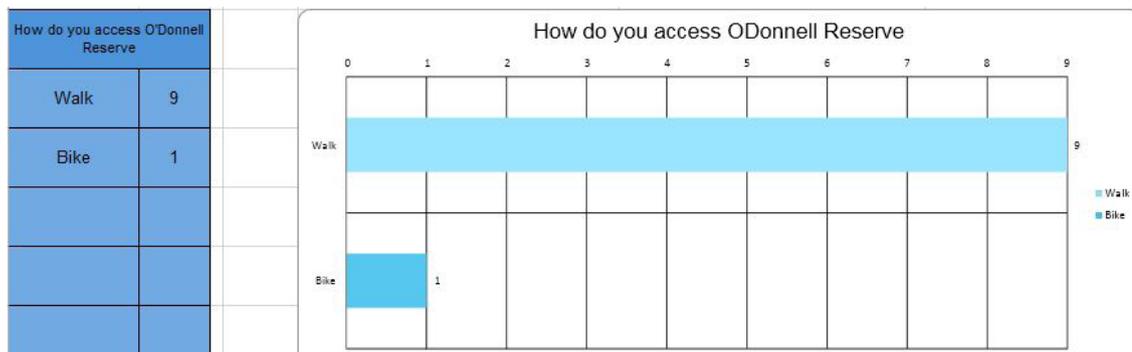
Online Survey Results



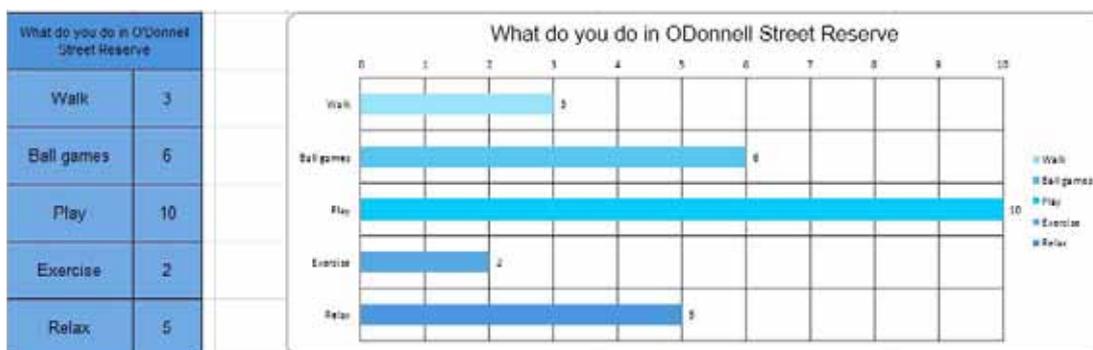
Frequency of Visit



Duration of Visit



Getting to the Reserve



What do users do in the Reserve?

Appendix C

Consultation notification flyer (page 1)



WAVERLEY
COUNCIL

O'Donnell Street Reserve Play Space Consultation

Saturday 4 July
10am - 12pm

O'Donnell Street Play Space
(Junction of O'Donnell St,
Frederick St and Vicars Ave)

You are also able to comment on the concept plan:

1. Online at haveyoursaywaverley.com.au/ODonnellStreetReserve

2. In writing to the attention of Scott Spiers, PO
Box 9, Bondi Junction 1355

3. By email to scott.spiers@waverley.nsw.gov.au

Submissions close on Saturday 18 July. After
submissions close, your feedback will help us
finalise the plans for the play space. We will let
you know what the final design is by the end of
September 2015.

This play space was identified as
a high priority in Waverley Council's
Play Space Strategy.
The Play Space Strategy guides our
approach to planning, upgrading
and maintaining play spaces over
the next 15 years. To view please
visit: [www.waverley.nsw.gov.
au/playspacestrategy.pdf](http://www.waverley.nsw.gov.au/playspacestrategy.pdf) or visit
Customer Service Centre, 55 Spring
Street, Bondi Junction



For more information please contact Scott Spiers on 8306 3671 or email
scott.spiers@waverley.nsw.gov.au



WAVERLEY
COUNCIL

O'Donnell Street Reserve Play Space Consultation

Dear Resident,

Council was recently successful in obtaining a grant of \$30,000 from the NSW Government to improve shade and landscaping at O'Donnell Street Reserve.

These improvements will coincide with an upgrade to the existing play space in time for summer this year.

We have prepared a concept plan, which is based on actions from Council's Play Space Strategy and proposes the following :

- o new play equipment suitable for a range of ages up to 6 years
- o new seating
- o a bubbler
- o new plantings
- o new softfall surfacing
- o a new shade structure.
- o retain the mini sports court

Please come along to share your ideas and comment on draft concept plans for the playground

Saturday 4 July from 10am - 12pm

O'Donnell Street Play Space

Please see the other side of this flyer for more information on how you can.

For more information please contact Scott Spiers on 8306 3671 or email scott.spiers@waverley.nsw.gov.au

Appendix D

Site Notification Signage

ANOTHER WAVERLEY
RENEWAL PROJECT

Draft O'Donnell Street Play Space Concept





Play Space Strategy

Waverley Council's Play Space Strategy identifies O'Donnell Street Reserve playground for be upgraded as a pocket play space to cater for toddlers and junior children and to investigate opportunities for whistled play such as paths for scooters.

Improved barrier to read with planting and garden barrier to stop balls.

New Bubble

Provide barriers to keep balls in the kick above area.

Planting barrier with integrated kids seating blocks.

Combination of compacted gravel, planting, and rubber softball to play area.

Playful decorative colored timber posts allow permeability for children through the playground while preventing the passing balls from balls.

Raised vegetable planters for community gardening.

Reforms for toddler play.

Realign the concrete path through the play space to slow speeds and reduce conflict of cyclists and children.

Spencer

Benches seating for individuals and groups.

Table seat for informal picnics, baby change table and accessible.

Improved safety barrier for play space including garden barrier fence and planting.

Investigation of use to herb parking with steps to improve safety for children to play area.

Realign swing and swings for toddlers.

Slide

Shade sails over playground.

New shade tree planting and grassed area for toddlers and picnicking.









On Saturday 4 July, Council Officers will be at O'Donnell Street Reserve from 10am - 12pm to talk through the plans for the play space and to answer any of your questions. From Saturday 20 June until Saturday 18 July, the community can comment on the plans for the play space.

www.haveyoursaywaverley.com.au/odonnellstreetreserve

You can have your say in writing to the attention of Scott Spiers, PO Box 9, Bondi Junction 1355, by email to scott.spiers@waverley.nsw.gov.au, or on the web address listed above. After submissions close, feedback will help us finalise the plans for the play space this year.



Appendix E

Online 'Have your Say' Survey Responses

How often do you visit	How long do you spend in O'Donnell	How do you access	What do you do in O'Donnell Street Reserve	If you selected 'other'	What do you like about the draft O'Donnell Street Play Space concept?	What do you dislike about the draft O'Donnell Street Play Space concept?	In the future, what would you like to see in O'Donnell Street Reserve?	What is your age range?	If you visit with children, how many and how old are they?
Weekly	1 hour	Bike	Ball games, Play		Up to age 8 good, but a bit higher than this please.	Make it clear that a flat patch will be kept for kids kicking around a soccer ball. This is majorly important.	Picnic tables x2, some benches, plus grass areas to lay down a pingrid or simply sit on the grass. Play equipment for tweens. Flat area for our bikes as well as picnic tables. Pedestrian pathway for all directions for bikes as pedestrians walk through areas but kids on bikes will go before from the beach from all directions, and need to do so safely. Safety for all.	41-50	two of my own, with an additional two when playdates are at ours.
Weekly	1 hour	Walk	Play		Barrier to keep the balls in the kick about area New Bubble! Not sure if you are getting rid of the current wooden structure, but it should stay	Community garden beds. These are a terrible idea. People lose interest, they are not maintained and get overrun and end up full of dog poo. Yuck. Just like the one next to the Police Station at Roscoe St. Play equipment seems to be more for babies and toddlers. I have an 8 year boy, most of the playgrounds in Bondi leave little scope or challenges for 8-12 year old boys. The current wooden structure should stay at least. This is good for older boys and girls to climb over	Basketball hoop Innovative landscaping and play equipment Bike rack Take a look at http://flavourwire.com/284670/15-amazing-playgrounds-from-all-over-the-world/ Built in Hopsotch grid in concrete	31-40	2 or 3 8 years old
Weekly	2 or more hours	Walk	Walk, Ball games, Play, Relax		Looks nice. It will be able to be used by all kids big and small. The kids already have a great time playing in the park. The new layout looks fantastic.	N/a	Plenty of shade for hot summers days. A bbq facility for families and friends to gather	21-30	2
Weekly	10 minutes	Walk	Play		The playground is within walking distance to my apartment.	It is not confined within fencing and very close to residential cars and roads. There are hardly any gated secure playgrounds in Waverley council which makes it very difficult for parents with children who run off. My son has sensory processing difficulties and run off all the time I would love to take him to a playground where I don't have to worry about him running off, that has suitable play equipment and access to run around.	secure fencing, better climbing area and slides, rock climbing feature and slides. I really like the little grass field where we can play soccer too!	31-40	1 (at the moment), 2.5 years old.
Weekly	30 minutes	Walk	Play		I can see you are adding soffit flooring no paper bark which is a hazard to my small child.	i can't see any images anywhere so I can't comment	of the soft fall was to happen a light colour as dark colours attract heat and burns children's feet in summer when playing	31-40	12 months 3 years They both have been going since 6 months old
Weekly	30 minutes	Walk	Play		The new ground and shade	needs more equipment- a slide, spinner, rockers and swings aren't enough. Maybe some type of open cubby house with steering wheel etc		21-30	1 child who is 16 months
Daily	30 minutes	Walk	Ball games, Play, Relax		Soffit surface and shading		Good climbing equipment, a "fire" pole, swings for both younger and older children and fencing/banisters between street and park.	31-40	Two children; ages 3 and 6 months
Daily	1 hour	Walk	Walk, Ball games, Play, Exercise, Relax		1. Bondi kids can't climb! There are few if any playgrounds in Bondi that have good climbing apparatus. I urge council to look at the playground at Kirribilli under the bridge. We have to drive our children age 4 and 5 to Kirribilli to develop their climbing skills on their excellent climbing playground. Would also like to see a good two child see-saw in the proposed new equipment. 2. New soffit surface. Will be great to get rid of the mulch which gets into shoes which children dislike. 3. New shade structure. It gets extremely hot in summer and have to avoid the park around midday.	Would like to see a fence. Particularly on the side where the cul de sac is. Balls often roll into the road followed by children.	A fence.	41-50	Two children aged 3 and 5.