The Thomas Hogan Reserve Play Space Upgrade Consultation Report was prepared by Waverley Council in 2015.

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<td>Yanos Fill-Dryden</td>
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<td>Thomas Hogan Reserve Play Space Upgrade Consultation Report</td>
<td>Yanos Fill-Dryden</td>
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**Introduction**

This Consultation Report summarises feedback received through the consultation phase of the Thomas Hogan Reserve Play Space Upgrade Project.

**Project Background**

Thomas Hogan Reserve Play Space Upgrade Project has been developed to address actions identified in the Thomas Hogan Reserve Plan of Management (POM), recommendations from Waverley Council’s Play Space Strategy (PSS), and emerging site issues.

The following actions from the POM have been incorporated into the project scope;

- Upgrade playground and softfall to current standards through recreational grant funding (A1)
- Investigate installation of equal access path/ramp from Francis St to Hall (A10)
- Investigate the construction of a path where there is erosion between central clearing and playground (A11)
- Install removable bollards to prevent vehicle damage to clearing (A14)
- Develop a consistent materials palette, including boundary treatments (A15)
- Investigate replacing driveway edging (A16)
- Investigate installing interpretative elements (E1)

The following recommendations from the PSS have been incorporated into the project scope:

- Upgrade to a Neighbourhood play space by providing diverse play experiences for a wide age range
- Include ‘Creative / Imaginative’ and ‘Exploratory / Nature’ play spaces
- Include interpretation and education of the natural environment (such as hydraulic systems or flora / fauna communities)

The potential reconstruction of a retaining wall and the replacement of three trees adjacent to the Francis Street access path have been incorporated into the project scope following specialist advice received from external consultants (arborist and structural engineer).
Consultation Process

Consultation was undertaken to get up to date data on use of the Reserve, to canvas community responses to Thomas Hogan Reserve Play Space Upgrade Concept (Appendix A) and to seek suggestions for future facilities in the Reserve.

Consultation was undertaken between 21 September and 18 October 2015 and a total of 30 responses were received. The following activities were undertaken during this period;

- Web Information
- Online Survey
- Letterbox Drop
- Site Sign
- Have a Say Day
- Stakeholder Email

The web information included a text summary of the proposed works, links to the upgrade plans and an online survey, and notification of the Have a Say Day. 12 online survey responses were completed.

A letterbox drop was undertaken on 18 October which involved distribution of 400 flyers to residences within 200m of the park. The flyer included a text description of the upgrade works, a link to the online survey and an invitation to the Have a Say Day (Appendix B)

Two posters were erected on site adjacent to the existing playground. The posters included the upgrade plans, a link to the online survey and an invitation to the Have a Say Day.

A Have a Say Day was held at Thomas Hogan Reserve on Saturday 10 October. Attendees were invited to review the upgrade plans and complete a copy of the survey. The event was attended by three council officers, two councillors and 20 members of the community. Nine survey responses were received on the day.

Next Steps

The Thomas Hogan Reserve Play Space Upgrade Concept has been updated to reflect community feedback wherever practical.

The revised Concept is available on Waverley Council website, along with this report. A detailed design will then be prepared, followed by construction, which is currently scheduled for early 2016.
Consultation Feedback & Recommendations

Summary
In this section consultation feedback has been summarised under each survey question. Feedback received outside of the survey process has been allocated into survey questions as appropriate.

Each summary is accompanied by recommendations for actioning feedback received. A full table of all feedback received, including survey and email feedback, is located in Appendix C.

Type of Use
More than half of the respondents nominated the following activities; play, playground, ball games, relax, exercise, walk.

Recommendations
- Proceed with upgrade works as they support popular existing uses

Frequency of Use
Most people visit the reserve weekly.

Recommendations
- Proceed with upgrade works to encourage higher frequency usage.

Duration of Use
Half of the respondents stay in the reserve for more than two hours per visit.

Recommendations
- Review upgrade works for opportunities to provide facilities that cater to stays of more than two hours.
- Review upgrade works for opportunities to encourage increased short stay use.
Support for The Draft Thomas Hogan Play Space Concept

Most people supported the Thomas Hogan Reserve Play Space Upgrade Concept; of the 31 submissions received, three expressed general support for the upgrade plan and fourteen others identified specific things they liked. The most popular aspects of the concept were the expansion of the grass kick around area, native tree planting and the relocation of the play space and furniture to increase shade.

Recommendations

- Maintain all aspects of planned upgrade, subject to resource constraints, maintenance considerations and risk of vandalism.

Concerns About The Draft Thomas Hogan Play Space Concept

The majority of concerns related to a desire for additional facilities. All suggested additional facilities have been incorporated into the next summary: Suggested Additional Facilities for Thomas Hogan Reserve.

Four responses strongly opposed the proposed removal of three trees. Reasons for opposition included; loss of shade, loss of park amenity, recent removal of twelve trees on Francis Street.

Two responses objected to all proposed upgrade works. Reasons given included desire to see existing park character retained and concerns about; cost of upgrades, disruption caused by construction and potential overuse by adjacent Day Care Facility.

Recommendations

- Remove one tree (Camphor Laurel) to improve life span of adjacent significant native (Ficus Rubiginosa) tree, reduce the need for additional retaining wall and reduce weed ingress into the Reserve.
- Retain two trees identified for removal in the medium term and undertake some minor trimming of broken and dead branches which represent a risk and provide mulch beds around base to deal with surface roots. Undertake succession planting of new native tree species before considering future removal of the pine trees.

Suggested Additional Facilities for Thomas Hogan Reserve

Recreation facilities

Many people suggested additional recreational facilities. The most popular were;

- Facilities catering to older children (aged between five and twelve), with specific mention of adventure equipment, such as a flying fox or climbing structure.
- Sports facilities, such as a basketball hoop, cricket pitch, bicycle and skateboarding areas.
- Water play.

Recommendations

- Additional facilities catering to older children, beyond those currently proposed (nest swing and grass kick-around area), are not supported as facilities of this type, including a large climbing structure and large embankment slide, are planned at Dickson Park in 2016, 200m from Thomas Hogan Reserve.
- Additional facilities catering to sport use, beyond those currently proposed (pathways for wheeled use and a grass kick-around area), are not supported as facilities of this type, including a basketball hoop, are planned at Dickson Park in 2016, 200m from Thomas Hogan Reserve.
- Provision of water play will be assessed subject to resource constraints, maintenance considerations and risk of vandalism.
**Park Amenity**

A significant number of improvements were identified to amenities across the park, many of which are outside the current scope of upgrade works. Suggested improvements to park amenities included; additional park furniture, additional access paths, lighting, reduced flooding and improvements to the interior of the Scout hall.

**Recommendations**

- Include a drinking fountain in the upgrade works.
- The inclusion of public toilets and BBQ’s are not supported. These these types of facilities are restricted to district and regional level parks, where high usage offsets their maintenance requirements and the risk of vandalism.
- Access and drainage issues across the reserve are being assessed as part of a separate project. Improvements addressing these issues are planned, subject to future funding.
- Internal upgrades to the Scout Hall are beyond the scope of the current project. These suggestions have been passed on to the asset manager.

**Park Signage**

Suggested improvements to park signage included;

- Prominent display of park regulations, including prohibitions on dog use and smoking.
- Providing information about the park, including local history, flora and fauna.
- Providing a for council and the community to post current events, including; activities in the hall, notification about planned maintenance and a place to for public posters.

**Recommendations**

- Consider including consolidated signage at park entrance on Francis Street, in accordance with Waverley’s Signage Strategy, subject to future funding.

**Park Entrance - Francis Street**

People supported planned improvements to the Francis Street entrance, with several nominating specific objectives for this area, including making the entry more inviting and providing some representation of the reserve’s natural qualities.

**Recommendations**

- Consider aesthetic improvement to the park entry and retaining wall that reflect the park’s qualities and encourage use, subject to future funding.

**Planting, Biodiversity and Education**

A number of respondents identified a need to diversify planting and increase habitat for indigenous fauna across the reserve. Several respondents also suggested opportunities for visitors to view and learn about plants and animals in the reserve.

**Recommendations**

- Incorporate information or representations of local flora and fauna into the play space as a fun education opportunity.
- Improvements to planting and biodiversity across the reserve are outside the scope of this project. A Vegetation Management Plan is being prepared as part of a separate project to guide ongoing improvements to planting and habitat across the reserve.
Thomas Hogan Play Space Upgrade

Council is proposing upgrade works to the entry and play space at Thomas Hogan Reserve. Concept plans have been prepared and we would like your feedback.

Objectives

Thomas Hogan Reserve’s play space has been identified in Council’s Play Space Strategy and the Thomas Hogan Reserve Plan of Management as a location for priority upgrades. Recommended upgrades include:

- increasing shade cover through tree planting or ensuring the play space is well positioned and orientated
- creative play, such as made up games or role playing, to stimulate imaginations
- nature play, including natural scents, textures, shapes and colours to encourage exploration and to stimulate senses
- investigating upgrades of the path network between the central clearing and playground
- a varied range of play experiences, including open grass areas for free play and ball games.

Council will also be reviewing opportunities to improve the turf and bushland areas across the reserve as part of its regular maintenance plan.

The community will be informed of any works that result from these investigations.

Have Your Say

From Monday 21 September – Sunday 25 October, you can provide your feedback on the concept plan for the reserve:

Online:
- haveyoursay.waverley.com.au/ThomasHoganReserve

In writing:
- Attn. Carl Nugent, PO Box 9, Bondi Junction 1355
- carl.nugent@waverley.nsw.gov.au

On Saturday 17 October, Council Officers will be at Thomas Hogan Reserve from 10am-12pm to talk through the concept plan and answer any of your questions.

After submissions close, the concept will be assessed, amended as required, and posted on Council’s website, along with a consultation report detailing all community feedback received.

For more information about the project, please visit haveyoursaywaverley.com.au/ThomasHoganReserve.
Thomas Hogan Reserve
Play Space Consultation

Saturday 10 October
10am - 12pm

Thomas Hogan Reserve
(Francis Street, Bondi, near corner
of Old South Head Road)

You are also able to comment on the concept plan:

1. Online at haveyoursaywaverley.com.au/ThomasHoganReserve

2. In writing to the attention of Carl Nugent,
   PO Box 9, Bondi Junction 1355

3. By email to carl.nugent@waverley.nsw.gov.au

Submissions close on Sunday 18 October.

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 beginning of November 2015.

For more information please contact Carl Nugent on 8306 3670 or email carl.nugent@waverley.nsw.gov.au
1) How often do you visit Thomas Hogan Reserve?  
2) How long do you spend in Thomas Hogan Reserve?  
3) How do you access Thomas Hogan Reserve?  
4) What do you like about the draft Thomas Hogan Play Space concept?  
5) What do you dislike about the draft Thomas Hogan Play Space concept?  
6) What do you like about the draft Thomas Hogan Play Space concept?  
7) In the future, what facilities would you like to see in Thomas Hogan Reserve?  
8) What is your age range?  
9) If you visit with children, how many and how old are they?  
10) If you would like to be kept informed about the Thomas Hogan Reserve Upgrade, please provide your contact details. Your details will remain confidential.

I think having a bushwalk in the back is a great idea. The three trees that are planned to be cut supply most of the shade for the playground. It is my position not cutting any of these trees. One of these trees is technically considered weed, I personally consider it a beautiful tree that took decades to grow. The only reason for cutting it is because it affects a wall and it is expensive fixing the wall. However this may happen with any tree this tall that replaces it. It is my understanding that my position not to cut any of the other two trees (floral) was taken on board.

Signage has to be improved substantially. Weeding signage must have a logo. NA be visible and made Playgroup know about the weeding dates. In September 2015 I raised these issues with council and weeding occurred again under poor signage in October 2015. This is relevant as some of the substances used are highly toxic and kids are not to be exposed to them.

Signage about where dogs can be leashed and where smoking is banned are also needed. Under NSW Law smoking is banned 10 metres of children's play equipment in outdoor public places and frequently people do not respect this law - must ignore it. Regarding dogs it is unclear where in the reserve dogs are allowed unleashed and bear in mind there are kids in the playground every day and in Playgroup twice a week. I once had to lift my daughter because a big pup ball like came close to her and the dog kept scratching me for a few seconds before being restrained leaving marks in my body for weeks. So this is a real issue.

I propose having a board in the upper and lower grounds where community can post ads (ie weeding and proposals) and also big signs regarding dogs and smoking regulations. If the lower ground is to be used more by kids, as intended by the plan, dogs have to be leashed.

I wonder if it's possible to allow a small window of off-leash time for dogs? There is only one space in the area for dogs to be off-leash currently.

Susie Daniel
mailto:susie.dene@iinet.net.au

José Alberto Hernández, PhD & PhD Candidate
mailto:jose.hernandez@anu.edu.au
Generally the proposals are welcomed, especially expanding higher level designation of TH as a ‘Pocket Play Space’ in the Play Strategy. It is this that seems to be limiting the scope and range of this play space – unjustly in my opinion.

The biggest issues I have with the concept document are due to the higher level designation of TH as a ‘Pocket Play Space’ in the Play Strategy. It is this that seems to be limiting the scope and range of this play space – unjustly in my opinion.

The catchment of this play space is clearly much larger than 250m, as it is a relatively big reserve bounded by a large number of dwellings, the children from which can access this reserve without having to cross any roads (more dwellings then you’d imagine owing to the dead end on Francis St) and this is a unique and very positive aspect in this unnecessarily Helicopter Parent age FAQ. When you combine this immediate local built catchment with the large number of kids from the various groups that currently use the Community / Social hall and you’ve got a very wide and varied catchment of children who inevitably add on (or would add on) a ‘play’ at the playground to their structured activity of Playgroup, Guides, dance etc. And this isn’t even counting the much larger number and range of kids that may well end up using the hall now that Council is back in control of bookings.

The ‘baby boom’ in Bondi is now well over 10 years old and there are an awful lot of 5-12 year olds now living in the typically larger /cheaper housing in this area back from the beach, often with multiple siblings (just look at the depth of the bulge in the local school classes at around 8-10 years old). It therefore would be a great shame to arbitrarily limit the scope and scale of this new play space to the typical 5-4 age range, based on this quite mistaken ‘Pocket’ label in the Play Strategy. As such, I would like to see more density and variety of Play elements, with some oriented to the 5-8 age group – and 8-12 years too if possible, as I believe there is the local cohort of children who would love to utilise this more.

An engaging entranceway that gives hints that the large Reserve exists and is well worth exploring. Maybe a kind of formal gated entrance way highlighting possums, birds, lizards and bush. Give the Reserve a new more engaging nickname, ‘The Bondi Bush Park’ – more people would be tempted to venture inside (Thomas Hogan Reserve is not self-explanatory, nor engaging………).

A bubbler in the playground should be quite easy to do (one that works, unlike in Dixon Reserve). Sourcing play equipment made out of wood would definitely improve the look and feel of the place – maintaining the unique ‘forest adventure’ feel of the Reserve.

4. I have gone through the 2011 TH POM and it is a good document, with a solid Action plan on pages 24-29, however, when I look at all the Short and Medium term Actions (1-5 years) there are a lot that I can’t see have been done. When I look at Appendix B ‘Current issues’ pg 40, sadly I can see that the vast majority of these issues are still the same 5 years down the track…….. Therefore my main feedback is for council to use this current window of attention on TH as a catalyst for re-assessment of the POM Action plan – and then allocate a sensible budget to achieve some tangible & meaningful outcomes (there is lots of ‘low-hanging fruit’ that would be relatively easy to get done - if the impetus was there).

Will Jones
will@marine-discovery.org.au

# Community garden space/ area
# BBQ could be a nice addition.
# edible plants / natives to educate our children
# sand pit / slides / rope climbing
# outdoor play area suitable for young ones not yet walking.

Therese Monica
theresemonica1@hotmail.com

I am writing to you to ask about the steps I, and other concerned Francis Street residents, need to take to prevent the chopping down of the camphor laurel and 2 radiata pine trees in Thomas Hogan Reserve. We are already extremely upset that TWELVE fully grown trees were chopped down opposite the reserve last week, six of the three on the nature strip in front of the new Active Kids Group centre on the corner of Francis St and Old South Head Road.

The streetscape was one of the reasons many of us bought our properties at this end of Francis Street as it was a beautiful tree-lined street that now looks completely barren - chopping down three more trees at this end of the street will only make it more barren.

The trees, you are considering chopping down are not dying or diseased and they are growing on flat land - we are horrified that your reasons for chopping down these trees is “due to instability and weeds”. The reserve is sprayed for weeds on a regular basis by council and a simpler solution to chopping down these beautiful trees is to stabilise the ground. This is indeed a concern.

I visit the reserve every day and have just come from there in the hottest part of the day, 12pm, to find the three trees you are considering chopping down provide beautiful shade over the existing children’s play area.

Please respond to this email to let me know how we can prevent the chopping down of these trees prior to the feedback deadline of 25th October, please feel free to ring me at any time to discuss further. Please help us with this Carl by letting us know of the formal steps we need to take to stop this, these trees need to stay.

Warm regards,

Casey Hawthorn
cjphawthorn@gmail.com

# Community garden space/ area
# BBQ could be a nice addition.
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# outdoor play area suitable for young ones not yet walking.

Therese Monica
theresemonica1@hotmail.com
The plans for improvement sound wonderful.

Park furniture area:
Relocating the play space and park furniture to increase shade coverage and expand grass kick around area is a great idea provided it is relocated on the side somewhere so that it does not interfere with the large open space in the middle of the park. Perhaps this area should be partially or fully fenced off so that it creates a separate and safe space for younger children and gives mothers more of an opportunity to relax.

Area around the hall:
May I suggest that more of the area around the hall get paved. At the moment, when it rains and this area gets wet, there is no drainage and the rain just pools which creates a mud pit. We have spent many hours sweeping this area in our efforts to make it safe and clean for children.

My family of four boys would love to see a basketball hoop at the new Thomas Hogan play space. Basketball is becoming more and more popular, it is the easiest game to put together as you can play alone or have a full game of 3 on 3 in a half court. There is a huge shortage of public spaces for basketball half court games and you don’t even need a lot of space for it. Plus it can double as a handball court. Thomas Hogan is a great space compared to many of the other parks which are in a wide open area and/or next to the ocean or bay and thus exposed to strong winds that completely destroy the game of basketball.

Unlike soccer or all the wind is not meant to be a factor for basketball.

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Unlike soccer or all the wind is not meant to be a factor for basketball.

Park for children with special needs are not adequately provided for in the Waverley area. We would be so excited if our park became a model for all abilities! Including swings, climbing equipment etc that support people with low muscle tone and poor coordination.

Weekly 1 hour Walk Play, Relax

I love the whole thing, especially adding lots of trees for shade (as it gets very hot there in summer). I’m very supportive of plans to use native trees - I recently spent time in San Francisco and was wowed and inspired by the number of Australian natives they use in their dry and park landscaping.

Nothing, absolutely thrilled that it’s happening!

Area for kids to practice riding their bikes (with obstacles to dodge, little bridges, etc)

- Slides or rock climbing walls (or something similar) on all those hills?
- A little water play area. Not a pool, as that would be a safety/mosquito hazard, but a few fun water spots you could activate by pressing a button (so people wouldn’t leave them on and waste water). I recently saw these kinds of small water play areas in Vancouver, Canada: http://vancouver.ca/parks-recreation-culture/wading-pools-and-water-parks.aspx
- A space for kids to practice riding their bikes (with obstacles to dodge, little bridges, etc)

I visit with my son who is two years old.

Rebecca Whish Fleming
bech@gmail.com
Monthly 1 hour Walk Other Encourage creative play with timber elements native plants Making it too much of a play space when it could be an interactive rainforest bush Tucker bush walk with signage near certain plants for education. By planting native rainforest plants we invite our native species nd provide a home. Park entrance should be the feeling of walking into a mystery of rainforest which eventually leads you to a natural walking pathways taking you on a journey of nature nd education nd if you lucky wild life ???? Bathrooms pls

Weekly 2 hours or more Drive Walk, Ball games, Play, Relax I like that you are increasing the open grass areas for free play and ball games There are no plans for public toilets A bicycle track

Weekly 2 hours or more Walk Other I appreciate that something is happening for the reserve and the opportunity to comment on it but I am dismayed at the approach taken by this plan. I don’t think this is the relevant question or approach to improving the amenity of the space. It suggests the only consideration for the reserve should be ‘play space’. The survey needs to also canvass the needs of other users. Many people walk across the park from Francis Street up the stairs to Martins Avenue. This includes commuters as well as exercisers. Yet the ‘concept’ plan appears to provide no path to accommodate this. Further the lack of a path further erodes the already fragile ground cover. Due to the degraded nature of the reserve, perhaps partly due to increased exercising of dogs, walking across it is an extremely muddy experience particularly after rain. The plan needs to incorporate A STRUCTURED PATH THAT RUNS DIAGONALLY FROM FRANCIS STREET TO THE STEPS LEADING TO MARTINS AVENUE. A meandering path around the rim of the park will not be used by the majority of foot traffic. Just a path that doesn’t destroy the ground cover and my footwear every time I try to walk across it!

Daily 10 mins Walk Walk I appreciate that something is happening for the reserve and the opportunity to comment on it but I am dismayed at the approach taken by this plan. I don’t think this is the relevant question or approach to improving the amenity of the space. It suggests the only consideration for the reserve should be ‘play space’. The survey needs to also canvass the needs of other users. Many people walk across the park from Francis Street up the stairs to Martins Avenue. This includes commuters as well as exercisers. Yet the ‘concept’ plan appears to provide no path to accommodate this. Further the lack of a path further erodes the already fragile ground cover. Due to the degraded nature of the reserve, perhaps partly due to increased exercising of dogs, walking across it is an extremely muddy experience particularly after rain. The plan needs to incorporate A STRUCTURED PATH THAT RUNS DIAGONALLY FROM FRANCIS STREET TO THE STEPS LEADING TO MARTINS AVENUE. A meandering path around the rim of the park will not be used by the majority of foot traffic. Just a path that doesn’t destroy the ground cover and my footwear every time I try to walk across it!

Weekly 2 hours or more Walk Play I like the idea of creating more shade at the play area as this has often put us off playing at particular times of the day. I also really like the idea of creating a more sensory experience as we love playing in such a beautiful natural space. A fence around the play park particularly if Francis street is set to becoming a busier road with parents picking up & dropping off at the new day care centre. A water fountain. A BBQ. Information about local trees & shrubs & native animals.

<p>| Monthly | 1 hour | Walk | Other | Encourage creative play with timber elements native plants | Making it too much of a play space when it could be an interactive rainforest bush Tucker bush walk with signage near certain plants for education. By planting native rainforest plants we invite our native species and provide a home. | Park entrance should be the feeling of walking into a mystery of rainforest which eventually leads you to a natural walking pathways taking you on a journey of nature and education and if you lucky wild life ???? Bathrooms pls | 31-40 | Belinda Brown <a href="mailto:bemail67@yahoo.com.au">bemail67@yahoo.com.au</a> |
| Weekly | 2 hours or more | Drive | Walk, Ball games, Play, Relax | I like that you are increasing the open grass areas for free play and ball games | There are no plans for public toilets | A bicycle track | 41-50 | 2 children aged 3 and 4 |
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| Daily | 10 mins | Walk | Walk | I appreciate that something is happening for the reserve and the opportunity to comment on it but I am dismayed at the approach taken by this plan. I don’t think this is the relevant question or approach to improving the amenity of the space. It suggests the only consideration for the reserve should be ‘play space’. The survey needs to also canvass the needs of other users. Many people walk across the park from Francis Street up the stairs to Martins Avenue. This includes commuters as well as exercisers. Yet the ‘concept’ plan appears to provide no path to accommodate this. Further the lack of a path further erodes the already fragile ground cover. Due to the degraded nature of the reserve, perhaps partly due to increased exercising of dogs, walking across it is an extremely muddy experience particularly after rain. The plan needs to incorporate A STRUCTURED PATH THAT RUNS DIAGONALLY FROM FRANCIS STREET TO THE STEPS LEADING TO MARTINS AVENUE. A meandering path around the rim of the park will not be used by the majority of foot traffic. Just a path that doesn’t destroy the ground cover and my footwear every time I try to walk across it! | 51-60 | Jennifer Kitchener <a href="mailto:jennifer.kitchener20@gmail.com">jennifer.kitchener20@gmail.com</a> |
| Weekly | 2 hours or more | Walk | Play | I like the idea of creating more shade at the play area as this has often put us off playing at particular times of the day. I also really like the idea of creating a more sensory experience as we love playing in such a beautiful natural space. | A fence around the play park particularly if Francis street is set to becoming a busier road with parents picking up &amp; dropping off at the new day care centre. A water fountain. A BBQ. Information about local trees &amp; shrubs &amp; native animals. | 31-40 | 2 children aged 5 &amp; 2 | Victoria Gumley <a href="mailto:Victoriagumley@hotmail.co.uk">Victoriagumley@hotmail.co.uk</a> |</p>
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<td>1 hour</td>
<td>Walk</td>
<td>Relax The reserve is perfect as it is. It is a beautiful and natural place for local residents to walk and relax and is used far more by adults for this reason than it is by children who use the play space. It is one of the very few reserves that adults in the area have access to where they can actually sit and relax without being disturbed by large groups of children. Thomas Hogan Reserve is not a children’s play park; it is a nature reserve. I object completely to the draft play space concept. This is one of the very few nature reserves in Bondi. It is not a children’s play park. Many Francis St residents are already horrified that council approved the chopping down of TWELVE beautiful healthy gum trees directly across the street from the reserve earlier this week. More than half of these trees were on the nature strip, they were not even on private property, how did this happen? To tell us you’re just considering chopping down a camphor laurel and two pine trees in the reserve “due to weeds” is unacceptable, are you serious? I am collating the names of fellow Francis St residents who feel the same as this upgrade is a waste of council funds. The small number of children who use the park play space on a daily basis do not warrant this change. Again, it is a nature reserve, not a children’s play park. It is used far more by adults looking for a quiet, naturally beautiful place to relax and enjoy trees that have been in the reserve for decades. The only time any number of children are in the park is when the hall is hired for a party. In these instances they don’t use the play equipment. The park is shady and beautiful and parents do not take their children there during the hotter parts of the day, extra shade is not required. The park is perfectly well shaded by trees as it is. The noise and disruption of this unnecessary upgrade to the many residents whose apartments back onto the park is also unacceptable. Leave it alone, it is a perfectly beautiful functional space as it is. It does not require facilities, it is a nature reserve.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>2 hours or more</td>
<td>Drive</td>
<td>Exercise Always good to improve play spaces. Some related covered area to protect during raining conditions as the trees drip heavily as this may encourage better usage in all weather. Installation of yoga props for ropes in the walls of the Hall. Suggestion is for corosunvue flush wall mounted female (approx. 10mm) to allow a screw in bolt to hold say 4 pairs of ropes for use only during yoga classes. (Happy to provide pix of installation if it helps) Also better heating installation. Say a paid heat pump meter type during use.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>2 hours or more</td>
<td>Walk</td>
<td>Ball games, Other Good that things are finally happening. Plans seem OK but the key is for older kids 8-10 years old eg. my boys and their friends on Martin’s Ave.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>2 hours or more</td>
<td>Walk</td>
<td>Ball games, Play, Other Nature play area. Sounds more fun than old playground. No mention of monkey bars for new playground. This beautiful park has lots of areas that could have more adventurous play equipment in it eg. rope swings, flying fox, tree houses. The key is more for older kids 8-10 years old eg. my boys and their friends on Martin’s Ave. this beautiful park has lots of areas that could have more adventurous play equipment in it eg. rope swings, flying fox, tree houses.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>2 hours or more</td>
<td>Walk</td>
<td>Ball games, Play, Exercise, Other this is my park. I don’t have to cross any roads to get to it, so me and my friends can go and play there. We like the sound of a new playground. I used to play on the playground but it’s a bit boring for me now. I hope there will be more exciting things to play in like we went on in England this winter that would be cool. Fun stuff. Long slides, rope swings, a flying fox, a log fort, a new tree house, a trampoline, a skateboard ramp, a basketball hoop, a plastic cricket pitch like the one I go to (Rowland Park, Daceyville). Fun stuff. Long slides, rope swings, a flying fox, a log fort, a new tree house, a trampoline, a skateboard ramp, a basketball hoop, a plastic cricket pitch like the one I go to (Rowland Park, Daceyville).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>2 hours or more</td>
<td>Walk</td>
<td>Ball games, Play, Exercise, Other</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

41-50 Therese theresemonica1@hotmail.com

41-50 2 active boys, nearly 8 and just 9 Pat patz2001@gmail.com

41-50 2 active boys, nearly 8 and just 9 Joseph Jones joseph@marinediscovery.org.au
**Weekly 2 hours or more Walk**

**Play, Relax, Other**

Firstly, it is great that Thomas Hogan Reserve (TH) is getting some positive attention as it has had a rather forlorn and neglected feel for quite a while, which is rather a shame for a play area that so many local children can access without having to cross any roads. Generally the proposals are welcomed, especially expanding the currently limited play space equipment with more interesting and adventurous elements like an embankment slide and nature / creative play elements (Adventure and 'Nature' are two key associative words for TH Reserve – where else in Bondi can you regularly see possums, bush lizards, koalas and the like - this is the 'Bondi Bush' after all). As my kids have quite a lot of outgrown the play equipment we also like that you are proposing, a varied range of play experiences, including open grass areas for free play and 'Ball Room', currently an

**Weekly 2 hours or more Walk**

**Play**

Howlids whenever new play equipment is installed would not be the first choice. The concept is not enough detail to comment on. Concept of natural, investigative play too vague.

The biggest issues I have with the concept document are due to the higher level designation of TH as a 'Pocket Play Space' in the Play Strategy. It is this that seems to be limiting the scope and range of this play space – unjustly in my opinion. The catchment of this play space is clearly much larger than 230m², as it is a relatively big reserve bounded by a large number of dwellings, the children from which can access this reserve without having to cross any roads (more dwellings then you'd imagine owing to the dead end on Francis St) and this is a unique and very popular aspect in this unconnected Vaucluse Parent's Age IMO. When you combine this immediate local bird catchment with the large number of kids from the various groups that currently use the Community Hall and you've got a very wide and varied catchment of children who invariably add on (or would add on) a play at the playground to their structured activity of Playgroup, Guides, dance etc. And this is even counting the much larger number and range of kids that may well end up using the hall now that Council is back in control of bookings. The 'baby boom' in Bondi is now well over 10 years old and there are an awful lot of 5-12 year olds now living in the typically larger /cheaper housing in this area back from the beach, often with multiple siblings (just look at the depth of the bulge in the local school classes at around 8-10 years old). It therefore would be a great shame to arbitrarily limit the scope and scale of this new play space to the typical 0-4 age range, based on this quite mistaken 'Pocket' label in the Play Strategy. As such, I would like to see more density and variety of Play elements, with some oriented to the 5-9 age group, and 8-12 years old if possible, as I believe there is the local population of children who would love to utilise this more age-appropriate play equipment if it was made available.

**Weekly 30mins Walk**

**Playground, exploring in trees, bug watching**

Shade native trees

Age appropriate equipment, embankment slide, footpath

Update of playground, flying retainer wall

Also lighting at night. The guides will be on the play equipment at night just arriving and leaving. Trip hazard if not lit? Given regular use by guides would be great if their needs can be taken into account in play space – not too baby. Adventure / bush is fine.

No fencing around grassy play area - potential for small children to run into the road, especially if trees are taken down

Weekly 2 hours or more Walk Play

**Adventure playground for 6-12 year olds**

Daycare centre across the road activities they will use the park - it will be monopolised by them every day

Weekly 1 hour Walk / Bike

**Play with my kids. Geocaching, go to parties**

Adventure playground for 6-12 year olds

Weekly Monthly Weekly Weekly Daily Weekly

**2 hours or more Walk**

**Ball games, Play, Relax, Other**

Weekly 2 hours or more Walk Play

**Weekly 30mins Walk**

**Playground, exploring in trees, bug watching**

Shade, native trees

Age appropriate equipment, embankment slide, footpath

Update of playground, flying retainer wall

Also lighting at night. The guides will be on the play equipment at night just arriving and leaving. Trip hazard if not lit? Given regular use by guides would be great if their needs can be taken into account in play space – not too baby. Adventure / bush is fine.

No fencing around grassy play area - potential for small children to run into the road, especially if trees are taken down

Weekly Monthly Weekly Monthly Weekly Weekly

**Weekly 2+ hours Drive**

**Attend guides / brownies**

Use playpark / playground @ the hall

**good potential, ‘natural’ play area with creative play**

Weekly 30mins Walk

**Use playpark / playground @ the hall**

Weekend 1 hour Walk / Bike

**Play with my kids. Geocaching, go to parties**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monthly</th>
<th>Today</th>
<th>Weekly</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Walk</td>
<td>Bird survey,</td>
<td>Play in the park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The fact that the walking path is not continuous, it is enough. If you want to make a continuous walking path, you can use a dense planting of trees. However, you can use a less dense planting of bushes. This will prevent the birds from flying away.</td>
<td>Group pitch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No need for a second ball play areas near Frances Street. It is enough to have a couple in the centre of the park.</td>
<td>Don't use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The small birds have almost disappeared from the eastern suburbs. Lack of habitat (dense shelter) and too many aggressive birds (noisy miner, pied currawong) are the main reasons.</td>
<td>Sand pit + BBQ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Heating in the Scout Hall</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For habitat creation in harmony with the environment, include:

- Dense, diverse endemic plantings throughout. Focus on bushes (shrub - small) 18-70.
- Various endemic plantings throughout. Focus on bushes (large - small) 18-70.
- Dense endemic plantings throughout. Focus on bushes (large - small) 18-70.
- Various endemic plantings throughout. Focus on bushes (small - large) 18-70.
- Dense endemic plantings throughout. Focus on bushes (shrub - small) 18-70.
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- Dense endemic plantings throughout. Focus on bushes (small - large) 18-70.
- Various endemic plantings throughout. Focus on bushes (small - large) 18-70.

As a long-time eastern suburb resident and ecologist focusing on birds, I have survey data on local birds. Am happy to share this and advise on habitat connection opportunities for native bird species. This fits with Council’s biodiversity strategy actions.

- Installing a nest box for them would be simple + invaluable. Sizes and details on the same website.
- Reducing attractiveness for noisy miners include dense plantings as above (wide swathes, not skimpy strips) also possible acacias with divided leaves, eg. acacia terminallis mixed with other non-eucalypt taller species.

Reducing attractiveness for noisy miners include dense plantings as above (wide swathes, not skimpy strips) also possible acacias with divided leaves, eg. acacia terminallis mixed with other non-eucalypt taller species.