

CONSULTATION REPORT

Set out below is the summary and outcomes of the concept design feedback round of consultation regarding the new Five Dock Park children's playground and outdoor fitness stations. This round of consultation was preceded by idea generation with the community regarding what equipment they would use and what elements should be included to create a well-used and safe place for our community to get fit and play.

Contents

Background	2
Community Consultation	3
What methods were implemented to notify the community of this consultation opportunity?	3
What engagement methods were undertaken?	3
Consultation Summary	4
Consultation Participation	4
Participation by Stakeholder Groups	4
Consultation Results	4
Feedback regarding Children's Playground	4
Feedback regarding outdoor fitness stations	5
Conclusion	6

Background

Five Dock Park children's playground is currently situated in the south west corner of the park at Park and First Street. It is no longer fit for purpose, and thus Council is relocating the playground to a more central area in the park, building an entirely new and accessible playground, and adding outdoor fitness stations for the whole community.

In September 2019, Council consulted the community on what features they would like to see in a new playground and fitness station. 165 submissions were made.

Feedback found that the following features were a priority to the community, and were reflected in the concept design for the round 2 consultation.

- Climbing structures – Spectra Orbit Climbing Unit, designed to suit different ages and complexity levels
- Intergenerational play – varied play equipment for different ages + outdoor fitness equipment for adults
- Varied swing options – 3 swings including a nest swing, traditional swing and a 5 point harness swing
- Accessible play – all access carousel, ramps on main inclusive play combination unit
- Mulch ground throughout and rubber soft fall for accessible play
- Nature play with sandstone and plantings – the second most popular element amongst consultation participants
- Additional seating requested – we have include three new bench seats, one of which is a square bench, and refurbishing/relocating one picnic table. Sandstone blocks are also available for seating throughout the area
- Fencing – while the playground is not fenced in, sandstone barriers and plantings will be included to protect children from running onto the path. Additionally, existing trees surrounding the playground area will further protect children
- Shade – we have opted for natural shade from new and existing trees. We will monitor the playground and will consider requests for shade sails once the playground is open.



- 1 Existing playground. Area to be restored as passive recreation space.
- 2 New Location of playground + outdoor fitness area at Five Dock Park.
 - Centrally located.
 - Close to amenities.
 - Safety - more visible and connected to rest of the park



The community also suggested the following regarding outdoor fitness stations:

- Keeping fitness separate from the playground was important, so sandstone barriers and tree plantings have been included
- Static and moveable fitness options were preferred and are included in the two outdoor fitness areas
- Static equipment will suit teens and upward.

For round 2, Council prepared concept designs with playground designers Moduplay and sought feedback on the designs before ordering equipment and confirming layout.

Community Consultation

The consultation period for this project was from 16 January – 14 February 2020

What methods were implemented to notify the community of this consultation opportunity?

- Direct Notification Letters to 1750 owner- occupiers, tenants and absentee landlords of properties in Five Dock & Haberfield.
- On site poster at current playground and at site of new playground at Five Dock Park
- Council's website
- Email notification to round 1 participants
- Signage placed within Halliday Park
- Promotion via Council's social media channels and e-news

What engagement methods were undertaken?

- Online engagement survey at collaborate.canadabay.nsw.gov.au
- Direct email and phone number provided for further information.



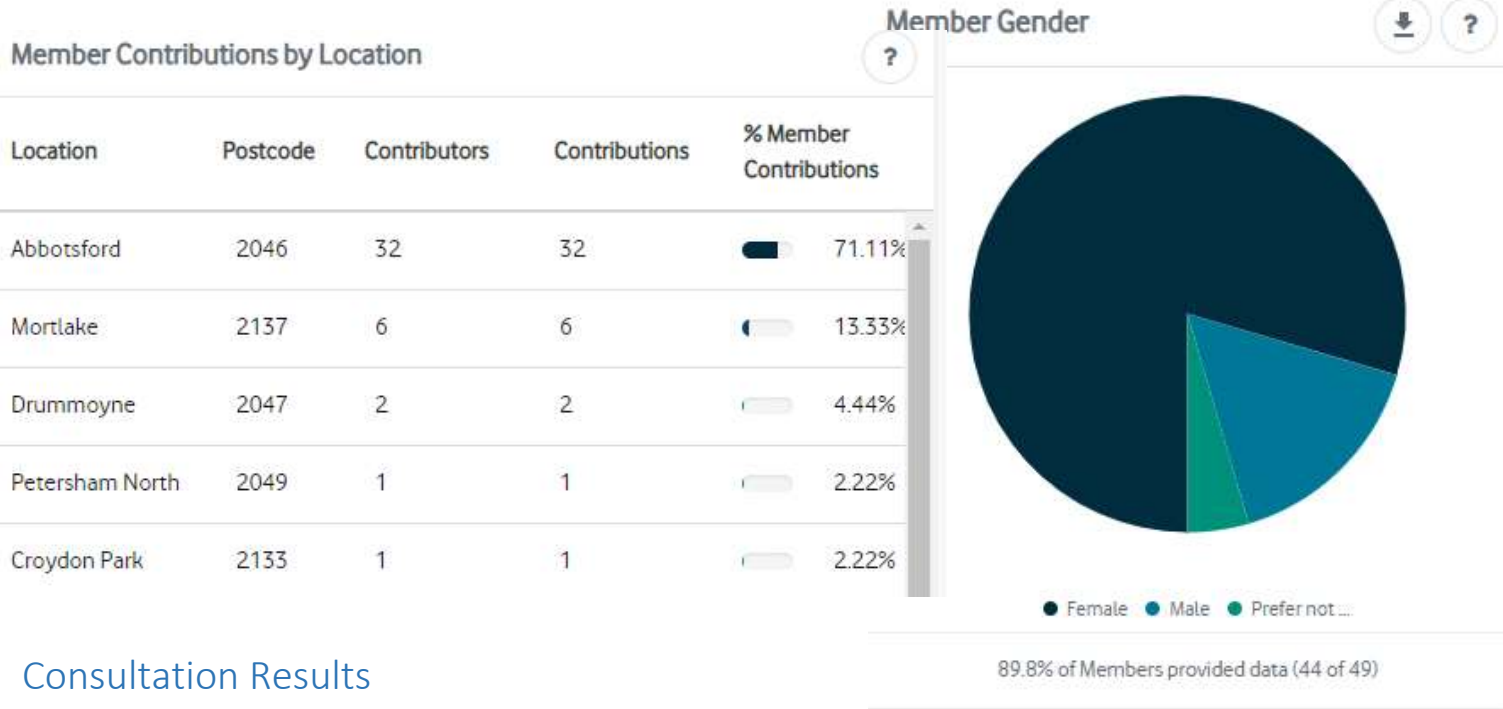
Consultation Summary

Consultation Participation

46 submissions from 46 participants

Participation by Stakeholder Groups

- **Over 70%** of respondents are from 2046 postcode which comprises Wareemba, Five Dock, Canada Bay, Russell Lea, Rodd Point, Chiswick, Abbotsford.
- **80%** of respondent are female.



Consultation Results

Feedback regarding Children’s Playground

Needs shade	Needs a fence	Don’t like mulch	Want rubber soft fall	Need toilets	Need bubblers	Want water play
14	9	15	4	6	2	4

Shade:

- The playground sounds good but without shading it may be a failure, on the hotter days the equipment heat up and children cannot play without proper shading.
- WHERE ARE THE SUN SHADES FOR THE CHILDREN? THERE NEEDS TO BE SHADE COVERING MOST OF THE PLAYGROUND!
- Trees will not provide adequate protection from the sun.
- With the increased extreme hot days over the last few years instead of taking kids out to be closer to nature and other kids due to the lack of parks with sunshade we (parents) are forced to stay home.

Mulch:

- Looks good but the bark pieces are too annoying for parents and kids. It gets stuck in shoes and kids play in it and throw it around and at others. It also adds extra cost to council with ongoing upkeep (refilling the bark which I’ve seen the trucks do).
- It looks really nice, would just prefer the mulch/bark covering is replaced with someone else. It often leaves kids with splinters, deeper cuts and doesn’t provide any cushioning when they fall on it - is AstroTurf or rubber and option all

over?

- I would like to see another option than Mulch used. It is very hard for my disabled son to walk on and is a tripping hazard.
- Mulch playgrounds are not practical for children under 2 who are crawling - they always want to eat the mulch. I have found that parents with bubs this age often find alternative playgrounds until the bubs are older.

Fence:

- As someone who goes to many parks I think fencing is a MUST.
- As a parent of 2 boys, we take our kids to play areas all the time and we generally go to kids play areas that have fencing.

Other suggestions of interest:

- What's the access thoughts for prams from street parking?
- No extra parking added?
- A clean and accessible change table and toilets as well, should be close by.
- Also are there toilets (accessible)? I can't see any on the plans. If there are no toilets then there's no point, I could never take my kids there.
- Make sure slides don't face east- west or they get really hot and can't be used.
- It would be great if there were sight lines from the children's playground to the outdoor fitness equipment.

Feedback regarding outdoor fitness stations

Needs shade	Needs water refill station	Suggest different equipment	Don't think it will get used
4	4	4	3

Equipment requests:

- More equipment should be made available to allow this to function as gym/outdoor fitness area suitable to work all body parts. There should also be low height pull-up bars to allow a progression from pull-ups and chinups with feet on the ground to full hanging. It will get more use out of teens, young adults and females wishing to progress their upper body strength. Equipment like tricep dip bars, extended abdominal bench would be good and and rings. bars to jump over for a leg workout would be useful and allow a fully functioning gym.
- It looks like you may be going with the 'Burleigh' model from UrbanFit for the multifunctional static unit. I would prefer that you go with the 'Byron' model if possible as it offers a lot more functionality.
- The suggested piece of equipment, the "Urbanfit Burleigh" is good because it incorporates monkey bars. However:
 1. It is way too small. It would accommodate a maximum of 4-5 people at a time. Ideally, this facility would allow enough people to be exercising simultaneously that it would create a sense of community.
 2. There is nowhere to do dips.
 3. There are no parallel bars.
 4. There needs to be bars of different heights to allow people of different heights to do chin ups.

A much better choice from the same manufacturer would be the "Urbanfit Byron".

By also including:

1. Urbanfit Long parallel bars, plus
2. Urbanfit Bondi Bars

You could create a vibrant, free, outdoor fitness facility that people would travel from other parts of Sydney to use, like the do for the Five Dock skate park.

Another great inclusion would be a 10m long x 3m high wall with a smooth wall surface i.e. render, and a smooth landing surface i.e. grass or if the budget allows, softfall. This could be used to do handstand progression exercises and back bends

This is an opportunity to create an excellent outdoor fitness space that can accommodate up to 20 people at once (similar to the best outdoor facilities in Sydney i.e. Bondi Beach and Observatory Hill)

Too many councils make the mistake of trying to save money by installing a few random pieces of equipment. The end result is not an enticing facility, which therefore doesn't get used. Please invest a little more and do it properly. The end result has the potential to be fantastic.

Conclusion

The community has indicated throughout both stage 1 and stage 2 consultation that shade is a priority for the children's playground, as is fencing. The community does not like mulch, so Council may need to investigate an alternative that is sustainable and safer than mulch for children.

For both the playground and fitness station, a water station/bubbler was suggested.

Outdoor fitness equipment could be altered slightly to suit detailed feedback provided by residents who appear to have knowledge on usability of such equipment.