

September
2019



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORT

Our Open River

Brays Bay River Access and McIlwaine Park Foreshore Upgrade



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TOPLINE RESULTS

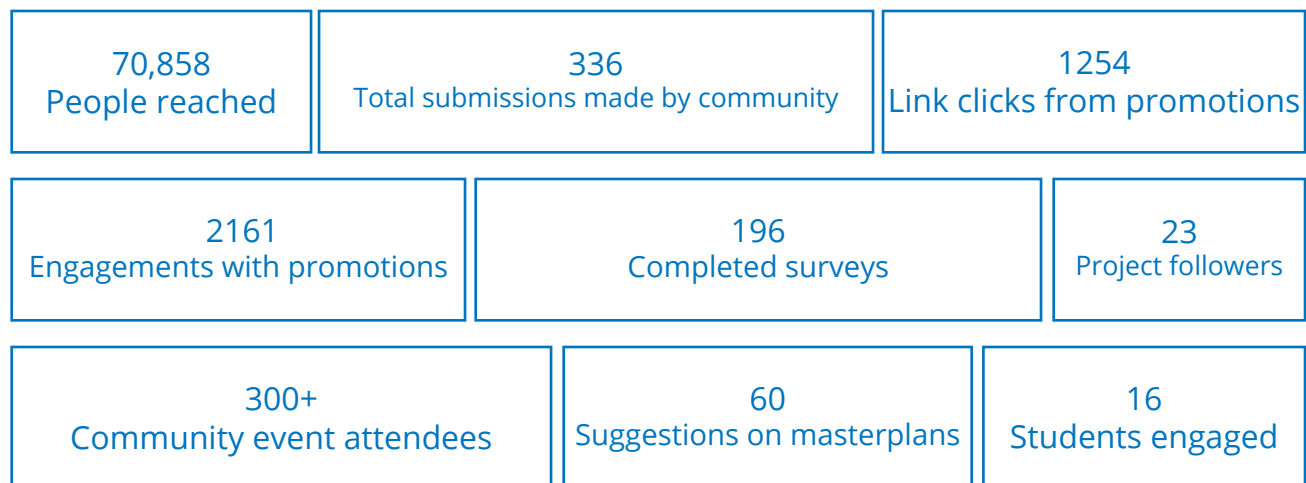
93% of participants are in support of the project, 92% like the initial designs, and 72% are very likely to use the new facilities.

Trends from qualitative feedback include:

- Council must ensure the safety of children accessing the new facilities
- Council should increase parking as demand grows
- Requests for the improvement of other park amenities - specifically the toilet block, BBQs, benches, and the existing children's playground.

The three most popular things that would encourage participants to use the facilities are water quality information available online, shower facilities, and a shark net/designated swimming area.

It is worth noting that just under half (47%) of participants are not regular park users, despite 83% being nearby or local residents. This could be due to limited foot access from Rhodes West. As such, detailed feedback from regular users can be found on page 15. For this group, water depth, tides and feasibility are a key issue with the proposed plans, and suggestions for a jetty near Oliveto was posed on 2 occasions.



933
Collaborate site visits



THE PROJECT

Brays Bay River Access & McIlwaine Park Foreshore Upgrade



The Brays Bay River Access and McIlwaine Park Foreshore Upgrade is a project that will create significant additional riverside recreational opportunities for a growing community in line with several local and state level strategic plans.

As part of the City of Canada Bay's delivery against the *City of Canada Bay's 2012 Brays Bay Foreshore Park Plan of Management*, and *2015 Rhodes Peninsula Open Space Plan of Management*, the *NSW Department of Planning's Rhodes Revised Draft Precinct Plan*, and incorporating the *Parramatta River Masterplan*, the project proposes to:

- **Upgrade the foreshore areas of the Park to provide a new accessible pathway along the foreshore,**
- **Naturalise the riverbank from the land into the water,**
- **Create a jetty or launch facility for water activities such as kayaking, rowing and stand-up paddle boarding**

The City of Canada Bay has received \$5 million of funding from the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment's Precinct Support Scheme and is to be delivered by December 2021.

The Project In Context

The Department of Planning are preparing for an extra 4,200 homes in the Rhodes Planned Precinct, which would result in around 10,000 new residents.

The Department is also proposing 40,000 sqm additional commercial floor area, new retail and a new primary school.

When added to the existing population of Rhodes (around 13,000) this will lead to an increased need for recreation and open space.

A new pedestrian bridge over Concord Road currently being planned will connect Rhodes better to Mcllwaine Park and increase its use.

The City of Canada Bay enjoys 36km of foreshore, and is committed to providing opportunities for residents to enjoy the Parramatta River more.

This project will deliver key outcomes that will benefit the community by increasing opportunities to access the foreshore, creating additional passive recreational space, and promote a more environmentally sustainable area due to the naturalisation of the river bank.

As a key initiative in the Parramatta River Catchment Group's (PRCG) Masterplan, this project will be supported by the group's focus on improving the quality of and access to the river. The ten-step masterplan is seeking to make the river swimmable by 2025 and can be read [here](#). We will be working closely with them to make sure our community will be informed of their progress.

Community Benefits

Community benefits would include:

- Access to local water activities
- Increased aquatic recreation opportunities
- Ecological benefits for flora and fauna with the naturalisation of the riverbank
- Greater access throughout the park with additional pathways and wayfinding opportunities.

Mcllwaine Park is currently a very popular waterfront recreational open space that is used by local residents and regional visitors alike. The park provides basic amenities such as a toilet block, several picnic tables, a BBQ, children's play equipment and mini golf.

The River Access and Foreshore Upgrade project will see the foreshore areas of the park upgraded to provide a new accessible pathway along the foreshore, a section of seawall converted to viewing steps from the land into the water, a jetty for water activities such as kayaking, rowing and stand-up paddle boarding.

Given the expected growth of population in the area, and the Rhodes Revised Draft Precinct Plan, creating greater access to a safe, clean and protected entry to Parramatta River will provide significant value to the community and for the environment.

- Project Sponsor: Tina Kao, Senior Strategic Planner
- Community engagement: Sarah Corry, Engagement Coordinator
- Project Manager: Petrina Nelson, Open Space Planning Coordinator
- Project Support: Ivette Delgado, Business Administration Officer
- Technical Input: Brian Woolley Drainage, Marine and Floodplain Engineer
- Landscape Design: Wendy Wright, Senior Landscape Architect

KEY STAKEHOLDERS

Interested parties

- Kelly Loveridge, Director City Services & Assets
- Russell Wolfe, Manager Parks & Recreation
- Saskia Vromans, Place Manager Rhodes
- Vincent Conroy, Place Management Coordinator

Masterplan Designers:

Environmental Partnership

Key stakeholders in the park include adjacent residents, community groups - particularly those that use the river in and around the area, the Kokoda Track Memorial Committee, casual park users, and the Indigenous community.

The Parramatta River Catchment Group are also key stakeholders and contributors to this project and the City of Canada Bay has worked directly with them on messaging and consultation elements, drawing on their experience in Parramatta Council and their technical expertise.



LOCAL RESIDENTS

Concord, Liberty Grove, Rhodes West

Council does not have park use statistics, however the park is used for several reasons including for exercise, picnics, to visit Oliveto's or children's playground and to walk their dogs.

Historically, the residents at the northern end of the park have been vocal about the future of the park.



COMMUNITY GROUPS

Sea Scouts, Kokoda Track, Dragon Boaters

Several community groups have a deep connection to the Parramatta River and/or McIlwaine Park and will be interested in the project as it progresses.



INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY

Shared Path

Aboriginal people have had a custodial role with the Parramatta River and the land surrounding and under it since time immemorial.

Council will be working with Shared Path to understand how best to incorporate the area's Aboriginal heritage into design.

Group	Impact on group	Interest in project	Influence on consultation outcomes	Level of engagement	Engagement methods
Mayor & Councillors	Med	Med	Med	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inform - Consult - Collaborate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Councillor Briefing Paper - Councillor Workshop – November
Indigenous community and elders	High	High	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inform - Consult - Collaborate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Face to face meeting - Email with updates - Site event
Residents - Rhodes, Concord West, Liberty Grove	Low - Med	Med-high	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inform - Consult 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Letter box drop - Social media - Drop in session - Site event - On site signage
Visitors to the park	Med	High	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inform - Consult 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - On site signage
PRCG	High	High	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inform - Consult 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Emails, meetings, project team updates
Bushcare -	Med	Med	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inform - Consult 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Direct email with survey - Email updates/in-meeting updates
Rhodes Community Committee	Low	Med	Med	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inform - Consult 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Direct email with survey - Email updates/in-meeting updates
Concord Community Garden	Low	Med	Med	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inform - Consult 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Direct email with survey - Email updates/in-meeting updates
EAC	Low	High	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inform - Consult 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Direct email with survey - Email updates/in-meeting updates
Yaralla Sea Scouts Link	High	High	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inform - Consult - Involve 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Direct email with survey - Email updates/in-meeting updates - Activation during opening?
CanBUG	Low	Med	Med	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inform - Consult 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Direct email with survey - Email updates/in-meeting updates
Kokoda Track Memorial Committee	Med	High	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inform - Consult 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Direct email with survey - Email updates/in-meeting updates
Concord Hospital					
Friends of McIlwaine Park?					
Concord Hospital	Med	Med	Med	-	-
Dragon boating people	Low	High	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inform - Consult 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Direct email with survey - Email updates
Rhodes boot camp	Low	Low	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inform - Consult 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Direct email with survey - Email updates
Olivetto	High	Med	Med	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inform - Consult - Involve 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Direct email with survey - Meeting if needed
Local schools	Low	Low	Low	- TBC	- TBC
Access Committee	Low	Low	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inform - Consult 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Direct email with survey - Email updates/in-meeting updates
Cabarita & Drummoine Pool – Belgravia Leisure	Low	Med	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inform - Consult 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Direct email with survey - Email updates
Kayakers - Sydney Kayak Meetup - Benefit Active	Med	Med	Med	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inform - Consult 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Direct email with survey - Email updates
Fishing community - Sydney Fishing forum	Med	Med	Med	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inform - Consult 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Direct email with survey - Email updates
Concord Heritage Society	Med	Med	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inform - Consult 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Direct email with survey - Email updates
SES Canada Bay	Med	Med	Med	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inform - Consult 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Direct email with survey - Email updates
Crown Lands	Med	Med	Med	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inform - Consult 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Direct email with survey - Email updates
KTMW board	Med	Med	Med	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inform - Consult 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Direct email with survey - Email updates
Fisherman Club	Low	Med	Med	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inform - Consult 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Direct email with survey - Email updates
Parramatta River Catchment Trust	High	High	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inform - Consult 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Direct email with survey - Email updates
OEH for estuarine issues	Low	Med	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inform - Consult 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Direct email with survey - Email updates
RMS	Low	Low	Med	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inform - Consult 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Direct email with survey - Email updates
BLAC (Police) (Beat)	High	High	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inform - Consult 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Direct email with survey - Email updates

ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

Purpose of consultation:

Community feedback will impact the look, feel and layout of the space and provide input on certain design elements, however there are set elements including the walkway, steps into the water and jetty that are fixed.

This consultation also acts as an opportunity to educate residents and park users about the PRCG masterplan to make Parramatta River swimmable by 2025, and to bring stakeholders on this journey from industrial past to river activation that incorporates a focus on ecology and contaminant reduction.

Community engagement objectives:

- Understand the way the community currently uses the park, and their opinions and concerns regarding water activation in the space.
- Develop a functional, well used space that the community sees themselves reflected in
- Inform the community that Council is providing an opportunity to enjoy the popular park in a new way.
- Educate the community about the safety of the water in the Parramatta River, and the steps Council and the PRCG is taking to ensure the river is swimmable again by 2025 in accordance with the Parramatta River Masterplan.

Project evaluation measures:

- Survey responses = 200 (achieved - 209)
- Event attendance = 200 people to site activation event & 80 surveys – (achieved - 250 attendees with 107 survey completed)
- 40 surveys completed at Foreshore park drop in (not achieved - 30 surveys completed)
- Post consultation survey - (yet to be undertaken)
 - Satisfaction with consultation
 - Respondents feel connected to BBR
 - Respondents more likely to swim/feel educated about Council's approach to pollution and water quality
- LoRaWan counter = assess visitor increases over time (being installed in September 2019 - ongoing evaluation)

Impact Level:

- Local – low-medium potential impact to stakeholders, some perception of high impact amongst stakeholders

Levels of consultation:

- Inform – educate the community on the project
- Consult – remain open for questions/concerns
- Involve – consider alternatives and ideas from the community

Risks/potential issues:

- Differences in plans to 2015 PoM
- Opposition regarding water sports in river due to pollution
- Persisting opinions regarding industrial history and contamination of area
- Lack of education around PRCGs plans to make the river swimmable
- Safety for children on jetty and stairs
- Amenities block beat issues
- Residents in park adjacent properties are particularly engaged
- Mention of the pool in the masterplan, particularly considering the background regarding Rhodes Rec Centre pool.

ENGAGEMENT METHODS



1. Collaborate Canada Bay page - survey - 12 August - 14 September 2019

- 1,293 page views
- 933 visits
- 23 project followers
- 196 surveys submitted

2. Riverside Community Day - Sunday, 25 August 2019

- 250 attendees
- 117 surveys completed, 40 suggestions for the park submitted, support sticky dots on master plan
- Educational stalls with City of Canada Bay project team, Parramatta River Catchment Group and Sydney Water
- Entertainment from Diver Dave's Ocean Adventures, face painting, and childrens craft activities
- Refreshments with the 1st Yaralla Sea Scouts team, Oliveto's desserts and Bean on Fire coffee cart

3. Rhodes Moon Festival - "tea and conversations" stall - Saturday, 14 September 2019

- 30 surveys completed
- Kids crafts, moon cakes and herbal tea served
- 15,000 attendees to community event

4. Victoria Avenue Primary School - "Festival of Innovative Ideas 2019" - Thursday, 12 September 2019

- Workshop with 16 students from years 3 - 6
- Design drawings of their perfect park
- Support sticky dots on masterplan

ENGAGEMENT TIMELINE

Intent	Draft Date	Action	Detail	Stakeholder Groups	Status
INFORM 1	w/c 5 September	What's On E-Newsletter	Article in Council's E-newsletter	Broader Community	
	w/c 12 Aug	Customer Service Briefing	Provide briefing document in email to Hiba		
	w/c 12 August	A5 Postcard letterbox distribution	Print approx. 7500	Residents in 500m loci of Brays Bay Reserve + Rhodes West	
	w/c 12 August	Emails to key stakeholders	Including PoM participants, Kokoda Memorial Committee etc.	As per stakeholder list	
	12 August	A5 Postcard – Council facilities distribution	Concord Library, Five Dock Leisure Centre, Civic Centre, the Connection		
	12 August	Site Signage	Site signs to be installed at Brays Bay Reserve	Park users	
	12 August	Council Website	Latest News	Park users	
	12 August – 14 Sept	Social Media	Comms Team to promote the consultation through social media.	Broader Community	
	12 August	Library newsletter	Sarah to provide information to Yen for campaign	Broader community	
	Twice throughout August	IWC	Article within the Mayors Column	Broader Community	
ENGAGE 1	12 August – 14 Sept	Engagement Period	Collaborate Phone Email	All stakeholders	
	14 / 21 August	The Connection - Baby rhyme time	Sarah going to The Connection on Wednesday 14 or 21 to promote consultation and event to Rhodes audience	Rhodes	
	Sunday 25 August 1-3PM	On site activation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sunday riverside afternoon tea (coffee cart, muffins and cookies) Indigenous riverside performance PRCG education element Bushcare demonstration Giveaways – reusable straws/something water related Diver Dave – sea snails Marine life face painting Bird Life Australia 	Local Residents	
	14 Sept @ Moon Festival	Drop in session at Foreshore Park	Community Listening Post	Rhodes residents	
REPORT 1	w/c 16 Sept <u>Sept</u>	Report finalised	Community Consultation Outcomes Report	Internal	
		CCBC Internal Meeting	To discuss the outcomes, draft report and moving forward	Internal	
	w/c 9 September	Stakeholder acknowledgement	Preparation of stakeholder acknowledgement letters/email	Engagement Participants	

Intent	Draft Date	Action	Detail	Stakeholder Groups	Status
INFORM 2	October	What's On E-Newsletter	Article in Council's E-newsletter	Broader Community	
	October	Customer Service Briefing	Provide briefing document in email to Hiba		
	October	Emails to key stakeholders		As per stakeholder list	
	October	Site Signage	Site signs to be installed at Brays Bay Reserve	Park users	
	October	Council Website	Latest News	Park users	
	October	Social Media	Comms Team to promote the consultation through social media.	Broader Community	
	October	IWC	Article within the Mayors Column	Broader Community	
ENGAGE 2	October	Engagement Period	Collaborate Phone Email Meetings if required	All stakeholders	
REPORT 2	October	Incorporate feedback into final designs			
	November	Council workshop to discuss final designs		Councillors	
	November /December	Promote final designs	Direct emails Collaborate Website On-site signage	All stakeholders	

PROMOTION RESULTS

Channel	Details	Live date	Reach	Engagements	Link clicks	Engagement results
Media						
Newspaper article	General - Mayor's column	27/08/2019	40K circ			
Social						
Facebook	General	19/08/2019	5698	720	17	71 reactions 22 comments 8 shares 621 clicks
Facebook	Riverside Community Day	21/08/2019	2044	69	6	12 reactions 1 comment 2 shares 54 clicks
Facebook	Riverside Community Day	25/08/2019	2273	46	9	15 reactions 0 comments 2 shares 29 clicks
Facebook	Riverside Community Day	25/08/2019	3259	601	11	43 reactions 3 comments 1 share 554 clicks
Facebook	General	9/09/2019	4039	523	34	66 reactions 22 comments 3 shares 432 clicks
Instagram	General + Riverside Community Day	19/09/2019	747	34	2	32 likes 2 direct message shares
Instagram story	Riverside Community Day	22/09/2019	356			
Twitter	General	22/09/2019	812	7	3	3 link clicks 2 media engagements 1 hashtag click 1 detail expand
e-Newsletters						
August What's On E-News	General	1/08/2019	794	N/A	3	
September What's On E-News	General	3/09/2019	950	N/A	5	
August Rhodes E-News	General	13/08/2019	542	N/A	9	
September Rhodes E-News	General	10/09/2019	526	N/A	4	
Collaborate						
Collaborate email campaign	Email to interested database	13/08/2019	268	161	12	
Visits						
Offline						
Postcard	Resident post card to Rhodes, Concord & Liberty Grove	15/08/2019	7500	N/A (no noticeable boost in traffic)		
Site posters	Mcllwaine Park playground, Kokoda Track Café, 5 Senses Garden, Rhodes train station	13/08/2019				
Connection Learning Space	Learning space screen					
Website						
Homepage tile feature	Yes		1000 views		1000 views	
What's On page			50 views			
Other						
Rhodes Riverside Shopping Centre	Digital directory, social media tile, website tile					

RESULTS - EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

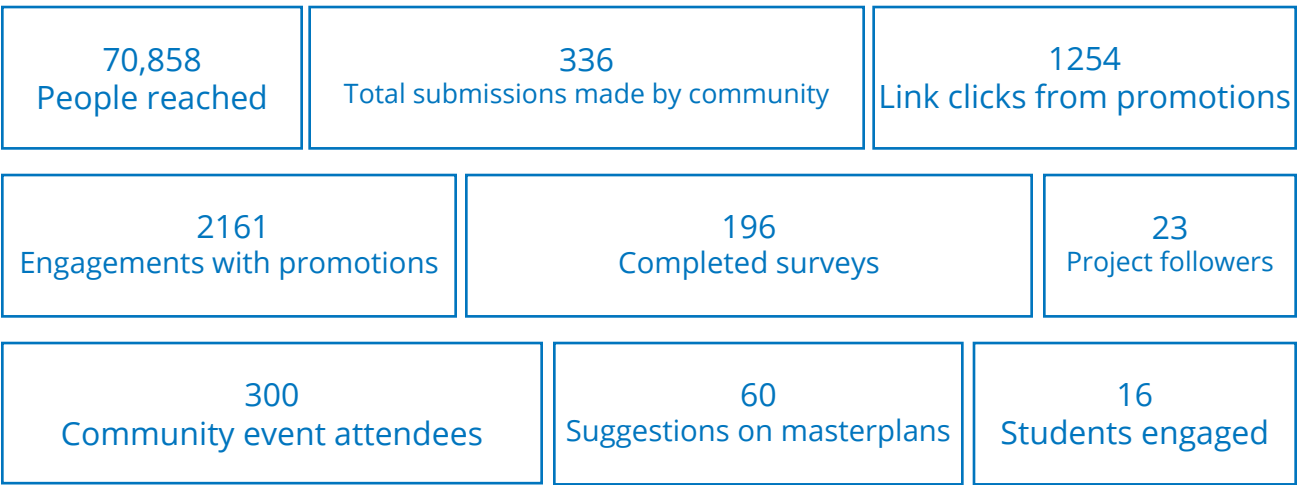
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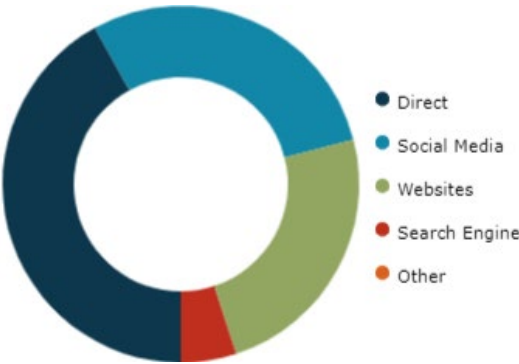
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- Council should increase parking as demand grows
- Requests for the improvement of other park amenities - specifically the toilet block, BBQs, benches, and the existing children's playground.

The three most popular things that would encourage participants to use the facilities are water quality information available online, shower facilities, and a shark net/designated swimming area.

It is worth noting that just under half (47%) of participants are not regular park users, despite 83% being nearby or local residents. This could be due to limited foot access from Rhodes West. As such, detailed feedback from regular users can be found on page 15. For this group, water depth, tides and feasibility are a key issue with the proposed plans, and suggestions for a jetty near Oliveto was posed on 2 occasions.



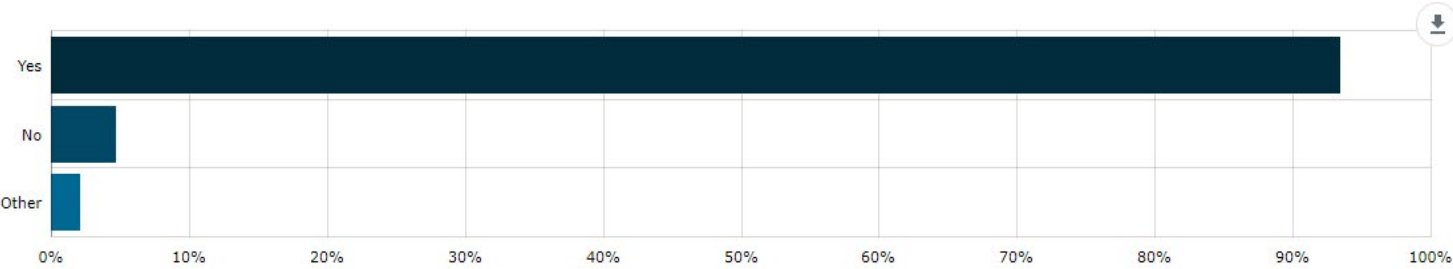
933
Collaborate site visits



RESULTS BREAKDOWN

2 Do you support this project to upgrade the foreshore and create access to the Parramatta River at Brays Bay in Mcllwaine Park, Rhodes East? Required

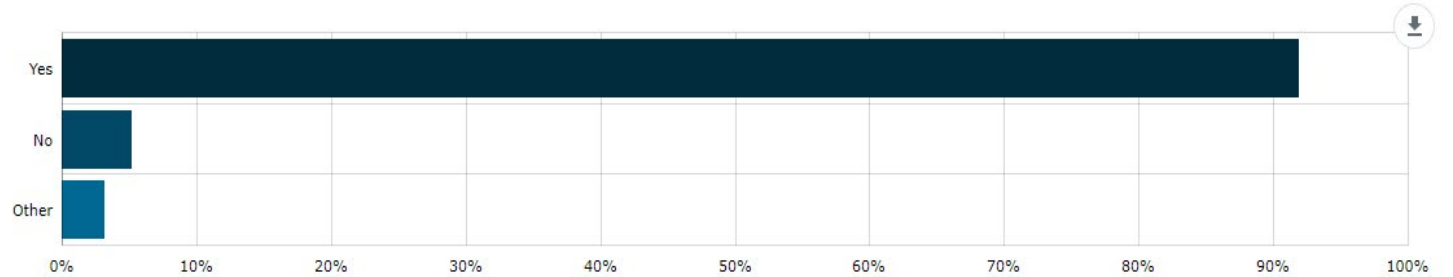
Dropdown | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 196 (100%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Yes	93.37%	183
No	4.59%	9
Other	2.04%	4
Total	100.00%	196

3 Looking at our initial design ideas and artists impression, do you like the overall concept? Required

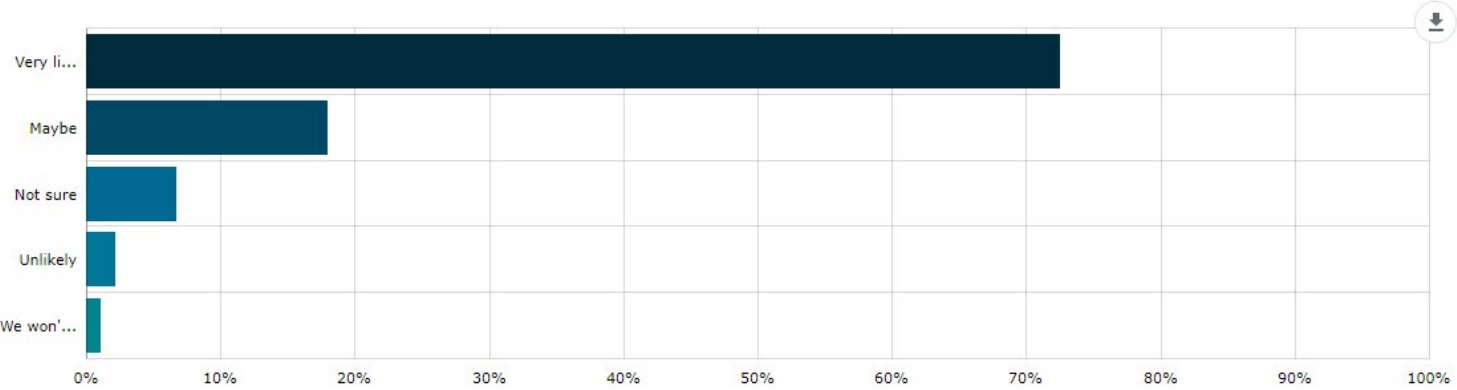
Dropdown | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 196 (100%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Yes	91.84%	180
No	5.10%	10
Other	3.06%	6
Total	100.00%	196

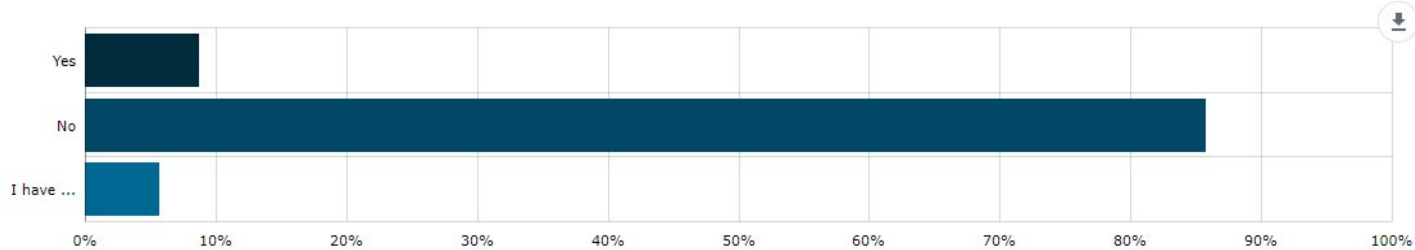
5 How likely are you and your family to use these new facilities and foreshore access? Required

Dropdown | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 196 (100%)



6 Do you already swim in the Parramatta River at another swim site? Required

Dropdown | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 196 (100%)

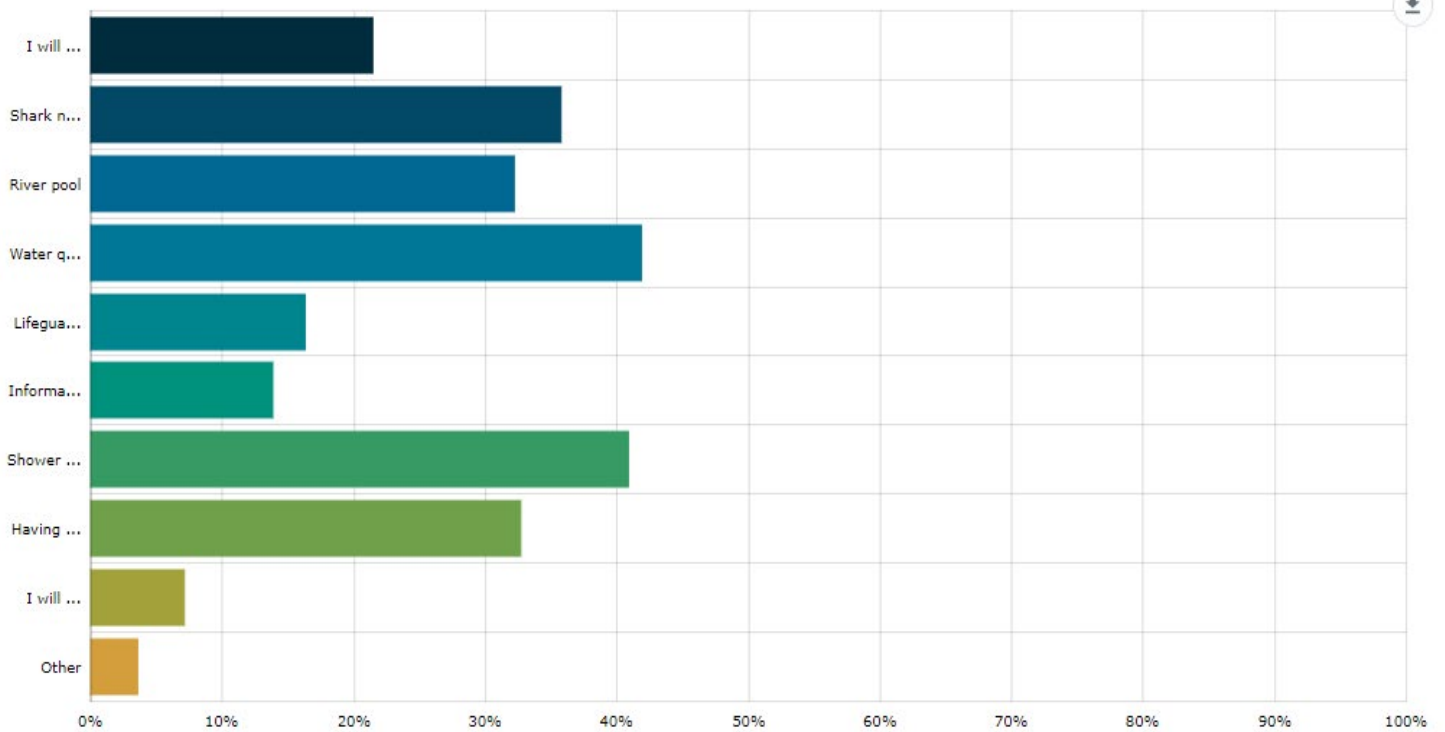


Answer choices	Percent	Count
Yes	8.67%	17
No	85.71%	168
I have in the past	5.61%	11
Total	100.00%	196

7

What would encourage you to swim here at Mcllwaine Park, Rhodes East? (Select up to 3) Required

Multiple Checkbox | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 196 (100%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
I will swim once I can easily access the water	21.43%	42
Shark net/designated area for swimming	35.71%	70
River pool	32.14%	63
Water quality updates online	41.84%	82
Lifeguards patrolling during peak periods	16.33%	32
Information on best times to swim	13.78%	27
Shower facility	40.82%	80
Having an authority such as the state government confirm it is safe to swim	32.65%	64
I will never swim here	7.14%	14
Other	3.57%	7

FEEDBACK TRENDS

The below figures refer to the number of times these issues were mentioned in submissions when asked:

Q4 - What suggestions do you have for this project? Do you foresee any issues?

Q11 - How would you improve McIlwaine Park, Rhodes East?

Children's safety	Parking and traffic	Improved amenities needed	Existing playground upgrades	Teen activities	Basketball courts	Fitness Equipment	Dog friendly areas	Boat/Kayak hiring facilities	Water pollution
24	39	39	17	17	17	12	11	11	10

PARKING & TRAFFIC - 39 COMMENTS

"My concern rests mainly with the increased use of the park which I know sounds ridiculous since I'm sure this is part of the goal... However, parking is always an issue here and I would strongly recommend signs and information online advising people that there is very limited parking and they should use public transport or walk if possible. PLEASE don't take up more of the park by increasing the parking area, I strongly believe the focus should be on educating visitors to use other options.

Definitely have higher kerbs to ensure people aren't parking on the grass which happens now when it's busy.

Garbage bins with recycling options are critical.

We can never have too many trees - feel free to plant heaps!!"

"With the population in Rhodes expected to double in the future and all the facilities getting upgraded, I am concerned about traffic congestion around the main road, and also what about parking?"

"New playground, less sand, more parking and capped time limits 4 hours"

CHILDREN'S SAFETY - 24 COMMENTS

"If you don't have some form of surveillance (lifeguards, cameras etc), kids could run into the water and get hurt or drown."

"Swimming needs to be safe for kids. More rails need to be initiated for pets walking. Safety for kids needs to be important."

"Possible issue with children's water safety, especially given the multicultural nature of the area"

POLLUTION - 10 COMMENTS

"I have swum at Cabarita and while the water was okay, it was what was underfoot that made it difficult and unpleasant. There were a lot of sharp rocks which weren't easy to see (because the water wasn't that clear)"

IMPROVED AMENITIES - 38 COMMENTS

"Please include better toilet and amenities. Cafe would be terrific and more park seats/tables for families to picnic at plus more parking spaces if possible."

"I definitely feel that a cafe is very necessary because whenever you go to a big park where you expect to spend a good couple hours there, being able to buy coffee and some bites is so essential and makes the trip more enjoyable."

"Introduce a few mobile vans e.g. coffee and snacks on the weekends, and then more frequently as the area is developed for public use of water activities. Change sheds/toilets once swimming is available"

TEEN ACTIVITIES/BASKETBALL COURTS/ FITNESS EQUIPMENT - 46 COMMENTS

Participants are wanting more varied play/recreational experiences for more age groups, given the playground currently caters to young children.

Many also asked for upgrades to the existing playground:

"The playground equipment are really old given how beautiful the waterfront park is, an upgraded playground equipment would definitely make a huge impact."

REGULAR PARK USERS FEEDBACK

"Access to the water for kayaks or boat launches could be better located along the open area in front of Oliveto restaurant."

"People using kayaks or wanting to take the family for a swim will drive to the park and not use public transport (although the thought of trying to carry a kayak on a bus is quite funny). As such, without upgrades there will likely be parking issues and conflict with people dragging kayaks across the park."

"Encouraging small boat usage and swimming (albeit in the future) in this bay is simply unwise. The bay is shallow with a bed of thick, sticky mud (likely polluted as it was in the past) interspersed with rocks many covered in barnacles and oyster shells. This is not a place for wading either associated with swimming or as a result of launching/recovering boats or from falling from surf skis, paddles boards, etc."

Anecdotal most of the bay is so shallow that it can be walked across especially at low tide and the proposed site is amongst the shallower areas (see attached Photo 1 of proposed access area).

Your documentation even refers to a depth of "approximately 0.5m at mean high tide" in this area. Accordingly most users will be required to struggle through thick mud with the risk of twisted ankles and cut feet on rocks. The construction of a lower level "ephemeral beach" merely moves the interface problem; it doesn't solve it. This greatly conflicts with the aim to provide "a safe, clean and protected entry to Parramatta River". By promoting this location as suitable for such usage could even leave the State Government and Council open to liability."

"I don't like the cafe - particularly not with the current placement. It is not that big a park and the cafe will be front & centre where it is currently placed, and very close to the swimming area. I can imagine a lot of pedestrian traffic around the cafe, the facilities and the swimming area. I don't think that would be nice for parents with children and the place should not feel so busy that it is off-putting to go for a swim because there are so many on-lookers. Cafes are everywhere in the Canada Bay. Surely a cafe could be placed at either end instead - or even better - why not have a kiosk. This is a unique opportunity to create a beautiful natural space for people to enjoy natural resources in a natural setting. Please make that the focus."

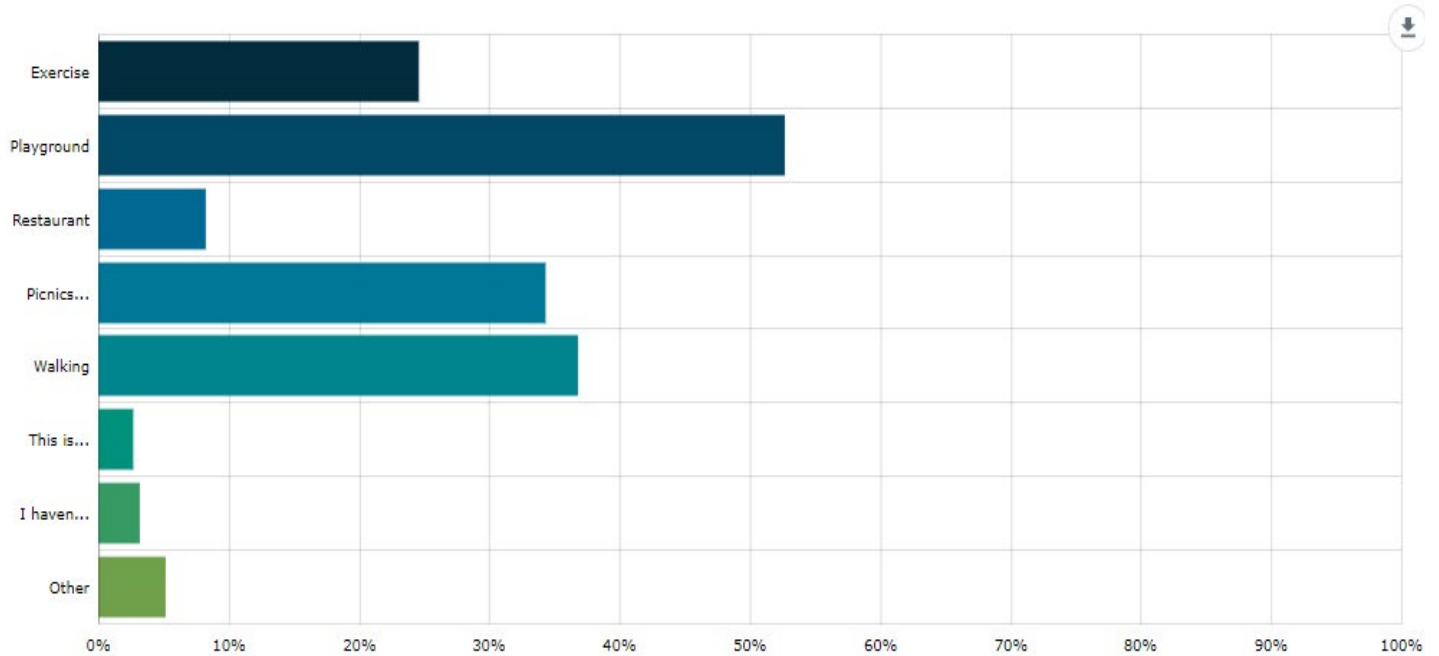
"Given the shared path is currently used by lots of cyclists as its a major commuter and recreational cycle route, a separate cycle path would be preferable for the safety and enjoyment of all park users. Further play areas should be designed to keep cyclists and children safe from each other."

WHO'S TALKING?

9

Why do you visit Mclwaine Park, Rhodes East? Required

Multiple Checkbox | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 196 (100%)

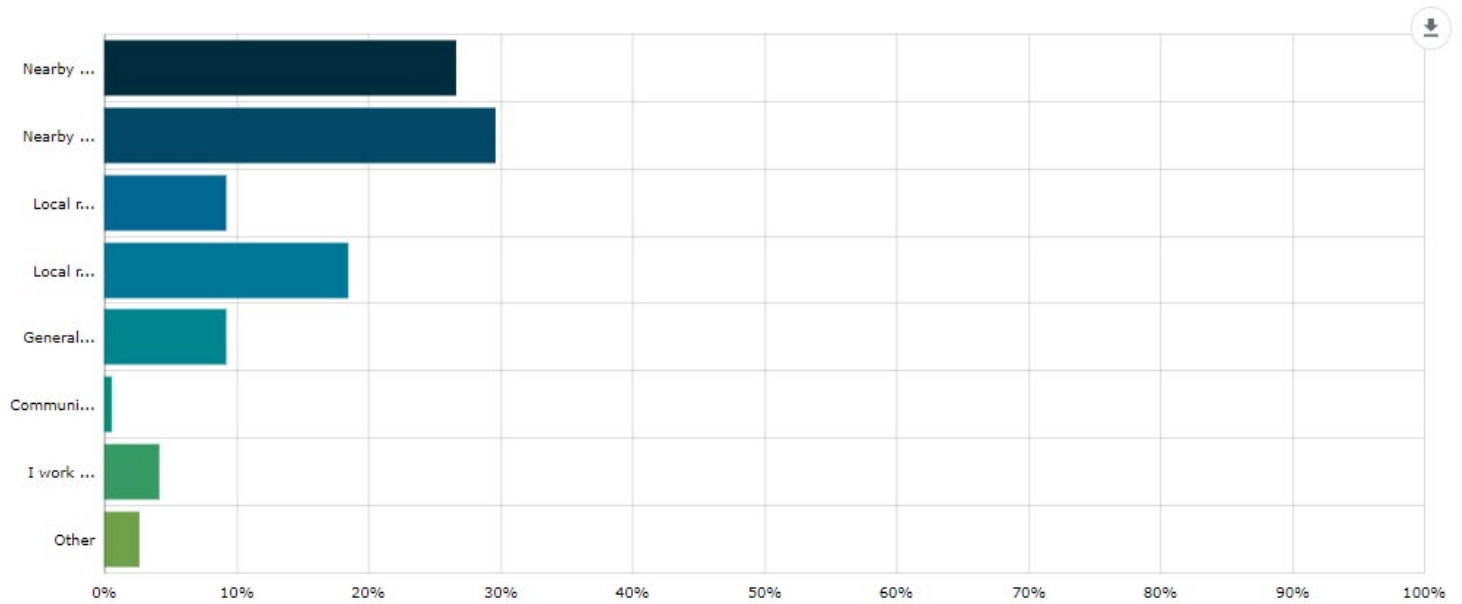


Answer choices	Percent	Count
Exercise	24.49%	48
Playground	52.55%	103
Restaurant	8.16%	16
Picnics and barbecues	34.18%	67
Walking	36.73%	72
This is my first visit	2.55%	5
I haven't visited yet	3.06%	6
Other	5.10%	10

8

What is your relationship to Mclwaine Park, Rhodes East? Required

Dropdown | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 196 (100%)

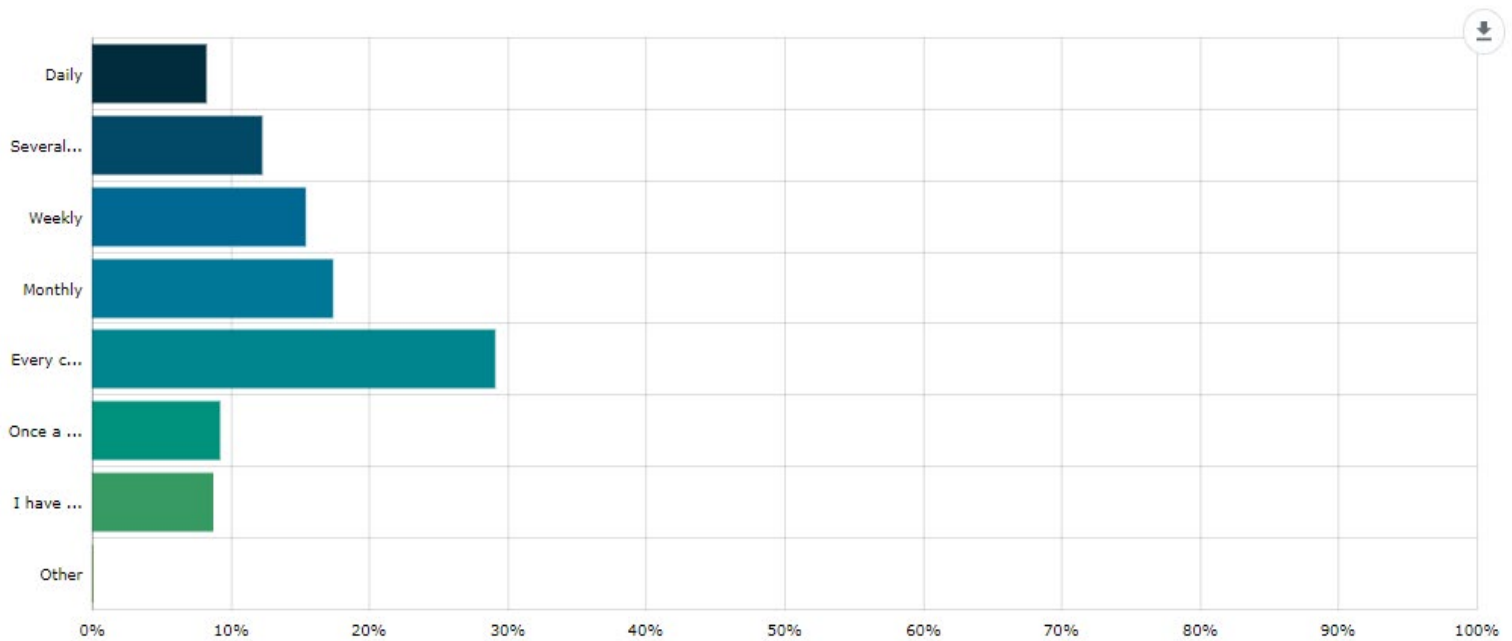


Answer choices	Percent	Count
Nearby resident standalone house	26.53%	52
Nearby resident apartment complex	29.59%	58
Local resident standalone house	9.18%	18
Local resident apartment complex	18.37%	36
General park user	9.18%	18
Community group	0.51%	1
I work nearby	4.08%	8
Other	2.55%	5
Total	100.00%	196

1

How often do you visit McIlwaine Park, Rhodes East? Required

Dropdown | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 196 (100%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Daily	8.16%	16
Several times a week	12.24%	24
Weekly	15.31%	30
Monthly	17.35%	34
Every couple of months	29.08%	57
Once a year	9.18%	18
I have never visited before	8.67%	17
Other	0.00%	0
Total	100.00%	196

RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY DAY





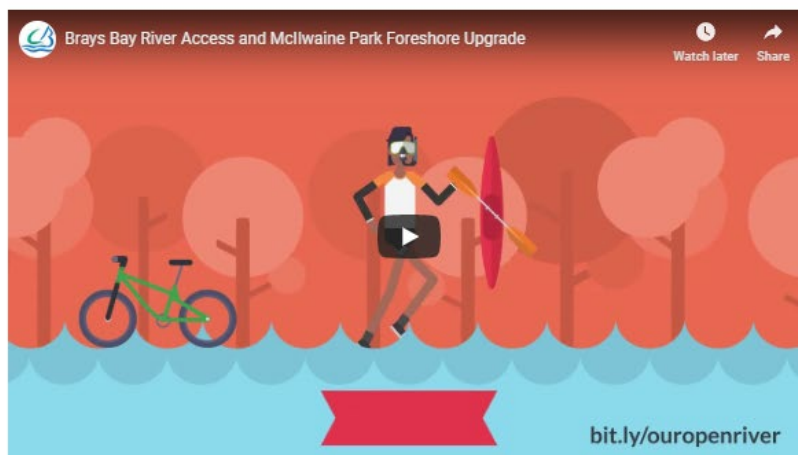
SURVEY

1. How often do you visit Mcllwaine Park, Rhodes East?
 - Daily
 - Several times a week
 - Weekly
 - Monthly
 - Every couple of months
 - Once a year
 - I have never visited before
2. Do you support this project to upgrade the foreshore and create access to the Parramatta River at Brays Bay in Mcllwaine Park, Rhodes East?
 - Yes
 - No
 - Maybe (other)
3. Looking at our initial design ideas and artists impression, do you like the overall concept?
 - Yes
 - No
4. What suggestions do you have for this project?
5. Do you foresee any issues with what we have outlined?
6. How likely are you and your family to use these new facilities and foreshore access?
 - Very likely
 - Maybe
 - Not sure
 - Unlikely
 - Never
7. Do you already swim in the Parramatta River?
 - Yes
 - No
 - I have in the past
8. What would encourage you to swim in the river here at Mcllwaine Park, Rhodes East? (select up to 3)
 - I will swim once I can easily access the water
 - Shark net/designated area for swimming
 - River pool
 - Water quality updates online
 - Lifeguards patrolling during peak periods
 - Information on best times to swim
 - Shower facility
 - Having an authority such as the state government confirm it is safe to swim
 - Other
9. What is your relationship to Mcllwaine Park, Rhodes East?
 - Nearby resident – standalone house
 - Nearby resident – apartment complex
 - Local resident – standalone house
 - Local resident – apartment complex
 - General park user
 - Community group
 - I work nearby
 - Other
10. What do you use Mcllwaine Park, Rhodes East for?
 - Exercise
 - Playground
 - Restaurant
 - Picnics and barbecues
 - Walking
 - I don't visit
 - This is my first visit
 - Other
11. What would you do to improve Mcllwaine Park, Rhodes East?

COLLABORATE PAGE



Home > Our Open River



We're making it easier to splash about in Brays Bay. Water you waiting for?

We are thrilled to announce plans for a \$5 million Mcllwaine Park foreshore upgrade and Brays Bay river access project in Rhodes. The projects seeks to make it easier to splash about in the Parramatta River.

Funded by the Department of Planning and Environment, the facilities will include a launch facility and foreshore access improvements so that visitors can enjoy kayaking, stand up paddle boarding and other fun water activities.

We are committed to working with the community to create a great place where everyone can dip in and enjoy our open river, and we are currently asking for feedback on the proposed designs we have drafted, as well as insights into how our community uses the park, and possible areas for improvement into the future.

We encourage you to contribute your ideas online below now, or to come along to our riverside community day to enjoy a free coffee and lunch while learning about the project and future plans.



How you can contribute

In our short survey below. Chinese and Korean translations of the survey and FAQs are available below also.

At our free riverside community day at Mcllwaine Park Rhodes East on Sunday, 25 August 1 – 3pm with free bus rides from The Connection from 12.45 – 3.30PM.

At the Rhodes Moon Festival on Saturday, 14 September 10am – 5pm.

Bella the Bar Tailed Godwit



Timeline

- ✓ **Parramatta River Catchment Group Masterplan launched**
October 2018
- ✓ **Designer appointed**
March 2019
- ✓ **Funding confirmed**
June 2019

VICTORIA PARK PRIMARY WORKSHOPS



PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL

Postcard



Social tile



Site Poster



Bella the Bar Tailed Godwit

SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS

**City of Canada Bay**
21 August at 17:00 · 🌐

Come along to our free Riverside Community Day at Mcllwaine Park in Rhodes this Sunday, 25 August from 1-3pm 😊

Learn about marine life through fun games and activities, enjoy a free barbecue lunch, coffee and treats and give feedback on our \$5 million Mcllwaine Park foreshore upgrade and Brays Bay river access project. See you there! 🙌

Visit bit.ly/ouopenriver for more information on the project and to provide feedback.

**City of Canada Bay**
Riverside Community Day!
Sunday, 25 August 1 – 3pm
Mcllwaine Park


"We're making it easier to splash about in Brays Bay. Water you waiting for?!"
Bella the bar-tailed Godwit

\$5 million
river access upgrade to Mcllwaine Park, Rhodes



 9
1 comment 2 shares

 Like  Comment  Share 

Most relevant ▾



Marc Dovico Interesting that council have \$5mill for this but last week a council representative said they didn't have a lot of money to improve parking on Major Bay Rd. I guess it's a matter of priorities for council

Like · Reply · 2w



City of Canada Bay

9 September at 17:00 · 🌐

...

We have big plans for Mcllwaine Park and Brays Bay in Rhodes and we want your feedback!

The project will include a launch facility and foreshore access improvements so that visitors can enjoy kayaking, stand up paddle boarding and other fun water activities!

Tell us what you think via bit.ly/ouopenriver before 14 September 👍



👍❤️ 63

20 comments 3 shares

👍 Like

💬 Comment

➦ Share



Most relevant ▾



Write a comment...





City of Canada Bay

19 August at 17:00 · 🌐



Have you heard about our \$5 million McIlwaine Park foreshore upgrade and Brays Bay river access project in Rhodes?

The upgrade will include a launch facility and foreshore access improvements so that visitors can enjoy kayaking, stand up paddle boarding and other fun activities!

We want to work with you to create a great place where everyone can enjoy our open river. Contribute your ideas at bit.ly/ouopenriver or come along to our Riverside Community Day at Brays Bay on Sunday, 25 August from 1-3pm. See you there!



18 comments 6 shares



City of Canada Bay

25 August at 17:05 · 🌐

Thanks to everyone who came along to our Riverside Community Day at McIlwaine Park today! 🌊🍷👏

We had a great day out with Our Living River and Sydney Water talking with the community on our river upgrade plans and enjoyed delicious treats, face painting and a sausage sizzle!

Want to find out more about our \$5 million upgrade? Visit bit.ly/ouopenriver



👍❤️ 37

1 share

👍 Like

💬 Comment

➦ Share



Write a comment...



City of Canada Bay

25 August at 07:00 · 🌐

Join us today for our free Riverside Community Day at McIlwaine Park in Rhodes from 1-3pm!

There'll be fun activities and games for kids, face painting, a free barbecue lunch as well as coffee and treats!

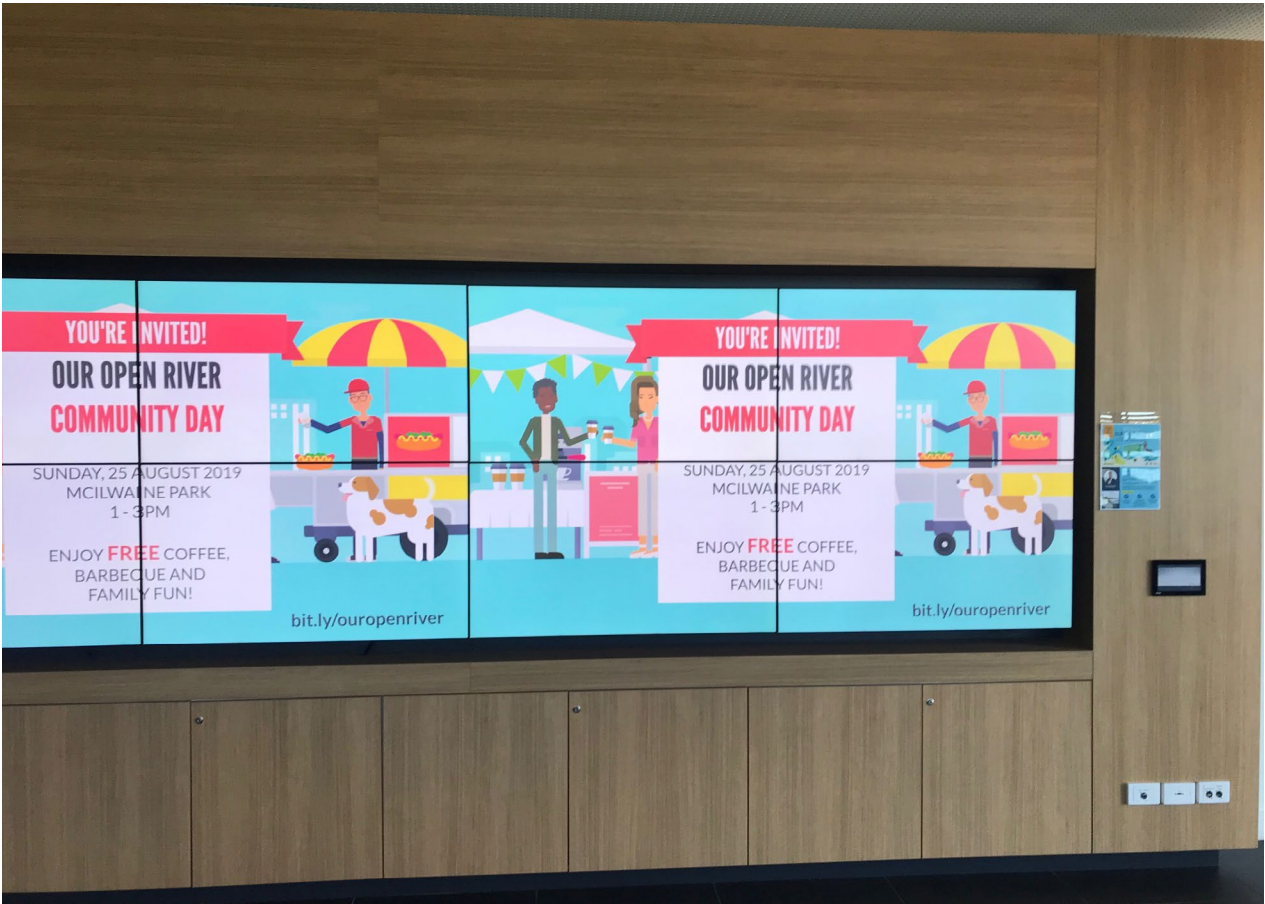
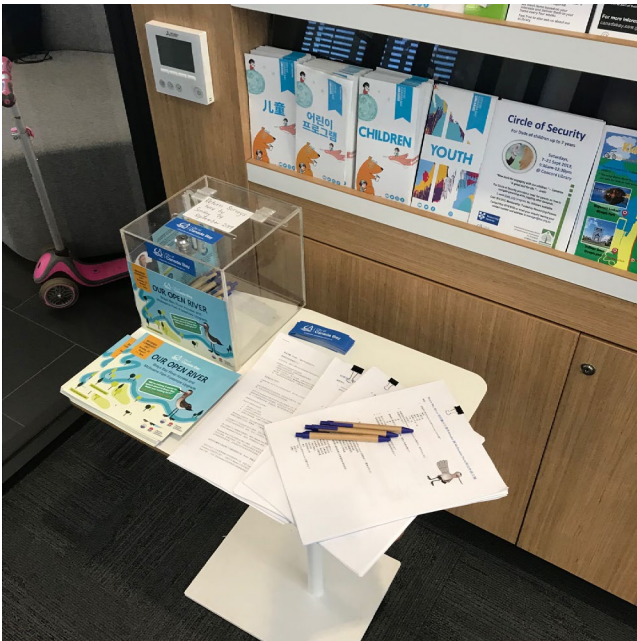
You can also have your say on plans for our \$5 million McIlwaine Park foreshore upgrade and Brays Bay river access project. Visit bit.ly/ouopenriver for more info 😊



👍❤️ 11

1 share

THE CONNECTION, RHODES PROMOTIONS



[illegible]