

McIlwaine Park

Amenities and Playground Upgrade

Community Consultation Report

November 2023

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Background

The [McIlwaine Park foreshore upgrade](#) was recently completed and to support these upgrades, Council is also planning to improve the children's playground and amenities block. These improvements are planned to be delivered by June 2024.

Concept plans for these improvements were informed by previous consultation with the community, the Local Area Command (NSW Police), and other key groups/stakeholders. This consultation aimed to collect feedback on the concept plans and to gauge community sentiment with regards to retaining the existing putt putt area. In particular, feedback was sought on the proposed design for the amenities building and children's playground.

The consultation period ran from 29 September – 29 October 2023 and the feedback received is summarised in this report. Feedback will be used to inform the final design.

Consultation methods

- Collaborate survey (see appendix A)
- Drop-in at the children's playground on 15 October 2023 from 3-5pm for the community to speak to Council staff
- Feedback via phone and email

Notification methods

The following methods were implemented to notify the community of this consultation:

- Notification letter delivered to 676 residences
- 8 x site posters
- Collaborate project page: https://collaborate.canadabay.nsw.gov.au/mcilwainepark_upgrades
- Email to 2,271 Collaborate members

See appendix B for more detail.

Consultation summary

Collaborate reach

- 249 page views
- 180 unique site visitors
- 5 people following the project for updates

Digital promotions reach

This consultation was promoted via:

- 2 x Facebook posts

Collectively, these digital promotions reached 2,713 people and achieved 7 engagements (clicks, likes, comments, and shares). See appendix C for more details.

Results

- 14 survey submissions (including 3 hard copy surveys submitted at the drop-in session)
- 3 emails
- 1 phone call
- 3 drop-in submissions

Feedback summary

Community feedback was generally supportive of the concept plan; however, a number of ideas were suggested with regards to the toilets and play equipment.

Accessibility is important to the community, with a number of submissions calling for the final plan to ensure the toilets and overall area are accessible.

There were a few requests for specific pieces of play equipment and materials, however overwhelming support for a specific piece of equipment was not noted.

There was not strong support or opposition to the putt putt being retained, however there was a slight preference to keep and maintain the putt putt area.

Community survey results – 14 submissions

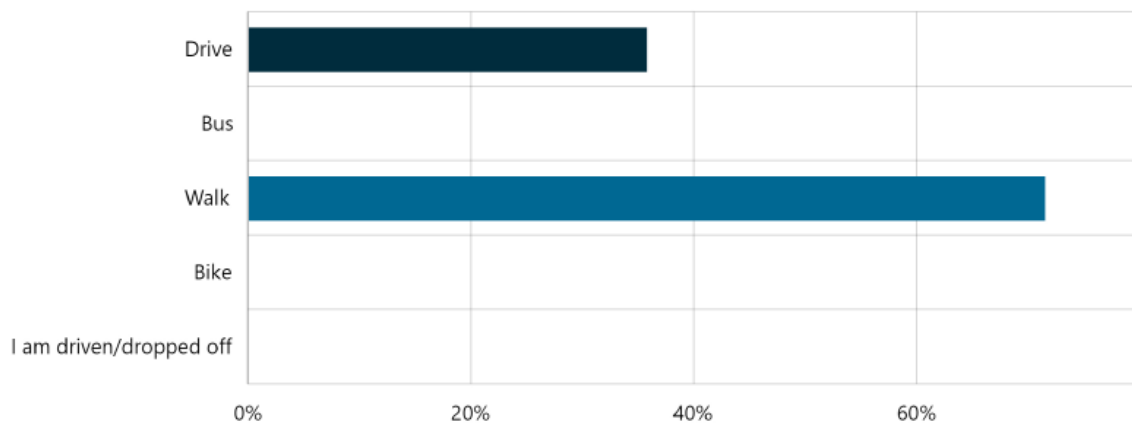
Respondent demographics

- 43% live in Rhodes
- 21% live in Concord West
- 21% live outside of the City of Canada Bay area
- 7% live in the City of Canada Bay area
- 1% live next door/on the perimeter of the park

Park visitation

6. How do you usually get to McIlwaine Park? Required

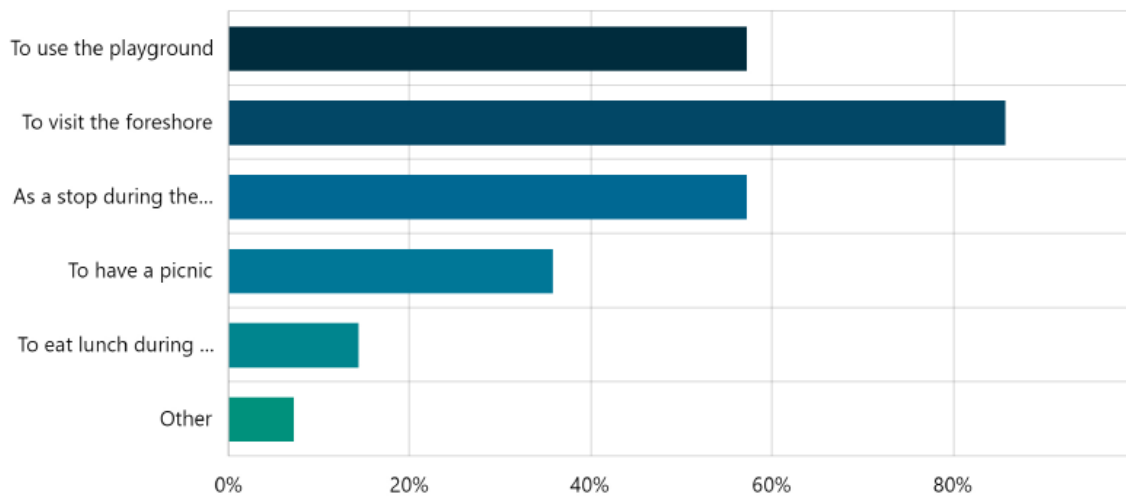
Multi Choice | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 14 (100%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Drive	35.71%	5
Bus	0%	0
Walk	71.43%	10
Bike	0%	0
I am driven/dropped off	0%	0

7. Why do you visit McIlwaine Park?

Multi Choice | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 14 (100%)

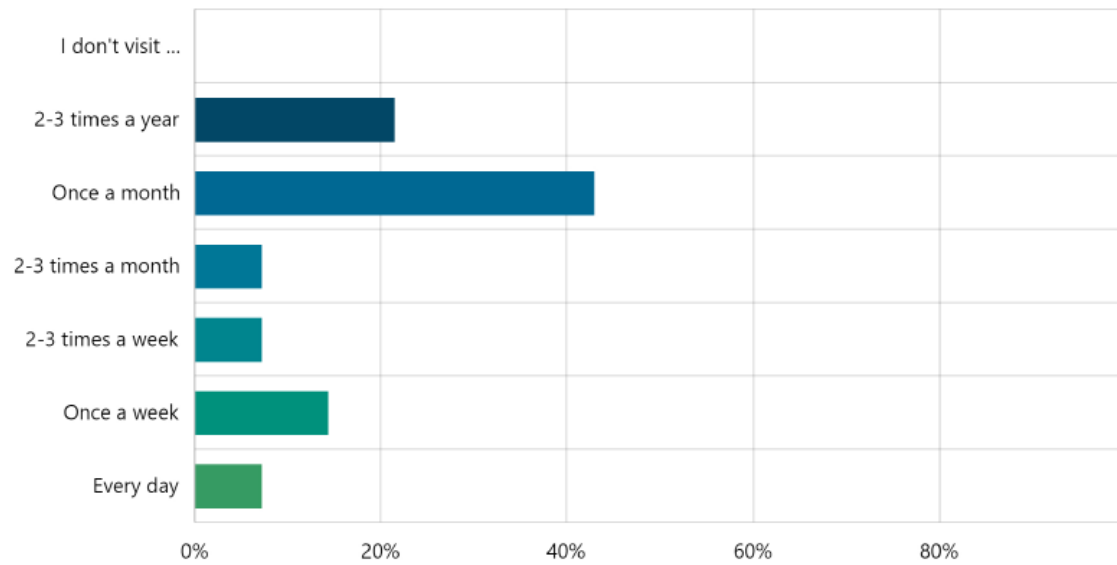


Answer choices	Percent	Count
To use the playground	57.14%	8
To visit the foreshore	85.71%	12
As a stop during the foreshore walk/cycle	57.14%	8
To have a picnic	35.71%	5
To eat lunch during work hours	14.29%	2
Other	7.14%	1

- One respondent noted they visit the park to work

8. How regularly do you visit the park?

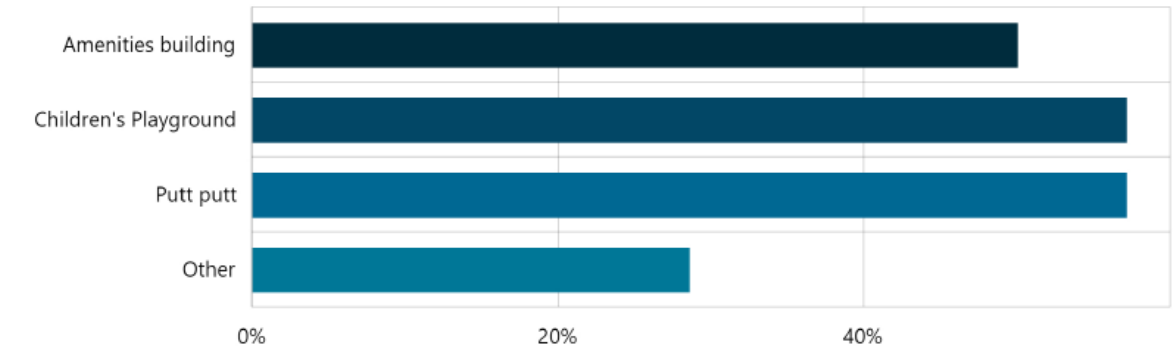
Select Box | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 14 (100%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
I don't visit McIlwaine Park	0%	0
2-3 times a year	21.43%	3
Once a month	42.86%	6
2-3 times a month	7.14%	1
2-3 times a week	7.14%	1
Once a week	14.29%	2
Every day	7.14%	1
Total	100.00%	14

Respondents were then asked to provide feedback on three specific elements of the concept plan – the amenities building, children’s playground and putt putt area

9. What would you like to give feedback on? Required
Multi Choice | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 14 (100%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Amenities building	50.00%	7
Children's Playground	57.14%	8
Putt putt	57.14%	8
Other	28.57%	4

- Other:
 - Water fountain
 - Dogs off-leash
 - A kayak ramp at Brays Bay

Amenities building

7 respondents provided feedback on the amenities building. Feedback was grouped using tags to show common themes/ideas. The word cloud below shows each tag, with the size of the words indicating the number of times each tag appeared.

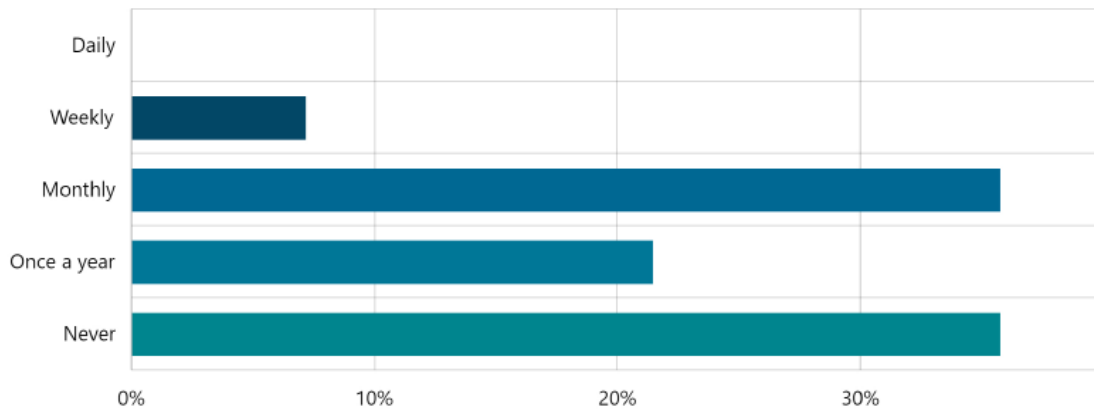


Tag	Percent	Count
accessibility	45%	5
toilets	36%	4
maintenance	18%	2
security after hours	9%	1
remove sand	9%	1
play equipment	9%	1
kayak ramp	9%	1

Children's playground Visitation

11. How often do you visit the children's playground?

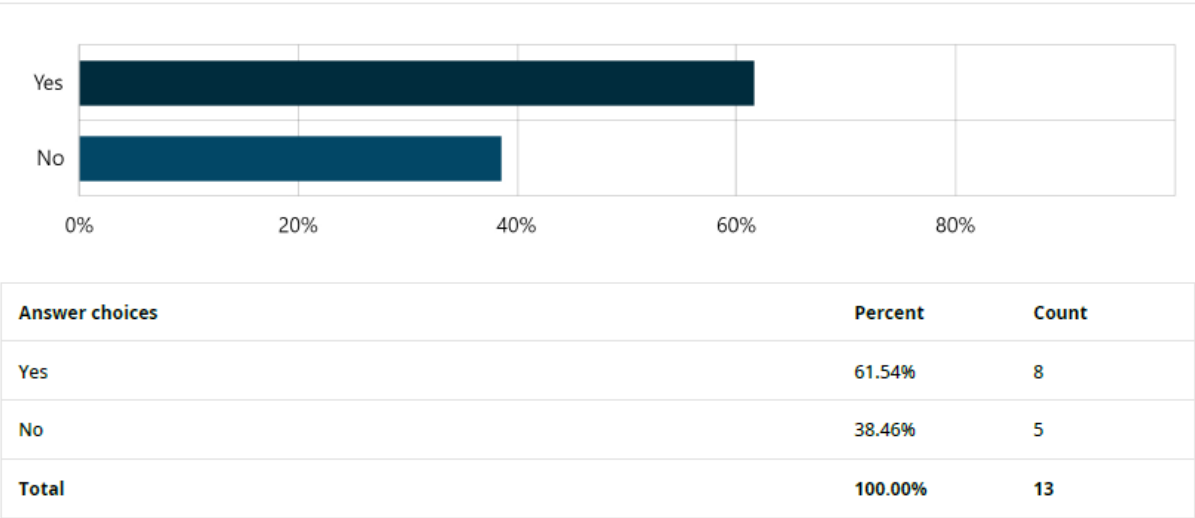
Multi Choice | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 14 (100%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Daily	0%	0
Weekly	7.14%	1
Monthly	35.71%	5
Once a year	21.43%	3
Never	35.71%	5
Total	100.00%	14

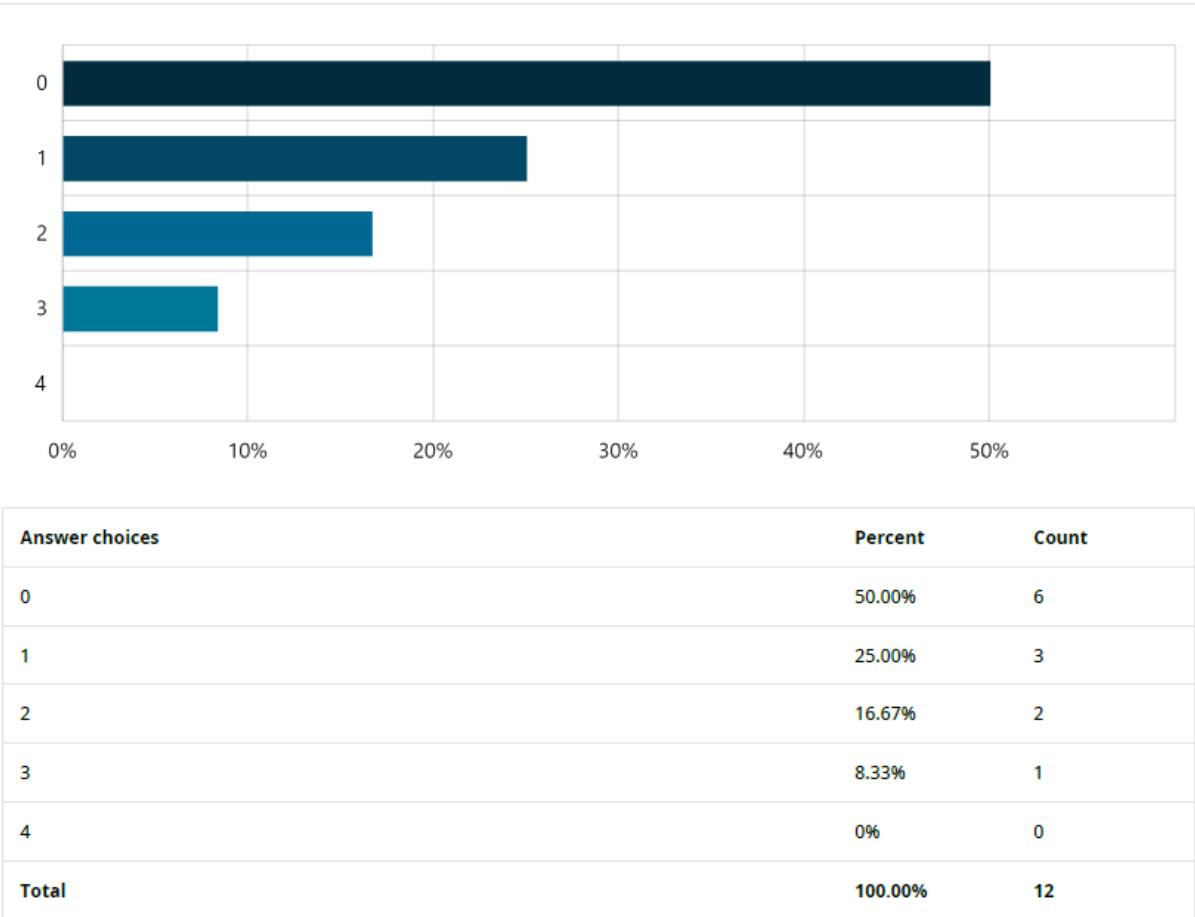
12. Are you the parent/guardian/carer/grandparent of a child that is 0-18 years that visits the playground?

Select Box | Skipped: 1 | Answered: 13 (92.9%)



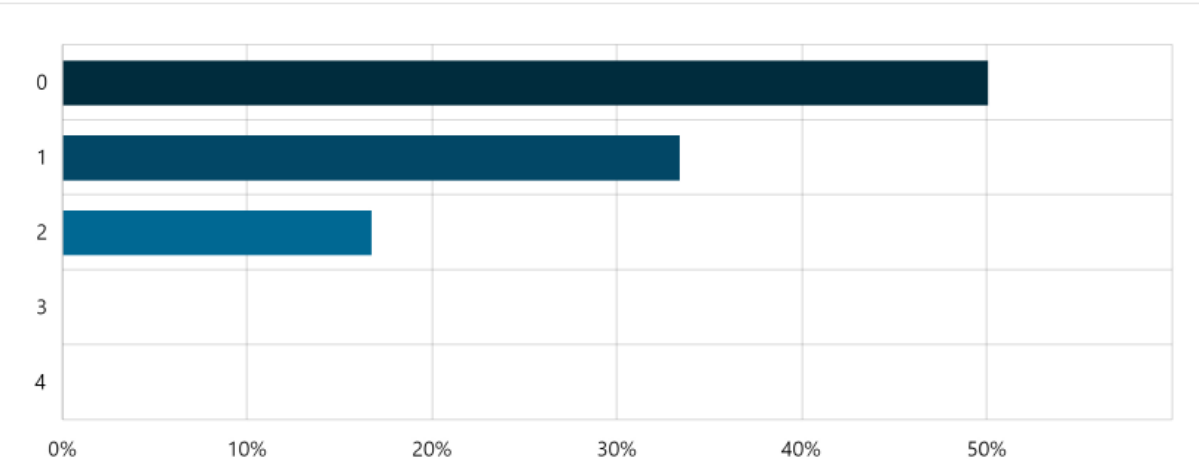
13. How many children under 5 use the park with you?

Multi Choice | Skipped: 2 | Answered: 12 (85.7%)



14. How many children over 5 use the park with you?

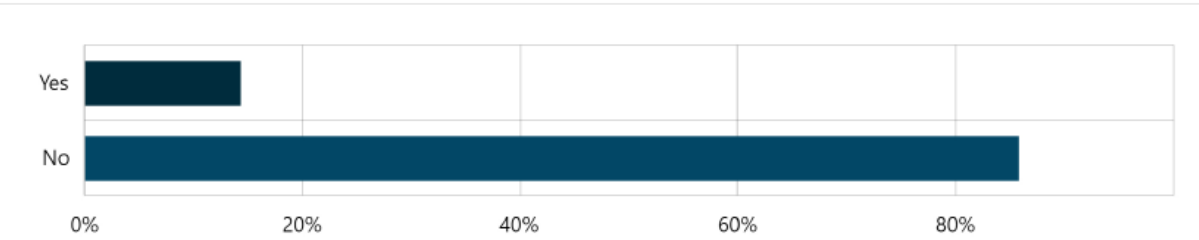
Multi Choice | Skipped: 2 | Answered: 12 (85.7%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
0	50.00%	6
1	33.33%	4
2	16.67%	2
3	0%	0
4	0%	0
Total	100.00%	12

15. Do you visit the playground with a person living with a disability? Required

Select Box | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 14 (100%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Yes	14.29%	2
No	85.71%	12
Total	100.00%	14

Extra information provided:

- Person has low muscle tone and some problems with balance
- Grandfather takes kids to the playground

Feedback for Council to consider when finalising designs and equipment purchasing

Feedback was grouped using tags to show common themes/ideas. The word cloud below shows each tag, with the size of the words indicating the number of times each tag appeared.

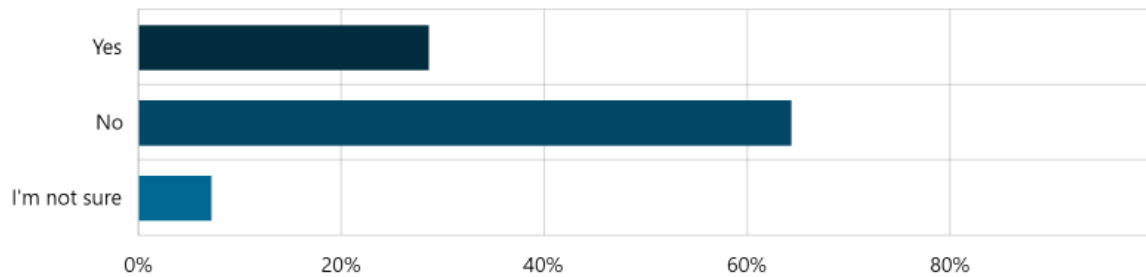


Tag	Percent	Count
refurbish putt putt	22%	2
longlasting equipment	11%	1
separate older and younger children	11%	1
fence along the water	11%	1
remove sand	11%	1
softfall	11%	1
monkey bars	11%	1
good variety	11%	1
signage for agility trail	11%	1
more swings	11%	1
slides	11%	1
rope areas for climbing	11%	1
avoid metal	11%	1

Putt putt Usage

18. Have you used the putt putt at McIlwaine Park? Required

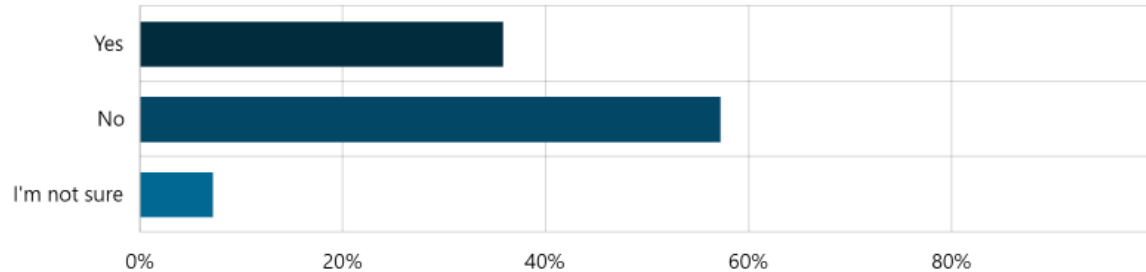
Select Box | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 14 (100%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Yes	28.57%	4
No	64.29%	9
I'm not sure	7.14%	1
Total	100.00%	14

19. Have you seen others use the putt putt at McIlwaine Park? Required

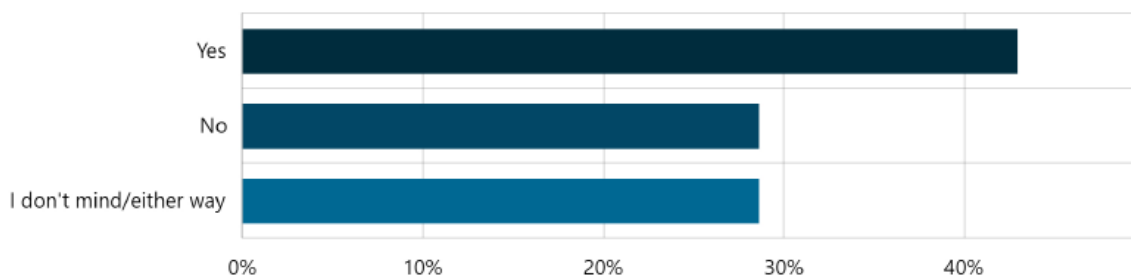
Select Box | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 14 (100%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Yes	35.71%	5
No	57.14%	8
I'm not sure	7.14%	1
Total	100.00%	14

20. Should Council keep and maintain the putt putt area for community use? Required

Multi Choice | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 14 (100%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Yes	42.86%	6
No	28.57%	4
I don't mind/either way	28.57%	4
Total	100.00%	14

4 respondents noted they have used the putt putt at Mcllwaine Park, of which:

- 2 believe it should be kept and maintained
- 1 believes it should not be kept and maintained
- 1 doesn't mind

9 respondents noted they haven't used the putt putt at Mcllwaine Park, of which:

- 4 believe it should be kept and maintained
- 3 believe it should not be kept and maintained
- 2 don't mind

Feedback via phone/email – 4 submissions

Feedback is summarised below, with the number in parentheses indicating the number of times an idea was mentioned.

General feedback on the concept plan

- Improve water access and add a swim net (1)
- Improve connection of paths (1)
- Add a street library (1)
- Add outdoor fitness equipment and a basketball court (1)
- Need parking for minibuses (1)
- Additional coal pits (1)

Amenities building

- Upgrade toilets at the same time as the rest of the park (1)
- Move toilet block to the flat area so the slope can be used for recreation (1)
- Add a water bubbler (1)
- More BBQs (1)

Putt putt

- Retain putt putt (2)

Appendices

A. Survey questions

Mcllwaine Park Survey

01. What is your name? **Required**

02. What is your address? **Required**

03. Postcode **Required**

Maximum of 4 characters

04. Email **Required**

About you

05. What is your relationship to Mcllwaine Park? **Required**

Select one answer only

- ☐ I live next door/on the perimeter of the park
- ☐ I live in Rhodes
- ☐ I live in Concord West
- ☐ I live in Concord
- ☐ I live in the City of Canada Bay council area
- ☐ I live outside of the City of Canada Bay council area

06. How do you usually get to Mcllwaine Park? **Required**

Select all that apply

- ☐ Drive

<input type="checkbox"/>	Bus
<input type="checkbox"/>	Walk
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bike
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am driven/dropped off

07. Why do you visit McIlwaine Park?

Select all that apply

Select all that apply	
<input type="checkbox"/>	To use the playground
<input type="checkbox"/>	To visit the foreshore
<input type="checkbox"/>	As a stop during the foreshore walk/cycle
<input type="checkbox"/>	To have a picnic
<input type="checkbox"/>	To eat lunch during work hours
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other
<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div>	

08. How regularly do you visit the park?

Select one answer only	
<input type="radio"/>	I don't visit McIlwaine Park
<input type="radio"/>	2-3 times a year
<input type="radio"/>	Once a month
<input type="radio"/>	2-3 times a month
<input type="radio"/>	2-3 times a week
<input type="radio"/>	Once a week
<input type="radio"/>	Every day

McIlwaine Park

amenities and playground upgrades



Concept plan

09. What would you like to give feedback on? **Required**

Select all that apply
<input type="checkbox"/> Amenities building
<input type="checkbox"/> Children's Playground
<input type="checkbox"/> Putt putt
<input type="checkbox"/> Other
<div></div>

Amenities Building

10. Do you have any feedback we should consider when developing detailed designs?

Maximum of 1000 characters

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Children's Playground

11. How often do you visit the children's playground?

Select one answer only
<input type="radio"/> Daily
<input type="radio"/> Weekly
<input type="radio"/> Monthly
<input type="radio"/> Once a year
<input type="radio"/> Never

12. Are you the parent/guardian/carer/grandparent of a child that is 0-18 years that visits the playground?

Select one answer only
<input type="radio"/> Yes
<input type="radio"/> No

13. How many children under 5 use the park with you?

Select one answer only
<input type="radio"/> 0
<input type="radio"/> 1
<input type="radio"/> 2
<input type="radio"/> 3
<input type="radio"/> 4+

14. How many children over 5 use the park with you?

Select one answer only
<input type="radio"/> 0
<input type="radio"/> 1

<input type="radio"/> 2
<input type="radio"/> 3
<input type="radio"/> 4+

15. Do you visit the playground with a person living with a disability? **Required**

Select one answer only
<input type="radio"/> Yes
<input type="radio"/> No

16. Is there anything you'd like to tell us about this person?

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Playground concept plan

EXISTING EQUIPMENT COMPONENTS TO BE REPURPOSED



Double slide



Curved slide



Space Net



Spiral slide



G-Pod spinner

FIXTURES & FURNITURE



Low table



Playground fence



Sandstone log as informal seating



Park seat with backrest and armrest

ADDITIONAL INCLUSIVE PLAY EQUIPMENT



Custom junior play structure that utilises existing play components



Cantilevered swing



Spinner



Natural agility trail
Varied and diverse experience



Swing set
Options for infant high back seat or boat seat



Art sculpture



Sandstone fort to be linked to the existing space net and natural agility trail



Sensory play

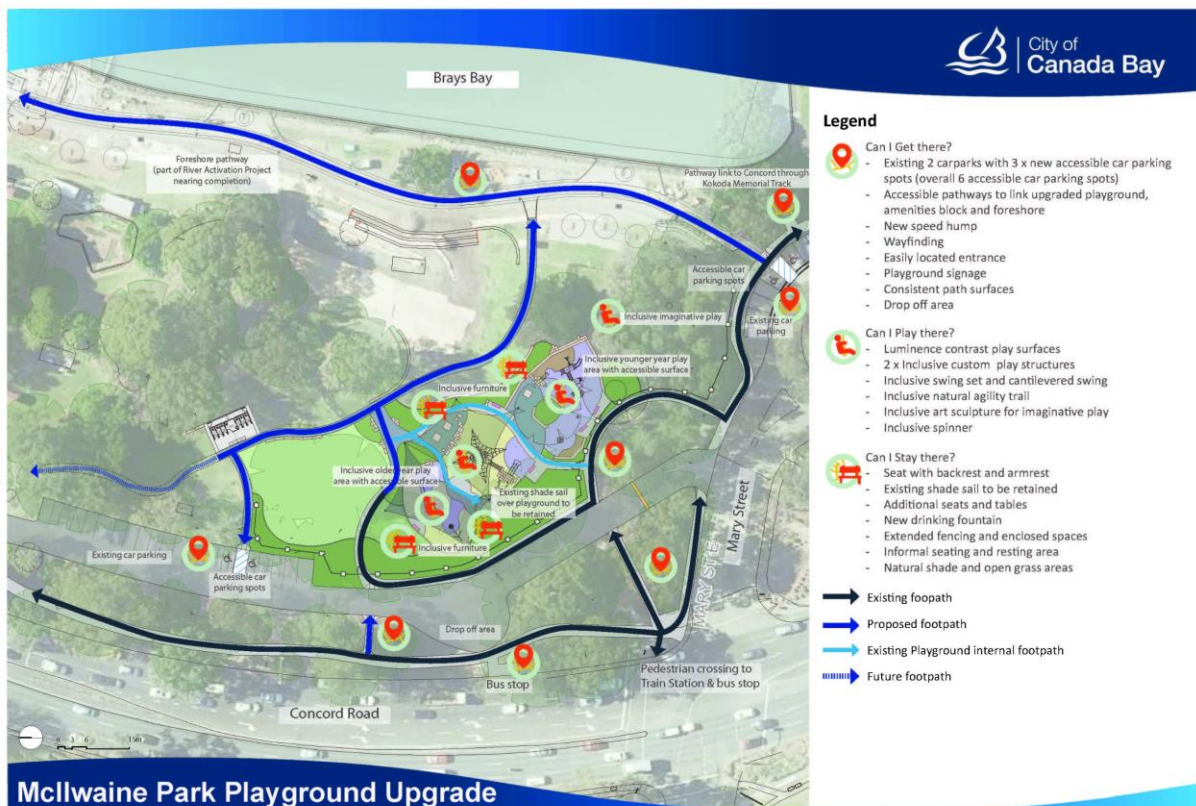
Note: Above equipment is indicative only and dependent on budget

McIlwaine Park Playground Upgrade

Rhodes

Play Equipment, Fixture & Furniture

Equipment examples



McIlwaine Park Playground Upgrade

Rhodes

Everyone Can Play

Accessibility measures

17. Having reviewed the proposed upgrades, what feedback do you have for Council to consider when finalising designs and equipment purchasing?

Maximum of 1000 characters

Putt putt

Council understands the putt putt has been in place for many years. We are reviewing whether it is being used, whether it remains functional, and what the community wants for the future of the putt putt area.

18. Have you used the putt putt at Mcllwaine Park? **Required**

Select one answer only

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ I'm not sure

19. Have you seen others use the putt putt at Mcllwaine Park? **Required**

Select one answer only

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ I'm not sure

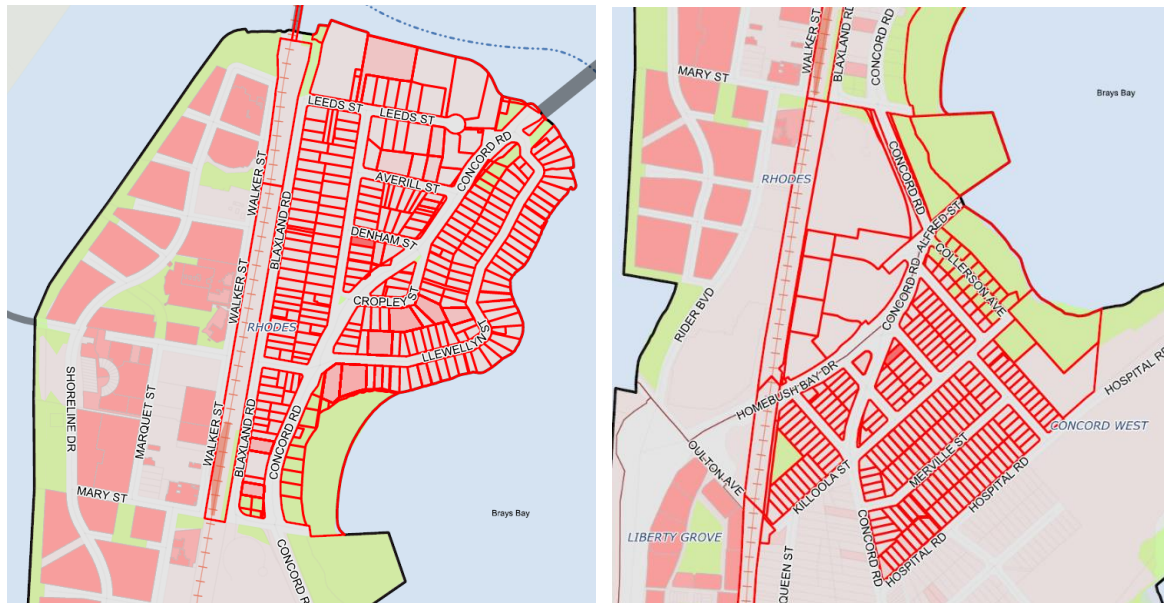
20. Should Council keep and maintain the putt putt area for community use? **Required**

Select one answer only

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ I don't mind/either way

B. Notification methods

Notification letter distribution area



Site poster

McIlwaine Park

amenities and playground upgrades

Brays Bay

Concord Road

Mary Street

Existing car parking

Future Activation Project (nearby completion)

To support the new foreshore upgrades, Council is planning to improve other areas of the park, providing new amenities and upgrading the children's playground. With construction anticipated to be completed by June 2024, we are sharing concept designs for feedback until Sunday, 29 October 2023.

PROPOSED CONCEPT PLAN

- 1 New amenities block
2 male, 2 female, 2 unisex and 1 accessible
- 2 Playground upgrade - older years play area (refer to website for details)
- 3 Playground upgrade - younger years play area (refer to website for details)
- 4 Imaginative play through existing Casuarina grove
- 5 Playground fence
- 6 Mass planting area
- 7 Sandstone blocks as informal seating
- 8 Park seat with backrest & armrest
- 9 Drinking fountain
- 10 Accessible path connection to foreshore
- 11 Accessible path connection from car parking to new amenities block
- 12 Future path connection
- 13 3 new accessible parking spots & 1 relocated accessible parking spot
- 14 Drop off area
- 15 Future use of existing putt putt to be considered as part of consultation

Have your say

👤 In person at the children's playground: Sunday, 15 October 3-5pm

🔗 collaborate.canadabay.nsw.gov.au/mcilwainepark (or scan the QR code)


✉ council@canadabay.nsw.gov.au (subject: McIlwaine Park Amenities and Playground)

📞 Open Space Planning Team: 9911 6280 (about the playground)

📞 Building Asset Services: 9911 6406 (about the amenities building)

C. Digital promotions

Facebook post 19/10/23





City of Canada Bay

19 October at 19:00 · 🌐


Have you heard about the proposed upgrades to Mcllwaine Park, Rhodes?

We want your feedback on the exciting proposed upgrades, which will include the construction of tidal pools, enhanced foreshore access and seating, and new barbecue and picnic areas! Have your say on the plans by visiting bit.ly/mcllwaineamenities before submissions close on Sunday, 29 October 2023.



 Boost this post to reach up to 710 more people if you spend AU\$35.

Boost post

 2

2 shares

Facebook post 25/10/23



City of Canada Bay

25 October at 14:51 · 🌐

Don't forget to have your say about our plans to upgrade Mcllwaine Park, Rhodes!

We are proposing exciting upgrades, including include tidal pools, foreshore access improvements, seating, and improved barbecue and picnic areas for the community to enjoy 🌿

Head to bit.ly/mcllwaineamenities before submissions close on Sunday, 29 October 2023, to provide your feedback!



 Boost this post to reach up to 355 more people if you spend AU\$42.

Boost post

 2

2 shares

E. Collaborate page traffic report

