

Ludwig Stamer Reserve Play Space Upgrade



Engagement two (concept plan) summary report – June 2022



Contents

Executive summary	3
Part 1 - Engagement approach	5
Part 2 - Engagement findings	6



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Executive summary

The City of Port Phillip is upgrading Ludwig Reserve Play Space as part of the Playground Renewal Program with an aim to have a green city, with space for everyone to enjoy the outdoors and participate in whatever recreation they prefer.

Ludwig Stamer Reserve is a small, fenced open space area located on the corner of Moray and Cobden Street in South Melbourne. The existing play space consists of a multi-play unit, a double swing and a spinner. The style of equipment is suitable for toddlers and children up to 10 -12 years old. In Council's most recent annual Playground Safety Audit, the play space in Ludwig Stamer Reserve was ranked 12 out of 60 of play spaces requiring upgrades, making it high priority.

Council's Play Space Strategy (2011) classifies the Reserve as a **Local Play Space**. Local play spaces are intended to be used primarily by people who live within walking distance of the spaces. If the play space meets their needs, the local target audience is likely to access the same play space regularly and are likely to feel a strong sense of ownership over the space. Local play spaces are partly defined by their size, being at the smaller scale both in overall area as well as in the play elements provided. Due to the small size of local play spaces and the limited number of play elements able to be incorporated, the age group focus needs to be relatively broad. However, there should generally be an emphasis on younger age groups, particularly the pre-school years (0-4 years).

Local Play Space Summary:

- Relatively small scale
- A particular focus upon pre-school age groups (although can cater for other age groups as appropriate)
- An opportunity to reflect local context, provided through off the shelf equipment
- Opportunity to respond to local interests
- Basic facilities to cater for short stays and a small number of visitors
- Access approximately 400m walking distance
- Integration with trees and planting where opportunity exists.

This document has been compiled following the conclusion of the second phase of community engagement (Consultation) for the Ludwig Stamer Reserve Play Space Upgrade (20 May - 12 June 2022). In the first phase (November to December 2021), **30** participants told us what they like about the existing play space and reserve, and provided us with recommendations of what they would like to see in the concept plan for play space upgrade. A draft concept plan was prepared based on this feedback.

In this second phase of engagement, **24** participants provided feedback on the draft concept plan, via:

- Two face-to-face engagement sessions (2 June at Ludwig Stamer Reserve, and 4 June at Emerald Hill Library);
- Council's 'Have Your Say' webpage (survey and questions);
- Direct emails and phone calls to Council officers; and



- Council's social media pages (Facebook and Instagram).

The information received from the community during the consultation period will be considered and used to help finalise the detailed design. Every effort has been made by the authors of this document to represent accurately participant feedback and insights.



Part 1 - Engagement approach

The community was informed about the engagement for in the following way:

- Signage displayed in the reserve;
- A postcard letterbox drop to residents and businesses within 200m of the reserve;
- Posters displayed at Emerald Hill Library and Council Childcare Centres in South Melbourne (South Melbourne Toy Library, Lilian Cannam Kindergarten, and the Coventry Children's Centre and Clarendon Children's Centre)
- Email notification to followers of the project on Council's Have Your Say webpage;
- Social media posts on Council's Facebook and Instagram pages; and
- Council's Divercity newsletter and Have Your Say newsletter.

The community were asked to provide feedback via:

- Two face-to-face engagement events - 2 June at Ludwig Stamer Reserve, and 4 June at Emerald Hill Library;
- Council's 'Have Your Say' webpage - survey and questions;
- Council's Open Space Projects team email; and
- Council's social media pages - Facebook and Instagram.



Part 2 - Engagement findings

122 items of feedback was gathered from 21 participants via 'Have Your Say', the face-to-face engagement events and via email. The feedback has been categorised into the following themes; General, Play Equipment, Park Amenities, Landscape and Other.

The responses are summarised in the table below.

Theme	Feedback items	Recommendations
General	24	<p>LIKES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the draft concept plan in general (5) - council interest in the reserve (1) - the accessible elements (1) <p><i>"Great use of the space and thoughtful design"</i></p> <p>DISLIKES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the proposed layout/use of space on general (3) - the proposed swing location (3) - the proposed location of the picnic table (2) - the proposed location of the Ludwig Stamer memorial (2) - the project is a waste of money (2) - accessibility compromises the layout (1) - the consultation process (1) - the existing location of the fence (1) - the proposed location of the drinking fountain (1) - a total revamp is unnecessary (1) <p><i>"We are concerned that the proposed concept for the park is inferior in both the variety of play equipment and overall use of the space"</i></p> <p><i>"The pathway is unnecessary and takes up too much space. Retain the grass area and move the swing to where it is now"</i></p>
Play Equipment	56	<p>LIKES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the proposed nature play elements (4) - the proposed trampoline (4) - the proposed clatter bridge (2) - the proposed play equipment (2) - the proposed rubber softfall in wear areas (2) - the proposed swing location (2)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the proposed climbing wall (1) - the proposed flat monkey bars (1) - the proposed shopfront (1) - removal of the fireman's pole (1) <p><i>"We like the new play elements (trampoline and nature play) given children are often found climbing amongst and in the trees"</i></p> <p><i>"Good to see the play equipment being updated - this park has high usage"</i></p> <p>DISLIKES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the proposed play unit (4) - the heights of the proposed play equipment (2) - the proposed trampoline (2) - the proposed climbing net and wall (1) - the proposed 'pile of logs' nature play (1) - removal of the existing spinner (1) - the proposed straight monkey bars (1) <p><i>"The play options that have been retained are a poor replica of the current equipment. The curved frame of the existing monkey bars have been replaced by a boring ladder frame, and the significantly lower height of both structures means that the slides will be shorter, the scramble net and climbing frame less challenging. The number of platforms at different heights is also reduced. The introduction of accessibility, while laudable, should not need to be at the expense of the overall play experience."</i></p> <p><i>"Don't love the trampoline. I think they cause a lot of injuries."</i></p> <p>OTHER PLAY ITEMS REQUESTED</p> <p>Additional play equipment was requested to be included in the plan, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a spring rocker (2) - a concrete tunnel in the grass (1) - more equipment (1) - a rope structure like in Eastern Reserve or Plum Garland playground (1) - sensory play (1) - the existing spinning pole (1)
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		<p>Additional play elements were requested to be incorporated into the proposed play unit. Most elements are located on the existing play unit, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a fireman's pole - as existing (3) - a pommel bridge/balance poles - as existing (3) - talk tubes - as existing (2) - all bars - as existing (2) - a spiral climber - as existing (2) - an additional swing (1) - a chalk wall (1) - a roll-over bar - as existing (1) - taller slides - as existing (1) - the plastic tunnel - as existing (1)
Park Amenities	15	<p>LIKES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the upgraded drinking fountain (3) - the repaired gates (1) - the additional seating (1) <p><i>"We think the facilities at the reserve such as gates and drinking fountain need updating so this is welcome"</i></p> <p>DISLIKES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - there is no shelter (3) - the pathway/hard surfaces (3) - there are not enough picnic tables (1) - there is no BBQ (1) - the appearance of the fence (1) - the seat near the slide (1) <p><i>"As this is a meeting point for parents and an area where local residents sometimes congregate for picnics and celebrations, I would have liked to have seen some form of sheltered area in the park, whether it be from sunshine or rain. I would have also liked to have seen a bbq, for those times when residents organise gatherings, which I can categorically say the Cobden Street residents do on occasions as a group of residents (ie Christmas, over Summer and in Spring)"</i></p> <p><i>"Concrete and its edging are probably parents' most feared materials in any park/reserve. I speak from experience when my daughter has numerous knee, chin and lip clashes with it (especially when a toddler). Concrete under a seat is also dangerous. The concrete doesn't remain flush with its natural</i></p>



		<i>surrounds for long, creates a lip, and seats tend to be used as a 'safe-spot' for tag, which are ran towards"</i>
Landscape	17	<p>LIKES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - retention of existing trees (2) - the new planting (1) <p><i>"(I am) happy that all the Eucalypts are to be retained"</i></p> <p>DISLIKES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - loss of grass area (6) - loss of trees (5) - there is no list of tree species - out and in (2) - loss of biodiversity (1) <p><i>"Reduction of already tiny (but very valuable) lawn/playspace will decrease chances of actual nature play element and human connection"</i></p> <p><i>"I'm concerned about the removal of so many trees"</i></p>
Other	10	<p>Other suggestions and concerns raised by the community included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a mural on the wall (3) - screening shrubs for the laneway (1) - the bin often smells (1) - location of the maintenance vehicle access gates (1) - concerned about construction access (1) - blocked drains (1) - bike hoops (1) - remove sections of the hedge for seating (1)

Social Media response: Information relating to the engagement was posted on Council's Facebook and Instagram accounts. The Facebook post reached the **11,640** people following Council's Facebook page, with a total of **9** users reacting to the post with a 'like'. No comments were received about the playspace upgrade project.

The Instagram post reached Council's **6,060** followers and received **12** 'likes' and **1** comment was received about the playspace upgrade project which was supportive of the draft plan.