

Ludwig Stamer Reserve Play Space Upgrade



Engagement one (ideation) summary report – December 2021



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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 Moray 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**.

This document has been compiled following the conclusion of the first phase of community engagement (Ideation) for the Ludwig Stamer Reserve Play Space Upgrade (5 November – 5 December 2021). Over the engagement period, **30** responses were received through the City's online engagement platform - Have Your Say Port Phillip. Respondents provided recommendations and comments on what they like about the existing reserve and play space and what they would like to see in the future.

Following this round of engagement, a concept plan will be developed for phase two engagement (consultation), allowing the community to provide feedback before the confirming the final design for the reserve.

Engagement approach

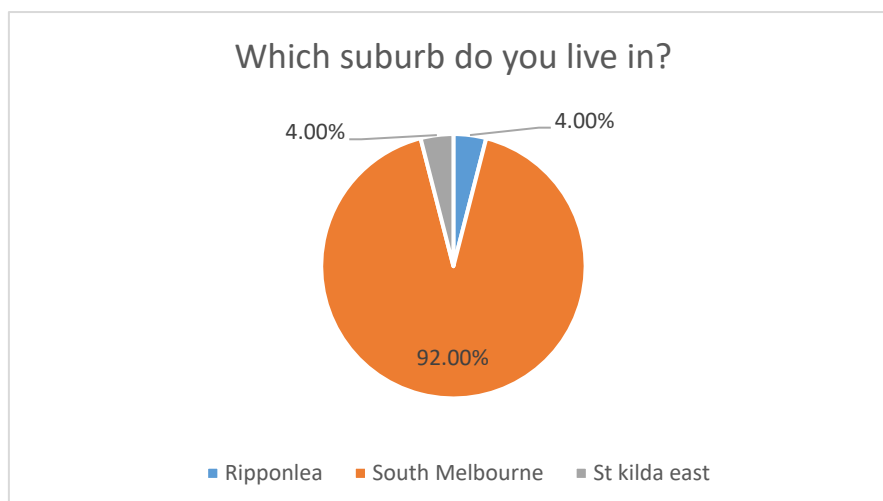
The community was informed about the engagement process in the following way:

- Signage displayed in the reserve;
- A postcard letterbox drop to residents and businesses within 200m of the reserve;
- Posters displayed at Council Childcare Centres in South Melbourne and Emerald Hill Library
- Council's 'Have Your Say' webpage, using the 'Gather' tool;
- Council's social media pages (Facebook and Instagram);
- Council's 'Diversity' newsletter and HYS newsletter;
- 2 x online project Q&A sessions (18 & 23 November)

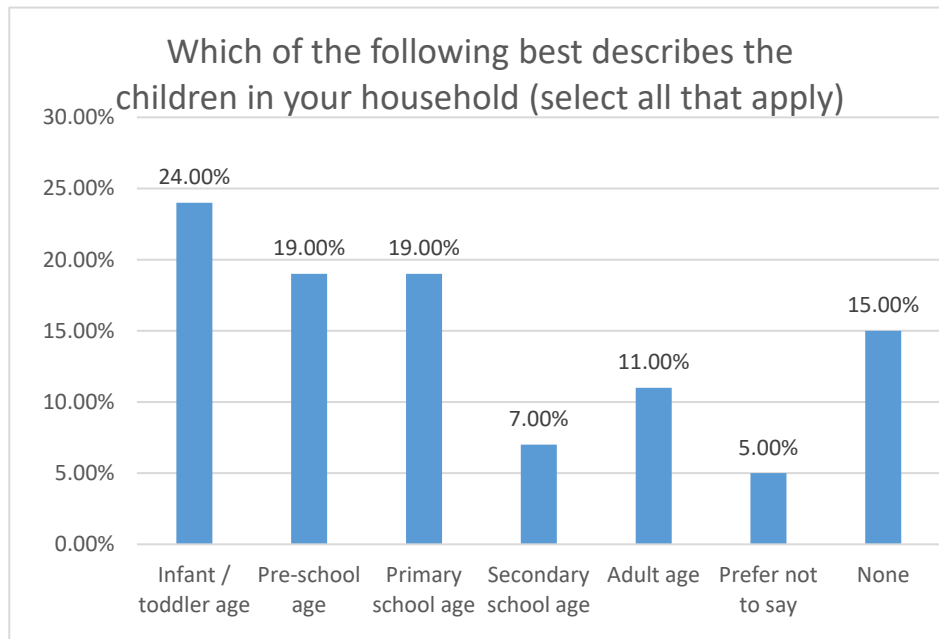
Due to Covid-19 restrictions, no face-to-face engagement sessions were held by Council during the engagement period.

Who we heard from

100% of participants said they live in Port Phillip. Of these, the top suburb was South Melbourne, where **25 (92%)** of respondents said they live. The remaining **2** participants were from Ripponlea and St Kilda East.



Participants were mainly families with kids. Over **85%** of participants stated that they have children living in their household. This includes **24%** of participants with infant/toddler aged children, followed closely by **19%** with pre-school aged children, and a further **19%** with primary school aged children. The lowest category of children within their household was those of secondary school age at **7%**.



Engagement findings

Gather tool

The community were invited to provide feedback on Have Your Say to the question:

“Tell us what you like about the current space and what you would like to see in the future!”.

Respondents used the ‘Gather’ tool to leave their ideas and feedback via text, images and video clips.

Responses were gathered from **30 (N)** participants. These responses have been categorised into the following themes; General, Play Equipment, Park Amenities, Landscape and Other.

These themes have been explored in the table below.

Theme	Recommendations	% of N	Recommendations
General	17	56%	<p>More than half of the responses received noted that the reserve and its playground is a much-loved community space.</p> <p><i>“This is our go-to local playground and we love it!”</i></p> <p><i>“The park is a wonderful asset for the young children in the area and a green space for the surrounding streets that have little garden space.”</i></p> <p><i>“The space works well for kids and adult minders. I don't think much change is required other than updating some of the equipment which is nearing the end of its useful life”</i></p>
Park Amenities	23	77%	<p>The majority of the responses received mentioned supporting facilities for the playground such as shelter/shade (13), BBQs (11), seating (6), drinking fountains (6), bins (3) or fencing (3).</p> <p>Both positive and negative responses were received about including a BBQ and shelter/shade in the reserve:</p> <p><i>“This park is also used as a gathering place for parents to meet and also local residents for picnics and BBQ's, so an electric BBQ and a shelter from the weather would be well utilised in all seasons.”</i></p>

			<p><i>"Structures and BBQ shouldn't be built due to the reserves size."</i></p> <p>Updated and additional seating was requested, as was a new drinking fountain:</p> <p><i>"It has become a local meeting place and a couple more tables would be a good addition."</i></p>
Play Equipment	20	67%	<p>A large number of respondents (20) commented on, and made suggestions about the existing play equipment. Most comments expressed the need for updated equipment (6), whilst a number of comments called for the existing equipment to be retained (4).</p> <p><i>"As a children's playground it would be great to see updated playground equipment for the kids."</i></p> <p><i>"It's combination of big and little slides, swings, wobbly bridge and climbing equipment is better than any other playground of equivalent size and caters to a range of age groups. PLEASE do not change it."</i></p> <p>New play equipment items were suggested, including swings (8), climbing equipment (5), monkey bars (5), trampolines (3), nature play (3), a flying fox (2), new slides (2), spring toys (2), water play (2), imagination play (1), a see-saw (1) and a tree house (1),</p> <p><i>"Other additions for all age children could be a rope spider climbing frame, natural balancing items, a tunnel slide, monkey bars, a small water feature addition."</i></p> <p><i>"nature is best for climbing over logs or hopping on alternating heights of tree stumps. Wooden benches can be used to sit and rest or stand and jump from."</i></p> <p>5 respondents noted safety concerns with the existing play equipment and softfall material, and an additional 6 responses addressed softfall surfacing - 4 calling for rubber softfall and 2, tan bark softfall.</p> <p><i>"the tanbark underfoot is much preferable to rubber - it also doubles as currency in the 'shop'."</i></p>
Landscape	18	60%	<p>18 responses covered landscape elements, with retaining the existing trees (8) and grassed area (8) receiving the most mention:</p>

			<p><i>"Please keep the grassy area for kids to run around or kick a ball."</i></p> <p><i>"Trees are important for carbon capture and heat mitigation."</i></p> <p>Other responses mentioned including a community garden (4), and worm farm/compost bin/bokashi (2) in the reserve, extending the bee gardens into the reserve (2), removing existing trees and vegetation (2), planting more trees (1), and using native plants (1):</p> <p><i>"incorporating raised garden beds for herbs, vegetables, worm towers and also composting bays to meet the increasing demand for a sustainable community that our children need."</i></p> <p><i>"Leverage off the existing bee attractive gardens and extend into the east side."</i></p>
Other	10	33%	<p>Comments from 10 respondents fell outside the above categories, and included comments about other parks to reference for the future design (5), dogs (3), art (2), accessibility (1), and bike/running track (2):</p> <p><i>"An improvement would be better signage or simply forbidding dogs, as unfortunately a few people use the reserve as a dog playground. They are let off lead wreck plants and toilet on the play equipment."</i></p> <p><i>"Commission an artist to produce an artwork (either painting or mosaic) on the wall at the western end of the park."</i></p>

Social media response

Information relating to the engagement was posted on Council's Facebook and Instagram accounts. The Facebook post reached the **11,100** people following Council's Facebook page, with **10** users engaging with the post. A total of **6** users reacted to the post with a 'like', **3** shared the link to the post, and **2** comments, including the suggestion of a "barbeque area".

The Instagram post reached Council's **5,400** followers and received **18** 'likes' and **1** comment which was for "Universal Design principles to be embedded in the park design making it accessible for all abilities."