



Moubray Street Community Park

Engagement Summary Report – October 2022



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Executive summary

Moubray Street Community Park was developed as a trial pop up park in 2013. Following the success of the trial, Council went through the statutory process to permanently close the road between Withers Street and Bridport Street West in 2014/15.

Council is currently undertaking the legal process to formalise the road closure. This formal process includes seeking feedback from the community.

A Memorandum of Understanding between the Primary School and Council allows for exclusive school use during school hours.

The park has proven popular with the community and the adjacent Albert Park Primary School. Council has secured DELWP funding to upgrade and to make a permanent park for the wider community.

Background

On 24 May 2016, Council resolved to extend the park and temporarily fence the space for a 2-year trial period. This decision included conditions that;

- Fencing around the extended Moubray Street Community Park to remain in place for a period of two years at which time it will be reviewed.
- Gates are to be large enough to create an impression of permeability of the space when not closed (e.g. 2.5m or larger);
- Preserves the intention to create a permanent public open space in this location at the conclusion of the temporary period, subject to funding.

Council's draft Public Space Strategy includes a short-term action for a major upgrade - Transform the 'pop-up community park' to a permanent public open space. The park should aim to improve access and community use and increase greening and tree planting.

Council has a yearly MOU with Albert Park Primary School, the project states that this is Council managed public land. This prevents the risk the school will occupy the land and incorporate it into the school, preserving the land for broader community benefit.

The pop-up park currently includes seating, raised planter boxes, synthetic grass and a perimeter fence with access gates. The road surface and kerbs are still in place. The park is in a degraded condition.

Engagement approach

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

- A1 sized signage displayed in the reserve;
- Council's 'Have Your Say' webpage;
- Council's social media pages (Facebook and Instagram);
- Council's 'Diversity' newsletter and HYS newsletter;
- 2 x community pop-up Q&A sessions (9 & 20 August);
- Consultation session with leadership of Albert Park Primary School (8 August).

Engagement findings – Community Sessions

During the community sessions attendees were invited to provide feedback on what they liked about the pop-up park and what they would like to see included in a new park.

Responses were noted down from **24** participants. These responses have been categorised into the following themes; Fence, Trees/Planting, Sport/Student Activities and Park Infrastructure.

These themes have been explored in the table below.

Theme	Recommendations	% of N	Recommendations
Fence	14	58%	<p>The majority of respondents mentioned the fence in their discussion. (5) respondents did not support the inclusion of a boundary fence. (9) respondents wanted the park to remain fenced. The feedback from the school students supported the fence (3).</p> <p><i>"Keep the space open"</i></p> <p><i>"(the park is) underutilised - why are you making it permanent?"</i></p> <p><i>"No access (community) during school hours."</i></p> <p><i>"Keep the fence."</i></p>
Trees/planting	14	58%	<p>(6) respondents supported more planting for the new park. (8) respondents wanted more shade and trees included in the design.</p> <p><i>"More garden beds"</i></p> <p><i>"Include native planting"</i></p> <p><i>"Make it open grass and trees"</i></p>

Sport/student activities	9	38%	<p>Many respondents discussed basketball (7). Respondents would like new facilities and also advised that clubs currently use the park for basketball training. (2) respondents discussed the option for multi-sport courts including netball and soccer.</p> <p>(2) respondents were opposed to ball sports in the park.</p> <p><i>"Balls in this park are dangerous"</i></p> <p><i>"Local clubs use the park for training"</i></p> <p><i>"(Park is) used for soccer and informal ball sports"</i></p>
Park infrastructure	10	42%	<p>(10) respondents discussed an improvement to park infrastructure, including seating (8), bike racks (2), BBQs (1), water fountains (1) and dog tie post (1).</p> <p><i>"Places to sit. Don't make it overcrowded."</i></p> <p><i>"More infrastructure for community use, more seating".</i></p> <p><i>"More bike racks. More benches."</i></p>

Have Your Say Response

Information relating to the engagement was posted on Council's Have Your Say site. The page received **675** views, with **63** users contributing to the post. A total of **48** comments were generated with the Gather Tool. The comments contributed by some participants covered a range of topics.

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These themes have been explored in the table below.

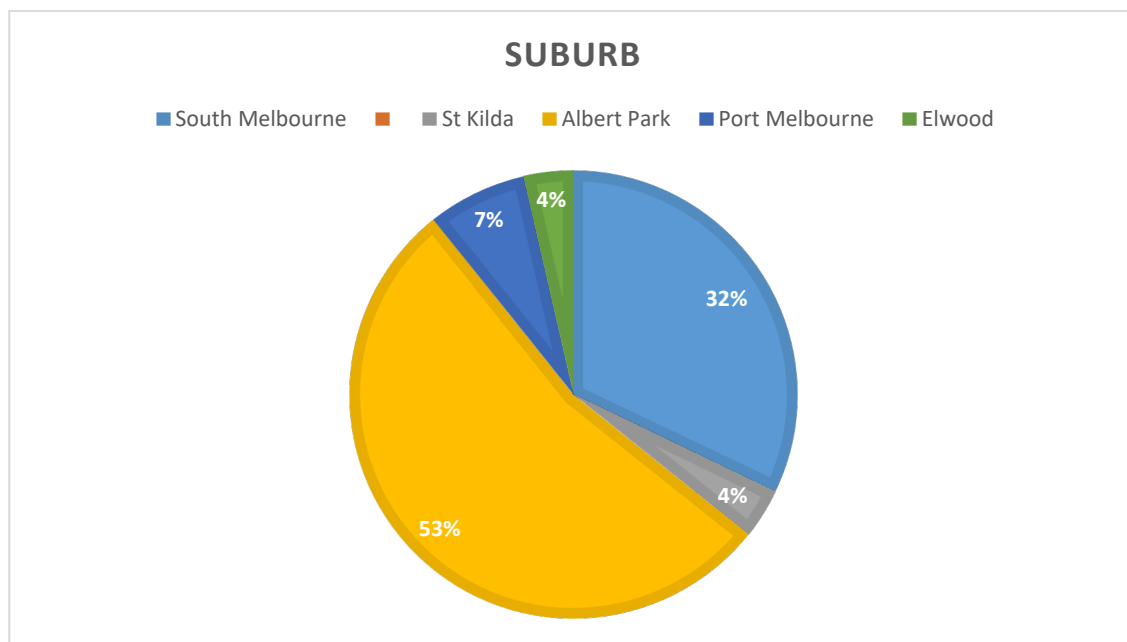
Theme	Recommendations	% of N	Recommendations
Fence	38	79%	<p>The majority of respondents mentioned the fence in their submission. (35) respondents supported the inclusion of a boundary fence. (3) respondents wanted the fence to be removed. There was a submission from students who discussed the preference for a fenced park.</p> <p><i>"A fully fenced park which allows Albert park primary to have full use during school hours".</i></p> <p><i>"Fencing the park would ensure the safety of our young people".</i></p> <p><i>"School or Community Park? Currently the fencing around the space would indicate that it's an extension if Albert Park Primary not a community space."</i></p>
Trees/planting	19	40%	<p>(8) respondents supported more planting for the new park. (11) respondents wanted more shade and trees included in the design. There was a submission from students who discussed the preference for planting.</p> <p><i>"We think the park should be bright and alive because it is very dull at the moment without colours or plants... We need trees for fresh air and the environment, for colour, animals and shade." - School Student's Submission</i></p> <p><i>"Perhaps some tall shrubs along the fences facing the roads to help cool and soften it."</i></p> <p><i>"Bring some nature and shade back into the space".</i></p>

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Sport/student activities	9	19%	<p>Some respondents discussed basketball (4). (5) respondents discussed the option for multi-sport courts including netball, hockey and soccer. Submissions also mentioned line marking for kids activities (3).</p> <p><i>"A basketball or netball half court if a full court doesn't fit"</i></p> <p><i>"(include a) flat open space for sports and bike rides during and after school hours"</i></p> <p><i>"Points of interest, such as lines for games, activities."</i></p> <p><i>"We think that there should be footy and soccer goals because it will be more fun and more people will want to use it. We should add more play equipment such as more monkey bars and rock climbing or a flying fox"- School Student's Submission</i></p>
Park infrastructure	4	8%	<p>(4) respondents discussed an improvement to park infrastructure. All submissions referenced seating (4).</p> <p><i>"last but not least seating areas."</i></p>

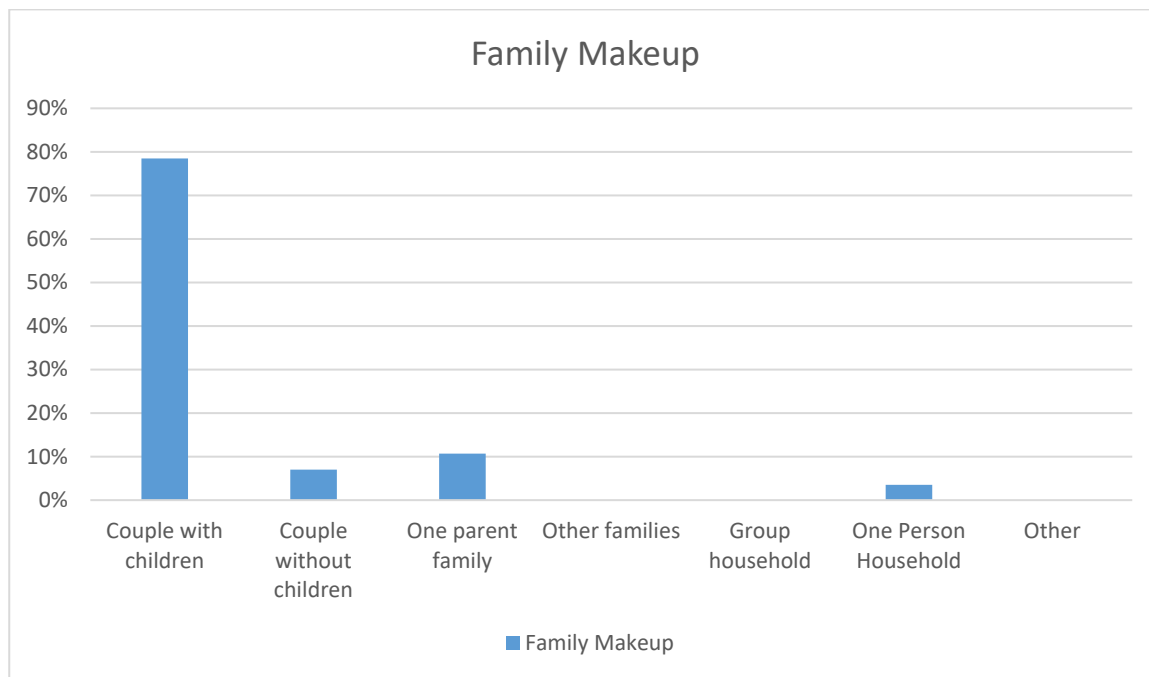
Who we heard from

100% of participants said they live in Port Phillip. Of these, the majority of participants were from Albert Park, and the remaining participants were from South Melbourne, Port Melbourne, St Kilda and Elwood.



The highest proportion of participants identified as a couple with children **79%**, followed by one parent families **11%**.

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Of the households with children the majority are Primary School Aged **67%**, followed by Secondary School Aged **36%**.

