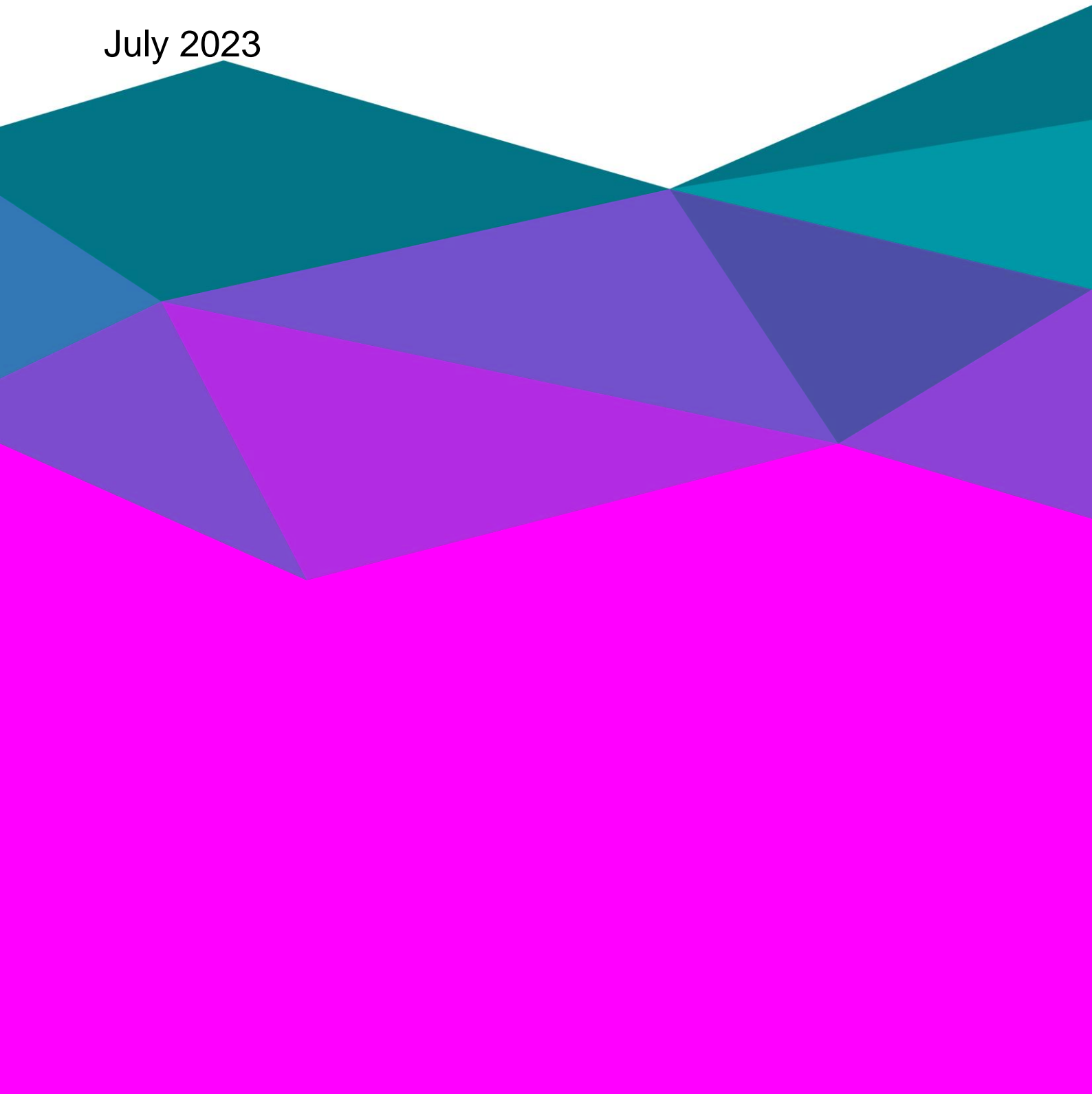




Proposed Changes to Basketball Facilities at J Talbot Reserve

# Engagement Summary Report

July 2023



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# Introduction

## Project background

J Talbot Reserve is a neighbourhood park situated on Barkly Street, St Kilda.

The existing basketball hoop and gravel area at J Talbot Reserve was installed around 15 years ago and it has reached the end of its functional life. This engagement was set up to explore relocating the basketball hoop, with the aim to improve usability and avoid conflict with both playground users and people entering the ballet school.

The proposed project would relocate the basketball hoop and create a formal three-point court. The new basketball three-point court would be built of noise-minimising materials, including noise-reduction backboards and a low-noise surface, with surrounding vegetation and screening designed to minimise the visual appearance and avoid balls bouncing onto Barkly Street.

## What we set out to achieve

The purpose of the engagement project was to:

- Gauge an understanding of community support for relocation of the basketball hoop and creation of a formal three-point court in J Talbot Reserve.
- Seek community input into colour preferences of the basketball three-point court, if the installation goes ahead.



# What we did

## Engagement activities

A range of engagement activities were undertaken during this project:

- A survey was conducted, hosted on Have Your Say, from 9 February – 16 March.
- A place-based pop-up conversation was held onsite at J Talbot Reserve at 5.30-7.30pm on Wednesday 15 February.
- A Neighbourhood Conversation featuring a range of live City of Port Phillip projects, including the J Talbot Reserve engagement project, was held at Veg Out Farmer's Market, St Kilda, at 9.00am - 12.00pm on Saturday 4 March.

After receiving feedback from the community that there was a desire for an extended timeframe to engage in this project, the engagement period was extended, and the following engagement activity was undertaken:

- An adjusted survey hosted on Have Your Say, from 26 April – 4 June.

## Engagement questions

Participants were asked the following questions in the initial survey:

- Do you support the installation of a 3-point basketball court in J Talbot Reserve to replace the outdated basketball facilities?
- Can you tell us why or why not?
- Would you like to tell us anything more about the basketball facilities at J Talbot Reserve?
- Choose your preferred colours for each of the 3 elements of the court (Key Colour, Main Court and Linework).

After receiving feedback from the community that there was a desire for an extended timeframe to engage in this project, collecting further information on participants' current and anticipated future use of the Reserve, the amended survey was held from 26 April – 4 June with the following questions:

- Do you support the relocation of the basketball hoop and creation of a formal three-point basketball court in J Talbot Reserve?
- Can you tell us why or why not?

- How do you currently use J Talbot Reserve?
- Would you or a member of your family use the updated basketball facilities if they go ahead?
- If there is sufficient support from the community for the changes to go ahead, what are your preferred colours for each of the 3 elements of the court?
- Would you like to tell us anything more about the basketball facilities at J Talbot Reserve?

This adjusted survey required participants to register before completing the survey, which was not a requirement in the first survey. This registration required participants to provide their name and email address. This requirement was added to avoid multiple responses per participant, in response to an increase in interest in the project.

## Participation

### Total participation

During this project, we heard from 111 participants. Survey contributions totalled 73, with 37 contributions to the initial survey from 9 February – 16 March, and 36 contributions to the adjusted survey from 26 April – 4 June. 32 participants provided feedback at a pop-up conversation onsite at J Talbot Reserve, two participants provided feedback at the Veg Out Farmer's Market, and a further four participants emailed feedback directly to the project team.

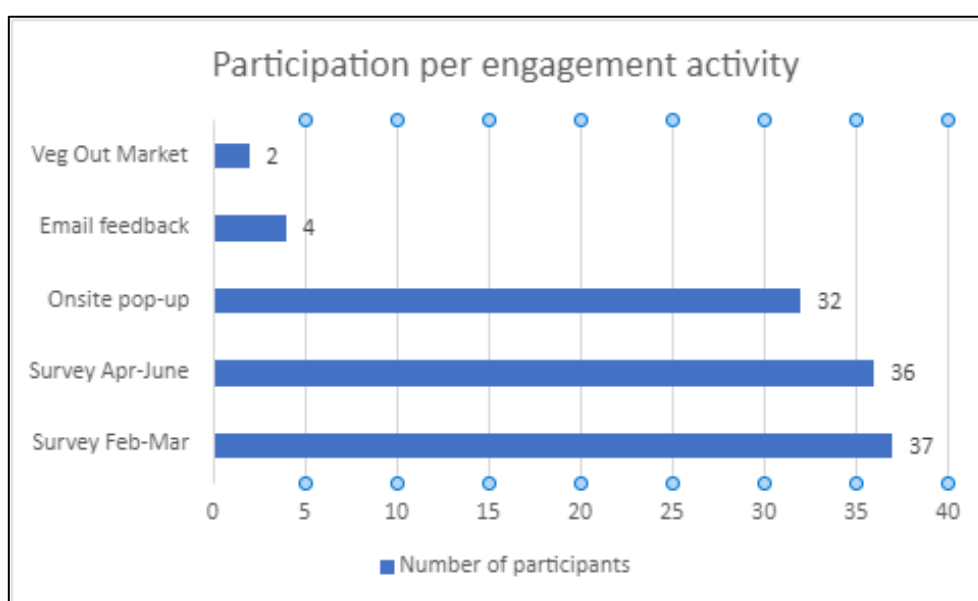


Figure 1 Participation per engagement activity.

Note: There is no way of knowing if participants responded via multiples methods, for instance via the onsite pop-up as well as via the online survey.



# Who we heard from

## Demographics

Participants were asked a range of demographic questions, in order to gather a picture of who we heard from during the engagement period.

### Age

#### Age groups compared to municipal population

Participants were asked to describe their age group, with the highest representation of participants from the 35-49 year age group (33%), followed by 50-59 year olds (18%). Within the City of Port Phillip population, these groups make up 25% and 13% of the population respectively. Lowest representation in this project per population came from the under 15 age group, where participants made up 6% of total engagement, but represent more than twice this figure in population terms (13.3%). Further detail on participation in this engagement compared to our municipal population can be seen in Figure 2 below.

Age group	Percentage of total participants (all activities)	City of Port Phillip population (2021 CENSUS data, ABS)
Under 15	6% (6 participants)	13.3%
15-17	2% (2 participants)	1.6%* approximated from CENSUS data as age groups are separated out differently
18-24	1% (1 participant)	6.8%
25-34	12% (13 participants)	22.7%
35-49	33% (35 participants)	25.4%
50-59	18% (19 participants)	13.1%
60-69	13% (14 participants)	9.5%
70-74	2% (2 participants)	3.7%
75-79	2% (2 participants)	2.6%

80-84	0% (0 participants)	1.6%
85-90	0% (0 participants)	1.4%*
91 & over	0% (0 participants)	*grouped with 85 and over in CENSUS data
Prefer not to say	11% (11 participants)	N/A

Figure 2 Age groups – total participation versus municipal population

### Age groups – pop-up engagement compared to survey engagement

Figure 3 below shows the age group breakdown across the pop-up engagement versus survey engagement. Neighbourhood conversation data has been included with pop-up data, and email feedback has been grouped with data from the two surveys. Pop-up participants' age groups trended younger than those of the survey cohorts, as shown in Figure 3.

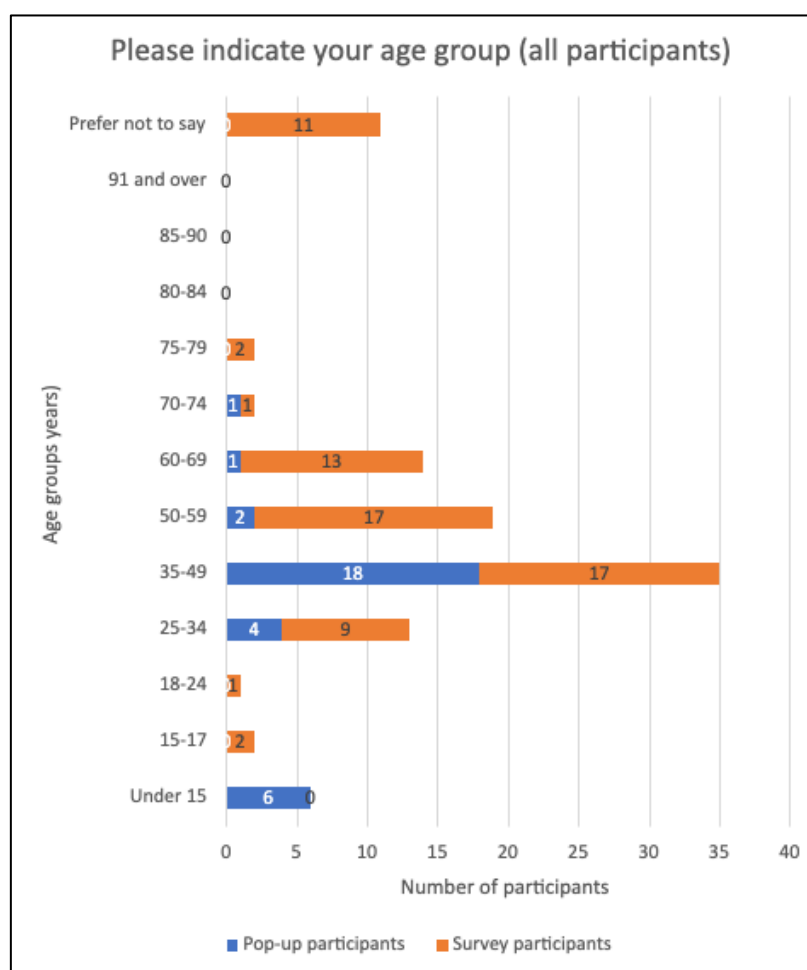


Figure 3 Please indicate your age group – all participants

## Gender

The gender breakdown of participants across the engagement activities is shown in Figure 4 below, with 48% of participants identifying themselves as a man or male, 46% identifying themselves as a woman or female, 1% using a different term and 5% preferring not to say.

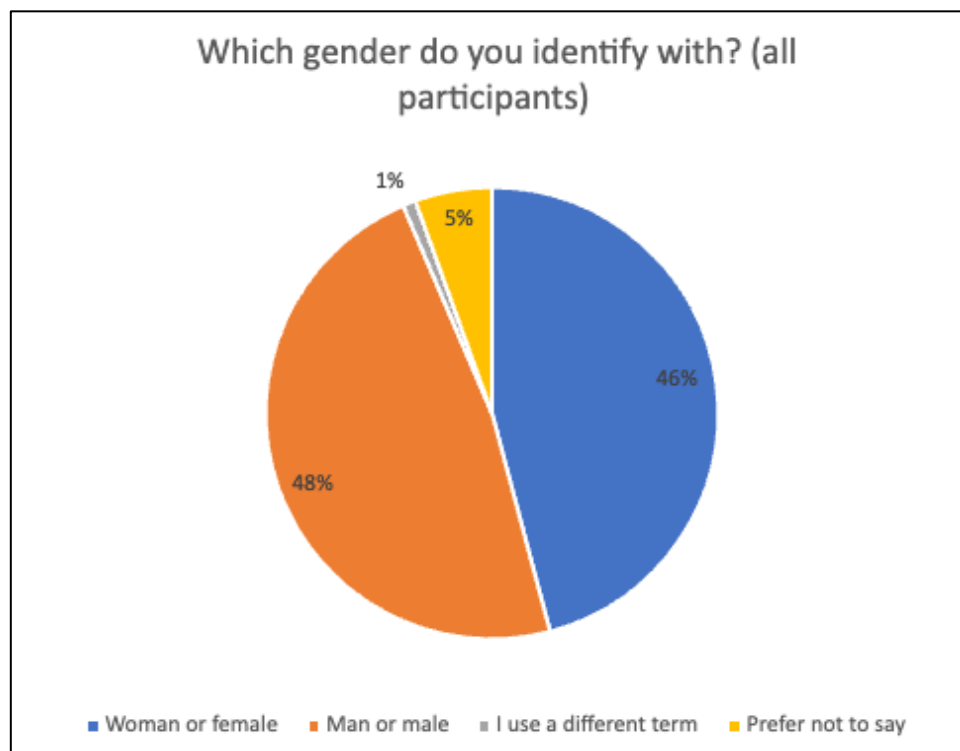


Figure 4 Which gender do you identify with – all participants



## Participants' suburbs

Participants were asked to identify where they lived, with the majority were from St Kilda, where J Talbot Reserve is located. 67 participants said they lived in St Kilda, (50 survey participants and 17 pop-up participants), making up 60% of the total participants across all engagement activities. Following this, participants from Elwood made up 8% of the total participants (n=9), with six of these completing a survey and three attending a pop-up. Twelve participants said they lived in locations outside of the City of Port Phillip. See Figure 5 below.

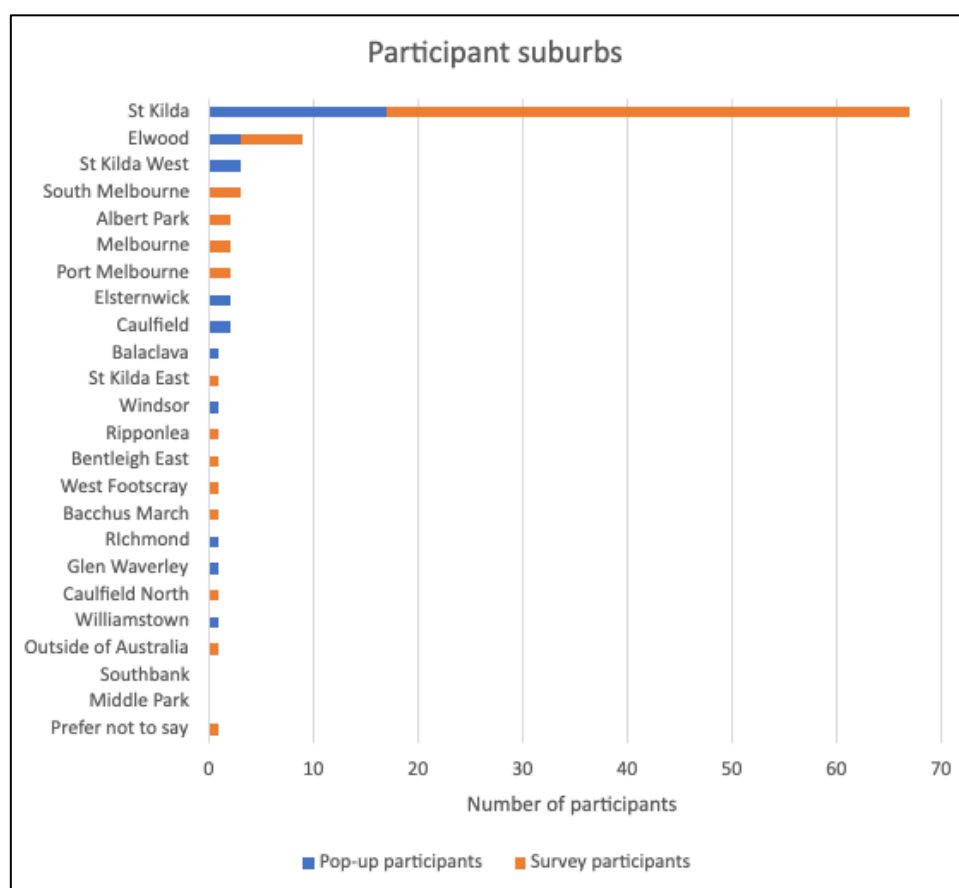


Figure 5 Suburbs where participants said they lived

# What we heard

## Level of support for the proposed project

### Overall support

Participants across the engagement were asked if they supported the proposed changes to the basketball facilities at J Talbot Reserve. Across the total participants from all engagement activities (n=111), 61% said they supported the relocation of the basketball hoop and creation of a formal three-point basketball court, 34% said they did not support it, and 5% said they were unsure, as shown in Figure 6 below.

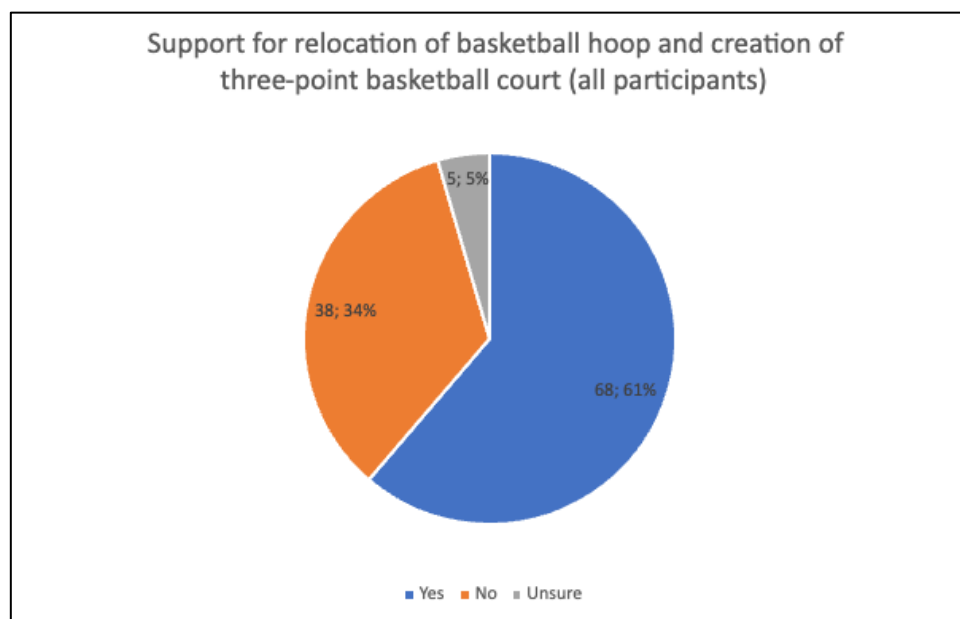


Figure 6 Support for the proposed project from total participants across all engagement activities

## Support by engagement activity

Participants' support for the proposed changes to the basketball facilities at J Talbot Reserve varied by engagement activity, with 85% of participants at the place-based pop-up and Neighbourhood Conversation saying they supported the proposed changes and 15% saying they did not support the proposed changes, as shown in Figure 7.

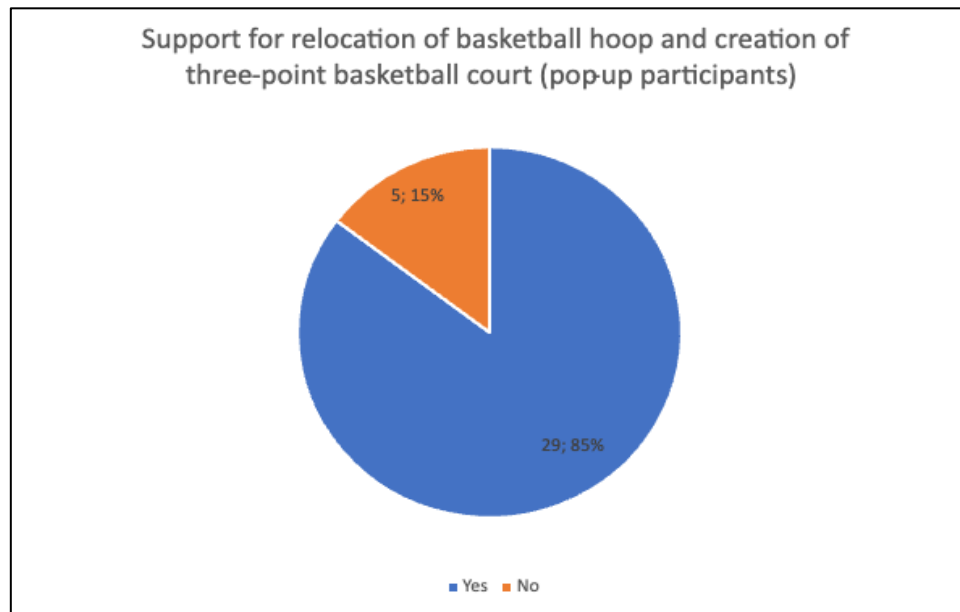


Figure 7 Support for the proposed project from onsite pop-up and Neighbourhood Conversation participants

Support for the proposed changes in the February – March survey was at 65% of participants, with 32% saying they did not support the proposed changes and 3% saying they were unsure, as seen in Figure 8.

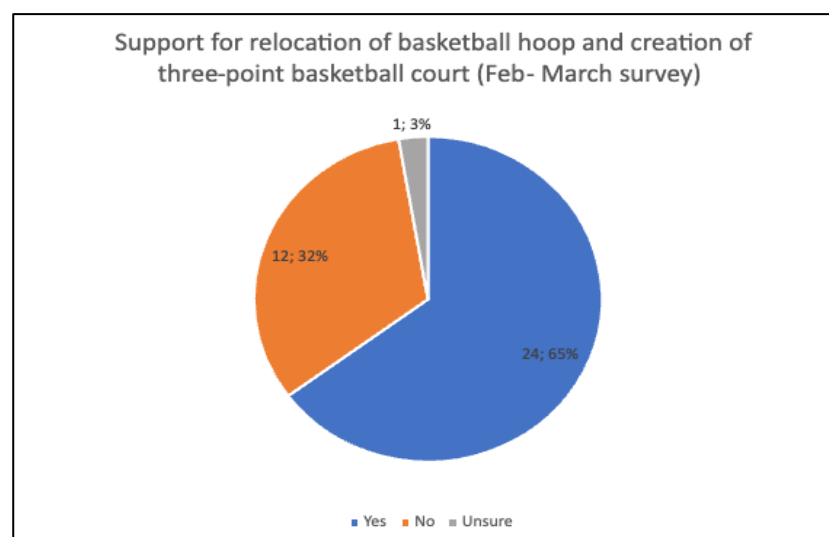


Figure 8 Support for the proposed project from participants of the February – March survey

Support for the proposed changes in the subsequent April – June survey and email feedback during that same time period was at 37% of participants, with 53% saying they did not support the proposed changes and 10% saying they were unsure, as seen in Figure 9.

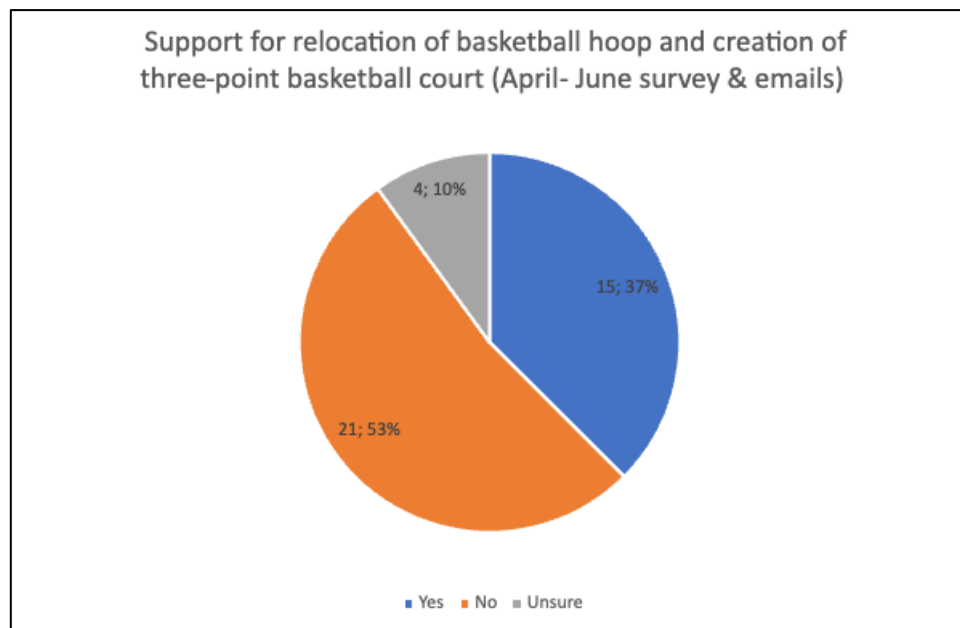


Figure 9 Support for the proposed project from participants of the April – June survey and email feedback



## Further findings

### Why survey participants did or did not support the proposed changes – sample of verbatim comments

Survey participants were asked to explain why they supported or did not support the proposed changes to the basketball facilities. Here are just a few of the verbatim responses to this question, to provide a glimpse into the opportunities and challenges identified by participants.

**For survey participants who supported the proposed changes, some of the reasons included:**

*“Basketball is booming, kids love it and it is a great sport for them to play and get them outside off their electronic devices.”*

*“A three point basketball court in its proposed location enhances the visibility of people actively using facilities in the park and improve the value of the park being open and safe to use.”*

*“The existing court is too close to the dance school entry, which discourages users of the basketball court, and is a danger to children exiting the dance school.”*

*“Children (and adults) need spaces to play and exercise. There is enough space at this reserve to incorporate a bigger basketball area and still have green space for children, adults, and dogs to run around.”*

**For survey participants who did not support the proposed changes, some of the reasons included:**

*“The new location paves a currently green area. Parkland is at a premium and it is unacceptable to consider paving over existing green space in our current climate emergency. This conflicts with Council de-paving objectives and Greening Port Phillip Strategy.”*



*"This small park is a delight and I never see anyone but adults use it and often small dogs. I cannot see how a basketball court for current residents will be of much use."*

*"New amenities will also invite undesirable individuals to do drugs and results in loss of amenity for residents."*

*"Safety concerns. What is the chance of stray balls hitting pedestrians or cars in Barkly?"*

**Some survey participants supported an upgrade to facilities but had further suggestions:**

*"Regardless of outcomes - the area needs an upgrade. I would prefer to see the playground cleaned up and refreshed, with the basketball within the park and not on the road frontage."*

## Findings by theme

Survey participants' responses to the following questions were grouped by theme:

- Can you tell us why or why not (you support or don't support the proposed changes)?
- Would you like to tell us anything more about the basketball facilities at J Talbot Reserve?

Themed responses are tallied in Table 10 below.

Theme	Number of responses
The need to provide outdoor facilities and opportunities for health and wellbeing in our City, particularly for children	31
The need to retain green space and tree canopy	24
Safety concerns about basketballs near Barkly Street and requests for fencing or reorientation of the backboard	18
Support for the changes but querying whether the existing location or an alternative location would be better	17
The need to provide better and more facilities in the Reserve, including facilities for a wider range of ages	13
Concern surrounding attracting anti-social behaviour or changing the demographics of Reserve users	11
The need to 'freshen up' the aesthetics of the Reserve, bring more life into it and better perceptions of safety through higher usage	9
The need for basketball facilities in the Reserve to be in better condition and not on gravel	9
The need to consider noise impacts on nearby residents with any change in use of the Reserve	8
Query regarding the demand for improved basketball facilities	8
The need to move the location of the court away from its current location outside the National Theatre entrance	6
Concern around using Council rates to pay for the proposed changes	5
The presence of full-sized basketball courts nearby at the Peanut Farm	5
Support for the changes but with even more basketball facilities	3
Other miscellaneous issues not relating to J Talbot Reserve	3
Support for improved safety features at the Reserve including lighting	3
Consideration of the impact of changes on dogs and dog walkers	2

Table 10 Findings by theme – why participants did or did not support the proposed changes

## Use of J Talbot Reserve

### Current use of J Talbot Reserve

Participants in the April – June survey were asked to select how they currently use J Talbot Reserve from a list of options, with participants able to select as many options as applied to them. As seen in Figure 11 below, the highest number of responses from this cohort was “Walk through the park on my way to somewhere else” (n=29). Walking a dog (n=19) or relaxing, meeting friends and having picnics (n=18) were the next most frequently selected options. Two participants said they don’t currently visit J Talbot Reserve. This question was only asked in the April – June survey so the applicability of its findings across all engagement and age cohorts is limited.

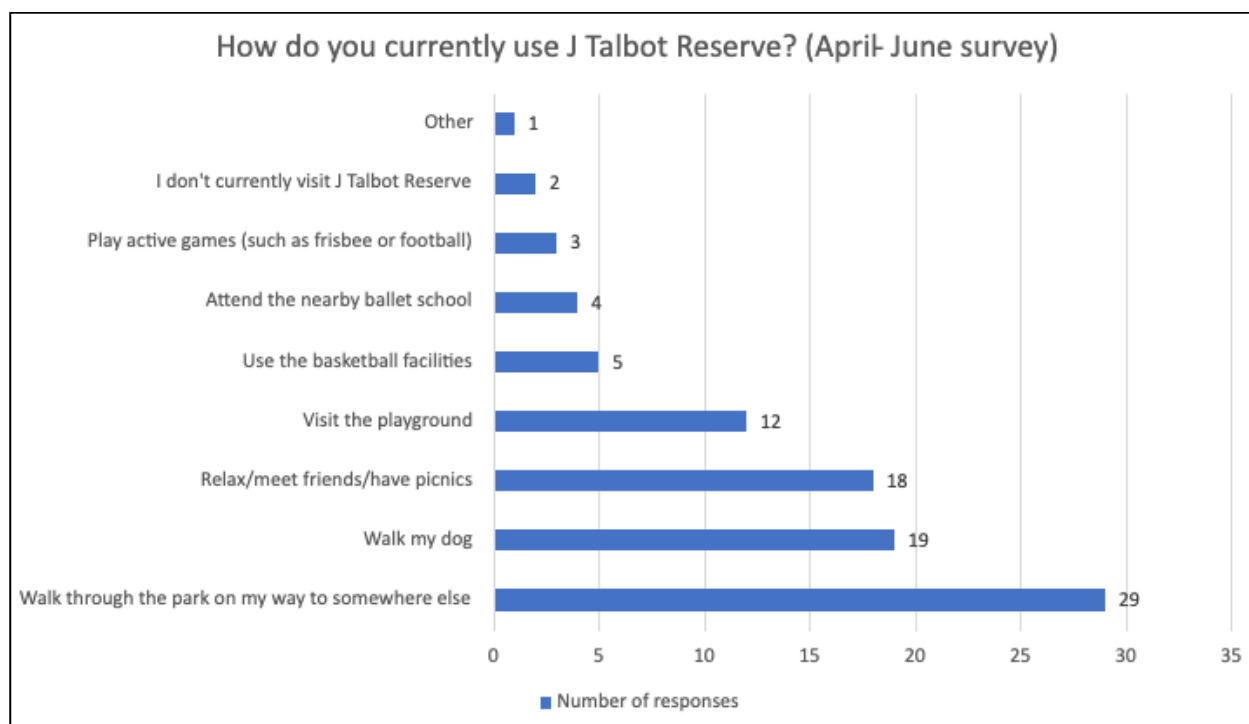


Figure 21 How participants from the April – June survey said they currently use J Talbot Reserve



## Anticipated future use of proposed basketball facilities

Participants in the April – June survey were also asked whether they or a member of their family use the updated basketball facilities if they go ahead. As seen below in Figure 12, 67% of this cohort said they or their family members would not use the facilities, with 33% saying they or their family members would use the facilities. This question was only asked in the April – June survey so the applicability of its findings across all engagement and age cohorts is limited.

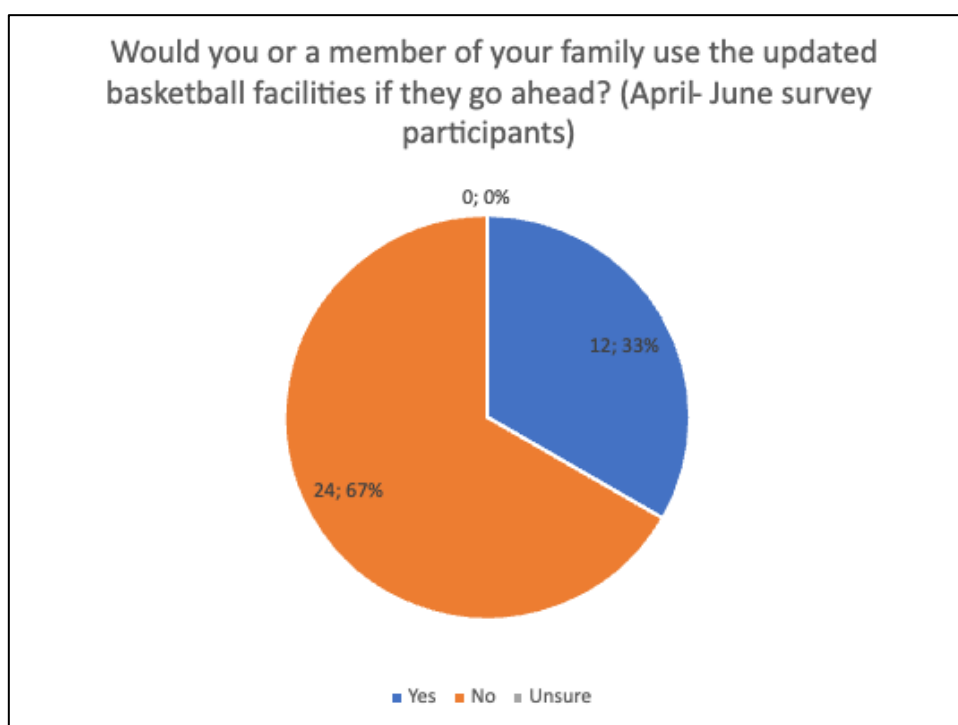


Figure 32 April – June survey participants' future use of updated facilities

## Colour preferences

### Participant colour preferences for the proposed basketball court elements - total

Participants were asked if there was sufficient support from the community for the proposed basketball court to go ahead, what their colour preferences were for the three key elements of the court (Key Colour, Main Court and Linework).

Participants indicated their colour preference from a possible 14 colours, with Emperor Yellow being the most frequently selected colour overall (n=31), as well as for the Key Colour (n=15) and the Linework (n=14). Figure 13 below shows participants' overall colour preferences over all elements of the proposed court, with Emperor Yellow (n=31), Forest Green (n=24) and Sky Blue (n=16) being the top three most frequently selected overall.

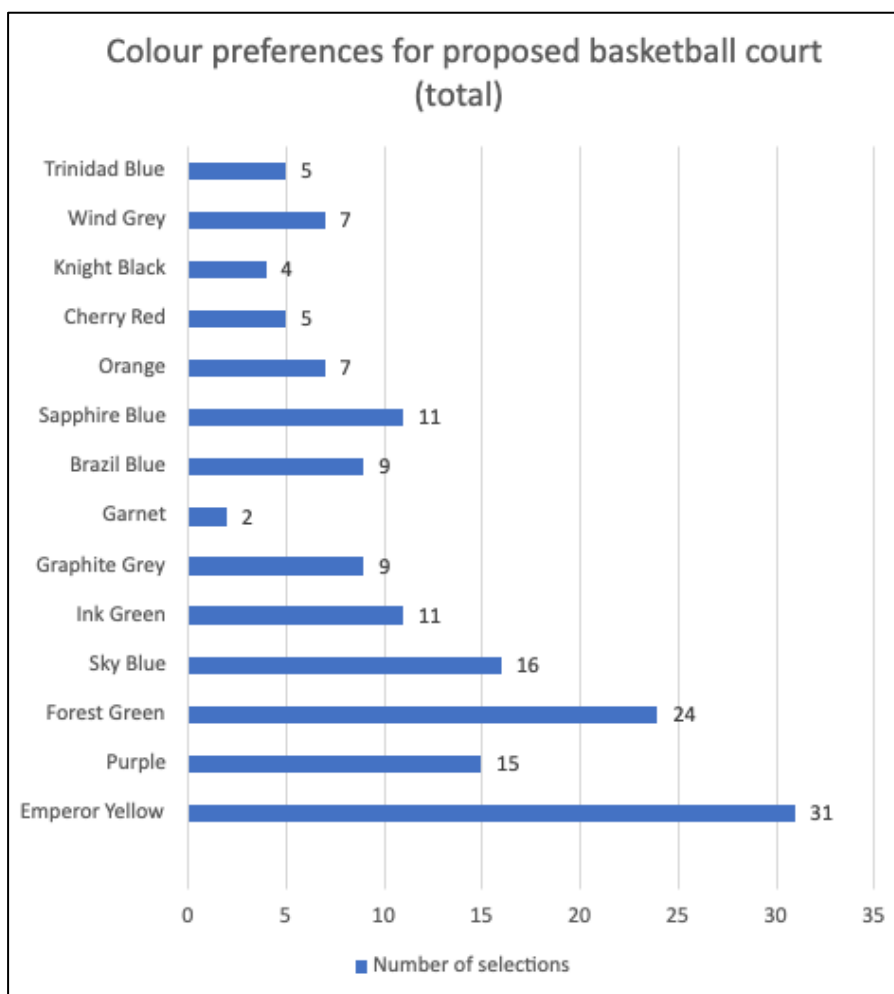


Figure 43 Participants' colour preferences for the proposed basketball court – total (all key elements)

## Key Colour

Figure 14 below shows participants' colour preferences for the Key Colour, with Emperor Yellow (n=15), Purple (n=10) and Forest Green (n=10) being the top three most frequently selected colours for this element of the proposed basketball court.

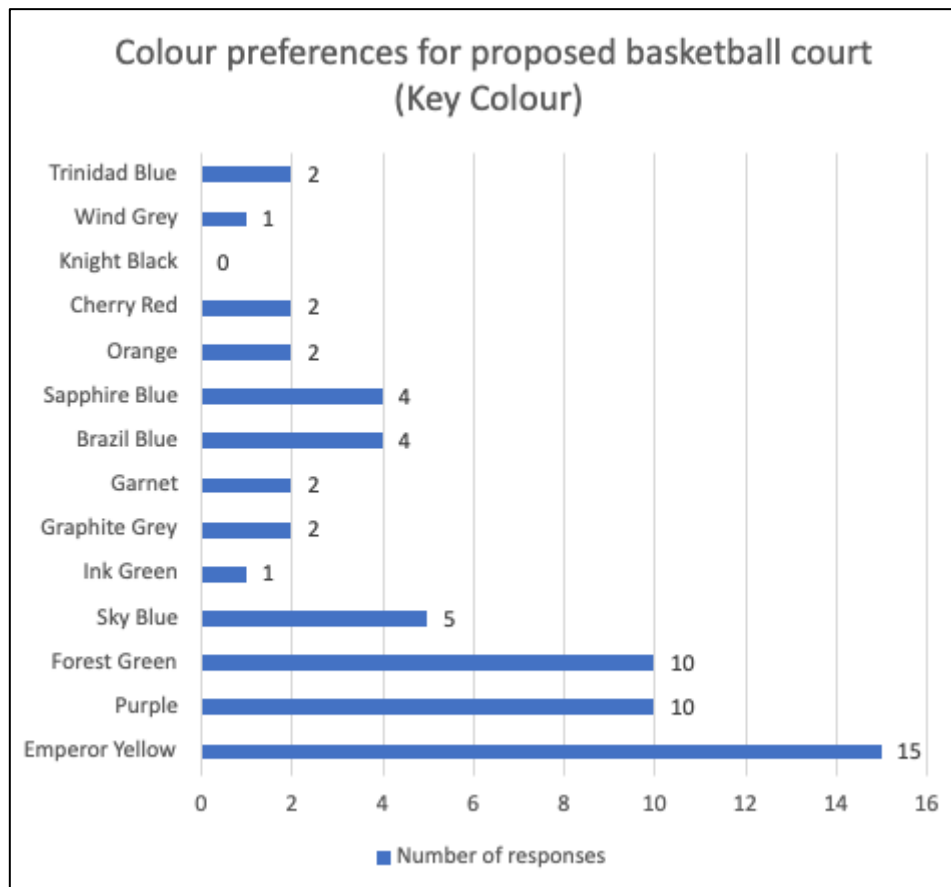


Figure 54 Participants' colour preferences for the proposed basketball court – Key Colour

## Main Court

Figure 15 below shows participants' colour preferences for the Main Court, with Forest Green (n=11), Sky Blue (n=9) and Ink Green (n=9) being the top three most frequently selected colours for this element of the proposed basketball court.

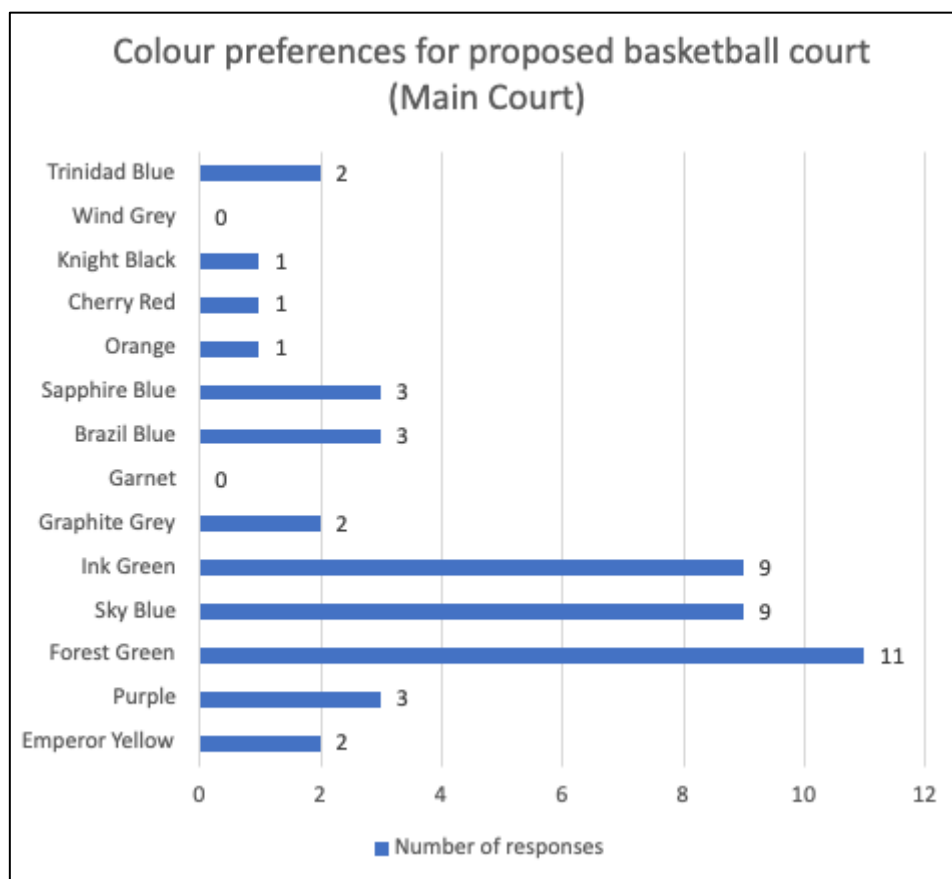


Figure 65 Participants' colour preferences for the proposed basketball court – Main Court

## Linework

Figure 16 below shows participants' colour preferences for the Linework, with Emperor Yellow (n=14), Wind Grey (n=6) and Graphite Grey (n=5) being the top three most frequently selected colours for this element of the proposed basketball court.

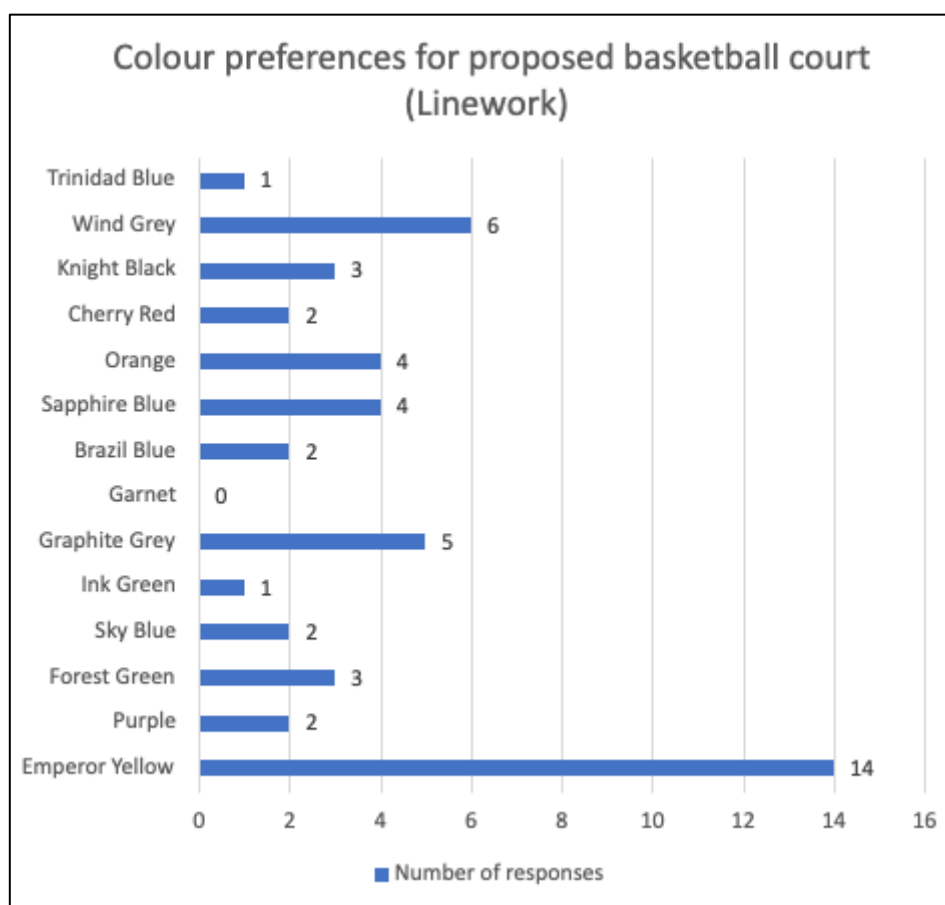


Figure 76 Participants' colour preferences for the proposed basketball court – Linework



# How to find out more

## How this report will be used

This engagement summary report will be presented at a Council meeting on 19 July, where its findings will help to inform the decision about whether the proposed changes to the basketball facilities at J Talbot Reserve will go ahead.

The decision on whether the proposed changes to the basketball facilities at J Talbot Reserve will go ahead will be communicated to the community in July 2023.

Updates about this project can be found on the Have Your Say project page at <https://haveyoursay.portphillip.vic.gov.au/basketball-j-talbot-reserve>

**This report is a summary of findings from engagement undertaken on this project.**