

Nelson Street Reserve Playground Concept Design

Community engagement summary report
April 2025

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2 Background

This document provides a summary of stakeholder and community feedback on the Nelson Street Reserve Playground Concept Design.

Concept Designs have been developed for the redesign of the playground at Nelson Street Reserve in Cranbourne East, subject to Council's budget approval. The redesign aims to create a larger and more exciting play space to better serve the growing local community. To guide the design process, a four-week community consultation was undertaken. Community members were invited to choose between two concept designs and provide additional feedback through an open-text comment box.

2.1 Key findings

The community consultation for the Nelson Street Reserve Playground Concept Design revealed strong support for Option 1, with over 85% of respondents favouring this design. Key feedback highlighted the need for more shaded areas and seating, with specific requests for covered seating. Additionally, there was interest in enhancing play equipment, including more slides, swings, monkey bars, and the addition of a flying fox and water play area. Respondents also expressed a desire for fitness and gym equipment to promote physical activity for all age groups.

2.2 Next steps

Council officers will consider community feedback and make amendments to the plan, in line with the scope detailed in the project engagement plan.

Subject to Council's budget approval. Construction is expected to be complete 2025.

3 Consultation overview

3.1 Consultation purpose

The consultation was designed to provide the community with the opportunity to provide their feedback on the Nelson Street Reserve Playground Concept Design.

3.2 Consultation process

The tools and techniques selected for this project were informed by the project content, stakeholders and type of feedback sought.

Key tools for communicating the project

- Emails to key stakeholders
- Social media

Key methods for gathering feedback

- Online engagement through Casey Conversations, including opportunity to provide feedback via survey.
- Contact email address and phone number of Council Officer provided for interested community members to ask for further information or provide feedback
- Printed information available, as required.

Details	Activity
13 March – 10 April 2025 296 visitors 71 contributions	Casey Conversations Website Project information and online survey hosted on the engagement platform Casey Conversations.

4 Who we heard from

A total of six responses were received from individuals under the age of 19. This included three children aged 0–9 years (4.23%) and three young people aged 15–19 years (4.23%).

Overall, feedback was received from a diverse group of community members. The majority of respondents identified as women (78.57%), with men comprising 21.43%. The most represented age group was 25–39 years (63.38%), followed by respondents aged 40–54 years (14.08%).

Cranbourne East was the predominant suburb represented, accounting for 90.14% of responses. In terms of cultural and social diversity, 23.94% of respondents reported speaking a language other than English at home. Additionally, 1.41% identified as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander, and 1.41% identified as LGBTIQ+. A significant portion of respondents (70.42%) did not identify with any of the listed background or identity categories.

5 Consultation findings

The following section summarises the key themes which arose in community feedback on Nelson Street Reserve Playground Concept Design. In the interest of stakeholder and community privacy, individual quotes have not been included within this public document. Where there was more than one mention of a topic or item, the number of mentions has been specified in brackets and italics.

5.1 Support for actions

Survey respondents were asked to select their preferred option between two concept designs. Option 1 received 61 out of 71 votes, representing a preference of just over 85%.

5.2 Item-specific feedback

5.2.1 Shade and Seating

There were requests for more shaded areas, seating arrangements, and covered seating areas.

Topic	Community feedback
Shade	Request for shade over playground and surrounding area. (<i>8 mentions</i>)
Seating	Respondents suggested the inclusion of more seating (<i>6 mentions</i>).

5.2.2 Play Equipment

Topic	Community feedback
Slides	A request to include more slides with rubber under the slides.
Swings	Requests to add more swings (<i>2 mentions</i>) and remove the swing on its own.
Flying Fox	Requests to add a flying fox (<i>2 mentions</i>).
Monkey Bars	Requests to add monkey bars (<i>3 mentions</i>).
Water Play	Requests for a water play area for kids (<i>3 mentions</i>).

5.2.3 Additional Amenities

Topic	Community feedback
Fitness and gym equipment	Respondents highlighted a strong interest in incorporating fitness areas and gym equipment for both adults and children, promoting physical activity for all age groups (<i>5 mentions</i>).
Grass and Landscaping	Requests for better grass, landscaping, and removal of weeds. (<i>3 mentions</i>).

6 Consultation evaluation

The consultation for the Nelson Reserve Playground project was primarily discovered through social media, which accounted for 47.89% of responses. Word of mouth and signage were also significant channels, with 23.94% and 14.08% respectively. Most participants found the information they needed easily, with 49.30% rating it as very easy and 32.39% as easy. Only a small fraction found it difficult (2.82%), and none found it very difficult. Overall, the feedback indicates that social media was the most effective communication method, and the information provided was generally accessible.

Performance Summary

