

TIMBARRA PARK PLAYGROUND

CONCEPT DESIGN

August,, 2026



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TIMBARRA PARK PLAYGROUND

LYREBIRD GARDENS, BERWICK

Context

Timbarra Park, Berwick is located on Lyrebird Gardens/ Ernst Wanke Road in Berwick. It is adjacent to Parkhill Plaza Shopping Centre and as such is integrated into a neighbourhood activity hub.

The reserve sits within the family-oriented suburb of Berwick with a high proportion of:

- children aged 0-14
- significant number of children in the 5-14 year age group
- larger households (average 2.9 children)
- stable long-term residents (high home ownership)
- car-dependent families.

Background and Scope

Existing facilities include

- rotunda,
- concrete path network,
- barbecue,
- seats and picnic tables,
- stone clad walls,
- farm style fencing,
- corten steel sculptures,
- mature trees and landscaping,
- playground area which features slides, climbing features, swings and animal themed elements.

The scope of the project is to provide district level playground facilities including shelter, barbecue, drinking fountain, picnic tables, seating and improved landscaping.



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Community Feedback

Community consultation was undertaken between 18th March and 26th April 2026 to inform the concept design for the playspace upgrade. The engagement process included 312 visitors to the Casey Conversations website with 100 submissions. There were 70 responses to the online survey, 28 responses to the voting poll and two image uploads. The feedback gathered through this process directly informed the concept design and helped establish design direction for the playground.

What would the community like included in the new playground:

75% - Shaded Seating Areas

73% - Drinking Fountain

70% - Trampolines

68% - Swings

64% - Barbecue and Picnic Tables

64% - Slides

62% - Climbing Structures

61% - Balance Beams

58% - Nature Play Items

58% - Flying Fox

48% - Monkey Bars

35% - Accessible Carousel



Further Suggestions

- Retain existing character, in particular farm theme
- Provide more inclusive and toddler-friendly play equipment including accessible play
- Retain pavilion, mature trees and natural landscaping
- Retain footy goals
- Expand park's appeal with pump tracks, bike or scooter tracks

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Design Direction

Timbarra Park occupies land that was historically used for farming before the development of the Timbarra Housing Estate in the late 1980s. This agricultural history inspired the existing playground, which features a farmyard theme that remains strongly valued by the community.

The playground upgrade will retain and celebrate this identity while introducing a refreshed interpretation of the farmyard theme. Existing corten steel sculptures and farm-style fencing will be retained, with an additional section of matching fencing added to separate the northern nature play area from the footpath.

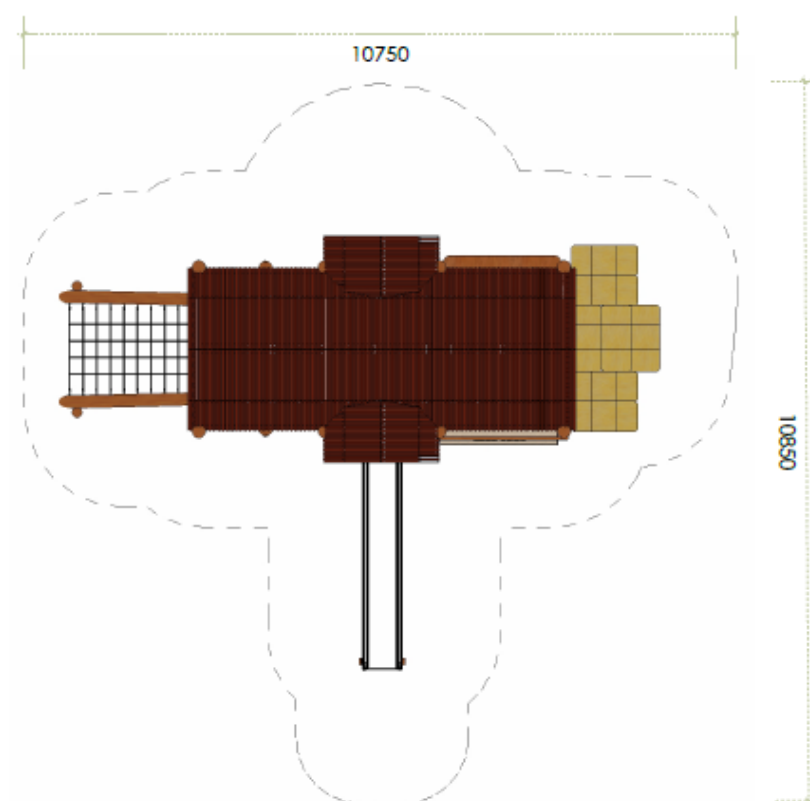
Inspired by iconic farm barns, the main play structures and shelter will reinforce the farmyard character, complemented by additional themed play elements throughout the space. The northern nature play area will also be refreshed, with a new gumnut cubby creating a focal point beneath the existing trees.



TIMBARRA PARK PLAYGROL

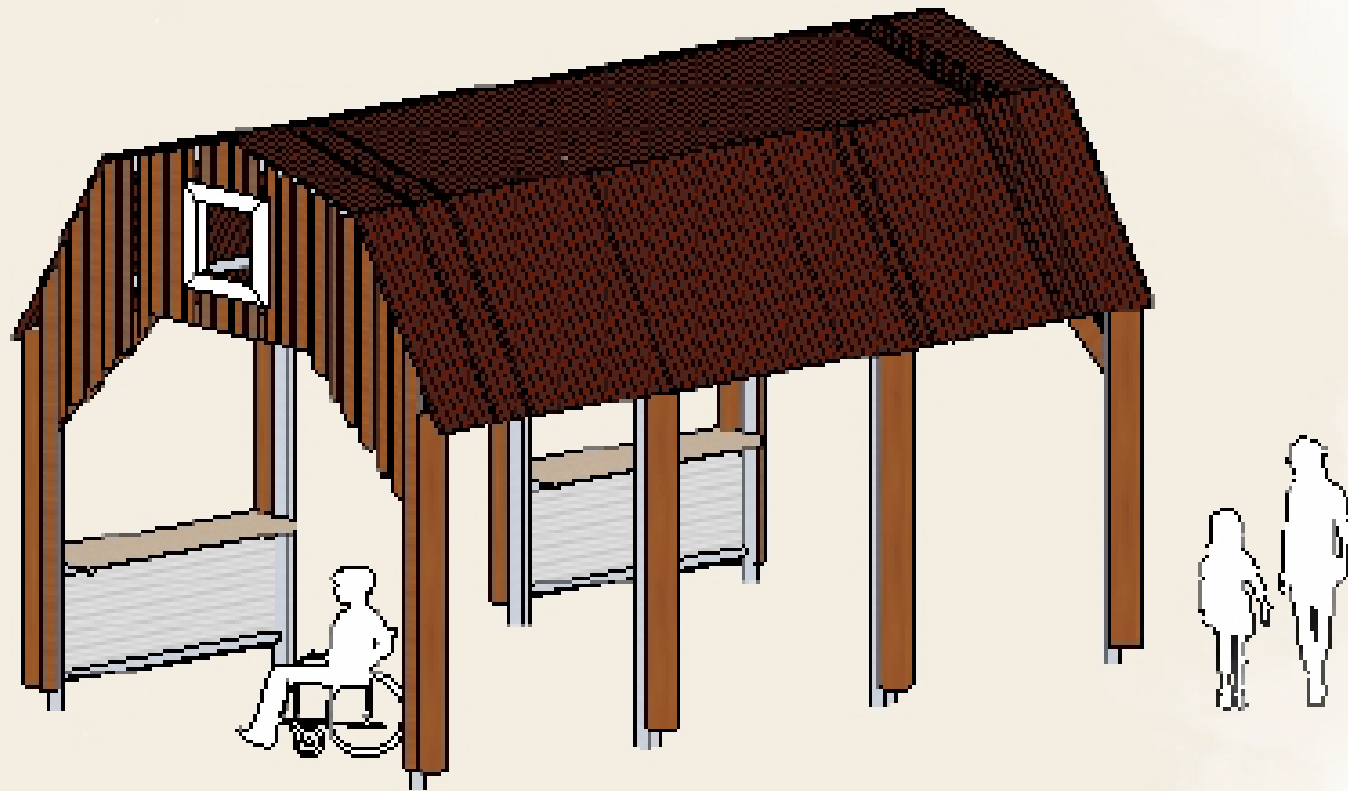
The Barn - Play Unit

Barns are an iconic feature of the farmyard and provide the inspiration for this play space. The combination unit reflects the form of a traditional barn, incorporating climbing and sliding elements to create both a landmark and engaging play experience. Hay bale-inspired steps provide inclusive access to the upper level for children who may find ropes and ladders challenging.



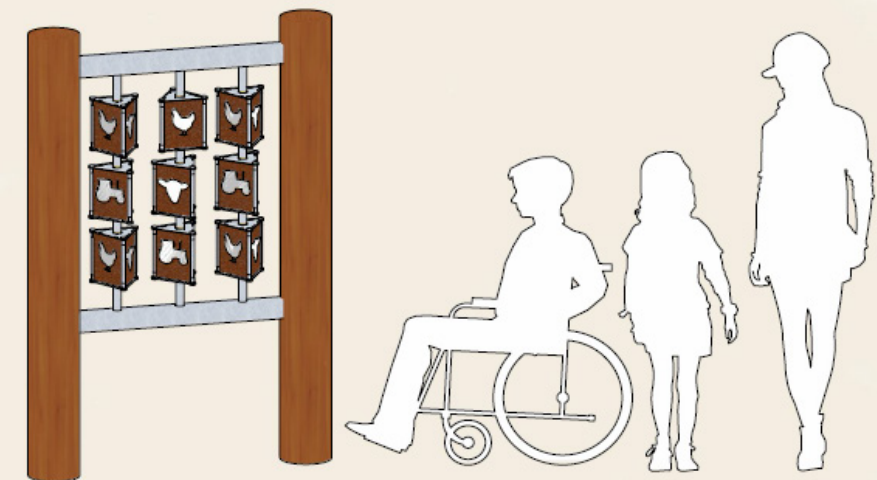
The Barn - Shelter

The shelter echoes the barn-inspired form and materials, reinforcing a cohesive farmyard theme throughout the playspace..



Farm Animal Memory Game

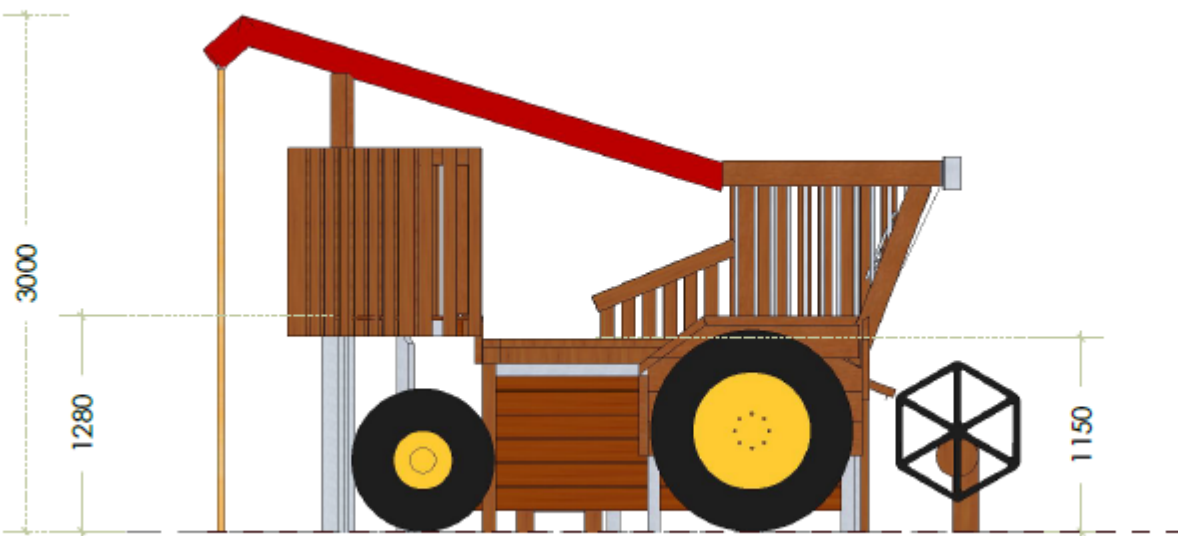
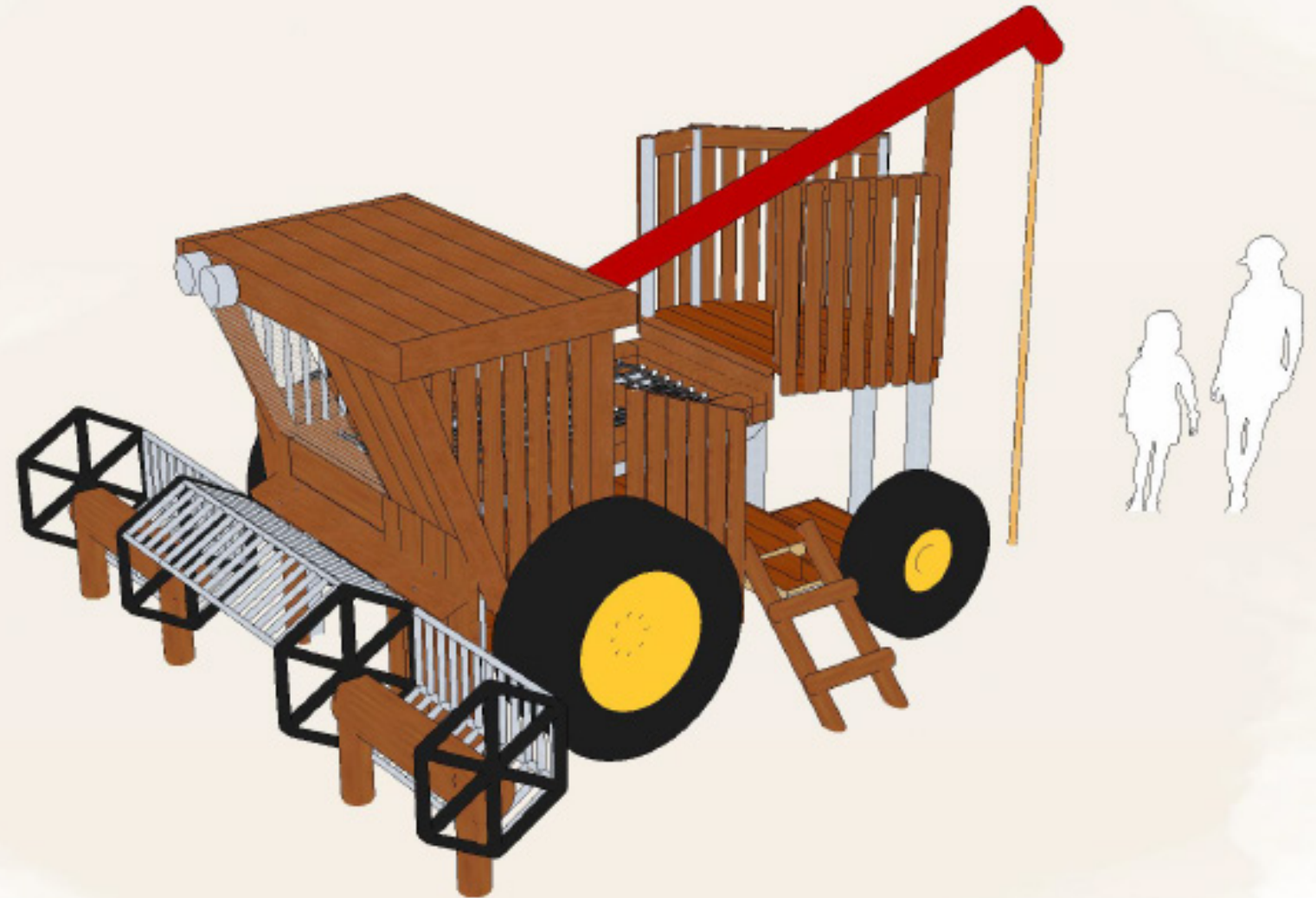
In keeping with the farmyard theme, a custom-designed farm animal memory game will be incorporated into the playground. Constructed from materials that complement the larger farm-themed elements, this interactive feature provides a fun and educational play experience along the pathway. Its accessible design ensures it can be enjoyed by children of all ages and abilities.



Combine Harvester

The inclusion of a custom designed combine harvester references a recognisable piece of farmyard machinery. As a focal feature it supports the playground concept and encourages storytelling and imaginative play.

The scale and layout of the piece lends itself to inclusive and imaginative play. Low access points and varied levels of interaction enable children of different ages and abilities to engage with the structure in different ways through active movement or sensory and social play.



Nature Play

The existing nature play area, nestled beneath the canopy of established trees, will be rejuvenated through the introduction of new gravel surfacing and enhanced planting. At the heart of the space, a feature Gumnut Cubby will create a welcoming focal point, complemented by discovery logs, informal seating, and opportunities for imaginative and nature-based play.

Designed as a quieter, more contemplative setting within the broader playground, this area will provide children with a place to retreat, explore, and connect with nature at their own pace. The space offers an important balance to the more active play experiences, creating a calm and restorative environment to retreat from the more active parts of the playground when they are feeling overwhelmed.



Additional Play Elements



Flying Fox



Trampoline

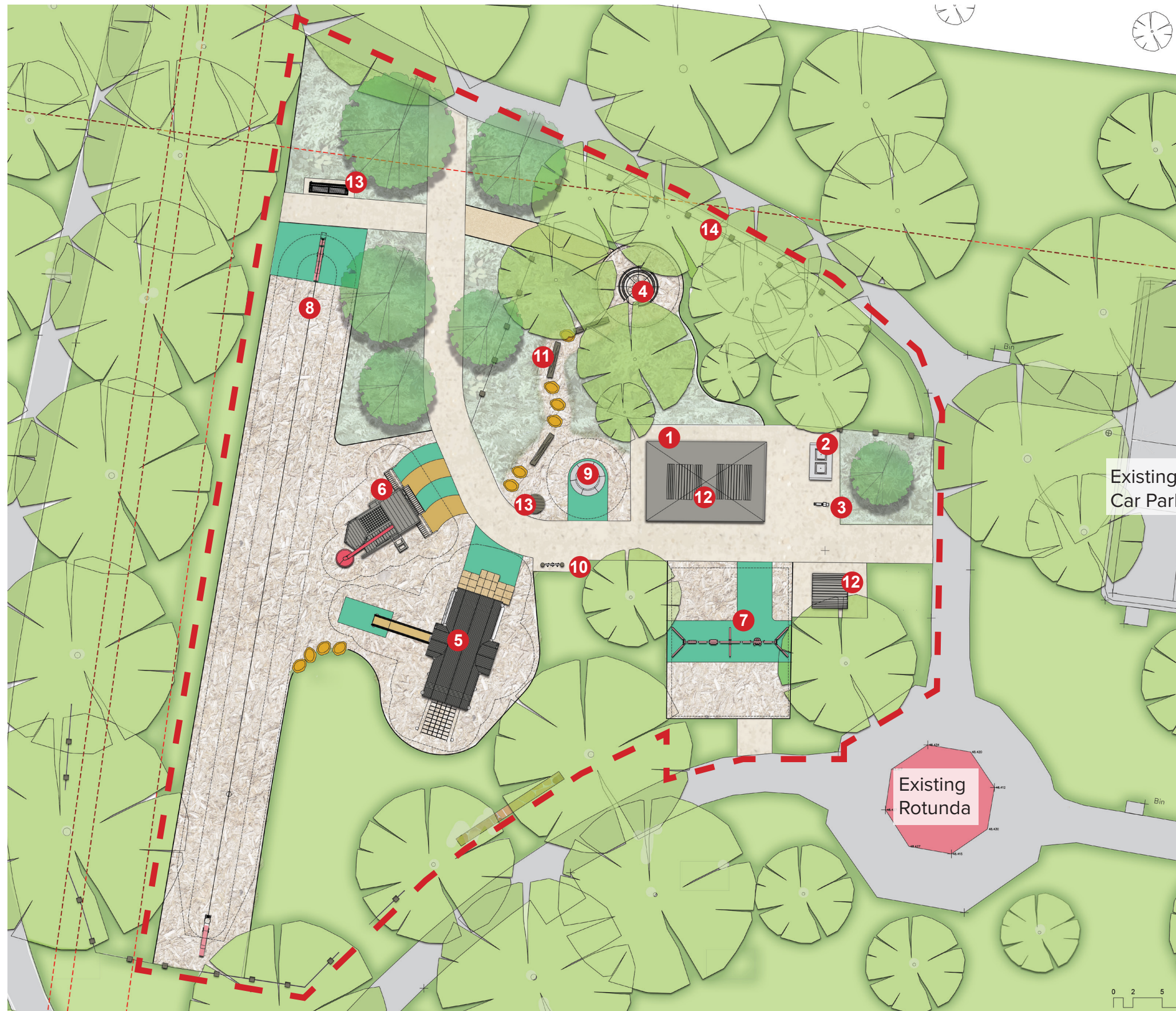


Swings

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Design Concept



Legend

- 1 Barn Shelter
- 2 Barbecue
- 3 Drinking Fountain
- 4 Gum Nut Shelter
- 5 Barn Combination Play Unit
- 6 Combine Harvester Play Unit
- 7 Swing Set
- 8 Flying Fox
- 9 Trampoline
- 10 Farm Animals Memory Game
- 11 Balancing rocks and logs
- 12 Picnic Tables
- 13 Seats
- 14 New farm style fence to match existing fences

