

Local Playground Redesigns

Community Engagement Summary Report
August 2024

1 Contents

Local Playground Redesigns.....	
2 Background.....	2
2.1 Key findings	2
2.2 Next steps	2
3 Consultation overview	2
3.1 Consultation purpose	2
3.2 Consultation process	2
4 Who we heard from.....	3
5 Consultation findings.....	5
5.1 Support for actions.....	5
5.2 Item-specific feedback	5
6 Consultation evaluation.....	11
6.1 Casey Conversations project page	11

2 Background

Council asked the community to share how they currently use their local playgrounds and what they would like to see in future look and feel of the new design.

The current Playground Strategy guides the provision and management of playground facilities to meet the present and future needs of Casey residents. The list of 2024/2025 playground renewal locations are:

- Margaret Owens Reserve
- Roberts Road Reserve
- Warneet Recreation Reserve
- Essex Park Community Place Reserve
- Buckeye Drive Reserve
- Ribbon Gum Drive Reserve
- Kalora Park Oval Reserve
- Calrossi Close Reserve
- Gracehill Mews Reserve
- Arch Brown Recreation Reserve
- Clifton Way Reserve
- Fairholme Boulevard Meg Way Reserve
- Lochard Terrace Reserve
- Raisell Road Reserve
- Betula Reserve
- Wilson Botanic Park

2.1 Key findings

The community feedback shows a preference to safety in the design of future playground redesigns. Community feedback also suggests the use of natural and adventure style play equipment, that is accessible to all ages or abilities.

2.2 Next steps

Council officers will consider community feedback in the future design of concept plans. Further community feedback of the drafted designs of each of the new playgrounds is expected late 2024 to early 2025.

Construction works to upgrade the parks will be scheduled throughout 2024/25.

3 Consultation overview

3.1 Consultation purpose

The consultation was designed to provide the community with the opportunity to provide their feedback on the Local Playground Redesigns.

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

- Website news story

- ## Key methods for gathering feedback

- ## Details

**26 July - 25 August
2024**

708 visitors

141 contributions

Casey Conversations Website

Project information, online survey, and written submissions hosted on the engagement platform, Casey Conversations.

Online survey: 94 adult responses

38 children and young people

Fund it tool: 7 responses

Dream playground uploads: 3 responses

10 July 2024

Community Reference Group and Environmental Volunteers

24 participants

Community Reference Group and Environmental Volunteers engagement

Project information, paper and online survey and facilitated discussions

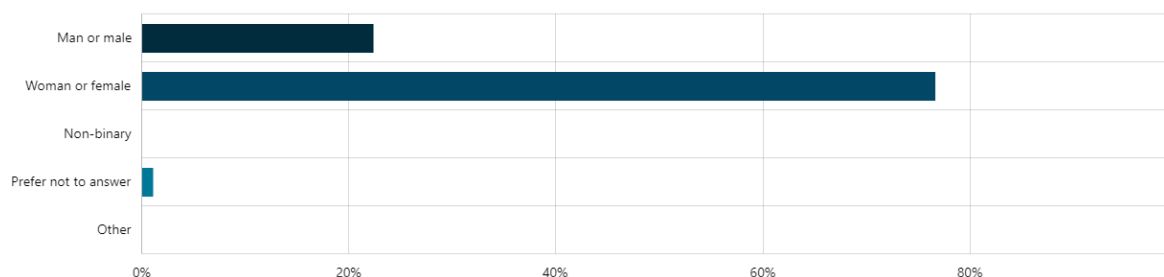
4 Who we heard from

Survey participants had the choice to share their demographics via the questions below:

3



How do you describe your gender?



5 Consultation findings

The following section summarises the key themes which arose in community. In the interest of stakeholder and community privacy, individual quotes have not been included within this public document.

5.1 Feedback from each playground

Participants were asked via online surveys to provide answers the below questions.

- In your family, what are the age/s of those who would use the play space?
- How often do you/your family visit the current playground?
- If you don't visit, can you tell us why?
- Please rank the following play activities in order of importance to you:
 - o Nature/Sensory play
 - o Educational/imaginative
 - o Swinging
 - o Sliding
 - o Rocking
 - o Spinning
 - o Climbing
 - o Balancing
- What style of equipment do you think would be most suitable for the play space?
- Is there anyone in your family with special needs?
- Can you please elaborate? For example, what inclusions would benefit your access/inclusion?
- Are there any features from other play spaces (in the City of Casey or elsewhere) that you would like to see included?
- What makes you feel safe in a playground?
- Children and young people were also asked who they visit the park with

All feedback has been analysed and summarised below

Margaret Owens Reserve

Margarat Owens Reserve Playground sees a diverse cohort of users ranging from 0 to 12 plus years of age, of these users 80% use the playground weekly. Community responses specified that they feel safe in a playground that has soft fall areas, durable equipment, fences and open spaces to ensure accurate visibility.

Adult survey responses selected all play activities as important to them. Climbing, balancing, sliding, learning and swinging were the highest of importance for children and young people. Timber and steel style equipment were equally preferred.

22% of responses have a member of their family with special needs. Examples of play spaces in Officer and Clyde north were mentioned as most of the new play spaces have wheelchair accessible play spaces. Wheelchairs and walkers can't move across bark and there was identified need for supportive swings and flying foxes.

Roberts Road Reserve

Roberts Road Reserve Playground sees a diverse cohort of users ranging from 0 to 17 years of age, of these users 80% use the playground weekly. Community responses specified that they feel safe in a playground that has soft fall areas, durable equipment, fences, no high balancing platforms and open spaces to ensure accurate visibility.

Adult survey responses selected all play activities as important to them. Climbing, sliding, learning and swinging were the highest of importance for children and young people. Timber and Steel is the preferred equipment material.

Scooter tracks and water play were common suggestions throughout the feedback

Warneet Recreation Reserve

Warneet Recreation Reserve Playground sees most of its users between the ages of 3 to 8 years of age, of these users 50% don't use the current playground due to the lack of equipment and its current disrepair. Others use the space weekly. Community responses specified that they feel safe in a playground that has soft fall areas, fences and open spaces to ensure accurate visibility.

Adult survey responses selected all play activities as important to them, with climbing, nature play and swinging being the preferred equipment. A place to play with friends, sliding and climbing was the highest of importance for children and young people. Timber and steel style equipment were equally preferred.

20% of the responses identified water play as a feature they like to see in a playground at this location.

Essex Park Community Place Reserve

Essex Park Community Place Reserve Playground sees most of its users between the ages of 3 to 8 years of age. Of these users, 50% don't use the current playground due to the lack of equipment and its current disrepair. Community responses specified that they feel safe in a playground that has soft fall areas, fences and open spaces to ensure accurate visibility.

Adult survey responses selected all play activities as important to them, with climbing, sliding, nature and educational play being the preferred equipment. A ropeway, climbing and large swings were the highest of importance for children and young people. Both a timber and steel play equipment were preferred.

Ribbon Gum Drive Reserve

Ribbon Gum Drive Reserve Playground sees a diverse cohort of users ranging from 0 to 17 years of age, of these users 80% use the playground daily. Community responses specified that they feel safe in a playground that has soft fall areas, fences, equipment for toddlers and open spaces to ensure accurate visibility.

Adult survey responses selected all play activities as important to them. Climbing, sliding, balancing and swinging were the highest of importance for children and young people. Timber and steel are the preferred equipment material.

Current users of park expressed wanting to keep the current teacup play equipment and include sand pits, zip line and trampolines into the new design. Children and young people currently ride bike and scooters near the park and requested to incorporate this into the new design.

Kalora Park Oval Reserve

Kalora Park Oval Recreation Reserve Playground sees a diverse cohort of users ranging from 0 to 18 years of age. The park is used by locals as well as visitors who use the other sporting facilities. This can see many children and young people using the space at one time. Multiple equipment was a strong feature in the community's feedback. Respondents specified that they feel safe in a playground that has fences and open spaces to ensure accurate visibility.

Adult survey responses selected that climbing, sliding, spinning and swinging were their family's preference for play equipment. Children and young people shared that they would like to rock, learn and balance.

Calrossi Close Reserve

Calrossi Close Reserve Playground sees mainly an older cohort of park users ranging from 3 to 12 years of age. Community responses specified that they feel safe in a playground that has open spaces to ensure accurate visibility, soft fall areas and fencing.

Respondents selected that they prefer sliding, climbing on rock climbing walls, balancing, nature play, sliding and swinging. Timber and steel style equipment were preferred.

Gracehill Mews Reserve

Gracehill Mews Reserve Playground users range from 3 to 12 years of age. Community responses specified that they feel safe in a playground that has open spaces to ensure accurate visibility, soft fall areas and fencing.

Respondents selected that they prefer sliding, climbing and swinging. Timber and steel style equipment were preferred.

Children and young people suggested the inclusion of a skatepark near the playground.

30% of respondents were or had someone with special needs, resulting in suggestions for an accessible safe inclusive of sensory and solitary play spaces.

Arch Brown Recreation Reserve

Arch Brown Recreation Reserve Playground sees a diverse cohort of users ranging from 0 to 12 years plus of age, of these users 80% use the playground weekly. Community responses specified that they feel safe in a playground that has soft fall areas, fences and open spaces to ensure accurate visibility.

Adult survey responses selected that climbing, sliding, spinning and swinging were their family's preference for play equipment. Children and young people shared that they would like to climb high, go fast down a slide and play with water. Timber and steel are the preferred equipment material.

Clifton Way Reserve

Clifton Way Reserve Playground sees mainly an older cohort of park users ranging from 5 to 17 plus years of age. Community responses specified that they feel safe in a playground that has durable equipment and open spaces to ensure accurate visibility to the street.

Respondents selected that they prefer sliding, climbing, balancing, nature play, sliding and swinging. Timber and steel style equipment were equally preferred.

A large proportion of responses requested alternative equipment within the location. Exercising equipment received 15% of the responses, bike track received 30% of the responses and zip line received 25%.

Fairholme Boulevard Meg Way Reserve

Fairholme Boulevard Meg Way Reserve Playground sees a diverse cohort of users ranging from 0 to 12 plus years of age, the playground is regularly accessed at least weekly. Community responses specified that they feel safe in a playground that is well lit and fenced.

Adult survey responses selected all play activities as important to them. Climbing, swinging and sliding being the preferred. Timber was the preferred equipment style.

40% of the survey responses suggested the inclusion of shade spaces and picnic areas.

Raisell Road Reserve

Raisell Road Reserve Playground sees a diverse cohort of users ranging from 0 to 12 years of age, using the playground daily and weekly, Community responses specified that they feel safe in a playground that has soft fall areas, fences, lighting and open spaces to ensure accurate visibility.

Adult survey responses selected all play activities as important to them. A basketball area, swinging, climbing, balancing and sliding were the highest of importance for children and young people. Timber and steel are the preferred equipment material.

40% of the survey responses suggested incorporating a basketball court/ basketball hoop.

Betula, Lochard Terrace and Buckeye Drive Reserve

Betula, Lochard Terrace and Buckeye Drive Reserve Playground saw a limited number of individual responses. The overall theme of the feedback was the community feel safe in a playground that has soft fall areas, fences and open spaces to ensure accurate visibility.

Both timber and steel are the preferred equipment type. Sliding, climbing, swinging and nature play are the preferred play elements.

Toilet facilities, water play, and undercover structure are a high priority for users when selecting a park to attend.

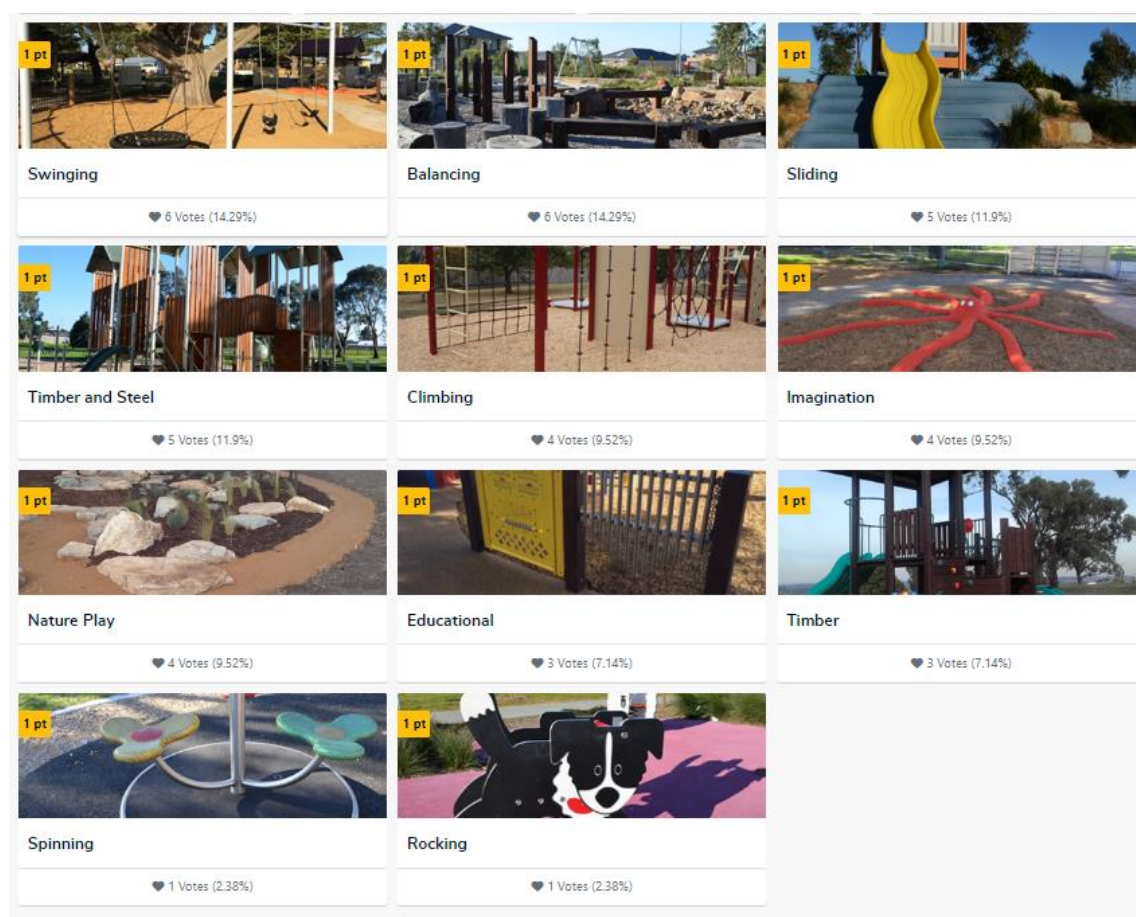
Wilson Botanic Park

Wilson Botanic Playground sees a diverse cohort of users ranging from 0 to 18 years of age. Community responses specified that they feel safe in a playground that has soft fall areas, all age accessible equipment, fences and open spaces to ensure accurate visibility.

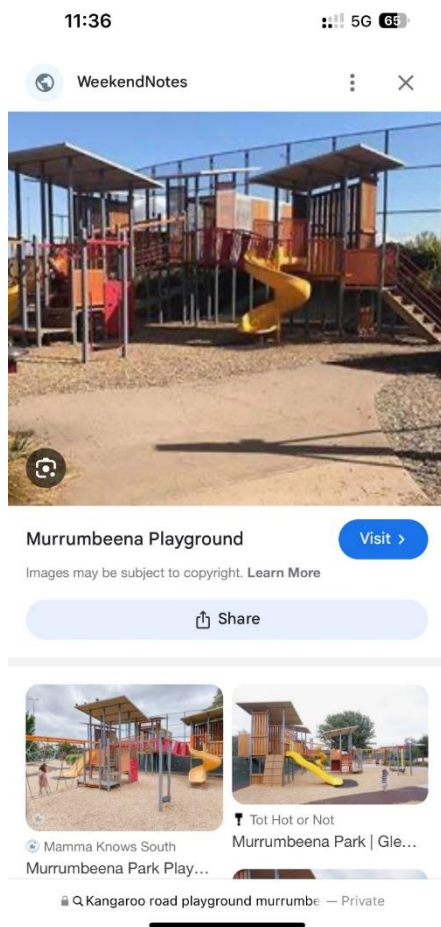
Respondents love the unique natural charm of the current playground. A preferred new design would have to include timber, natural elements and the same amount of large tree and/or shade sail coverage. The community requested to keep rotundas, toilet facilities and open grass areas around the place space.

An accessible adventure play style playground with more equipment was preferred by 82% of survey responses.

5.2 Fund It Tool Suggested Priorities for Playground Equipment



5.3 Dream Playground Uploads



- Photos of swings, slides and zip lines inspired from Murrumbeena Kangaroo Road playground.

[NO IMAGE PROVIDED]

- Please put toilets at Eliston District Park Playground. It's set up to play all day but not practical at all with no toilets.



- All age inclusiveness of Wellington Botanic Garden. Fantastic for toddlers and older age children. Need to consider for our district level playgrounds.

6 Consultation evaluation

This report presents the findings from community feedback gathered during community engagement on the Local Playground Redesign from 26 July - 25 August 2024

6.1 Casey Conversations project page

