CITY OF MARION



Graham Watts Reserve
Community Consultation Findings - April 2024

Contents

1. Executive Summary 3
2. Introduction 4
3. Consultation Program 4
4. Consultation Overview 4
5. Consultation Findings 4
6 Community Drop In Session 10
7. Design Response 10
8. Next Steps 12
9. Project Updates 12

Appendix 1 – All responses Q2
Appendix 2 – All responses Q4

1. Executive Summary

Graham Watts Reserve is located on York Street, Clovelly Park, adjacent to Cosgrove Hall. A new playground and reserve upgrade is currently being planned, for development in 2024/25 financial year.

Draft Concept Plan

The draft concept plan includes the following elements:

- Combination play unit with slide, monkey bars, and climbing net
- Kangaroo themed nature play trail
- Seating and balancing logs
- Native planting
- New line markings and games on the existing basketball court
- New pathways
- Drinking fountain and bench seats
- Options of basket swing or standard swing with toddler seat
- Options of see saw or junior kangaroo rocker

Site History

On this site during 1830-70s the Kangaroo Inn was located here and was a key landmark, the land was later named "Kangaroo Grove". In 1955 the Marion High School was established on this site which included a zoo, home to many native plants and animals including kangaroos.

The draft concept design has a kangaroo theme to reflect the rich history of this site.

Community Engagement

We undertook one round of community engagement from 20 February – 19 March 2024. The purpose of this engagement was to present the draft concept plan for community feedback. The engagement was promoted via a postcard delivered within a 400m radius, Making Marion information and online survey, sign on site and social media posts.

During the community consultation, we received 31 survey responses:

- 48.4% (12 respondents) were satisfied / very satisfied (3 respondents) with the concept plan, 41.9% (13 respondents) were neutral and 9.7% (3 respondents) were not satisfied.

- The top 3 items in the concept plan that respondents liked included:
  1. Overall improvements including – better use of the space, good design, upgraded equipment / diversity of equipment
  2. Native landscaping/ gardens
  3. Retention of the basketball court / improvements to the court surface

- 54.8% (17 respondents) preferred the standard swing with toddler seat.

The majority of respondents were:

- Between 40-55 years old (58.1%)
- Live in Clovelly Park (71%)

We will now update the concept plan based on the feedback and proceed to detailed design.

2. Introduction

The City of Marion is planning a reserve upgrade at Graham Watts Reserve, Clovelly Park next financial year 2024/25. A concept plan was developed for community feedback, key elements of the design include:

- Combination play unit with slide, monkey bars, and climbing net
- Kangaroo themed nature play trail
- Seating and balancing logs
- Native planting
- New line markings and games on the existing basketball court
- New pathways
- Drinking fountain and bench seats
- Options of basket swing or standard swing with toddler seat
- Options of see saw or junior kangaroo rocker

Council received 31 responses to the online survey.

3. Consultation Program

The community engagement was undertaken over four weeks from 20 February – 19 March 2024.

It included:

- An information postcard sent to households within a 400m^2 radius from the reserve
- Information on the Making Marion website
- An online survey
- Facebook posts (including a paid post targeting the local area at the beginning of the consultation)
- Onsite signage
- Community drop in session on 5 March 2024 4-6pm

4. Consultation Overview

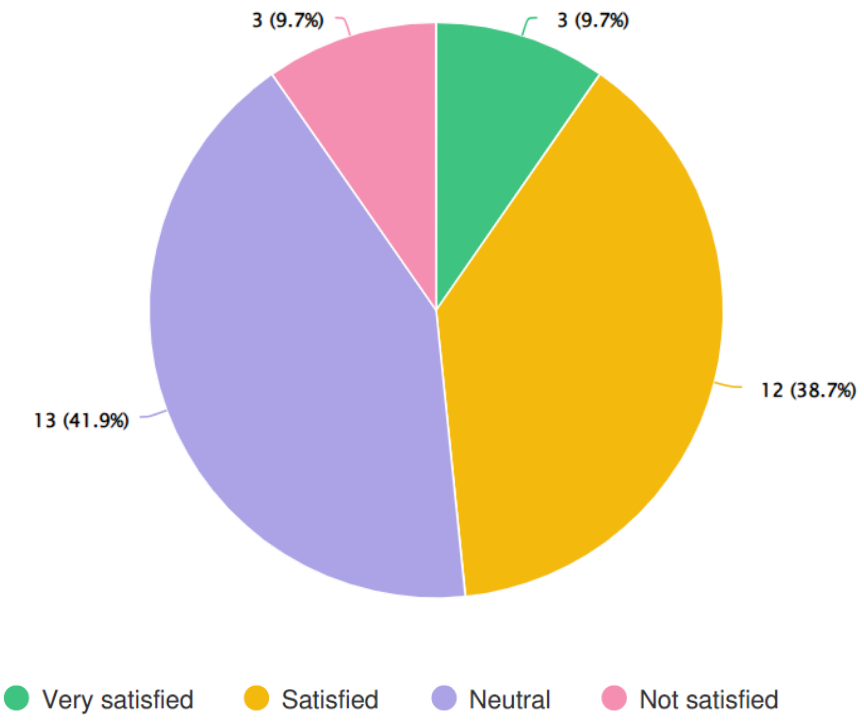
During the consultation period Council received:

- 233 visits to the Making Marion Page
- 31 survey responses
- Approximately 10 people attended the community drop in session

5. Consultation Findings

Each question is listed with the corresponding graph and results summary.

Q1. How satisfied are you with the concept plan for Graham Watts Reserve?



Summary of results

A total of 31 respondents completed this question:

48.4% (15 respondents) were either satisfied or very satisfied with the concept plan

41.9% (13 respondents) were neutral

9.7% (3 respondents) were not satisfied

Q2. What do you like about the concept plan?

Summary of results

We received 26 text responses to this question. The top 3 items in the concept plan that respondents liked included:

1. Overall improvements including – better use of the space, good design, upgraded equipment / diversity of equipment
2. Native landscaping/ gardens
3. Retention of the basketball court / improvements to the court surface

Below is summary of the responses received:

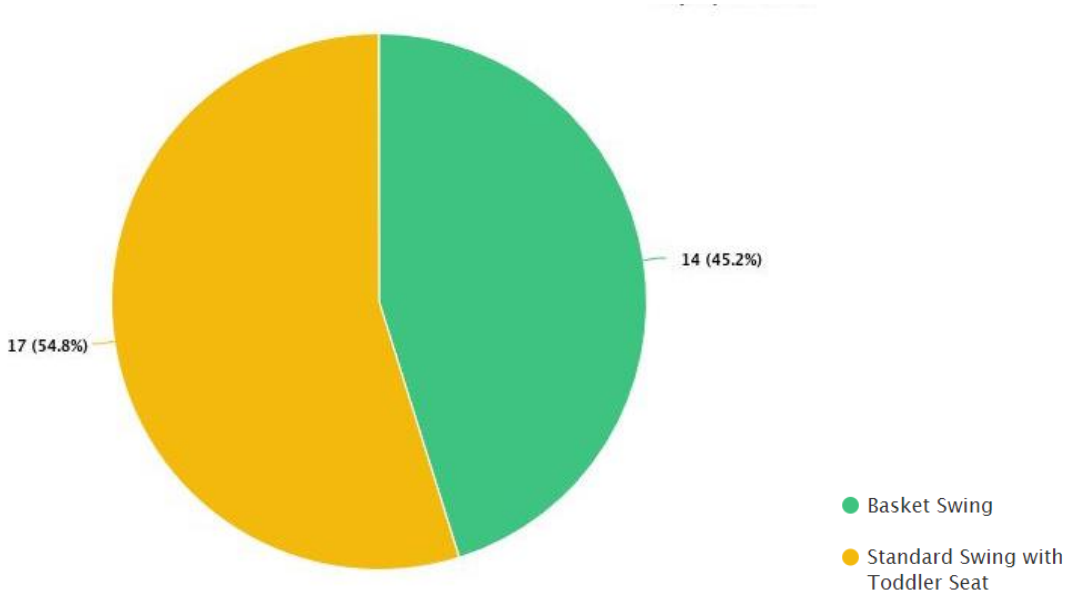
Item	No of Responses
Overall improvements including – better use of the space, a good design, upgraded equipment / diversity of equipment	16
Native landscaping/ gardens	6
Retention of the basketball court and improvements to the surface	3
Drinking fountain	3
Basket Swing	2
Needs a toilet added	2
Slide with stairs	2
Kangaroo long jump	1
More fun for children	1
Lot of activities for families and use of natural elements	1
Seating	1
Greater accessibility	1
Kangaroo theme	1
Needs a community garden	1
Hope the new path will be considerably wider to allow for bikes, hope for more shade and vegetation	1

From the respondents who were neutral or not satisfied, below is a summary of the responses received (which provide an indication of why they selected “neutral” or “not satisfied”):

Item	No of Responses
Toilet	7
Adequate night time lighting	5
Would like to see more equipment/ space at this site	4
Need a fence to stop basketballs flying into the carpark/ new basketball net needed	4
BBQ	3
Keep shop play area/ under croft play in new play tower	3
Add a shelter to the play tower	1
Bike track needs an upgrade	1
Nature play needs to be properly developed	1
Add a shelter to the play tower	1

Refer to Appendix 1 to view a full list of the text responses

Q3. Do you prefer a basket or standard swing (with toddler seat) within the play space?



Summary of results

A total of 31 respondents completed this question:

54.8% (17 respondents) would like a standard swing with toddler seat.

45.2% (14 respondents) would like a basket swing

Q4. Do you have any other comments or feedback?

Below is a summary of the 26 comments received from survey respondents. The number next to the comment refers to the number of times the feedback was mentioned.

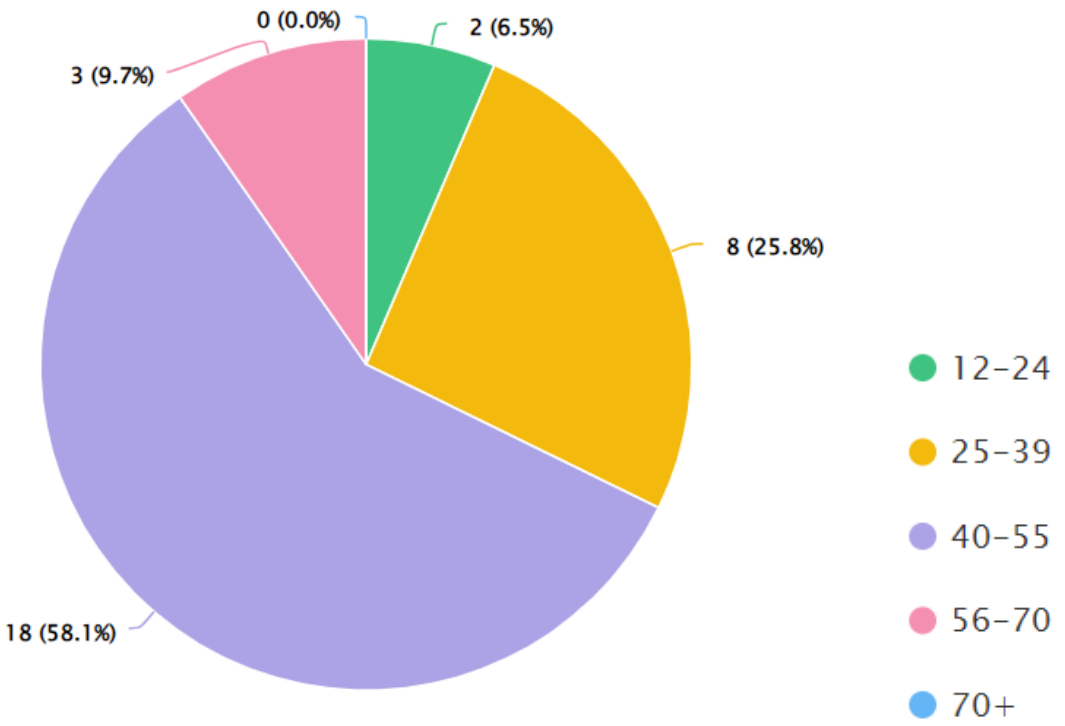
<table>
<tr><th colspan="2">Comments Summary</th></tr>
<tr><td>PLAYGROUND / BASKETBALL</td><td>FACILITIES / AMENITIES / NATURE/TRAFFIC/PARKING</td></tr>
<tr><td>Playground:
Add items for older children (1)
Make it toddler friendly (1)
Add spaceship(1)
Exercise Equipment(1)
Pirate ship (1)
Shop / cubby / role play (3)
More developed nature play (1)
Include kangaroo rocker and sea saw (1)
Like the nature play (1)
Cover for playground (1)
Noughts and crosses game (1)

Basketball:
New basketball net eg chain / new concrete surface or painted surface (4)
High fence behind the basketball ring is needed to stop balls going into carpark (3)

Bike track needs upgrade (1)</td><td>Add a toilet (10)
Lighting for security (7)
Needs BBQ facilities (4)
Drinking fountain is a good addition (2)
Dog friendly / equipment for dogs/ water bowls (2)
Provide facilities for older / people with disability (1)
More turf (1)
Shade structure (1)</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">GENERAL COMMENTS</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Design subtracts more than it gives (1)
Need more open space for community due to T2D project close by (2)
Fantastic draft (1)</td></tr>
</table>

Refer to Appendix 2 to view a full list of the text responses

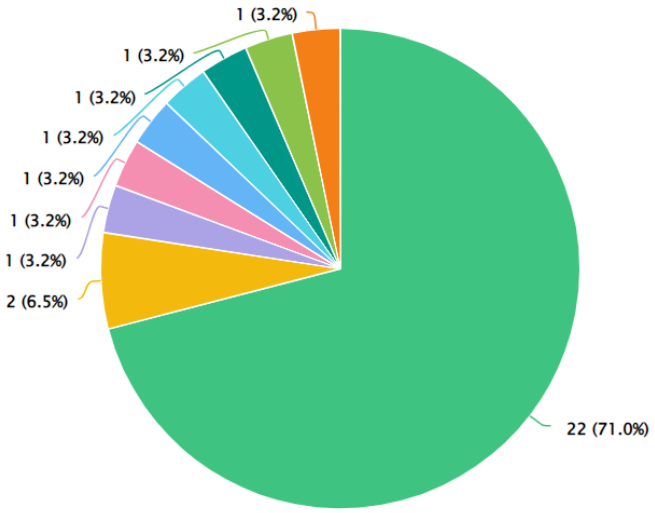
Q5. Age



Summary of results

- 58.1% (18 respondents) were aged 40-55
- 25.8%(8 respondents) were aged 25-39
- 9.7% (3 respondents) were 56-70 years
- 6.5% (2 respondents) were 12-24 years

Q6. Suburb



Summary of results

The majority of respondents were from Clovelly Park (71%, 22 respondents).

6. Community Drop In Session

Approximately 10 people attended the community drop in session on 5 March 2024. Feedback from the community included requests for:

- Fencing behind the basketball court
- Upgraded surface / line marking on the basketball court
- Landscaping along neighbouring fence lines for screening
- Toilets
- More shade / shade structures
- Additional playground equipment eg – more swings
- Upgrades to bike track

While the community are supportive of the improvements taking place, there were concerns regarding the impact of the T2D project and the need for additional community spaces/open space in the area. The community did want neighbourhood service level improvements to the site with additional swings, larger playspace, shade structures and fencing. However, overall everyone was supportive of the concept and that the space was being upgraded soon.

7. Design Response

Some key themes emerged multiple times throughout the consultation and evaluation process.

Overall summary of key themes and the design response:

Key Theme	***Design response***
Add a public toilet	An upgrade for Cosgrove Hall is scheduled for feasibility, planning and design in future financial years (subject to budget approval). Council will also be considering public toilet facilities at this location.
Add lighting for security	Existing lighting along the reserve pathway adjoining the playspace will be retained. Upgrades and changes to lighting will be considered.
Include BBQ facilities	Given the number of comments recieved regarding a BBQ, we will consider inclusion of this item (depending on available budget / approval by Council).
Provide further improvements to basketball court / fence behind basketball ring	A fence between the basketball and backboard and new basketball ring will be considered as part of the final reserve design subject to budget.
Make the site Dog friendly and include equipment for dogs and water bowls	A dog bowl can be included on the drink fountain. As this is a dog on leash park, the location of the drink fountain would need to be relocated at least 5m away from the playground in the final design.
Provide facilities for older / people with disability	The playground design has considered inclusivity with the addition of new widened accessible

	pathways, wheelchair friendly drink fountain, additional seating and stairs on the main play tower. While we aim to provide inclusive options as much as possible, we are limited in regards to budget for local level reserve upgrades.
More turf	Turf will not grow well under the established trees so there will be no additional turf installed as part of the playground upgrade.
Shade structure	The playground upgrade is a local service level. Local play spaces generally have natural shade only. The reserve has high levels of natural shade, and the playground is located within the reserve to benefit from this. We have plans to incorporate additional trees near the playground to provide even greater shade within the reserve. The existing shelter will also be retained as part of the playground upgrade.
Playground: Add items for older children Make it toddler friendly Add spaceship Add Exercise Equipment Include a Pirate ship Include a shop / cubby / role play More developed nature play Include kangaroo rocker and sea saw Cover for playground Noughts and crosses game	The community have indicated a preference for a swing with a toddler seat which will be included in the playground upgrade. The community also indicated their preference for a see saw, however consideration will be made to include both the junior kangaroo rocker and see saw subject to budget. The inclusion of an under croft shop front or noughts and crosses game to the main play structure will be considered for inclusion in the final design. The nature play will be developed further as part of the final design. As this is a Local Level playground, the extent and complexity of nature play will be subject to budget and will consider maintenance service levels. The kangaroo theme and natural landscaping was generally well received by the community. The final playground upgrade will maintain this theme and include a variety of different play experiences. A spaceship or pirate ship will not be included in the playground upgrade.

8. Next Steps

We thank all that provided their feedback and participated in the engagement process.

The feedback will help finalise the Graham Watts Reserve Concept Plan to progress to detailed design.

9. Project Updates

Project updates will be provided through the Graham Watts Reserve page on the City of Marion website and Making Marion webpage.

Appendix 1
All 26 text responses to Question 2: What do you like about the concept plan?

How it doesn't remove the basketball ring

It's a bit underwhelming. I hope the new path will be considerably wider to allow for bikes. I hope there's more vegetation and shade coming to tie in with the north south motorway project

How it will be fun for kids

It needs an upgrade

Space hopefully

It makes more use of the available space

Drinking water option, more play area, updated equipment, Basket swing.

Basketball court, Basket swing, swing and slides.

Renewal of playground and more native gardens

I like the addition of the kangaroo long jump and the addition of the nature play. A drink fountain is also a great addition. Extra native planting is also good. The stairs up to the slide is also great. My kids currently use that one all the time.

All of it

Better landscaping and equipment

Lots of activities for families and using natural elements

The design is good.

More person friendly. Native gardens

In need of an upgrade.

Glad it’s happening. Water fountain

New to be upgraded playspace. As someone who takes two kids to Graham watts reserve every week, this is a fantastic plan. Kids will love it. Thank you Marion Council for considering the upgrade. It was so needed.

Native plantings and updated safe equipment

Seating, court markings and generally a good plan

Accessibility

I like the kangaroo theme and the range of play equipment. It has a variety of equipment suitable for all ages but definitely needs a toilet. Families will not come if there is no access to a public toilet.

More play area, native aspects

Variety of equipment for different ages

In general the implementation of re designing this parkI genuine like the design however the omission of public toilets and planning for a future community garden knocks it down to neutral.

Appendix 2

Appendix 2 – All 26 text responses - Do you have any other comments or feedback?

The design subtracts more than it gives. It doesn't address the current issue of basketballs flying into the carpark and kids running around cars to get their ball. A high fence behind the ring has been needed for a long time. The bike track needs upgrade

You can redo the basketball concrete and new basketball net

A toilet would be very handy

Use by older special needs people who live nearby waterway play

Could you add slightly older kids activities an use more of the park area

Need BBQ facilities

Please make it toddler friendly too many playgrounds are becoming just nature play what has happened to good ol fashioned playgrounds I would love Marion council to get a train like crozier Ave has in daw park little kids live this

Please consider BBQ setup, if you really thinking of T2D project, all neighbours around this reserve will be in a suffocation of high fencing and pollution. People living around this area need to entertain at the park with family, more space needed.

Spaceship, exercise equipment, pirate ship, BBQ facility, toilet. make more space with more equipment and turfing. Adequate lights in the night.

Needs to be a fence behind the basketball ring, as the balls fly off into the car park. I would hope to see the nature play space as properly developed and not just a few stepping stones and logs in the ground. Would also love a 'shop' play area kept.

Better basketball court

have a fence behind the basketball court to stop balls going into car park, have a chain basket net to reduce the chance the ball going into car park, paint the basketball court in blue, have a BBQ next to the rotunda

A public toilet needs to be installed if you want to encourage families to use the reserve as the closest is an OTR business on South Road, St Marys. More brighter lighting.

There is room for a kangaroo rocker and a seesaw

Dog friendly

Put some things in for dogs to play on, we have two frenchies who like going down the slide that’s there now., dog water point and water for people to drink., some shaded cover.

Our kids love the shop underneath. So maybe some role play ideas in the new jungle gym?

Fantastic draft

Public toilets needed for families and better lighting in the Carpark and playground area for security

I would like to see public toilets added and better lighting

A public toilet would be extremely beneficial which along with better lighting would entice more people
Better lighting, basketball space and public toilets