

Earlington Square Reserve Playspace

Community Feedback

Between the 25 July and 19 August 2022, Melton City Council shared a proposed landscape plan to upgrade the existing park with the local community of Earlington Square Reserve, Burnside.

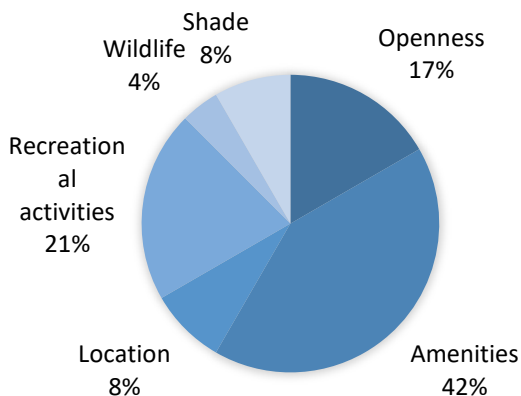
Feedback was collected via an online survey, a hard copy flyer, email, phone and at a weekend session held at Earlington Square Reserve. A total of 20 responses were received from the community. Below is a summary of the feedback that was collected. This feedback helps Council to understand what is important to the community and why, as well as identify any other opportunities for improvements. The feedback is reviewed and will be used to update the park design.

Project Scope

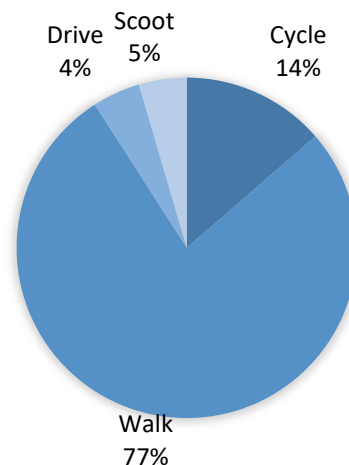
The project scope includes the provision of a variety of accessible play experiences for a broader range of ages, exercise equipment, additional picnic facilities, upgrades to the footpath network, additional tree planting for shade and an improved turfed kick-about space.

Project Proposal Feedback

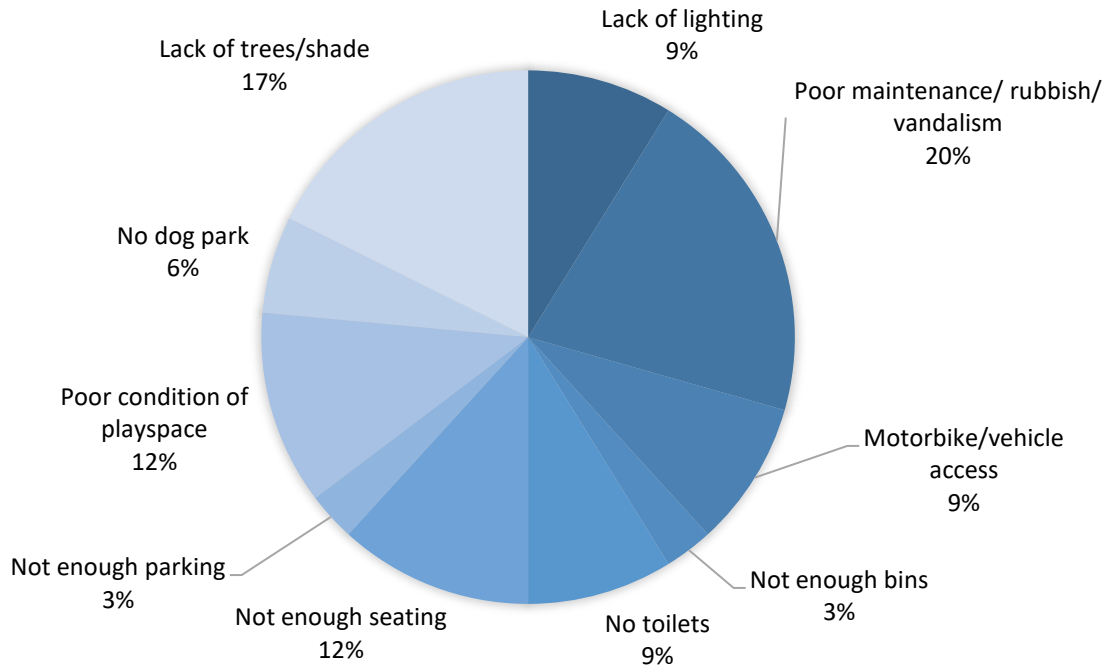
What the community loves about the park in its current form



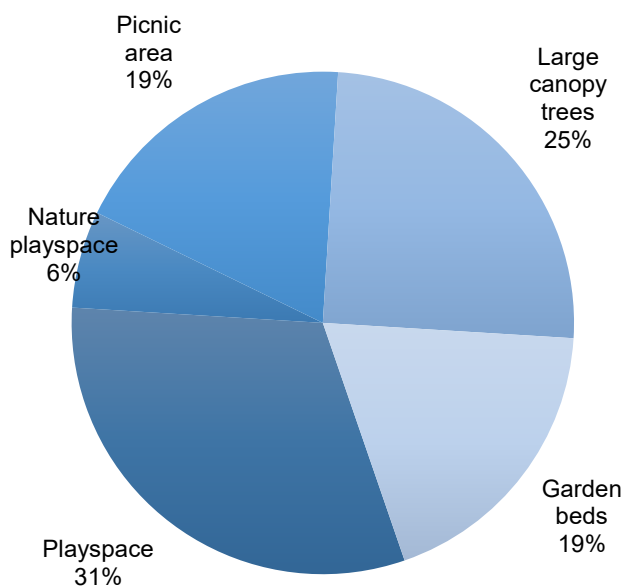
How the community travels to the park



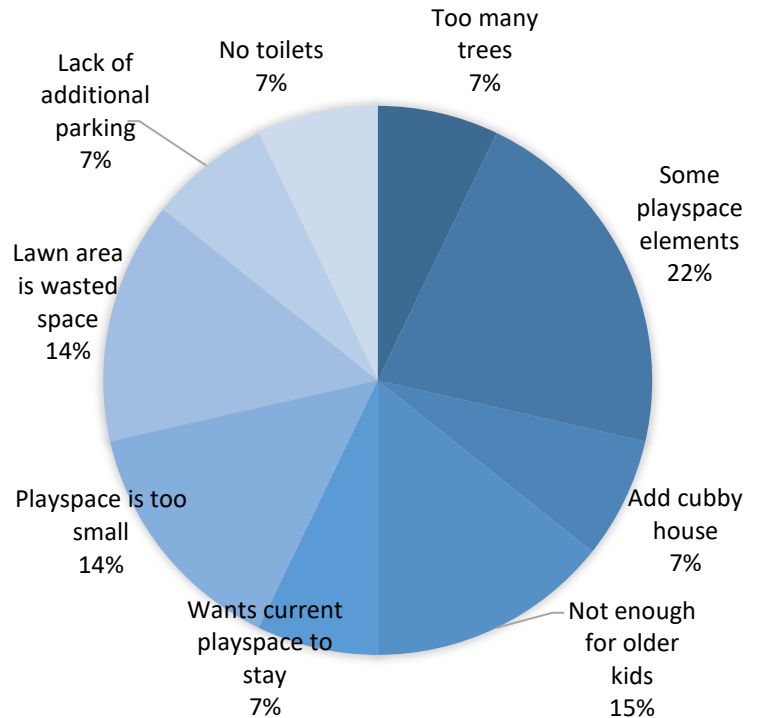
What the community didn't like about the park in its current form



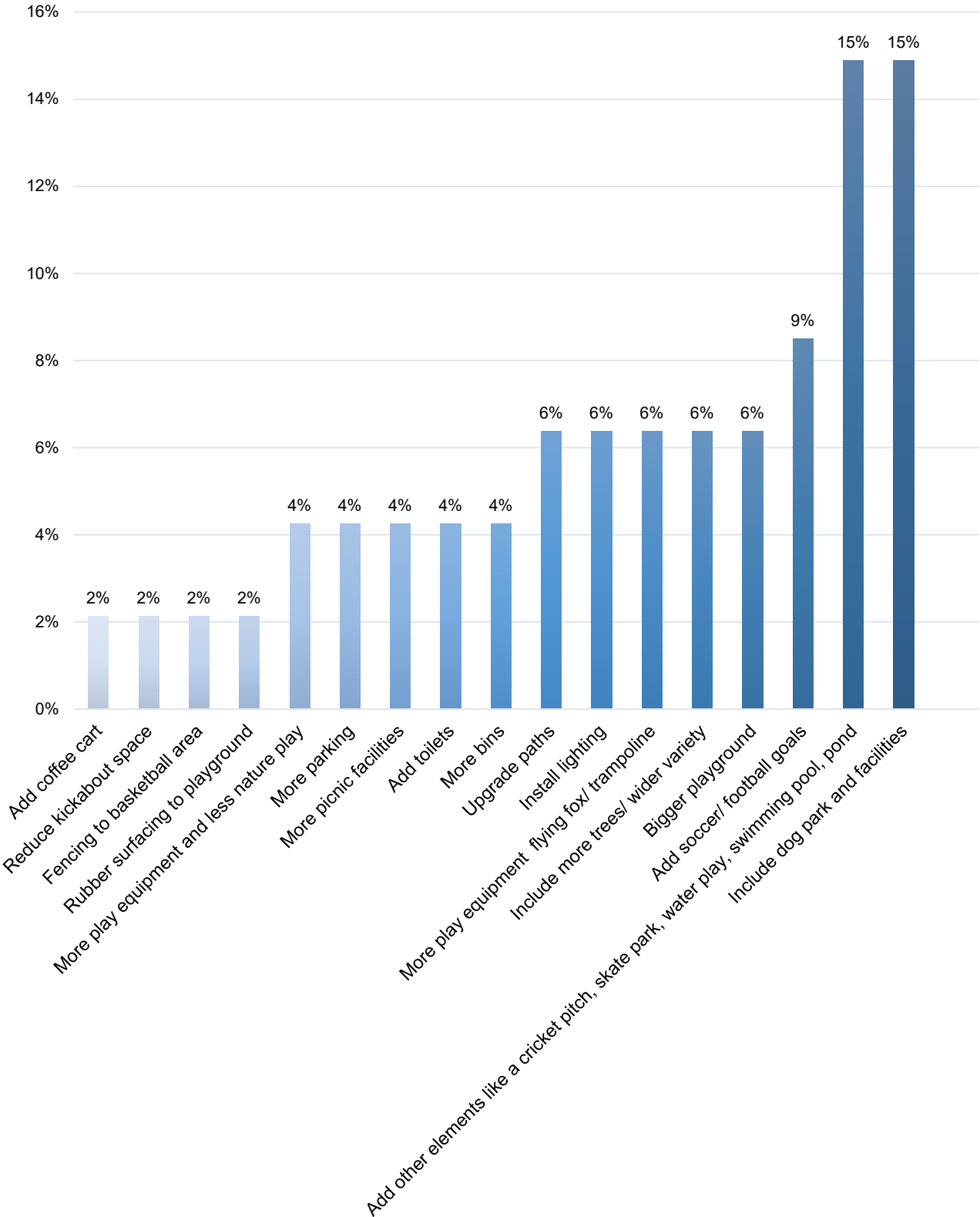
What the community likes about the proposed landscape plan



What the community doesn't like about the proposed landscape plan



The communities suggestions for other improvement



Feedback Summary and Response

The below table is a summary of the community's suggestions and other feedback received. Council have reviewed these responses and provided a response as it related to the projects purpose and budget.

Subject	Community Feedback	Melton City Council Review Response
Play Space	Current playground only caters to younger children/ Playspace is old and dated	Additional playground equipment will be included to cater to a greater variety of ages and abilities.
	Include water play	Water play is generally not located in local reserves as they are better suited to regional playspaces where there is other supporting infrastructure such as car parking and picnic facilities to accommodate large numbers of visitors.
	Bigger Play space/ More play equipment/ Less nature play	The playground area will be enlarged with some equipment upgraded and other new elements installed. Nature play elements are an important component to diverse play spaces and can help improve the landscape setting of the playground and provide opportunities for imaginative and unstructured play.
	Rubber under-surfacing to play space	Rubber under-surfacing will be used strategically at the play space to improve accessibility and in areas of high wear, such as under swings.
Picnic Space	BBQ under cover/ more picnic facilities	This will be considered in the development of the design.
	Add coffee cart	This is outside the scope of the project and will not be considered in the design.
Vegetation	Provide more shade	This will be considered in the development of the design.
	More trees, especially evergreen	Additional tree locations and species selection will be considered in the development of the design.
	More greenery/gardens	This will be considered in the development of the design.
	Improve grass surface/kickabout space poor condition	Improvements and renewal of grass areas will be considered in the development of the design.
Park Facilities	Include more seating	This will be considered in the development of the design.
	More bins	This will be considered in the development of the design.
	Include a drinking fountain	This is proposed as part of the current concept.
	Include toilets	Toilets are typically installed in large reserves with high visitation where users may often drive and spend an extended time in the space. This reserve is classified as a Local Park, providing open space close to people's homes where they can use their own facilities.
	Lighting to path/basketball court	Typically, only shared paths for cycles and pedestrians are lit. The perimeter footpaths with street lighting provide a lit route for use after dark. Lighting in parks and to basketball courts could attract anti-social activity at night.
	Cars/motorbikes entering reserve	Perimeter fencing and barriers are proposed as part of the design to deter vehicle access.
	Damage/vandalism/dumping	Council will consider how anti-social activity can be deterred in the development of the design.
	Provide a dog off lead space	Melton City Council is currently preparing a Dog Off Lead Strategy that will identify appropriate locations and distribution of dog off-lead spaces and supporting facilities.
	Insufficient parking/more parking	The reserve primarily services a local catchment accessible to most users within a walkable area. Parking around the perimeter of the reserve is considered suitable for usage levels. Reducing the size of the open space to provide additional parking is not supported by Council. Bicycle parking at the reserve will be considered in the development of the design to improve sustainable transport options.

	Uneven paths	Path renewal will be considered in the development of the design.
Other Comments	Add soccer/football goals	This will be considered in the development of the design.
	Basketball area barrier to stop balls on road	This will be considered in the development of the design.
	Add other elements – cricket pitch/skate park/ swimming pool/ pond	These elements are not consistent with recommendations for this size of reserve and would not be considered feasible for this space.