

Kensington Park and Oval: Plan of Management

Community Consultation 17 June to 1 July 2016

Consultation highlights

In June this year, Council undertook to consult with the community to help prepare a draft Plan of Management for Kensington Park and Oval. Specifically, we wanted to know how residents and visitors use the park, what you love about it, and what improvements you would like to see.

A dedicated YourSay website was developed to capture the community's feedback:

www.yoursayrandwick.com.au/kensingtonpark

We had:

- A total of 630 visits to the [yoursayrandwick.com.au/kensingtonpark](http://www.yoursayrandwick.com.au/kensingtonpark) webpage
- 114 maximum visits in one day (on 22 June)
- 162 survey submissions
- 9 ideas shared
- 1 story shared

The survey results told us:

- 67% of respondents use the park on a weekly or daily basis
- Most use the park for exercise (98 responses), as well as the kid's playground (61 responses)
- Most get to the park by walking (128 responses)
- Residents want to maintain or increase the number of trees, want more open space for passive recreation and a continuous circular walking track.

We also conducted a focus group comprised of 10 residents, who shared what they would love to see for Kensington Park:

- Footpath/walking track around park
- Outdoor gym
- Shaded picnic facilities and BBQs, more bins, water bubblers
- A community garden
- More trees

Finally, Council received a group submission from the Kensington Park Local Resident Group, representing 46 residents. Key issues raised by the group included:

- The Park should accommodate the needs of long term local residents
- Activities should be appropriate for the surrounding residential setting
- Kensington Oval should be the only space for organised sports in the Park
- More seats, shaded areas and increased opportunities for passive recreation.
- The mid-block pathway that connects Eastern Avenue to Cottenham Avenue should be maintained and footpaths should be constructed on all sides of the Park
- The outdoor gym facilities for all ages as approved in DA/87/2015 should be constructed in a parallel timeframe to the construction of the community centre.

Next steps:

Based on the community feedback, a draft Plan of Management for Kensington Park is currently being prepared by Council's Strategic Planning team, and will include a Landscape Concept Plan to guide future improvement and capital works in and around the Park. It is anticipated that the draft Plan (including the Landscape Concept) will be placed on public consultation in early August 2016.