

TIMES SQUARE PARK UPGRADE

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY REPORT



PROJECT BACKGROUND:

The Times Square Park upgrade project will deliver a new local level playground in Sanctuary Lakes.

The works are in response to a request from Sanctuary Lakes Resort Services who have identified a lack of playground assets for the community of Sanctuary Lakes.

The playground design will take into consideration landscape improvements to Times Square Park identified by Sanctuary Lakes Resort Services.

The purpose of this initial engagement was to:

- Seek feedback from the community about the upcoming park upgrade,
- Determine how Times Square Park is currently being utilised and how the community would like to see it used in the future, and,
- Gain feedback to inform the desired play experiences and inform future draft design of the upgrade to ensure they're meeting community expectations

Phase 1 of community engagement was undertaken in October and November of 2021 to identify what equipment would best suit the community. Detailed design will commence early in 2022 with further community engagement planned for mid-2022. The project will be delivered in the 2022/23 financial year.



METHODOLOGY:

The below table outlines the various methods and techniques used to engage with the community.

Community engagement activities / tools	
Method / technique	Stakeholders engaged
Project page on The Loop	846 total visitors to the page 1,141 page views 52 followers
Online survey	80 surveys completed
Community drop in session	17 residents attended
Sanctuary Lakes Resort Services meetings	2 meetings with staff
Letter box drop	Letters notifying residents of the project was posted to all residences within 1km of the Reserve
Direct contact from residents	9 residents contacted Council officers via email and phone to give their feedback

Communications / marketing activities	
Method / technique	Stakeholders engaged
Online promotion (Facebook posts)	Wyndham residents
Site posters and postcards	Local residents

SUMMARY OF FEEDBACK:

The following feedback will help to shape the concept design for the park. Once complete the plan will be made available for further community input.

We Asked	You Said	We will
How would you like to play in Times Square park in the future?	<p>Most popular answers were:</p> <p>Exploring, playing games, running, climbing, swinging, with trees and swings.</p>	This feedback will be used to influence the design of the park upgrades as well as any plans to improve and upgrade the park in the future.
What playground features would you like to see in Times Square park?	<p>Most popular answers were:</p> <p>Nature play, picnic settings, slides, climbing nets and basketball or netball hoops.</p>	This feedback will be used to influence the design of the park upgrades as well as any plans to improve and upgrade the park in the future.
What age range best describes the playground users you would visit the new Times Square Park with?	<p>Under 5 years old – 19 responses</p> <p>5-10 years old – 18 responses</p> <p>Over 10 years old – 35 responses</p>	This feedback will be used to influence the design of the park upgrades as well as any plans to improve and upgrade the park in the future.

Additional feedback

There was strong community support for:

- Retaining the open space for games – community members wanting to retain the large uninterrupted grass space
- A table tennis table
- Intergenerational play as many in the park were grandparents not just parents
- The importance of place and nature, and not delivering a standard metal/plastic playground
- Further consultation when a design is developed
- Park benches/seating
- Retaining the tranquil feel of the space

Council will continue to work closely with Sanctuary Lakes Resort Services to investigate feasible parking and access improvements that may be required to support the local park upgrade.

NEXT STEPS:

- Council will use the feedback provided by this consultation to inform the draft design for the park upgrade.
- The draft concept design will be shared on The Loop to keep the community informed.
- A community drop-in session will be held to discuss draft concept design options concept
- Feedback from community engagement will inform the final design
- The project will be delivered in the 2022/23 financial year.

Contact details for further information

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