

Howley Park Beautification Works

Community Consultation Report

February 2022



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Background

Howley Park is located at the end of Victoria Place, Drummoyne and has been an iconic part of the City of Canada Bay's history. The site is linked to First Nations Dreaming history, was a major transport hub during Sydney's early colonial history and was the site of the original Gladesville Bridge.

This project aims to activate Howley Park East by constructing a pedestrian walkway to connect Victoria Place Road Reserve to the beach and marina as well as upgrading existing garden beds. Six potential concept designs were drafted for the space, which were taken to the community to refine the design.

The consultation ran from 22 December 2021 – 20 February 2022.

Consultation methods

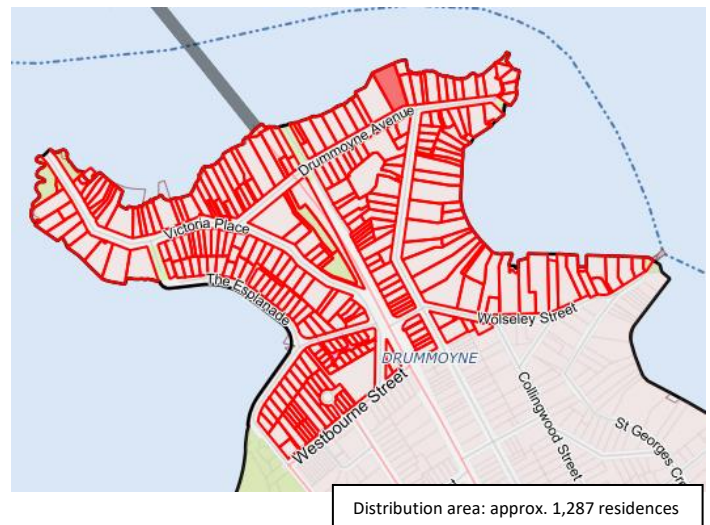
- Collaborate survey
- Feedback via phone and email

Notification methods

The following methods were implemented to notify the community of this consultation:

- Notification letter delivered to 1,287 residents
- Site poster
- Collaborate project page:
collaborate.canadabay.nsw.gov.au/howley-park-east
- Social media posts on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter
- City of Canada Bay enews (January)
- City of Canada Bay News (February)
- Direct email to Gladesville Marina and resident group

See appendix A for more detail.



Consultation summary

Total contributions

This consultation received 48 contributions in total, 42 survey submissions and 6 pieces of feedback received via email.

Collaborate reach

- 1,483 page views
- 1,106 unique site visitors
- 40 people following the project for updates

Newsletter reach

- City of Canada Bay enews (January) emailed to 1,376 residents
- City of Canada Bay Newsletter (February) delivered to 36,400 households

Social media reach

This consultation was promoted via the following Council social media channels:

- Facebook – 4 x posts
- Instagram – 2 x posts
- Twitter – 2 x posts

Collectively, these social posts reached over 29,500 people and achieved 2,994 engagements (post likes, comments, and shares).

See appendix B for more detail.

Results

Community survey

Respondent demographics

Relationship to the area:

- 60% live in Drummoyne
- 26% live in the City of Canada Bay
- 10% own a property in Drummoyne
- 2% own a business in Drummoyne

Gender:

- 43% female
- 50% male

Preferred concept design

1. Which is your preferred design option? Required

Multi Choice | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 42 (100%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Option A	19.05%	8
Option B	7.14%	3
Option C	11.90%	5
Option D	14.29%	6
Option E	16.67%	7
Option F	14.29%	6
Not sure	16.67%	7
Total	100.00%	42

Summary of feedback:

Numbers indicate the number of respondents which expressed the same idea.

Preferred concept design	Reasons for selection
Option A	• Inclusion of artwork (3) • Sympathetic to existing landscape (2) • Sandstone wall, lookout and beach access (1)
Option B	• Inclusion of viewing platform (2) • Visually appealing (2) • Materials (1)
Option C	• Maximises use of the space (3) • Inclusion of garden bed (1) • Pedestrian entry from Victoria Place (1) • Appears more sympathetic to existing landscape (1)
Option D	• Existing tree is maintained (4) • Less open space and more space dedicated to native shrubs (2) • Easterly direction of entry ramp (1)
Option E	• Existing trees are maintained (5) • Curved path down to water (3) • Amount of greenery included (2)
Option F	• Maximises use of the space (4) • Retains open space (1) • Reduces options for pedestrians to bypass paths and create "shortcuts" through shrubbery (1)
Not sure	• Access, inclusion and recognition of indigenous landowners is essential (2) • Prefer to use existing natural features where possible (1) • Design options reduce green space and beach (1) • Design options don't allow for fishing or kayaks (1)

Common ideas (expressed through 2 or more submissions):

- Need to retain green space, trees, and wildlife (3)
- Proposed ramp dominates the space (3)
- More bench seating (2)
- Design should connect Howley Park East and West (2)
- Net off the area to make it safe to swim (2)

Other feedback:

- Water station
- Bins
- Sustainable materials should be used for the retaining wall, fencing, seating etc
- Beach access should be a more natural bush track
- No bright LED lights
- Need input from local indigenous groups

Feedback via phone/email

14 submissions were received via email and responses are summarised below. Numbers indicate the number of respondents which expressed the same idea.

Preferred concept design	Reasons for selection
Option A	• Raised lawn facilitates easier access for emergency vehicles (1)
Option B	• Lookout is on the same level as the ramp (1)
Option C	• Lookout is on the same level as the ramp (1) • Provides seating with closest view of the water (1)

Common ideas (expressed through 2 or more submissions):

- Design should connect Howley Park East and West (8)
- The ramp and walking paths overpower the space in all design options and the space should be maximised by reclaiming a portion of the driveway (7)
- Design needs to facilitate recreation such as kayaking (4)
- Design should be kept as natural as possible to enhance what is already there (4)
- Design should be kept simple with no need for interpretative signage or art (3)
- Accessibility needs to be adequately addressed (3)
- Garden beds are unnecessary (2)
- Secure kayak storage should be considered, possibly supported by a kayak share initiative: <https://kayakshareclub.org/about-us> (2)
- Retain existing native plant species (2)
- Shark net to make the area safe for swimmers (1)

Other feedback:

- Additional planting of trees and shrubbery should be prioritised over garden beds, to attract birds
- Access to the furthest rocky outcrop (eastmost outcrop facing the bridge) should be explored as it is a popular fishing spot
- Imported sand would improve the beach
- Water quality should be tested regularly

Conclusion

This consultation did not reveal a clear community preference for any of the draft concept designs, however specific elements were noted as being highly important. Many community members expressed a desire to retain existing trees and plantings and there is a strong preference to keep the design natural to enhance the park. Several residents would also like to see the First Nations history of the space recognised and accessibility more adequately addressed.

The community would like to maximise green space, with many respondents noting that the proposed ramp dominates the draft designs and limits green space and beach area. In line with this

idea, residents closest to the park would like to see part of Victoria Place used to connect Howley Park East and West to create a more complete recreational space.

The community is excited about this project and the opportunity it brings for relaxation, recreation and to enjoy a beautiful part of Drummoyne that is not currently used to its full potential.

Appendices

A. Communication materials

Site poster

Howley Park East

Beautification works

Community consultation
23 December 2021 - 20 February 2022

The City of Canada Bay has obtained funding from the NSW Government's Department of Planning, Industry and Environment to bring Howley Park East to life for the community.

This project aims to increase pedestrian access to the beach, upgrade existing garden beds and establish connection to the water.

You are now invited to review draft concept designs for the space and provide feedback.

Have your say

- 🖱 collaborate.canadabay.nsw.gov.au/howley-park-east
- ✉ council@canadabay.nsw.gov.au
- ☎ 9911 6555
- 📍 Locked Bag 1470, Drummoyne NSW 1470

 **City of
Canada Bay**

Letter to residents



23 December 2021

The Resident
DRUMMOYNE 2047

Dear Resident,

Howley Park East – Beautification project

The City of Canada Bay has obtained funding from the NSW Government's Department of Planning, Industry and Environment to bring Howley Park East to life for the community.

We are planning to construct an accessible pedestrian walkway to connect Victoria Place Reserve to the beach and marina. The project will also involve upgrading existing garden beds and connection to the water.

Six potential concept designs have been drafted for the space, which we are now seeking feedback on. All feedback will be considered before the design is finalised in early 2022.

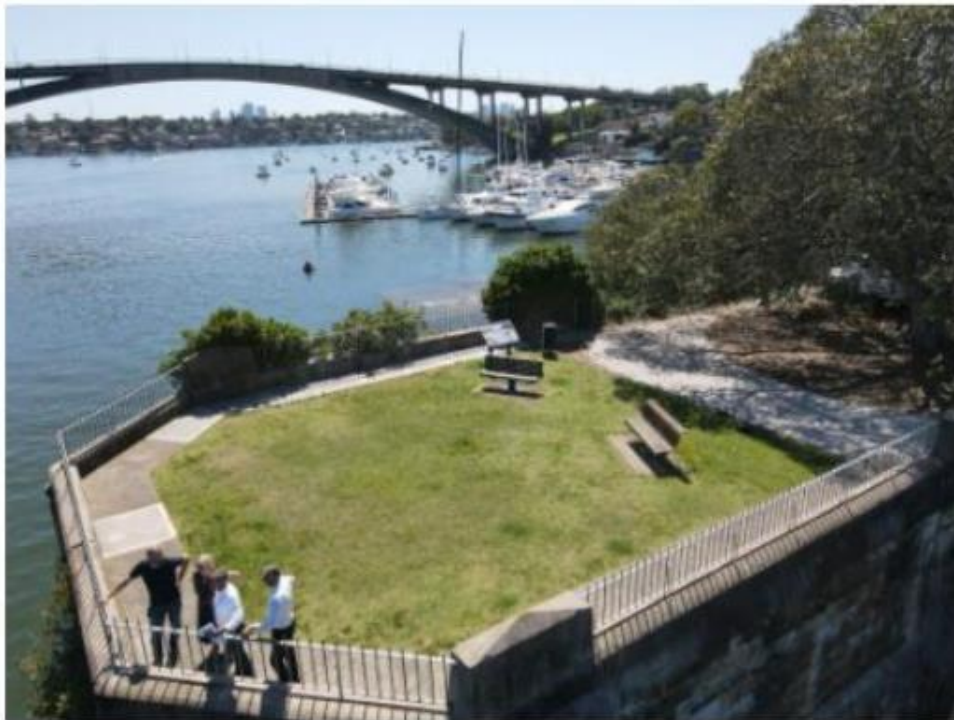
To review the draft designs and provide your feedback, head to collaborate.canadabay.nsw.gov.au/howley-park-east before 31 January 2022.

If you have any questions about this project, or would like more information, please email council@canadabay.nsw.gov.au or call 9911 6555 to speak to Colin Dagger, Project Manager.

Yours sincerely,

Samantha Urquhart

Acting Director, City Services and Assets



Howley Park East beautification works

In late 2021, the City of Canada Bay secured funding from the NSW Government's Greater Sydney Crown Land Open Space Activation Program to revitalise Howley Park East.

The project will involve constructing a pedestrian walkway to connect Victoria Place Road Reserve to the beach and marina, as well as upgrading existing garden beds and establishing a connection with the water.

Click the link below to view the six potential concept designs that have been drafted for the space and provide feedback before Sunday, 20 February 2022.

[Find out more](#)

COLLABORATE

Canada Bay

Howley Park East

Consultation ends 20 February 2022

Howley Park East in Drummoyne is getting an upgrade and we want your feedback! But first, let's take a walk down memory lane to learn about the rich history of the site.

Howley Park in Drummoyne was originally known for its unique landform of five sandstone abutments. These natural landforms were used as docks and known in Sydney's early history as the place of "Five Docks" which became the source point for the naming of the settlement of Five Dock.

In early Sydney history, boating was the most efficient method for the moving of stores and people, and "Five Docks" became a logical place for boat building and transport. Later the location was

used for punts across the river before construction began on a bridge.

Once the new Gladesville Bridge was constructed, the old bridge at Howley Park was demolished and a park was created for the public.

In late 2021, the City of Canada Bay secured \$1.5 million of funding from the NSW Government's Greater Sydney Crown Land Open Space Activation Program to revitalise the space.

The project will involve constructing a pedestrian walkway to connect Victoria Place Road Reserve to the beach and marina as well as upgrading existing garden beds and establishing a connection with the water.

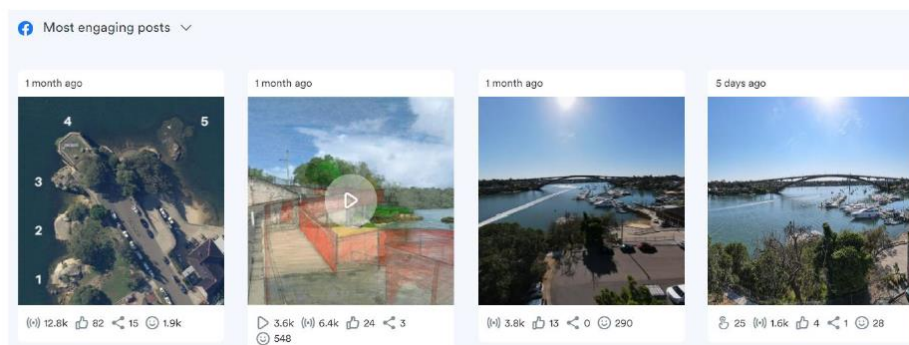
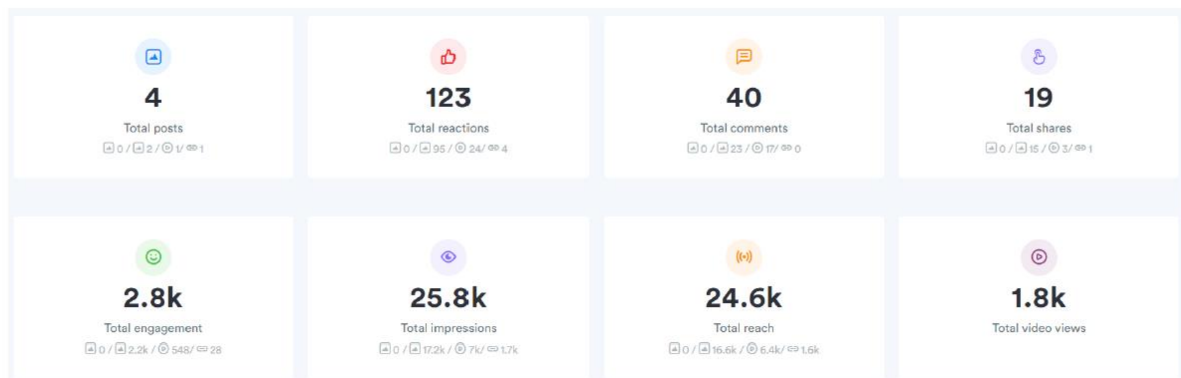
Six potential concept designs have been drafted for the space, which are available to view at bit.ly/howleyparkeast. Make sure to provide feedback before 20 February 2022.



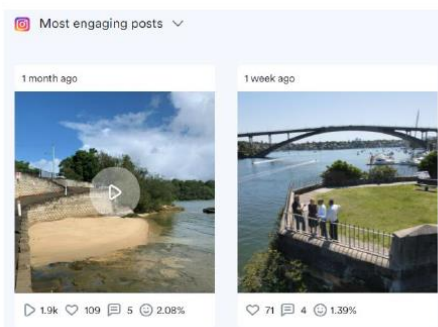
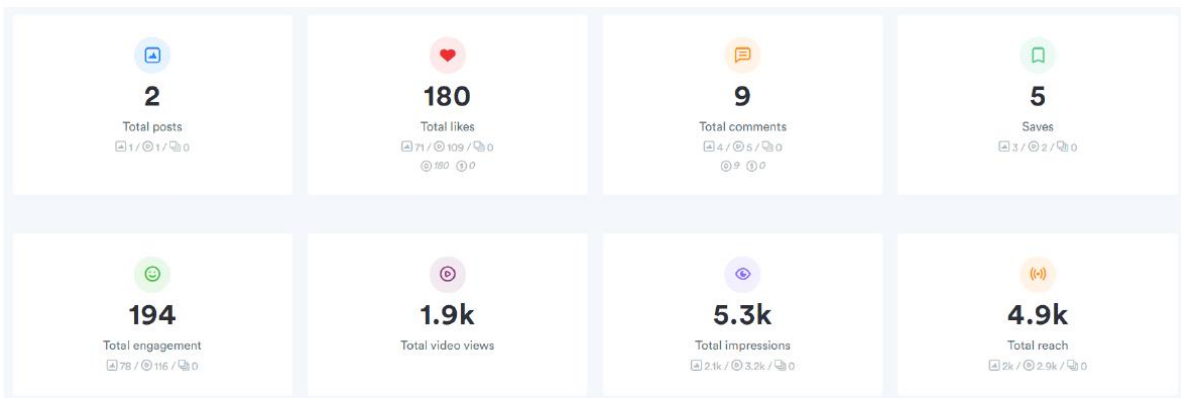
CITY OF CANADA BAY NEWS - 7

B. Social media reports

Facebook



Instagram



Twitter



Last chance to have your say! Howley Park East in Drummoyne is getting a \$1.5 million upgrade and we want your feedback. The upgrade will include a boardwalk, lookout, bush regeneration and accessible paths. Find out more at bit.ly/howleyparkeast. Submissions close 20 February.



10:28 AM - Feb 10, 2022 - Twitter Web App



Howley Park East in Drummoyne is getting a \$1.5 million upgrade and we want your feedback. The upgrade will include a boardwalk, lookout, bush regeneration and accessible paths. Find out more bit.ly/howleyparkeast



8:26 AM - Dec 24, 2021 - Twitter Web App

Total impressions: 785