

# Wylie Reserve

## Playspace / Gathering Space Upgrade



**Merri-bek**  
City Council

### Consultation summary report

#### Prepared by

Deb Piattoni Landscape Architect

Open Space Design & Development Unit

February 2023

#### Revision D

Revision A initial consultation: October 2022

Revision B draft concept plan: November 2022

Revision C revised concept plan: December 2022

Revision D final: final concept plan: February 2023



# Wylie Reserve – Playspace/Gathering Space Upgrade

## Consultation summary report

February 2023

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Wylie Reserve, Union Street, Brunswick West is an existing reserve, comprising of a sports field with dog off-leash area, a small playspace and small gathering space.

This upgrade focuses on the playspace and gathering space areas.

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### 1. Background

Council's Open Space Design and Development unit are conducting three consultation phases with the local community for Wylie Reserve playspace/gathering space upgrade.

As mentioned on Conversations Merri-Bek webpage, the following elements of the reserve are not being changed as part of this upgrade:

- Overall playspace footprint cannot be made larger owing to offsets needed from adjacent sports field and adjacent footpath
- Fencing around the playspace will be retained though may be upgraded
- Adjacent community facilities (e.g. Hockey Club, kinder, new public toilet works) are outside the scope of this project
- Sports fields upgrades are also outside the scope of this project
- The reserve will remain a dog off-leash area and not being changed under this project.

The consultation stages are:

- **Initial Consultation**

Council have asked the community what they would like to see in the upgrade of the playspace/gathering space which can be used as input in developing the draft concept plan.

- **Draft Concept Plan Consultation**

Using results from the initial consultation, Council will develop a draft concept plan based on the community's initial input.

- **Revised Concept Plan Consultation**

The revised concept plan will reflect changes to the draft concept plan, incorporating further feedback where possible. After receiving feedback, a final concept plan will be produced including final changes where possible. This will close the consultation process, prior to the team proceeding to detailed design.

### Consultation timings

Initial consultation: 7 September – 7 October 2022

Draft concept plan consultation: 3 November - 28 November 2022

Revised concept plan consultation: 16 December 2022 – 13 January 2023 (extended till 3 February 2023)

Final concept plan issued: February 2023.

For both the initial consultation and draft concept plan consultation, postcards were distributed to households within 0.5km of CB Smith Reserve, advising residents that they can provide feedback on Council's website, <https://conversations.merri-bek.vic.gov.au/wylie-reserve-park-upgrade>. Posters were also provided to the adjacent primary school and kindergarten and a poster displayed near the playspace. A similar approach is being undertaken for the revised concept plan.

The final concept plan will be displayed on the website and posters at site following completion of feedback on the revised concept plan. Thereafter the Open Space Design and Development team can proceed to detailed design.

## **2. Initial Consultation Feedback Findings**

Council received 54 feedback responses to the initial consultation, a few of the same respondents wrote in more than once.

As requested in many responses, the BBQ will be upgraded and repositioned away from the existing mature tree where the roots are growing around its base. A more formalised gathering space will be provided including a new BBQ, new picnic setting and backed seat with arms on gravel paving area connected to the existing reserve footpath. The adjacent drinking fountain will be upgraded to an accessible drinking fountain with dog bowl. A garden bed area is proposed where the old BBQ is currently to create interest and help this existing tree root zone re-establish after these old units are removed. As there are many shade trees close by, a shelter cannot be provided.

Many have asked for more seats. These are proposed in both the playspace and gathering space areas including a range of types of seating to suit all needs (backed seat with arms, platform seat and picnic setting).

Additional trees will be included in addition to the existing trees to provide additional colour and interest.

The proposed play equipment aimed at younger and primary school age children, where possible in this small space. A more diverse range of forms of play are included in this concept plan to support younger and primary school-age children. In the playspace a clear area has to be allowed for maintenance access (near maintenance gate) which means further equipment can't be installed there.

Several respondents asked for an Expression Swing seat. This is included together with a 2 unit swing. We tried to see if a triple swing could be accommodated but there is insufficient space allowing for its associated impact zone (a standards offset requirement for each play item).

Several people asked for see saw and rockers elements. A multi-user rocker/see saw elements have been included in this concept plan as well as single-user rockers.

Many requested play equipment with natural materials. As many elements as possible have been proposed made from timber and rope. Log balancing elements are also proposed. The rocker units are carved timber in shape of animals and the spinning unit with a rope seat.

Several asked for nature-based play. Some nature-play elements have been included, such as a log balancing trail and a log-enclosed area for junior discovery/imagination play under the shaded trees. A sand pit with log edging is also proposed near the playspace gathering space. Additional feature flowering native trees will also be provided along with garden beds including colourful elements to augment the nature-based play opportunities and create a more visually appealing space.

Many mentioned the need for improved playspace fencing and concerns over dogs entering the playspace. New taller playspace fencing with a lift-up safe gate will be included, with works planned for November – December 2022. We are also planning to lock the current pedestrian access through the sports fencing so that dogs cannot enter freely and to provide appropriate dog regulation signage. This is also planned for November – December 2022.

At a recent site visit, a few playspace visitors mentioned that the existing bin is too close to the playspace. This will be repositioned slightly further away so it doesn't smell near the playspace gathering

space near Union Street end. An additional bin will be provided by the BBQ/gathering space at the Colliers Crescent end.

Some elements are not possible for inclusion, owing to budget limitations, elements that are beyond the scope of works or physical space limitations. This includes a flying fox, a community garden, a basketball court, fitness equipment, water play and a bouldering wall.

A few individuals asked for a rope climbing pyramid structure. There is insufficient space for such an item although to satisfy rope climbing, a rope element has been included on the custom combination unit as well as monkey bars for upper body strength and slides. A tunnel has also been included on this unit along with a shop counter. The lower section of this custom unit has been developed to also serve as a cubby house for smaller children, whilst allowing for further play opportunities for primary school age children.

One respondent mentioned that there is insufficient lighting in the reserve. There are lights present along the path through the reserve. Additional lighting cannot be provided around the playspace, in line with council's lighting policy. However we will have the existing lighting inspected by Council's Lighting team to ensure that they are working correctly.

Those asking for dog bags or dog bag dispensers these elements are not part of the scope of works for the playspace/gathering space.

Comments related to the toilets are also outside the scope of works. The toilet is currently being upgraded by another council team.

### **3. Draft Concept Plan Consultation Feedback Findings**

Council received 35 feedback responses to the draft concept plan.

There were various concerns that the draft concept plan proposed removal of existing mature trees, which must have been a misinterpretation of the design. Council is only planning to remove the existing BBQ at the Colliers Crescent end of the reserve as it is too close to a mature tree, possibly impacting its root zone. We are then proposing to provide a garden bed in the place of this old BBQ along with a backed seat under this tree. The new BBQ will be positioned in the proposed gathering space away from this tree.

In addition we are planning to install other native feature trees near the playspace (Union Street end on the South Daly Street side) to form a nature-based play area for children as well as providing additional colour and wildlife habitat.

In the initial consultation, respondents have asked that the waste bin is proposed to be relocated away from the side of the playspace to avoid the smell. Further feedback on the draft concept plan has asked for this bin to not be relocated too far from the playspace and also not too close to the adjacent kindergarten. This bin location will be slightly repositioned as best possible to satisfy both these requirements.

A few respondents asked for a junior combination unit so there is an area for them to play separately from the older children. This request has been considered with a proposed junior combination unit shown on the revised concept plan. To allow enough space for this, the multi-user rocker element has been removed from the revised concept plan. We still need to keep the central area of the playspace clear to allow for maintenance access through the maintenance gate (middle of the sports field fencing).

Some have asked for more climbing elements. The proposed combination unit already includes a climbing element. We have added some climbing elements to the junior combination unit as well.

One respondent asked for the swings to be reorientated to face either south or east. This has been addressed in the revised concept plan.

Most support the sandpit as a play item for younger children.

A few people asked for additional seating in the playspace. To allow for this we have included a number of seating logs in the playspace area, so parents/carers can sit near their children whilst playing. We will need to keep the central area of the playspace clear to allow for maintenance access through the maintenance gate.

Requests for fitness equipment or basketball cannot be accommodated through this playspace/gathering space upgrade. This is owing to budget constraints and also requirements from the sporting clubs to keep clearance from the sports field area/ rear of goal posts. Similarly water play cannot be included in this small playspace owing to budget and space constraints. We have tried to allow for nature-based play elements by including a sand pit, additional planting/log balancing areas and additional garden beds/trees.

In order to benefit users of the playspace sooner, the replacement taller playspace fencing with safety lift-up gate has now been installed along with closing off the pedestrian gate in the sports field fencing to prevent illegal entry by dogs into the playspace. Edging along the inside of this playspace fencing will be provided as part of the works to retain the softfall mulch.

We have also changed the dog signage so clear that dogs must be within 15m distance of the playspace and re-positioned the signs to avoid any confusion.

The current maintenance post with chain entries at Colliers Crescent and Union Street will be upgraded with maintenance gates in January.

#### **4. Revised Concept Plan**

Council received 2 feedback responses to the revised concept plan.

One comment appeared to be supportive of the gathering space at the Colliers Crescent end, the other felt that the design did not go far enough and referenced the Lincoln Square project as an example.

The design team are endeavouring to source alternative play equipment which might offer more adventurous play though this needs to fit into both available space and budget.

#### **5. Final Concept Plan**

The final concept plan will be displayed in this report once completed.

#### **6. Next Steps**

The Open Space Design and Development team are issuing a final concept plan, using feedback received to date.

Consultation has taken longer to complete owing to pauses needed during councillor elections and then during December/January holiday period when many local residents could have been away on holiday.

Works on the gathering space are starting early February 2023 whilst the playspace final concept plan is completed. Local residents will be able to then use the gathering space area whilst the playspace upgrade is being undertaken.

#### **7. Further information**

Any questions can be directed to Council's Open Space Design & Development Unit via email [openspace@merri-bek.vic.gov.au](mailto:openspace@merri-bek.vic.gov.au) or by phoning 9240 111.



## 8. Appendix

Below are all feedback received from the community for each stage of consultation for Wylie Reserve.

### 8a Initial Consultation



Figure 1: Poster displayed at site (similar versions with QR codes were provided to the adjacent kindergarten and primary school).

### Wylie Reserve playspace & park upgrade 2022/2023 Initial consultation

Council is upgrading Wylie Reserve playspace and upgrading some park infrastructure in Union Street/Collier Crescent, Brunswick West. This project is supported through Moreland City Council's open space strategy.

What would you like to see included in this small playspace? Your input can help shape the concept design.

Have your say at:  
<https://conversations.moreland.vic.gov.au/wylie-reserve-park-upgrade>  
or phone Council on 9240 1111

Feedback closes:  
5pm 7 OCTOBER 2022



### For more information contact Council's Open Space team:

Email: [openspace@moreland.vic.gov.au](mailto:openspace@moreland.vic.gov.au)  
Phone: 9240 1111  
<https://conversations.moreland.vic.gov.au/wylie-reserve-park-upgrade>

Moreland Language Link			
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हिन्दी	9280 1918		
普通话	9280 0750	All other languages	9280 1919
සිංහල	9280 0751		

Figure 2: Postcards issued to households within 0.5km of site.

## Initial Consultation Responses

The following are responses to the initial consultation from 7 September – 7 October 2022.

Date Submitted	Screen Name	Description
October 7 2022	Damien	Shaded/rain proof double BBQ at far end of grass area so family & friends can socialise together in play area.
October 3 2022	Dean	Any chance we can have a rope climbing pyramid or something that challenges the children to hold their own body weight.
October 3 2022	Resident	Could use some more seats. More big deciduous trees where playground is, gets hot in summer. Native climbers on the fence too.
October 2 2022	Grandmother of 4	Equipment for primary-school-aged children - climbing wall; higher/longer slide; small in-ground trampoline. Improved shade and seating
October 1 2022	Karina	Fix BBQ. Add picnic facilities for playground and near BBQ. Self-closing gates + more secure fencing to stop dogs in playground. More shade
September 8 2022	Stefan	A more 'nature play' style playground, similar to Royal Park Nature Playground. Also more trees, shade and picnic tables would be great.
September 26 2022	Leigh	A Flying Fox or upgrade the swings, similar to Princess Park where 6 face each other in a circle. Also maybe a climbing pyramid made of rope.
September 25 2022	Suzie	Improve the fencing please so dogs can't get into the play area, and so there is fenced area for dogs to be safely off leash. More trees too
September 25 2022	IK	More swings! - Preserve the trees + shade - Two more proper gates to playground: street + oval - 2nd bin + table, benches at other end.
September 25 2022	Kate	More shade and nature-play options in playground, as well as options better suited to toddlers. Rotate infant swing 180 degrees! More seating under the trees along Collier Crescent!
September 25 2022	Michael Stanley	Better fencing to stop dogs getting into the playground area – they keep smelling food and running in.

Date Submitted	Screen Name	Description
September 23 2022	Anneke	Changing the infant swing to turn it around 180 degrees & face south would stop the sun being in kids eyes! & More south-facing swings pls! I like the way the gate opens into the driveway and not directly onto Union St. The driveway can be good for pram/bike parking when busy. I would love to see one or more 'expression swings' installed for young kids - check out <a href="https://imaginationplay.com.au/expression-swing">https://imaginationplay.com.au/expression-swing</a>
September 20 2022	Rose	We would love to see improved playground for pre-schoolers and primary kids. More shade and picnic facilities and nature play.
September 20 2022	Dale	More seating and tables at Collier Street end under the trees and consideration to creating a Food Van zone at same end. Consider creating a community vegetable/herb/fruit garden in the unused grass area near the playground, similar to Essendon.
September 19 2022	Ashley	Fenced from road & off-leash reserve. Variety of play equipment for toddlers. Level & enhance lawn area to the west. Some natural materials
September 18 2022	Neen	My children play on the play equipment. Climbing options for older kids, more park benches and shade would be good.
September 18 2022	Claire Craig	More communal seating / tables at the Northern end near BBQs. New playground with equipment for older ages i.e. higher monkey bars and slides
September 16 2022	Anne in Brunswick	There used to be bushy trees that were good for playing around and hiding in - cut to a lollipop shape 15 years ago then fell over-surprise!
September 16 2022	Screen name	More sheltered seating with arm rests. Swings for all ages/sizes/abilities. Monkey bars (which can double up as chin up bars).
September 16 2022	Angela	BBQ area at both ends of the park. More seating area. Nature play for ages 7 to 11. Gathering space for the community. Shelter from the rain
September 15 2022	Len Firth	We use BBQs, and the children's play area with children. think an outdoor gym would be a great addition <a href="https://freeoutdoorfitness.net/list">https://freeoutdoorfitness.net/list</a>
September 13 2022	Mariana Galanopoulos	Trees along the Sth Daly & Union street boundary(inviting for picnics), a basketball hoop for older kids, sheltered areas, better lighting.
September 13 2022	Natasha	The grass end at the opposite side of the playground needs to be more of a nature playground with some seating and additional trees



Date Submitted	Screen Name	Description
September 13 2022	Nick Galanopoulos	Neglected. Needs: sufficient lighting at night, Sheltered areas, upgraded BBQ areas, tables/benches, upgraded toilets, picnic areas
September 13 2022	LauraW	More shade coverage, natural play equipment elements that appeal to young children. Basketball hoop for older kids at other end. Dog bags
September 13 2022	Kate	Please keep the trees. The shade in summer is amazing. Request additional swings - 4 swings would be great.
September 13 2022	KrystalP	Playground used mostly by babies/toddles and kinder children. Natural coloured.new see saw. More swings.
September 13 2022	SarahB	Our 6yo's ideas: - Climbing pyramid, flying fox that you can sit on, natural materials, monkey bars, shade, toddler-friendly too
September 13 2022	Angela	More seating, ages 1 to 6 playground equipment low slides for smaller kids. More nature play down the far end, better fence & gate.
September 13 2022	Nic	Don't close it - upgrade it in stages. Focus on ages 1 to 6. More baby swings. Trampoline, no bark, like Penders Park. Play house w/ kitchen
September 13 2022	Sema	Better landscaping of the green area next to the playground, with trees along the Sth Daly street boundary and definitely more benches
September 13 2022	GKeeper	Nature play areas are fantastic for kids' development, as well as improving amenity. Rocks, ropes, logs, and plants.
September 13 2022	Cliff	Max use of space . Water play , flying fox, fully integrated playground into existing trees like Lincoln park in Carlton . Natural colours
September 12 2022	Betty	Abandoned& uninviting unlike other parks like Dunstan Res. -Child safe gate(playground), more tables/seating/toilets, covered area eg BBQ
September 12 2022	Svet	shade! bucket swings so tots can sit in both directions to avoid sun in eyes. No ugly plastic static equipment. Water play. In ground tramps

Date Submitted	Screen Name	Description
September 12 2022	Patricia and Kim	Ramp access from cnr of Sth Daly St & Union St. Recycled materials used for safer playground surfaces and bark/mulch for gardens.
September 11 2022	Ian Malkin	Continuous fencing around reserve (gates can allow vehicles to enter at a few spots). Free recyclable poo bags. More bins – recycling.
September 11 2022	Jam	At the western end is it possible to put a slab and basketball ring to cater for the older/sporty kids?
September 10 2022	Sim	I'd love more trees down the western end plus park table, benches and bbq. Play equipment that caters for toddlers to older kids wld b great
September 10 2022	Hana	I suggest to add wall climbing, cottage concept like bulleke bek park, drinking water refill, crawling areas for babies. Good luck ^-^
September 9 2022	NeurodivergantFam	Improved fencing and signage about dogs needing to be on lead within 15m and being on lead within fenced area, more shade too please!
September 5 2022	Vicki	Tunnels, things to walk along and balance, sand and water, small kid sized table, swing for disabled child, North side, extra table
September 5 2022	JoannaBennet	Toddler elements appreciated given its a small playground - such as cubby hut, wobbly bridge, sand pit, water play, easy climbing equipment. Increase number of swings. Keep toddler swing. Good to have two slides of different sizes. Retain existing trees and add more. More seats needed on Collier Crescent side, so that people don't have to sit in the playground. Also more seating in playground.
September 5 2022	James	Keep the Playground the same size, with the same amount of play equipment. Sandpit, swings, slides and places to climb across. P=
September 2 2022	Nayara Neusinger	Double number of swings, especially for little kids. Some ground trampolines would be great. Some weeping mulberry trees. Undercover table
September 2 2022	Local Teen	A regular playground or ropes course. Water play would I guess be nice but less versatile and breaks easily then being useless.
September 1 2022	EFB	Please install a dog bag dispenser at the reserve.

Date Submitted	Screen Name	Description
September 1 2022	Falconer	More trees
September 1 2022	Mumofgirls	Clear signage on playground as a dog free area, there are a number of people who let their dogs run around off lead in the playground. Baby change facilities in toilets would be great! Upgrade gates with child safe locks. Move rubbish bins away from playground entrance. Water play, cubby house, additional seating with shade.
September 1 2022	Anne Beaty	Please have a portable defibrillator installed - could save a life. Could be located within toilet block.
September 1 2022	Sema	Would be nice if we can have benches underneath the trees on Collier crescent side. New table and bench for the BBQ area
September 1 2022	gregrickard	Seating under the trees on the north side of the park is needed. There are no seats at all in the park, restricting people from using it.
September 1 2022	KayH	The toilets are very basic – it would be great to see them updated.

## 8b Draft Concept Plan Consultation

Below are posters to be displayed at site and on Conversations webpage and posters to be delivered to local residences.



Figure 3: Posters displayed at site and on Conversations webpage.

# WYLIE RESERVE

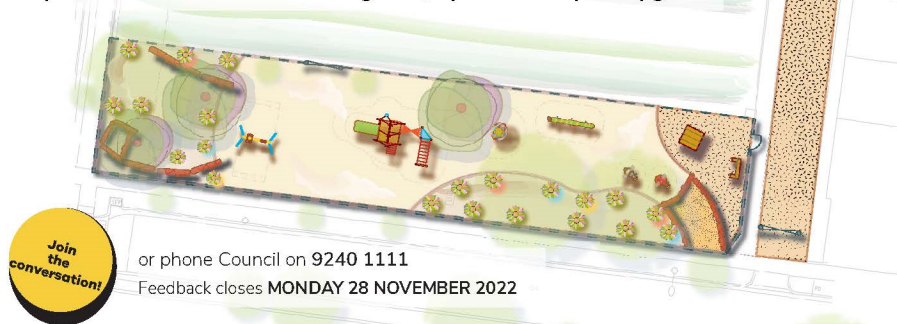
## playspace/gathering space upgrade

### Draft concept consultation

Council is upgrading the playspace & gathering space area at Wylie Reserve, Brunswick West.

We would like your feedback on the draft concept plan.

Have your say at:  
<https://conversations.merri-bek.vic.gov.au/wylie-reserve-park-upgrade>



**For more information  
contact Council's Open  
Space team:**

Email: [openspace@merri-bek.vic.gov.au](mailto:openspace@merri-bek.vic.gov.au)

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#### Merri-Bek Language Link

廣東話	9280 1910	हिंदी	9280 1918
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Ελληνικά	9280 1912	ਪੰਜਾਬੀ	9280 0751
عربي	9280 1913		
Türkçe	9280 1914	All other languages	
Tiếng Việt	9280 1915	9280 1919	

Figure 4: Postcards issued to households within 0.5km of site.

## Draft Consultation Responses

The following are responses to the draft consultation from 3 – 28 November 2022.

Date Submitted	Screen Name	Description
November 25 2022	Peter	It is extremely important to keep the existing trees, both as shade protection for children and parents, and for the look and comfort of the whole area. It would be of enormous concern if the trees were removed. It also appears from the design that the new play equipment is designed only for very young children. The playground also needs climbing and similar large equipment -- as currently exists, and could remain as is in the new design -- for older children. It also appears that there will not be adequate swings and slides for children as they grow, please ensure these will be provided in the final plan.
November 25 2022	Mel	Hi, can you tell us what engagement you have undertaken on site with community who use Wylie Reserve. There has not been any Council presence on site to listen to park users about how we use the space now, and how it can be improved. Yarra Trams had on-site community sessions in relation to nearby tram stops. We can provide comments on the Council proposal - but where is the plan for the upgrade of the entire Wylie Reserve - can we be holistic and more strategic. We must keep the mature trees, improve access for all abilities, more seating for people and more shade.
November 23 2022	Zoe	The current two pieces of play equipment are great - one for small kids and one for older kids. I'm concerned that my older child will find the new design boring. Please don't just replace the big play equipment with a sandpit and logs. Kids need the risk factor of climbing up high. There also needs to be enough play equipment for kids parties when lots of kids use the playground at the same time. In this situation, one slide would be insufficient.
November 22 2022	Hmc2417	Please keep the established trees and plant additional trees to maximise playground shade. Nature play areas can be so much more than a few logs to clamber over. Please explore options and look to playgrounds like RCH, Lincoln Square, Donnybrook Gumnut playground for examples of a widened definition of nature play. Is it possible to approach planting beds for sensory experience? Sensory gardens increase accessibility and it is possible to create sensory planting profiles that are low maintenance
November 21 2022	Local	Please: - retain trees: incredible shade, and natural feature for kids to play and engage with. - don't move bin: it means you either leave your kids playing and walk a now significant distance to deposit rubbish OR have to coordinate children who are often already unwilling to leave to walk them in the opposite direction and then return back past the playground in order to deposit rubbish when leaving. Also makes a journey more difficult if you have a disability or injury that makes walking harder - consider a smaller playset also be included so younger kids have an area that isn't overrun by bigger kids. -seating not too close to perimeter, otherwise the children who love to climb will scoot over in a jiffy.
November 20 2022	Eva	Echoing the sentiments expressed in many previous posts ... it is concerning that the established trees are absent in the proposed plan, please do not remove them! So many parks do not have adequate shade for summer; I do not know another local park with such fabulous trees providing protection to our children and we will be devastated if they were to go (and won't be able to use the park as often as we do now). Agree with needing more seating along the perimeter of the park so there are places to sit as the children move around. A small inbuilt trampoline would be great and would not occupy much space, and a flat path would be fabulous for small children to practice on their trikes/scooters.
November 18 2022	Concerned	Please do not relocate the rubbish bin as indicated on the draft, the kindergarten driveway needs clear access for emergency services access.
November 18 2022	K	It's very concerning to see that, in an area already horribly lacking in large established shady trees, this plan appears to be removing the two much loved large oak trees currently at this playground. They make the playground USABLE on hot Aussie summer days, the shade is much needed and appreciated especially with little ones running around. This shady spot is a welcome reprieve from the heat in an area where there is little shade to begin with . I simply can't understand why the trees have not been incorporated into this plan. The last thing this area can afford is to lose ANY of the small amount of shade cover we have.

Date Submitted	Screen Name	Description
November 16 2022	Christine	Please keep the established large trees in the playground. Large trees like this look amazing. And they take a very long time to grow to that size. It would be years before any other trees planted as replacements would reach this size. Not to mention that the shade aspect is extremely important in our climate.
November 16 2022	Jarom	Please keep the functional (shade in summer and not in winter) and aesthetically pleasing two mature oak trees adjacent to union St. They are essential to playground due to natural summer shade and well loved.
November 15 2022	Patricia	This doesn't seem to be accessible for disable children . Looking at the leaflet you posted the equipment is only accessible for able children as always disable children miss out so perhaps before you go ahead have a think about it and make it for all , also there seems to be no shading other than the trees. Also I think we need some seats at the collier cres end under the trees .
November 14 2022	Vicki	Can you provide water play area
November 13 2022	Paul	This plan seems overcooked- the park is actually reasonable for the typical age of kids in this area with older kids parks nearby already (including the new one up Albert st way). I think some upgrades of equipment would be nice, but this park absolutely needs lawn (and needs to be mown, unlike the current situation), and trees for shade! Safe swings, but please remove the horribly dangerous spring horses. We think the area would also benefit from a small double bbq area and additional table space for families to meet whilst kids are playing in the area. My 11 month old daughter currently loves the swings and mushroom toys, but can only play there because of the nice shade in the afternoon. Losing this would be a huge mistake. Not having much of a backyard ourselves, this space is currently a pretty good option and nice social space, only let down by council maintenance (and lack thereof).
November 13 2022	James	It seems like lots of new playgrounds in Merri Bek and actually downgrades, they look nice but have less playground equipment. In the current plan there is not enough playground, for older kids and younger kids. The log play may be a space filler but is not great for a playground. The current playground has two good play areas for older kids and younger kids, this should be replicated in the new playground. Other people have mentioned this but, it would make sense to use get rid of the soccer pitch as it is not used by any sporting clubs and used a general green space. Moving tables and bbq over to the playground would make it an excellent park.
November 13 2022	Althea	I echo everyone else that the large mature trees are important to maintain. My 2 year old loves the younger slide area so would be good to keep equipment that covers a range of ages. Would a mini trampoline be possible? Or some kind of water play? Very excited for the playground upgrade!
November 13 2022	Fodden Street resident	It is a shame that the barbeques at Wiley Reserve are at the complete opposite end of the area. This makes it hard to hold gatherings at the park when the weather is nice. The addition of a covered BBQ would make this play area amazing. Please make sure the large shade tree is kept, it is a saviour in summer. More seating would be great. A sandpit could be a risk, as cats often use them for kitty litter when they are unfenced/uncovered. It would be disappointing to go from 1 small equipment for younger children and 1 for older children to just one in total. If the addition of some sort of water to the nature play area was possible, that would be excellent. A water pump that runs through a man made valley is always a hit with my kids at parks we visit. We recently visited the newly completed Dunstan reserve and the addition there of the bouldering play feature kept my kids busy for hours. Could this be included?
November 13 2022	Nadia	I would think a small path around the edges of the grassed area next to the play equipment would be nice for preschool kids and a circular seat in the center for parents to sit and supervise them.



Date Submitted	Screen Name	Description
November 12 2022	Jg	Any chance of a basketball net at Collier street end for slightly older kids.
November 12 2022	Joanna	Best thing about this space is the trees!! Please don't remove them. Also, looks like we are going from two climbing structures to one, which would be a shame. Would also be good to have seating at both ends. Thanks
November 12 2022	CP	Pls keep the trees near the current playground. They provide beautiful shade in spring and summer when most other local playgrounds are baking in the sun. One of the best features of the current park. I agree when comments from other locals - pls make sure some of the play equipment is suitable for little ones (under 3s). My one year old loves Wylie. We are there nearly every day. The equipment in other local parks is a bit advanced for toddlers.
November 12 2022	Ali	Great to see this playground getting an upgrade as it feels a little forgotten. We have a three year old and a baby and agree with earlier comments that it will be important to have equipment for a mix of age levels. I would also echo importance of keeping mature trees. We love the idea of a sandpit, nature play and more garden features for discovery. Other things that work well for burning little people energy are mini trampolines, water features (e.g. pump), tunnels and bridges. The current design seems to be reducing the climbing/slide towers from two to one. It would be a pity to have less climbing features. Recycled materials e.g. tyres and wood features would harmonize with community values.
November 12 2022	Brendan	Lookin good! I noticed that the oak tree isn't included in the design. Will that be staying? It provides great shade during summer. Also there doesn't seem to be any seating (bench seats, tables) for adults apart from the one in the corner. Some more would be great. And there seems to be only one play structure now, will it suit both little and bigger kids? Lastly, the grass at the far end is actually quite nice for picnics, will that be staying or will everything be tan bark? Thanks.
November 12 2022	Sarah	Will the large oak tree remain at the playground for shade? Hope so! Otherwise, there is no protection from the sun/heat. Will there be any equipment/accessible spaces for younger children and toddlers? Also hope no dogs in the playground at all.
November 11 2022	Resident	Love the new ideas, please make sure the large trees remain, just wondering why no chairs for adults or carers down the south Daly st dude at north union and collier crescent? Would love more seating for adults. I've often seen people bring their own camping chairs and fold out tables on the corner of collier and south Daly - is there a reason there's none here? Love the new play space ideas! Wish there was more than one toilet. Love that the new toilet will be accessible but disappointed there's only one and it's-a popular park. Also please make sure play equipment caters for really young toddlers to primary kids. Gilpin is a total missed opportunity - looks great but doesn't work in practice- designed by someone without children!! Love the sheltered bbq space at gilpin though, would love something like that.
November 10 2022	Jac	Great that the area is getting an upgrade, however I have a few questions: 1. Can you please confirm that the big tree that gives wonderful shade to the area will remain? 2. Will there be less play climbing play equipment? I think at the moment the two different pieces of equipment provide play for younger and older children which is wonderful! From the plan, it seems there will only be one? The new playground at Dunstan Reserve has been designed really well - with areas for all age groups - perhaps this upgrade could be based on this? If it is anything like the new playground at Gilpin Park - it will be too advanced for the children that currently play at Wylie Reserve.
November 10 2022	Carmel	A sign is needed to say dogs do need to be on a leash inside the play space.

Date Submitted	Screen Name	Description
November 10 2022	LauraH	This is the only playground within walking distance of our home that has any equipment (especially stairs and small slide) that can be used safely by smaller children. For example, the new playground at Gilpin Park has zero equipment that my 2 year old can use. Please keep this space accessible for small children, they are usually at home the most and have the fewest public and council equipment and resources.
November 10 2022	Brendon	Great work. We will suggested our new look Barbeque and picnic facility at the gathering space in park area. Enjoy the Wylie reserve park upgrade as well.
November 6 2022	Chris	We will make our new look Barbeque and picnic facility at the gathering space at the park area as well.
November 6 2022	Chris	We will make our new look Barbeque and picnic facility at the gathering space at the park area as well.
November 4 2022	Brendon	We will suggested that new systems for outdoor gym equipment to enable individuals of all ages and fitness levels that achieved greater wellbeing at the park upgrade as well.
November 4 2022	Chris	First look, we got the new outdoor gym and fitness equipment will enable individuals of all ages, abilities and fitness levels achieve greater wellbeing is for children and adults to support the exercise and activities to improve the fitness of the community, as well as circuit path, fitness and gym workout routine and new fitness stations, the new home of Outdoor Fitness Equipment & Circuit Paths is offering a fun opportunity to improve your fitness and strength for free, located at your local parkland in Brunswick West has been suggested, enjoy the new fitness equipment, gym workout routine and circuit paths for the new look Wylie Reserve Park upgrade as well.
December 2 2022	N/A – email	<p>I notice that overwhelmingly the community has responded to the Draft Concept plan for the playground with "Keep the trees". Hopefully the council has listened to this. Please reassure us that the trees will not go.</p> <p>Another comment was "... the new play equipment is designed only for very young children. The playground also needs climbing and similar large equipment - as currently exists, and could remain as is in the new design"</p> <p>I endorse this comment and think that the current climbing equipment is good and in good condition. It would be a great waste of money and resources to rip it out.</p> <p>Have you seen Lincoln Square playground in Carlton?</p> <p>I have attached a picture. Something like this would be great if you do replace the existing climbing structures.</p> <p>Finally, I see that the Final Concept plan and Detailed design are to follow. Hopefully the community will get to see these before the work goes ahead.</p>
November 12 2022	N/A - email	<p>We are really excited by the upgrade and it is sorely needed! This will breathe new life into that whole space. We have a toddler and a baby on the way and have been using the park a lot having lived here for 4 years.</p> <p>We wanted to just flag a few matters about the draft plan that we hope can be accounted for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. We are concerned by the reduction in the combination play equipment particularly for smaller children under two years old. Currently there are two combination units, one for larger children &gt;3yo and one that is friendly for kids younger than 2yo. We strongly urge the council to consider adding an additional combination unit for smaller children under 2yo. In general across Merri Bek, there is a real shortage of combination play units for young children under 2yo and I saw this comment echoed on the website by another resident There appears to be ample space in the middle of the plan which seems to be unnecessary given that the children could just run in the soccer field; this blank space would be much better utilised for a further combination equipment unit.</li> <li>2. The swings currently face north and this means that for much of the day the sun is in the children's eyes. The new swings should avoid this same problem and be oriented southwards or eastwards.</li> <li>3. Consider some shade sails over the combination equipment. The trees are unfortunately oriented towards the southern end of the playground and for much of the day there is no sun cover for the kids.</li> </ol>

Date Submitted	Screen Name	Description
		<p>4. Consider some water play equipment.</p> <p>5. Consider increasing the amount of bench seating particularly in the middle section of the park close to the combination equipment. I appreciate there is an inclination to keep the existing format of the playground but it actually does not work very well at the moment and more seating would be welcome.</p>

### 8c Revised Concept Plan

Below are posters displayed at site and on Conversations webpage.



Figure 5: Posters displayed at site and on Conversations webpage.

## Revised Consultation Responses

The following are responses to the draft consultation from 16 December – 13 January 2023 (then extended till 3 February 2023).

Date Submitted	Description
Jan 26 2023	No. We were expecting a lot more, and given this will remain for another 15-20 years it needs to be better. It needs more combination units joined together. This is very token. The kids want adventure and this is so highly used. Use Lincoln Square example
Jan 26 2023	Yes, it's the proposed gathering space is located at the Collier Crescent end of Wylie Reserve will provide new look BBQ and picnic setting on gravel paving as well.

## 8d Final Concept Plan

Below will show the final concept plan on posters to be displayed at site and on Conversations webpage.