



**Macarthur Gardens North  
Community Engagement  
Report  
May 2023**



Creating more affordable  
and sustainable communities



**ASK INSIGHT**

engagement, strategy, solutions

## Acknowledgement of Country

ASK Insight acknowledges the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Traditional Owners and Custodians of Country throughout Australia and recognises their continuing connection to land, water and community.

Alison Plant and Susan Warth

Directors

ASK Insight Pty Limited

12/20 Pyrmont Bridge Road | Camperdown

NSW 2050

Mobile | 0405 811280

ABN 13631043662

© ASK Insight 2023

# Table of Contents

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY.....	5
The Vision for Macarthur Gardens North .....	8
Play and Fitness space proposals .....	9
Overview of 2023 Community Engagement Activities.....	11
Community Engagement promotion.....	14
Community Consultation Findings.....	20
Station Park Play Area Options .....	22
Fitness Park Options.....	32
Other Parks.....	37
Appendix 1   Demographics.....	38
Appendix 2   Questionnaire.....	41

## List of Figures and Tables

Figure 1: Overall site map .....	8
Figure 2: Station Park Play areas .....	9
Figure 3: Station Park Play area cross section.....	10
Figure 4: Fitness Park area .....	10
Figure 5: Fitness Park area cross section.....	10
Figure 6: Main Ridge Park pop up.....	12
Figure 7: Main Ridge Park pop up.....	12
Figure 8: Pop up at Main Ridge Park .....	13
Figure 9: Copy of Postcard used for letterbox drop.....	14
Figure 10: Copy of Postcard used for pop-ups .....	15
Figure 11: Copy of MHCG Facebook page.....	16
Figure 12: Water Play preferences.....	25
Figure 13: Kids Play preferences.....	27
Figure 14: Adventure Play preferences.....	29
Figure 15: Tower Play preferences .....	31
Figure 16: Preferred sports for multi-sport area .....	33
Figure 17: Fitness Park preferences .....	36
Figure 18: Survey age profile.....	39
Table 1: Landcom Social Statistics - April 2023 Macarthur Gardens North.....	17
Table 2: General feedback.....	20
Table 3: General Station Park area feedback.....	22
Table 4: Water Play preferences.....	25
Table 5: Other water play suggestions .....	25
Table 6: Kids Play preferences.....	27
Table 7: Other kids play suggestions.....	27
Table 8: Adventures Play preferences.....	29

Table 9: Other adventure play suggestions .....	29
Table 10: Tower Play preferences.....	31
Table 11: Other tower play suggestions.....	31
Table 12: Other multi-sport suggestions.....	33
Table 13: Multi-sport preferences .....	34
Table 14: Fitness park preferences.....	36
Table 15: Other fitness park suggestions.....	36
Table 16: Survey respondent suburb of residence.....	38
Table 17: Survey respondent connection to the area .....	38
Table 18: Survey respondent age groups .....	39
Table 19: Survey respondent gender .....	39
Table 20: Pop-up demographics .....	40
Table 21: Macarthur Square age profile estimate .....	40
Table 22: Macarthur Square children age profile estimate 46 children.....	40

## Abbreviations and acronyms

CPTED	Crime Prevention through Environmental Design
LGA	Local Government Area
MGN	Macarthur Gardens North
MHCG	Macarthur Heights Community Group
TBLA	Taylor Brammer Landscape Architects
WSU	Western Sydney University

---

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Macarthur Gardens North (MGN) is a new precinct being established by Landcom. It is located in the Campbelltown local government area (LGA). The overall concept design for Macarthur Gardens North was developed from a foundation of community consultation in 2019 and 2020.

MGN will provide up to 1,250 apartment dwellings and open spaces. Much of the open space on the site will be preserved and enhanced as natural environment for passive use in line with the DA which was approved in December 2022.

Two open space areas, Station Park and Fitness Park will provide a range of children's play and fitness options. During April 2023, the community was asked for its views on options for these two spaces. Feedback channels included three community pop-ups, two webinars and an online survey hosted on Landcom's website page for MGN.

<https://landcom.com.au/places/macarthur-gardens-north/>

This report documents the findings.

Quantitative data on the play options was collected from a number of children at the Macarthur Square pop-up as well as through the online survey. Fitness Park data is from the online survey.

### Play options

#### Water Play

There were three possible options: structured, unstructured and natural.

The unstructured option attracted 46% of the likes/ votes by children and 36% from survey recipients.

With individuals across both groups able to choose more than one option which they liked, there was less consensus on the other two choices. The natural option attracted 19% of the votes by children and 47% from adults and the structured option, 35% from children and 17% from adults.

Qualitative feedback across all channels of engagement included:

- Have a larger space devoted to water play.
- Have splash pads.

**Conclusion:** The unstructured option is most likely to satisfy both children and adults.

#### Kids Play

There were three possible options: swings, multi-play and spinning and rocking.

Swings were children's most favoured kids play option (47%) with swings also attracting 33% of adult preferences.

More adults' preferences were directed to the multi-play unit (53% vs 21% of children). Only 14% of children's votes went to spinning and rocking, compared to 32% for adults.

**Conclusion:** Swings should be included in the kids play area.



## Adventure Play

There were three possible options: tunnels and bridges, balancing and climbing.

The tunnels and bridges option was the stand-out for both children (37% of votes) and adults (39% of votes). Balancing was almost as well-favoured, attracting 37% of the children's votes and 31% of adult votes.

**Conclusion:** Tunnels and bridges should be included in the adventure play area. If balancing options are also feasible, this will be well-received.

## Tower Play

There were three possible options: rope tower, platforms and slides and looping trail.

Platforms and slides were the most popular of the tower play options attracting 57% of adult preferences and 60% of children's choices.

**Conclusion:** Platforms and slides should be key features of the tower play area.

## Fitness Park options

### Multi-use Games Court

There were three possible options: basketball, futsal/ soccer and volleyball.

Basketball and futsal/ soccer are almost as popular as each other for the multi-sports area with 58% and 54% of respondents respectively liking these options. Only 16% of respondents selected volleyball.

Qualitative feedback across all channels of engagement included other suggestions such as tennis, cricket and additional basketball rings. The idea of multi-sport markings and a half court hitting/ practice wall was received favourably in pop-up conversations.

**Conclusion:** Design the multi-sports area so that it can cater for both basketball and futsal/ soccer.

### Outdoor gym

There were two possible options: outdoor gym equipment and space for group fitness classes.

The outdoor gym equipment option was more popular, with 64% of survey respondents liking it. Notwithstanding this, more than half (51%) also liked space for group classes.

In the pop-ups we heard mixed views about desirability of an outdoor gym. Some would prefer no gym and 2 x multi-purpose sports courts; some feel other outdoor gyms are not used and have poor, old, ineffective equipment. Others currently make use of outdoor gyms.

**Conclusion:** Explore the feasibility of including both outdoor gym equipment and open space for group classes.

## Broader feedback

There was strong positive feedback from the general public welcoming the opportunity to provide input and feedback on the proposals for Station Park and Fitness Park. A number of comments and suggestions were also received about the overall development.

In summary, these included:

- Strong support for green space, shade and seating.
- Including art.
- Parking for both cars and for bicycles.
- Including a dog park and a skate park.
- Cleanliness and maintenance concerns.
- Lighting and safety.
- Ensuring accessibility.
- BBQ facilities.

A final important message was that facilities and equipment should be complementary to those found in other close-by parks and not a duplication.

## The Vision for Macarthur Gardens North

Macarthur Gardens North is a new precinct located in the Campbelltown local government area (LGA) on Gilchrist Drive, Campbelltown, next to Western Sydney University Campbelltown campus (WSU) and TAFE NSW.

MGN will provide up to 1,250 apartment dwellings and open spaces, close to public transport (Macarthur train station is adjacent to the site), shops and educational facilities.

At least 10% of the housing will be affordable rental properties.

The overall concept design for MGN was informed by community consultation undertaken in 2019 and 2020.

The Development Application for the site was approved in December 2022.

Much of the open space on the site will be preserved and enhanced as natural environment for passive use in line with the approved DA. Existing features such as Bow Bowing Creek will be an open space corridor and works will be undertaken to retain and enhance the creek and its biodiversity. Two open space areas, namely Station Park and Fitness Park, will be designed to provide a range of children's play and fitness options. It is these two spaces which are the subject of the community engagement documented in this report.

Landcom, Taylor Brammer Landscape Architects (TBLA), the open space landscape architects charged with the development of the public open spaces at MGN, and ASK Insight collaborated in co-designing a community engagement program to understand community preferences for these spaces.

Figure 1 below provides a picture of the overall site and the location of the two parks which are the focus of the community engagement in this report.

Figure 1: Overall site map





## Play and Fitness space proposals

Within the Station Park area four separate but linked play zones are planned. For each of these four areas, three different options were presented for feedback.

### Water Play

The water play area is accessible to the road and approximately five metres lower than at the tower play end of the site. Its area is approximately 50-60m<sup>2</sup>.

### Kids Play

This area is on the same level as water play and approximately 60-70m<sup>2</sup> in size. An area of shade and seating is planned between the kids play and water play which will facilitate parental surveillance. The focus is on a younger children's age group.

### Adventure Play

This will be a more informal bush setting and provide a connection between the kids play and tower play areas.

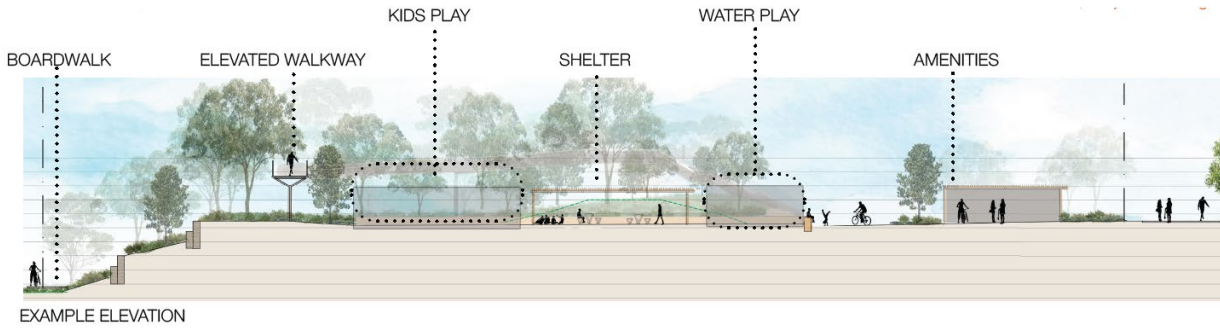
### Tower Play

Tower play is a larger space 200 to 220m<sup>2</sup> and will cater for older age groups. The centrepiece tower will provide a strong visual perspective.

Figure 2: Station Park Play areas



Figure 3: Station Park Play area cross section



The Fitness Park area has a strong connection to the road, pathway and the university side of the site. There is a multi-use sports area and a 350m<sup>2</sup> outdoor gym space which could house a mixture of informal passive space and outdoor gym equipment subject to community preferences.

Figure 4: Fitness Park area

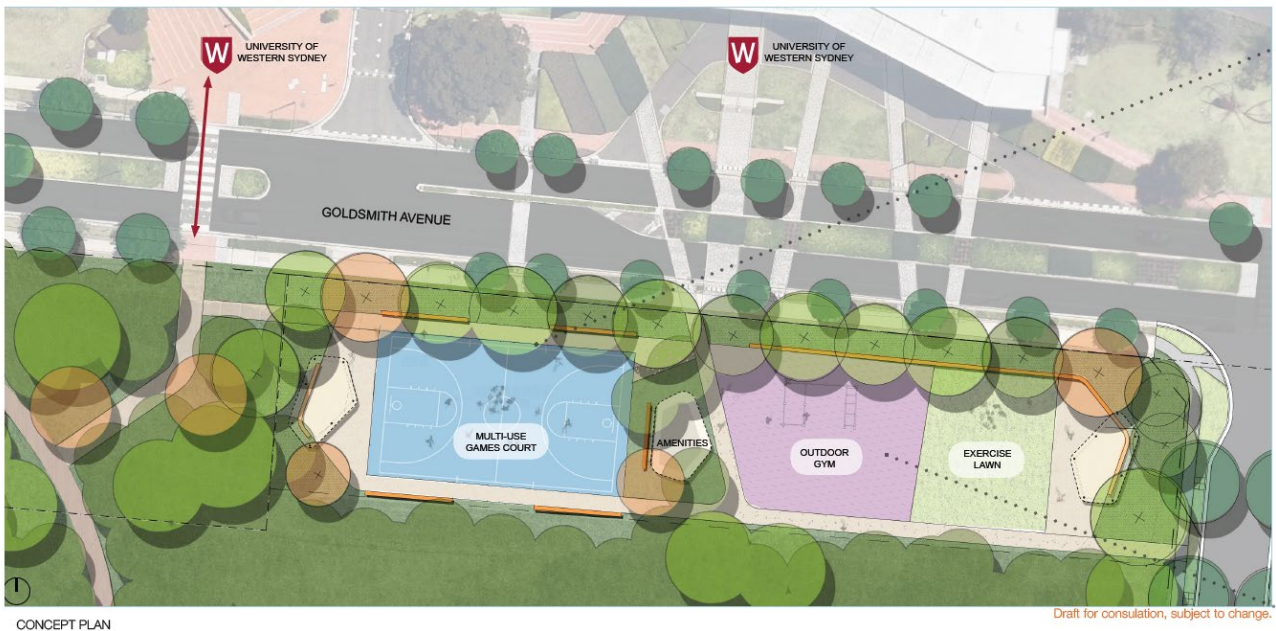
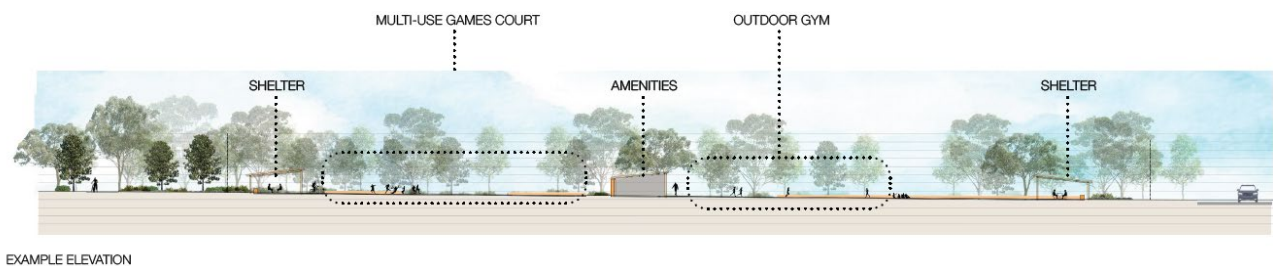


Figure 5: Fitness Park area cross section



## Overview of 2023 Community Engagement Activities

The community engagement process and content were co-designed with Landcom and TBLA.

The preferred timing for the community engagement was shortly after the NSW State Government election in March 2023. This constrained how much advance publicity would be possible for any scheduled events. Given this, community pop-ups were chosen as the most appropriate channel for face-to-face community feedback as these have the potential to capture significant community input as part of day-to-day activity. It was anticipated that participation would be further enhanced by timing coinciding with the 2023 term one NSW school holidays.

The pop-ups were preceded with specific stakeholder feedback and advice from the Macarthur Heights Community Group (MHCG). MHCG have been an active voice for community members from 2017, from the time of the development of the Macarthur Heights precinct. Macarthur Heights is the geographically closest residential community to the new MGN development and MHCG are frequently consulted by Landcom around local issues. An invitation-only webinar for MHCG was held on Wednesday 12 April 2023. Amongst other things, this confirmed the choice of Main Ridge Park as the site of one of the pop-ups.

The main elements of the community engagement were:

Community Pop-ups			
Location	Date	Indicative #'s	Details
<b>Main Ridge Park Macarthur Heights</b>	Saturday April 15 <sup>th</sup> 8 am - 10.00am	34 adults <sup>1</sup>	Incentives of both a Coffee Van and face-painting for children were offered
<b>Macarthur Square (Outside Woolworths)</b>	Tuesday April 18 <sup>th</sup> 9am - 12.00pm	60 adults 46 children	Face Painting
<b>Western Sydney University Campbelltown Campus</b>	Tuesday April 18 <sup>th</sup> 1.00pm - 3.00pm	34 adults	

Webinars			
Two webinars were conducted. Both provided an opportunity for participants to hear about Landcom's proposals for MGN in detail and ask questions and have these answered.			
<b>MHCG Invitation-only Webinar</b>	Wednesday April 12 <sup>th</sup> 4.00pm - 5.00pm	4	
<b>Public Webinar</b>	Wednesday April 26 <sup>th</sup> 4.00pm - 5.00pm	2	

<sup>1</sup> Numbers of children were not counted but there were children and young people in attendance from babies through to teenagers.



Figure 6: Main Ridge Park pop up



Figure 7: Main Ridge Park pop up



### Landcom Places website

The places page for MGN provided information about the proposal and a link to a survey (see below). Individuals could also register on the website to receive MGN newsletters and updates.

<https://landcom.com.au/places/macarthur-gardens-north/>

### Have your say on our plans for parks and open spaces at MGN on-line survey

The survey collected respondent preferences about each of the options for the four play areas and two fitness park spaces, any other suggestions for these spaces as well as the respondent's favourite park/s in the neighbourhood and why these parks are favourites. Basic age, gender, suburb of residence and connection to Macarthur, Campbelltown LGA (live, work, play, visiting) demographics were collected. (See Appendix 1 for demographics of both pop-ups and the survey.)

The survey was open from 12 to 28 April 2023.

There were 52 survey responses received.



Figure 8: Pop up at Main Ridge Park

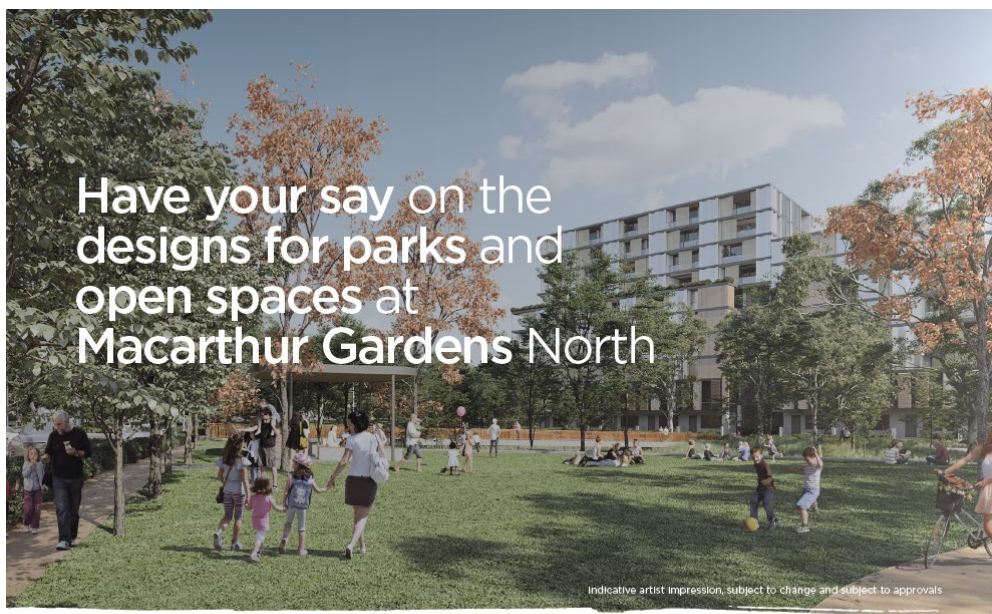


## Community Engagement promotion

A variety of print, email and social media activities were used to promote the community engagement pop-up and webinar activities. Print media encouraged direct feedback via a QR code link to the Landcom Places page for MGN which had access to the on-line survey.

- Letterbox drop (Postcard) to 1000 households in the Macarthur Heights community on 12 and 13 April 2023. This served to both invite residents to attend a pop-up and/or use the QR code to complete the survey

Figure 9: Copy of Postcard used for letterbox drop



## Have your say on the designs for parks and open spaces at Macarthur Gardens North

Landcom received approval for Macarthur Gardens North in December 2022. The development will include up to 1,250 apartments, including studio, 1-, 2-, and 3-bedroom apartments, in buildings up to nine storeys high, and has provision for 10% affordable rental housing.

The development will include a range of parks and open spaces for relaxation and play, including play areas for children, a fitness park and a multi-purpose sports area.

Meet the team at one of our upcoming information pop ups to have your say:

Saturday 15 April at Mainridge Park, 8:30am - 10:30am  
Tuesday 18 April at Macarthur Square, 9am - 12pm  
Tuesday 18 April at Western Sydney Campbelltown Campus, 1pm - 4pm

Please visit our website for more details and to fill out a survey!

Join the conversation and help us design parks and open spaces at Macarthur Gardens North!



W. [landcom.com.au/mgn](https://landcom.com.au/mgn)  
T. 1800 411 717  
E. [macgardensnorth@landcom.nsw.gov.au](mailto:macgardensnorth@landcom.nsw.gov.au)

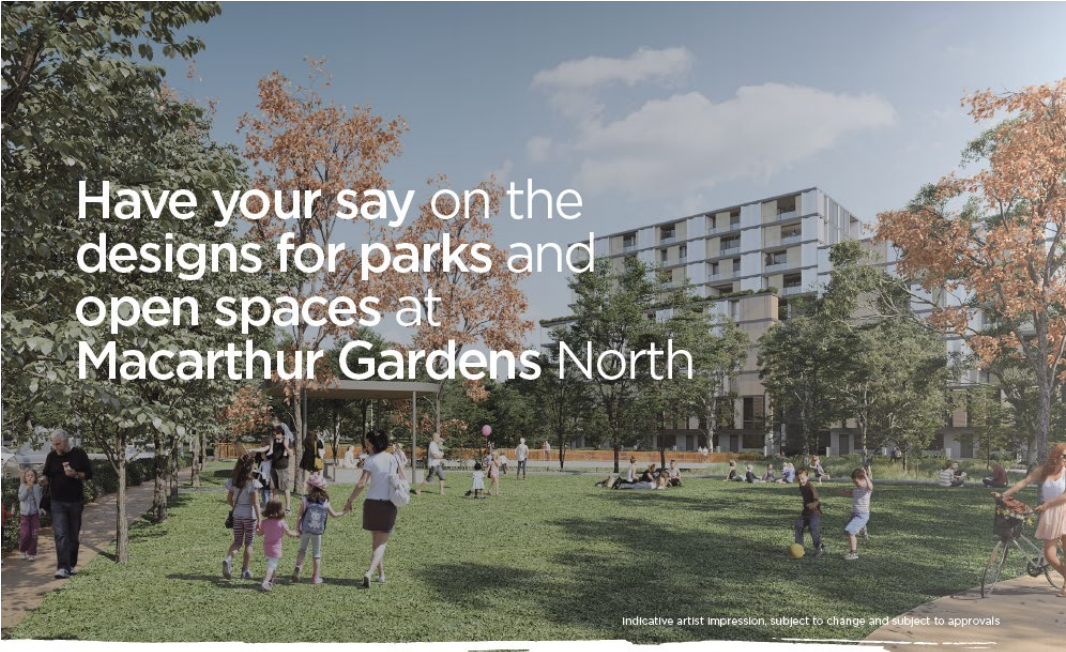


Landcom is building more affordable and sustainable communities in your area. Call 13 14 50 if you need an interpreter and ask them to call Landcom on 1800 161 388.



A second version of the postcard was handed out at the pop-ups to facilitate participant completion of the survey and provide them with a record of where to seek further information.

Figure 10: Copy of Postcard used for pop-ups



## Have your say on the designs for parks and open spaces at Macarthur Gardens North

Landcom received approval for Macarthur Gardens North in December 2022. The development will include up to 1,250 apartments, including studio, 1-, 2-, and 3-bedroom apartments, in buildings up to nine storeys high, and has provision for 10% affordable rental housing.

The development will include a range of parks and open spaces for relaxation and play, including play areas for children, a fitness park and a multi-purpose sports area. We encourage the community to provide us with feedback on what you would like to see in these spaces.

Please visit our website to:

- learn more
- sign up for updates
- complete a survey.

**Join the conversation and help us design parks and open spaces at Macarthur Gardens North!**



W. [landcom.com.au/mgn](https://landcom.com.au/mgn)

T. 1800 411 717

E. [macgardensnorth@landcom.nsw.gov.au](mailto:macgardensnorth@landcom.nsw.gov.au)



Landcom is building more affordable and sustainable communities in your area. Call 13 14 50 if you need an interpreter and ask them to call Landcom on 1800 161 388.





- MHCG WhatsApp group promotion of Main Ridge Park Pop-up 15 April 2023.
- MHCG Facebook page promotion 15 April 2023.

Figure 11: Copy of MHCG Facebook page



- Email to the database of individuals who have signed up for newsletters and updates on MGN (889 subscribers).
- Both Macarthur Square and WSU promoted their respective pop-ups internally.
- Geo-targeted social media posts as listed in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Landcom Social Statistics - April 2023 Macarthur Gardens North

Date	Link	Channel & Type	Topic	Content#	Organic Engagements	Organic Impressions
Friday, 28 April 2023	<a href="#">HERE</a>	Facebook Post	Macarthur Gardens North	1	1	1,066
Friday, 28 April 2023	<a href="#">HERE</a>	Instagram Post	Macarthur Gardens North	1	1	157
Tuesday, 18 April 2023	<a href="#">HERE</a>	Facebook Post	Macarthur Gardens North	1	1	798
Tuesday, 18 April 2023	<a href="#">HERE</a>	Instagram Post	Macarthur Gardens North	1	4	145
Monday, 17 April 2023	<a href="#">HERE</a>	Facebook Post	Macarthur Gardens North	1	3	1,018
Monday, 17 April 2023	<a href="#">HERE</a>	Instagram Post	Macarthur Gardens North	1	6	168
Monday, 17 April 2023	<a href="#">HERE</a>	Facebook Post	Macarthur Gardens North	1	2	699
Friday, 14 April 2023	<a href="#">HERE</a>	Facebook Post	Macarthur Gardens North	1	5	1,565
Friday, 14 April 2023	<a href="#">HERE</a>	Instagram Post	Macarthur Gardens North	1	6	183
Thursday, 13 April 2023	<a href="#">HERE</a>	Facebook Post	Macarthur Gardens North	1	2	1,696
Thursday, 13 April 2023	<a href="#">HERE</a>	Google My Business Post*	Macarthur Gardens North	1		

## Examples of social media posts



landcomplaces • Follow

landcomplaces What makes a great fitness park – gym equipment? A multi-sport pitch?

Talk to us about plans for Macarthur Gardens North and enjoy a FREE coffee and face painting! Visit the team at Mainridge Park at Macarthur Heights between 8:30am-10:30am on Saturday 15 April, or complete the online survey via the link in our bio.

7w

6 likes  
APRIL 14

Log in to like or comment.



**Landcom Places**

17 April · 🌐

Water play area? Climbing tower? Have your say on plans for new parks at Macarthur Gardens North.

Visit the team at Macarthur Square, just outside Woolworths, on Tuesday 18 April between 9am-12pm where kids can also enjoy FREE face painting!

If you can't make it, we also invite you to complete our online survey: <https://landcom.com.au/MGN-your-say>



👍 1

💬 2



**Landcom Places**

17 April · 🌐

What makes a great kids' park? Have your say by visiting the team tomorrow at Macarthur Square, near Woolworths, between 9am-12pm. There'll be FREE face painting for kids!

Can't make it? Fill out this survey: <https://landcom.com.au/MGN-your-say>



👍 2





**Landcom Places**

28 April · 🌐

Don't miss your chance to help shape the future of children's play areas and fitness spaces in Macarthur Gardens North.

Have your say by taking part in our online survey until 6pm tonight:

<https://landcom.com.au/.../open-spaces-macarthur-gardens...>



👍 1

👍 Like

💬 Comment

## Community Consultation Findings

### Feedback relating to the overall open space at MGN

The primary purpose of the community engagement was to seek feedback on the specific play and outdoor recreation design elements of the Station Park and Fitness Park area. However, both the pop-ups and the webinars also captured broader feedback on the overall MGN development. Some of the open-ended survey feedback contained views around more general aspects of the development such as preservation of the natural environment.

*“Having lots of green space is very important.”*

*“Green space is important for addressing thermal issues.”*

This broader feedback is summarised in Table 2 below, together with the response to the feedback for the final design as appropriate.

Table 2: General feedback

#	Feedback/Suggestion	Response
1	ART <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Include art and paintings as part of the overall design</li> </ul>	Art may be considered as part of the overall master plan.
2	PARKING <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Include parking that can be used by people who are visiting the parks</li> <li>Minimum of one or two accessible parking spaces close to the play areas</li> <li>Include parking for bicycles</li> </ul>	There will be street parking along the edges of the roads. Bike racks will be included in the parks.
3	SHADE and SEATING Include lots of seating and shade in both areas. <i>“Please make sure it has shade”</i> (Survey respondent) <i>“Plan play areas under shade from trees to maximise use in hot weather”</i> (Survey respondent) Provide a number of picnic tables suitable for outdoor children’s parties	Noted. Initial planting proposed through the design to Council is for larger trees planted throughout the playgrounds and seating areas to maximise shade from the outset. This will complement the proposed shade structures throughout the open space areas. Noted. Picnic tables included.
4	DOG PARK (off leash enclosed area) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A few people made this suggestion at every pop-up and it also was mentioned in the survey</li> <li><i>“To have a dog park would be perfect”</i> (survey respondent)</li> </ul>	This is being explored in discussions with Council.

#	Feedback/Suggestion	Response
---	---------------------	----------

5	<p>CLEANLINESS/ MAINTENANCE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Provision of dog poo bags and garbage bins throughout the park</li> <li>▪ Ongoing maintenance and cleaning of facilities</li> </ul>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>Garbage bins included.</p> <p>Cleaning and maintenance will be a matter for Council once the facilities have been handed over.</p>
6	<p>LIGHTING and SAFETY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Lighting along paths/ trail for night-time security <i>“Will the park be lit at night?”</i> (Webinar participant)</li> <li>▪ Provision of “anti-vandal” cameras</li> </ul>	<p>Noted and included.</p> <p>CCTV will be included in Station Park arrival plaza.</p>
7	<p>BOARDWALK</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Good accessibility for bikes, scooters and wheelchairs</li> </ul>	<p>Noted and included.</p>
8	<p>SKATE PARK</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Requests for a skate park were received at the pop-ups, in a webinar and as part of the survey suggestions</li> </ul>	<p>The proximity of the future residential buildings to the approved open space means noise considerations would limit this option.</p>
9	<p>COMPLEMENTARY FACILITIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ There was a strong view that the facilities to be built and equipment chosen in the parks should complement and not duplicate those which are available close by e.g. Main Ridge Park at Macarthur Heights</li> </ul>	<p>Noted.</p>
10	<p>BBQ FACILITIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Either in the fitness park or more generally</li> </ul>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>These will be included.</p>

# Station Park Play Area Options

## Overall feedback

There was strong overall support for the Station Park play areas, for example the following pop-up feedback: *“It’s a really good idea as there used to be lots of playgrounds for kids in the area and over time they have gone.”*

Table 3: General Station Park area feedback

#	Feedback/ Suggestion	Response
11	<p>COFFEE SHOP/ CAFE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>“Mum’s need coffee”</i> (Pop-up participant)</li> <li>▪ <i>“Being a parent being able to have/ purchase a coffee near a park is important”</i> (Webinar participant)</li> <li>▪ <i>“It would be great if you could make sure there is a gourmet bakery there (under the apartment blocks?) that makes sourdough, gourmet pies and tarts etc”</i> (Survey respondent)</li> </ul>	A commercial/ retail zone is approved.
12	<p>SAFETY and SECURITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>“Different zones are great but how is safety and security addressed?”</i> (Webinar participant)</li> <li>▪ Line of sight <i>“With one child in the waterpark and another in another area would you be able to see them both?”</i> (Webinar participant)</li> <li>▪ Consider fencing the area</li> </ul>	<p>Design takes into account safety and security (This will include a crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED) assessment). Line of sight has been included and facilitated by terracing of the play areas. Fencing will be provided at strategic locations to manage safety.</p>
13	<p>EQUIPMENT FOR ALL AGES/ ACCESSIBLE PLAY EQUIPMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The play equipment should have a mixture of options that work for all ages from one year olds through 12–14-year-olds to adults and those who have a disability of all ages.</li> <li>▪ As one survey respondent noted: <i>“Not many parks cater to different age groups, having a 1-year-old, I am often not able to let her play on the equipment as it is tailored to kids 3 years plus. It would be lovely to have a small area for smaller children to play also, small inground trampolines, easy to walk upstairs to a slide, rocking toys, things or animals they could climb on.”</i></li> <li>▪ <i>“Are you also adding in adult options please for play?”</i> (Survey respondent)</li> </ul>	The intention is that a range of equipment will cater for all ages as well as all-ability play options.

#	Feedback/ Suggestion	Response
14	<p>OTHER PLAY EQUIPMENT SUGGESTIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Flying Fox <i>“Flying fox is always popular and attracts kids to the park”</i> (Survey respondent)</li> <li>▪ Embedded trampoline</li> </ul>	These will be considered as options.

### Individual play areas

The survey was specifically designed to collect option preferences for each play area. Photographs of each option choice were included in the survey question.

Respondents could choose as many or as few of the options as they liked. This meant that the number of preferences collected was greater than the number of individual respondents who answered each question. Questions were not compulsory and some play areas attracted more interest than others. There was very little interest in the Tower play options with only six people offering an opinion on these.

The Macarthur Square pop-up provided an opportunity to test the various play options directly with children. Children were invited to choose their preferred option or options for each of the specific play areas. Each child was assisted to put a vote against all of their choices on the display poster options and these votes were later tallied.

Comparative summary data showing both survey respondents and children’s preferences is provided below for each specific play area. As the children’s data counted aggregate votes (likes) and we don’t know how many children voted, the survey data presented for comparison purposes is similarly based on the total number of preferences expressed.

The survey data can also tell us what proportion of respondents liked each of the options and this is described separately.

Qualitative data capturing any other suggestions for the play area from survey, pop up and webinar feedback is also included.



## Water Play

The three water play options were:



As can be seen from the figure and table below, the water play option which attracted the most likes is different for children and adults. Children's greatest preference count was for the unstructured option followed by the structured option. In contrast, the natural option was the one most nominated by survey respondents and least nominated by children (47% compared to 19% of children). As one survey respondent explained:

*"Children love to play in the waterparks, where there are fountains, and spouts to run through, many of which have popped up in the area with a lot of new developments and this will be popular. If you wanted to differentiate this park, a more natural looking water area would be lovely, as children don't get to experience this as much anymore. I personally, would love a more natural area, creek beds, plants, etc. in which the children could have a genuine outdoor experience that is rare to have."*

Another said:

*"Prefer natural water play option where there is flowing water for mini engineering (damming), sail boat races (Pooh Sticks), etc."*

A webinar participant made the observation that:

*"The unstructured and natural options work much better. Building items (structured option) generally need future maintenance."*

Keeping in mind that individuals could choose more than one option, across both cohorts the unstructured option is most likely to satisfy both children and adults.

**Conclusion:** The unstructured option is most likely to satisfy both children and adults.

Figure 12: Water Play preferences

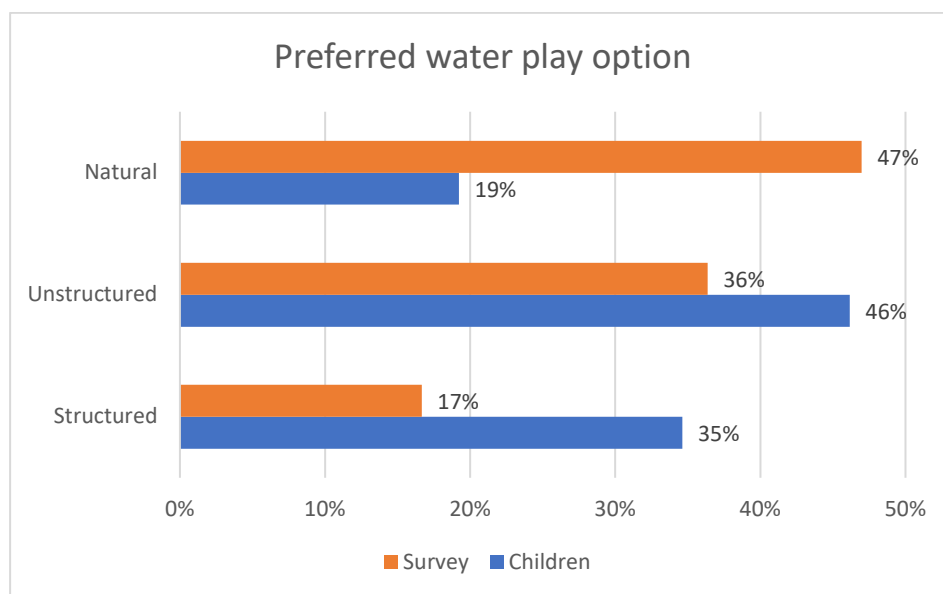


Table 4: Water Play preferences

CHILDREN'S PREFERENCES			SURVEY PREFERENCES		
Water Play	#	%	Water Play	#	%
Structured	9	35%	Structured	11	17%
Unstructured	12	46%	Unstructured	24	36%
Natural	5	19%	Natural	31	47%
<b>Total votes</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>Total choices made</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>100%</b>

Note: There were 49 survey respondents who answered this question.

Across these 49 people, 63% (31) liked the natural option; 49% (24) liked the unstructured option and 22% (11) liked the structured option.

Table 5: Other water play suggestions

#	Feedback/ Suggestion	Response
15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Please consider Oran water park as a guide.</li> <li>Have a larger space devoted to water play. Use Oran Park as a guide.</li> </ul>	Noted.
16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have splash pads.</li> </ul>	Noted.
17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At least one swimming pool for kids and adults.</li> </ul>	Not within the scope of the project.
18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have some areas that are accessible for people with mobility concerns.</li> </ul>	Noted. All pathways will meet the relevant Australian standard AS1428.1

## Kids Play

The three kids play options were:



1. Swings

### STATION PARK - PLAY



3. Spinning and  
rocking



2. Multiplay Unit

Children's most favoured option was swings, with almost half (47%) of children liking this option. Spinning and rocking was next at 32%. In contrast, more than half the survey respondents liked the multi-play unit (53% of likes) followed by 33% for swings.

One survey respondent noted:

*"Kids love swings, slides and multiple ways to access them (stairs, climbing wall, ladder etc)"*

Feedback suggests that it will be important to include swings in the kids play area.

**Conclusion:** Swings should be included in the kids play area.

Figure 13: Kids Play preferences

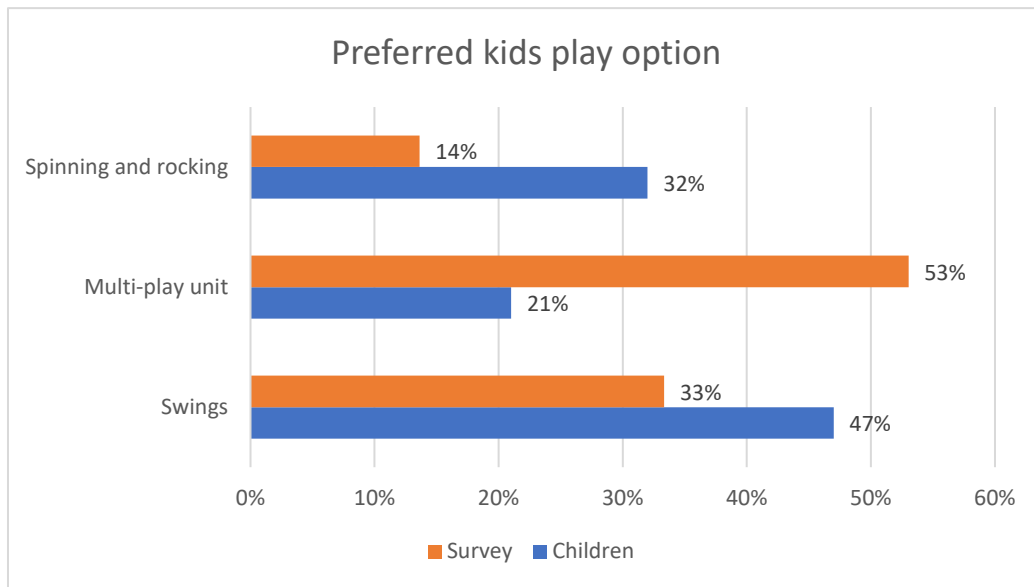


Table 6: Kids Play preferences

CHILDREN'S PREFERENCES			SURVEY PREFERENCES		
Kids Play	#	%	Kids Play	#	%
Swings	9	47%	Swings	22	33%
Multi-play unit	4	21%	Multi-play unit	35	53%
Spinning and rocking	6	32%	Spinning and rocking	9	14%
<b>Total votes</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>Total choices made</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>100%</b>

Note: There were 46 survey respondents who answered this question.

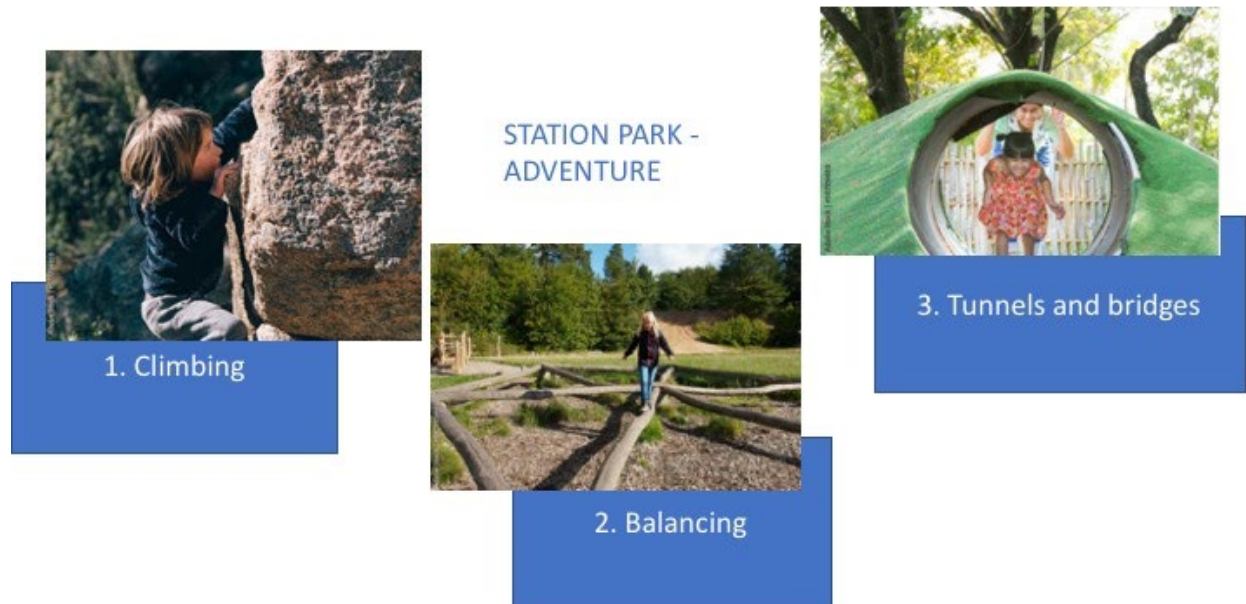
Across these 46 people, 76% (n=35) liked the multi-play unit, 48% (n=22) liked the swings and 20% (n=9) liked the spinning and rocking option.

Table 7: Other kids play suggestions

#	Feedback/ Suggestion	Response
19	I have noticed that a lot of parks have structures in which there are "open" sections, which a kid could just jump or fall out of and a lot of families I know will avoid these types of playgrounds as it is too dangerous.	All play equipment will meet the relevant Australian standards for play equipment

## Adventure Play

The three adventure play options were:



Across both children and the survey respondents, the option which attracted the most likes was tunnels and bridges. Children like the balancing option just as much whereas for survey respondents, the next most popular choices are equally split between balancing (31%) and climbing (30%).

Tunnels and bridges were also preferred for their ability to cater for much younger children. In the words of one survey respondent:

*“All of these options are great and give a more natural feel. Tunnels and bridges are a great option for smaller kids from 1 to 3 years old also.”*

Webinar participants said all the adventure play options were good with no particular preference.

**Conclusion:** Tunnels and bridges should be included in the adventure play area. If balancing options are also feasible, this will be well-received.



Figure 14: Adventure Play preferences

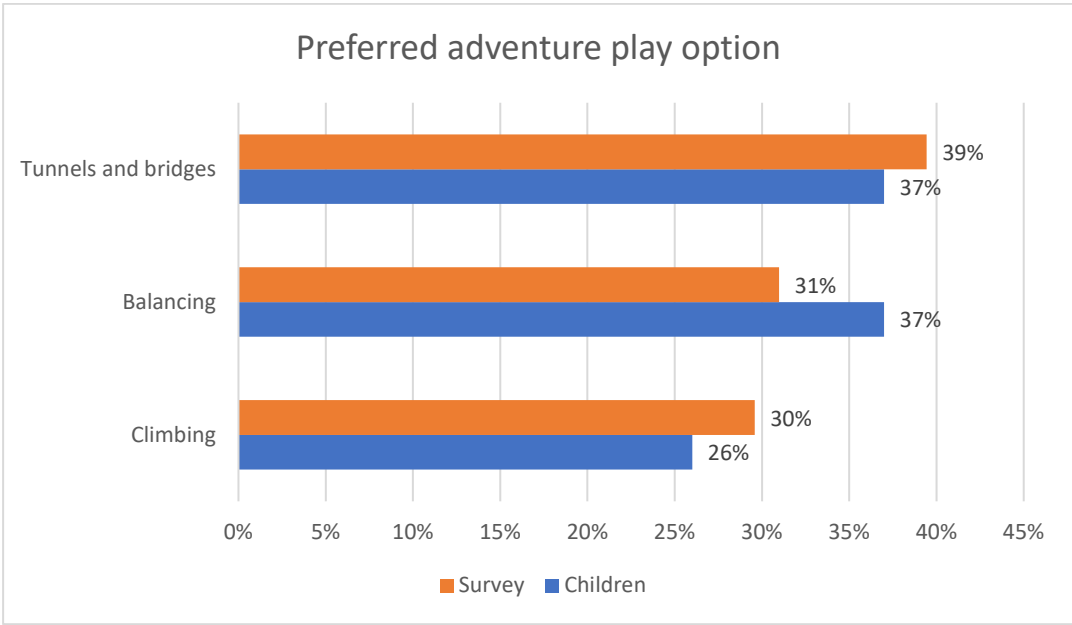


Table 8: Adventures Play preferences

CHILDREN'S PREFERENCES			SURVEY PREFERENCES		
Adventure Play	#	%	Adventure Play	#	%
Climbing	5	26%	Climbing	21	30%
Balancing	7	37%	Balancing	22	31%
Tunnels and bridges	7	37%	Tunnels and bridges	28	39%
<b>Total votes</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>Total choices made</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>100%</b>

Note: There were 48 survey respondents who answered this question.

Across these 48 people, 58% (28) liked the tunnels and bridges option, 46% (22) liked the balance beams and 44% (21) liked the climbing option.

Table 9: Other adventure play suggestions

#	Feedback/ Suggestion	Response
20	All of these but also spaces for girls to have adventures too - ask them - it won't be these traditional boy activities.	The intention is that a range of equipment will cater for all ages as well as an all-ability play options.

## Tower Play

The three tower play options were:



1. Rope

### STATION PARK - TOWER



3. Looping trail



2. Platform and slides

The Tower play options attracted very little interest in the survey with only six people choosing to express their preferences. Notwithstanding this, there is good alignment with the children's most liked option of platforms and slides (57% and 60% respectively).

The ability of tower play options to cater for older children was appreciated:

*"Something for older children would be great."*

**Conclusion:** Platforms and slides should be key features of the Tower Play area.

Figure 15: Tower Play preferences

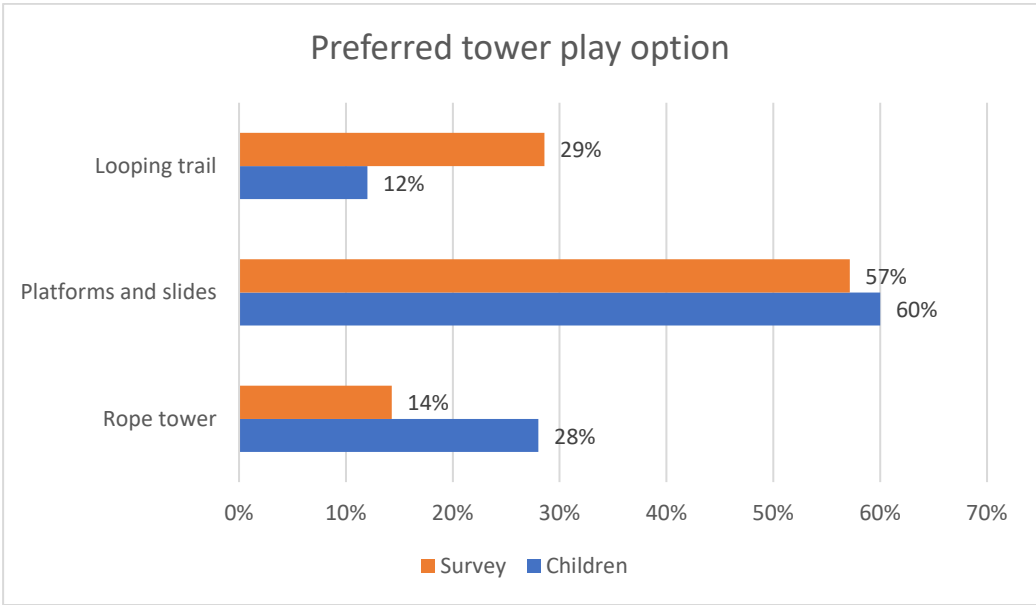


Table 10: Tower Play preferences

CHILDREN'S PREFERENCES			SURVEY PREFERENCES		
Tower Play	#	%	Tower Play	#	%
Rope tower	7	28%	Rope tower	1	14%
Platforms and slides	15	60%	Platforms and slides	4	57%
Looping trail	3	12%	Looping trail	2	29%
<b>Total votes</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>Total choices made</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>100%</b>

Note: There were only 6 survey respondents who answered this question.

Across these 6 people, two-thirds (n=4) liked the platform and slides, one-third (n=2) liked the looping trail and 17% (n=1) liked the rope option.

Table 11: Other tower play suggestions

#	Feedback/ Suggestion	Response
21	Include a lower-level tower for younger kiddies	Noted
22	Non-metal slides	No metal slides
23	Add net-dropped-in walkways between towers	This will be reviewed to see if it is feasible
24	At least one indoor high rope course	Not within the scope of the project

# Fitness Park Options

## Overall feedback

Good support for a multi-use area.

*“Having flexibility is handy. Multi-use courts are a good use of space”*

*“An area for and organise daily outdoor Boot Camp session would be amazing.”*

One person suggested a hard surface court marked for a variety of uses such as basketball, pickle ball, volleyball.

The pop-ups, especially at WSU drew some concern at the loss of the current parking area which will become part of the fitness park.

## Multi-use Games Court

1. Basketball

2. Futsal/Soccer

STATION PARK - SPORTS

3. Volleyball

Basketball and futsal/ soccer are almost as popular as each other for the multi-sports area with 58% and 54% of respondents respectively choosing these options. Only 16% of respondents selected volleyball.

As Table 12 below shows there were a number of other suggestions.

**Conclusion:** Design the multi-sports area so that it can cater for both basketball and futsal/ soccer.

Table 12: Other multi-sport suggestions

#	Feedback/ Suggestion	Response
25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tennis (nominated by 4 survey respondents and also mentioned in the pop-ups by at least 4 people)</li> <li><i>“Also maybe half-court tennis courts for the young ones”</i></li> <li>Table-tennis was also suggested</li> </ul>	These will be reviewed for feasibility.
26	Frisbee area <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>“Frisbee is very popular”</i></li> </ul>	There will opportunity to play these types of activity in a range of open areas throughout the precinct.
27	Badminton <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>“Badminton is also popular”</i></li> </ul>	This will be reviewed for feasibility.
28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A hitting/ kicking practice wall</li> </ul>	These will be reviewed for feasibility.
29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Community meeting facility/ hall</li> <li>An indoor community space/ community centre was suggested as important for bringing people together</li> </ul>	Not within the scope of the project.
30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Additional basketball rings for younger children to practise netting the ball</li> </ul>	This will be reviewed for feasibility.
31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cricket</li> </ul>	This will be reviewed for feasibility.

Figure 16: Preferred sports for multi-sport area

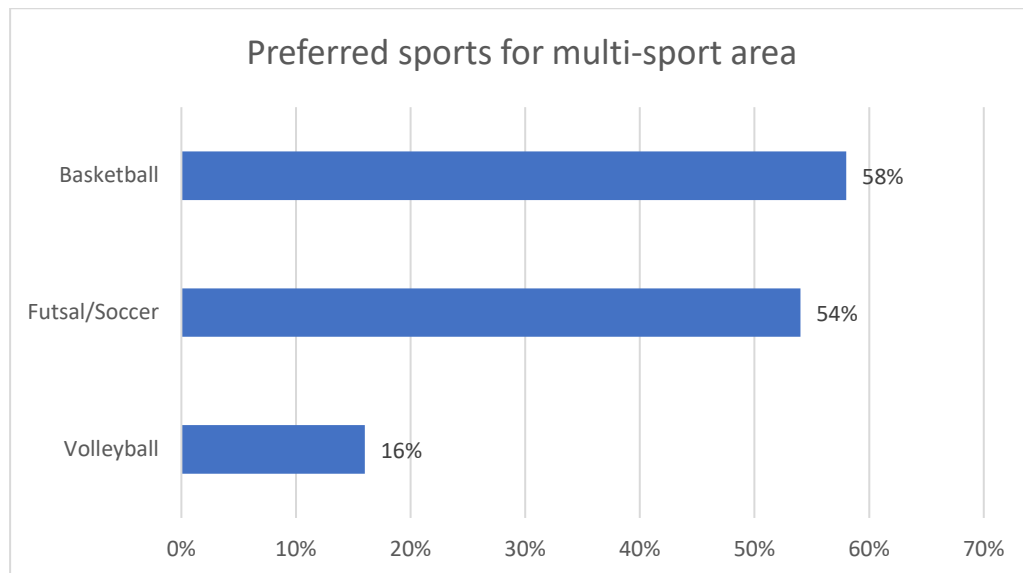


Table 13: Multi-sport preferences

<b>SURVEY PREFERENCES</b>		
Multi-use games area	#	%
Basketball	25	58%
Futsal/ Soccer	23	54%
Volleyball	7	16%
<b>Total choices made</b>	<b>55</b>	



## Outdoor gym



1. Group

## FITNESS PARK - FITNESS



2. Outdoor gym

In the survey, 45 respondents made a choice in the outdoor gym question. The outdoor gym equipment option was chosen by 64% (29) of the survey respondents and 51% selected space for group classes.

In the pop-ups we heard mixed views about desirability of an outdoor gym. Some would prefer no gym and instead, 2 x multi-purpose sports courts; some said other outdoor gyms are not used and have poor, old, ineffective equipment. Others currently make use of outdoor gyms and would like to see the outdoor gym included.

One survey respondent noted:

*"I rarely see people using the outdoor gym equipment in parks."*

Another said:

*"I find a lot of the older community use the outdoor gym equipment."*

Some pop-up participants expressed support for an outdoor gym- with equipment designed for longevity and low maintenance- examples cited were parallel poles, a dip bar, step-ups, pull-up bars and body weight activated seated pull-down and outdoor bike. Two students reported that they currently used outdoor gyms close to where they lived.

**Conclusion:** Explore the feasibility of including both outdoor gym equipment and open space for group classes.

Figure 17: Fitness Park preferences

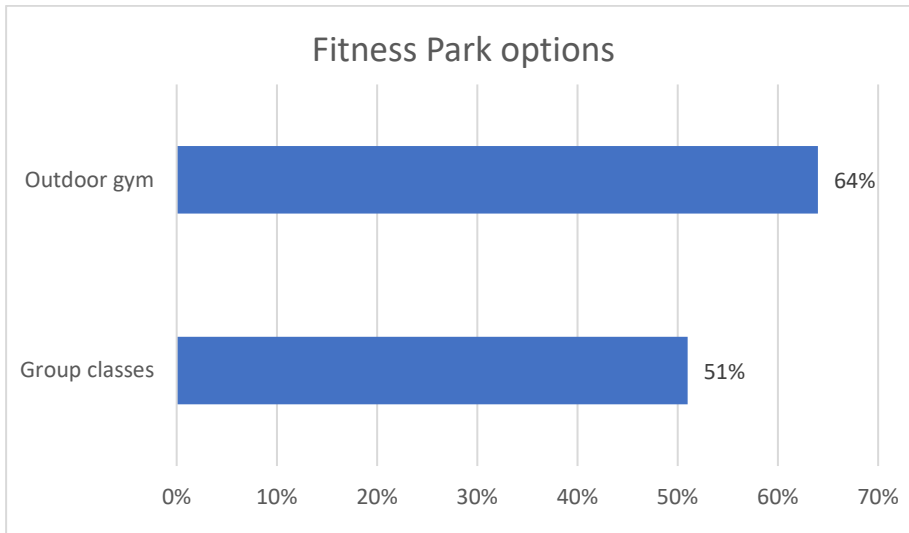


Table 14: Fitness park preferences

SURVEY PREFERENCES		
Fitness Park Option	#	%
Space for group classes	23	51%
Outdoor gym	29	64%
<b>Total choices made</b>	<b>52</b>	

There were 45 people who answered this question.

Table 15: Other fitness park suggestions

#	Feedback/ Suggestion	Response
32	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Running track/ outdoor walking track</li> <li>"A large walking/ bike track would be great; many parks only have a very small track"</li> </ul>	<p>A learn-to ride/ scooter track will be considered.</p> <p>A separate running track not feasible in the space.</p>
33	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A ninja gym course</li> </ul>	<p>This will be reviewed for feasibility.</p>

## Other Parks

Survey respondents were asked to nominate a favourite park/s and the reasons why.

Examples of parks given were:

- Riverbend Park in Launceston.
- Spring Farm Park.
- Main Ridge Park.
- Koshigaya Park Campbelltown.
- Gypsy Hill.
- Lizard log and Horsley Park Grounds.
- Botanic Gardens playground.
- Water playground in Camden.
- Chellaston Reserve in Camden.
- Burrell Road Riverside Park.
- Howard Park, Gregory Hills.

Features which made parks a favourite.

<b>Play equipment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A lot of play equipment for different age groups.</li> <li>▪ Different play equipment.</li> <li>▪ Good play.</li> </ul>
<b>Lizard log</b>	<i>“Lizard log is lovely, the playgrounds have a much more natural feel to it, there is a lot of trees and shade above the playground itself that provides natural shade instead of manmade structures. There is a large walking/ bike track also. There is a second park within the grounds that is a more structured man-made playground. There are a lot of shaded BBQ areas, as well as open areas for kids to run around and play ball games.”</i>
<b>Bigge Park</b>	<i>“Bigge Park circular walking paths big enough for older people, little people or those with disabilities to still get out and take a meaningful walk lots of shade trees criss-crossing paths to enable you to walk through in whichever direction you need to go - so lots of people in the park which makes it feel safer plenty of lighting on all paths - so feels safer and can exercise after dark water play, playgrounds, fitness equipment, lots of grassed areas, courts, etc. “</i>
<b>Chellaston reserve in Camden</b>	<i>“Clean toilet amenities, having food caravans close by on the weekends with coffee and lunch snacks, set in natural grounds with plenty of trees and sandstone, grass and shade, BBQ facilities and seating for the elderly and less mobile people in the shade, plenty of parking.”</i>
<b>Spring Farm, Elderslie, Camden South</b>	<i>“Coffee nearby, in-ground trampolines and variety of play equipment, shaded by trees shade nets, picnic tables, lots of open spaces and beautiful natural surroundings.”</i>
<b>Park not named</b>	Adventure park based.
	Semi-wild areas to walk through is fun and relaxing.

## Appendix 1 | Demographics

### Survey

There were 52 survey responses in total. 37 gave information about their suburb of residence.

#### What suburb do you live in?

All respondents who answered this question gave their postcode. Indicative suburbs have been included in the table below.

The majority of respondents (68%) were from the Campbelltown LGA.

Table 16: Survey respondent suburb of residence

Suburb	No	%	Campbelltown LGA
1565 (Milson's Point)	1	3%	No
2067 (Chatswood)	1	3%	No
2146 (Toongabbie)	1	3%	No
2155 (Kellyville)	1	3%	No
2515 (Austinmer)	1	3%	No
2560 (Campbelltown)	20	54%	Yes
2565 (Ingleburn)	4	11%	Yes
2566 (Minto)	1	3%	Yes
2567 (Mt Annan)	3	8%	No
2570 (Camden)	3	8%	No
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>100%</b>	

#### Connection to the area

Respondents were able to select all connections which were relevant to them. Over 70% indicated that they lived in the area and more than 50% worked in the area. All respondents gave at least one connection. Of those who lived in the area, 41% indicated that they also worked in the area.

Table 17: Survey respondent connection to the area

Connection	#	%
I live in the area	37	71%
I work in the area	27	52%
I am studying at WSU Macarthur/ Campbelltown TAFE	2	4%
I am visiting the area	2	4%
Total	52	

48 people provided age group data. Almost 60% of respondents were under the age of 45 and 80% under 55.

Figure 18: Survey age profile

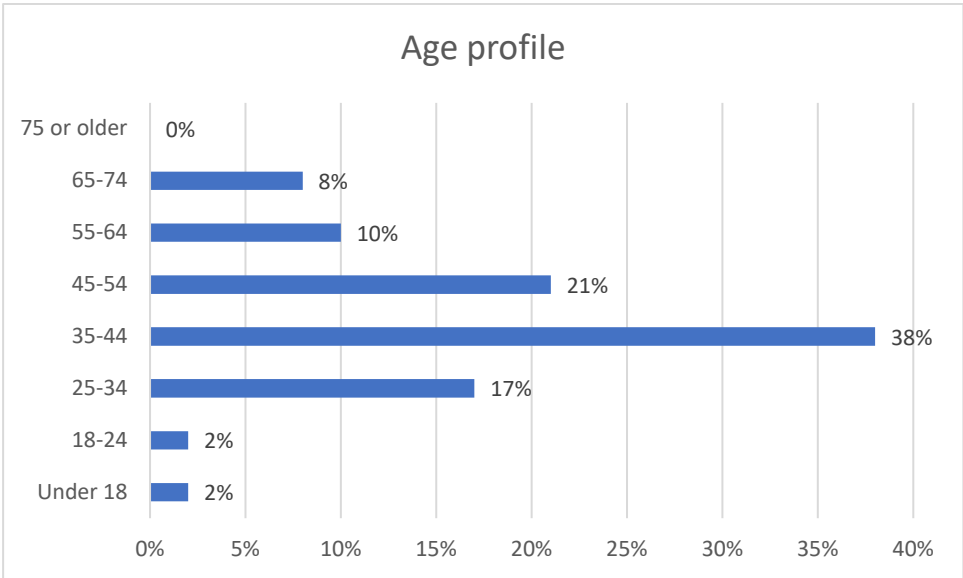


Table 18: Survey respondent age groups

Age group	#	%
Under 18	1	2%
18-24	1	2%
25-34	8	17%
35-44	18	38%
45-54	10	21%
55-64	5	10%
65-74	4	8%
75 or older	0	0%
Prefer not to say	1	2%

## Gender

Table 19: Survey respondent gender

Gender	#	%
Female	28	61%
Male	17	37%
Prefer not to say	1	2%
Total	46	100



As can be seen by Table 19 above and Table 20 below, the gender ratios of the survey and the pop-ups are very similar (61% vs 58% female).

**Pop-ups**

Table 20: Pop-up demographics

	Main Park Ridge	Macarthur Square	WSU	TOTAL	%
Male	20	16	18	54	42%
Female	14	44	16	74	58%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 21: Macarthur Square age profile estimate

Age	Female	Male
20's	30%	17%
30's	28%	20%
40's	23%	0%
50+	20%	63%

Table 22: Macarthur Square children age profile estimate 46 children

Age group	%
Preschool	22%
Infants/ primary	61%
Post-primary	17%

## Appendix 2 | Questionnaire

### Have your say on our plans for parks and open spaces at Macarthur Gardens North

What is Macarthur Gardens North?

Macarthur Gardens North will provide accommodation of up to 1,250 apartments with more than 11 ha of open space, preserving Cumberland Plain Woodland, River Flat Eucalypt Forest and Bow Bowling Creek. This includes play areas for children and a fitness park.

About this survey

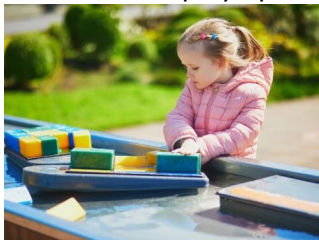
Your ideas for the play, sport and fitness areas will help inform our detailed designs for these spaces. Please note that all your responses are anonymous.

If you would like to look at the overall plan while you think about your choices, please [click here](https://landcom.com.au/assets/Places/Macarthur-Gardens-North/2023-04-05_MGN_Site-Context_rev-002.jpg)[https://landcom.com.au/assets/Places/Macarthur-Gardens-North/2023-04-05\\_MGN\\_Site-Context\\_rev-002.jpg](https://landcom.com.au/assets/Places/Macarthur-Gardens-North/2023-04-05_MGN_Site-Context_rev-002.jpg)

This survey has pictures of a number of options to help you. The final design of each space will be tailor-made to the site and so while final selected options will be similar to that displayed in the questions below, they won't look exactly the same.

#### STATION PARK

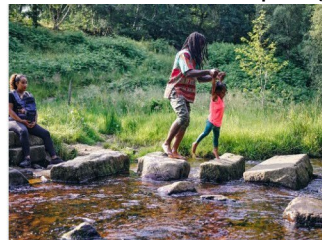
Which water play option do you like best? (You may choose more than one option)



Option 1: Structured



Option 2: Unstructured



Option 3: Natural

Have you any other suggestions for the water play area?

STATION PARK

4. Which kids play option do you like best? (You may choose more than one option)



Option 1: Swings

Option 2: Multi-play Unit

Option 3: Spinning and rocking

5. Have you any other suggestions for the kids play area?

STATION PARK

5. Which play tower option do you like best? (You may choose more than one option)



Option 1: Rope

Option 2: Platform and slides

Option 3: Looping trail

6. Have you any other suggestions for the play tower area?

STATION PARK

Which adventure play option do you like best? (You may choose more than one option)



Option 1: Climbing



Option 2: Balance beams



Option 3: Tunnels and bridges

Have you any other suggestions for the adventure play area?

MULTI-SPORTS AREA

MULTI-SPORTS AREA

9. Which sports would you like to play in the multi-use games area?



Option 1: Basketball



Option 2: Futsal/Soccer



Option 3: Volleyball

10. Have you any other suggestions for the multi-use games area?

FITNESS PARK

Which fitness park option do you like best?



Option 1: Space for group classes    Option 2: Outdoor gym equipment

Have you any other suggestions for the fitness park area?

13. What are some of your favourite parks in the neighbourhood?

14. Why is this park/s your favourite?

4 About you



Please help us understand who our survey has reached:

15. What is your age?

- Under 18
- 18 to 24
- 25 to 34
- 35 to 44
- 45 to 54
- 55 to 64
- 65 to 74
- 75 or older
- Prefer not to say

16. What is your gender?

- Female
- Male
- Other
- Prefer not to say

17. What suburb do you live in?

18. What connection do you have to the Macarthur suburb or Campbelltown I-GA?

Please select ALL that apply

- I live in the area
- I work in the area
- I am studying at WSU Macarthur or Campbelltown TAFE

I am visiting the area