



Peterson Avenue Reserve

Community Consultation Findings

April 2021

1. Introduction

This report summarises community consultation on the proposed plan for the upgrade of the playground and open space at Peterson Avenue Reserve, Mitchell Park.

Peterson Avenue Reserve is a local level playground that will be transformed through minor works. A new playground will be installed and open space upgraded.

2. Consultation Program

Engagement occurred to inform community members of the draft design for Peterson Avenue Reserve and to seek their feedback. The consultation survey was open for 3 weeks from 22 March to 12 April 2021.

The survey was made available online at makingmarion.com.au/peterson-avenue-reserve

Residents were informed about the survey in the following ways:

- **Flyer** - A postcard was delivered to approximately 719 households within roughly 400m² radius of the reserve outlining the period of consultation.
- **On site consultation** was held 25th March 4.30 – 6pm
- **Onsite sign** - An onsite sign was installed at the reserve promoting the Making Marion link and consultation deadline.
- **Social media** post promoting the survey.
- **Hard copy surveys** were distributed to a group of residents

3. Consultation Overview

Residents were invited to provide feedback on the draft design for Peterson Avenue Reserve through the online survey via Making Marion.

In total, during this 3-week consultation period Council received 23 submissions:

- 10 electronic responses to the Making Marion survey
- 13 hard copy surveys.

A full summary of all responses to each survey question and relevant customer event feedback is provided within this report. Responses have been listed as worded by the respondent. For privacy reasons, respondents' details will not be included in a public report.

4. Consultation Findings

Overall, the draft design for Peterson Avenue Reserve received positive comments and constructive feedback. In summary:

- A total of 69 visits were recorded to the project's Making Marion web page where residents could access the Draft design, postcard and survey.
- 23 responses to the survey were received.
- 13 hard copy responses were received. Most were from the Life Care Retirement Village that bounds the back fence.

Please see below for the results of this survey.

5. Summary of feedback received

The table below identifies some of the concerns and items raised regarding the open space upgrade and how the feedback will be considered when finalising the concept design.

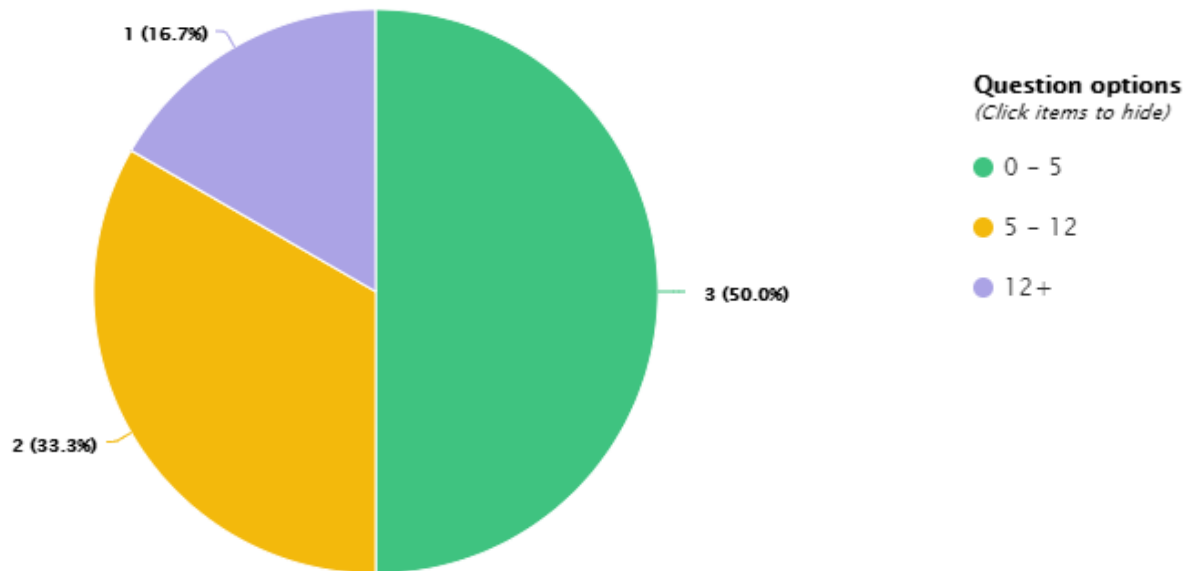
Community Feedback	Design Response
Fruit trees along the back fence cause concern for neighbours	Fruit trees along the back fence will be replaced with shrubs.
Access to the gate of the Life Care Retirement Village is a concern	A mulched bed with no planting will allow access to and use of the gate. The mulched bed will blend with the proposed garden beds along the fence lines.
The number and placement of trees is an issue	The number of trees will be reviewed and reduced.
Further amenities such as toilets, filtered drinking point, seating and table space and lights should be considered.	Peterson Avenue Reserve is a local level reserve, and as such will not have a toilet. A drinking fountain will be added and the seating will be repaired and retained. Further seating logs are included in the design. Lighting has not been considered in the design.
Line of sight from the top of the castle should not overlook yards	This will be considered in the design.
A barbeque has been requested	Service levels for local playground upgrades do not include BBQ's.
Cubbies should not allow access over fences or be closed to line of sight	This will be considered in the design.
Dog bag dispenser required	Peterson Avenue Reserve is an on leash park where dogs must be on a leash at all times. A dog bag dispenser will be added to the design.
Scooter track requested	A scooter track will be considered in the final design.
Soccer goal / ball sports concerns	A scooter track will be considered in place of soccer goals. Consideration will be given to soccer goals should budget permit and the placement of soccer goals will be reconsidered.



SURVEY RESULTS

Q1 What age group are your children?

On line feedback



Hard Copy Survey Feedback

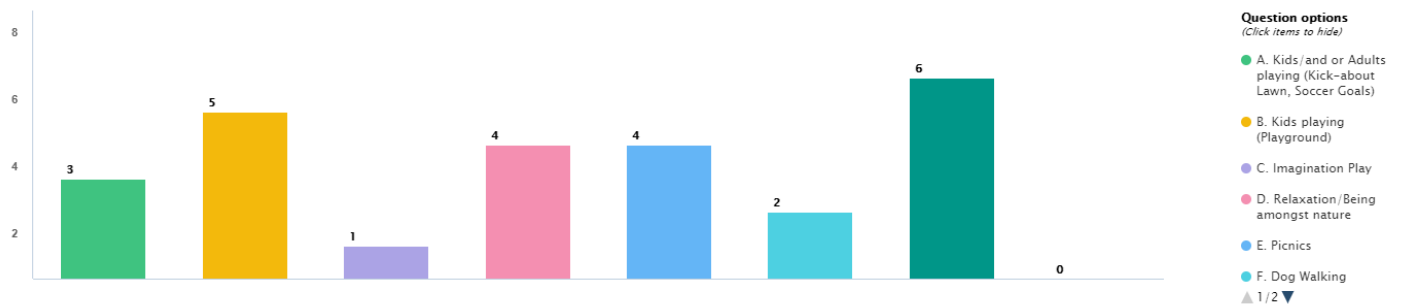
0 - 5	1
5 - 12	2
12+	1
No children	9

Summary of results: The majority of respondents to the survey did not have children. All other age groups are represented.



Q2. What do you intend to use the upgraded reserve for?

On line feedback



Hard copy survey feedback

Kids and / or Adults playing (Kick about lawn, Soccer Goals)	3
Kids Playing (Playground)	5
Imagination Play	3
Relaxation / Being amongst nature	7
Picnics	3
Dog Walking	2
General Exercise / Recreation	2
Other (please specify)	0

Summary of results: Relaxation and General Exercise / Recreation were the most popular uses of the reserve.

Q3 Please rank your favourite play options (1= most favourite, 4 least favourite)

On line feedback

OPTIONS	AVG. RANK
Swings	1.33
Combination Play	2.50
Themed cubby areas	2.83
Mini Soccer Goals	3.33

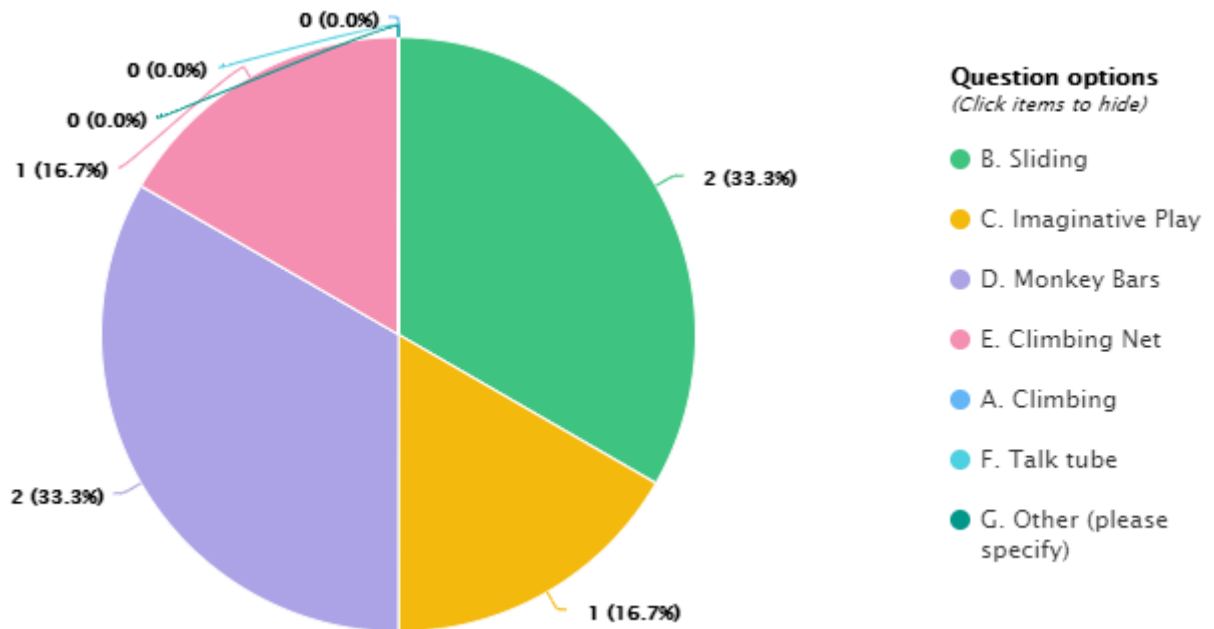
Hard copy survey feedback

Swings	1.3
Combination Play	1.6
Mini Soccer Goals	2.3
Themed Cubby Areas	2.3

Summary of results: Swings were the most popular play option, followed by combination play.

Q4. Different Play opportunities will be provided within the combination play unit. What is the most important play feature?

On line feedback



Hard copy survey feedback

This question was mostly unanswered, and when it was. All options were picked.

Summary of results: Sliding and monkey bars were important play features.



Q5. The design allows for a grove of citrus trees that you can pick and eat. Do you have a favourite citrus fruit you would like to see planted?

Mandarine	1
Lime	1
Orange	2
Lemon	4

Hard copy survey respondents provided the following comments about the fruit trees

I don't agree with having fruit trees all along the southern boundary. A small group of citrus could be considered in the south western corner.

Not sure about fruit trees, perhaps a grove of three citrus in the south western corner could be effective.

I don't want fruit trees. If not cared for and the fallen fruit is not cleaned up then a fruit fly hazard exists. Who is going to prune / care for them?

Don't want trees on border against fence (ie back of village) – dropping leaves etc on clothes (clothes lines fixed to back fence). Overhanging branches also a concern.

Not where they are planned.

I don't want fruit trees along the back fence because

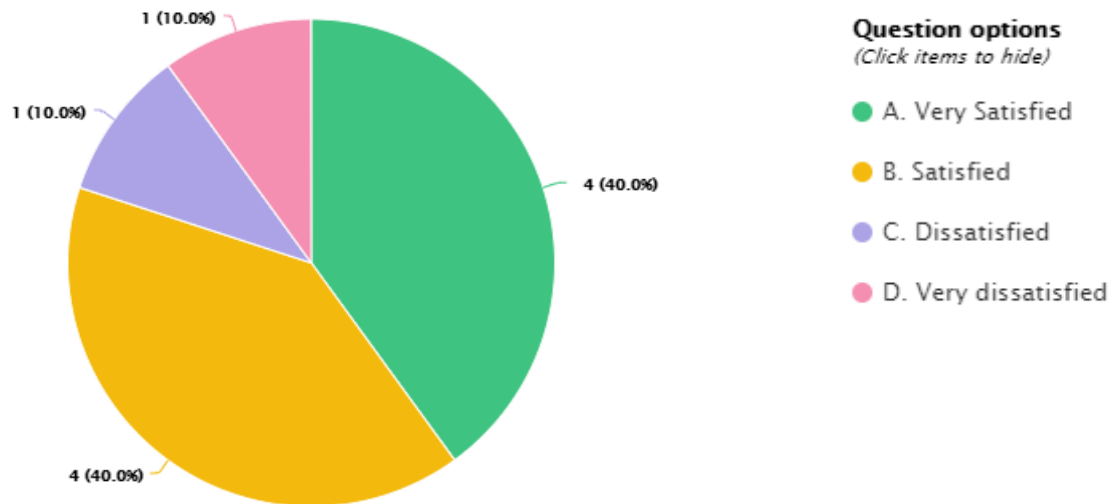
- Access to retirement village
- Mess and rotting fruit (fruit fly)

No

Not required, think about fertilisers and sprays. Useful shade trees.

Q6. How satisfied are you with the proposed design?

On line feedback



Hard Copy survey

Very satisfied	2
Satisfied	1
Dissatisfied	6
Very dissatisfied	1

Summary of results: The majority of on line surveys were satisfied with the design. The residents who filled in the hard copy survey were dissatisfied, mostly by the fruit tree placement. Their commentary can be found in the next questions responses.

Q7. Do you have any other comments about the upgrade at Peterson Avenue Reserve?

Please lots of trees that lose leaves over winter so that there's still sun through the colder months, but the park needs a lot more shade during summer! Very excited.

A barbeque would be a valuable asset for local residents to use whilst their children are using the play facilities.

Some of the questions above do not apply to us, e.g. our children are grown up.

A new fence that goes all the way along and prevents unaccompanied dogs from getting in, plus a gate would be much better than the existing "fence" which is in bad shape. The gazebo definitely needs a revamp, as well as allowing for wheelchair and gopher access. A recycle bin as well as the existing rubbish bin is also needed, positioned near a new central gate. Exercise equipment for older residents is preferred, such as a walking machine as seen in other council reserves. Walking of dogs inside the reserve and kicking/hitting of balls should be discouraged. For example, who pays for any damage caused by balls hitting windows or denting fences? No lighting, please, so that people will not be able to use the reserve at night. (We have already had a used condom thrown over our fence.)

As a resident of the retirement village behind the park we have issues with the plans and in particular closing the gate in the back corner.

We did not hear about the proposal in time to attend the meeting at the park on the 25th March. Please advise if there is a format in which we can meet to discuss this with someone.

Residents have a number of concerns.

1. They would still like to have access to the park through current gates which are in the south eastern corner of the park. This is so they can walk their dogs, play with grand children and exercise.
2. They would like some adult exercise equipment installed.
3. They have concern about the number of trees which could create hidden areas for people to loiter . Suggested a sail be installed instead of so many trees.
4. Suggested that the path that is designed can be wheelchair friendly for an existing care house in Peterson Avenue

Please put soccer goals in!

Dragons Den Cubby

- How tall is the cubby going to be?
- How close to the fence?
- Will children playing be able to climb on top and look over fence?

Doggie bag dispenser needed.

Access to the Life Care Village Maintenance shed should stay

As much open space as possible should be kept so boundary trees should be of a screening nature
Pathway and drinking fountain supported

I believe more open space should be retained

Access to Life Care Maintenance Shed should not be impeded

Perimeter trees should be of a screening nature only

Pathway is good

Drinking fountain is good

Dog dropping bag dispenser needed

Too many trees. I am concerned that this would encourage loitering in various forms.

Fruit trees on southern boundary create a place for people to hide and been unseen jumping the fence into the aged care homes. These homes are inhabited by single aged women who are defenceless against intruders.

Access gate on side, leading into retirement village, has always been available for residents of village to use to drive large vehicle through park into village, should need arise.

Line of sight is lost. Has been trouble in church carpark with loiterers – childrens safety is at risk. When citrus trees planned put aged facility residents at risk. Also easily accessed fruit leads to wastage through fruit fights – ie throwing.

The plan closes access to units given 40+ years ago.

I don't want the vehicle access to the retirement village blocked.

There are far too many proposed trees for the size of the allotment

Trees at the front and more around the play equipment will encourage loitering and impede visuals for supervising children

Cubby houses could encourage homeless and drug user / transfers

Trees on neighbouring boundaries can cause distress to elderly residents nervous of people climbing the fence

What is happening about lighting

No trees on back fence

Less trees at front, need to see children

Amenities required – eg bench seats, tables, toilet block, water and filter drinking.

Put in amenities and you will attract families

Lights (danger safety issue) over head to block

Get a parent to assist with design – who has or have children with pram and babies. Waste of time.

Design needs reworking. Be user friendly – security for families.

How long do you think fruit trees survive?

We are older citizens and have lived in Peterson for over 40 years. Think the ideas for the reserve are great. However, we think there are far too many trees. Little trees do become big trees with time and do need care and become a nuisance with having a lot of maintenance. I think a little more open space would be good.

On site consultation session

The on site consultation session was held 25th March 4.30 – 6pm.

A total of 5 people attended, with the following comments received

- After school is the prime time for usage
- There are groups of people who use the equipment for fitness
- The irrigation box should be hidden
- A loop pathway for scooters should be considered
- A swing bar instead of monkey bars should be considered.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Draft design



LEGEND

	Existing trees to be retained		New garden beds
	New trees		Existing irrigated lawn to be retained
	Existing shelter to be re-painted with re-furnished picnic table		New playground equipment softfall mulch



Concept design is for illustrative purposes only. Council retain the right to modify the design in consideration of unknown site conditions, cost management considerations and internal approvals.