



BLENHEIM PARK

MASTERPLAN

STAGE 1
COMMUNITY CONSULTATION REPORT
MARCH 2019

CITY OF RYDE | Blenheim Park Masterplan – Stage 1 Community
Consultation Report
March 2019 © City of Ryde

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BLenheim PARK MASTERPLAN

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BLENHEIM PARK MASTERPLAN

Executive Summary & Background

The City of Ryde is currently developing a Masterplan for Blenheim Park. A Masterplan provides the framework for how the park will be upgraded over the next 20 years. This strategic plan aims to meet the current and future needs of the community and user groups, while ensuring sustainable and efficient use and ecological outcomes.

The park currently includes a playground, walking and cycling paths, a fenced dog off-leash area, amenities building, picnic and BBQ facilities, a radio control car track and a car park.

The purpose of this Stage 1 community consultation is for Council to understand the current and likely future recreation, leisure and sporting needs of the Ryde community in order to develop a draft Masterplan for Blenheim Park.

City of Ryde's community engagement team conducted the Stage 1 community consultation process to gather feedback from the community to inform the draft Masterplan design for Blenheim Park.

Stage 1 community consultation was conducted from 20 February to 17 March 2019 during which the community could complete an online survey and ask questions or provide feedback at one of the drop-in sessions. This was promoted through City of Ryde's Have Your Say website, flyers to surrounding residents, an eNewsletter to stakeholders, signage in the park and advertisements in the local newspapers.

In total 324 comments were received from the community with 219 comments from the drop-in sessions, 102 responses from the online survey and 3 email submissions.

Through the Stage 1 community consultation it was clear that the community enjoy the current facilities at the park and would like to see these further evolve. Suggestions and improvements for greater use of the park related to maintenance, shade, lighting and seating facilities.

The feedback from this Stage 1 community consultation will be used to inform the draft Masterplan for Blenheim Park. Once prepared, the draft Masterplan will be put on exhibition for community feedback via a Stage 2 community consultation at a later stage.



BLenheim PARK MASTERPLAN

Community Consultation Timeline



BLenheim PARK MASTERPLAN

Community Consultation Methodology



Date	Tool	Stakeholders	Overview	Engagement
Wed 20 Feb to Sun 17 Mar 2019	Have Your Say Website	Website users	A project webpage with background information, survey, details of consultation events and project updates.	254 page views and 214 unique visits
Wed 20 Feb to Sun 17 Mar 2019	Online Survey	Website users	An online survey where stakeholders could identify how they currently use the park and how they would like to see it improved in the future. This survey was hosted on Council's Have Your Say page.	102 completed responses
Wed 20 Feb 2019	eNewsletter	Internal stakeholders, sports clubs and community groups	An eNewsletter was sent to relevant community stakeholder groups to provide an opportunity for interested stakeholders to give feedback.	45 eNewsletters distributed 36 eNewsletters opened
Wed 20 Feb 2019	Flyer	Surrounding residents - 750m radius	A flyer was letterbox dropped to promote the project and feedback opportunities for surrounding local residents.	1320 flyers approximately

BLenheim PARK MASTERPLAN

Community Consultation Methodology continued

Date	Tool	Stakeholders	Overview	Engagement
Wed 20 Feb to Sun 17 Mar 2019	Park Signage	Blenheim Park users	Park signage was placed to promote the project and feedback opportunities for park users and interested stakeholders.	6 signs at entry points of the park
Tue 19 Feb 2019	Smarter, Cleaner, Greener eNewsletter	eNewsletter subscribers	Link to Have Your Say website included in eNewsletter to promote the project and consultation opportunities.	3,194 subscribers 1,145 unique opens
Wed 20 Feb 2019	Newspaper Ads	North District Times and The Weekly Times Newspaper readers	Newspaper advertisements to promote the project and consultation opportunities for all stakeholders.	92,000 total print readership
Wed 27 Feb 2019	City News eNewsletter	eNewsletter subscribers	Link to Have Your Say website included in eNewsletter to promote the project and consultation opportunities.	2,328 subscribers 856 unique opens
Wed 6 Mar 2019	Newspaper Ad	North District Times Newspaper readers	Newspaper advertisement to promote the project and feedback opportunities for all stakeholders.	38,000 total print readership
Wed 6 Mar 2019	Drop-in Session from 4.00pm to 6.00pm onsite	All Stakeholders	A mid week casual drop-in session for stakeholders to have one-on-one time with the project team and provide their thoughts and ideas.	42 attendees who provided 219 comments (across both sessions)
Sat 9 Mar 2019	Drop-in Session at 10.30am to 12.30pm onsite	All Stakeholders	A weekend casual drop-in session for stakeholders to have one-on-one time with the project team and provide their thoughts and ideas.	42 attendees who provided 219 comments (across both sessions)
Wed 20 Feb to Sun 17 Mar 2019	Information phone line and email	All Stakeholders	The City of Ryde main phone and email address was provided for the project and was open for feedback from the community.	3 email submissions received

BLENHEIM PARK MASTERPLAN

Community Consultation Results

The majority of respondents use Blenheim Park fortnightly or more regularly, with half typically spending an hour or less and half usually spending over an hour each visit. Respondents tend to travel to the park by car, followed by walking.

The dog off leash area; radio control car track; mix of facilities and space; and playground were the most liked aspects of the park. The radio control car track and playground were also the most highly rated facilities, while lower rating facilities included seating; availability of sports and recreation activities; toilets; and path lighting.

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

Based on the feedback received the key themes for consideration in developing the Masterplan are (in alphabetical order):

- Acquired Properties:** The acquisition of additional properties was not promoted as part of the community consultation, however many of the respondents who were already aware of the acquisition were supportive for these lands to be incorporated into Blenheim Park for community use. The most popular suggestion for this area was for basketball courts with seating. Other suggestions included youth area, BMX track, skate park, play equipment for older kids, hit up wall, family friendly area and a PCYC with gymnasium or indoor sports centre. Some suggested the car park could be relocated to this area. A small number of respondents were not supportive of Council's acquisition of these properties.
- Basketball Court:** Upgrade and improve the basketball/netball facilities on site. Respondents would like to more basketball half courts while others would like to see a full size court within the Park.
- Connectivity:** Some respondents would like to see direct access from the southern side of the park (via Morshead Road), others would like a pedestrian bridge over Epping Road and improved pedestrian access from Pittwater Road. Improved pathway connections would support and strengthen internal and external access, connection and active transport links between Blenheim Park, the surrounding residential areas, public transport (buses and trains) and the business park.

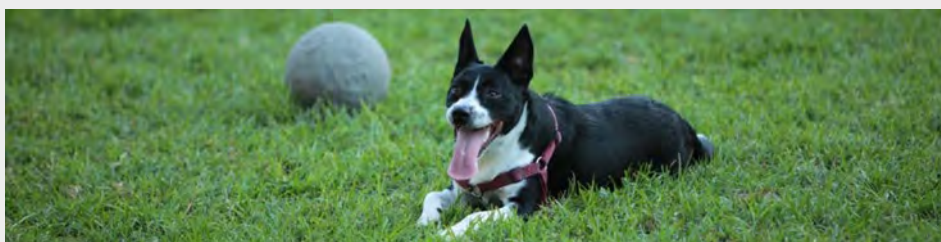


BLenheim PARK MASTERPLAN

Community Consultation Results continued

KEY CONSIDERATIONS continued

- **Dog Off Leash Area:** The fenced dog park is a very popular feature of the Park and generates social interaction. Respondents would like to see the improved maintenance of the grassed area, drainage, irrigation and dog waste facilities. Many users would like for the fenced dog park to be enlarged. Other suggested improvements for consideration include increasing the size of the dog park, adding dog exercise/agility equipment, improved lighting to increase hours of operation for evening use, additional seating, more shade and better dog bowls for drinking water. The double gate entry is viewed favourably but requires some maintenance. A small number of dog owners have suggested separate areas for large dog area and small dogs/puppies.
- **Filtered Water Stations:** Filtered water stations would be a welcomed inclusion in the park design.
- **Fitness Equipment:** Outdoor fitness equipment would be a welcomed inclusion in the park design.
- **Food/Beverages:** Many park users reported that Blenheim Park provided opportunities to meet and socialise with family and friends. Investigate the feasibility for the inclusion of a café, kiosk or food truck program to help to make Blenheim Park more of a meeting place.
- **General Maintenance:** Many respondents would like to see improvements in the general maintenance of the lawns, trees, gardens, toilets, litter, bins and general cleanliness of facilities.
- **Inclusion:** Investigate opportunities for inclusive design elements for people with mobility needs into the design. Suggested areas for consideration include park access, pathways, fitness equipment, playground and radio control car track.
- **Interface with Epping Road:** Review the interface between Blenheim Park and Epping Road to reduce the traffic noise from Epping Road. Some respondents have suggested a boundary fence on Epping Road.
- **Other Activities:** Investigate opportunities to incorporate other informal sport and active recreation activities. The most popular suggestions were to include a scooter and bike track, BMX track and community garden. Other suggestions included kick about space, small skate park, table tennis tables, tennis, hit up wall, petanque/boules piste and Cinema in the Park.



BLenheim PARK MASTERPLAN

Community Consultation Results continued

KEY CONSIDERATIONS continued

- **Parking:** Review parking onsite. Review layout and configuration of parking on Blenheim Road. Investigate feasibility to change parallel parking to angled parking on Blenheim Road. Give consideration to parking requirements for commuters and local workers. Review and give consideration to parking arrangements for radio control car club for race days.
- **Paths and Path Lighting:** Improve walking paths, loop paths and incorporate distance markers. Increase path lighting to improve safety and permit evening use, especially for public transport commuters. Give consideration to supervision sight lines in path design when being used by younger children.
- **Picnic, BBQ Facilities and Seating:** More picnic shelters, BBQs and seating throughout the site would be well supported by the community.
- **Playground:** The playground is a very popular feature of the Park. Respondents would like to see the playground equipment updated and improved. Suggested elements for consideration include water play, adventure play, nature play, modern swings, trampolines, equipment for all ages and an upgrade to the sandpit and play area for younger children. Provide separation between the playground and the dog off leash area. Give consideration to supervision sight lines in playground design.
- **Radio Control Car Track:** Users of the radio control car track would like to see upgrades to the race track surface, the drivers stand (including disability access) and spectator area. Other requested areas for consideration include better access to power, work/pit area, improved lighting, fencing and parking.
- **Shade:** Many respondents would like to see more natural shade and shaded picnic areas in the Park as well as shade structures over the playground areas.
- **Toilets:** Some respondents would like to see the toilet facilities upgraded, with better lights and a greater level of cleanliness.
- **Value of the Park:** The community are appreciative of the benefits the Park and green space provides. Some respondents noted the role of this park to be increasingly important with the increasing urban density in the surrounding areas.
- **Vegetation:** Many respondents appreciate the trees and natural environment within the Park which provide relaxation and shade benefits, however, the general maintenance of the trees and gardens could be improved. Give consideration to planting more native trees, shrubs, grasses and ground covers to provide native habitat and corridor connections. Plant additional trees to reduce the traffic noise from Epping Road.

BLENHEIM PARK MASTERPLAN

Appendices

WEBSITE

The screenshot shows the City of Ryde website's 'HAVE YOUR SAY' page for the Blenheim Park Masterplan. The page features a navigation menu, a search bar, and a main content area with a title, a consultation closing date, a photo of a playground, a timeline, and various informational sections including 'Why is a Masterplan a Must?', 'Community Drop-in Sessions', and 'Complete the Online Survey'. A map of the park area is also included.

Go to City of Ryde homepage

HAVE YOUR SAY Search the site...

23288 Blenheim Park Masterplan

Blenheim Park Masterplan

Consultation closing on 17 March 2019 / 11:59pm

Timeline

- Blenheim Park Masterplan Document Drafted 6 March 2018 to 9 March 2018
- Complete the survey
- Blenheim Park Masterplan Survey
- Contact us

For further information on the Blenheim Park Masterplan, please call our Customer Service Centre on 9952 8222.

The City of Ryde is seeking your input to create a Masterplan for Blenheim Park. We would like to see how you use Blenheim Park and how the park can be improved and maintained now and into the future.

Located in North Ryde, the park currently includes a playground, walking and cycling paths, a fenced dog off-leash area, amenities building, picnic and BBQ facilities, a radio control car track, and a car park.

Why is a Masterplan a Must?

Council delivers a wide range of local and recreation services and natural areas through a network of regional, district, neighbourhood and local open spaces, parks, sportsgrounds and facilities. While the network has served the community well for many years, Council recognises that within the context of a rapidly growing and changing area, the roles and functions of our parks and facilities need to be reviewed and updated to meet the community's needs.

Labels: Updates **Have Your Say**

You can have your say on the Blenheim Park Masterplan in a number of ways including online or at one of the community events. The face-to-face events will be a great chance to speak to the project team, provide your feedback and ask any question you may have.

Complete the Online Survey

Complete the online survey [here](#). The survey will be open from Wednesday 20 February to Sunday 17 March 2019. If you are unable to fill in this survey, please contact Council's Customer Service team on 9952 8222 who will assist you over the phone. Submissions will be received up until 11:59pm Sunday 17 March 2019.

Community Drop-in Sessions

Date Wednesday 6 March 2019
Time Anytime between 4:00pm - 6:00pm
Where Blenheim Park, Blenheim Road North Ryde and
Date Saturday 9 March 2019
Time Anytime between 10:30am - 12:30pm
Where Blenheim Park, Blenheim Road North Ryde
 Bring the family to the Saturday session and enjoy free coffee and face painting.

Subscribe to project updates

Last updated on: 20 February 2019

Contact Us

Customer Service Centre
 17 Pine Street, North Ryde 2112
Phone: 9952 8222
After Hours Assistance: 9952 8222
Email: cs@ryde.nsw.gov.au
 Visit More Details

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BLenheim PARK MASTERPLAN

Appendices continued

ENEWSLETTER

City of Ryde
Have your SAY

Blenheim Park Masterplan



The City of Ryde is seeking your input to create a Masterplan for Blenheim Park. We would like to hear how you use Blenheim Park and how the park can be improved and maintained now and into the future.

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Why is a Masterplan needed?

Council delivers a wide range of sport and recreation services and natural areas through a network of regional, district, neighbourhood and local open spaces, parklands, sportsgrounds and facilities.

While the network has served the community well for many years, Council recognises that within the context of a rapidly growing and changing area, the roles and functions of our parks and facilities need to be reviewed and updated to meet the community's needs.

Have Your Say


You can have your say on the Blenheim Park Masterplan in several ways including online or at one of our community events.




Online Survey

The online survey will be open from Wednesday 20 February to Sunday 17 March 2019. Submissions will be received up until 11.59pm Sunday 17 March 2019.

[Complete the Online Survey](#)



Weekday Drop-in Session
Time: Anytime between 4.00pm-6.00pm
Where: Blenheim Park, Blenheim Road, North Ryde



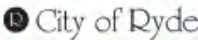
Weekend Drop-in Session*
Time: Anytime between 10.30am-12.30pm
Where: Blenheim Park, Blenheim Road, North Ryde

*Bring the family along to the Saturday session and enjoy free coffee and face painting






For more information

If you require more information about the Blenheim Park Masterplan please call the Customer Service on 9952 8222

To learn more about the Blenheim Park Masterplan, please visit the Have Your Say page at www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/haveyoursay/BlenheimPark



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Forward

City of Ryde | 1 Pope Street | Ryde NSW 2112 | 9952 8222

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Line | @ryde

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Appendices continued

FLYER

City of Ryde
BLenheim PARK MASTERPLAN



The City of Ryde is seeking your input to create a Masterplan for Blenheim Park. We would like to hear how you use Blenheim Park and how the park can be improved, managed and maintained now and into the future.

Located in North Ryde, the park currently includes a playground, walking and cycling paths, a fenced dog off-leash area, amenities building, picnic and BBQ facilities, a radio control car track and a car park.

Have YOUR SAY **How do I give my feedback?**

You can have your say on the Blenheim Park Masterplan by completing the online survey at www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/haveyoursay/BlenheimPark. Feedback will be open until **Sunday 17 March 2019**.

If you are unable to fill in the survey online or don't have Internet access, please contact our Customer Service Centre on 9952 8222.

Let's TALK **Community Drop-In Session**

We would also like to invite you to come and meet Council's Project Team, ask any questions you may have and provide your feedback.

Where Blenheim Park, Blenheim Rd, North Ryde (see map below)

When Wednesday 6 March 2019
Time Anytime between 4.00 – 6.00pm

When Saturday 9 March 2019*
Time Anytime between 10.30am – 12.30pm
 *Bring the family to the Saturday session and enjoy free coffee and face painting



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For more Information
 Visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/haveyoursay/BlenheimPark or call Customer Service on 9952 8222.



Flyer distribution area

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Appendices continued

PARK SIGNAGE

City of Ryde

BLENHEIM PARK MASTERPLAN

The City of Ryde is seeking your input to create a Masterplan for Blenheim Park.

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Where Here at Blenheim Park

When Wednesday 6 March 2019

Time Anytime between 4.00 – 6.00pm

When Saturday 9 March 2019*

Time Anytime between 10.30am – 12.30pm

**Bring the family to the Saturday session and enjoy free coffee and face painting*

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For more information

Visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/haveyoursay/BlenheimPark or call Customer Service on 9952 8222.

BLENHEIM PARK MASTERPLAN

Appendices continued

NEWSPAPER AD

HAVE YOUR SAY

Blenheim Park Masterplan

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Want to find out more?

You can have your say on the Blenheim Park Masterplan online or face-to-face at one of the events below.

Community Drop-In Sessions

When Wednesday 6 March 2019
Time Anytime between 4.00 and 6.00pm
Where Blenheim Park, Blenheim Road, North Ryde

When Saturday 9 March 2019*
Time Anytime between 10.30am and 12.30pm
Where Blenheim Park, Blenheim Road, North Ryde

**Bring the family to the Saturday session and enjoy free coffee and face painting.*

How do I make a submission?

In Person At one of the drop-in sessions listed above

Online Complete the online survey at www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/haveyoursay/BlenheimPark

Closing date for submissions is Sunday 17 March 2019.

For more information

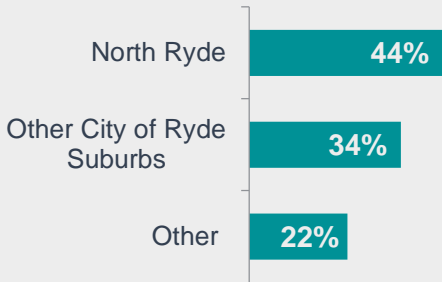
If you are unable to fill in the survey online or don't have internet access, please contact our Customer Service Centre on 9952 8222 or visit www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/haveyoursay/BlenheimPark

BLenheim PARK MASTERPLAN

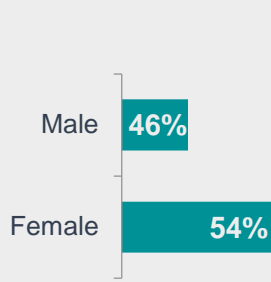
Appendices continued

SURVEY RESULTS (n=102)

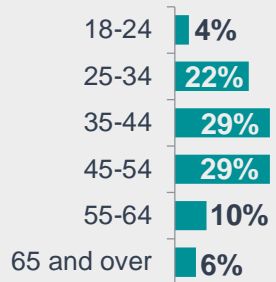
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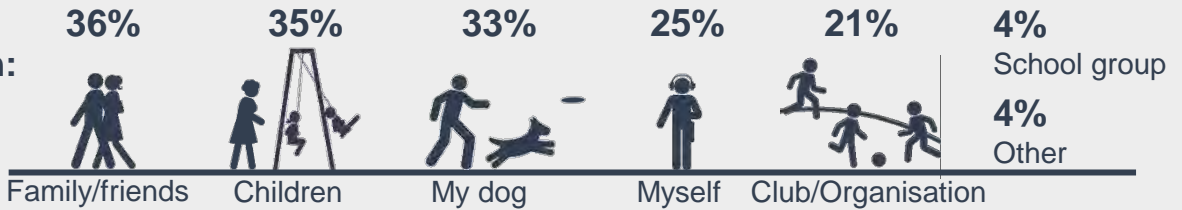
Gender:



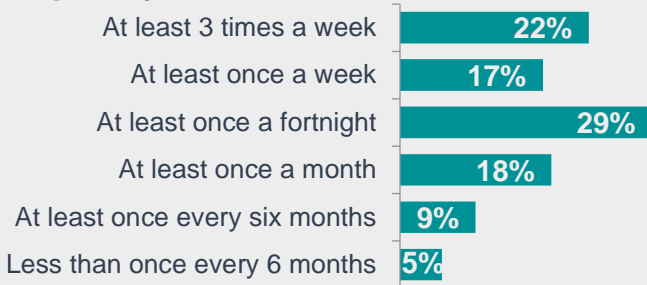
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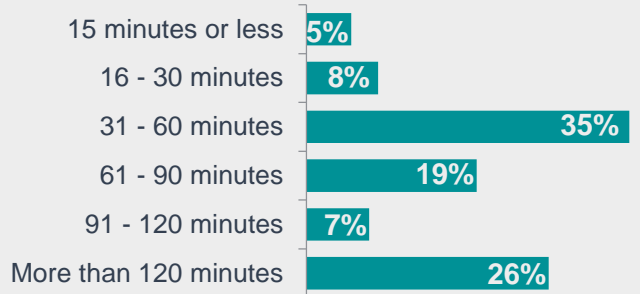
Visit the park with:



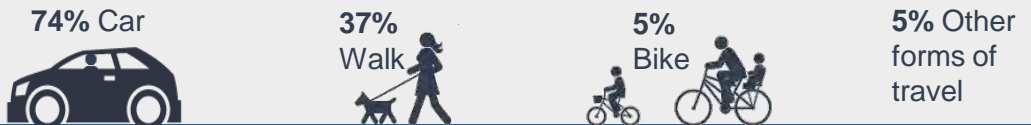
Frequency of visit:



Time spent:



Method of Travel:



Time of visit:

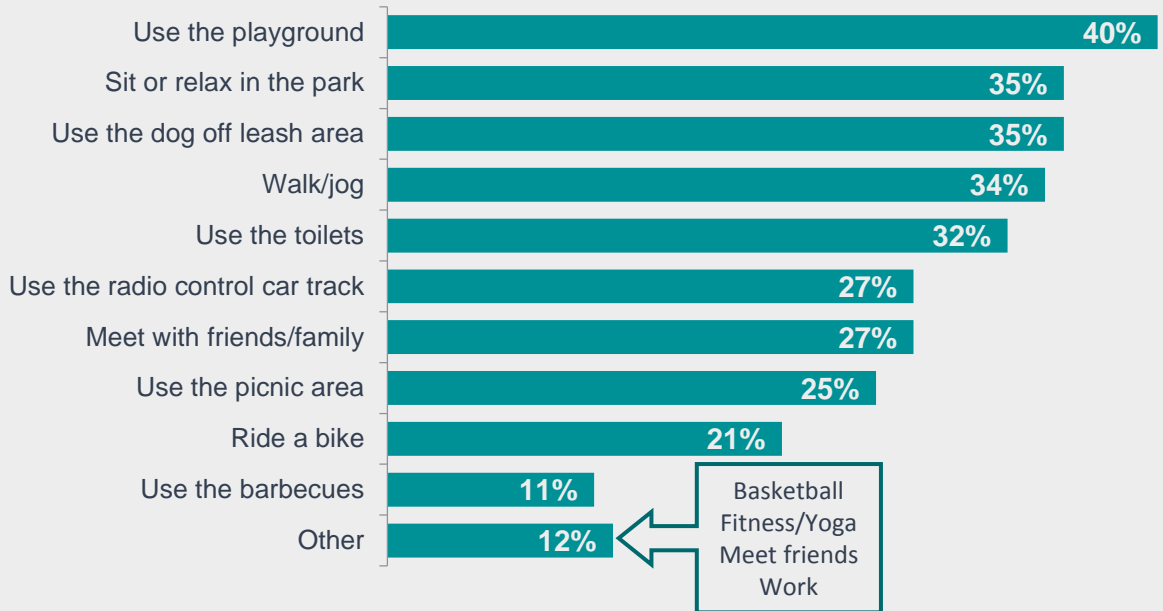
	Before 9am	9am to midday	After midday to 5pm	After 5pm	Total
Weekdays	14%	16%	27%	34%	66%
Weekends	30%	41%	50%	29%	81%
School Holidays	9%	19%	23%	15%	37%
Total	39%	56%	63%	47%	

BLENHEIM PARK MASTERPLAN

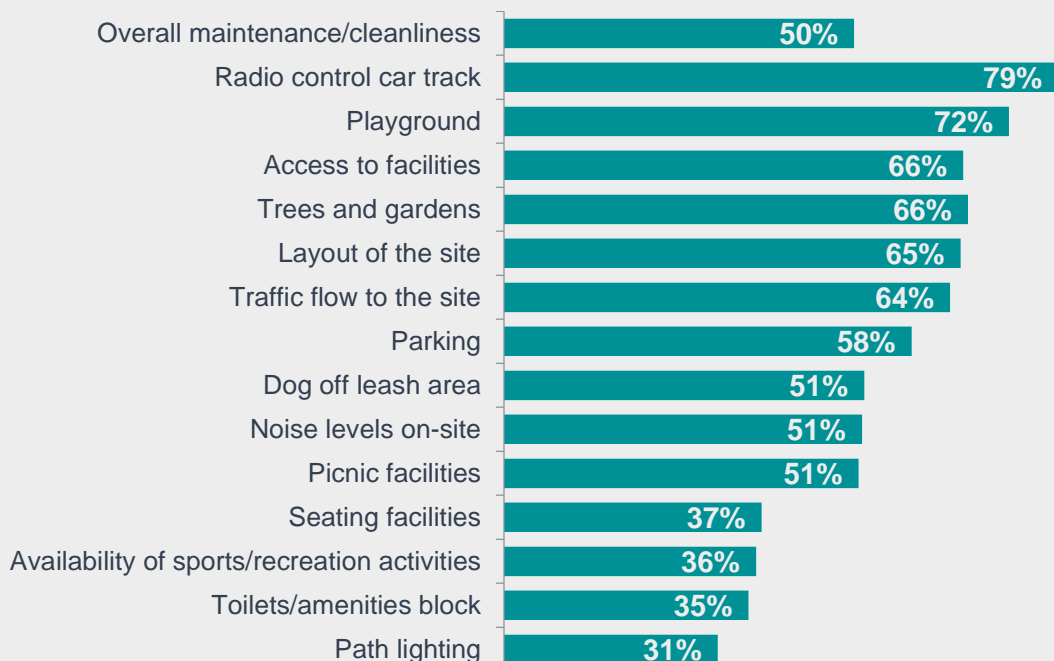
Appendices continued

SURVEY RESULTS continued

What are the main activities you and/or those you are with usually do at Blenheim Park? (n=102)



How would you rate the following facilities at Blenheim Park? 'Excellent' or 'good' (n=from 48 to 93)

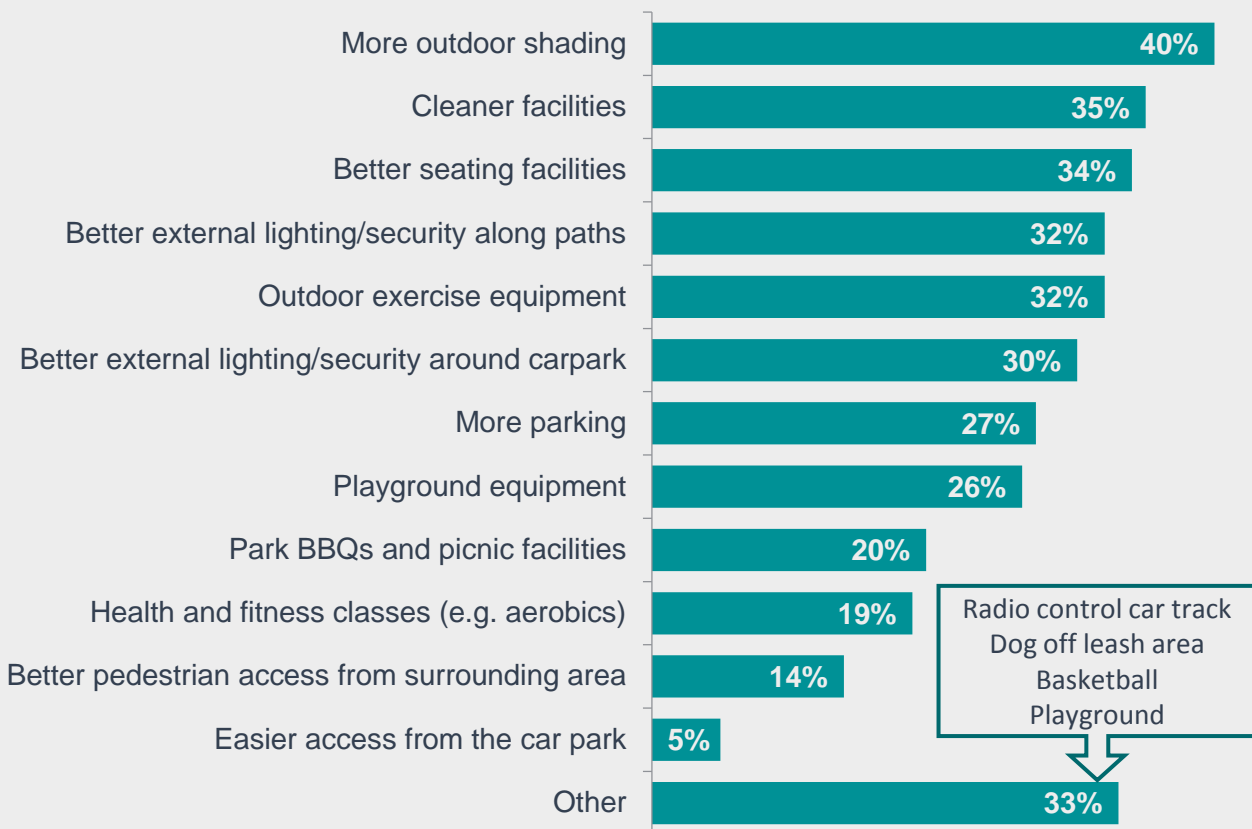


BLENHEIM PARK MASTERPLAN

Appendices continued

SURVEY RESULTS continued

What facilities or features would encourage you to make greater use of Blenheim Park? (n=102)

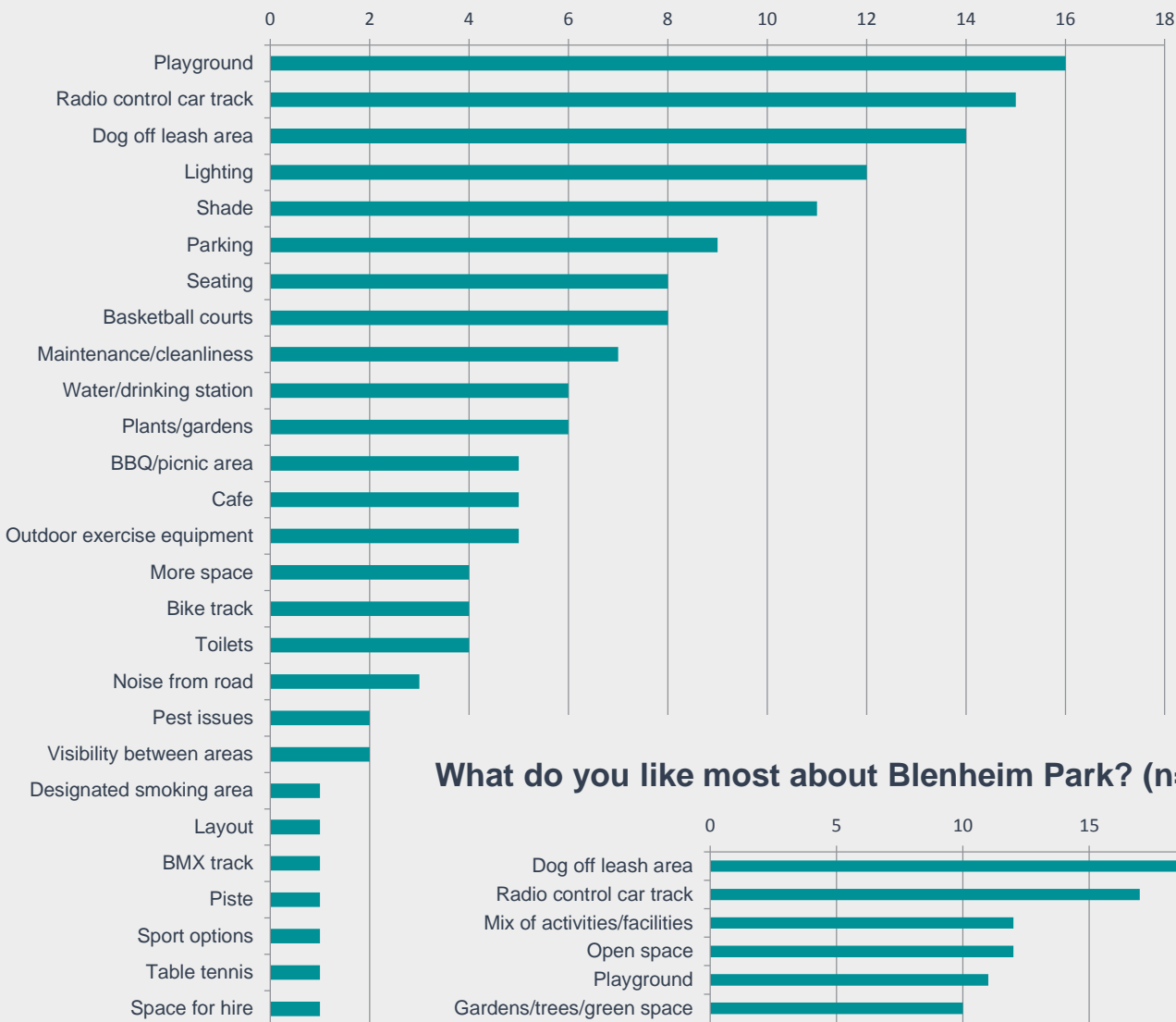


BLenheim PARK MASTERPLAN

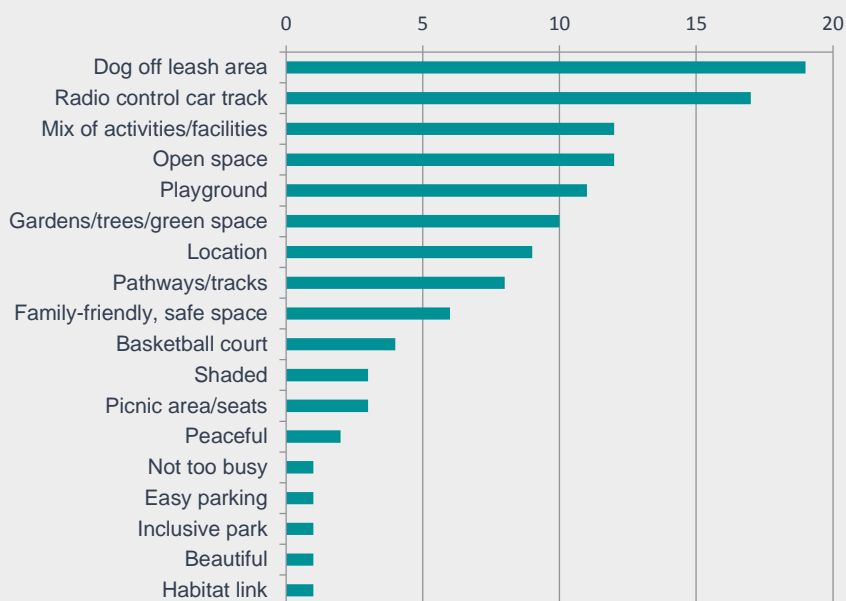
Appendices continued

SURVEY RESULTS continued

What improvements could be made to Blenheim Park? (n=81)



What do you like most about Blenheim Park? (n=81)



BLenheim PARK MASTERPLAN

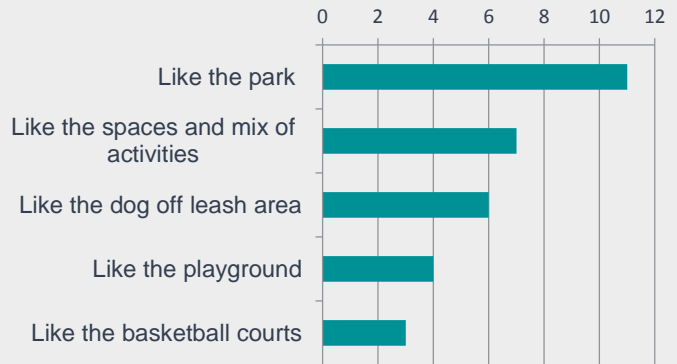
Appendices continued

DROP-IN SESSION RESULTS

Favoured aspects

Top three common favourable aspects of Blenheim Park included:

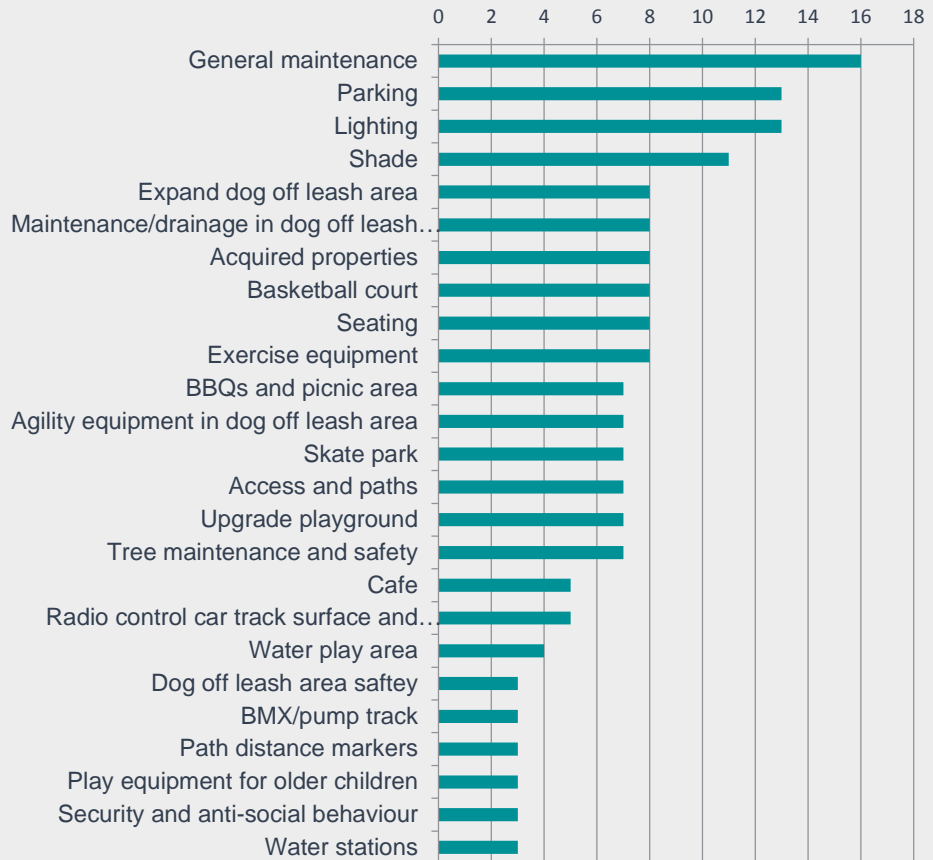
- Like the park as it is and the facilities generally (n=11)
- Use of space throughout the park and the mix of activities (n=7)
- Dog park (n=6)



Areas of improvement and suggestions

Top three common themes for improvements at Blenheim Park included:

- General maintenance, including the maintenance of grass and rubbish bins (n=16)
- The dog off leash area, with requests to expand the area (n=8), improve maintenance and drainage (n=8), add dog agility equipment (n=7) and improved lighting (n=5)
- Playground upgrade (n=7), with additional equipment, such as water play and equipment for older children (n=7)



EMAIL RESULTS

Three email submissions were received, one representing the Sydney Radio Control Car Club committee and one representing a dog owner and one from a user of the dog off-leash park.