
5 ADOPTION OF ANZAC PARK MASTERPLAN

Report prepared by: Open Space Planner

File No.: GRP/22/47 - BP22/329

REPORT SUMMARY

Anzac Park ('the Park') is identified by Council in the *Integrated Open Space Plan (2012)* as a Level 3 Park in the Ryde Local Government Area (LGA). As a neighbourhood, multi-use park, Anzac Park provides the residents of West Ryde and more broadly the City of Ryde, with open space facilities for a variety of passive and active recreation opportunities for all ages. With those facilities, the Park attracts a greater level of use, encourage longer stays and contribute to the identity and character of the local area.

Development of this Masterplan has considered the strategic context of Anzac Park, West Ryde and supports the intent of relevant NSW Government and Council strategic plans and strategies.

Anzac Park is well regarded by the local community. The value and role of this Park is increasing given the current and projected population growth in the City and the medium and high-density residential developments occurring in West Ryde.

In September 2019 Council resolved to proceed with the upgrade of the Anzac Park playground and requested that staff develop a Masterplan for Anzac Park in 2021/22 that included renewal of the existing amenities building in consultation with local residents. The playground in Anzac Park was constructed in 2020. The Masterplan (including consultation processes) provided in **ATTACHMENT 1**, has been prepared in response to this previous Council resolution.

Council is committed to optimising the recreational values of the Park whilst ensuring sustainable and environmental management into the future. The Masterplan sets out the vision for how this Park will be embellished over the next 20 years, to ensure sustainable and efficient use and that the Park can meet the growing needs of the community.

The draft Masterplan considered the existing site context, future strategic context, Stage 1 community consultation feedback (June/July 2021), reviewed site layout and the functionality of the Park. The design was further refined following Stage 2 community consultation feedback (February 2022). Further details on the consultation undertaken are outlined in the body of this report.

The Masterplan proposes a range of improvements for recreation and passive uses. This includes improved pathway network; new seating, picnic and BBQ facilities; new amenities building; new fitness and seniors exercise equipment; new table tennis tables; more trees; site provisions for local/community events; and other general park improvements. The plans retain the existing playground and Anzac memorial.

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The Masterplan also includes a number of environmental improvements including: more trees, significantly increasing tree canopy cover to approximately 59% of the overall site from an existing 37%; enhancement of the “River to River” regional biodiversity corridor; provision of additional fauna habitat; water sensitive urban design (WSUD); and provision of a filtered water station to replace existing bubblers, with a view to reducing litter and single use plastic.

The Masterplan report includes a staging plan for the progressive implementation of the Masterplan. Implementation of the Masterplan is subject to Council’s adoption of the final Masterplan and funding availability. Budget has been identified for the new amenities building in 2023/24 in the draft 2022-26 Delivery Plan. Funding to implement the full Masterplan over its 20-year life will be sought through grant funding opportunities and during Council’s annual business planning cycle.

RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That Council adopts the Anzac Park Masterplan 2022.
- (b) That Council write to thank all participants in the development of the Masterplan and inform them of this resolution.

ATTACHMENTS – CIRCULATED UNDER SEPARATE COVER

- 1 Anzac Park Masterplan Report for Adoption by Council - May 2022
- 2 Anzac Park Masterplan for Adoption by Council - May 2022
- 3 Anzac Park draft Masterplan - Stage 1 Community Consultation Report - August 2021
- 4 Anzac Park draft Masterplan - Stage 2 Community Consultation - January 2022
- 5 Anzac Park draft Masterplan - Stage 2 Community Consultation Report - March 2022

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Council Resolution

At the Council Meeting on 24 September 2019 it was resolved:-

- (a) *That Council proceed with the upgrade of the ANZAC Park playground in the location proposed during the community consultation in May 2019.*
- (b) *That Council develops a Masterplan for ANZAC Park in 2021/22 that includes the renewal of the existing amenities building.*
- (c) *That Council, throughout the development of the Masterplan, consults with local residents, including those of 21-27 Wattle St, to identify how the park can best meet the needs of the local community.*
- (d) *That Council continue to liaise with the Office of the Local Government in relation to meeting the requirements of the Stronger Communities funding agreement provided towards the ANZAC Park Playground Upgrade.*

Part (a) and (d) of the resolution were completed in 2020.

Part (b) and (c) of the resolution have, as a result of this Masterplan, now also been completed.

History

In 1919, the Council first identified the need for a park in the West Ryde locale of the Municipality. By 1935, Council's Parks and Lighting Committee inspected the prospective land and met with interested locals to advance the claims for the provision of a public park in West Ryde. Initially known as Wattle Street Park, between 1927 – 1937 Council and NSW Government undertook necessary processes to acquire the 22 land parcels and resume a laneway which now form Anzac Park. In 1937 Council resolved to name the park "Anzac Park". The Park was named so because it fronts onto Anzac Avenue. During the same meeting Council recommended works including fencing, tree planting, leveling, grassing and a pavilion shelter be undertaken. Initially intended to be a sportsground, by 1937 the area was considered insufficient for a first-class playing area and the recommendation was made that it be a general park and playground for children.

Between 1938-1943 further works were undertaken including tree planting and the prominent diagonal pathways. During World War II "zig-zag" slit trenches were constructed along Herbert St due to the fear of possible air raid attacks during the war. A fake Victoria Road alignment was scythed through the Park in a hope to confuse enemy aerial bombers due to the proximity of the West Ryde pumping station.

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Grass netball courts were constructed in the north west corner of the park between 1956-1961 but were subsequently removed in 1965.



Images 1 - 4: 1930, 1943, 1956 and 1961 aerial images of Anzac Park

In the 1970's Council prepared various plans for beautification, provision of facilities, garden beds and tree management strategies. Since the 1980's there have been progressive upgrade to Anzac Park, with substantial site improvements being made in the early 1980s and in 2003. This has included pathways, lighting, BBQs, formalised garden beds, playground relocation and park furniture. The current toilet block was constructed in 1986/87. In recent years, commemorative plaques were installed in the central garden bed for the Centenary of ANZAC Day (2018) and the current playground was constructed (2020).



Images 5 - 8: 1982, 2001, 2006 and 2010 aerial images of Anzac Park

Department of Veteran Affairs *Use of the Word 'Anzac' Guidelines* identifies that the naming of parks should use the lower case version of 'Anzac' rather than "ANZAC".

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Local Context

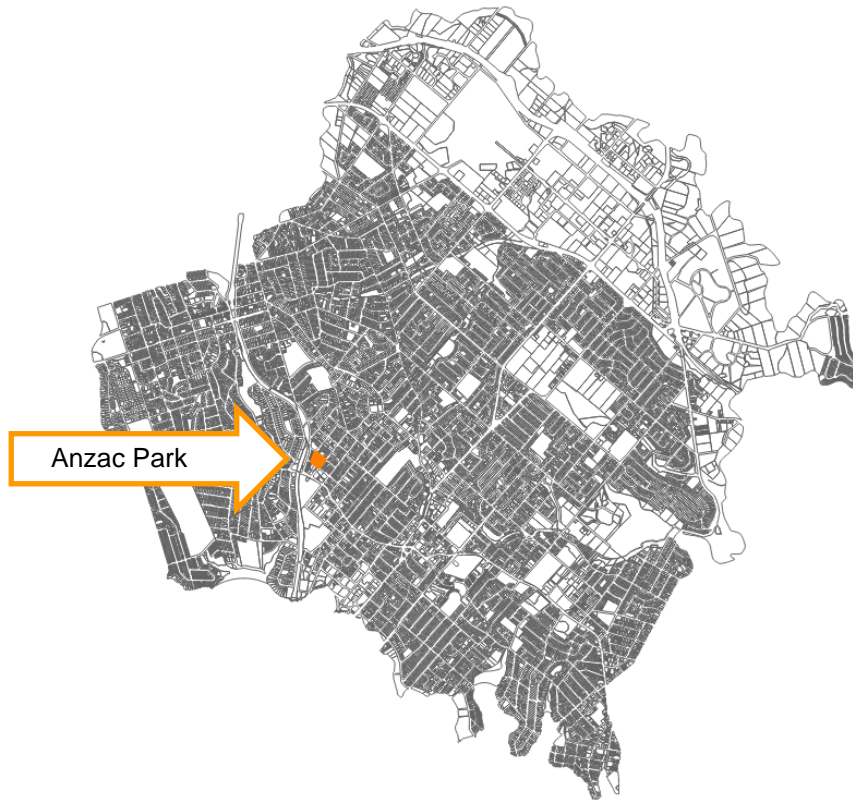


Image 9: Site Location – Anzac Park



Image 10: Site Location – Anzac Park

ITEM 5 (continued)**Strategic Context**

The Masterplan for Anzac Park provided in **ATTACHMENT 1**, has been prepared in response to and with consideration to a number of City of Ryde and NSW Government strategic planning documents, including:-

- *Greater Sydney Commission – Regional Plan: A Metropolis of Three Cities (2018)*
- *Greater Sydney Commission – North District Plan (2018)*
- *Planning Ryde Local Strategic Planning Statement (2020)*
- *Ryde Local Environmental Plan (2014) – Anzac Park is a listed heritage item.*
- *Ryde 2028 Community Strategic Plan (2018)*
- *West Ryde Town Centre Masterplan (2022) – draft*
- *Green Links Masterplan (2022) – draft*
- *Greater Sydney Commission – Meadowbank Education and Employment Precinct Masterplan (2020)*
- *Integrated Open Space Plan (2012)*
- *Sport and Recreation Strategy 2016-2026 (2017)*
- *Children Play Plan (2019)*
- *Youth Infrastructure Strategy (2021)*
- *NSW Everyone Can Play Guidelines (2019)*
- *Bicycle Strategy (2022) – draft*
- *Integrated Transport Strategy (2022) – draft*
- *Biodiversity Plan (2016)*
- *Street Tree Masterplan (2012)*
- *Ryde Resilience Plan 2030 (2020)*
- *Disability Inclusion Action Plan (2022) – draft*

The City of Ryde is incorporated in the Greater Sydney Commission's *North District Plan*. West Ryde is projected to grow to 17,094 residents by 2036. The Greater Sydney Commission's *Greater Sydney Regional Plan (2018)* vision is to achieve cities "where most people live within 30 minutes of their jobs, education and health facilities, services and great places". The Greater Sydney Commission's Meadowbank Education and Employment Precinct will also result in more people working in West Ryde. These factors combined will result in increasing community and worker demand on the Park and its' recreation facilities.

The *Integrated Open Space Plan (2012)* identifies Anzac Park as a Level 3 open space – a neighbourhood multi-use park. It provides the residents of West Ryde and more broadly the City of Ryde, with open space facilities for a variety of passive and active recreation opportunities for all ages. The Park attracts a greater level of use, encourage longer stays and contribute to the identity and character of the local area.

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The preparation of the Masterplan has been informed by the actions and priorities identified in the *Sport and Recreation Strategy 2016-2026*. The thematic priorities for the provision, management and planning for sport and recreation in the City of Ryde are:-

1. Optimal use of sport and recreation facilities.
2. Access to sport and recreation facilities.
3. Diversity of facilities for participation and enjoyment.
4. Facilities that are fit for purpose.
5. Inclusive and accessible sport and recreation facilities.
6. Awareness of recreation facilities and programs.
7. Sustainable management of facilities and sports.

Anzac Park is categorised as “Park” and is managed under the *Generic Plan of Management – Parks and General Community Use (2020)*. Anzac Park is zoned “RE1 Public Recreation” in the *Ryde Local Environmental Plan 2014*.

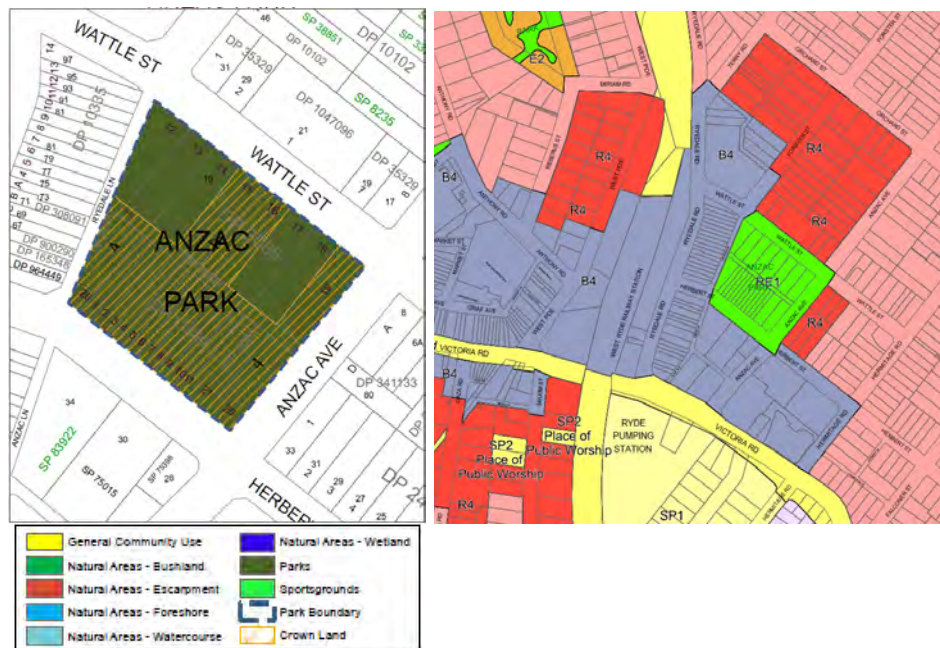


Image 11: Anzac Park – Land Categorisation (Park) as per *Generic Plan of Management (2020)*

Image 12: Anzac Park - Land Zoning (RE1 – Public Recreation) as per *Ryde Local Environmental Plan (2014)*.

Council prepared a Heritage Review in 2019 which identified Anzac Park as a *Heritage Item*. The Heritage Review Planning Proposal went through extensive community consultation in September – November 2019 and reported to Council on 12 December 2019. The *Ryde Local Environment Plan (2014)* was amended on 27 November 2020 to incorporate the new heritage items/areas/sites.

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Anzac Park is considered to have historical, aesthetic and social significance. It is historically significant as the main town park of the West Ryde area, established after purchase by Council for the sole purpose of public recreation and amenity. It is an archetype of the acquisition of private lands across Sydney and NSW from the late nineteenth century to the mid-twentieth century for the provision of passive and active recreation venues for suburban and regional communities. Anzac Park demonstrates the principal characteristics of a class of local public parks developed principally as passive recreation venues during the early to mid-twentieth century across Sydney and NSW. The original cross-axial layout with structural boundary landmark plantings was characteristic of municipal landscape design during the 1920s and 1930s. A common landscape model in civic park design of that time was geometry, based on expected pedestrian desire lines and connections between utilities.



Images 13 & 14: Anzac Park –1945 and c1950s showing structured plantings and distinctive cross-axial paths layout

Strategic Context - West Ryde Town Centre Masterplan and Upgrades

In conjunction with the *Planning Ryde – Local Strategic Planning Statement (2020)*, Council is planning for the future of the West Ryde Town Centre by preparing the *West Ryde Town Centre Masterplan* (draft) to encourage the rejuvenation of the area into a distinctive, vibrant, and attractive local centre. The Masterplan for Anzac Park responds to various actions within the draft Town Centre Masterplan.

Strategic Context - Meadowbank Education and Employment Precinct Masterplan

The Greater Sydney Commission developed the *Meadowbank Education and Employment Precinct Masterplan (2020)* which “*identifies ideas for improved public spaces, green streets, transport and accessibility options, local heritage consideration and enhanced employment opportunities. These ideas aim to support a liveable, sustainable and productive Meadowbank Education and Employment Precinct*”.

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The educational component of the Meadowbank Education and Employment Precinct (MEEP) has been accommodated within the former Meadowbank TAFE site. Meadowbank Public School and Marsden High School recently relocate to the new MEEP site from Term 2, 2022 (April). The new purpose-built facility caters for 1,000 primary school students, 1,500 secondary school students and a further 120 Intensive English Centre students.

MEEP identifies new active and passive recreation facilities for the West Ryde Town Centre. Council continues to advocate to the NSW Government for these facilities within the new school to be available to the general public outside of school hours. It is anticipated the MEEP site can play a role in assisting City of Ryde to better meet the growing community demand for active recreation facilities in West Ryde/Meadowbank. Whereas, nearby Anzac Park is anticipated to play a role in accommodating the growing community demand for primarily passive recreation.

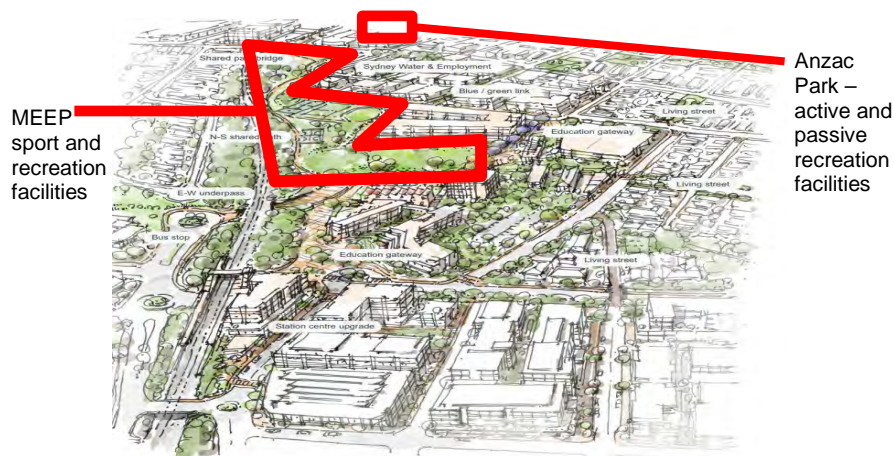


Image 17: Concept image from the Meadowbank Education and Employment Precinct Masterplan

The Site

Anzac Park is 1.12 hectares in size and located within the suburb of West Ryde. It is comprised of 22 parcels of land. Anzac Park is bounded on all four sides by streets including Ryedale Lane to the west, Wattle Street to the north, Anzac Avenue to the east and Herbert Street to the south.

The Park is within close proximity to infrastructure and services being situated to the east of West Ryde town centre, West Ryde Train Station and immediately adjacent bus stop on Anzac Avenue.

Anzac Park is surrounded by a combination of high density and low density residential dwellings and Mixed Use residential/business. A small retirement village is located opposite the Park on Wattle Street and a child care facility is located opposite the Park on Anzac Avenue.

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Anzac Park's topography falls gently from the west to east as the lowest point. The Park is predominantly characterised by the diagonal pathway axis that splits the Park into four quadrants. The Park is also characterised by the strong avenues of deciduous trees along the main axis pathways, around the north perimeter as well as the dense tree clusters to the north east corner.

The Park features a District level children's playground constructed in 2020 to the north east, ANZAC commemorative plaques and flag poles in the centre and open space with grass/trees to the west, south and east. A small amenities building was constructed in 1986/1987 and is located to the north east underneath the dense tree canopy. The Park is known for hosting a number of community events such as the ANZAC Day Ceremony and West Ryde Garden Bar.

Anzac Park is a multi-purpose park and currently provides the following community recreation facilities:-

- Pathway network including path lighting, ANZAC memorial and flag poles,
- District level playground,
- Open green space for recreation, picnics and community events,
- Amenities building with toilets (ageing infrastructure),
- Seating, picnic shelters, BBQs and shade structure, and
- On-street car parking.

The increasing population density of the surrounding residential suburbs of West Ryde, Meadowbank and Top Ryde, and major urban renewal projects are increasing the demands on the open spaces in the City of Ryde, including Anzac Park.

Masterplan – Goals, Vision and Design Principles

The goals of Anzac Park Masterplan are to:-

- Improve connectivity to the surrounding West Ryde context and town centre,
- Improve existing active and passive recreation uses,
- Introduce new and exciting active and passive recreation uses including multi-purpose facilities,
- Make Anzac Park a hub for community events and recreation within West Ryde,
- Identify improvement projects so the Park best services the future needs of the community,
- Demonstrate effective future provision, conservation, planning and development of facilities,
- Guide Council over the next 20 years on how the park will be upgraded, and
- Identify stages for implementation which may be suitable for future external grant funding opportunities.

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Masterplan – Consultation and Design Development

Council undertook a two-stage consultation process to inform the development of the Masterplan.

Stage 1 community consultation was held on 29 June – 25 July 2021. The first stage of consultation allowed residents and users of the Park an opportunity to provide their feedback on the existing design of the park and their thoughts for the future of the site. This consultation was promoted via flyer, letterbox drop (500m radius of the Park – 2,876 flyers including the residents of 21-27 Wattle Street), park signage, local newspaper advertisement (38,000 print readership), stakeholder eNewsletter (94 emails distributed including previous participants for the playground upgrade), Have Your Say webpage (533 page views), Facebook ad (9,498 users reached) and Council eNewsletters (6,008 emails distributed). Due to COVID restrictions one-on-one phone sessions were provided in lieu of face-to-face drop-in sessions. The consultation generated feedback via online interactive map (108 comments), 6 written submissions and 3 phone submissions.



Images 18 & 19: Stage 1 community consultation sign and Social Pin Point online feedback collection.

The Stage 1 community consultation report is provided in **ATTACHMENT 3**. A summary of how the draft Masterplan design was developed is as follows:-

Stage 1 Community Consultation Feedback	Draft Masterplan Design Response
Current playground is favoured and highly used. Some suggested additional equipment.	New playground constructed in 2020 and retained in the draft Masterplan. Spatial allowance given for provision for future potential expansion of playground with junior and intermediate play opportunities.
Availability of open grassed space is a favourable element of the park, eg. for family activities and community events.	Included in draft Masterplan.

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Stage 1 Community Consultation Feedback	Draft Masterplan Design Response
Like the trees/plants and want these elements to be protected.	More trees and increase canopy cover included in draft Masterplan.
Like and/or suggested additional shaded seating and picnic/BBQ areas.	Included in draft Masterplan.
Additional lighting for improved safety and for aesthetics. Extended pathways and an upgraded amenities building.	Included in draft Masterplan.
Include exercise equipment and basketball or multi-purpose sport court. Some suggested inclusion of a table tennis table in the park.	Fitness equipment, seniors exercise equipment and table tennis tables included in draft Masterplan.
	Basketball and sports courts not included in the draft design due to noise considerations for surrounding residential properties (eg. repeated bouncing of balls). The Youth Infrastructure Strategy (2020) did not identify this style of infrastructure within Anzac Park. This style of infrastructure is to be provided within Lions Park, West Ryde or potentially within MEEP.
Pedestrian safety was highlighted as an area for improvement. Pedestrian crossings and traffic calming equipment were suggested.	Internal path improvements included in draft Masterplan.
	Shared user path included on Wattle St and Ryedale Ln path/shared zone included in draft Masterplan.
	Existing pedestrian crossing on Wattle St identified for upgrade. New pedestrian crossing on Herbert St identified in draft Masterplan.
Creation of a shared pedestrian zone in Ryedale Lane and activation of nearby shops was also favoured.	Ryedale Ln shared zone with contemporary paving pattern and removable bollards for community events included in the draft Masterplan.
	Ryedale Rd currently being upgraded. Refer to <i>West Ryde Town Centre Masterplan (2022 – draft)</i> for activation of nearby shops.
Other suggestions included a café, bookings or classes in the park, fenced dog off leash area, keeping the ANZAC history and improving park maintenance.	Café not included in draft Masterplan. Nearby Ryedale Rd local businesses have cafes. Food truck parking bays included in Ryedale Ln for events.
	Dogs on-leash are permitted at Anzac Park. Refer to <i>Dog Recreation Needs Study (2020)</i> for City of Ryde current and future recommended off leash areas.
	Site and ANZAC history included in draft Masterplan.
	Feedback on park maintenance provided to Council's Operations team.

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Stage 2 community consultation was held on 1 February – 27 February 2022. This stage of consultation allowed the community to review and provide feedback on the draft Masterplan – **ATTACHMENT 4**. This consultation was promoted via flyer, letterbox drop (500m radius of the Park – 2,876 flyers including the residents of 21-27 Wattle Street), park signage, local newspaper advertisements (38,000 print readership), stakeholder eNewsletter (173 emails distributed), Facebook (reach of 9,774 users), Have Your Say webpage (402 page views) and Council eNewsletters (6,465 emails distributed). Two on-site drop in sessions were held on 16 February and 19 February 2022 and were conducted in accordance with Council’s COVID Safe Plan. The consultation generated feedback via online interactive map (89 comments), 6 written submissions and 102 drop in session comments.



Image 20: Draft Masterplan present to community during Stage 2 Community Consultation, provided in ATTACHMENT 4



Images 21 & 22: Stage 2 community consultation drop-in session and Social Pin Point online feedback collection.

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The Stage 2 community consultation report is provided in **ATTACHMENT 5**. A summary of how the Masterplan was updated is provided below:-

Stage 2 Community Consultation Feedback	Masterplan Design Response
Retain open grassed space and do not overfill the park with facilities and pathways.	Masterplan updated. Path network and some onsite facilities (eg. picnic shelters) refined and simplified. More open grassed spaces included.
Keep/plant additional trees, particularly natives.	No change to Masterplan. More trees and increase canopy cover included in Masterplan. Planting palette includes a number of different native species.
Additional seating noted, as well as positive comments regarding the terrace seating/amphitheatre.	Masterplan updated to include additional conversational seating and bench seating with back/arms for inclusive design. Terrace seating/amphitheatre retained in design.
Picnic tables favoured, however with shade. The importance of shade in other areas was also noted, including the playground.	No change to Masterplan. Picnic shelters retained in Masterplan. Shade provision already included in Masterplan via more trees, increase canopy cover, picnic shelters and shade structures.
Current playground received positive comments and suggestions for additional equipment	No change to Masterplan. New playground constructed in 2020 and retained in the draft Masterplan. Spatial allowance given for provision for future potential expansion of playground with junior and intermediate play opportunities.
Move other users/facilities away from the playground.	Other areas in the Masterplan, such as active recreation area, seniors area, and open green encourage other parts of the Park to be used. Masterplan updated. More open space included in Herbert St quadrant which would be suitable for small group activities.
Exercise equipment and table tennis facilities received positive comments. Some suggested alternative locations.	No change to Masterplan. Exercise equipment and table tennis tables retained in the active recreation area and utilises existing shade sail, with the view of keep other grass spaces free of equipment.
Positive comments regarding the event and food/cafe facilities.	No change to Masterplan.
Additional pathways were typically not favoured throughout the park.	Masterplan updated. Path network refined and simplified.

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Stage 2 Community Consultation Feedback	Masterplan Design Response
Parking, pedestrian and traffic safety considerations, including a raised pedestrian crossing, traffic calming measures and fencing the park/playground.	Parking – no change to existing parking arrangements.
	Masterplan updated – with new raised pedestrian crossing identified for Herbert St and Anzac Ave. New pedestrian crossings identified for both ends of Ryedale Ln. These elements are subject to technical assessment and necessary traffic approvals.
	Perimeter fencing treatments to be considered during detailed design
Other suggestion - ANZAC/history considerations	No change to Masterplan. Site and ANZAC history included in Masterplan.
Other suggestion - make upgrades to other parks instead	No change to Masterplan. City of Ryde implements upgrades and improvements across a number of different parks.
Other suggestion - requests for additional design information.	Masterplan updated to show existing playground equipment.
Other suggestion - better security/lighting	No change to Masterplan. Lighting plan included in Masterplan report.
	Masterplan updated. Existing CCTV to be reviewed and updated during staged implementation of Masterplan
Other suggestion - adequate bins	Bins to be considered during detailed design.
Other suggestion – better maintenance.	Feedback on park maintenance provided to Council's Operations team.

Following Stage 2 community consultation Council officers investigated the feasibility to maximise the open space availability by positioning the built elements closer to the perimeter road network. The repositioning of the active recreation area and fitness equipment closer to ANZAC Ave would negatively impact the over cost of the project. The final Masterplan includes a simplification of pathways to achieve more available green space for passive use.

ITEM 5 (continued)

Masterplan - Final Design

The Masterplan, provided in **ATTACHMENTS 1 and 2**, and recommended for adoption in this report, will increase the active and passive recreation, cultural and community value of Anzac Park to better meet the growing community needs. It includes open green spaces for recreation, picnics and community events; new amenities building with inclusive design; improved pathway network and path lighting; new active recreation area with fitness equipment and table tennis tables; new seniors exercise equipment with filtered water station; picnic shelters, BBQs and seating with inclusive design; existing district level playground with inclusive design; existing ANZAC memorial to be updated; site considerations for community events; pedestrian safety and active transport improvements; more trees, increased tree canopy cover and environmental improvements.



Image 23: Final Masterplan – Design present to Council for adoption, provided in ATTACHMENT 2.

ITEM 5 (continued)

Amenities Building

The existing amenities building was constructed in the 1986/87. It is aging infrastructure, does not meet Council or the community's standards or expectations for a park this nature. The public toilets have poor sight lines and through Stage 1 consultation the community raised that they have safety concerns about the current building design. Stage 1 and 2 community consultation indicated that the community are supportive of a new modern amenity building.

The Anzac Park Masterplan includes a new amenity building which is in a similar location to the existing building. The new amenities building will be subject to detailed design and necessary approval. However, it is intended to have public toilets and Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles.

Connection to ANZAC, World War 1 and World War 2 History

Anzac Park was named so for the simple fact that the Park fronts onto Anzac Avenue. For most of the Park's history there was little attention given to any 'ANZAC' association. The resurgence in public interest in Anzac Day over the last 10-25 years and the Centenary of ANZAC commemorations in 2018 has resulted in the strengthening of the connection to ANZAC and World War 1 remembrance. Park upgrades have included planting of rosemary, erection of flag poles with lighting and installation of commemorative plaques on low sandstone plinths in the central memorial garden. The plaques tell the story of involvement in and effect of the war on the residents of the then municipalities of Ryde and Eastwood. The Masterplan seeks to further strengthen the connection to ANZAC and World War 1 with future improvements to the central memorial, gardens and planting of a lone pine.



Image 25: central ANZAC memorial with commemorative plaques

Infrastructure developed during World War 2 also featured within the Park including zig-zag slit trenches and fake roadway. To acknowledge this history, the Masterplan includes interpretive elements such as pathway in the shape of the slit trenches and interpretive signage.

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Community Events and Use by Local Community Groups

Anzac Park in its current form is used by City of Ryde for a number of community events including ANZAC Day commemoration service, West Ryde Garden Bar, Easter celebrations and Cinema in the Park.



Image 26-28: ANZAC Day commemoration services in Anzac Park

The Masterplan design has considered site requirements, event layout, site access and access to services to support the conduct of community events. Specific elements include:-

- Activation of Ryedale Lane as a pedestrian priority area with contemporary paving pattern and bollards for community events
- Food truck parking bays in Ryedale Lane
- Open green with amphitheatre and terraced seating for community events
- Flexible open spaces with rigging point and power for temporary event staging.
- Vehicle access for event bump in/bump out.

Note: rear lane access to properties on Ryedale Lane to be retained. Conduct of events to be in consultation with these business/property owners.

The Park also includes some informal use by local community groups for activities such as tai chi. The Masterplan design includes spaces for these types of community uses.

Car Parking

The Masterplan does not propose any significant changes to existing on-street parking arrangements. 2 x accessible parking spaces have been included in the Wattle Street angled parking to encourage park use by people with mobility needs.

Following Stage 2 community consultation Council officers considered the feasibility to increase parking capacity via angled parking on Herbert Street. However, it was determined that this could not be achieved due to width of the road reserve and future active transport link which is identified for Herbert Street in the draft West Ryde Town Centre Masterplan.

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In the future should there be a significant and demonstrated increased demand for car parking at Anzac Park, a review of parking restrictions and resident parking permit schemes could be considered to achieve greater parking turnover. This would be subject to necessary parking and traffic assessment.

The recent upgrade of the West Ryde train station commuter car park (101 additional car parking spaces) should better accommodate the need for rail commuters parking at the station, rather than in the local surrounding streets. The adjacent Ryde Eastwood League Club has a large multi-story car park which provides some complimentary parking for their patrons before paid parking is applicable.

Inclusion, Universal Design and CPTED Principles

The Anzac Park Masterplan seeks to provide a safe space that is inclusive of all ages, all abilities and all cultures. The Masterplan supports the recommendations outlined in the *Disability Inclusion Action Plan (2022)*, *Sport and Recreation Strategy 2016-2026 (2017)*, *Children's Play Plan (2019)* and *Youth Infrastructure strategy (2021)*. The design has been prepared with consideration to universal design and crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED) principles as follows:-

- Existing playground with inclusive design
- New amenities building with inclusive design and open design with good sight lines
- Improved pathways that a flat, minimise gradient changes and avoids trip hazards
- Inclusion of new accessible parking spaces on Wattle Street
- Picnic shelters with inclusive design (eg. wheelchair accessible)
- Seniors exercise and dexterity equipment
- Upgraded path light and review/update of CCTV
- Facilitation of safer road crossing points to access the Park, which is particularly relevant for people or families with specific mobility needs.

Pedestrian and Cycle Considerations

The Anzac Park Masterplan seeks to achieve strategic alignment with the pedestrian/cycle and active transport initiatives identified in Council's draft Bicycle Strategy and the draft West Ryde Town Centre Masterplan.

The Anzac Park Masterplan recommends the strengthening of active transport options to the site and within the surrounding context including:-

- Shared user path along Wattle Street
- Future active transport link along Anzac Avenue
- Future active transport link along Herbert Street
- Interconnection with other local and regional cycle routes
- Provision of bicycle parking and filtered water station

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Environmental Considerations

The Anzac Park Masterplan supports the intent of the *Ryde Biodiversity Plan (2016)* and the *Ryde Resilience Plan (2020)*. Whilst being in an urban setting, the Park provides important regional biodiversity connectivity and fauna habitat along the corridor connecting Parramatta River to Lane Cove River (River to River).

The Masterplan design seeks to achieve a range of environmental improvements including:-

- New avenue tree plantings along Anzac Avenue, Herbert Street and Ryedale Lane.
- Other general improvements to tree and gardens onsite.
- Water sensitive urban design (WSUD) proposed on the south-eastern and south-western corner of the park (Anzac Avenue and Herbert Street) to assist with overland flow and improve water quality entering the catchment area.
- New filtered water station and existing bubblers have also been included to reduce litter and single use plastic.

The most significant environmental improvement of the Masterplan is to reduce urban heat, provide shade and slow the impacts of climate change. The Masterplan will significantly increase tree canopy cover to approximately 59% of the overall site. This is a 22% increase on the existing tree canopy cover (from existing 37% of approximate overall site).



Image 29: Current tree canopy coverage on existing site (37%) and
Image 30: Increased tree canopy coverage in Masterplan (59%), from **ATTACHMENT 1**

ITEM 5 (continued)

Preliminary tree assessment was conducted in the preparation of this Masterplan. Currently there are 103 x existing trees onsite plus 1 x large truck retained for habitat values. During detailed design phases, a *Reviews of Environmental Factors (REF)* and tree assessments will be commissioned (if/where required). Currently it is projected the Masterplan may potentially necessitate the removal of around 6 trees (Stage 1: 1 x celtis and 1 x brush box – near the amenities building; and Stage 3: 4 x casuarinas on the embankment near Ryedale Lane). However, the Masterplan seeks to offset this tree loss by planting approximately 66 new trees onsite.

It is noted some existing trees, especially along the axis paths, are likely to reach senescence and exceed their Safe Useful Life Expectancy (SULE) within the coming 20 years. To maintain the structured tree landscape features of the site, the Masterplan recommends a succession plan for progressive replacement of trees is to be developed based on formal assessment of tree conditions.

Masterplan - Staging and Implementation

The Masterplan provides a framework for how the Park will be upgraded over the next 20 years. The Masterplan Report, provided in **ATTACHMENT 1**, includes a staging plan for progressive implementation of the Masterplan over 6 stages. Implementation of the Masterplan is subject to Council's adoption of the Masterplan and the availability of funds.

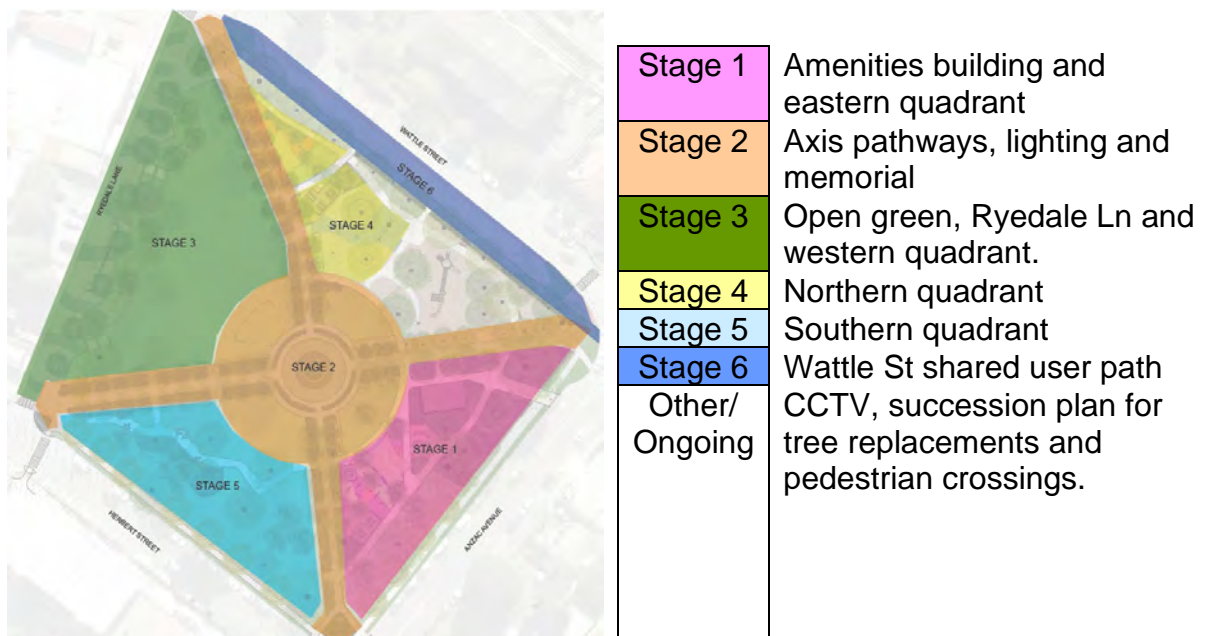


Image 31: Masterplan Staging Plan as provided in **ATTACHMENT 1**.