



# **J L Murphy Reserve Sport Pavilion redevelopment**

## *Community engagement summary report*

Phase one engagement - December 2015 to January 2016

## 1. Introduction

The City of Port Phillip is working with the Victorian Government to upgrade the J.L. Murphy Reserve sports pavilion with the aim of increasing participation in sport by providing accessible change rooms for all genders and abilities. The Victorian Government has allocated \$700,000 in funding and the Council will project manage the sports pavilion upgrade. Outside the election funds, Council will fund the project management costs.

The improvements will mean that the community can make more use of the grounds as well as improving access to the facilities. Council is committed to supporting the community to achieve improved health and wellbeing; providing accessible facilities that support recreation and sporting activities is a key priority.

Recently, Council adopted a new Sport and Recreation Strategy. A key goal from the strategy is to: *Plan, provide and maintain quality sport and recreation spaces for the Port Phillip community*

Strategy Action 2.2 is to: *Ensure sport and recreation infrastructure is developed and utilised as a community asset that fosters peoples' connection to each other.*

The funding for this project means that we can now deliver key outcomes from this strategy.

The purpose of the phase one engagement was to seek feedback on a set of draft key parameters to guide the design of the pavilion's redevelopment. This report provides an overview of the project, community engagement approach and feedback received between 2 December 2015 and 1 February 2016.



## 2. Project overview

The J.L. Murphy Reserve is a busy reserve for both active and passive recreation. It is home to seven sporting clubs and also used as a location for Australian television and film production companies.

The redevelopment project will upgrade the J.L. Murphy Reserve sports pavilion with the aim of increasing participation in sport by providing accessible change rooms for all genders and abilities.

Planning for the sports pavilion redevelopment began in early 2015. Soil and building structure investigations commenced in July 2015.

The concept design for the pavilion, which will be guided by the key design parameters, is due in mid-2016 and a final design will be completed in late-2016 with construction work expected to commence in early 2017.

### 3. Draft key design parameters

The draft key design parameters presented for consultation to the community were:

1. For the primary purpose of supporting the on field activities of the sporting groups
2. Incorporate the principles of universal design for accessibility and inclusiveness
3. Deliver the project to meet the sports' facility guidelines
4. Maintain existing levels of public amenity provision
5. Be sympathetic to the park and the existing infrastructure

6. Include sustainable elements within the design, where possible
7. The additional facilities will aim to be designed in a way that will not preclude the user groups constructing an upper storey in the future.

## 3. Engagement approach

Council is using a two-phase engagement approach to inform the community about the project and seek feedback on key parameters and final concept design for the redevelopment of the J.L. Murphy Reserve sports pavilion.

Phase one engagement ran from 2 December 2015 to 1 February 2016 (62 days). The purpose of the engagement was to present draft key design parameters to the community and key stakeholders to guide the development of a concept design for the upgrade. Feedback from phase one engagement will be used to review and refine the key parameters for the concept design.

Phase two engagement will take place in mid-2016. The purpose of the engagement is to present the draft concept design to the community and key stakeholders, and seek feedback on whether the building design meets the key design parameters and provides better use of the sports facilities, accommodating multiple clubs and games at the same time, as well as improving access to the pavilion.

The activities carried out for phase one engagement are described below.

#### 4.1 Have Your Say online engagement

Council's J.L. Murphy Reserve sports pavilion redevelopment Have Your Say page was used as a central place for project information including the draft key design parameters. Feedback was sought through an online survey.

#### 4.2 Consultation and input from the sporting clubs

The Council met with the clubs early in the process and this feedback was used to draft the key parameters.

#### 4.3 Project email address and phone number

A dedicated project email address [jlmurphypavilion@portphilip.vic.gov.au](mailto:jlmurphypavilion@portphilip.vic.gov.au) was set up to monitor feedback and enquiries from the community and key stakeholders. The website address and ASSIST phone number were included in all communication materials.

#### 4.4 Notifications to residents and businesses

A notification letter was hand delivered to the residential and business letterboxes of more than 591 properties in the Port Melbourne area.

In addition to this, a letter was posted to all property owners within the distribution area, to ensure absentee property owners also had access to the project information.

The letter included a basic project overview, website link to Have Your Say pages and contact details for the project team.

## 5. Engagement feedback

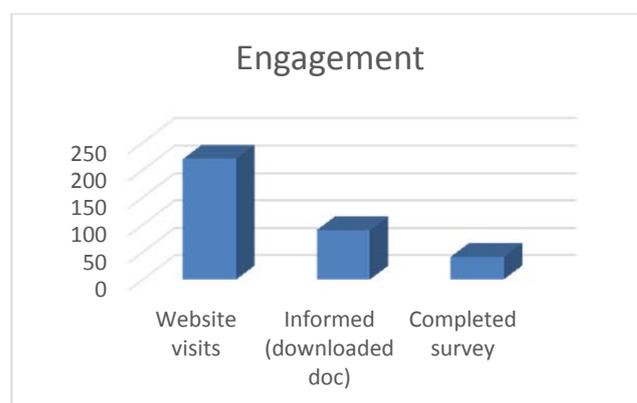
### 5.1 Existing sports user groups

The state Government met with Council and the sports user groups in September 2015 to discuss funding and user requirements. The site investigation report was provided to the sports user groups in November 2015.

### 5.2 Overall participants

Figure 1 shows how people provided feedback during phase one engagement. 220 people visited the project page, 90 downloaded a document and 41 completed the survey.

Figure 1: How people engaged



### 5.2 Survey respondents

The majority of respondents indicated they lived in Port Melbourne (35). A high number of responses came from residents living in close proximity to the reserve.

Figure 2: Survey responses by suburb

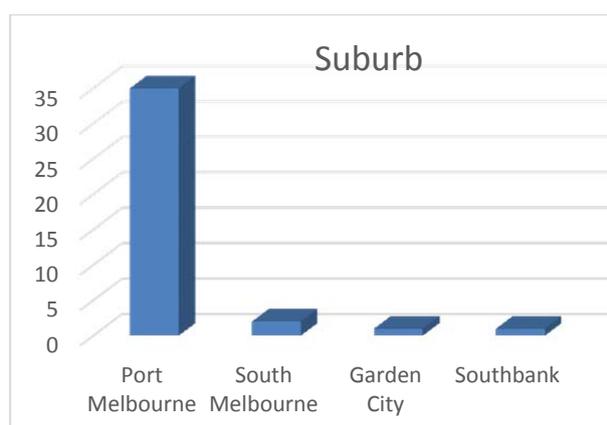
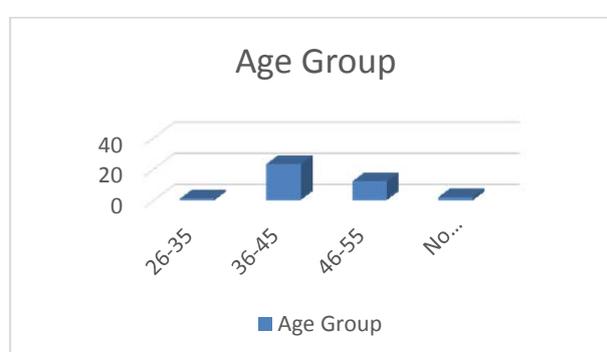
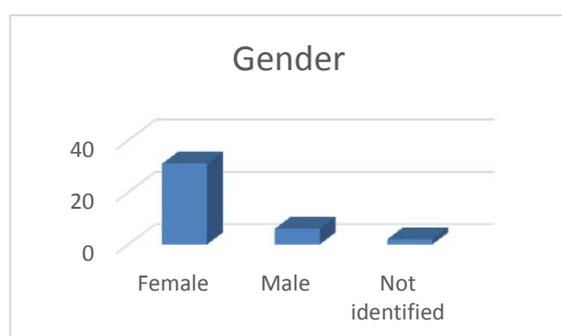


Figure 3: Survey responses by age group



The age of respondents spread across two defined age groups, with the majority of respondents aged between 35 and 49.

Figure 4: Responses by gender



31 respondents were female, 9 were male and one did not answer.

### 5.3 Feedback on use of the reserve

22 respondents said their children played sport at the reserve, 17 exercised at the reserve and 8 said they were sporting club users. 8 respondents said they used the reserve for family or social gatherings, 8 walked their dog at the reserve, 6 indicated they live opposite the park and 8 didn't say.

### 5.4 Feedback on draft key design parameters

Survey respondents were asked to nominate whether they agreed the draft key design parameters were adequate to guide the development of a concept design for the upgrade of the J.L. Murphy Reserve pavilion.

Council received 42 responses to this question.

23 people agreed with the draft key parameters, while 19 disagreed with some aspects. The feedback and suggestions for improving the key design parameters are outlined below. Some people provided more than one piece of feedback or suggestion for improvement.

- The reserve currently has no sporting facilities for women or girls and this gender imbalance should be addressed (18 respondents).
- Remove the wetlands component of the current Murphy's Reserve Master Plan (17 respondents).
- Include multi-use netball and basketball facilities (15 respondents).
- Include netball facilities (10 respondents).
- Broaden the parameters to include passive recreation as the reserve is a community space used by a variety of people. The upgrade should benefit the broad range of users and local

residents and encourage activities for all ages (7 respondents).

- Remove the first parameter (1 respondent).
- Strengthen the fourth parameter to become: improve existing levels of public amenity provision (1 respondent).
- The pavilion should be able to be used by all sporting groups that access the reserve (1 respondent).
- The pavilion should have space that can be used by multiple parties at the same time (1 respondent).
- A new parameter should be added: design excellence (1 respondent).
- A new parameter should be added: value for money (1 respondent).
- The pavilion should include community facilities, e.g. a kitchen (1 respondent).
- Minimise the footprint of the building to maximise the park's recreation area (1 respondent).
- Limit the building to no more than two levels (1 respondent).
- Limit the building to no more than one level (1 respondent).



## 6. Feedback themes

Many people provided qualitative feedback on the draft key design

parameters as well as suggestions for the project. This feedback has been grouped into the themes outlined below.

### 6.1 Improving the gender balance of the sporting facilities

#### What we heard

Many respondents were concerned that the reserve currently has no sporting facilities for girls or women and they wanted to see this gender balance addressed. A number called for netball facilities and others requested multi-use courts that could be used for both netball and basketball.

#### Our response

The funding for this project has been provided specifically to upgrade the J.L. Murphy Reserve sports pavilion with the aim of increasing participation in sport by providing accessible change rooms for all genders.

The Council is aware of this feedback and is taking it on board to inform future planning. The City of Port Phillip Sport and Recreation team are looking at ways to improve the sport and recreation infrastructure in the park.

### 6.2 Removing the wetlands component of the Master Plan

#### What we heard

Many respondents didn't feel that the wetlands component of the Master Plan was an appropriate use of the park. In most of the cases when this was mentioned, it was in the context of using this space to build six multi-use netball and basketball courts instead of the wetlands.

### Our response

This feedback has been noted and is outside the scope of the project. The City of Port Phillip will consider this feedback as part of the master planning process.

## 6.3 The purpose of the project

### What we heard

Some respondents felt that the purpose of the project should be to benefit all users of the reserve and improve current public amenity, including passive recreation such as walking, cycling, sitting and children's play. One felt that it should include community facilities, such as a kitchen. One felt the quality of life for local residents should be preserved. Another felt that the pavilion should be able to be used by all sporting groups that access the reserve.

### Our response

The funding for this project has been provided specifically to upgrade the J.L. Murphy Reserve sports pavilion with the aim of increasing participation in sport by providing accessible change rooms for all genders and abilities.

The improvements will mean that the community can make more use of the grounds as well as improving access to the facilities. The project is limited to the upgrade of the pavilion. However, as part of the project, Council is looking at ways the pavilion facilities can be accessed by the public when it is being used by sports clubs and at other times.

## 6.4 The pavilion design and approach

### What we heard

A number of respondents made comments about the pavilion design and approach. There was a range of different requests, such as limiting the design to

one or two storeys, minimising the building footprint, ensuring design excellence and value for money, and enabling the pavilion to be able to be used by multiple parties at the same time.

### Our response

This feedback has been noted and will be considered by the Council as part of the project.

## 6.5 Other feedback

### What we heard

There were a range of other points raised in the feedback, including creating a buffer zone of trees around the park to block out Williamstown Road and Plummer Street, not having any pokies or liquor sales, reducing the fencing at the reserve to increase the open space, and incorporating safe crossing areas to the reserve.

### Our response

This feedback has been noted and is outside the scope of the project. The Council will consider this feedback in its future planning for the reserve.

## 7. Next steps

Following the close of phase one community engagement on 1 February 2016, community feedback will inform the final key parameters for the J.L. Murphy Reserve pavilion redevelopment.

Phase two engagement seeking feedback on a concept design for the upgrade is scheduled to be carried out mid-2016.



For more information, please contact us via:

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