

ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY – PHASE 1 FEEDBACK

This report provides an overview of feedback received from Phase 1 of engagement for the park and play 'reset' project for Tate Park in Pascoe Vale, carried out during September and October 2023. We are making changes to Tate Park to make it a more inviting place to spend time. At present this reserve is home to a small playground, with older equipment. We have signalled plans to remove this set of play equipment and create a passive recreation space in its place.

As noted in the website providing early advice about changes to Tate Park, we are also informing people about the proposed upgrading of nearby Esslemont Reserve. There is funding allocated for an improved play space at Esslemont as part of an overall upgrade of the reserve, as well as funding to construct a footpath connection from Esslemont to the footbridge at the bottom of Avoca Crescent in Pascoe Vale. This provides a bike and pedestrian connection to Moonee Ponds Creek Trail from the reserve and also creates a more direct walking link between Tate Street and Esslemont Reserve.

People are encouraged to follow the community engagement process for Esslemont Reserve to stay informed about the improved play and park facilities being developed there. Use this link if you want to register to follow the Esslemont Reserve project:

[Esslemont Reserve upgrade](#)

For the moment we are sharing people's responses to potential changes at Tate Park, along with thoughts about their experience of the park and ideas presented for what they would like to see kept, improved or changed. All feedback that has been emailed or posted on the website during the present phase of engagement, is included as Appendix in this report.

ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

This initial phase of consultation is very important, with people being made aware of the planned change to Tate Park through removal of the old play equipment and resetting the reserve as passive recreation. The feedback that is being received will give us some understanding of how people feel about the reserve in its current state.

What people are telling us about their experience of Tate Park also provides direction in deciding what to retain, improve or add as we start preparation of a Draft Concept Plan. That will be drawn up gradually over coming months, to be shared with the community so people can comment freely on what is proposed in the initial version of Draft Concept Plan for Tate Park.

Phase 1 was carried out by distributing post cards by letter box to residents in the area in early September, notifying of community consultation on the Tate Park upgrade and inviting people to submit feedback through the website, by email or telephone. At the time of closing in early October, a total of 5 responses was received, with 5 households providing feedback.

ENGAGEMENT OVERVIEW

Feedback from Phase 1 consultation is categorised into three types of response to Tate Park as a place to visit, pass through or spend time:

- > Things people like
- > Things that can be improved
- > Things that could be included in proposed upgrade

Things people like

- > The playground. Makes this place an alternative for kids that need or prefer being in a quiet space
- > Close to where people live, only a short walk from Parker Street
- > Enjoy walking through the park to access trail on Moonee Ponds Creek

Things that can be improved

- > Better tree planting and landscaping to improve aesthetic value of the park
- > Create a bio-corridor along Moonee Ponds Creek, connecting Tate Park to Esslemont Reserve
- > Retain and improve the playground as well as adding native vegetation
- > More park amenities such as picnic tables
- > Improve road safety for local drivers and pedestrians wanting to visit the park
- > Retain path to the creek

Things that could be included

- > Look at feasibility of creating path link between Tate Park and Esslemont Reserve along East side of Moonee Ponds Creek
- > Create a Community garden, encourage locals to meet up for vegie gardening
- > Install a barbecue
- > Install picnic settings with seats and tables
- > More aesthetic park landscape - establish new garden beds, more native trees
- > Plant many Wattle trees for winter flowering
- > Install new play equipment along with native vegetation
- > Encourage access to walking trail along Moonee Ponds Creek



NEXT STEPS

The next phase to follow will be circulating the Draft Concept Plan to the community. This will be Phase 2 of engagement on the project, planned for the early part of 2024, once the Esslemont Reserve Concept Plan has taken shape. Gathering of further feedback for Tate Park will be obtained through:

- Post card distribution by letter box advising of the Draft Concept Plan and a link to the Conversations Merri-bek website
- Email advice to people already registered to follow the Tate Park project, about the Draft Concept Plan
- Explanation on the website about what is proposed and the decision-making that went into items that may or may not be included in the Draft Concept Plan
- “Pop-up / Drop-in” sessions held at Tate Park with a poster of the Draft Concept Plan, with Council staff hearing from people about their thoughts on what’s proposed and taking note of questions and concerns
- Providing a complete summary of all feedback received by website, phone, email or Pop-up sessions. That will also have responses to all queries raised and questions asked.

All feedback received in the next phase will be considered in a review of Draft Concept proposals, before releasing the Final Concept Plan in the first half of 2024. From that point we prepare for upgrading works to be carried out at Tate Park, planned for completion before the end of 2024.

Gathering Ideas

Title/Question: Share your experience of Tate Park
 Tool Type: Gather
 Activity ID:
 Report Date Range: 8 Sep 2023 - 21 Sep 2023
 Date Exported: 10 Oct 2023 09:13 am
 Exported By: AndrewBlight

Contribution ID	Screen Name	Title	Description
46538	Pep	Join the 2 parks	Hello, Are you able to make a path from Esslemont Park to Tate park along the East side of the creek?
46512	Alex	Community Garden	If the playground has to go, then perhaps this site is a good candidate for a community garden: a meeting place for locals to come and plant/grow/pick vegetables. This could be built around the picnic tables someone else suggested, and even an electric BBQ. The native planting sounds like a great way to improve the aesthetic value of Tate Park, bringing in more trees and creating a biocorridor along Moonee Ponds Creek and the Esslemont Reserve. Would be nice if lots of wattles were selected for their winter flowering.
46492	Martha	Improve the playground don't remove it	It will be very disappointing for the kids that are actually using this small playground if the council remove it. The place is an alternative for kids that need or prefer being in a more quiet space. Improving the playground plus adding the native vegetation and connecting the area with the walking trail, could be a better project, that will consider the kids like my daughter that loves the place and also the people that loves to walk around. Just because the playground is small doesn't mean that the community doesn't like it or need it.
46489	Karen	A picnic table suggested	We live in Parker St Pascoe Vale and Tate Park is 2 minutes walk from our place. We would definitely use the park if there was a picnic table and some native plantings. But if more people are using the area though I suggest the issue of the unsafe turn from Parker St into Gaffney Street be addressed. You can't see oncoming traffic if there is a vehicle, (often an SUV or a van) parked in front of the hairdressers in Gaffney St . We inch our car out & cross fingers we don't get hit by traffic travelling fast down the steep hill to get through the railway crossing. This way provides the only access out of the area.
46488	BvWm	Hopefully the Creek access remains	I live in the area and walk my dog through this park to get to the short trail along the creek. For this reason I don't get to have that much of a say because I don't live in the affected zone and don't even have kids. So long as the path to the creek remains I should not be impacted by any changes. I appreciate the opportunity to have a say in this matter.