



Merri-bek
City Council

Tony Mommsen Reserve

Park & play upgrade

Consultation summary report

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Open Space Design & Development Unit

September 2026



Tony Mommsen Reserve Upgrade – Phase 1 Consultation report

Consultation summary report

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Tony Mommsen Reserve in Hadfield, is a local park located opposite the North Street shopping strip. It comprises a small play space, trees and open lawn area. It has been determined ready for a park and play upgrade according to Merri-bek City Council's Open Space and Play strategies.

This report provides a summary of Tony Mommsen Reserve consultation – Phase 1, Gathering Ideas

1. Background

This report covers a summary of the consultation phases for Tony Mommsen park and play upgrade. The initial phase is "Gathering Ideas" to inform design of the Draft Concept Plan.

As mentioned on Conversations Merri-bek webpage, the following elements of the reserve are not negotiable as part of this upgrade:

- The upgrade will only cover the reserve and play space area, not the surrounding areas such as roads, car parking, lighting and services
- This reserve will remain a 'Dog on-leash' park
- Unless trees are dead or in decline, they will not be removed as part of the works
- There is no budget for installation of a toilet
- All the works must fit into the available budget.

Council's Open Space Design and Development unit are conducting three phases of engagement with the local community for the Tony Mommsen St Park upgrade, these being:

- **Initial consultation**

Council have asked the local community what they would like to see included in the upgrade of this park. This information is being used as inputs to develop the draft concept plan, now in progress. This initial phase of engagement closed in August 2026.

- **Draft Concept Plan Consultation**

Using results from consultation in phase 1, Council will develop the Draft concept plan with the community's input, to be shared on the project web page prior to end-2026.

- **Final Concept Plan Consultation**

Using results from consultation in phase 2, Council will draw the Final concept plan with community input, comprising written feedback on the Draft concept plan. The Final concept plan will be shared for information as soon as possible after close of phase 2.

The Final concept plan will be posted on the project web page for all to see. This will close the consultation process, prior to the Open Space team proceeding to detailed design for construction in 2027.

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Consultation timing

- Initial consultation: July to August 2026
- Draft concept plan consultation: November 2026
- Final concept plan issued: late-2026 (TBC)

2. Initial consultation

Initial community engagement for Tony Mommsen Reserve, Phase 1, was conducted July to August 2026. For the initial community engagement, we dropped post cards in the letterbox to residents in the area around Tony Mommsen Reserve. With those post cards, we were notifying the community of the proposed Park and play upgrade, and inviting people to submit feedback through the website, by email or telephone.

Posters were also put up at the park with a QR code link to the Merri-bek website, so that anyone visiting the park was made aware of the community engagement and could participate in the process.

3. Initial consultation feedback findings

Council received a total of 43 contributions from 39 contributors who provided feedback to the initial consultation from the Conversations website. In addition, we have had phone calls and email from people wishing to have Council consider changes to assist schoolchildren passing through the reserve.

This feedback has been organised into a Phase 1 Feedback Summary, detailing all the individual contributions provided, which is included as an attachment to this Report.

4. Phase 1 consultation findings

Phase 1 of consultation was about “Gathering Ideas”, and we heard from people how much they value Tony Mommsen Reserve as a place to enjoy open space, connect with nature and enjoy some outdoor activity.

The feedback we received is helpful in identifying the range of things people would like to see in an upgraded version of the park. It also showed how much passion there is in the community for having this open space in their neighbourhood become a more inviting and enjoyable place to visit.

We also heard that people want to see Tony Mommsen Reserve become more of a welcoming place for people of all ages to want to visit, with improved landscaping and better facilities, while promoting ways to manage less rubbish being left in the park.

What We Heard

The overall message is that people in this community want Tony Mommsen Reserve to offer much more in the range of activities that can be enjoyed there, providing for people of all ages. People are also looking for a greater variety for children through provision of more play options including imaginative play. We also heard a strong message about the presentation of the reserve, with a persistent issue of rubbish being left in the park that is making it less attractive for people to visit.

While there were suggestions for Tony Mommsen Reserve to accommodate more for dogs, such as fencing it in, most of the feedback was focussed on improving the park experience for people. There are

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calls for increased provision for play, including nature-based play and accessible play, along with suggestions for improving the natural environment through tree planting, native planting, planting for biodiversity and, in one case, creating a community food forest with edible plants and fruits.

We also heard many calls for improvements to park infrastructure such as more seating options, picnic tables and additional bins. People also identified the need for a drinking fountain, which will almost certainly be included in our plans as there is a water meter in the reserve so we can connect to that existing supply.

In much of the feedback we gathered there was mention of the church gate set in the fence that adjoins St Thomas More church, and the connection it provides for school children to and from the St Thomas More School. We have also had representations from some parents and others connected with the School for Council to assist with improving that connection with some form of pathway in the reserve.

All the individual suggestions for improvements are summarised in the “Gathering Ideas” outline that is attached to this report.

5. Next steps

The response to the initial phase of engagement for Tony Mommsen Reserve has been great. All the feedback we've received is proving helpful in guiding our early thinking on what needs to be kept, changed, improved or added as part of the upcoming concept design for upgrading the reserve.

The next phase to follow will start with us preparing the draft concept plan to share with the community. We will work to include as many feedback suggestions as possible in preparing the draft concept plan for Tony Mommsen Reserve. In the meantime, we are making enquiries to find what involvement, if any, the Council might have in assisting with the movement of schoolchildren through the reserve. Once that is understood, we can resolve plans for the layout of play areas, seating, drink fountain, lawn, paths, fencing and so on.

Phase 2 engagement will then take place with post card distribution, inviting feedback on the draft concept plan through the Conversations Merri-bek website.

At that time, there will be explanation of what is proposed and the decision-making that went into items that may or may not be included in the Draft Concept Plan.

All feedback received in the next phase will be considered in a review of Draft proposals, before releasing the Final Concept Plan as we prepare for upgrading works to be carried out at Tony Mommsen Reserve, planned for completion in the second half of 2026.

6. Further information

Any questions can be directed to Council's Open Space Design & Development Unit via email openspace@merri-bek.vic.gov.au or by phoning 9240 1111.

7. Appendix

8a Initial consultation

We're updating a park near you!

Tell us what you would like to see in the upgrade



[→ conversations.merri-bek.vic.gov.au/tony-mommsen](https://conversations.merri-bek.vic.gov.au/tony-mommsen)



We are upgrading a number of parks in 2026-2027, including Tony Mommsen Reserve in Hadfield. These projects are supported through our Open Space Strategy.

What would you like to see included in this upgrade?



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Stiamo migliorando un parco vicino a te. Facci sapere cosa vorresti vedere.



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8a Initial consultation (cont'd)

Following is attachment with all feedback received in Phase 1 Engagement for the Tony Mommsen Reserve Park & Play Upgrade.

Gathering Ideas: Tony Mommsen Reserve, Hadfield

Title/Question: Share your experience of Tony Mommsen Reserve
Tool Type: Gather
Activity ID: 1297
Report Date Range: 1 Jul 2026 - 22 Sep 2026
Date Exported: 22 Sep 2026 12:29 pm
Exported By: AndrewBlight

Title	Description
Mia	One thing about this park is the amount of dumped food that is found by dogs and native foods - put up some CCTV in sneaky spots to find out who is constantly doing it and fine them. It's been happening for over 6 years now and the council hasn't done a thing about it. A lot of dumped bread gets thrown in particular spots, leftover large meals get dumped as well-dogs get into it as well as the native birds. There have been many sightings of foxes around North St and this is perpetuating scavengers. I also don't want my dog getting sick and costing me thousands because the council hasn't investigated this properly.
Hopeful upgrade for new families to the area	With lots of younger families in the area, this park is in desperate need of an upgrade. Unfortunately I have had to provide a lot of feedback on this park a number of times due to the amount of rubbish covering the large green space, majority of the time. The park has so much potential and so much space. It would be great to have more unique, creative, and diverse play equipment to cater to a variety of ages, as it is quite sad currently. More rubbish bins and spaces for families to sit. Potentially fenced area for off leash dog or better use for the large grassed area that is often full of rubbish.
New to the area	Would love to see this space upgraded. Doesn't have to be fancy just practical. My children are 4 & 8 so something appropriate. A flying fox would also be great since it's a linear park.
Playground	Also more benches and tables to sit at. A modern playground but not an imaginative play one like the new Glenroy Rd play area. Sorry but we want a friggin slide!! That entire playground isn't really a playground and little kids are now missing out. We want a playground with a slide, small enough for little kids and toddlers as they're often the ones playing here. A bit of climbing but low enough and safe for little kids. And some shade over the playground! Australia emphasises sun safety but I'm hard pressed to find a playground with shade. The entire park needs a redo of the grass, it pretty much is mostly weeds or dirt. The area near the seat and bins is dirt and rubbish. It's too filthy to consider sitting there while watching the kids. And the bin right next to the seat is disgusting, often overflows and you have to touch it to open it. We def need a fence with a gate blocking off North St as it's quite busy down there now and kids can just run across the road.
Swap off lead zone to larger park	It never made sense that the off lead park is the smaller park where dogs aren't meant to be off lead within 15m of the playground. The width of the park probably isn't that! Make Lions Park the off lead one because it's safer for kids and dogs. And this park either on-lead or a fence surrounding the playground at least.
Why I want a better park	I am from Hadfield and I am 6 years old. I want a better park because it's too little. The park does not have enough activity space for me and my friends to enjoy. I want the following things: - Trampoline - Monkey bars - Swing where two people can swing at same time - A bigger slide - Something to climb, like a rockclimbing wall. I look forward to playing with my friends in this new park.

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Title	Description
Playground, footpath	Updated new play equipment for all ages including a slide and swings and monkey bars/climbing. Concrete path to the school gate of St Thomas More from the playground path.
Suggested ideas	A kids bike road loop around park for kids to ride bike, with street signs roundabout and water fountain low enough for kids to drink from.
	possibly a brick wall that's multifunctional with basketball hoop and rebound wall to hit a tennis ball against .
Local park improved for Hadfield's local "capital city" community	We have improvements to proposal of expanded local park reserve, these include bushwalking, walking paths, shade sails over play spaces, large "fun adventure" play items such as a Flying Fox, activity seating decks, new BBQ and picnic seating options, picnic tables, and there's cricket in small area of sports, It was being impressed for the success of local community, I am so proud of you as well.
Playground Upgrade for Hadfield	I think it would suit a well designed but more compact playground, similar to what's been installed at Rayner Reserve in Oak Park. It doesn't need to be large scale, just varied and well thought out for the size of the park.
	Key things I'd love to see: a mix of equipment such as climbing structures, bridges, slides and swings, a connected layout so parents can supervise easily, and bark rather than sand as the base surface for easier maintenance.
	Would also avoid single rope elevated crossings at height, similar to what's been installed at HM Dowd Reserve in Pascoe Vale, not the safest for younger kids even with handrails.
Improving our reserve	A few ideas:
	- More seated areas under the large canopies that already exist
	- More fun age appropriate equipment (suited for toddler to 13 year old) as many primary school students use it
	- Removal of parking directly in front of park as turning from Regent St to North St is difficult and dangerous when cars are parked there
	- Bring back the grass as it was removed and replaced with bark (and consequently weeds)
Something like York St	It's evident from York St playground that when you build a variety of interactive play environments for all ages (and a toilet) people will use the space! It would be great to see something similar here.
Children safety	All the kids from the loop love this park and as parents we love how close it is. Our kids go there daily but it drives us parents crazy how we always have to cross the road and go to the shops because there is always one kid that starts making their way over regardless of what his/her parents say. So as a parent I would love a fence and gate restricting the kids from entering and exiting as they please. We would love benches to enjoy a lovely lunch when the weather is good. The kids want more swings, larger slide to suit older kids, flying fox. A few ramps for bikes, scooters and skateboards.
Pathways, fence and shade	A safe pathed area between entrances (the loop , North st and gate in the church car park fence (school entry).
	This is a high traffic frequented area that should be safer and accessible for everyday use.
	Equipment that is age appropriate for toddlers and younger children given the proximity to Kindergarten's and Primary school.
	A gated fence on the north street fence as the street is busy and with car parks reversing safer for children to use.
	Shaded undercover area .

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Title	Description
Proper fencing for Off Leash Dog use.	This is already a designated Off Leash Dog Area. It would be great to get it fenced properly with dog proof fence and gates at both ends. This will help with training dogs in an enclosed area - we love better behaved dogs! Most of the reserve is well fenced. It is just at the two entry points that there is inadequate fencing. This should not be a great cost to fence appropriately and would make it a lot more useable. No one wants the dogs running out onto traffic.
Lots of potential! Let's make it count.	I've lived in the area for over 30 years and we're desperate for an upgrade in this park. I'd love to see an enclosed area, somewhere with lots of shade with a gazebo and table & chairs etc. A massive playground with different areas, things for toddlers and older kids to enjoy the grounds. Playground equipment and also a half court basketball ring would be great. Something similar set up to York street in Pascoe Vale or cross keys reserve park would be amazing. We also need ample rubbish bins. There's so much space there to make something really incredible for the community.
Safe path access to school & church	Pathway connecting the church/school area to the reserve so there is a safe access for all member of the community of all ages and abilities. Playground equipment needs a refresh to provide a play space for various ages.
More play equipment for younger kids	I think it would be great if the park gets revamped as it is on the older side compared to other places we visit, but I would like it to remain catered to young children. I don't like it when a park is 'upgraded' and made for children that are basically teenagers with little to no more young children play equipment. The majority of children I see at the park are 3-10 year olds including my 2 boys. More slides, swings and other equipment that can be used for all ages would be preferred. Something along the lines of the George A Bishop Reserve Playground in Dromana would be absolutely perfect.
Upgrades needed	As a local grandfather, I would love to see this park transformed into a safe, welcoming and enjoyable space for children and families. I often take my young grandchildren to parks, and there are limited options within easy walking distance in this part of Hadfield. This makes improving this ageing and underused play area an important opportunity for the community. The current playground no longer meets the needs of local families. A modern upgrade could provide play equipment for children of different ages, including slides, a good variety of swings, climbing equipment and imaginative play spaces. It would also be important to include accessible and inclusive features so that more children can enjoy the park. Because North Street can become very busy, particularly around school drop-off and pick-up times, a fenced playground with secure gates would greatly improve safety. Plenty of shade, comfortable seating, picnic facilities and public toilets would also make the park more practical for grandparents, parents and carers spending time there with young children. Water-play features, such as interactive pumps, levers or gentle spray areas, could make the park especially appealing during summer. Local school students could also be invited to contribute ideas or artwork so the space reflects the children and families who use it. A high-quality park would encourage more people to spend time outdoors, strengthen connections within the neighbourhood and bring additional visitors to nearby businesses, including the local café and fish-and-chip shop. This upgrade could turn an overlooked space into a much-loved community destination for people of all ages.

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Title	Description
Improve Tony Mommen Reserve	The existing play area is very old, outdated and appears to have been largely neglected. With very few parks within walking distance for families in this section of Hadfield, upgrading this space would provide an important recreational and community asset for local residents.

A key priority should be creating a safe, enclosed play area with secure gates at the entry and exit points. North Street is particularly busy, especially during school drop-off and pick-up times, so fencing would help keep young children safely contained while also making the park more accessible and enjoyable for families with pets.

York Street Park is extremely popular with local residents, and a similar standard of thoughtful, engaging and family-friendly design would be a valuable addition to this area. An upgraded park could also increase foot traffic and support nearby local businesses, including the café and fish-and-chip shop. Being able to enjoy a coffee or meal while spending time at a high-quality local park would encourage families to visit and stay in the area.

The upgraded park could include:

- * A fully enclosed and gated play space with safe entry and exit points
- * Play equipment suitable for a broad range of ages and abilities
- * Multiple swings, including toddler, standard and inclusive swing options
- * Slides and climbing equipment, with enough variety to support different types of play
- * Water-play features, such as interactive levers, pumps or seasonal spray elements for warmer weather
- * Significant natural and built shade, including shaded seating and play areas
- * Public toilet amenities
- * Comfortable seating, picnic tables and spaces for families to gather
- * Accessible pathways and inclusive play features for children with different abilities
- * Landscaping, trees and green spaces that provide shade and make the park welcoming year-round

Toddler friendly!	Now that Sewell Reserve is no longer toddler friendly, this is the only playground within walking distance of my home that <i>is</i> toddler friendly. My kid loves the seesaw, swing, steering wheel and slide. I love that my toddler can climb the stairs independently and from there, all sides are enclosed so they won't just walk off an edge (risky play or just risky?) We would love the addition of some more play equipment such as an in-ground spinner or a couple of in ground trampolines (larger than the 1 randomly placed one at Sewell reserve) It would also be nice for the area to have a theme and for it to be accessible for people with disabilities. York St Playground in Oak Park, Service St Playground in Coburg and Raeburn Reserve in Oak Park all prove that Merribek CAN make a FANTASTIC playground. I've no idea what has happened at Sewell Reserve, but please, PLEASE don't mess up Tony Mommsen!
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Equipment, rock climbing wall , table	Preschool age appropriate equipment as a school age as well. A climbing wall for the big kids. Lots of kids cross the park daily. Could be great to have a little space to chill after school with something to do and a place to eat and catch up.
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Title	Description
My park	I have lived in this area for over 30 years and have enjoyed this reserve throughout my life. As a child, I played here regularly, and now I bring my own children to the playground. The reserve is an important community space that is used by local families for play, exercise and a fun activity for after school pick ups. My favourite features of the reserve are its open green spaces, the opportunity for children to play and explore, and the sense of community it provides for local families. It is a place where generations of residents have created memories. I believe the park and playground would benefit from several improvements. The playground needs more shade and shelter. Additional seating would also be valuable so that parents, grandparents, and carers can comfortably supervise children. Most importantly, I would like to see the playground become more inclusive for children of all ages and abilities. Incorporating accessible and sensory-friendly play equipment would ensure that all children can participate and enjoy the space. A water play area would also be a fantastic addition, providing engaging play opportunities during warmer months and encouraging more families to visit the reserve. These upgrades would help create a welcoming, inclusive, and enjoyable community space for current and future generations.
A place to gather and support local businesses	I agree with a pathway to the school gate, however it should be minimal and not take away from the space. A variety of play equipment to suit different age groups, such as toddler friendly plus climbing apparatus for older children, or failing that, improving the green space so a ball can be kicked around safely. Lots of tables and seating to make it a great place to gather and spend time in. The longer people spend here, the more support the lovely local businesses along North Street will get. People should be able to enjoy their coffee / ice cream / pizza or fish and chips here, especially on those lovely long summer evenings. This area has so much potential, please consider people's feedback carefully.
Park for all ages and footpath extension (traffic mgt / child safety)	This reserve is perfectly positioned for local families to recreate, whilst simultaneously visiting the small businesses along North St (chemist, coffee, yogurt, etc). With a childcare centre, primary school and kindergarten in close proximity, play equipment options for ages 2-12 would really hit the mark. The playground recently opened in York St, Coburg, offers a great starting point for what works well (swings, roundabout, climbing, water-play, etc). Plenty of shade, rain-cover, seating and a drinking fountain is also important. Connecting the footpath from North St and the Loop to the church car park gate is critical to improving traffic safety in and around North St. North St will continue to host more vehicle and pedestrian traffic (big kids, small kids, kids on bikes, etc) overtime - in part as a result of council's decision to approve the childcare development on the eastern boundary of the church/school. The safety of families entering the church and school premises is a shared responsibility. Please use the upgrade of the reserve to facilitate safer pedestrian movement along North St, minimising the need for children and elderly pedestrians to navigate multi-driveway entry and exit points. Council could achieve this with a minor footpath amendment along the southern boundary of the reserve, creating a major, long-lasting benefit for the local community.
Concrete pathway for the school gate	Hi - please ensure there is a concrete pathway to the gate at the back of the park that allows safe pedestrian passage into the school. This would alleviate bikes and pedestrians navigating the roads in and out of the Church car park.

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Title	Description
Upgrade to the park	There are a range of shops and cafes across the road and it would be wonderful for the park space to include more seating and play equipment as it is not an inviting space. The general upkeep of the park needs to be improved. There is regularly rubbish overflowing, no covered areas and the grass is in need of mowing.
Modern playground required	Playground needs a modern design upgrade - cater for different ages (example balancing on logs for younger children/ monkey bars for older children/ netball ring for teens). Ensure landscaping is included in the upgrade - it is currently dirty and poorly maintained. Add seating - school families will use it all the time so need lots of shaded bench seats. Path towards St Thomas More gate would be a good addition to allow families to use park before and after school, and to get foot traffic out of the school church car park (safety of children is everyone's responsibility).
Play space practical and safe for toddlers	Tony Mommsen Reserve may be a small play area, but it is very well loved by my twin toddlers and many local young families. Any new play space should preserve this charm by including safe, inviting and age-appropriate equipment specifically designed for toddlers. It would also be wonderful to see a spider swing included. Given the park's close proximity to the very busy North Street, some secure fencing with a self-closing gate would also provide an added level of safety and peace of mind for families with young children.
Cleanliness and signage	Please provide more bins and signage in multiple languages asking people to pick up their rubbish and not dump their rubbish and not to throw bread and bones in the park. Inform local businesses to have their own rubbish bins and ask the school and crèche next door to encourage their students not to litter. It's a disgrace as it is currently. Improve lighting and accessibility for safety.
For all ages- safer and cleaner park	Would be great to have a fence that keeps the kids safe from the traffic on north street with a gate. Also more bins as the place is filthy. In addition a variety of play equipment suitable for all ages from toddler to older kids. If to remain as off lead dog park a fenced off-lead section with bins for pet waste.
Trees and shelter	Things like footpath to school should be in scope, this clearly is campaign from school community and would be money spent that only benefits one small section of our community. It would be lovely to see some feature trees and plants/ garden beds to make the area a little easier on the eye. Ample rubbish bins also needed, as people just seem to litter to their hearts content. A nice sheltered area would also be useful.
Local mum wanting park appropriate for young kids	I'd love if this park could be kept appropriate for young kids. A lot of parks in the area have large drop offs and slides that are too rough for little children. This is one of the only parks where I can take my 1yo and she can somewhat independently play without me guarding the drop offs! Updated fencing with a gate would assist in keeping children safe from traffic. Additional seating options would be great for enjoying the North Street takeout food options. It would be great if some more funding could go into maintaining the grassed area and emptying of the rubbish bins. Some native flowering plants in the surrounding gardens would also be lovely for attracting more biodiversity to the area.

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Title	Description
Happy it's finally getting an upgrade	I live near by Md my kids and neighbours kids go to the park often. The kids have grown up and require a new variety. The current available amenities (2 seats) and kids activities are limited. The park is very active and represent an important outing for a lot families in the area. The demographic is changing, older folks are moving out and new families are moving in. A change is required to accommodate. The new shops on North Street are also making a difference. People get a pizza, fish and chips, frozen yoghurt, etc... the meet at the park to enjoy. New amenities are required to cater for gatherings amd for variety aged kids. Other note os monitoring. Unfortunately we have minor groups that damage facilities, trees, etc.. we have a solution to resolve this and provide a safe environment
Accesible play equipment, equipment for older children, shaded picnic areas	I live within close proximity to this playground, it offers an easy walk to the playground however the equipment isn't accessible for children with disability, this could include a swing and a Merri go round and easier floor to navigate. The equipment is also tailored to younger children however some inclusions for older children would be great. There are some local take away shops so having some shaded picnic tables would be ideal. Along with appropriate sized bins. Also a basketball court would probably deter older children from misusing play equipment.
Potential to be a great place to come together.	This space has lots of foot traffic between primary school, church, kindergarten and child care all so close by. A foot path across the back connecting "the loop" to back gate the back gate and the front entrance to the park would be extremely helpful and provide a safe place for children and family to walk away from cars. Updated play equipment as well as a possible shaded picnic style table or benches would make this space a lovely place to come together. Unfortunately limited seating can make that hard.
Concrete Pathway	As part of the proposed upgrade to Tony Mommsen Reserve (North St Park), St Thomas More Primary School would like to suggest the construction of a concrete pathway through the reserve connecting directly to the school's rear gate. The pathway would provide a safe, accessible and clearly defined route for students, families and community members travelling to and from St Thomas More Primary School. Currently, pedestrians and students riding bicycles often access the school via the Church car park. A dedicated pathway through Tony Mommsen Reserve would provide an alternative route, helping to separate pedestrian and bicycle movements from vehicle traffic within the Church car park and creating a safer and more accessible entry and exit point for the school community. The proposed pathway would provide a number of benefits, including: - Improving safety for students and families walking or riding to and from school; - Improving accessibility for people using mobility aids, prams and other mobility equipment; - Reducing pedestrian and bicycle traffic along North Street; - creating a stronger connection between the school, Tony Mommsen Reserve and the wider local community; - Supporting active transport and encouraging more families to walk or ride to school; and - Improving access to both the reserve and the school while creating a safer connection between surrounding streets, the reserve, the Church and St Thomas More Primary School. The pathway would also support Council's broader objectives around community access, pedestrian safety and active transport, while providing a practical and lasting improvement for both the school and the wider community.

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Title	Description
Ideas	Kirrip Biik Park, 41 Service St, Coburg VIC 3058 is amazing, something similar with fencing and gates, footpath to church carpark, and toilets.
A more dog-friendly park!	It would be great if the reserve (or part of it) could be fenced off to allow dogs to safely run around off leash. It would be also be great if you could upgrade the bin so users can throw in rubbish without needing to open a lid.
Equipment update	Would be nice for equipment to be updated for primary school aged children to make the area inviting for after school play. Children currently don't feel the grounds provide any challenging or exciting adventures they would rather travel to newer facilities. A path to existing entry or new entrance to school grounds would be a terrific addition to provide better and safer access for children and families to access.
Better connection and safety for the kids	Connecting a path to the gate by the church and school would make the space more accessible and safe. Please also include a shaded area. The current playground gets burning hot in the summer. It's unusable in the heat. A mix of preschool and older equipment to service both the school and local kinder who would be regular users of the area.
A Community Food Forest	Growing up in my home country, I have very fond memories of walking home from school and stopping to pick and eat jujubes and mulberries growing along the way. I wish all children had the opportunity to experience something similar. I don't feel comfortable with them picking fruit from branches overhanging from private properties, but a thoughtfully designed public food forest could provide children with that same sense of discovery - being able to see, touch and taste food growing around them, in a place where it is meant to be shared. I would love to see the park upgrade include a sustainable community food forest - a productive landscape that can be shared by people and wildlife. As Merri-bek becomes increasingly dense and more homes are built in unit developments, private garden space is becoming scarce. This means fewer opportunities for residents to grow their own food, particularly perishable fruits and berries that can be expensive to buy fresh but could be abundant if grown locally. A well-designed food forest could help fill this gap. Instead of a conventional garden requiring intensive cultivation, it could incorporate fruit trees, berries, edible native plants, herbs and other perennial food-producing species, creating a diverse ecosystem that produces food to sample throughout the year. Such a space could become a living demonstration of sustainable and regenerative urban design, while providing habitat and food for local wildlife.
Playground regular user	We'd love to see this playground given a bit of a refresh with some new and engaging equipment. Open ended, creative play equipment would be great, as it gives kids the chance to use their imagination, get creative and develop skills that will benefit them for life. It would also be great to have equipment suitable for different ages and abilities, so there's something for everyone to enjoy!