

Douglas Reserve



Moreland
City Council

Play and park infrastructure upgrade

Playspace Consultation

Consultation summary report

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May 2021

The playground at Douglas Reserve is due for upgrade in the 2020-21 financial year as Council continues to implement the Moreland Play Strategy. Funds have also been allocated for additional park improvements throughout this reserve. Consultation for this reserve closed in March 2021, prior to commencement of works. This final consultation focuses on the proposed playspace.

1. Background

Following an initial consultation where the community were asked what they would like included in the playspace/reserve upgrade, a draft concept was developed showing the proposed park and playground upgrade by Council's Open Space Design and Development Unit. The final concept plan was then issued prior to commencement of works.

An additional consultation on the playspace has since been held, following community request.

Consultation timings:

Initial consultation: 23 November – 23 December 2020

Draft concept plan consultation: 28 January – 26 February 2021

Final concept plan issued: 4 March 2021

Final consultation on play equipment: 19 April - 17 May 2021.

Council's website: <https://conversations.moreland.vic.gov.au/douglas-reserve-playspace>.

2. Playspace Consultation Feedback Findings

Council received 29 feedback responses, 16 of which were pro-forma responses.

Swing

One respondent asked for a basket swing in place of the proposed 2-unit swing (sling and toddler seats). 3 mentioned that a basket swing is only useful if much larger (e.g. giant birds nest swing size which the reserve does not have the space to accommodate). Remaining responses wished to keep the 2-unit swing as proposed.

Rope Climbing Unit

4 respondents advised to keep the proposed rope climbing unit to its current size as shown and not expand it, 19 (16 of which were pro-forma) to slightly expand it.

Tepee Cubby House and Caterpillar Rocker (combined)

There was 1 feedback request to remove both proposed elements, 3 requests to retain both of these units in order to provide for younger children as well as older.

Tepee Cubby House

There were 17 requests (of which 16 were pro-forma) to remove the tepee in favour of a house-shaped cubby house with a shop front or similar. 2 requests were received to retain the Tepee Cubby House as it is.

Caterpillar Rocker

2 respondents requested that the caterpillar rocker was retained, 17 requests (of which 16 were pro-forma), requested for it to be replaced with something different or to be removed completely.

3. Next Steps

Council will now develop revised plan options for the playspace using these requirements that can fit within the playspace footprint surrounded by log edging at the reserve.

Most remaining works aside from the playspace have been proceeding in the meantime.

As feedback received from the initial and draft consultations emphasised the preference for timber-based play units (rather than steel or plastic), this will be reflected in revised plan options.

Similarly, through the consultations residents asked for play equipment providing a balance for both younger and older children, whilst providing for adventurous and nature-based play. Some residents also emphasised the need for areas of the reserve to be kept for passive recreation only (gathering spaces, garden beds without play). These considerations will also be reflected in revised plan options.

Owing to this additional playspace consultation, works are now likely to extend beyond end June 2021, allowing for play supplier lead times following changes to play equipment.

Once the revised plan option has been selected, Council will update the website with revised construction completion and park re opening dates.

4. Further information

Any questions can be directed to Council's Open Space Design & Development Unit via email openspace@moreland.vic.gov.au or by phoning 9240 111.