



CITY OF PARRAMATTA

North Rocks Park Precinct Master Plan: Engagement Outcomes Report

October 2017



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Master Plan: Engagement Outcomes
Report.

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**CITY OF
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ABOUT THIS REPORT

This report, *the North Rocks Park Precinct Master Plan: Engagement Outcomes Report*, provides a summary of Round 1 community engagement undertaken as part of the North Rocks Precinct Master Plan Project.

Round 1 engagement focused on gathering information from park user groups, stakeholders and the local community about how they currently use the Park Precinct, what they like about it, and what they would like to see improved.

This report provides a summary of common key themes and community directions for the development of a master plan, for consideration by Council and the design team.

A second round of consultation will be completed in November providing the community and stakeholders with an opportunity for further input.

Detailed summary reports of each of the engagement activities are included as appendix, including:

- Online Survey Findings
- Community Workshop Findings
- Community Drop-in session Findings

PROJECT TIMELINE

The North Rocks Park Precinct Master Plan process is expected to take 6-8 months to complete. This includes adequate time to ensure that findings from community engagement can be meaningfully integrated into the design process.

CONSULTATION COMPLETED

Around 300 community members and park precinct stakeholders participated in Round 1 engagement across three different engagement activities. These included:

Community & Stakeholder Workshop

- Venue: Don Moore Community Centre, North Rocks Park
- Date: Thursday 31 August 2017
- Time: 1pm - 2:30pm
- Participants: 17

Community Drop-in Session

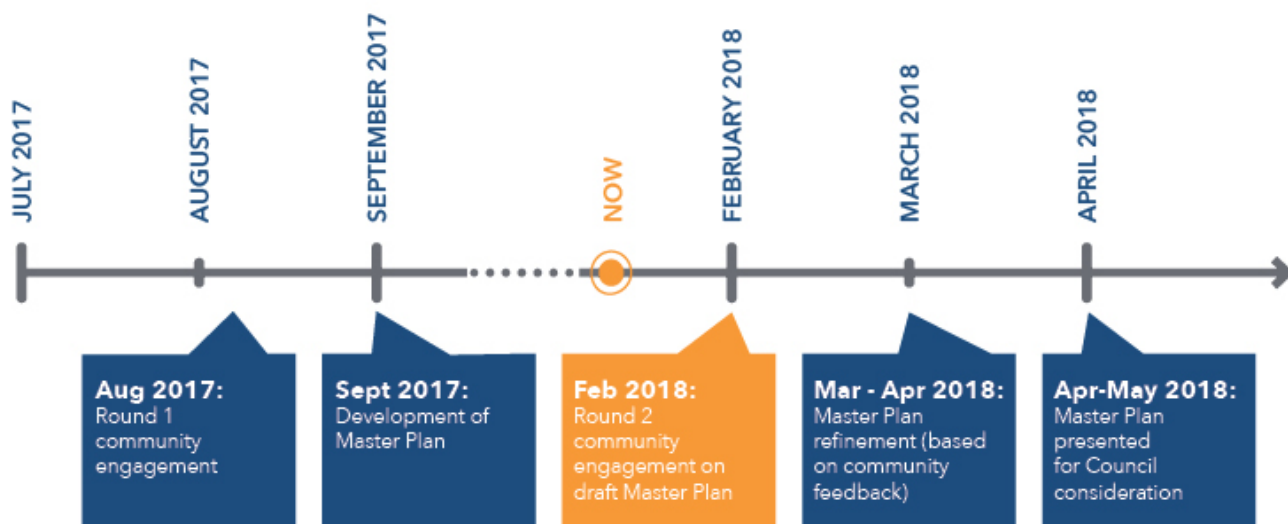
- Venue: Picnic area at John Wearn Reserve
- Date: Saturday 26th, August.
- Time: 12pm - 2pm
- Participants: approx. 30 - 40 people

Online Survey

- Survey was open from 31 July to 1 September 2017
- Participants: 246 respondents

In addition, at the beginning of Round 1 engagement, 1,500 post cards were letter box dropped to surrounding residents to inform them about the project and ways to participate in the different engagement activities.

The workshop and drop-in session focused on the North Rocks Park Precinct as a whole, while the online survey asked questions about North Rocks Park and John Wearn Reserve separately.



Project timeline

ABOUT THE PARK PRECINCT

About North Rocks Park

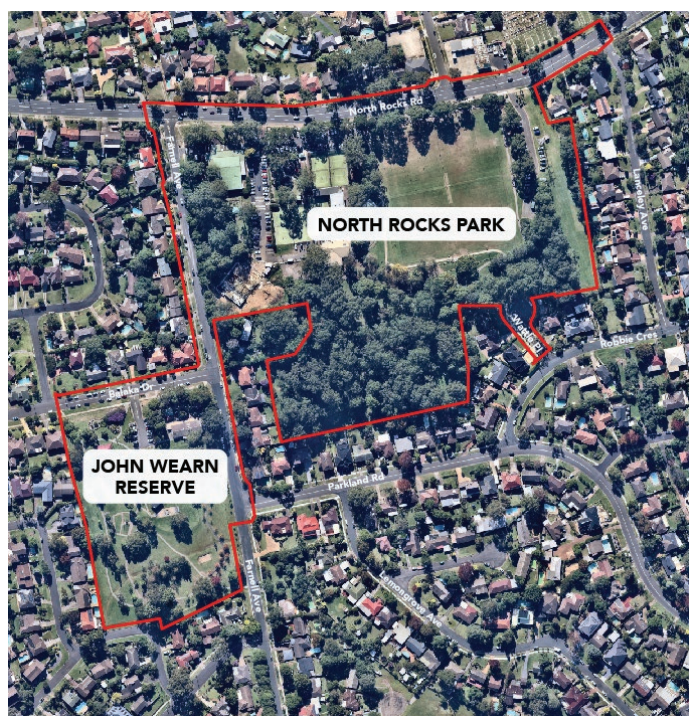
North Rocks Park comprises 7.4ha of land and contains Crown Land reserved for Public Recreation (currently used as the sportsground) as well as community land classified as 'Bushland' and 'Park'.

North Rocks Park is a well utilised and valued community asset with multiple elements and community uses. The park contains a Senior Citizens Centre, North Rocks Tennis Courts, and the Don Moore Community Centre. There is also a sportsground, cricket nets, walking path and playground. A childcare centre within the park is currently being constructed by City of Parramatta Council.

The Bushland trees within North Rocks Park contains two mapped Endangered Ecological Communities; Sydney Turpentine-Ironbark Forest (~0.5ha) and Blue Gum High Forest (~3 ha).

About John Wearn Reserve

John Wearn Reserve comprises 2.4ha of land located on the corner of Farnell Ave and Balaka Drive, Carlingford. John Wearn has a wide range of facilities catering for all ages. It is a key passive recreational area containing BBQ and picnic areas, circuit bike/walking tracks, an enclosed playground, basketball/netball practice hoops, a covered stage and the Council operated North Rocks Child Care Centre.



North Rocks Park Precinct site boundary

PROJECT BACKGROUND

City of Parramatta identified North Rocks Park and John Wearn Reserve as providing important community facilities and open space for the area, that should be protected and enhanced as our population continues to grow.

This project will be undertaken as part of the Major Projects component of the NSW Government's Stronger Communities Fund. The NSW Government has established the Stronger Communities Fund (SCF) to provide councils with funding to kick start the delivery of projects that improve community infrastructure and services. You can find out more about the program here: <https://www.strongercouncils.nsw.gov.au/funds/>

The Master Plan will review and make recommendations for improvements to community facilities; existing building use, condition and placement; parkland; sportsfields; and park amenities and recreation facilities.



Intercept surveys with local residents in John Wearn Reserve

OVERALL FINDINGS:

PRIORITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT: NORTH ROCKS PARK

Overall, the community loves the park facilities and they are used by all age groups for sporting and community and cultural activities at a district and neighbourhood level. They value how multi-purpose and diverse the park is now, and would like to see this strengthened in the future. The following list captures the most common priorities for improvement to North Rocks Park across all of the engagement activities.



Upgrade the Don Moore Community Centre to become a more multipurpose community hub and possibly include a new cafe.



Improve vehicular access to site, investigate parking solutions (especially for peak periods) and improve pedestrian safety around the car park (especially for children).



Improve and expand the playground to include different types of play and to appeal to a wider age range. Ensure it is an accessible and inclusive.



Improve walking / cycling tracks and include outdoor fitness equipment and drinking fountains. Consider improved wayfinding and signage.



Upgrade BBQ and picnic areas and investigate ways to include more social seating, shaded areas and outdoor spaces for more diverse and multiple uses.



Upgrade existing toilet facilities, and ensure they are well maintained. Investigate dedicated toilets for children.



Improve lighting throughout the park for safety and pedestrians (especially along walking paths) as well as improved lighting to the sportsfields.



Retain the native bushland areas, and seek to gain additional open space, not lose any.



Improve management of community and sports facilities in the parks (including tennis centre booking and availability), as well as promotion to increase awareness of what the park precinct offers.



Upgrade the sports field and courts to increase quality and capacity, including; resurfacing, supporting amenities, lighting, drainage, spectator seating, hours of use.



Improved maintenance of community buildings and park facilities.



A library.

PRIORITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT:: JOHN WEARN RESERVE

Overall John Wearn reserve is not as well known as North Rocks Park, and is mainly used for neighbourhood passive recreation, again by all age groups, however there was a focus on improving facilities for youth. The community values how multi-purpose and diverse the park is now, and would like to see this strengthened in the future. The following ideas for improvement capture the most common priorities for improvement to John Wearn Reserve across all of the engagement activities.



Provide toilets. 37% of online survey participants identified toilets as their number 1 priority for John Wearn Reserve.



Improve and expand the playground. Investigate possibility of different types of play, e.g. water play, adventure play, giant slides, climbing park, dodge ball court. Ensure there is play equipment for children of all ages.



Upgrade the basketball court area and consider changing to a multi-sport courts (to include things like netball).



Increase the amount of seating and shade, including covered/shaded seating areas, more seats with tables, more covered BBQ areas and more social seating. Improve lighting throughout the park, especially along walkways.



Improve the quality and attractiveness of landscaped and garden areas.



Upgrade the quality of existing skate park and better manage anti-social behaviour. Investigate additional facilities and things to do for youth e.g. table tennis.



Formalise a dog off leash area and consider fencing the area. Include supporting facilities such as pick up bags and drinking bowls.



Investigate ways to provide outdoor exercise equipment e.g. outdoor gyms, obstacle courses, improved walking / cycling paths and bubblers.



Improve walking / cycling tracks and include outdoor fitness equipment and drinking fountains. Consider improved wayfinding and signage.

COMMUNITY AND STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP KEY FINDINGS

The community and stakeholder workshop focused on the North Rocks Park Precinct as a whole, instead of the two parks individually. This page provides the high level findings from the workshop.

WHAT PEOPLE LIKE

- Multi-use park and facilities
 - All three workshop groups identified a key strength of the North Rocks Park precinct is that the two parks are different and complementary to each other, and within each there is further diversity and multi-purpose spaces that appeal to a wide range of people and groups
- The community centre is well used and supports a number of non-profit community organisations, helping to build community connections
- Large, green open spaces and/or bushland areas
- Mixture of active and passive recreation, and
- Close to the road and public transport.

WHAT'S NOT WORKING

- Improved and additional public toilets
- Lack of seating
- Community centre
 - Access to community centre (price/number of spaces)
 - Flexibility of space not adaptable enough
 - After hours access is not enough
- Vehicular access and parking
- Maintenance and cleaning of buildings and parks
- Lack of signage and wayfinding
- Lack of promotion/marketing of parks and facilities
- Lack of things for youth
- Lack of bins, and
- Lack of change rooms to support sports activities.

IDEAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

- Toilets at John Wearn Reserve
- Multi-purpose community centre
 - Consolidation of existing buildings
 - More community space
 - "Including library, modern community function centre, cafe and child care"
 - Educational space
 - Cater to all demographics
 - Meeting rooms
 - After hours access
- Improved awareness about the parks and what they offer
- Improved/increased parking and vehicular access to the site, traffic management in general
- Re-surfacing of the sports field and improved management and irrigation
- Additional and improved BBQ and picnic areas with shelter and seating
- Additional seating and shelter generally
- Improved security and lighting, amount and hours of lights on. Walking paths and car park to be lit.
- Improved pedestrian and cycle paths, and
- Upgraded/additional facilities for youth (e.g. table tennis, badminton, expanded basketball court, update the skate park).



Community and stakeholder workshop session



Community and stakeholder workshop session

COMMUNITY DROP-IN SESSION

KEY FINDINGS

The community drop-in session focused on the North Rocks Park Precinct as a whole, instead of the two parks individually. This page provides the high level findings from the drop-in session.

WHAT PEOPLE LIKE

- “Quiet, nice place to live at the moment”
- BBQ at John Wearn gets lots of use
- Track around North Rocks is good
- Green space, well used, walking around the park
- Blue gum bush to stay as it is
- Upkeep of John Wearn has been great
- Off-leash dog area
- Facilities are well used
- Ground at North Rocks needs to be improved, and
- Openness

WHAT’S NOT WORKING

- Parking emerged as one of the key problems for the site
 - The early morning use of the carpark as a u-turn and shortcut to Farnell Street is a problem
 - There should be no right turn from Farnell Ave onto North Rocks Rd, especially during peak hour.
- Opportunities for different language groups/different ethnic mix here
- Skate park is great for kids
- Improve drainage along the park and Farnell Avenue
- ‘Syringa berry’ located in corner of John Wearn is poisonous, should be removed
- Improve the current offer, and
- The stage at John Wearn Reserve is only used once a year.

IDEAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

Ideas that received 5 or more votes:

- Public toilets
- Outdoor gym/fitness equipment
- More shaded seating and tables for gathering, and comfortable (e.g. backs, wheelchair access)
- Sheltered BBQ spaces
- Beautiful bushland and greening
- Active recreation (field)
- Active recreation (courts)
- Adventure play park / water play park
- Additional, clean and safe toilets
- Improved and landscape and planting and maintenance, and
- Upgraded and consolidated new multi-purpose community centre including
 - Library/library link
 - Coffee cart/café
 - Seniors space
 - Community service office space
 - Creative arts space.

Selection of other ideas:

- Improved public transport
- Improved pedestrian safety and access
- “Keep it open and natural. Nature is a healing space, ‘walking among the trees’
- “Adventure equipment for pre-teen children”, and
- “Consider the need for space for people to enjoy solitude and community group events - balance.”



Community drop-in session



Community drop-in session

ONLINE SURVEY KEY FINDINGS

WHAT PEOPLE LIKE: NORTH ROCKS PARK

Q8: What facilities do you use most?

A total of 221 respondents completed the survey question.

#1 GREEN OPEN SPACE

- 26% of survey respondents said that the best thing about North Rocks Park was that it was an open space that is big and green.
- People also talked about liking the spaciousness and openness of the park

#2 CONVENIENT

- 24% of survey respondents said they liked the park because it was close to where they live and easy to get to.

#3 MULTI-USE

- 20% of survey respondents said they liked the park (including the buildings in it) because it has a range of facilities that cater to a lot of different uses.
- "It offers so many facilities to anyone of any age under the same roof."
- "It's an open space where people can play sport, have fun in the playground or just enjoy the green environment."
- "It's a community hub with lots of different community groups using the park."

#4 THE PLAYGROUND

- 17% of survey respondents said they liked the playground.
- Many specifically said they liked that the playground was fenced.

#5 SPORTS FACILITIES

- 16% of survey respondents said they liked using the sports facilities and club buildings.
- Tennis and soccer were frequently mentioned.

#6 GOOD PLACE FOR PASSIVE ACTIVITY

- 10% of survey respondents said they liked walking, running and exercising in the park.

#7 BUSHLAND AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

- 9% of survey respondents said they liked the trees and the bushland.
- "The bushland gives the park a unique North Rocks feel."
- "It feels like you are going for a forest walk."
- "A place to enjoy nature."

#8 PARKING

- 8% of survey respondents said they liked the park for its easy parking.

#9 PARK FACILITIES

- 8% of survey respondents said they liked park facilities including; public toilet, drinking fountains, BBQ's and picnic tables.

#10 GREAT FOR KIDS

- 7% of survey respondents said they liked because it is a great place to take the kids and grandchildren.
- The multiple uses and facilities in the park has enabled the same families to use the park in different ways as their families have grown up.

OTHER THINGS PEOPLE LIKED:

- Dog friendly / dog off leash area
- The park always feels occupied with something going on
- People like attending events held there; Chinese New Year, Carols by Candlelight, and New Years fireworks
- Clean and well maintained
- Accessible (open flat spaces and parking)
- Good for all age groups
- Peaceful and relaxing
- After school care service
- It's a busy park but still easy to use, and
- It has a community feel to it.

WHAT PEOPLE LIKE: JOHN WEARN RESERVE

Q8: What facilities do you use most?

A total of 142 respondents completed the survey question.

#1 GREEN OPEN SPACE

- 36% of survey respondents said they liked the open green space.
- "Wide open space for kids to play and for the community to use."
- "Open spaces and a variety of terrain and paths."
- "Open space and fresh air."

#2 PLAYGROUND

- 19% of survey respondents said they liked the playground.
- Similarly to North Rocks Park, many people said they liked that it was fenced.
- "Play equipment is suitable for a young age."
- "Playground is mostly shaded."

#3 WALKING AND EXERCISE

- 15% of survey respondents said they liked walking through the park.
- "The paths are interesting to walk and good exercise on the hill."
- "Walking amongst the lovely trees."
- "Ability to walk through."

#4 CONVENIENT

- 15% of survey respondents said they liked that the park was convenient and close to their home.

#5 SKATE AND COURT FACILITIES

- 12% of survey respondents said they liked the skate facilities and basketball courts.
- "The skateboard area is a great facility for older children / teens."
- "Great for teenagers."

#6 PEACEFUL AND QUIET

- 9% of survey respondents said they liked that the park was peaceful and quiet.
- "It is nice and quiet, out of the way from most of the road traffic."
- "Rarely crowded" and "tucked away."

#7 PICNICS AND BBQ'S

- 7% of survey respondents said they liked the picnic and BBQ areas.
- "Easy to throw a rug down."
- "Picnic tables for kids parties."

#8 WELL MAINTAINED

- 7% of survey respondents said they liked how well the park is maintained.
- Almost half of the people who commented on this were particularly impressed with the recent improvement of maintenance to the park and complementing Council staff.

#9 ATTRACTIVENESS

- 6% of survey respondents said they liked how the park looks and its outlook.
- "It is a nice, pretty, neat park."
- "Great views towards Carlingford."

#10 FAMILY FRIENDLY

- 6% of survey respondents said specifically how family friendly the park was.
- "Vital open space for young families."

OTHER THINGS PEOPLE LIKED:

- "Good space for community events e.g. Carols by Candlelight"
- "Great place to walk the dog"
- Easy access - parking and accessibility
- Multi-use - "offers a little for everyone," and
- "It's my backyard."

ONLINE SURVEY KEY FINDINGS

WHAT'S NOT WORKING: NORTH ROCKS PARK

Q9: What don't you like, or what isn't working well in North Rocks Park? Is there anything missing or that stops you from using it?

A total of 199 respondents completed the survey question.

#1 PARKING AND VEHICLE ACCESS

- 52% of survey respondents said that the amount of parking was an issue, especially in peak times, and that turning into and out of the parking area was also an issue.
- "Parking is always a problem on weekends when sports are being played."

#3 PLAYGROUND NEEDS UPGRADING

- 12% of survey respondents said that the playground needs improvement.
- Issues included; lack of shade, lack of seating, too small, out dated equipment, not accessible, and not suitable for a range of ages.

#5 MISSING A LIBRARY & CAFE

- 11% of survey respondents said that the park is missing a library and/or cafe.
- "...library could move there with modern facilities and community facilities like a café etc."
- "There should be a good library and a cafe as well."

#7 DOG OFF LEASH AREA

- 5% of survey respondents comments were around the dog off leash area. Issues included; no water access for dogs, no doggie bags and fencing.
- "The bottom of the park amongst the trees would be a great space used as a dog free leash area fenced off."
- "It would be great if the off-leash area was fenced."

#9 TENNIS CENTRE

- 4% of survey respondents had issues with booking the tennis centre, the availability of courts and the quality of the buildings themselves.

#2 SPORTS FIELD QUALITY AND AMENITY

- 13% of survey respondents said that the sportsfields need improvement.
- Issues included; poor lighting, lack of seating, poor surface quality, drainage and short fence height on North Rocks Road.

#4 DON MOORE COMMUNITY CENTRE

- 11% of survey respondents said that the Don Moore Community Centre is aging and needs to be upgraded and modernised.
- "The facilities of Don Moore community centre are aging and not currently meeting the community needs. It would be great if we could develop a place community gathering."

#6 INSUFFICIENT PARK AMENITIES

- 10% of survey respondents said that the park amenities need improvement.
- Issues included; amount, accessibility and cleanliness of toilets, lack of drinking fountains, poor lighting and insufficient BBQ/picnic areas.

#8 MAINTENANCE

- 5% of survey respondents comments were around maintenance issues.
- These included; litter, branches falling, and the time it takes to repair something.

OTHER ISSUES

- Poor disability access to park and facilities
- Needs beautification
- Lacks outdoor exercise equipment, and
- No basketball or table tennis (doesn't reflect the strong Asian population of the area).

WHAT'S NOT WORKING: JOHN WEARN RESERVE

Q9: What don't you like, or what isn't working well in North Rocks Park? Is there anything missing or that stops you from using it?

A total of 125 respondents completed the survey question.

#1 NO TOILETS

- 33% of survey respondents said that there are no toilet facilities.
- Limits use of the park (i.e. people want to hold birthday BBQ's or events there, and parents won't spend time at the children's playground).

#2 LACK OF SEATING, SHADE AND SHELTER

- Lack of covered seating areas.
- Very exposed.
- Needs more shady trees.
- More picnic/BBQ tables (covered).

#3 PLAYGROUND NEEDS IMPROVEMENT

- It's too small and getting old.
- More swings.
- More equipment for older kids - only caters for very young children.

#4 TOO HILLY

- Topography limits use (e.g kicking a ball around, playing games).
- Hard for children to ride bikes, and no safe area to learn how to ride.

#5 THE SKATE PARK

- Teens using the skate park are intimidating.
- Attracts anti-social behaviour.
- Needs an upgrade.
- Contributes to the park feeling unsafe at night.

#6 'THE SHED'

- Looks unattractive, ugly and cheap.
- Not well positioned.
- Hardly used.
- No insulation.

#7 LACK OF PARKING

- Lack of parking for community events.
- Very small off street parking area.

#8 BASKETBALL COURTS

- People generally like the basketball court, but would like to see it expanded and upgraded.

#9 DOG FACILITIES

- No doggie pick up bags provided.
- No off-leash area.
- No water access for dogs.

#10 NOT ENOUGH THINGS TO DO FOR OLDER CHILDREN AND TEENS

- Nothing for children aged 6 - 12 years (but seems to suit young children and teenagers).
- Not enough play equipment for older children.

ONLINE SURVEY KEY FINDINGS

PRIORITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT: NORTH ROCKS PARK

The top priorities for improvement for North Rocks Park across all engagement types;

LIBRARY /MULTI-PURPOSE COMMUNITY CENTRE ('COMMUNITY HUB')

- The top priority for North Rocks Park is to upgrade or provide a new community centre that can cater for more diverse needs and activities (and including community meeting rooms).
- "A new building that is open, inclusive and has a flexible layout for education and events"
- The need for a new library to service the area was identified as a priority. Locating a library at North Rocks Park was suggested by respondents across all engagement types.
- Suggestions for a cafe to complement the community centre.
- Opportunity to provide a library link (instead of a full library service if a new library were located elsewhere (eg. Carlingford).

TRAFFIC AND PARKING

- Lack of parking in peak hours of use: on weekends or during soccer or cricket season.
- Cars turning right from Alkira Road onto North Rocks Road face considerable difficulty at peak traffic times trying to cross 4 lanes of traffic.
- Zebra crossing at Farnell Avenue on the crest of the hill corner of Farnell Avenue and Balaka Drive.
- Improved safety for children and school children.

PLAYGROUND

- Waterplay area.
- Accessible / inclusive playground.
- Improvement to existing playground, incl. shade.
- Table tennis.

EXERCISE FACILITIES

- Exercise and fitness equipment e.g. fitness circuit around the edge of the park, senior friendly.
- Improved walking / cycling tracks.
- Bubblers.

TOILETS

- Clean and accessible toilets with signage.
- Separate toilets for kids.

OPEN SPACE

- Retain native trees.
- Additional open green space.

SEATING / BBQ / PICNIC AREAS

- BBQ areas for larger gatherings, seats and tables.
- More social seating areas, people can come together.
- Seating to people watch / watch sport / playground.
- Picnic area.

LIGHTING

- Improved lighting throughout the park for safety and pedestrians (additional on walking paths).
- Improved lighting to the sports fields.

OTHERS:

- Dog off leash area
- Upgrades to sports fields
- Cafe (could be coupled with the library)
- Better access to tennis courts
- Upgraded sports field: resurfacing, facilities
- Protection of bushland area
- Wayfinding for pedestrians, and
- Promotion of the park and what it offers.

PRIORITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT: JOHN WEARN RESERVE

The top priorities for improvement for John Wearn Reserve across all engagement types;

TOILETS

- There are no toilets currently provided in John Wearn Reserve.
- 37% of online survey participants identified toilets as their number 1 priority for John Wearn Reserve.

PLAYGROUND

- Improved, expanded and updated playground.
- Ideas for type of play included: Water park play ground, giant slide, climbing park, and dodgeball court.
- Seating to be co-located with playground and shade.

SEATING AND SHADE

- Covered seating areas
- More seating and tables
- Shade
- Covered BBQ areas and social seating

DOG PARK

- Fenced dog off-leash area.

BASKETBALL COURT

- Expand basketball (full sized)
- Netball court

EXERCISE EQUIPMENT

- Outdoor gym.
- Obstacle course.
- Improved walk and cycling paths.
- Bubbler / water fountain.

SKATEPARK

- Upgrade to existing and expansion
- Better manage anti-social behavior

OTHER PRIORITIES:

- Library
- Make-over of the shed/stage
- Improve lighting, and
- Complete overhaul.

LANDSCAPE

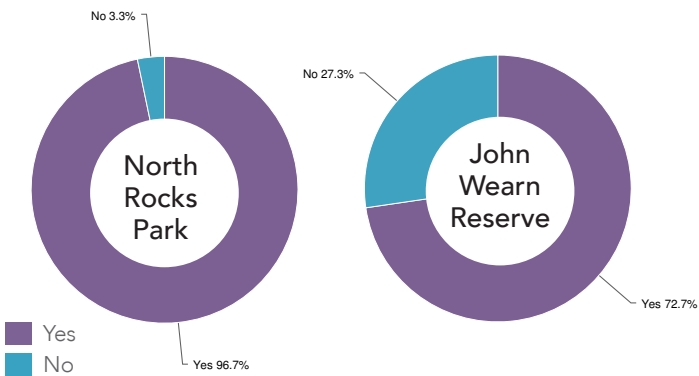
- More attractive gardens
- More trees
- Keep it green
- Gardens
- More attractive gardens
- Mature trees

CURRENT PARK USE:

Q1: Do you currently, or have you ever visited North Rocks Park or John Wearn Reserve?

27.3% of survey respondents have never been to John Wearn Reserve, while only 3.3% of respondents hadn't been to North Rocks Park.

	North Rocks Park		John Wearn Reserve	
	%	#	%	#
Yes	96.7%	237	72.2%	165
No	3.3%	8	27.3%	62



Q2: What are the reasons why you haven't visited North Rocks Park and John Wearn Reserve?

The top reason why people don't use North Rocks Park is that they don't live or work near the park (50%, 4).

The top reason why people don't use John Wearn Reserve is that there are no facilities that they want to use (32.1%, 18).

'Other' reasons included:

- Didn't know it existed (5)
- Access between the two parks
- Don't need to go
- Forget it is there
- Health - too steep
- I spend most of my time in sports facilities, and
- No community centre.

North Rocks Park:

Value	Percent	Count
I don't live or work near the park	50.0%	4
There are no facilities that I want to use	12.5%	1
I go to another park nearby	12.5%	1
It's too hard for me to get to	25.0%	2
Totals		8

John Wearn Reserve:

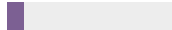
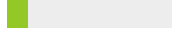
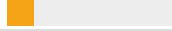
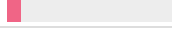
Value	Percent	Count
I don't live near the park	30.4%	17
There are no facilities that I want to use	32.1%	18
I go to another park nearby	12.5%	7
It's too hard for me to get to	5.4%	3
Other - Write In (Required)	19.6%	11
Totals		56

Q3: How frequently do you visit North Rocks Park and John Wearn Reserve (including the sports facilities and community buildings)?

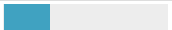
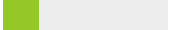
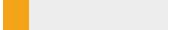
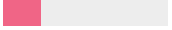
North Rocks Park has higher and more frequent levels of use than John Wearn Reserve.

62.7% (148) of survey respondents use North Rocks Park at least weekly while only 41.6% (67) of survey respondents use John Wearn Reserve at least weekly.

North Rocks Park:

Value	Percent		Count
At least daily	10.6%		25
At least weekly	52.1%		123
At least monthly	13.1%		31
Several times a year	16.1%		38
Once or twice a year	8.1%		19
Totals			236

John Wearn Reserve:

Value	Percent		Count
At least daily	13.0%		21
At least weekly	28.6%		46
At least monthly	21.7%		35
Several times a year	15.5%		25
Once or twice a year	23.0%		37
Totals			161

Q4: What time of day do you visit North Rocks Park and John Wearn Reserve?

Both parks are used the most during the day on a weekend, followed by during the day on a weekday.

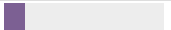
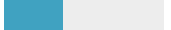
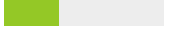
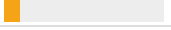
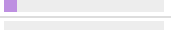
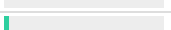
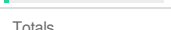
While North Rocks Park has higher levels of use than John Wearn Reserve, both Parks have similar proportions of people who use them on a weekday before 9am (12.7% and 12.4%), during the day on a weekend (62.7% and 61.7%) and on a weekend after 5pm (8.1% and 9.3%).

North Rocks Park is used significantly more at night on a weekday (34.5%, 81) than John Wearn Reserve (19.8%, 32).

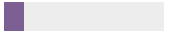
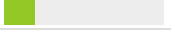
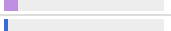
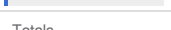
'Other' responses (3%, 7) for North Rocks focused on children's use of the park and included:

- Taking grandchildren to the park (2)
- Playing tennis weekly at night
- School days 2 - 6pm
- School holidays, and
- Kids clubs, after school services, play and picnics.

North Rocks Park:

Value	Percent		Count
Weekday, early morning (before 9am)	12.7%		30
Weekday, day (9am to 5pm)	37.3%		88
Weekday, night (after 5pm)	34.3%		81
Weekend, early morning (before 9am)	10.6%		25
Weekend, day (9am to 5pm)	62.7%		148
Weekend, night (after 5pm)	8.1%		19
I never visit the park	0.4%		1
Other - Write In (Required)	3.0%		7
Totals			236

John Wearn Reserve:

Value	Percent		Count
Weekday, early morning (before 9am)	12.4%		20
Weekday, day (9am to 5pm)	43.2%		70
Weekday, night (after 5pm)	19.8%		32
Weekend, early morning (before 9am)	7.4%		12
Weekend, day (9am to 5pm)	61.7%		100
Weekend, night (after 5pm)	9.3%		15
I never visit John Wearn Reserve	2.5%		4
Totals			162

Q5: What is your primary mode of transport to the Parks?

Overwhelmingly, the top two modes of transport to both parks are by car, as the driver, and walking.

For North Rocks Park, car as the driver was the primary mode of transport (63.3%, 148), followed by walking (50.4%, 118).

For John Wearn Reserve, it was reversed with walking as the primary mode of transport (68.8%, 110), followed by car as driver (36.8%, 59).

2.5% of respondents (4) said they get to John Wearn Reserve by skateboard or scooter, compared to 0.43% (1) for North Rocks Park.

North Rocks Park:

Value	Percent	Count
Car, as driver	63.3%	148
Car, as passenger	6.8%	16
Public transport	2.1%	5
Cycle	1.7%	4
Walk	50.4%	118
Other - Write In	2.1%	5
Totals		234

John Wearn Reserve:

Value	Percent	Count
Car, as driver	36.9%	59
Car, as passenger	3.8%	6
Public transport	1.9%	3
Cycle	5.0%	8
Walk	68.8%	110
Skateboard or scooter	2.5%	4
Other - Write In	0.6%	1
Totals		160

Q6: What is your main reason for visiting?

The top three reasons for visiting North Rocks Park were:

- Playing organised sports (41.5%, 91)
- Walking (36%, 85), and
- I live close/its my local park (35.6%, 84).

The top three reasons for visiting John Wearn Reserve were:

- Walking (54%, 87)
- Visiting the playground (46.6%, 75), and
- I live close/its my local park (37.9%, 61).

Of the 'other' responses for North Rocks Park, 53% (25) related to the children's playground. Of those 25 respondents, 8 were grandparents who take their grandchildren there, indicating that there might be high inter-generational use of the park.

While North Rocks Park has a strong sports and recreation focus i.e. organised sports, training (82% compared to 19.9%), John Wearn Reserve has a stronger social focus i.e. community events and activities, meeting friends, picnicking (62.7% compared to 47.4%).

Similar numbers of people use both parks for walking and relaxing.

North Rocks Park:

Value	Percent	Count
Playing organised sport (or children playing sport)	41.5%	98
Attending community activities run in one of the community buildings	27.1%	64
Playing or learning tennis	17.0%	40
Meeting friends	20.3%	48
Exercise and training (running, group training)	24.2%	57
Relaxing	15.7%	37
Walking	36.0%	85
Walking my dog	23.7%	56
Cycling	3.4%	8
Environmental purposes	2.5%	6
I live close/its my local park	35.6%	84
I regularly walk through the park on my somewhere else	10.2%	24
Other - Write In	19.9%	47
Totals		236

John Wearn Reserve:

Value	Percent	Count
Attending community events	24.8%	40
Meeting friends	21.1%	34
Playing or learning tennis	0.0%	0
Visiting the playground	46.6%	75
Accessing the North Rocks Child Care Centre	3.7%	6
Exercise and training (running, group training)	19.9%	32
Relaxing	21.1%	34
Walking	54.0%	87
Walking my dog	29.2%	47
Skating, scootering or cycling	16.8%	27
Picnicking	16.8%	27
I live close by/it's my local park	37.9%	61
Other - Write In	5.6%	9
Totals		161

Q7: What facilities do you use most?

For both parks, playground and walking paths featured in the top three most used facilities.

The top three most used facilities in North Rocks Park were:

- Sporting field (score of 972)
- Playground (score of 929), and
- Open space areas (score of 859).

The top three most used facilities in John Wearn Reserve were:

- Walking paths (scored of 862)
- Open space areas (score of 719), and
- Playground (score of 666).

North Rocks Park:

	Score*	Overall Rank
Sporting field	972	1
Playground	929	2
Open space areas	859	3
Don Moore Community Centre	708	4
Bushland area	612	5
North Rocks tennis courts	463	6
Cricket nets	188	7
Senior Citizens Centre	137	8
Other - Write In	0	9

total respondents: 226

John Wearn Reserve:

	Score*	Overall Rank
Walking paths	862	1
Open space areas	719	2
Playground	666	3
BBQs and picnic areas	377	4
Skate Park	257	5
Basketball courts	237	6
Stage	178	7
North Rocks Child Care Centre	96	8
Other - Write In	0	9

total respondents: 151