



Report to General Manager

Attachments:

1. Summary of Submissions Received
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SUBJECT: Draft Landscape Masterplan for St Leonards Park Plan of Management – Post Exhibition

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Prepared with extensive community and stakeholder involvement, the new low-intervention draft Masterplan for St Leonards Park imagines how the park could look and function in the future.

Public exhibition of the draft Landscape Masterplan commenced on 24 October 2017 and concluded on 2 February 2018. The public exhibition was widely advertised, and known stakeholders and the general community were informed and encouraged to comment. Feedback received to date indicates very high levels of satisfaction with the project process as well as the guiding principles and design ideas.

A total of 70 written submissions were received. This report sets out the content of the submissions and the alterations it is proposed to make to the draft Landscape Masterplan for St Leonards Park as a result. The report also describes the key features of the new draft Landscape Masterplan and outlines a proposed program for implementing the works, in priority order.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The effective implementation of the Masterplan will be staged and undertaken over a number of years as funding becomes available

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1.THAT** Council formally adopts the draft Landscape Masterplan for St Leonards Park.

LINK TO DELIVERY PROGRAM

The relationship with the Delivery Program is as follows:

Direction: 1. Our Living Environment

Outcome: 1.2 Quality urban greenspaces
1.5 Public open space, recreation facilities and services that meet community needs

BACKGROUND

The St Leonards Park Plan of Management 2011 identified the need to undertake a Conservation Management Plan (CMP) to protect the Park's heritage values, and a Landscape Master Plan to enhance the Park's amenity, and to guide future upgrading work. The CMP was completed in 2013, and in 2015 St Leonards Park was listed on the State Heritage Register; protecting it from future unsympathetic and inappropriate development. A Consultant's Brief for preparation of a low-intervention Landscape Master Plan that respected the Park's heritage significance and character was prepared in early 2016, and in mid-2016 Gallagher Studio were engaged to undertake the project.

Preparation of the draft Landscape Masterplan for St Leonards Park was completed in November 2017, and public exhibition of the draft Landscape Masterplan took place between 24 November 2017 and 2 February 2018. This report documents the content of submissions received at the conclusion of the 10-week public exhibition and submission period, and sets out the amendments it is proposed to make as a result of the submissions in order to finalise the Landscape Masterplan.

CONSULTATION REQUIREMENTS

Community engagement will be undertaken in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Protocol.

SUSTAINABILITY STATEMENT

The following table provides a summary of the key sustainability implications:

QBL Pillar	Implications
Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">St Leonards Park has considerable environmental, aesthetic, scenic and heritage significance. The Park is listed on the State Heritage Register.
Social	<ul style="list-style-type: none">St Leonards Park is a very well used park. It is popular with many sections of the community including sporting groups and schools, as well as with people picnicking, attending events, using the playground, walking dogs, jogging, exercising, barbecuing, relaxing and reading. The Park also acts as a big backyard for people living nearby in medium density housing.

QBL Pillar	Implications
Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The management, maintenance and ongoing improvement of St Leonards Park requires significant continued financial resourcing.
Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The new Landscape Masterplan for St Leonards Park has been prepared in accordance with the St Leonards Park Plan of Management which provides clear guidelines for the effective short and long term management of the land, and the St Leonards Park Conservation Management Plan which will ensure all future work respects and appreciates the Park's heritage significance.

DETAIL

This report documents the content of the submissions received following public exhibition of the draft Landscape Masterplan for St Leonards Park, and sets out the amendments it is proposed to make as a result of the submissions. It also sets out the key features of the draft Landscape Masterplan for St Leonards Park. It outlines a future program for implementing the works, in priority order, and provides a cost estimate to undertake the required works.

1. Development of the draft Landscape Masterplan for St Leonards Park

In mid-2016 Gallagher Studio was engaged to prepare a low-intervention Landscape Masterplan that respects the heritage significance and character of St Leonards Park. With its distinctive Victorian landscape character and rich in history and heritage, the Park is one of North Sydney's most significant and best-loved parks. St Leonards Park is a great place to play, relax and socialise, and it contains our premier sportsground, North Sydney Oval. The Park is listed on the State Heritage Register.

Within a framework that recognises and respects the heritage significance of St Leonards Park, and in accordance with the project Brief, the draft Landscape Masterplan:

- Improves and enhances the Park landscape
- Improves and enhances recreation opportunities for a range of park users
- Offers a range of additional facilities (such as park furniture and an expanded playground) to meet identified community needs
- Ensures the Park is accessible and appealing to all members of the community
- Addresses existing circulation and access issues for pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles

The Landscape Masterplan for St Leonards Park has been developed in 5 Stages, in accordance with the project Brief:

- Stage 1: Research and Analysis (*August 2016 - March 2017*)
Included Stage 1 Public Engagement
- Stage 2: Development of Draft Guiding Principles & Concept Design Ideas (*March - July 2017*)
Included Stage 2 Public Engagement
- Stage 3: Development of a draft Landscape Masterplan (*August – November 2017*)
- Stage 4: Public Exhibition of the draft Landscape Masterplan (*November 2017 – February 2018*)
- Stage 5: Review feedback and finalise Landscape Masterplan – (*current*)

2. Key Features of the draft Landscape Masterplan

The key features of the draft Landscape Masterplan are based on the Park Improvement Ideas developed during Stage 2 of the Masterplan process and tested during Stage 2 public engagement activities, when over 200 people visited pop-up stalls in the Park or attended the public workshop.

Tunks Avenue / War Memorial Commemorative Walk (Park Improvement Idea 1)

New landscape works will reinforce the historic park layout, re-establish the significance of Tunks Avenue and restore it as the primary memorial space in the Park. Views to the War Memorial will be framed and reinforced, and the visual prominence of the Field Gun will be reinstated (by relocating it).

This proposal was rated ‘appealing’ or ‘very appealing’ by 90% of survey participants.

Restoration of Tunks Fountain and Surrounds (Park Improvement Idea 2)

The historic Tunks Fountain will be restored, and its visual prominence will be reinforced. New landscape works will create a more attractive surrounds, and provide new opportunities to overlook and enjoy the fountain.

This proposal was rated ‘appealing’ or ‘very appealing’ by 84% of survey participants.

New and Improved Pedestrian Pathways (Park Improvement Idea 3)

These will improve safety for pedestrians, improve the park interface to the North Sydney Oval boundary wall, and reduce informal tracks and degraded lawn areas.

This proposal was rated ‘appealing’ or ‘very appealing’ by 94% of survey participants.

Improved Park Spaces (Park Improvement Idea 4)

These have been designed to increase amenity for park users, to better define active and passive park spaces, and to provide a garden edge to noisy and busy roads.

This proposal was rated ‘appealing’ or ‘very appealing’ by 97% of survey participants.

A separated Cycleway on the Eastern Edge of the Park (Park Improvement Idea 5)

Construction of a dedicated commuter cycle path on the eastern boundary of the Park will reduce conflicts between commuter cyclists and pedestrians/recreational cyclists in the Park.

This proposal was rated ‘appealing’ or ‘very appealing’ by 88% of survey participants.

An Expanded Playground and New Toilet (Park Improvement Idea 6)

The existing playground will be upgraded, remaining suitable for younger children, and the toilet facilities will be improved. New facilities will cater for older children’s adventure play, and areas for nature play will be integrated into garden spaces.

This proposal was rated ‘appealing’ or ‘very appealing’ by 92% of survey participants.

A 7th Park Improvement Idea: ‘Provide 1st Class Cricket Practice Nets’ did not receive a significant level of support. Only 28% of people rated this proposal ‘appealing’ or ‘very appealing’, while nearly half (48%) found it ‘unappealing’ or ‘very unappealing’.

The draft Landscape Masterplan makes detailed recommendations regarding park lighting, furniture, planting and paving. Lighting is to be upgraded throughout the park, to improve safety as well as to highlight and celebrate significant park features. Furniture will be

upgraded, with a greater diversity of seating opportunities, and more BBQ's, drinking fountains and picnic tables will be provided. New trees are proposed in specific areas to enhance the Park's heritage significance.

3. Public Engagement and Exhibition

A copy of the draft Landscape Masterplan for St Leonards Park, together with all supporting documentation, was available on Council's web site for the 10-week duration of the public exhibition period, and Council staff were available to discuss issues and provide clarification by email, phone or in person, upon request.

Extensive public notification was undertaken to inform the community and other stakeholders that the draft Landscape Masterplan was on public exhibition, and to seek feedback.

Notification methods included:

- Project information and feedback form on Council's website
- Information included in Council's corporate ad in the Mosman Daily (x5)
- Posters on all 65 Community Noticeboards in North Sydney
- 21 posters in St Leonards Park
- Information sent to known stakeholders (including groups and individuals who provided feedback and/or expressed interest in the project)
- Information sent to all Precincts
- Article in the Councillor Bulletin
- Information sent to members of Council's Sport & Recreation Reference Group
- Information sent to all Council staff
- Information on social media (Facebook and Twitter)

4. Submissions Received

70 submissions were received regarding the draft Landscape Masterplan for St Leonards Park. The content of the submissions and the responses to the issues raised in them is set out in Attachment 1 - Summary of Submissions Received. For clarity, the comments are divided into 6 Key Themes:

- Theme 1: General Support for the Masterplan
- Theme 2: History and Heritage
- Theme 3: Circulation (Pedestrians/Cyclists/Vehicles)
- Theme 4: Park Facilities and Structures
 - 4a Netball Courts
 - 4b Cricket Pitch/Wicket/Nets
 - 4c Playground & Other Facilities
- Theme 5: Open Space/ Green Character
- Theme 6: Ongoing Management & Maintenance

Theme 1: General Support for the Masterplan

13 submissions expressed unqualified support for the Masterplan.

'The Masterplan meets all of my expectations and requirements'.

'Thank you for preparing the draft Masterplan and the consultation process that proceeded it. We have been regular users of the park for 15 years - for organised sport, passive recreation, socialising, both with and without children'.

'We support the proposed Masterplan and are looking forward to its implementation'.

Theme 2: History and Heritage

Submissions generally expressed support for reinforcing the heritage significance of the Park.

‘Great suggestions to reinstate the field gun and enhance lighting for the Tunks Fountain’.

A submission from the NSW Office of Environment & Heritage (Heritage Division) noted the Park’s inclusion on the State Heritage Register, and the importance of adhering to the conservation policies outlined in relevant documents such as the Conservation Management Plan 2015. The submission also suggested that an archaeological assessment of the parkland to identify any potential it may have for relics or Aboriginal objects may be required in future.

Council’s Conservation Planner expressed support for the Masterplan, and provided additional detailed recommendations, many of which can be addressed at the detailed design stage.

Theme 3: Circulation

The majority of comments regarding circulation supported the proposed widening of Park pathways: *‘I like the increased path width and formalisation of those paths’* and the improvements to pedestrian circulation, including the removal of light poles from the centres of affected park paths. Submissions generally supported the proposed separation of commuter cyclists from recreational cyclists and pedestrians, anticipating that removing (the majority of) commuter cyclists from the Park will significantly reduce current levels of cyclist/pedestrian conflict.

Proposed new commuter cycle way

Bike North stated that their preferred solution is to upgrade the existing pathway through the Park; creating a separated bike path through to the Carlow Street entrance, or to Ridge Street, opposite Walker Street. They also identified some drawbacks to the proposed new commuter cycle way along the eastern side of the Park:

- The route is less direct, and potentially hillier
- Its isolation would make it susceptible to safety issues
- It may attract walkers (views) and children using wheeled toys
- People may slide/roll down the embankment onto it

Although the proposed route is less direct and potentially hillier, the Masterplan’s primary circulation objective is to improve safety in the Park by reducing the current level of commuter cyclist/pedestrian conflict. Careful design at the detailed design stage will aim to make the proposed eastern cycle way a more attractive option for commuter cyclists (for example by not requiring cyclists to dismount).

Due primarily to the identified heritage significant of the avenue plantings, there is no capacity to significantly widen park pathways, or to create separate paths for commuter cyclists and recreational cyclists/pedestrians within St Leonards Park.

Theme 4: Park Facilities and Structures

4a Netball courts

Numerous submissions requested the provision of at least 1 new netball court in the Park. Over 25 submissions simply stated: *‘More netball courts please’*, while others provided more detail as to why more netball courts are needed:

- There is a desperate shortage of netball facilities on the lower North Shore

- The large netball court complex in Willoughby is outdated, overcrowded and there is no room for growth
- Younger netball players are not able to play their competition together, but are ‘farmed out’ to multiple sites
- Male sports are better-catered for in the area (including St Leonards Park)
- Netball is the most popular sport for young girls (locally, and in Australia)
- We need to create a love of sport and the outdoors in our young girls
- Participation in sport provides positive physical and mental health outcomes

The Vice President of the Northern Suburbs Netball Association notes that provision of 1-4 additional grass courts in the Park would allow the Association to house its entire 7-9-year-old program here. (The Park currently has 2 courts, and The Greens Bowling Club allows the Northern Suburbs Netball Association to create 3 courts on their greens during netball season).

As a typical example of a Victorian-era park, St Leonards Park has always contained a mix of sports courts and fields as well as open lawn areas, trees and other park features, and it is important from a heritage perspective (as well as from a recreational perspective) to retain an appropriate balance between organised sports facilities and other recreation areas.

The needs of specific sporting groups must be balanced not only with the needs other sporting groups, but with the needs of others who value and use the more ‘unstructured’ areas of the Park. It is very important not to alienate the open areas of the park by ‘filling them up’ with sports courts and associated sports facilities. Areas of the Park that may appear ‘underused’ (for example the harbour view lawn) are actually some of the most loved parts of the Park; valued for and not in spite of their unstructured nature.

While providing any additional permanent courts is not considered appropriate, there is an opportunity for Council to work with the relevant netball associations, and to trial line-marking of 1 netball court, for use by junior players over the netball season. Council staff working in St Leonards Park have identified the value of levelling a part of the harbour view lawn area, at the bottom of the embankment east of the existing netball courts to better cater for current users and for people playing informal sports and games. (See ‘Theme 5’ for additional information).

4b Cricket

Complementary submissions were received from Cricket NSW (with a supporting letter from Cricket Australia), the North Sydney District Cricket Club (NSDCC) and the North Sydney District Junior Cricket Club (NSDJCC). All submissions highlighted the popularity of cricket at all levels (from junior to elite), and the importance of the various facilities in St Leonards Park to their organisation.

They noted that the draft Masterplan was generally well considered as it carefully balances the Park’s many uses, but felt that it missed the opportunity to increase the amenity, safety and prestige of the Park’s sporting facilities by installing a permanent cricket net facility.

The submissions also noted that cricket's use of the Park is seasonal, and that users are drawn from a regional catchment; facts that may have had an impact on consultation outcomes (the concept to provide an elite turf net facility did not receive a significant level of public support). Stage 2 public engagement activities, the 'testing of concept ideas' were carried out in cricket's 'off' season.

Junior Cricket Nets

Several submissions noted that the proposed increase in the length of the junior cricket nets (located between Fig Tree Lane and the North Sydney Oval Complex) was insufficient, and that 'flying balls' are dangerous in this area.

There is scope to amend the draft Masterplan to further increase the length of the cricket nets, while simultaneously addressing several operational issues raised by Council staff who work in the Park. The nets will be fully enclosed, and accessed via a gate, to prevent balls interfering with other park users. Some vegetation will be retained to create visual separation between the nets and the park pathway to the east.

Existing Cricket Pitch

In response to several submissions, the draft Masterplan will be amended to improve and enhance the open grassy area north of Fig Tree Lane that currently features a cricket pitch. The lawn area will be leveled, and the cricket wicket will be improved, and relocated to a more central location.

Proposed 1st Class Turf Net Facility

Cricket NSW's submission, supported by the other cricketing organisations listed previously, advocates strongly for construction of an 8-lane turf net training facility adjoining the southern end of Bon Andrews Oval which would:

- Support the high level, elite cricket being played at North Sydney Oval
- Ensure the Oval continues to attract elite competition in the future
- Align the Park with Cricket Australia's Tier 2 venue requirements
- Enhance the Park's sporting landscape, and strengthen its position as a major sporting destination in NSW

The submission states that the proposed location receives little use, and that the current system of setting up temporary nets in the middle of Bon Andrews Oval to provide training/warm-up facilities for elite level cricket fixtures occurring on North Sydney Oval is unsatisfactory.

In the same way that providing additional permanent netball courts in the Park is not appropriate (from both a heritage and recreational perspective), using any of the Park's open, unstructured recreation spaces for a turf wicket facility is also not appropriate.

Throughout the public engagement process, the community has indicated that areas of the Park that do not appear to be heavily used are, in fact, some of the most highly valued spaces. There has been widespread support for maintaining the current mix of spaces for active and passive recreation, and ensuring that no more of the Park is alienated from general public use. During public testing of the Concept Design Ideas, the proposed turf wicket facility was the only proposal that did not receive general public support.

The value of the proposed training/warm-up facilities for elite level cricketers playing at North Sydney Oval is recognised however, and Council is keen to continue discussions with organisations representing elite cricketers for the provision of training/warm up facilities that are generally within the existing envelope of organised sporting facilities at St Leonards Park.

4c *Playground & Other Facilities*

Several submissions supported the proposal to expand the children's playground, and to create a nature-themed play area suitable for older children.

'Love the extended play area'.

Several other submissions suggested that fitness equipment be located in the Park

Theme 5: Open Space/ Green Character

A number of submissions stressed the importance of maintaining the green, open character of the Park, and several submissions made specific suggestions regarding tree species. Species selection will be dealt with at the detailed design stage, and a planting plan that is consistent with the Conservation Management Plan recommendations, and approved by Council's arborists will be prepared.

The submission from Council staff working in St Leonards Park noted that the additional tree avenues and garden areas would significantly decrease the amount of open lawn area available for informal sport and games. They recommended that some additional level open space be provide on the harbour view lawn to help 'spread the load', and counteract the reduction in open lawn in other areas.

Theme 6: Ongoing Management & Maintenance

Several submissions, including one from Council staff who work in the Park, noted that the new garden beds and tree avenues proposed in the draft Masterplan will necessitate increased levels of maintenance. Changes to future maintenance regimes are anticipated, and issues relating to maintenance and ongoing park management will be addressed as the proposed new works are implemented.

5. The Future: Implementing the Landscape Masterplan

The draft Landscape Masterplan identifies priorities and provides staging information to guide the park upgrading process:

- Priority 1A: North Sydney Oval curtilage paving, lighting and resolving the Music Shell flooding issues
- Priority 1B: Commuter cycleway, diagonal pathway and associated gardens
- Priority 2: Tunks Avenue, Fig Tree Lane, the Bowling Club access road, memorial, lighting and gardens
- Priority 3: Playground and Palm Grove
- Priority 4: Remaining pathways

Following the adoption of the draft Landscape Masterplan for St Leonards Park, Council's Consultants, Gallagher Studio, will amend the draft Landscape Masterplan as required to produce a Final Landscape Masterplan for St Leonards Park. Preliminary cost estimates to implement the Landscape Masterplan will be prepared by the project consultants, Gallagher Studio, once the amendments proposed in this report have been adopted.

There will be further opportunities for the community and stakeholders to be involved in the upgrading of St Leonards Park as the individual works set out in the Priority Works program are implemented in coming years.

6. Conclusion

The draft Landscape Masterplan is comprehensive document that will guide the future development of one of North Sydney's most significant areas of open space in a manner that is consistent with the Park's listing as an item of State Heritage Significance. The addition of information and comments made in the public submissions will ensure that the final Landscape Masterplan for St Leonards Park is not only comprehensive and thorough, but that it reflects community and stakeholder needs and concerns.

Draft Landscape Masterplan for St Leonards Park
Summary of submissions received during public exhibition period
Prepared March 2018

The following criteria are used to analyse all submissions received, and to determine whether or not the plan would be amended:

1. The Draft Landscape Masterplan for St Leonards Park **would be** amended if the point:
 - a provided additional information of relevance.
 - b indicated or clarified a change in government legislation, Council's commitment or management policy.
 - c proposed strategies that would better achieve or assist with Council's objectives.
 - d was an alternate viewpoint received on the topic and is considered a better option than that proposed in the Draft Plan or;
 - e indicated omissions, inaccuracies or a lack of clarity.

2. The Draft Landscape Masterplan for St Leonards Park **would not be** amended if the point:
 - a addressed issues beyond the scope of the Plan.
 - b was already in the plan or will be considered during the development of a subordinate plan (prepared by Council).
 - c offered an open statement, or no change was sought.
 - d clearly supported the draft proposals.
 - e was an alternate viewpoint received on the topic but the recommendation of the draft plan was still considered the best option.
 - f was based on incorrect information.
 - g contributed options that are not possible (generally due to some aspect of existing legislation or government policy) or; involved details that are not appropriate or necessary for inclusion in a document aimed at providing a strategic community direction over the long term.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT COUNCILLORS REFER TO THE COMPLETE SUBMISSIONS MADE AVAILABLE TO THEM, AND TO THE REPORT TO COUNCIL, WHICH EXPANDS ON THE ISSUES RAISED IN THE SUBMISSIONS.

Issue	Key Points Raised	Response	Recommend Plan be Amended Y or N	Criteria Code	Plan Page Number
	GENERAL SUPPORT FOR THE MASTERPLAN				
1	<p>11 submissions expressed unqualified support for the draft Landscape Masterplan. A sample of comments is included below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>'The Masterplan meets all of my expectations and requirements'</i> - <i>'Thank you for preparing the draft masterplan and the consultation process that proceeded it. We have been regular users of the park for 15 years - for organised sport, passive recreation, socialising, both with and without children. In general, we support the proposed masterplan and are looking forward to its implementation'</i> - <i>'Overall, an excellent plan. The only comment would be to implement it ASAP.'</i> 	Noted. No change to Masterplan.	N	2c	NA
2	HISTORY & HERITAGE				
3	Great suggestions to reinstate the field gun and enhance lighting for the Tunks Fountain.	Noted. No change to Masterplan.	N	2c	NA
4	Are there any issues with the proposal to install gardens and bench seating along the wall of North Sydney Oval (to lessen the visual impact) due to it being a heritage listed wall?	No. No change to Masterplan.	N	2f	NA

Issue	Key Points Raised	Response	Recommend Plan be Amended Y or N	Criteria Code	Plan Page Number
5	<p>The Heritage Division (NSW Office of Environment & Heritage) notes:</p> <p>1) Because the Park is listed on the NSW State Heritage Register for its heritage values, the Masterplan would benefit from cross-referencing to the following documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - St Leonards Park CMP, Godden Mackay Logan, 2013 - Conservation Management Plan & Maintenance Schedule - North Sydney Leagues Bowling Club, Noel Bell Ridley Smith & Partners, 2016 - North Sydney Significant Tree Register, Land Arc, 1994 <p>2) The Masterplan would also benefit from considering the compatibility of its proposals with the significance rankings and conservation policies outlined in relevant parts of the above reports</p> <p>3) As many the recommended works involve excavation (e.g. moving elements to de-clutter paths, upgrading or widening paths, furniture, toilets, trenching and fittings for new lighting), impacts of excavation on any present archaeology could be avoided or mitigated if the site's archaeological potential were known. It is recommended that the Master Plan should include an archaeological assessment of the parkland to identify any potential it may have for relics or Aboriginal objects.</p>	<p>The Masterplan takes account of the documents listed in this submission. In particular, the Masterplan is based on the conservation policies and recommendations set out in the St Leonards Park CMP. The relationship between these 2 documents is clearly set out in the public documentation that supports the Masterplan. Additionally, the Consultants have been in regular contact with the authors of the CMP to ensure the new Masterplan appropriately reflects the heritage significance of St Leonards Park.</p> <p>The need to undertake archaeological investigations prior to undertaking future works that involve excavation is noted.</p> <p>No change to Masterplan.</p>	N	2b	NA
6	<p>The relocation of the light poles on Tunks Ave is supported as it will improve the vista to the War Memorial.</p>	<p>Noted. No change to Masterplan.</p>	N	2c	NA
7	<p>Gardens – Victorian parks traditionally had decorative plantings that were gaudy and showy. The removal of the informal decorative plantings on Drawing No 74 is not supported as there are inadequate areas of such plantings. Whilst it is understood that a larger maintenance budget is required for gardens, it would increase the aesthetic significance of the park as well as improve enjoyment of the park for those that live in dwellings with no gardens. Seasonal plantings such as spring bulbs with blossom trees in addition to rose gardens and herbaceous borders are characteristic of Victorian parks and are recommended as per CMP policies 4 and Section 7.2.1 policy 11. Traditionally these are placed within 'garden rooms'.</p>	<p>Noted. The Masterplan proposes to add a significant number of garden beds to St Leonards Park to provide decoration, separation of spaces and detailed areas of interest. In accordance with Council's sustainability focus, new garden beds are likely to use perennials, rather than annuals, however the aim is still to use these plantings to create areas of variety, interest and colour.</p> <p>The additional maintenance requirements that arise from the creation of more garden beds will be addressed when the Masterplan is implemented.</p> <p>No change to Masterplan</p>	N	2e	NA

Issue	Key Points Raised	Response	Recommend Plan be Amended Y or N	Criteria Code	Plan Page Number
8	Trees – Victorian parks were often a showcase for tree species collected from around the world notable for their decorative, foliage and /or flower as well as striking form. It is therefore recommended that the Araucaria plantings be continued in succession plantings as these are a typical Victorian planting and there are few spaces in North Sydney to plant such large trees. It is also recommended that additional decorative flowering tree species be included eg Golden Shower Tree, Jacaranda, Bauhinia, Crepe Myrtle and species for autumnal colour. Section 6.2.1 Policy 5 in the CMP also recommended a Tree Management Plan be prepared for the Park.	Noted. These issues can be appropriately dealt with at the detailed design stage, however, there it is envisioned that the Araucaria plantings will be continued in succession plantings, and that decorative tree species will be included in the final planting plan. No change to Masterplan.	N	2b	NA
9	Decorative planting could be placed on the exterior of the planting to create visual interest to drivers on Falcon St and to create a sense of entry to North Sydney for those that have exited off the Expressway. The relocation of the path internally into the Park, away from the traffic is supported.	Noted. Planting species will be selected at the detailed design stage, however it is likely that perennials will be selected (rather than annuals) for reasons of sustainability. No change to Masterplan.	N	2b	NA
10	Falcon St Edge – The areas of parkland adjacent to Falcon St are particularly uncomfortable due to traffic noise and a perceived sense of danger. It is recommended that the boundary be enclosed by dense plantings/hedges with openings into the park from the road to allow drivers to look into the park (see image of Hyde Park below). Additional Eucalypt plantings along the Falcon St boundary will also create a sense of enclosure and greater safety from the traffic. Enclosure is also consistent with the Victorian heritage significance of the park.	Noted. The Masterplan proposes to install planting in garden beds along the Falcon Street park edge. This will define the park boundary and create visual interest. However, it is important that this vegetation is not so tall as to prevent people travelling along Falcon Street from seeing in to the park. St Leonards Park 'dips down' along the Falcon Street frontage, unlike Hyde Park which is elevated from street level. No change to Masterplan.	N	2b	NA
11	Avenue Trees- The tree avenue within the eastern lawns should be further enhanced with additional tree plantings from the entry near the Sewer Vent to Carlow St as shown on Drawing No 66.	Unlike other avenues in the park, the avenue within the eastern lawns was not, historically, a treed avenue. Although split by a path, the eastern lawns reads and function as a single large open lawn, and the Masterplan preserves this. No change to Masterplan.	N	2e	NA

Issue	Key Points Raised	Response	Recommend Plan be Amended Y or N	Criteria Code	Plan Page Number
12	Tunks Ave – The widening and additional plantings are supported, particularly of flowering under plantings such as <i>Clivea sp.</i> The re-location of the WW1 artillery gun to the northern end is also supported to reinforce the connection with the War Memorial. Removal of the small trees/shrubs below the main tree canopy on the avenue is supported as they are over-mature and disrupt the visual connection to the War Memorial. The Tree Officers recommend <i>Ficus hillii</i> rather than <i>Ficus rubiginosa</i> in the area to the east of the Oval, as the latter tree species has not been successful in this area.	Support for the Tunks Avenue proposal is noted. Tree species will be selected at detailed design stage, in accordance with the CMP recommendations, and in consultation with Council's arborists. No change to Masterplan.	N	2d	NA
13	National Tree Day Plantings – The trees located along the eastern edge of the park are socially significant, having been planted on National Tree Day. Any land acquisition that removes these trees will result in a loss of heritage significance to the park.	The Masterplan does not propose any works that will affect the National Tree Day Plantings. No change to Masterplan.	N	2c	NA
14	Entry to Corner Miller/Ridge Sts- The main pedestrian entry to the North Sydney Oval complex requires further refinement as a visual cue on Miller St. At present, way-finding along Miller St is not clear and the Masterplan has not made significant change. A statement <i>Ficus macrophylla</i> planting would also be useful for people to wait in the shade.	The need for new/better way-finding and identifying signage in this area will be further investigated at detailed design stage. There is currently a Magnolia in this location, it is not shown on the Masterplan – the Masterplan will be amended to show this tree.	Y	1a	NA
15	War Memorial – As noted above, the proposed relocation of the WW1 artillery gun to have connectivity with the War Memorial is supported and will enhance their heritage significance. The continuation of the Tunks Ave tree plantings through to Lytton St and into Anzac Park would further enhance the understanding and aesthetic significance of the memorial as at present, the alignment is not perceived. The Tree Officers note that there may be inadequate space for the additional palm plantings to the north of the Memorial. The benefit of the reflection pool (Drawing No 83) is questioned in the proposed location as it is a place where people do not stay due to the close proximity to the road and the space around the Memorial feels bare and exposed. The proposed additional pavement will also exacerbate this. Seating facing the War Memorial in a space enclosed by planting that creates a sense of quiet and withdrawal for contemplation would be useful, however, this should not be too close nor visually clutter the War Memorial.	Support for relocating the WW1 artillery gun and reinstating Tunks Avenue plantings is noted. The Masterplan shows the existing palm trees located to the north of the Memorial, interplanted with new palms. These new palms are offset from the main path, providing them with additional space. The comment regarding the reflecting pool is noted, however the Masterplan's aim is to create a reflection that people see as they pass through the space, rather than a space for stopping. The Masterplan provides new garden rooms - seating spaces, surrounded by planting for quiet withdrawal and contemplation – in the area in front of the North Sydney Oval wall. No change to Masterplan.	N	2b	NA

Issue	Key Points Raised	Response	Recommend Plan be Amended Y or N	Criteria Code	Plan Page Number
16	North Sydney Oval – The masterplan does not appear to have made connections with the oval to the eastern and southern walls to reduce the dominance of the wall as per Section 7.2.5 policy 38 in the CMP.	See response to Issue 15. No change to Masterplan.	N	2b	NA
17	The Masterplan appears to successfully retain the heritage significance of the Park in accordance with the SLP CMP 2013, whilst improving the functionality of the spaces. To enhance its Victorian character however, the Park requires more decorative plantings and contrasting spaces as per conservation policy 11. Typically garden rooms were used, with each space having a distinct character. These spaces were often intensively planted and highly maintained – which obviously entails greater cost.	See response to Issue 15. No change to Masterplan.	N	2b	NA
	CIRCULATION – PEDESTRIAN PATHWAYS				
18	I like the increased path width and formalisation of these paths, although they could probably be even wider.	Noted. No change to Masterplan.	N	2c	NA
19	Re: pedestrian movement along Miller Street (beside NSO). Like idea of garden beds here (they would need to be irrigated), but suggest reducing the width slightly. The current turf plots wear out heavily due to the narrow footpath width. Items such as parking metres and light poles make the space tight. Also suggest providing a more direct path in front of 'Dave's Home Brew' shop, to discourage people from walking through the garden (which they currently do).	The Masterplan will be amended as per these suggestions.	Y	1c	NA
20	Suggest changing the proposed 'nose' of planting near the south west corner of the Park (in the forecourt to North Sydney Oval) to turf or hardstand to enable access by large vehicles during events at the Oval. Would also provide an area for merchandising sales or other activation during events at the Oval. The current path looks narrow.	Providing planting in this area helps funnel people into the North Sydney Oval complex, while creating a separated pathway system for people walking through the rest of the park. The proposed pathway is just over 9 meters wide. Together with the flat lawn area to the west, it will be able to accommodate merchandising stands and other 'overflow' activities which may occur when North Sydney Oval is being used for major fixtures. No change to Masterplan.	N	2e	NA

Issue	Key Points Raised	Response	Recommend Plan be Amended Y or N	Criteria Code	Plan Page Number
	CIRCULATION - CYCLEWAYS				
21	Is it proposed that *all* cycling will be excluded from the pathways? If so, where does that leave the ability to ride with children to the playground, No 2 Oval and the Greens, by way of example?	The Masterplan encourages commuter cyclists to use a new pathway along the eastern edge of the park. It is anticipated that recreational cyclists, particularly children, will still ride along other park pathways. Those pathways that currently have light poles in the centre of them will have the light poles removed, making both recreational cycling and pedestrian movement through the park easier. No change to Masterplan.	N	2b	NA
22	Generally, please keep cycling slow throughout the park, to reduce hazards to families/elderly.	See response to Issue 21. No change to Masterplan.	N	2b	NA
23	Please ensure there is a separated cycleway for thoroughfare that links with express cycleways, away from pedestrians and dangerous roads. Try to extend this cycleway with direct (safe) connections to the Harbour bridge network.	See response to Issue 21. No change to Masterplan.	N	2b	NA
24	Love the suggested new cycleway	Noted. No change to Masterplan.	N	2c	NA
25	As a regular user of roads, cycleways and shared paths, I would strongly recommend that the option of placing the bike path on the outside of the fence around Bon Andrews Oval, which provides a 3 m path should be chosen. As this is a key link between Military Rd/Falcon St and the Harbour Bridge, this cycleway has the potential to see significant amounts of traffic in the future (especially as the network becomes better connected). With this in mind, a narrow path in between the oval fence and the outer fence may become not fit-for-purpose in a short period of time. I routinely ride on paths that are too narrow, and they are very uninviting for a cyclist. I would also encourage council to minimise the amount of upward facing lighting where possible, and to minimise wasted light shone away from the ground. Light pollution is a significant issue, and there is no advantages for council in further contributing to this problem (as noted in the plan).	Noted. No change to Masterplan.	N	2c	NA

Issue	Key Points Raised	Response	Recommend Plan be Amended Y or N	Criteria Code	Plan Page Number
26	<p>Land Acquisition/Cycle Paths – I understand that there are five new lanes proposed by RMS on the Warringa Expressway that require land to be acquired from St Leonards Park. Please confirm this with Gavin McConnell who is kept up to date with the design progress. This will undoubtedly require re-location of the cycleway. The NSW Heritage Office has however, commenced discussions with RMS and has raised concerns about the heritage impacts to the state-listed park. Council has also promoted the provision of one laneway on the Expressway to be a designated cycleway with a connection to the main Harbour Bridge deck. If this occurs, there will be less necessity for the cycle path along the eastern edge of the park.</p>	Noted. No change to Masterplan.	N	2c	NA

Issue	Key Points Raised	Response	Recommend Plan be Amended Y or N	Criteria Code	Plan Page Number
27	<p>St Leonards Park is of major interest and importance for bike riding both as a critical connector of an existing North Sydney bike route and as a destination for local and district residents. Priority Bike Route 2, North Sydney to Mosman depends on St Leonards Park to provide safe and continuous travel from Falcon Street, where the shared use bridge over the Warringah Freeway exits, to local roads closer to the North Sydney CBD. The exact route connecting to the CBD is unspecified on the latest North Sydney Cycling Strategy as it was dependent on the finalisation of the route through St Leonards Park.</p> <p>Many bike riders already use the central path through St Leonards Park, to access Miller Street or alternatively Carlow Street and West Street. Previous bike strategies recognised that the shared path through St Leonards Park was of insufficient width, exacerbated by the frequent light posts positioned in the centre of this path.</p> <p>We believe the best bike route through St Leonards Park is to follow the existing route of the pathway from the Falcon Street entrance, diagonally through the park to exit at the main entrance at Carlow Street. Alternatively, the route could divert to the main north south path and exit at Ridge Street, opposite Walker Street. Both these routes are direct, short and flat through the park (and as such are likely to be used, whatever is proposed). To improve them, these routes would need to be widened with separate sections for pedestrians and bike riders. Low non obtrusive vegetation could separate the bike path from the park and pedestrian paths.</p> <p>Whatever route is finally devised as a through bike route through the park, the various paths in the park will continue to be needed as shared paths as there are many destinations within the park itself which people riding bikes need to access. Children and beginner bike riders also need places to try out bikes and St Leonards Park is an excellent environment for that type of bike riding on family outings.</p>	<p>While the Masterplan does propose to remove light poles from the centre of existing paths where this occurs, there is no capacity to expand the width of existing park pathways due to the conflict with the heritage significance and values of the various in-situ avenue plantings.</p> <p>The Masterplan aims to reduce conflicts in the park. Commuter cyclists are discouraged from using the main park pathways and are provided with an alternative 'cyclists only' path on the eastern side of the park. The Masterplan does recognise, however, that some cyclists, particularly recreational cyclists will still use the internal park pathway system.</p> <p>No change to Masterplan.</p>	N	2e	NA
28	Bicycle parking is also needed at destination points within the park.	The (likely) need for additional bike parking at appropriate locations in the park (for example near the new children's playground) will be addressed at the detailed design stage.	N	2b	NA

Issue	Key Points Raised	Response	Recommend Plan be Amended Y or N	Criteria Code	Plan Page Number
29	<p>Drawbacks to the new commuter cycleway along the eastern side of the Park, as proposed in the draft Masterplan include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It is less direct, longer and potentially hillier - Its isolation would make it susceptible to safety issues - Views may attract walkers to the area, causing conflicts - Children may use wheeled toys on the path - People may slide down the hill onto the cycleway - The exit at Ridge St at the bottom of a hill is unsuitable <p>Bike North Recommendations</p> <p>1. Our prime recommendation is that the planners review their proposal for a new route and upgrade the existing pathway through the park for a separated bike path through the park to the Carlow Street entrance or to Ridge Street., opposite Walker Street. The path near the Falcon Street entrance needs realignment to provide a gentler slope and safer exit.</p> <p>2. Any eastern boundary cycleway proposal would require:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minimum 3 metre wide cycleway - Separated 2 metre pedestrian path - Full lighting and CCTV surveillance - Safety fence along the eastern boundary to the Freeway. - Improved, safer northern access to the Falcon Street - Flat gradients for the cycleway - Work with RMS for a shared pedestrian and cyclist bridge from inside the park, over Falcon Street to the shared pedestrian and cyclist bridge-over - On approach to Ridge Street, cycling should turn westward on a gentle slope, avoiding loss of height and climbing gently parallel to Ridge Street existing at the entrance opposite Walker Street - Provide separation to pedestrian paths and park via low vegetation boundaries - Provide a kids bike track in the south eastern section of the park to discourage 'play' use of the cycleway 	<p>The proposed commuter cycleway along the eastern side of the park is less direct, slightly longer and potentially hillier, however the Masterplan's primary objective is to improve safety in the park by reducing the current level of commuter cyclist/pedestrian conflict.</p> <p>Careful design at the detailed design stage will endeavour to make the proposed eastern cycleway a more attractive option for commuter cyclists (not requiring cyclists to dismount etc).</p> <p>No change to Masterplan.</p>	N	2e	NA
30	<p>Council's sportsfield team have plans to extend Bon Andrews Oval to remove the 'flat' spot in the Oval shape (south east area). Believe this can be done while still accommodating the proposed commuter cycleway.</p>	<p>Noted. A new alignment for the south eastern corner of the Bon Andrews Oval (to remove the flat spot) will be developed at the detailed design stage.</p> <p>No change to Masterplan.</p>	N	2c	NA

Issue	Key Points Raised	Response	Recommend Plan be Amended Y or N	Criteria Code	Plan Page Number
31	<p>Cycle pathway: We appreciate the desire to separate cyclists from foot traffic for safety purposes, however note that the existing route both brings important activity and lifeblood to the park. With increased activity also comes increased surveillance and pedestrian safety, particularly at night. Cyclists and pedestrians can co-exist with separated pathways, and a mature approach to intersections. I see this daily.</p> <p>Additionally, route around the perimeter of the Park brings in an interface requirement with RMS which will always be challenging and time consuming to manage. Secondly, the proposed route discharges cyclists on to the east end of Ridge St. Not only is this a longer and less level route for cyclists, Ridge St is already extremely busy with Wenona and St Mary's Schools. How many cyclists will simply be tempted to take Falcon St instead, at greater risk, as a result? We request that a separated pathway along the existing route (and perhaps even splitting and turning down Fig Tree Ave to meet Miller St opposite Carlow St) be reconsidered.</p>	<p>See response to Issue 29. No change to Masterplan.</p>	N	2e	NA
	CIRCULATION - VEHICLES				
32	<p>Please ensure the footpaths are wide enough to accommodate the vehicle used by the Council workers in the park. Most of the damage to the grass in this park is caused by employees driving on the grass.</p>	<p>Noted. Removing light poles from the centres of park pathways will assist here. No change to Masterplan.</p>	N	2c	NA
33	<p>There is an area at the end of Fig Tree Lane and in the park, adjacent to the Parks Depot that currently allows Council and contractors vehicles to park during events, game days and other works. The proposed planting would remove the ability of this area to be utilised in this way.</p> <p>There was also a proposal at one time to alter the depot to have a 'one-way-in', 'one-way-out' flow, to reduce the risk of incidents and accidents caused by vehicle movements through the depot.</p>	<p>The Masterplan will be 'fine tuned' in this location. The length of the cricket practice nets will be increased (while still retaining some vegetation to create visual separation from the park pathway to the east). The nets will be fully enclosed to prevent balls interfering with other park users. A new entry gate will be provided.</p>	Y	1c	NA

Issue	Key Points Raised	Response	Recommend Plan be Amended Y or N	Criteria Code	Plan Page Number
34	<p>Miller Street Entrance/Fig Tree Lane Parks Department staff believe it would be best to completely remove the turf mound and sandstone walls if palm trees are to be installed – would give free and unrestricted access to people entering and exiting the oval. Staff require access to the light pole located just inside the gates. Maintaining this pole requires a franna crane to access the area. Will the Fig Tree Lane gates remain in situ? Will they be reinstated as operational gates?</p>	<p>The Masterplan proposes to ‘flatten out’ the turf mound, to improve pedestrian circulation in this area. Further investigations into the heritage value of the existing sandstone walls will be undertaken by the Consultants to determine whether removing the semi-circular wall is possible (removing just this wall would greatly improve pedestrian circulation in this area, particularly when people are queuing for tickets and entry at peak times). The other walls will be retained as seating/leaning spots. Additionally, a couple of new seats will be installed in ‘out of the way’ sites to accommodate people waiting, having lunch and meeting up with friends. The Masterplan will be amended accordingly. The Fig Tree gates will remain in situ, and will be made operational to prevent non-Council vehicles entering this area. This will significantly improve safety for pedestrians in this location.</p>	Y	1c	NA
35	<p>The area between the Bowling Club entrance road and the War Memorial/ Tunks Fountain is sometimes used for large vehicle access. The proposed gardens would prevent this – should be able to find some alternative.</p>	<p>The gardens beds shown on the Masterplan will not be constructed until the large vehicle access (currently provided for a temporary video screen) is no longer required. (This change is expected to take place in 2-3 years when a permanent screen is installed). No change to Masterplan.</p>	N	2b	NA
36	<p>Removing bollards along the Bowling Club entrance road would be great, but we need something to prevent vehicles accessing the Park.</p>	<p>The solution shown in the Masterplan will adequately address this issue. The proposed edging of individual concrete blocks mimics the edging detail that is used in Centennial Park and which has worked extremely successfully for the past 10 years. No change to Masterplan.</p>	N	2b	NA

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37	The issue of vehicles trying to pass on the driveway entry to the Bowling Club has not been resolved. Perhaps this relates to limitations on the width of the accessway and their lease? The CMP requires a review of the location of the bowling club access as part of the master planning process (Section 7.2.6 policy 45) – has this occurred?	This issue was considered, however the provision of additional 'roadway' in the park, at the expense of green space was ultimately deemed undesirable. At busy times, such as Saturday brunch/lunch time, personnel from the Bowling Club/Greens restaurant provide traffic management assistance to cars arriving at and leaving the venue. No change to Masterplan.	N	2e	NA
	PARK FACILITIES & STRUCTURES				
	NETBALL COURTS				
38	Good that you have not touched the netball and basketball courts which I think are iconic. I don't play basketball or netball, but when I stumbled upon those about a month ago I got inspired.	Noted. No change to Masterplan.	N	2c	NA

Issue	Key Points Raised	Response	Recommend Plan be Amended Y or N	Criteria Code	Plan Page Number
39	<p>The Masterplan looks sensational however rather short sighted on the sporting front, particularly with regards to netball.</p> <p>The existing grass area in front of the Music Shell Lawn could be marked up with up to 8 netball courts and portable poles used to run a netball program specific to children ages 7-9 years old during April-August on Saturdays from 8am-2pm.</p> <p>The Northern Suburbs Netball Association has 6700 members, 60% of which reside in North Sydney LGA, so it seems only fair that North Sydney increase its netball facilities inline with the male codes it currently caters for. (A comparative use of this area is the Milo Cricket junior program)</p> <p>Alternatively, NSC could add another 1-2 grass courts alongside the hard courts. Given the current and future population in this area, we need to acknowledge our sporting facilities are nowhere near in line with the growth and demand.</p> <p>Currently The Greens Bowling Club allows NSNA to play half of its 7-9 years' program on 2 of their greens (3 courts). If Council could provide 1-4 additional grass courts, we could house the whole 7-9-year-old program here. With parking so readily available at Ridge Street and along Miller Street during April-August for 12 rounds this is, we believe a visionary, logical and easy solution to overcrowding of other facilities which has already meant reduced game time (from 60 to 40mins) for junior age groups.</p> <p>On behalf of the NSNA and as a North Sydney resident, I implore North Sydney Council to reconsider including netball facilities in the St Leonards Park Masterplan to ensure a long term vision and to satisfy community stakeholders needs.</p>	<p>Historically, St Leonards Park has always contained structured and non-structured recreation opportunities; the mix of ovals and sports courts with large areas of open lawn and garden areas and other park features (such as the Music Shell) is typical of large, Victorian-era parks.</p> <p>St Leonards Park is a park for all, but it is important to balance the needs and wants of potential user groups not only against the needs and wants of other groups, but against the Park's capacity to cater for them, particularly considering its heritage significance.</p> <p>In consultation activities undertaken as part of the Masterplan process, the community identified the harbour view lawn as one of the most highly valued areas of St Leonards Park. The views in particular, were cited as the reason this area was valued, (along with the opportunities to walk dogs, picnic, work with a personal trainer, or just to 'chill' in an unstructured and undulating part of the park).</p> <p>Council staff working in St Leonards Park have identified that levelling a part of the harbour view lawn area (at the bottom of the embankment to the east of the existing netball courts) would make it more useful, not only to existing users, but to people who use the park's open lawns for informal sport and games. (Staff note that the proposed increase in the amount of gardens and trees in the rest of the park will decrease the amount of lawn area available for these activities).</p> <p>While providing any additional permanent courts is not considered appropriate, there is an opportunity for Council to work with the relevant netball associations, and to trial line-marking of 1 netball court, for use by junior players over the netball season.</p>	N	2e	NA

Issue	Key Points Raised	Response	Recommend Plan be Amended Y or N	Criteria Code	Plan Page Number
40	<p>Various submissions gave reasons why more netball courts are needed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Willoughby courts are outdated, overcrowded and have no room for growth (x 4) - It seems male sports have been well catered for (such as the current development at the ground in front of Royal North Shore Hospital) but girls are being left behind - This is the most popular sport for young girls in our community and we are desperately short of facilities So many girls benefit from playing netball and we need to encourage the love of sport, especially for females (x5) - Netball promotes the community to get out and be fit. It would also benefit the working community for lunchtime and after-work netball games and competitions (x2) - The NSNA Net Set Go comp needs grounds to play at to allow the younger generation to participate in the sport (x4) - We have such a problem with childhood obesity that creating good habits and a love of sport and the outdoors young is even more important than ever - Sportsfields are great for soccer, football and rugby but netball is such a huge sport in Australia (x 2) 	See response to Issue 39.	N	2e	NA
41	26 submissions stated: <i>'More netball courts please (hardcourt or grass)'</i>	See response to Issue 39. The Masterplan will be amended accordingly.	N	2e	NA
42	Please ensure that active recreation facilities remain at St Leonards park for both community and corporate sports. There are so few active recreation facilities for the lower north shore community and it is important to retain the few we have for ongoing future use. Our children go to school in north Sydney and due to the size of school grounds are reliant on council land for active recreation. Our local netball association is also the home to highest registered players in Australia and is totally reliant on council facilities.	See response to Issue 39. The Masterplan will be amended accordingly.	N	2e	NA
43	Please provide multipurpose netball/basketball courts as the current courts are filled.	See response to Issue 39. The Masterplan will be amended accordingly.		2e	

Issue	Key Points Raised	Response	Recommend Plan be Amended Y or N	Criteria Code	Plan Page Number
44	I would like to see much improved and increased facilities in the North Sydney / Lane cove/ Willoughby Council area for the use of Basketball/Multisport, especially for the use of the members of Norths Basketball. We are simply desperate for more facilities. My girls also play Netball, but I feel the need of Norths basketball is greater and more urgent.	Noted. No change to Masterplan.	N	2a	NA
45	I would like to see the two basketball courts relocated or made 'hoops only' to be replaced by more shade trees and sitting out areas that take advantage of the magnificent views from that end of the park.	Noted. No change to Masterplan.	N	2e	NA
46	The consultant who recently resurfaced the netball courts recommended construction of a paved entrance walkway (approx. 3 m wide) on the western edge of the courts. It should be constructed on paving/concrete/ asphalt to reduce the amount of dirt walked on to the courts, lessening court damage. Council has tried to grow grass here without success.	Investigations will be undertaken at the detailed design stage to overcome the problem that grass will not grow in the area adjacent to the courts. Solutions may include providing an area of synthetic turf, rubber or hard paving in this location. No change to Masterplan.	N	2b	NA
	JUNIOR CRICKET NETS (between Fig Tree Lane and Council Works Depot)				
47	On the Landscape Master Plan 3.5 Fig Tree Lane plans (p13, #7), good to see plans to re-orientate the junior cricket nets, ie to hopefully allow longer run-ups (15m, not the present 6-7m, way too short for proper training.)	See response to Issue 33. The Masterplan will be amended.	Y	1c	NA
48	Need to clarify and provide detail re what 'reorientate the cricket nets' means. The nets would be better in a different location where the run up area could be increased.	See response to Issue 33. The Masterplan will be amended.	Y	1c	NA
49	The draft Masterplan proposes to retain the 2 existing synthetic nets, but to realign them 180 degrees and extend the length of the bowling run up area by 2.7 metres. We support this proposal, but suggest an additional 4-5 metres be included for bowling run-ups to better accommodate both children and adults (there is room for this), also suggest installing a barrier around the open end of the net to protect people and cars on Fig Tree Lane. Any works to implement this proposal should be scheduled outside of the cricket season.	See response to Issue 33. The Masterplan will be amended. The need to schedule the new construction work outside of cricket season is noted.	Y	1c	NA

Issue	Key Points Raised	Response	Recommend Plan be Amended Y or N	Criteria Code	Plan Page Number
50	The permanent nets beside Fig Tree Lane are unsuitable for cricketers over 10 due to the very short run-ups available - even the proposed reorientation and slight lengthening of the run-ups will not significantly increase their usefulness). They are particularly unsuitable for elite sports people.	See response to Issue 33. The Masterplan will be amended.	Y	1c	NA
51	The community cricket net facilities at SLP should be refurbished to set a benchmark for community cricket facilities in NSW. Works would include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Centurion Training Wickets (wicket lines and colour length indicators provide instantaneous feedback with every delivery) - New junior format crease markings (encourage players to participate at the stage that is appropriate to their ability level) - Alignment with Cricket Australia's Community Cricket Facility Guidelines (to create quality cricket facilities and improve overall safety for participants, coaches, spectators and the broader community) 	This level of detail will be considered at the detailed design stage of this project. Council will liaise with Cricket NSW at this time to ensure the upgrade junior nets are appropriate and meet the needs of junior users as far as possible, given the park's space limitations and heritage constraints. No change to Masterplan.	N	2a	NA
	EXISTING CRICKET PITCH (on the northern side of Fig Tree Lane)				
52	Suggest relevening the open grassy area between Fig Tree Lane and the central palm grove to a suitable grade and relocating the cricket pitch to a central location in this area. (This would allow for a longer run up).	The Masterplan will be amended accordingly.	Y	1c	NA
53	The Junior Cricket Lawn could be enhanced through by replacing the current wicket with a new synthetic surface wicket of uniform and greater width, and by levelling the surface (currently slopes down from south to north).	See response to Issue 52. The Masterplan will be amended accordingly.	Y	1c	NA
	PROPOSED TURF NET FACILITY				

Issue	Key Points Raised	Response	Recommend Plan be Amended Y or N	Criteria Code	Plan Page Number
54	<p>Complementary submissions were received from Cricket NSW, the North Sydney District Cricket Club (NSDCC) and the North Sydney District Junior Cricket Club (NSDJCC), and a supporting letter from Cricket Australia was attached to the Cricket NSW submission. All submissions highlighted the popularity of cricket at all levels, and the importance of the various organised sports facilities in St Leonards Park to their organisation. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the North Shore Junior Cricket Association is the biggest in NSW, with well over 200 teams competing each week - the Sixers Girls Cricket league is growing rapidly - the park is home to the North Sydney District Cricket Club - NSO is a core venue for the National Men's One Day Cup, the Women's national Cricket League and Sheffield Shield, and is a growing location for Women's Big Bash League and Australian Women's Cricket team matches <p>The submissions also noted that cricket's use of the park is seasonal, and that users are drawn from a regional catchment; facts that may have had an impact on consultation outcomes (the concept to provide an elite turf net facility did not receive a significant level of support). Stage 2 of public engagement, the 'testing of concept ideas' was carried out in cricket's 'off' season.</p>	<p>Historically, St Leonards Park has always contained structured and non-structured recreation opportunities. This mix of sports fields and courts, open lawn areas and other park features (playground, Music Shell etc) is typical of large, Victorian-era parks.</p> <p>St Leonards Park is a park for all, but it is important to balance the needs and wants of user groups not only against the needs and wants of other groups, but against the Park's capacity to cater for them, particularly considering its heritage significance. The vast majority of people who provided feedback throughout the course of the Masterplan preparation supported ensuring that this delicate balance is maintained. Their comments were more about ensuring that no more of St Leonards Park is alienated from general public use, and less about a particular dislike of the proposed turf cricket facility. Over 200 people attended 1 of 5 pop-up stalls held in the park (or in nearby Civic Centre Park), and 6 people attended a public workshop. While Concept Ideas 1 – 6 all received a minimum of 80% support, only 28% of people found Concept Idea 7: 'Provide 1st class cricket practice nets' appealing, while nearly ½ (48% found it unappealing).</p> <p>No change to Masterplan.</p>	N	2e	NA

Issue	Key Points Raised	Response	Recommend Plan be Amended Y or N	Criteria Code	Plan Page Number
55	<p>Organisations including Cricket NSW (supported by Cricket Australia) and the NSDCC noted that the draft Masterplan was generally well considered as it carefully balances the Park's many uses, but felt that it missed the opportunity to increase the amenity, safety and prestige of the park's sporting facilities by installing a permanent cricket net facility.</p> <p>They strongly advocated for construction of a turf net training facility adjoining the southern end of Bon Andrews Oval, to support the high level elite cricket content being played at NSO, and to ensure the Oval continued to attract elite competition into the future.</p> <p>Developing an eight lane turf practice facility at Bon Andrews Oval, fully funded by Australian Cricket/Cricket NSW, would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Align SLP with Cricket Australia's Tier 2 venue requirements - Attract more elite domestic and international cricket to SLP - Provide an essential training facility for elite NSW Cricket Teams and the NSDCC - Enhance the Park's sporting landscape and strengthen its position as a major sporting destination in NSW <p>The nets would also be a valuable asset to support the development of the local grade and representative cricket clubs.</p> <p>This area of the park (at the southern end of Bon Andrews Oval) is not regularly used by any particular group, and does not appear to experience a high quantity of foot traffic.</p>	<p>In consultation activities undertaken as part of the Masterplan process, the community indicated that the areas of the park (such as harbour view lawn) that do not appear to be heavily used are in fact some of the most highly valued. The unstructured nature of these open spaces means they are versatile, and able to accommodate people walking, jogging, dog walking, working with a personal trainer, having lunch, meeting a friend or just 'chilling' with a book.</p> <p>The value of the proposed training/warm-up facilities for elite level cricketers is appreciated, however any proposal requiring alienation of a substantial amount of the open parkland is not supported.</p> <p>Council is keen to continue discussions with organisations representing elite cricketers for the provision of training/warm up facilities generally within the existing envelope of organised sporting facilities at St Leonards Park.</p> <p>No change to Masterplan.</p>	N	2e	NA
56	<p>Currently, in order to provide training/warm-up facilities for elite level cricket fixtures occurring on North Sydney Oval, temporary nets are erected in the middle of Bon Andrews Oval. The NSDCC notes that this solution has a number of issues associated with it:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It can cause damage to the existing infrastructure and playing surface and is not a permanent solution - User safety issues (flying balls, trip hazards from ropes, stakes and pole sockets) - The temporary nets are not available for locals - The nets are left exposed to vandalism when erected 	<p>Council appreciates that the current system of installing temporary nets in the middle of Bon Andrews Oval to support first class cricket being played on North Sydney Oval is not ideal.</p> <p>See also response to Issue 55.</p> <p>No change to Masterplan.</p>	N	2e	NA

Issue	Key Points Raised	Response	Recommend Plan be Amended Y or N	Criteria Code	Plan Page Number
57	In addition to the immediate benefits that turf training nets will provide, they will elevate the SLP precinct to high performance cricket training status – providing an opportunity for the Park to become the home ground/ training base for the Sydney Sixers WBBL team. Cricket NSW and Cricket Australia look forward to working with Council to bring this to fruition.	Noted. See also response to Issue 55. No change to Masterplan.	N	2e	NA
58	In the long term, the NSDCC would like to see an indoor practice facility for elite cricketers considered in St Leonards Park.	St Leonards Park has no capacity (in terms of both heritage significance and size) to accommodate this type of facility. No change to Masterplan.	N	2e	NA
	PLAYGROUND & OTHER FACILITIES				
59	Love the extended play area.	Noted. No change to Masterplan.	N	2c	NA
60	The improvements to the playground will be very welcome.	Noted. No change to Masterplan.	N	2c	NA
61	Implement the Plan ASAP, especially the expanded playground and associated facilities as there has been a real baby boom in the immediate area around the park over the last couple of years together with a huge increase in kid's birthday parties in the park.	Noted. No change to Masterplan.	N	2c	NA
62	Great suggestions to upgrade the kids' adventure playground.	Noted. No change to Masterplan.	N	2c	NA
63	NSDJCC supports the proposed improvements to the toilet block. It is regularly used by junior cricketers, but is currently in a very poor state.	Noted. No change to Masterplan.	N	2c	NA
64	NSDJCC suggests installing an additional bubbler near the synthetic cricket nets and junior cricket lawn – for use during games and training.	Masterplan will be amended to incorporate this suggestion.	Y	1a	NA
65	Had you thought of including some public gym equipment? We recently tried equipment from The Great Outdoor gym company and it was great. If you didn't want to put them in St Leonards park another great location might be ANZAC park which is rarely used. The school would probably use the equipment as well?	Masterplan will be amended to show that fitness equipment will be incorporated into the new playground area.	Y	1a	NA

Issue	Key Points Raised	Response	Recommend Plan be Amended Y or N	Criteria Code	Plan Page Number
66	North Sydney Council generally should install more static exercise equipment in its parks to increase options for fitness and exercise - this should include St Leonards Park.	See response to Issue 65. Masterplan will be amended accordingly.	Y	1a	NA
67	While I find the boot camps and personal trainers in the park to be slight annoyance, I accept that they are now part of the regular users of the park and contribute to its activation. The Landscape Masterplan does not appear to be directing that use to specific parts of the park. Utilising artificial turf in the triangular section of the park between the Bowling Club and the Oval with some exercise equipment and bench seating would help to focus these activities within a particular area of the park.	The Masterplan does not advocate allocating a particular area of the park for personal trainers, although the Code of Conduct that personal trainers must sign in order to operate in the North Sydney LGA imposes some restrictions (for example with regard to not climbing on seats or attaching equipment to trees or operating on the Memorial surrounds). No change to Masterplan.	N	2e	NA
68	Ensure that all professional exercise groups and private schools pay for their use of the Park.	St Leonards Park is a public open space that is available to all. While some areas of the park may be hired to secure exclusive use (sports fields and courts, the Music Shell etc), other areas are available to all users on a first-come-first-served basis. Personal trainers working in North Sydney are required to register with Council, and to sign a Code of Conduct which regulates their behaviour. No change to Masterplan.	N	2e	NA
69	Suggest keep the current domain style manual seats as some are already in the Park (including memorial seats). Council uses the recycled plastic (timber-look) material to reduce maintenance requirements.	At the detailed design stage, more consideration will be given to seat styles. Types of seats nominated in Council's style manual will be used, unless there is a particular reason not to do so. No change to Masterplan.	N	2b	NA
	OPEN SPACE/ GREEN CHARACTER				
70	I suggest incorporating the Ridge Street lookout more into the park if possible.	This area is RMS land. As such, this suggestion is beyond the scope of the project. No change to Masterplan.	N	2a	NA
71	Increased "avenue" style planting will increase the Park's appeal. Low gardens around the perimeter should help define the park from the surrounds.	Noted. No change to Masterplan.	N	2c	NA

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72	Under no circumstances do I support the loss of public open space to further development, commercial activities or the exclusive use of private sport in St. Leonards Park. As residential densities increase, public parks become more important for community health and cohesion, regardless of the commercial opportunities their development present. Preservation and sensitive development of the character and assets of the local area is what local governments are elected to do, and this is what rates are paid for. Your constituents do NOT measure your effectiveness by business metrics. We are a community, and you are the custodians of our property for future generations. It is not about you. It is not even about us. It is about them.	Noted. No change to Masterplan.	N	2c	NA
73	We really need facilities, so much focus on kids being active but you need "space" and facilities to be active. North Sydney is so inviting a really beautiful venue. Let's get outdoor enjoy what we have!!	Noted. No change to Masterplan.	N	2c	NA
74	The only concern to me is the proposed use of palm trees - they seem to be completely out of keeping with the rest of the vegetation in the park and I strongly feel will detract from the overall appeal to the public - certainly for this member of the public. I feel there must be more appropriate trees, preferably native trees, that could be used in their place. Hopefully you will take this on board.	The Masterplan proposes to strengthen the existing avenue of palm trees connecting the Memorial to the Tunks Fountain. There are a number of palm trees already in the park, including in this avenue, and palms are an appropriate planting type, typically found in Victorian-era parks. No change to the Masterplan.	N	2e	NA
75	Please don't plant fig trees above the cricket nets, as they drop leaves too much onto them.	No additional fig trees are planned for this location. No change to Masterplan.	N	2b	NA
76	Fig Trees Central Avenue – the Masterplan advocates further Fig Tree planting on the eastern side of the path outside the North Sydney Oval wall. There are a couple of issues with this: 1 – a 280,000 ltr irrigation tank is underground here. Would need to seek expert advice about whether the Figs could potentially damage the tank. 2 – the turf here is used for sport by local schools, personal trainers, clubs etc. Planting Figs will reduce the ability to grow turf in this area. We believe it will eventually remove close to ½ the turf when the trees are mature.	The concept of completing this avenue as illustrated in the Masterplan is an important component of the overall design for the park. During the detailed design stage of the project, the precise location of irrigation tank will be determined, and any issues relating to its location will be addressed. Comments re the turf are noted – see response to Issue 77. No change to the Masterplan.	N	2b	NA

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77	Council staff working in the park believe that consideration should be given to providing some extra space to play on the harbour view lawn. Staff currently find it difficult to keep a good quality turf sward in some areas of the park due to high use – this could help spread the load. It would also counteract loss of green open space due to installation of garden beds in other parts of the park. The area would need irrigation.	The Masterplan will be amended to indicate an area of the harbour view lawn will be graded to create a level area at the base of the embankment below the netball courts. Note that a number of the mounds and undulations that exist in this area, and which provide variety and interest will be retained). This will make the harbour view lawn area more useful to groups picnicking, people playing informal sport and games, and large gatherings on New Year's Eve.	Y	1d	NA
	ONGOING MANAGEMENT & MAINTENANCE				
78	Ensure the grassed areas are well maintained. They seem to get worn away by over-use by schools.	It is appreciated that proposed changes to the park such as construction of new garden beds will lead to changes in future maintenance regimes. Issues relating to maintenance and ongoing management of the park be dealt with as and when the new works are undertaken. No change to Masterplan.	N	2b	NA
79	Most of the Park is not irrigated automatically. Much of it is managed by moving hoses. For the future intensification of use, this is recommended.	See response to Issue 78. No change to Masterplan.	N	2b	NA
80	South West Entrance (near War Memorial): Realigning the path and installing gardens along the North Sydney Oval wall will reduce the amount of turf here – this area is highly used by schools and personal trainers. The turf in this area is irrigated, so any changes will mean the irrigation system must be adjusted accordingly.	See response to Issue 78. No change to Masterplan.	N	2b	NA
81	There are lots of extra garden areas proposed for the Park, this would mean increased maintenance requirements. All garden areas should be irrigated where possible. All irrigated turf areas should receive a minor reconstruction (re-turfing), including the incorporation of a better growing medium and removing the weed species currently in place.	See response to Issue 78. No change to Masterplan.	N	2b	NA