



WAVERLEY  
COUNCIL

An aerial site plan of Waverley Park Play Space. The plan shows a central paved area with various play equipment including slides, climbing structures, and circular play zones. There are also green spaces, paths, and a brick building. The plan is overlaid with a blue semi-transparent box containing the title text.

# Consultation report Waverley Park Play Space 2022

Waverley Council acknowledges the Bidjigal and Gadigal people, who traditionally occupied the Sydney Coast and we acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders both past and present.

## Contents

Executive summary.....	2
Background.....	3
Engagement methodology, objectives and data overview .....	3
Survey .....	5
Written submissions.....	6
Stakeholder meetings.....	6
Bondi Heights Precinct meeting .....	6
Charing Cross Precinct Meeting.....	8
Online workshop.....	10
Next steps .....	11
Appendix A – letter and distribution map.....	12
Appendix B – social media posts .....	13
Appendix C – enews .....	14
Appendix F – posters .....	15

## Executive summary

This report summaries the second round of community consultation for the Waverley Park play space upgrade. It was open between 5 August to 4 September 2022.

The first engagement was carried out as part of the Waverley Park Plan of Management at the end of 2021. The feedback gathered from stage 1, advised Council on the types of play experiences people preferred and the community's appetite to expand the footprint of the paly space, restore the Rocket, provide a parallel Launch Tower and to include intergenerational play and fitness activities. From this, a concept design was developed.

Council officers used a range of methods to maximise opportunities for community participation. Among the normal communications tactics, key stakeholders were contacted directly to provide feedback and overall, there were around 2073 engagements with the process.

There were 82 responses to the survey, five face to face opportunities (including three online) and six people who emailed their written submission.

Overall, there was resounding support for the design presented by Council and, from the community feedback, it is recommended to continue to the next stage of the process.

## Background

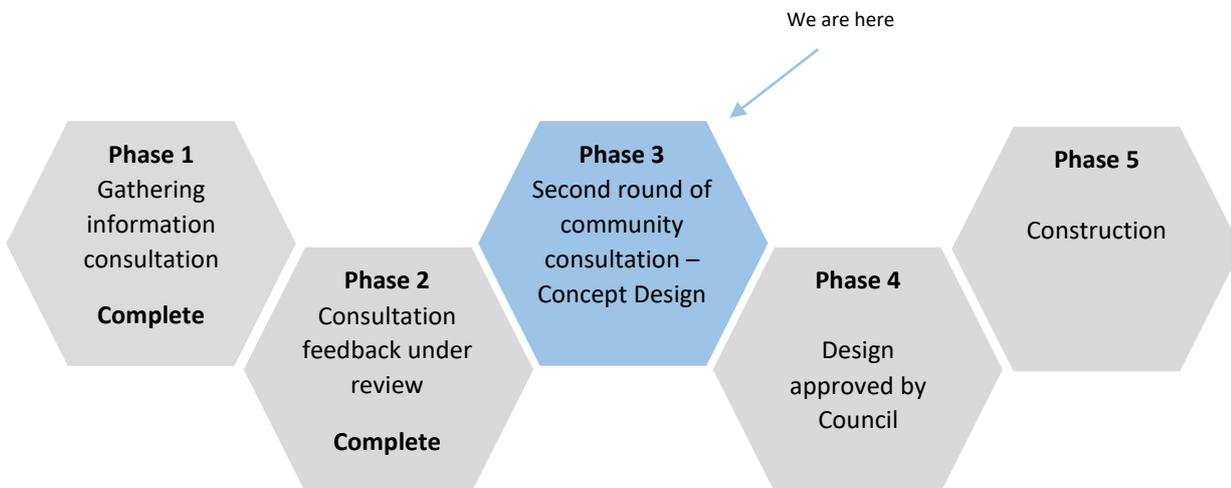
The Waverley Park Play Space needs to be upgraded and Waverley Council received a grant from the NSW Government’s Public Spaces Legacy Program for \$1.4million allocated to fund Stage 1 to be built in 2023.

This was the second round of community consultation on the play space. The first, was part of the Waverley Park Plan of Management at the end of 2021. This initial feedback was used to guide the development of the new play space concept design.

The concept design shown to the community in second round of consultation included a:

- New Rocketship and launch control play tower
- Accessible and inclusive play options throughout the entire concept design
- Active play areas (swings, spinners and see-saw)
- Toddler play area (combination play unit, rockers, picnic setting and seating)
- Nature/adventure and sensory play areas (rope climbing, balancing, water play and musical equipment)
- Two embankment slides (one large and one accessible)
- Accessible picnic area with tables, BBQ and bubbler
- Accessible intergenerational fitness area (aimed at senior’s health and wellbeing)
- The play space upgrade restores the historical footprint of the original playground and enhances the existing open space for our all to enjoy.

The play space will be upgraded to a district level play space catering to all visitors as identified in Waverley Council’s Play Space Strategy, Inclusive Play Space Study and Waverley Plan of Management.



## Engagement methodology, objectives and data overview

In this consultation, the concept design included the change to size, age range (toddlers to early teens) and the types of play including accessible and inclusive experiences.

The space reflected community feedback and expanded the equipment under the trees for nature and wild play and an adventure climbing area for older kids.

This consultation was 5 August to 4 September 2022. The objectives were:

- To gauge whether the design reflects the community’s feedback from the first consultation

- Work with the community to refine the specific play areas to suit

The engagement methodology used for this second phase consultation aligned with IAP2 spectrum for public participation.

A range of methods were used to maximise opportunities for community participation. Key stakeholders were contacted by Council officers to participate. They included previous participants, precincts, industry experts and over 10,000 residents. Overall, there were around 2073 people who engaged with the process. The tactics used and their results are detailed in the table.

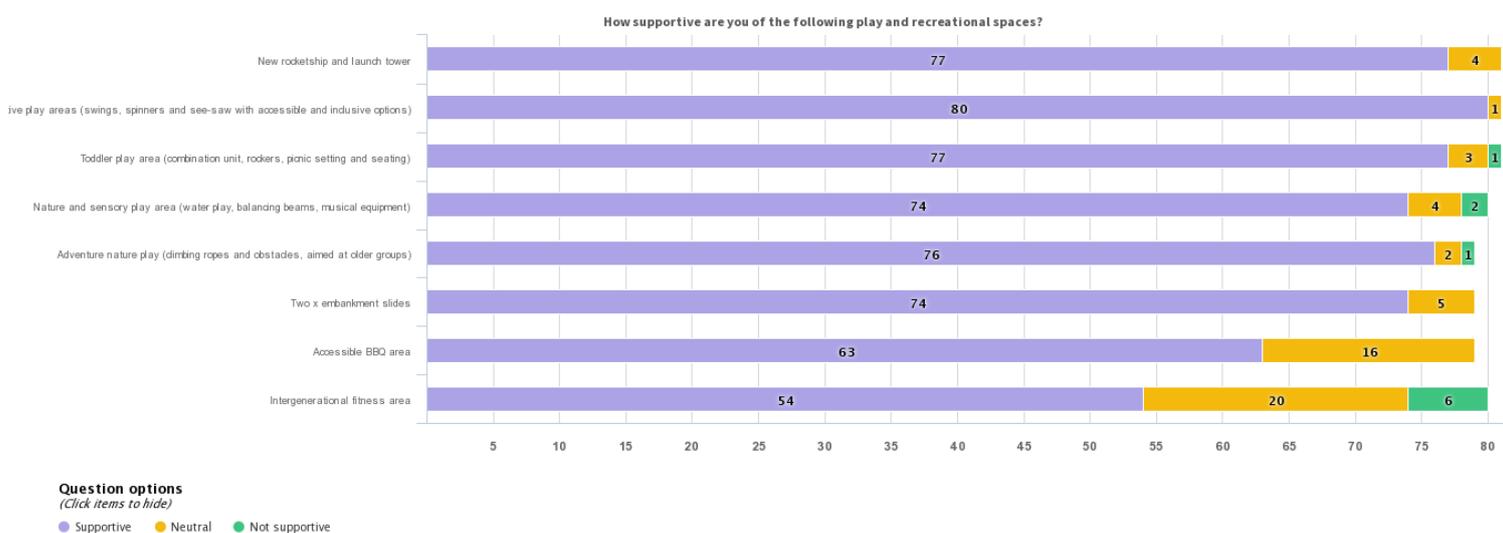
Method	Overview	Date	Response
<b>Have Your Say website</b>	Council's Have Your Say Waverley website had a dedicated page for this project:	5 Aug to 4 Sept	1.2k visitors to the page
<b>Letter</b>	800m radius - dropped to 10,000 residents (appendix a)	w/c 5 Aug	117 scans of QR code
<b>Media release</b>	Distributed at the beginning of the project	w/c 5 Aug	
<b>Social media posts (Facebook)</b>	Post 1: Launch of consultation Post 2: Explaining the reproduction of the rocket (appendix b)	12 August 15 August	8654 total reach  207 total engagements
<b>Social media posts (Instagram)</b>	Post 1: Launch of consultation Post 2: Explaining the reproduction of the rocket (appendix b)	11 August 17 August	3975 total reach 220 likes 20 comments
<b>Online info session</b>	There were two people who attended the online info session. They spoke with Council officers of 1hr 15 min.	17 August	2 people attended
<b>Have Your Say Days</b>	There were two have your say days held on site at Waverley Park	13 August 21 August	40+ people spoke to 23 surveys completed
<b>Waverley Weekly newsletter</b>	Explained the project and directed people to the HYS page (appendix c)	11 August	243 clicks
<b>Engagement newsletter</b>	1: Broad enews sent to 7306 people (appendix c) 2: specific enews sent to previous participants of Waverley PoM	16 August  10 August	59.8% opened the enews 348 clicks
<b>Posters</b>	Posters were installed around the park with QR codes to the HYS site.	w/c 5 August	24 QR code scans

## Survey

There were 82 people who participated in the survey on Have Your Say. Of the participants, the goal of the survey was to find out:

- Support for the specific play and recreational spaces
- General support for the space as a whole
- Support for recreating the rocket
- If there was anything else they wanted to add.

All the proposed play and recreational spaces had over 88% support with active play receiving the most support (96%). The two with the least support were the accessible BBQ area with 75% and the intergenerational fitness area with 65% support, 24% neutral and 7% not supportive.



75% said they were supportive of the design, 25% they were supportive but wanted a few changes including:

- A skatepark (3 people)
- Outdoor tennis table (2 people)
- Flying fox (2 people)
- Improve the cricket nets (2 people)

92% were supportive of recreating the Rocketship. 51 participants took the opportunity to add any further comment. Nine people commented they really liked the design and three wanted a skatepark.

## Written submissions

Six people submitted submissions via email. Of the submissions five were supportive of the design and one was neutral.

There main points were:

Topic	Question /comment (number of respondents)	Council Response
Support the concept Design	Like the design (5)	Noted No changes required to design
Intergernational Connection to place	Family has a historical connection to the playground over several generations and supports the upgrade (1)	Noted No changes required to design
Tree protection	Wanted to make sure the trees were maintained (1)	Works around trees will be supervised by Arborist as part of the construction works. No changes required to design
Variety of play experiences	Likes the variety of spaces indicated in the proposal (1)	Noted No changes required to design
Café	Wants to have the café reopened (1)	Separate EOI process to this project. No changes required to design
Play Equipment Ideas	Climbing nets An enclosed slide	These elements have been considered in the design: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climbing style net access is provide in the Launch Tower to access the top deck</li> <li>• More climbing nets and climbing equipment will be part of the adventure play / nature play area.</li> <li>• The Launch Tower main slide is a fully enclosed slide.</li> </ul>

## Stakeholder meetings

### Bondi Heights Precinct meeting

7pm 1 August

Topic	Question /comment	Council Response
Accessibility	Great to see an inclusive play space, as opposed to Barrcluff	Noted No changes required to design
Construction	How are you going to manage the movement of heavy vehicles through the park	Works will need to be contained within the fenced work area and larger vehicles are likely to access the site via park entrance on the corner of Birrell St and Parks Drive. Contractors will be responsible for safe movement of construction vehicles through the park escorting vehicles into the site with traffic controllers. The remainder of the park will remain open for public use and

		<p>access particularly the shared path will remain open.</p> <p>No changes required to design.</p> <p>Noted to form part of Traffic and Pedestrian Management Plan for the construction contract.</p>
	When is it going to be finished	<p>We are aiming to start construction in Feb 2023 and be completed in the middle of the year assuming we get positive support from the community on the concept design.</p>
<b>The rocket</b>	If the rocket is coming on a crane, it should be publicised. Council should invite local schools to come and watch the spectacle of the large crane lifting the rocket into place.	<p>Not sure of the construction methodology for the Rocket just yet. Given issues accessing the site it may come in smaller pieces to be assembled onsite rather than one large rocket – TBC with fabrication and construction teams.</p>
	Love it. Good to see the rocket being used (reproduction).	<p>Noted</p> <p>No changes required to design.</p>
	Points raised about the rocket missing the top-level deck like the original and was worried if this would affect the structural stability.	<p>The top deck needed to be removed in the new design to meet current playground safety standards as it creates an enclosed space at the top of the structure that would be difficult to access in the event of an emergency.</p> <p>No changes required to design.</p>
	What is happening with the old rocket	<p>The rocket will have to be removed from site as we can no longer get structural certification for it to stay. We looked at options to repurpose the rocket, however, it is in such a bad state that it would represent an ongoing public liability issue if it were to remain in the park. We are looking at documenting the rocket's history and salvaging the original 'Dick West' fabrication identification plate for our local history library and will include interpretation signage of the rocket with our new play space signage.</p>
	The rocket is a heritage item	<p>The rocket is not a listed heritage item unlike other items in the park like the war memorial. The whole park has a Local Landscape Heritage Conversation area listing, the intent of which is to ensure the parkland and landscape character and historical uses are retained which is covered in both the Waverley PoM 2009 and the current Draft PoM. The playground is already a complying development under the Waverley PoM 2009 and supports the continued historical uses of the park</p>
	Can the old rocket be donated to the Powerhouse Museum	<p>Council was approached by Powerhouse Museum in 2018 to see if they could borrow and restore or have our rocket for an exhibition. However, after inspecting the poor condition of the rocket they politely withdrew their request.</p>
<b>Picnic area</b>	How many picnic tables will there be, at the moment there is only two?	<p>There will be three accessible picnic tables with the new accessible BBQs. Two picnic tables down on the grass accessible off the footpath to Margaret Whitlam Centre (MWC) and we are proposing three picnic setting on the open grass</p>

		terrace above MWC to take advantage of the fabulous view to the coast and soak up the sun. We want to provide users with choice of where they'd like to sit and picnic.
	Will taps be included	We can review the need for taps and potential locations, but we will be providing new accessible water bubblers in the play space and picnic area.
	Need to be mindful that alcohol is a problem at night and the residents will cop the noise	Acknowledge these issues around anti-social behaviour have been raised in the Waverley Park PoM. We have upgraded lighting down the main shared path and will be upgrading lighting as part of the play space and picnic area upgrades. There have also recently been CCTV cameras installed as part of a security upgrade in different locations around the park.
<b>Embankment</b>	Participant reminisced over sliding down the grass hill on cardboard when he was growing and wanted to know if we could capture more of the embankment inside the fence line to encourage more of that type of free spirited play.	Unfortunately, the embankment is within the Sate Heritage Listed curtilage of the Reservoir and it's unlikely we'd get permission from NSW Heritage for any other additional structures or fences up on the embankment due to visual impacts. Sydney Water owns the asset, and the Dam Safety Committee would reject any activities on the embankment that might cause erosion and destabilise the slope.
<b>Café</b>	Is the WMRC cafe opening again	A tender was issued seeking interested business to apply and that is still being assessed. However, once the playground is built it will certainly make the business more viable particularly during the slower mid-week times.
<b>Footprint</b>	Is this covering an area larger than the current total footprint? I am sick of Council putting hard surfaces in the park. It is becoming a sporting park and not a passive park.	The play space is expanding in size back to its original footprint and some areas are expanding under the adjoining trees. The increase in size to cater for a district level play space was consulted and adopted in Council's Play Space Strategy and Waverley PoM 2009. We checked back in with the community on the first stage of consultation that they still supported this direction and received overwhelming support. The play space will require some areas of pavement and rubber softfall to ensure the space is accessible for everyone in the community including those with mobility issues. Council is committed to improving equity of access to all our facilities.

## Charing Cross Precinct Meeting

Wednesday 10 August 2022 – 14 participants

Topic	Question / comment	Answer
Design Precident	Why not copy the playground in Queens Park on perimeter of Darly Rd	Each of our playgrounds are designed based on feedback from community consultation on their needs and suitability to the site they are installed into. Queens Park is a much smaller play space on a flat site with a limited age range targeting preschool to primary school aged children. Waverley Park play space in on a sloped site with lots of existing trees to work around and the age range much greater from toddler to pre-teen.
Rocket	Do we need the rocket?	We asked the community and they came back with 86% supportive
Consultation	How many in numbers not % participated in the survey last time?	96 people provided feedback on the survey last time
Footprint	How much bigger will it be?	We are restoring the original footprint from the 80's playground. It is a district level playground.
	Why not keep the playground small as it now?	We need to cater for an increased demand for our cohort. It aligns with our Play Space Study. We give people choice and variety across the Waverley Local Government Area. Waverley Park is suitable for this sized play space and has existing facilities such as toilets and a kiosk to support vistors who will want to stay longer at this type of facility.
District level play space	What do you mean about District level play space	It catchment is 1km (15 – 20min walk) from the play space. It caters for up to 65 people who will spend on average 1 to 2hrs at the play space. The age range is much broader catering from toddlers to pre-teens and therefore the number of play expreicnes and equipment on offer is expanded requiring more space to accommodate all the facilities. Bondi is regional, Waverley sits underneath that as a District level, there is a neighbourhood park which is smaller, then pocket park is smaller than that.
Indoor cricket facility	Is the indoor cricket facility going to be built to the south of this? Every Saturday all the fields are full, and the children's playground is fine. We don't want the closed cricket facility.	We are not building the Indoor Cricket Facility on top of MWRC anymore.
Green space	Is there an opportunity for people make their own play in a park? Does there have to be so much equipment provided to people? We will be losing our green space.	Waverley Park contains a significant proption of unprogrammed passive recreation space particularly around the hilltop areas. There is nothing preventing able bodied users from accessing and playing in these spaces. However, we also need to cater for other people's needs in our community including those who are mobility

		challenged. An inclusive play space provide a safe play environment that everyone in our community can access and enjoy.
--	--	--

## Online workshop

12pm – 1pm 17 August, – two participants

Topic	Question / comment	Answer
<b>Intergenerational fitness station</b>	Does the intergenerational fitness station include PTs	The intergenerational space is a very different type of exercise aimed at Seniors exercise for mental health and wellbeing, aiding in fall prevention and reghabilitation, improving strength, balance, agility, dexterity, coordination and cognitive function.  Commercial activities at our outdoor fitness stations are prohibited.
<b>Budget and staging</b>	Three phase process will feel like it is constantly under construction. Our Council who they pay rates to haven't funded this? It is very disappointing. The play space strategy was developed 9 years ago. We have waited a long time for this park, to still have it as staged is incredibly disappointing. Make space in the budget.	Council's income has reduced significantly throughout the Covid-19 pandemic and therefore we need to be financially prudent and balance our spending across all activities and services Council provides like playground upgrade works and community programs. It is a balancing act. We will aim to secure additional funding for at least stage 1 and stage 2. But stage 3 may have to be delayed. We will report funding options back to Council for consideration.
	How do we advocate to get this done?	Speak at council, send the link to participants.
<b>Materials</b>	Materials and colours - for heat and rust issues?	We use robust materials or higher quality paint coatings on the steel or use stainless steel to suite the exposure to coastal conditions. We use neutral or natural colours to complement the design.
	Doesn't want metal materials in playground. Metal on slides can burn. Barracluff materials on the slide and centennial park makes it less stressful for a parent	For slides, particularly stainless steel slides, we ensure these are either under shade and / or face south to limit exposure to the hot midday sun. In the toddler area we will look at using a plastic slide.
	Wants an environment where kids can take risks but be safe. – materials are important	The playground and equipment are designed to meet current Australian playground safety standards amd we undertake play safety audits biannually.
<b>Shade</b>	Will it be in full sun?	It a balancing act to ensure appropriate solar access to the space to have shade insummer and sun in winter. We are fortunate to have existing mature trees which already provide adequate shade over the playspace. The toddler play space in particular has been located unde the shade of a large tree. We
	Will there be a shade cloth?	

		also need to be mindful not to impact the views up to the heritage listed water tower.
Embankment slide	How much shorter is the embankment slide? The size of the slide is iconic	Currently 13 1/2 m long coming down to 7m, slightly longer than the one at Dickson. Would love to put in a double barrelled slide but it all comes back to cost.
	Will it have scramble rocks up to it (embankment slide)	There will be options. Steps or scramble rocks.
Fencing	Will there be fencing?	There is fencing around the entire play space
	As a parent of a child with autism, thank you for the fencing.	
Dogs	Is there anything you could do to defer dog owners from using the nature park area	We will look at that options including signage, perimeter planting and our low garden fence along the boundary of this space.

## Next steps

All feedback received has been considered by the project team and Council officers. This report will be attached to a report presented to Councillors.

With the overwhelming support shown for all areas of the concept design it is recommended to continue to the next step for Councillor approval.

# Appendix A – letter and distribution map



Waverley Council  
 PO Box 9, Bondi Junction NSW 1355  
 DX 12006, Bondi Junction  
 Customer Service Centre  
 55 Spring Street, Bondi Junction NSW 2022  
 ABN: 12 502 583 808

Our ref: A21/0103  
 5 August 2022

[Title Firstname Surname]  
 [Position]  
 [Company]  
 [Address]  
 [SUBURB] NSW [Post Code]

**Re: Waverley Park Play Space**

Waverley Council is upgrading the play space and picnic area at Waverley Park.  
 After consulting the community on the Draft Waverley Park Plan of Management at the end of 2021, we have used the feedback to create a concept design for the play space and picnic area.  
 The community supported the upgrade to increase the size, age range (toddlers to early teens) and expand the types of play experiences.  
 The proposed concept design reflects the community's feedback by including things like restoring the historically larger footprint, moving into areas under the trees for nature, adventure and wild play, providing upgrades to the picnic area and creating an accessible and inclusive facility to cater for everyone in the community.

**The concept design includes:**

- New rocketship and launch control play tower
- Accessible and inclusive play options throughout the entire concept design
- Active play areas (swings, spinners and see-saw)
- Toddler play area (combination play unit, rockers, picnic setting and seating)
- Nature / adventure and sensory play areas (rope climbing, balancing, water play and musical equipment)
- Two x embankment slides (one large and once accessible)
- Accessible picnic area with tables, BBQ and bubbler
- Accessible intergenerational fitness area (aimed at seniors health and wellbeing)

This play space achieves Waverley's vision as identified in Waverley Council's Play Space Strategy, Inclusive Play Space Study and Waverley Park Plan of Management.

**How can I be involved?**

Consultation with the community is fundamental to the success of the upgrade, and we want to hear your feedback on the concept design to make sure we get it right. Submissions close 4 September 2022.

To find out more about the project and have your say, please visit our project page and fill out an online survey at: [haveyoursaywaverley.nsw.gov.au/waverley-play-space-upgrade](https://haveyoursaywaverley.nsw.gov.au/waverley-play-space-upgrade) or scan the QR code



Contact us  
 9083 8000  
[info@waverley.nsw.gov.au](mailto:info@waverley.nsw.gov.au)  
[waverley.nsw.gov.au](http://waverley.nsw.gov.au)

Connect with us  
[whatsowaverley](https://www.facebook.com/whatsowaverley)  
[waverleycouncil](https://twitter.com/waverleycouncil)

Contact us  
 9083 8000  
[info@waverley.nsw.gov.au](mailto:info@waverley.nsw.gov.au)  
[waverley.nsw.gov.au](http://waverley.nsw.gov.au)

Connect with us  
[whatsowaverley](https://www.facebook.com/whatsowaverley)  
[waverleycouncil](https://twitter.com/waverleycouncil)



Waverley Council  
 PO Box 9, Bondi Junction NSW 1355  
 DX 12006, Bondi Junction  
 Customer Service Centre  
 55 Spring Street, Bondi Junction NSW 2022  
 ABN: 12 502 583 808

You can also provide feedback in person at the following times and locations:

**Charing Cross Precinct Meeting**

Wednesday 10 August, 7pm – 8pm  
 (online meeting - registration essential by emailing [charingcrossprecinct@gmail.com](mailto:charingcrossprecinct@gmail.com))

**Have Your Say Day in the Playground!**

Saturday 13 August, 9am – 12pm  
 Waverley Park Play Space

**Online information session**

Wednesday 17 August, 12pm – 1pm  
 (online registration essential, link available on the have your say page)

**Have Your Say Day in the Playground!**

Sunday 21, 9am – 12pm  
 Waverley Park Play Space

We look forward to hearing your feedback!

Carl Nugent  
 Service Manager Open Space and Recreation  
 Waverley Council  
[openspaceplanning@waverley.nsw.gov.au](mailto:openspaceplanning@waverley.nsw.gov.au)



# Appendix B – social media posts

**Waverley Council**  
Published by Sprout Social · 15 August at 11:07 · 🌐

This is the new rocket and launch tower proposed for Waverley Park Play Space.  
What do you think? Let us know by filling in a quick survey or join us on Wednesday 17 August at 12pm for an online info session.  
Registration essential via <https://bit.ly/3JAq7sE>



**Waverley Council**  
Published by Sprout Social · 12 August at 10:22 · 🌐

Consultation is now open for Waverley Park Play Space, check out the new rocketship and launch control play tower, swings, toddler play area, nature and adventure play and two embankment slides. Fill in a quick survey to provide feedback: <https://bit.ly/3JAq7sE>



## Instagram

**waverleycouncil**



waverleycouncil Consultation is now open for Waverley Park Play Space, check out the new rocketship ... more

## Instagram

**waverleycouncil**



waverleycouncil This is the new rocket and launch tower proposed for Waverley Park Play Space. ... more

# Appendix C – enews



## Waverley Park Play Space open for feedback

A new rocketship and launch control climbing tower, two embankment slides, swings, spinners, a see-saw with accessible and inclusive options, toddler, adventure, music and small water play areas, accessible BBQ and picnic tables and an intergenerational fitness area. It's got it all! Let us know what you think!

[MORE](#)



### [Waverley Park Play Space open for round 2 consultation](#)

Thank you for participating in the consultation for the Waverley Park Plan of Management at the end of 2021, we have used the feedback you provided to create a concept design for the play space and picnic area.

The concept design includes:

- New rocketship and launch control play tower
- Accessible and inclusive play options throughout the entire concept design
- Active play areas (swings, spinners and see-saw)
- Toddler play area (combination play unit, rockers, picnic setting and seating)
- Nature / adventure and sensory play areas (rope climbing, balancing, water play and musical equipment)
- Two x embankment slides (one large and once accessible)
- Accessible picnic area with tables, BBQ and bubbler
- Accessible intergenerational fitness area (aimed at seniors health and wellbeing)

Consultation is open until 4 September 2022. There are lots of ways to get involved including

[Filling the in survey](#) or [attending on of the in-person opportunities below](#)

- **Have Your Say Day in the Playground!** Saturday 13 August, 9am – 12pm at Waverley Park Play Space
- **Online information session** Wednesday 17 August, 12pm – 1pm (online registration essential, link available on the have your say page)
- **Have Your Say Day in the Playground!** Sunday 21, 9am – 12pm at Waverley Park Play Space

We look forward to hearing your feedback!

Open spaces team.



## PROJECTS OPEN FOR COMMUNITY INPUT

- We are changing the guidelines Development Applications are assessed against - provide feedback on the updated [Waverley Development Control Plan](#) by 19 September.
- [Public notice](#): Proposal by Council to grant three Licences to Transdev John Holland Buses (NSW) Pty Ltd for access to a toilet facility and meal room for use of bus drivers and supervisors by transport operator staff. Submissions open until 2 September.
- We are inviting the community to have its say about our new [draft Inter-War Flat Building Design Guidelines](#) to help protect, maintain and modify our wonderful Inter-War residential flat building heritage. Open until 19 September.
- After consulting the community on the draft Waverley Park PoM at the end of 2021 we have used the feedback to create a concept design for [Waverley Park play space](#) and picnic area. Provide feedback by 4 September.
- Applications for the next round of [Waverley Artist Studios](#) close on Sunday 25 September 2022 for the studio residency period of 1 March 2023 - 28 February 2024. Apply today!

## Appendix F – posters

### Panels installed around Waverley Park



