



LM Graham Reserve – Sports Amenities Upgrade Community Engagement Report - January 2019

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1 Background

LM Graham Reserve, in Odawara Close Fairlight includes two and a half soccer pitches, a cricket pitch and basketball court. It also has an off-leash dog area, amenities block and kiosk, groundsmen shed and plant building for the adjacent swimming pool.

The proposal is to demolish the current amenities building in the south of the reserve (near Balgowlah Road) and to extend the existing co-generation plant building to incorporate

- expanded change rooms
- separate male, female and accessible toilets
- additional sports storage
- expanded canteen/kiosk

2 Community engagement approach

The feedback period for this project was from 13 October to 11 November 2018.

The engagement was designed to allow residents, visitors to the reserve and anyone interested in the project to provide comments on the proposed amenities upgrade.

The engagement approach utilised the following tools -

- Webpage - a Your Say page was created with an online feedback form to provide the community with the opportunity to comment on the proposed amenities upgrade.
- Manly Daily advertisement - the project was advertised in the Manly Daily on 13, 20 and 27 October 2018.
- Community engagement newsletter - promoted in the Community Engagement bulk email on 19 October and 2 November 2018.
- Stakeholder meetings - Council staff met with members of dog groups and sporting clubs to understand the requirements of the user groups.
- Face to face sessions – drop-in sessions were held onsite on 17 and 27 October 2018.



3 Community feedback

The Your Say page received 494 visits, 35 submissions and 252 document downloads during the feedback period. The comments have been summarised in the table below.

Several submissions spoke about more than one topic and have been separated by subject in the table.

4 Next Steps

Comments will be reviewed and considered when preparing the final design prior to proceeding to tender with the finalised plans.



5 Appendices

Appendix I

Community Comments

Subject	No of comments	Summary	Council response
Amenities	12	support the upgrade of amenities building	Noted
	10	build a 2 storey building rather than extension to existing facility	Construction of a 2nd story is not required. The key objectives of the project include, expanded change rooms, separate male, female and accessible toilets, additional sports storage and expanded canteen/kiosk. These objectives are best serviced at ground level to facilitate usability.
	6	oppose need for new amenities or suggest a different location for new building	Alternate locations were considered however it was determined that extending the existing cogeneration building was the most suitable solution.
	1	new amenities in plan are not big enough	The current proposal meets the objectives of the sporting stakeholders and reserve users.
Reserve - general	5	recreational area is too small/the reserve is currently too congested	LM Graham Reserve is public open space used for both recreational and sporting uses. The current proposal will have positive benefits for all users. The proposed building extension works require a small additional area to facilitate the new awning and pathway. The removal/demolition of the old building (Balgowlah Rd) and returfing will increase the total recreational turf area within the reserve by approx. 300m2. "opening up the southern end of the reserve for all users."
	2	entire space should be reverted back to	As above



		open space/expand open space	
Sports Fields	5	people should be allowed on sporting fields when not in use	The sports field is available for casual sporting use when sport is not formally being played.
	4	too much space is dedicated to sports fields, particularly cricket, when many more people use the dog exercise area	This will be considered as part of the review of the Urban Dog Management Policy.
	3	fence around fields needs repairing	The plastic picket fence is progressively being upgraded to steel fencing.
Dogs	14	objection to any reduction in dog off lead area/off lead area should be increased	The total off-leash dog area within LM Graham Reserve is proposed to increase by approx. 300m ² with the removal of the existing amenities on southern side.
	2	ensure off lead area is fenced off to separate further from the sports fields, toilets and kiosk	Regulatory and etiquette signage is proposed adjacent to the amenities and canteen to advise dog owners of their responsibilities under the Companion Animals Act 1998.
	1	install tap to wash dogs	Dog washing is not being considered for the reserve.



Grass/turf	8	path around perimeter of park is very degraded due to high use and the dirt turns to mud in the rain - in need of ongoing maintenance/path should be constructed in gravel, concrete	A hard surface perimeter circuit pathway would reduce the wear on the grass around the reserve. This initiative is currently unfunded and will need to be considered for funding on Councils' forward works program.
	1	reserve in general need of maintenance	Council will continue to regularly maintain all the existing facilities within the reserve.
Other comments - outside of project scope			
Swimming pool	2	problems with design, parking	Parking is in high demand. Traffic and parking issues are ongoing and are being managed by Councils Roads and Transport team.
Parking issues	3	Kenneth St busy, dangerous and parking should be parallel	Parking is in high demand. Traffic and parking issues are ongoing and are being managed by Councils Roads and Transport team.
Manly oval	6	now that the car park project isn't going ahead, why can't cricket go back there?	Cricket has been played at LM Graham Reserve for many years. Northern Beaches Council adopted the 2017 Sportsground Strategy which identifies a significant shortfall in the provision of sports fields. All sports fields are allocated for sporting use at their maximum potential to help satisfy the increasing demand for access to sporting facilities throughout the Northern Beaches.
Round House	2	need for fence and evacuation plan	The fence realignment and adjustments to facilitate evacuation plan for the Roundhouse Long Day Care Centre are planned to be completed before July 2019.



Masterplan	2	what happened to it?	<p>The LM Graham Reserve Masterplan was adopted by Council in 2011.</p> <p>A draft updated LM Graham Masterplan was prepared in early 2016, however this updated draft plan has not been finalised.</p> <p>A master plan is a high level plan, indicating what is possible on the sporting reserve site, it is not a final indicator of the exact location of facilities. A masterplan guides the implementation of sporting facilities over time.</p>
Sporting clubs	1	should move out of reserve	<p>Sports fields in the Northern Beaches are in high demand. NBC adopted the 2017 Sportsground Strategy which identifies a significant shortfall in the provision of sports fields.</p>
Trees	4	protect, maintain existing trees/increase number of trees in reserve	<p>Council is always looking for places to plant new trees. Council will be planting trees to replace the trees that have died over the last few years. Tree guards will be installed to help protect them during establishment.</p>
Expense	1	too much money spent on this reserve already	<p>Council allocates funding based on the needs of the community for the delivery of services.</p>

Table 1 – Comments summarised by subject



Appendix II

Advertising and Promotion

Manly Daily News: 12, 20 and 27 October 2018

LM Graham Reserve, Fairlight - sports amenities upgrade

We're proposing to extend an existing building to include toilets, change rooms and storage space.

Find out more at a drop-in session on-site:

- Wed 17 Oct, 3 - 5pm
 - Sat 27 Oct, 9 - 11am
- Comments close: Sun 11 Nov

Community Engagement Email 19 October and 2 November 2018

LM Graham Reserve - Sports Amenities upgrade

We are looking at upgrading the amenities at LM Graham Reserve by extending an existing building to include toilets, change rooms and storage space.

Come to a drop-in session to view the plans and talk with the team.

- LM Graham Reserve, Odawara Close, Fairlight - Sat 27 Oct, 9-11am

Comments close Sun 11 Nov