

Cambridge Reserve – Community Engagement Findings and Outcomes Report

Surveys

Overview

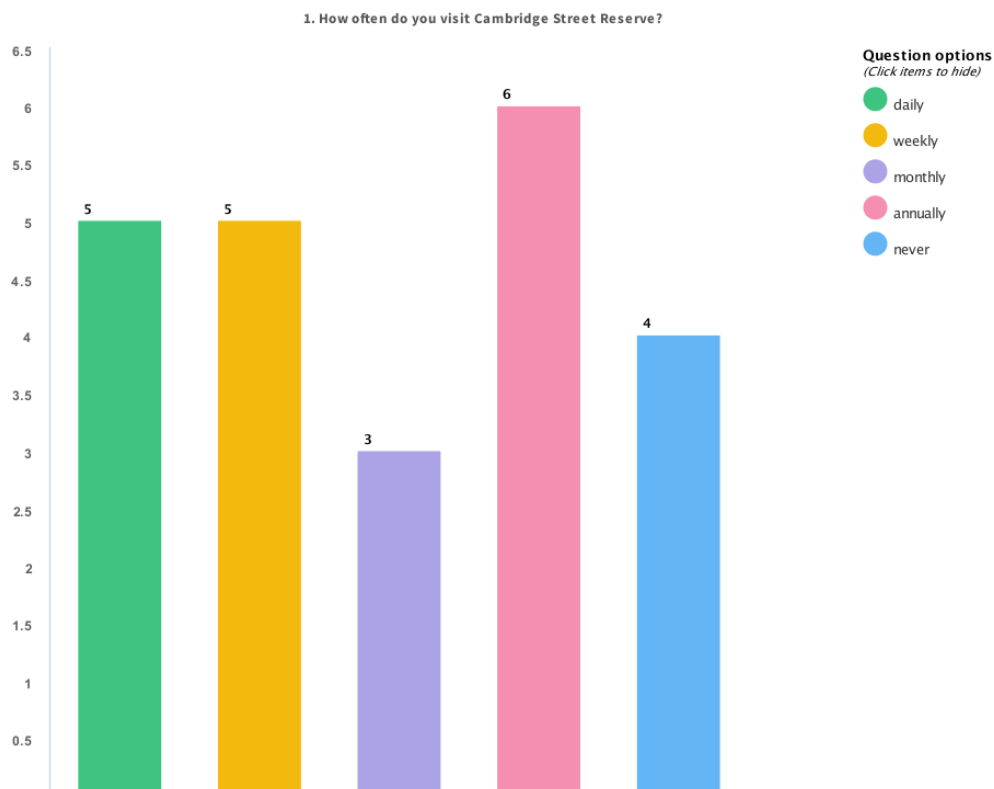
The City of Kalamunda (the City) engaged the community on the future improvement of Cambridge Reserve in Forrestfield. The survey was open from February 2018 to March 2018. Over that time 23 surveys were completed. The survey was responded by 55% female and 45% male (of those that indicated their gender).

The 36-45 age bracket provided the highest number of responses, this was followed by 66-75, all other age brackets had similar response numbers.

14 of the 23 responses were from people living in Forrestfield. 4 people from Kalamunda, 1 from Lesmurdie, 2 from Gooseberry Hill, 1 from Redcliffe (outside the City) and 1 from Bickley answered the survey.

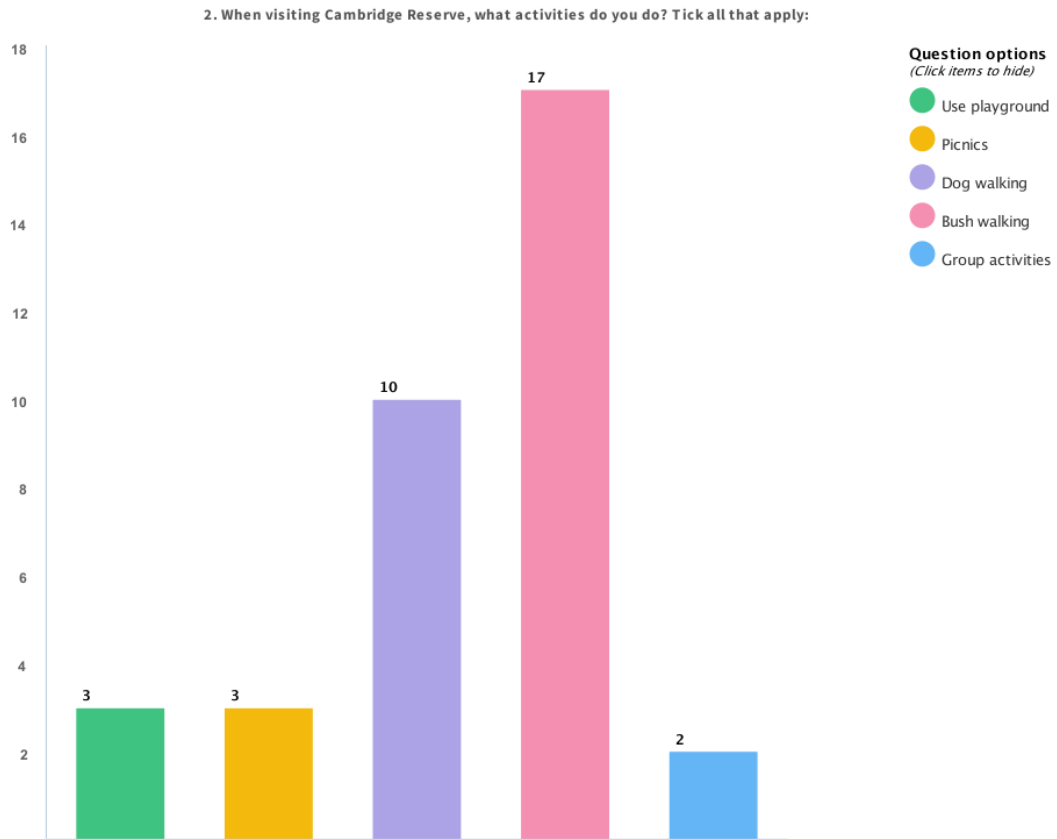
Park Visitation

The frequency which people visit the Reserve was similar for all options, with annually marginally the most common frequency.



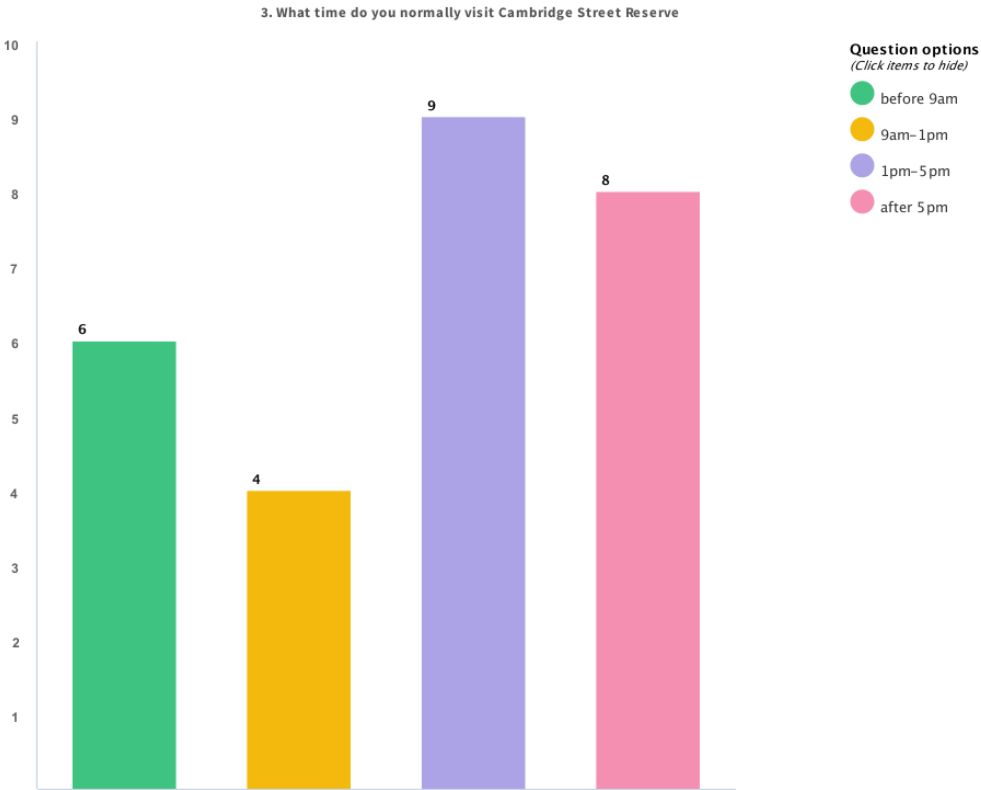
Activities

The most common activity was bush walking by a fair margin, which was followed by dog walking. Playground usage, picnics and group activities appear to be less common activities undertaken at the Reserve.



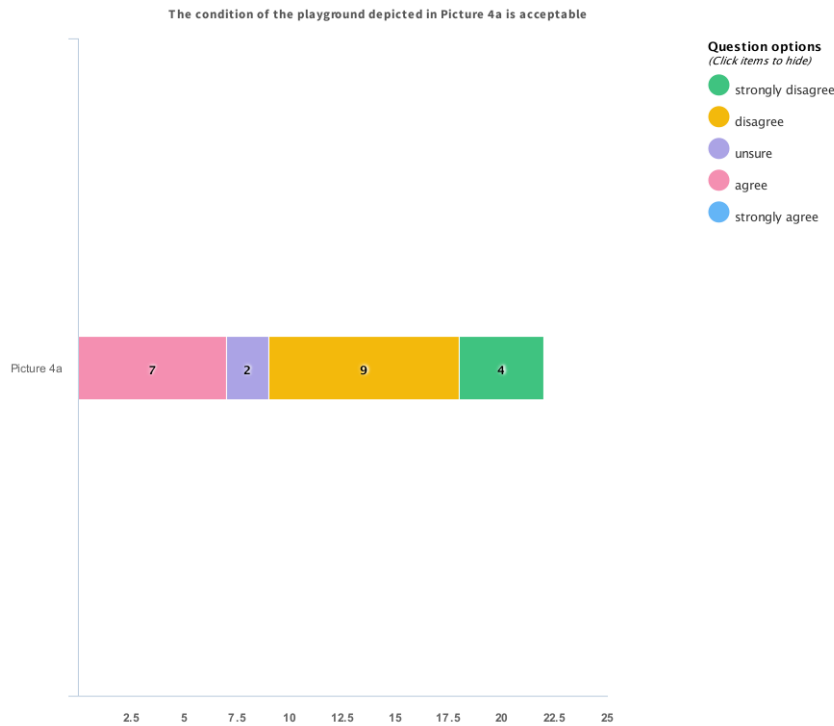
Time

The most common time to visit Cambridge Reserve was between 1-5pm. After 5pm was also a common time to visit the Reserve.

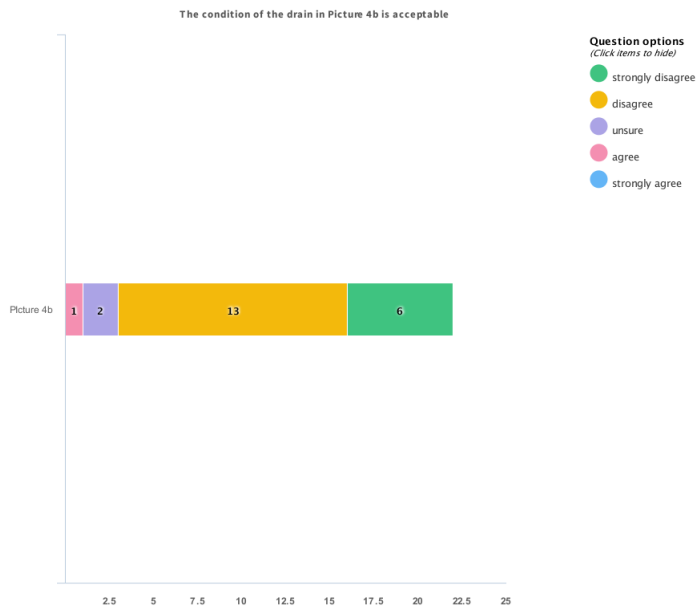


Condition of the Reserve

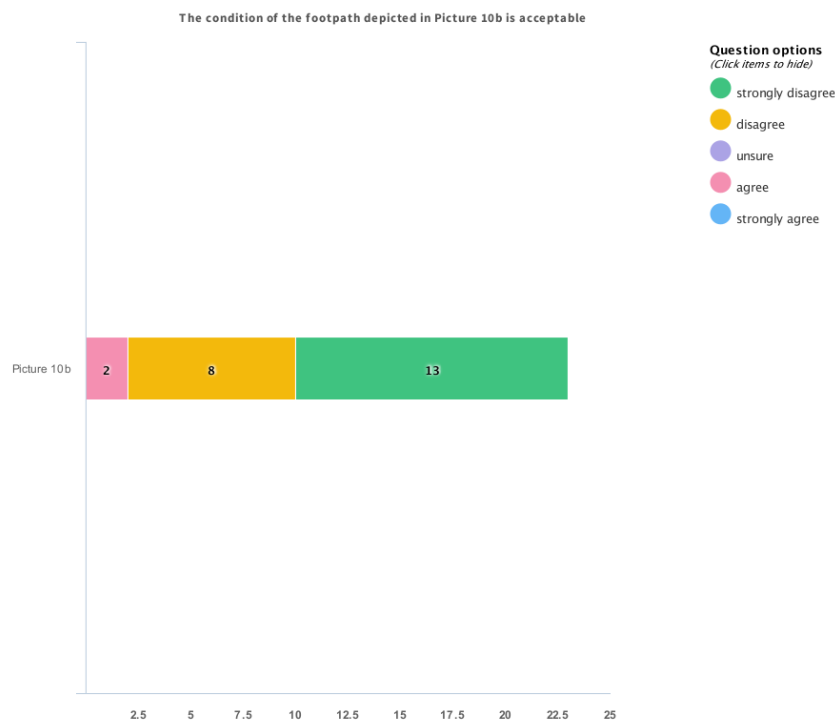
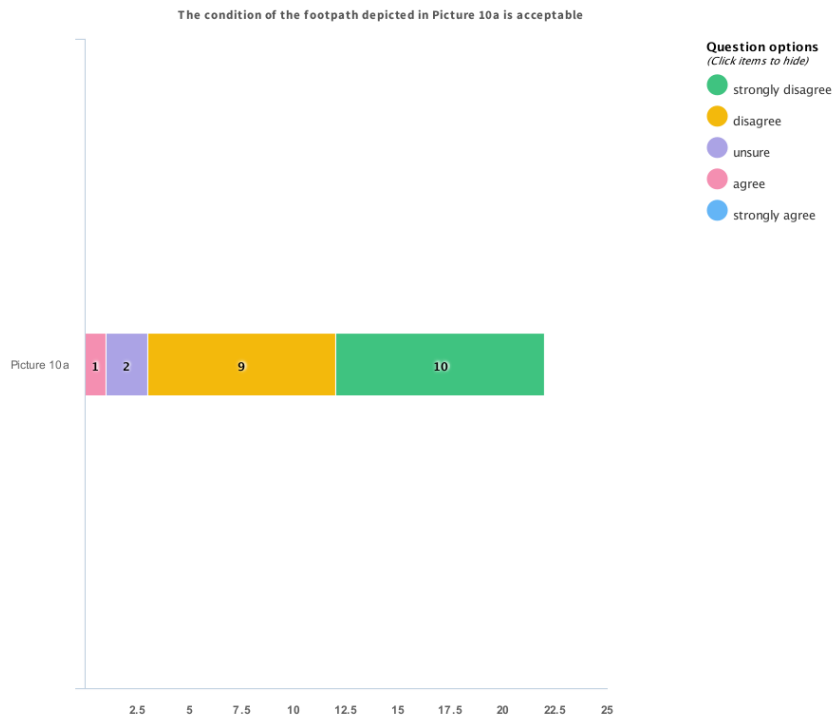
The majority of respondents (59.1%) either disagree or strongly disagree that the playground condition is acceptable.



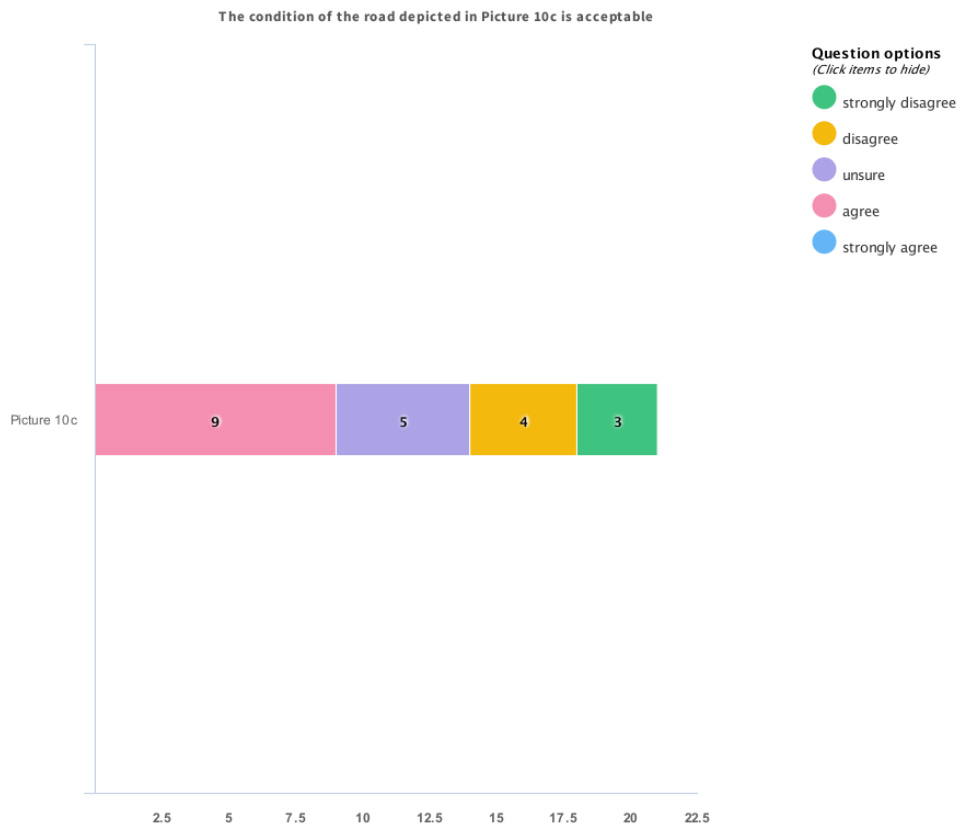
A considerable majority (86.4%) either disagree or strongly disagree that the condition of the drain is acceptable.



A considerable majority of respondents (86.5% for footpath A and 91.3% for footpath B) either disagree or strongly disagree that the condition of footpaths are acceptable.

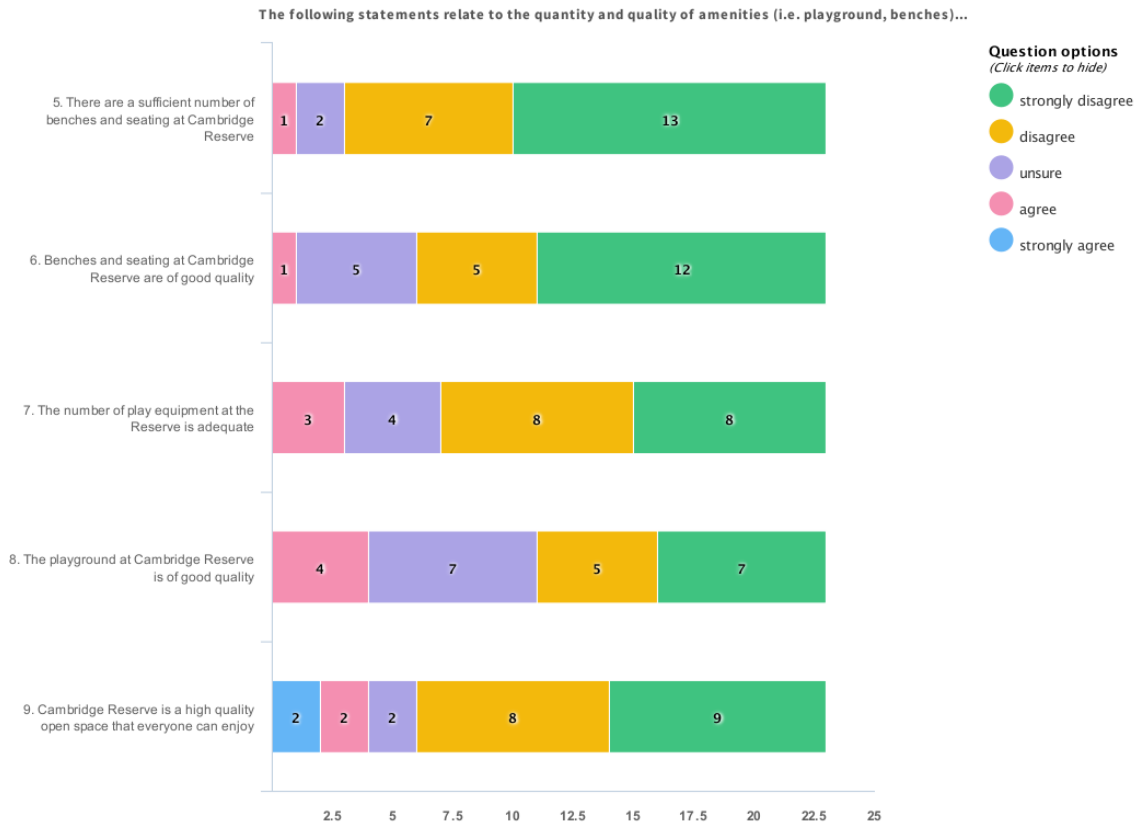


Respondents were more in favour of the condition of the road surrounding the Reserve. 66.7% of respondents either agreed or were unsure whether the condition of the road is acceptable, whereas 33% of respondents either disagreed or strongly disagreed that the condition of the road is acceptable.



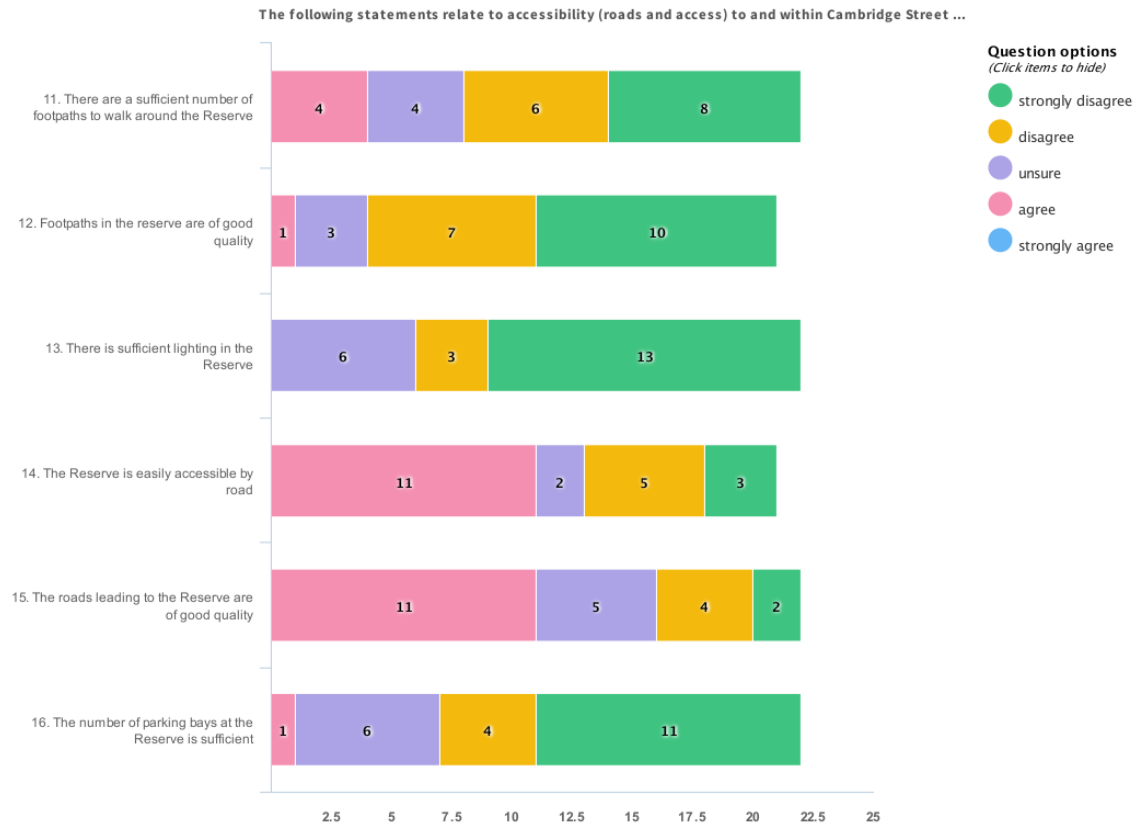
Quality of Amenities

Respondents indicated that the quality of amenities at the Reserve are poor for all categories. 80.9% disagree or strongly disagree that there are sufficient number of seating at the Reserve, 73.9% either disagree or strongly disagree that the seating is of good quality, 69.6% either disagree or strongly disagree that the amount of play equipment is adequate and 73.9% either disagree or strongly disagree that the Reserve is a high quality open space that everyone can enjoy.



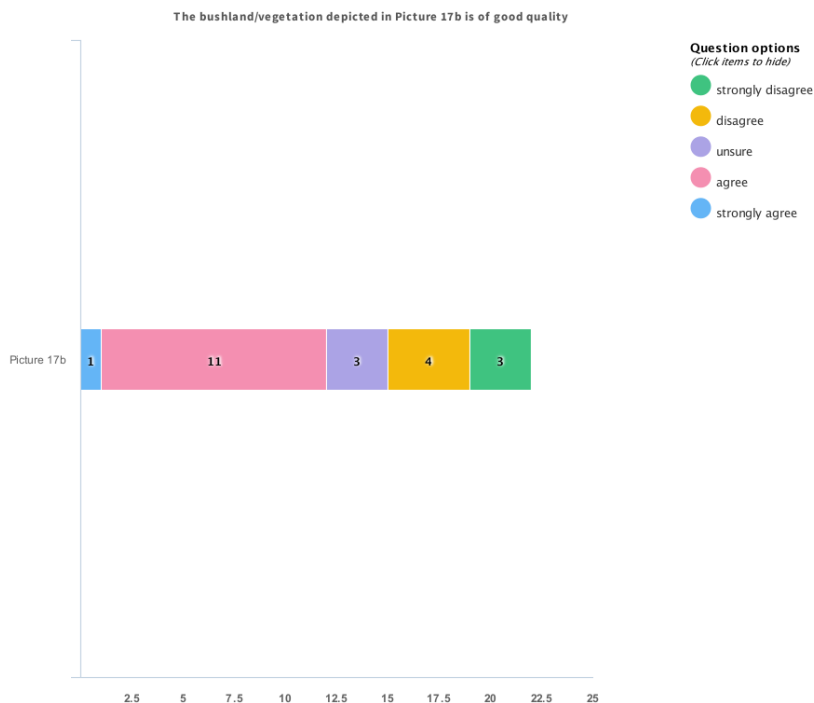
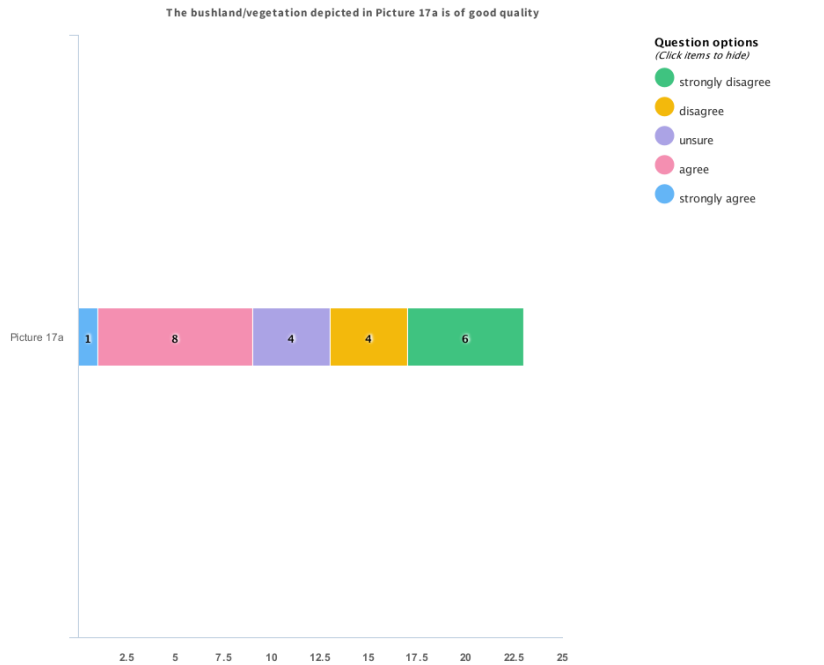
Accessibility

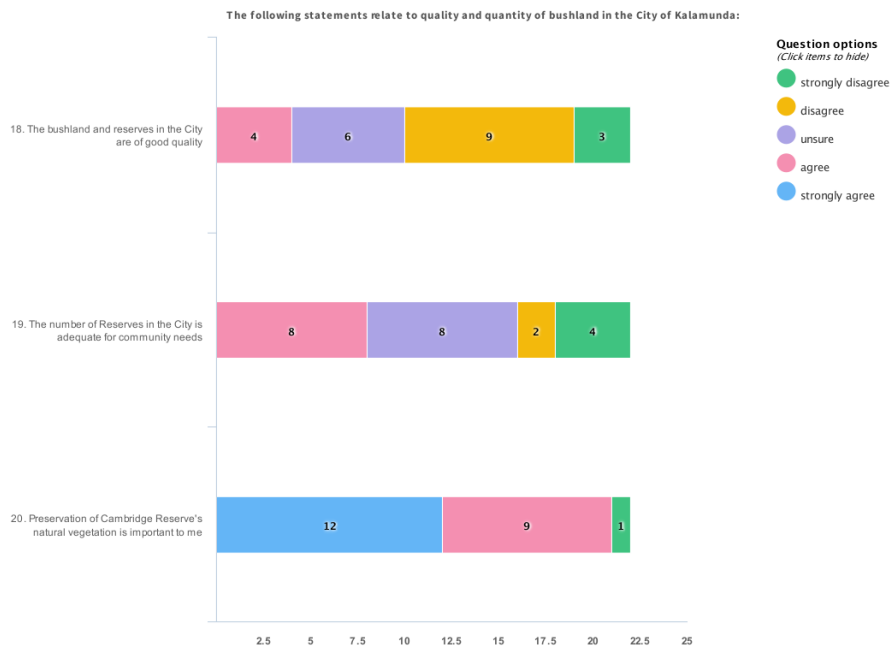
Respondents indicated that the quality of access relating to footpaths, lighting and car parking is of poor quality. Road access however had more favourable results.



Bushland

The views on the quality of bushland in the Reserve was mixed and was the view of the quality and quantity of reserves throughout the City. It was clear from respondents that the preservation of bushland on the Reserve is important for the community with 95% of respondents stating its importance.





Values

The following lists in order the most common themes the community stated they value about the Reserve:

1. Bushland / Natural Feel
2. Walking / Trails
3. Nothing
4. Waterbody / Lake
5. Quietness
6. Proximity to Home
7. Size
8. Dog Walking
9. Family Orientated
10. Playground

Improvements

The following lists in order the most common themes the community stated they said would like to see improved at the Reserve:

1. Pedestrian / Cycling Pathways
2. Weed Control / Better Maintenance
3. Nature Play / Play Equipment
4. Seating
5. Shade / Shelter
6. Retain Bushland / Vegetation Planting
7. Lighting
8. Prevent Vehicle / Motorbike Access
9. Toilets
10. BBQs

Priorities

Respondents were asked to allocate \$100 to the following items at the reserve for improvement:

- Play Equipment
- Shade / Shelter
- Toilets
- Seating
- BBQs

Seating had the highest average allocation of \$26.78, followed by play equipment \$22.68, shade / shelter \$22.53, BBQs \$17.92 and toilets \$17.09.

Additional Comments

Respondents were asked to add anything else they wished to comment on. The most common additional comments received were regarding the importance of retaining bushland, improvement of amenities, better maintenance and the potential for the site to be used as an aged care site.

Workshop

A workshop was undertaken onsite at Cambridge Reserve on 28 February 2018. The workshop allowed the community to see the Reserve and provide ideas and concerns.

Refer to Appendix 1 and 2 for the summary and notes.

Information Stalls

During February the City set up information stalls for the Reserve, handing out surveys and gathering the community's ideas. The stalls were set up at Forrestfield District Shopping Centre.

The themes and ideas the community mentioned included the following:

- Improved pathways
- Better maintenance
- Retain and enhance the bushland
- Green space
- Prevent vehicle and motorbike access to the park
- Use a portion of the site for aged care
- Improved playground
- More shade / shelter

Submissions

A total of 4 submissions were received during the public advertising period, and are taken into consideration as part of the concept planning for Cambridge Reserve.

The key theme that was expressed by the submissions was utilising a portion of the Reserve for aged care. The site has previously been flagged as an aged care site and submissions requested this option be considered as part of the concept planning.

Appendix 1 – Workshop Notes



CAMBRIDGE ROAD RESERVE ENGAGEMENT NOTES

**Public engagement workshop undertaken: Wednesday, 28 February from
3:30pm -
5:45pm at Cambridge road reserve**

Emotional Mapping

- Stronger communications about preservation i.e. plaques about wildlife, boxes in trees, etc
- This is a much better way to engage than previous attempts
- Make something happen and keep in touch!
- I like natural aspect (trees, natural shrubs)
- Happy - Restoration of Shrubbery
- Happy - Natural feel of park
- Sad - Storm drain not working and causes flooding in winter
- Sad - Poor maintenance of laneway
- Happy - Trail leads to Lesmurdie Falls - Needs improved wayfinding to find track
- Sad - Unauthorised vehicles entering park
- Happy - park playground
- Sad - Only part of park not green
- Happy - Quietness
- Sad - Needs better maintenance
- Confused - Not sure what happened to BMX track - attracted people
- Happy - Natural areas for playing - not very common anymore in most parks
- Happy - love the area around the lake - better paths would be great
- Unsure - keep drains clean
- Happy - lake, ducks and wildlife
- Happy - playing in mud
- Confused - Boxes in Trees
- Happy - bike riding

Ideas Mapping

- Everything is currently balanced, keep the same
- Love natural wildlife, don't want to disturb
- Create a general active area near existing playground i.e. Tomato Lake
- Irrigate and keep the rest of the area natural
- Seating
- Lighting in play area (if you want open after dark)
- Larger playground and playground - no toilets
- Pop-up café - maybe in stage 2 once park becomes more popular

- Improved grass area with BBQ – paths and natural plantings
- Mini soccer pitch and half court basketball – drink fountain – don't want to annoy residents
- Signage with info about wildlife – plants to look out for
- Sheltered areas – sealed natural paths for walking and riding, BBQ, etc
- Fountain for ppl and dogs
- Natural Play Area
- Natural filtration of lake – protect dogs using in Winter
- Bins and seating
- Tidy lake , water feature, sculpture, BBQ, paths
- Mountain bike trail around park
- Understore planting under trees which were planted many years ago
- Pathways better maintained
- Dog exercise area – where appropriate
- Keep trees – Attracts bird life
- Would be good to see some of the area used for development of aged care
- Natural sealed path around park for prams, etc
- Pipe drainage areas – maybe lake will be filled for longer periods
- Signs to keep dogs on leads – don't agree
- Would like mechanisms to keep unauthorised vehicles out (bollards, signs, etc)
- Bins and seating
- Ranger to monitor wildlife
- Kids hide and seek
- Generally keep natural, be mindful and preserve wildlife
- Maybe look at kiosk if opportunity arises
- Like wild bush

Choose Top 5 Ideas

Idea	Tally
Dirt BMX	3
Mountain Bikes	3
Play Equipment	2
Nature Play	4
Open Space Lawns	8
BBQ	7
Natural plantings and hangout spaces	5
Improved lighting	10
Water Sensitive Urban Design	6
Shade and Seating	8
Walking Trails and Improved Footpaths	19

Pet Friendly	16
Park Kiosk	4
Drinking Fountain	7
Kids Activities	7
Community Garden	3
Flying Fox and Adventure Play	7
Exercise Equipment	3
Toilets	4
Public Sculptures	3
Basketball Half Court	13
Soccer Mini Pitch	8
Bins	6

Other ideas: cross-country track for runners, more green areas, more natural areas, a nice dog track, swings, keep native bush, fenced dog area

General Brainstorming Notes

- Too many delays in residential zoning
- Don't cut down trees
- Maintenance
- Today was the best grass cutting we've seen. Normally we need to poison areas next to our fence
- Pathways for prams
- Kids love the wild bushland
- Prefer no toilets
- Doggy bags for pet waste
- Free range for pets
- I like there being neighbourhood parks in Forrestfield due to increased living density (no backyards)
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Appendix 2 – Workshop Summary



CAMBRIDGE ROAD RESERVE ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

Report prepared on: 2 March 2018

**Public engagement workshop undertaken: Wednesday, 28 February from
3:30pm – 5:45pm at Cambridge road reserve**

The public engagement workshop provided fairly clear and consistent reporting from the community without too much general debate about development of the reserve as public open space. In general, the community communicated the following as a priority for development:

- Appreciate the current natural feel of the reserve and would like to see this maintained and protected without the loss of any trees or wildlife.
- A majority of people identified the open area near the children's playground as more of an active and social community space with barbeques, native plantings, a large grassed area, seating, shade and possibility of a half-court basketball court and mini soccer pitch.
- Better maintenance of existing trails throughout the park with a preferred desire for sealed areas that have a natural feel for prams, scooters and people with disabilities.
- On-going regular maintenance of the entire reserve and laneways leading to the park.
- A fenced dog area with drinking fountain, natural play area and better maintenance of the open drain were also desired.

Although the above is a general recollection from the written notes, there were a few residents who live opposite the reserve on Cambridge Road who prefer the park as it is due to its quietness, natural feel and abundance of wild life. They believe any development of the reserve will compromise the natural balance, existing amenity and attract too many people.

Below is a brief summary of the five engagement boards.

Emotional Mapping:

Elements of the park, which made people feel happy are mostly revolved around the natural feel of the park, using the existing trails, the quietness, wildlife (including the ducks, which use the lake) and restoration of a patch of shrubbery.

Elements that make people feel sad are generally about the poor maintenance of the park, which includes the open drain, which causes flooding in winter, mowing of the grassed area, laneways leading to the park, the grassed area around the play equipment and trails throughout the park.

The participants also felt confused about some of the previous decisions, which were allegedly not communicated very well and include the 'bird feeding boxes in trees', demolition of the

independently made dirt BMX tracks and felt some better signage and letter drops could resolve these matters.

In general, participants also acknowledged that they are much happier with this engagement program and would like to be kept in touch in regard to the progress of any development.

Ideas Mapping:

There are many different ideas to develop the park, however in general most people agreed the reserve needs to maintain its natural uniqueness. There was some debate over ideas such as:

- Sealed or unsealed pathways;
- Lighting or no lighting;
- Toilets or no toilets
- Allowing dogs off leads or having a fenced area (most people agreed with having a fenced area)
- Pop-Up café

Popular ideas included:

- Creating a general active area near the child's playground
- Paths around the park
- Kids play area – natural, hide and seek and/or larger equipment
- Seating
- Native Plantings
- Pipe drainage areas.

Top 5 Ideas:

Having people prioritise their favourite ideas is a great way to better understand what is really important to people. The most popular ideas for developing the park include:

Walking Trails and Improved Footpaths	19
Pet Friendly	16
Basketball Half Court	13
Improved lighting	10
Open Space Lawns	8
Shade and Seating	8
Soccer Mini Pitch	8

It is noted that there was a family with a few kids who may have skewed the weighting of the basketball half court and soccer pitch, however regardless they were still popular items.

General Brainstorming Notes:

The brainstorming notes mostly reiterated the other engagement presentation boards, however there were a few interesting comments including:

- Too many delays in residential zoning
- Doggy bags for pet waste
- I like there being neighbourhood parks in Forrestfield due to increased living density (no backyards)
- Today was the best grass cutting we've seen. Normally we need to poison areas next to our fence