

Community Consultation Report

Walter Street Reserve Pavilion

Upgrade

December 2024



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Summary

1.1 Introduction

Walter Street Reserve is a much-loved local park in Ascot Vale providing a well-used playing field and high-quality sports facilities in a setting of native trees and shrubs. The upgrade of the Walter Street Reserve Pavilion is an important initiative to ensure the Reserve continues to meet the sporting and broader needs of the local community in a functional, aesthetic, ecological and sustainable manner.

Council has developed a proposed concept plan for the upgrade of Walter Street Pavilion. The design approach for the Pavilion Upgrade Concept Plan considered the existing character of the reserve, minimum standards for national/state sporting bodies, and the needs of current sports club tenants and wider community.

The Plan includes an extension and renovation of the existing sporting pavilion, and provides a framework for the relocation, upgrade and replacement of existing elements of the natural and built environment. Some specific elements included in the design are:

- More changerooms and toilets, to cater for the increasing number of junior and female players.
- More modern, female friendly toilets and separate change rooms.
- Internal toilets for spectators and function attendees.
- A new public toilet will be available to reserve users during daylight hours.
- A more functional internal layout.
- Increased circulation and storage space in the kitchen.
- Increased storage space for general club items.
- Multipurpose spaces for use by the wider community outside of sports club allocated hours.
- Relocation and potential upgrades to the existing playground and Community Garden.

From 18 Nov 2024 – 15 Dec 2024, Council undertook consultation to seek feedback about the Pavilion Upgrade Concept Plan, from community members who use the Pavilion, or who have a general interest in improvements to the Reserve. Feedback received during this consultation will inform the completion of this project.

1.2 Engagement strategies

Community members could contribute to the consultation via:

1. A dedicated [Your Say page](#) (Appendix 5.1) which linked people to the online survey (Appendix 5.2), the Design Concept Plans and frequently asked questions.
2. A QR code included on an onsite poster (Appendix 5.3) which linked people to the online survey (and associated information) via the Your Say page.

A total of 115 people participated in the consultation via completion of the online survey or directly emailed feedback.

1.3 Key Findings

The majority of respondents (75%) either supported (16%) or strongly supported (59%) the Pavilion upgrade. Of those who supported the upgrade, most comments noted the need to upgrade the Pavilion toilets and changerooms, with specific mentions of the need for separate and enhanced facilities for females, juniors and girls. Many comments highlighted the importance of upgrading the toilets and changerooms to cater to the increasing number of users. Proposed upgrades to the Pavilion's parking and lighting, community spaces and catering facilities were also welcomed, as was the incorporation of external art/cultural features.

Some respondents expressed concerns about the removal of established trees, emphasising the ecological impact and the importance of preserving the natural environment. Some local residents also expressed concerns about impact of the upgrade on noise and traffic in the area.

Overall feedback about the proposed relocation and upgrade of the playground highlighted the importance of retaining the playground as a valuable community asset.

Specific feedback included the need to ensure that the new playground is safe for children (including some concern the proposed location is unsafe) and that it retains its current size and functionality. There were also suggestions to incorporate additional features into the playground, such as more seating and shaded areas.

In relation to the community garden, while overall sentiment was supportive, there was strong concern about the need for the garden to be adequately equipped and maintained. There was also some uncertainty about the need for and accessibility of the garden and the suitability of the proposed location.

Overall, the feedback was largely positive, with a strong focus on making the Pavilion more functional, inclusive, and environmentally sustainable

Methodology

2.1 Key engagement questions

The survey asked respondents:

- Do you currently use the Pavilion? (Yes/No)
- To what extent do you support the proposed concept design for the Pavilion? (From strongly oppose to strongly support)
- Would you like to provide any comments to support your rating? (Free text)
- Do you currently experience any barriers accessing the facilities within the Pavilion or Reserve? (Free text)
- Do you have any suggestions about the external appearance of the Pavilion? (Free text)
- There may be opportunities to incorporate additional elements into the design. Do you have any suggestions about potential external art/cultural elements, such as a mural? (Free text)
- Are there any specific vegetation or landscaping suggestions you would like to see incorporated into the Reserve? (Free text)
- It is proposed that the current playground will be relocated and replaced as part of this project – what items would you like to see retained? (Free text)
- Do you use the current community garden? (Yes/No)
- A similar sized Community Garden is planned to be relocated on the reserve, do you have any feedback on what this should include? (Free text)

Survey respondents were also asked questions about their demographic characteristics.

2.2 Communication

Council promoted the consultation to local users of the reserve, neighbouring properties, business owners, community groups and the broader community across a range of communication channels, including:

- Your Say webpage
- Posters around the reserve directing community members to Your Say
- Social media posts (Attachment 5.4)
- Letterbox drop and emails – to direct feedback to Your Say
- Direct engagement with existing sport club tenants (via meetings, phone calls and emails – including a reminder email halfway through the consultation period)

2.3 Participation

The table below provides information about consultation participation.

Table 1. Consultation participation

Engagement tool	Engagement Indicator	Participation
Your Say website	Views	781
	Page visits	634
	Unique visitors	498
	Project followers	7
Oline survey (via Your Say website)	Survey responses	90 complete 20 partial
Email	Email submissions	5
Total respondents: 115		

2.4 Survey respondent demographics

2.4.1 Connection to Moonee Valley

Survey respondents were asked to identify their connection to Moonee Valley, with the ability to select multiple of the following options:

- I live here
- I work here
- I own property
- I own a business
- I am associated with a business or community group/organisation.

Of the 91 respondents who chose to respond to this question, 83 respondents indicated that they live in Moonee Valley, with 49 indicating they owned property, and 27 indicating they were associated with a business or community group/organisation as depicted in the graph below.

Figure 1. What is your connection to Moonee Valley?



2.4.2 Type of business, community group or organisation association

Respondents (n=27) who were associated with a business or community group /organisation were asked to identify the name of the business or community group /organisation. 7 unique associations were identified and are listed in the table below.

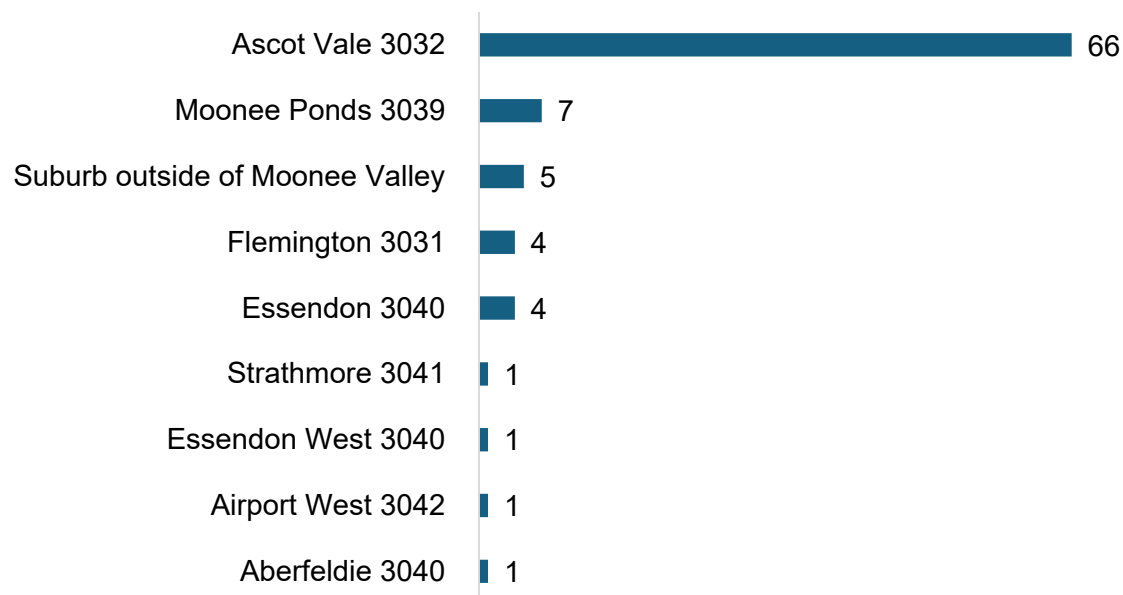
Table 2. Type of business, community group/organisation association

Name of business, community group or organisation	No. of respondents
Ascot Vale Panthers	19
Union Road Traders	2
Flemington Cricket Club	2
St Bernards FC	1
St Bernards School	1
Moonee Ponds Club	1
Ascot Vale Little Free Pantry	1

2.4.3 Suburb of residence

Respondents were asked to identify the suburb they live in. Of those who responded to this question (n=90), the majority were from Ascot Vale (n=66). Other suburbs identified can be seen in the graph below. Of those respondents who identified they lived outside of Moonee Valley, the following suburbs were listed: Coburg; Taylor's Lakes; West Footscray; Maidstone.

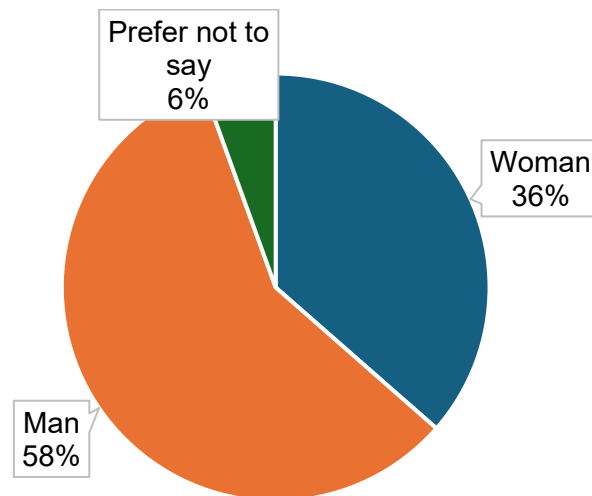
Figure 2. Suburb of residence



2.4.4 Gender identity

Respondents were asked their gender identity. 90 respondents answered this question. A greater percentage of respondents identified as a man (58%) compared with those who identified as a woman (36%). 6% of respondents (n=5) preferred not to say.

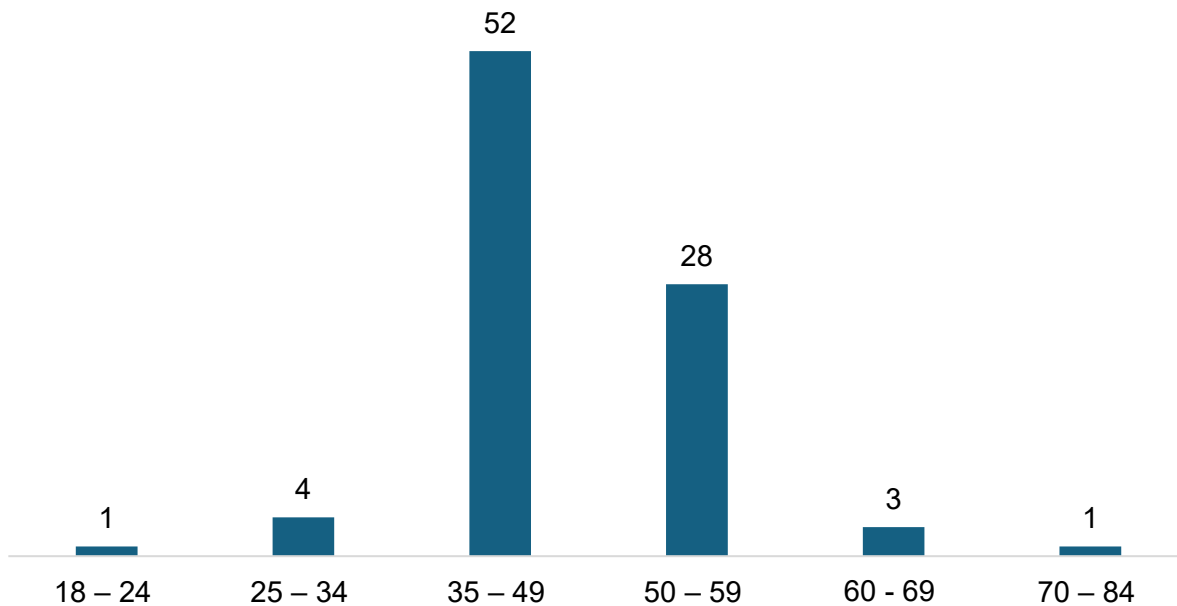
Figure 3. Gender identity



2.4.5 Age

Respondents were asked to identify which age group they belong to. 90 respondents answered this question, with representation across six age brackets. Most respondents were between 35-49 years old.

Figure 4. Age group



2.4.6 Language

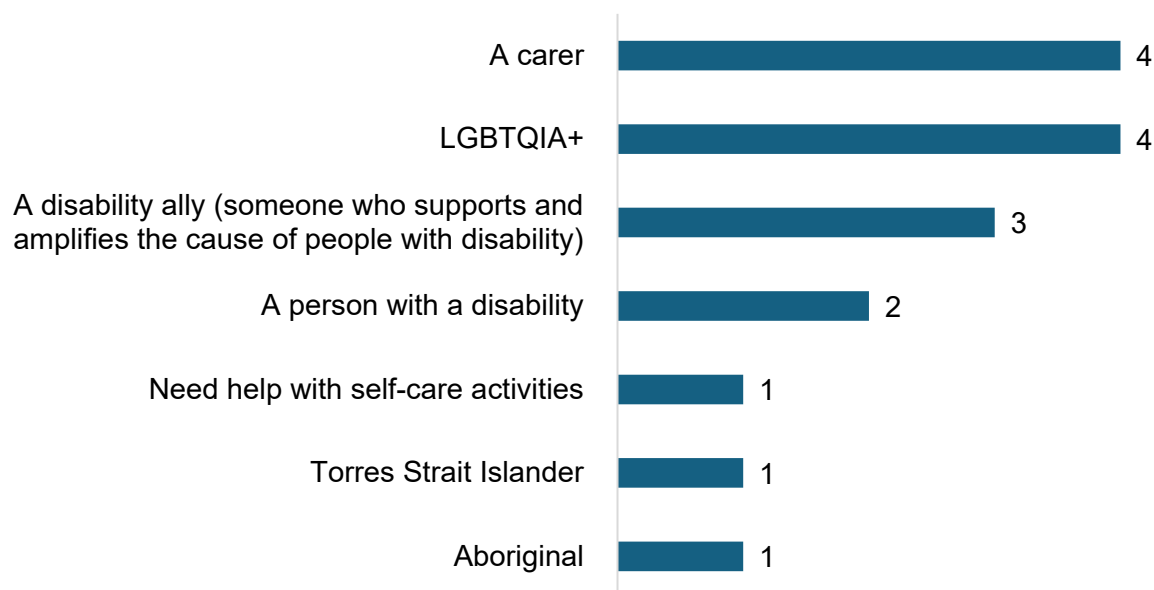
Respondents were asked if they usually speak a language other than English at home. 88 respondents answered this question, with the majority (n=82; 93%) indicating they only speak English at home.

Respondents (n=6) who identified that they usually speak a language other than English at home were asked what language they spoke, with responses including Danish (n=1), Hindi (n=1) and Hungarian (n=1).

2.4.7 Additional identifiers

Respondents were asked whether they identify with a range of different options including Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander, LGBTQIA+, person with a disability, a carer, a disability ally, needing assistance with self-care activities/movement and communication.

Figure 5. Additional identifiers

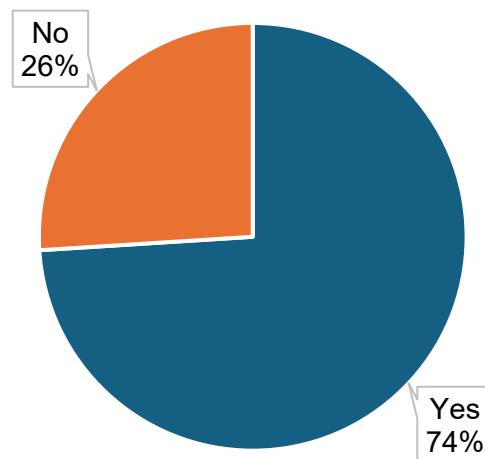


Findings

3.1 Current use of the Pavilion

Participants were asked whether they currently use the Pavilion, with the option of choosing Yes or No. As illustrated in the chart below, 74 respondents said yes (74%) and 26 respondents said No (26%).

Figure 5. Do you currently use the Pavilion?



3.2 Level of support for the Pavilion concept design

Participants were asked to what extent they support the proposed concept design for the Pavilion, with the option to choose 1 of 5 responses, from strongly oppose to strongly support. As illustrated in the graph below, the majority of respondents indicated strongly support (59%), followed by support (16%) and neutral (12%).

Figure 6. Level of support for the Pavilion concept design



3.3 Rationale for level of support for the concept design

When asked if they would like to provide any comments regarding their level of support for the proposed concept design for the Pavilion, 72 (65%) participants provided free text comments. Thematic analysis and coding of the comments identified 192 separate mentions. Some comments were assigned more than one code to reflect multiple themes identified within the one comment.

The majority (83%) of comments (n=160) related to rationale for supporting plans to upgrade the Pavilion. The remaining 17% of comments (n=32) expressed opposition or concerns about the proposed upgrade.

Rationale for supporting the Pavilion upgrade

As illustrated in the table below, supportive comments were grouped under seven themes. The theme comprising the most (44%) comments (n=70) endorsed the need to upgrade the Pavilion toilets and changerooms. Nearly 30% (n=20) of these comments specifically mentioned the need for separate and enhanced facilities for females, and 17% (n=12) called for these facilities to be more suitable for juniors and girls.

Table 3. Rationale for supporting the Pavilion upgrade

Theme and mentions (n)	Descriptor	Example quotes
Need to upgrade the toilets/ changerooms (n=70)	Clear endorsement of the need for: • Larger, more modern toilets and change rooms, including publicly accessible toilets. • Eradication of portable toilets; deemed unacceptable and unsafe for children. • Separate toilets and change rooms for women and girls/juniors. • The importance of the latter to cater for and promote continued growth of the number of women and girls/juniors using the Pavilion.	<i>Changing rooms for girls and women is a basic necessity and should be provided asap to encourage more female athletes!</i> <i>With the increase in sporting participation and the growth in Females in sport (Football, Cricket, etc) which use this oval, this will ensure there is appropriate change rooms and bathrooms (both in size and functionality) as well as inclusion of female bathrooms and change areas supporting a safe and inclusive environment for children and adults.</i>
Generally supportive of upgrading the Pavilion	• The Pavilion is no longer fit for purpose for its high level of use. • The upgrade is overdue; the Pavilion is old, in poor	<i>The current pavilion is not fit for purpose for the current sporting clubs and restricts any future growth in community sport.</i>

(n=42)	condition, and below the standard of other clubs. • Desire for the Pavilion to be a community asset to be proud of, which will accommodate current use and attract future participation and growth. • The proposed design is an appropriate use of funding and will be more accessible and inclusive.	<i>It's long overdue. As a footy player myself and travelling to play at other council grounds it's quite apparent how old and unsuitable the current facilities at Walter Street are.</i>
Need to enhance catering facilities (n=15)	• Need for a proper kitchen with an external service window. • Potential for enhanced club fundraising capacity via improved onsite catering.	<i>The junior's whole canteen is outside and exposed to the elements.</i> <i>...inadequate catering facilities make it very difficult to enable the football and cricket clubs who use Walter st to raise funds through canteen sales to be self-sufficient NFPs, providing valuable sporting opportunities to our community.</i>
Need to enhance the social/ community space (n=12)	• The community space is important for community gatherings and spectating and is currently too small. • Supportive of allowing use of the Pavilion by the wider community.	<i>The update will also provide for an increased social area, safely supporting the sporting clubs' awards and presentation days.</i> <i>...it [the upgrade] will also ensure support future community events with an extended social and viewing space for local community and events increasing the connection with the community.</i>
Need to improve parking / lighting (n=7)	• There are inadequate parking spaces for the number of people using the Pavilion. • Lighting in the carpark is poor and unsafe.	<i>...parking is at an absolute premium often having to park blocks away which I know annoys the local residents.</i>
Need to improve other internal spaces (n=9)	• Need for a designated space for umpires, adequate storage and an enhanced first aid area.	<i>The umpires' room is also a basic portable which is not great.</i>

Suggestions for additional features (n=5)	• Specific suggestions beyond the scope of the current proposal, e.g. space for external sponsor signs and internal trophies, basketball/netball hoops, adequate bins, drinking fountains, EV charging.	<i>While I love that cricket and footy are catered to, let's also embrace a netball hoop to be included in the reserve so that our local girls' most popular sport has resources dedicated to it.</i> <i>These spaces could be community hubs, not just pavilions. ESD [Environmentally Sustainable Design] is essential and including facilities like EV [Electric Vehicle] charging are now pretty rudimentary.</i>
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Rationale for opposing the Pavilion upgrade

Comments expressing opposition or concern about the Pavilion upgrade were grouped under six themes. The most common themes were concerns about tree removal (n=7, 22%) and the playground/child safety (n=7, 22%), followed by concerns about the community garden (n=6, 19%), as summarised below.

Table 4. Rationale for opposing the Pavilion upgrade

Theme and mentions (n)	Descriptor	Example quotes
Concerns about tree removal (n=7)	• Opposition to removing established trees as part of the upgrade	<i>The three large canopy trees should not be removed! Birds and other animals use those trees, and they cannot be replaced by younger trees and still provide the same environment.</i> <i>I do not support the removal of 3 established native trees. There is adequate space between the melaleucas and the gum for an entrance way.</i>
Playground/child safety concerns (n=7)	• Unsupportive of proposed location of playground due to child safety concerns (too far from Pavilion, too close to road and drain).	<i>Any parent in/near the clubhouse cannot supervise children in the playground. It is also proposed to be situated on a 'blind corner' and closer to the storm drain where children currently cannot resist playing.</i>

Community garden concerns (n=6)	• The garden is an unmaintained, underused eyesore, which attracts pests. • Would like the garden to be further away from residential homes and closer to the playground.	<i>I am concerned that moving the current raised community garden beds and its existing compost bins to near the cricket nets will create a harbour for pests such as rodents and mosquitoes and foxes.</i> <i>I welcome the upgrade but would like to see the community garden closer to the playground, so that gardening parents can keep a closer eye on kids using the playground equipment. With the cricket nets between them, I'll lose line of sight of the kids.</i>
Generally unsupportive (n=5)	• The design is unsuitable or lacks detail. • The Pavilion doesn't need upgrading. • Would prefer funding be spent on other facilities.	<i>I believe the current pavilion meets the needs of its current users and there are other parks and pavilions in Moonee Valley that require upgrades.</i>
Impact on residents (n=4)	• Concern from neighbouring residents about undue noise from Pavilion/ playground users/ unmonitored functions, bright lighting, increased foot traffic/cars, dog poo, rubbish, impact on drainage.	<i>Will having a larger and newer pavilion create more functions? The current football club has many functions on weekends and weeknights at the pavilion and the sound pollution from the pavilion coming into our bedrooms at night is like a nightclub and they often play loud music well past curfew.</i> <i>Will the building of the new playground disturb any underground structures such as the below storm water drain and if so is that going to create further water works in our area.</i>
Accessibility concerns (n=3)	• Concern about difficulty accessing the Pavilion and Reserve.	<i>Planned extension will create a hard wall to access the park from Walter St.</i> <i>the secondary access is right near the cricket nets (how stupid from an OHS perspective) it should be central as cater for access to the pavilion.</i>

3.3 Barriers to accessing the Pavilion/Reserve facilities

When participants were asked if they currently experience any barriers to accessing the facilities within the Pavilion or Reserve, 69 (63%) respondents provided free text comments. Analysis of these comments identified four main themes and 96 separate mentions.

While the majority (78%) of comments (n=75) identified specific access barriers, the remaining comments (22%, n=21) related to participants specifying that they don't currently experience any access barriers. Interestingly, of the respondents who specified they don't experience any access barriers, most (67%, n=14) still supported (n=4), or strongly supported (n=10) the proposed upgrade of the Pavilion. This is consistent with responses to the previous question about participant's rationale for supporting the upgrade, which focused on the functionality rather than accessibility of the Pavilion.

As summarised in the table below, the most commonly identified barriers related to concerns about the functionality and safety of various aspects of the Pavilion (n=34), followed by the accessibility of the Pavilion toilets/changerooms (n=29), and the sense that access to the Pavilion is restricted among/to certain community cohorts (n=12).

Table 5. Barriers to accessing the Pavilion/Reserve facilities

Theme and mentions (n)	Descriptor	Example quotes
Specific access barriers (n=75)		
Functionality/safety barriers (n=34)	• Inadequate parking/lighting (n=15) • Poor/old design; too small for high volume of users. (n=9) • Safety and maintenance concerns about the Reserve (n=6) (e.g. cricket net near playground, dogs off lead, playground paths, gardens, secure bike parking) • Inadequate catering facilities (n=4)	<i>Parking and the lighting in the car park can be an issue during nighttime training - difficult to see kids.</i> <i>I'm somewhat scared of walking on the track around the oval, at the point where the cricket nets near the path when there is cricket training on as I feel that I could easily get hit with a cricket ball. It would be good to have some sort of protection there.</i>
Toilet/changeroom barriers	• Inadequate toilets/change rooms for females/young people (n=11)	<i>When my two daughters come to watch me play there is no toilets for them to use.</i>

(n=29)	• Inadequate toilets/ change rooms (n=10) • Limited public access to toilets (n=8)	<i>The current facilities don't support young children and teens requiring basic toilets, change rooms...</i> <i>There are no inside toilets for the social rooms.</i>
Restricted access barriers (n=12)	• Access to Pavilion restricted to sports clubs (n=6) • Poor accessibility for Elderly/ people with disabilities/ small children (n=5) • Restricted access to community garden (n=1)	<i>Seems to be only for sporting groups. Community groups and residents (for family events) should be able to utilise this space.</i> <i>There is no wheelchair access to the change rooms.</i>

3.4 External appearance of the Pavilion

When participants were asked if they have any suggestions about the external appearance of the Pavilion, 59 respondents provided free text comments. Analysis of these comments identified 6 themes and 61 separate mentions.

Nearly half (49%) of the comments (n=30) offered specific suggestions about the external appearance of the Pavilion. The remaining 51% (n=31) of the comments either specified the participants had no suggestions (n=17) or related to 'other feedback' (n=14) (already mentioned, or unrelated to the external appearance of the Pavilion).

As summarised in the table below, the most common theme among the specific suggestions related to feedback about the Pavilion being environmentally friendly and sustainable (n=16), with small numbers of suggestions about vegetation (n=5), use of modern, high-quality materials (n=5) and incorporation of external murals, art and signage (n=4).

Table 6. External appearance of the Pavilion

Theme and mentions (n)	Descriptor	Example quotes
Specific suggestion (n=30)		
Environmentally friendly/ sustainable	• Use environmentally sustainable materials. • Design should be in keeping with the	<i>Facility should be designed to cater for the growing community and use</i>

(n=16)	local/natural environment and biodiversity, flood proof and easy to maintain.	<i>environmentally sound materials that reduce energy consumption.</i>
Vegetation (n=5)	• Retain trees and include native plants / planter boxes.	<i>Retaining all trees and planting as many indigenous plants as possible.</i>
Modern/high quality (n= 5)	• Preference for use of modern, high-quality materials.	Modern/fitting in with the locale.
Murals/art/ signs (n=4)	• Incorporate street art or murals	<i>Murals that show the history of the sporting clubs that use the facilities.</i> <i>A cool mural or piece of street art would be nice.</i>

3.5 External art/cultural design elements

When participants were asked if they have any suggestions about potential external art/cultural design elements, such as a mural, 52 respondents provided free text comments. Analysis of these comments identified 6 themes and 59 separate mentions.

Around 46% of the comments (n=27) either offered specific suggestions about or were generally supportive of incorporating external art/cultural design elements. Of the remaining comments, a similar proportion (44%, n=26) related to 'other feedback' (already provided or unrelated to external art/cultural design elements) (n=15), or specified they had no suggestions (n=11). The remaining 10% (n=6) expressed concern or opposition in relation to a mural.

As summarised in the table below, the most common theme among the specific suggestions related to feedback about the importance of an external mural or public art having a meaningful connection to the local community (n=12), followed by specific preferences for the use of a local or Indigenous artist or design (n=8), and those who were generally supportive of incorporating an external mural or public art into the Pavilion (n=7).

Table 7. External art/cultural design elements

Theme and mentions (n)	Descriptor	Example quotes
Specific suggestions / Generally supportive (n=27)		
Mural/public art with a meaningful connection (n=12)	Incorporate local sports/heritage/community/environment	<i>Space for a mural showcasing the Ascot Vale community and landmarks would also be a fantastic addition.</i>
Local/ Indigenous artist/design (n=8)	Suggestions to incorporate local or Indigenous art into the design of the Pavilion.	<i>Both tenant clubs have a strong stance on inclusivity, Indigenous artwork on the building would be a fantastic link to the effort both clubs are putting in.</i> <i>something to reflect the Woi-wurrung people would be wonderful.</i>
Generally supportive of a mural/public art (n=7)	Great/welcome idea and valuable addition to the community.	<i>Public art, murals and acknowledgement of First Nations history would be welcome. Pipe makers on the other side of the river is an excellent example</i>
Concerned about / opposed to a mural (n=6)		
Concerned about/opposed to a mural (n=6)	Concerned about cost, quality, vandalism, permanency, impact on timeliness of Pavillion upgrade.	<i>Mural not required, save money and make better use of it.</i>

3.6 Vegetation and landscaping within the Reserve

When participants were asked if there are any specific vegetation or landscaping suggestions they would like to see incorporated into the Reserve, 55 respondents provided free text comments. Analysis of these comments identified 7 themes and 63 separate mentions.

Most (63%) of the comments (n=40) offered specific suggestions about vegetation or landscaping. Of the remaining comments, 19% (n=12) specified they had no

suggestions and 17% (n=11) related to 'other feedback' (already provided or unrelated to vegetation or landscaping).

As summarised in the table below, the most common theme among the specific suggestions related to the use of vegetation that is native and in keeping with the local environment (n=13), followed by maximising vegetation and tree cover (n=10) and concerns about tree removal (n=7).

Table 8. Vegetation and landscaping within the Reserve

Theme and mentions (n)	Descriptor	Example quotes
Specific suggestions (n=40)		
Native vegetation/ in keeping with local environment (n=13)	• Preference for vegetation to be native and hardy/easy to maintain and in keeping with current vegetation and the local environment/biodiversity	<i>Local indigenous plant life usually survives better with less maintenance. It will be better to have some local flora and fauna.</i>
Maximise vegetation and tree cover (n=10)	• Maximise vegetation and tree cover for shade/ wind protection	<i>More shade trees would be good around the oval.</i> <i>It's particularly windy from river end in winter, maybe more shrubs back towards wetlands?</i>
Concerns about tree removal (n=7)	• Concerns about removing large trees which provide canopy cover and suggestion to retain all trees.	<i>I am concerned about removal of trees as part of this upgrade and urge that taking out mature trees be avoided wherever possible. These trees provide much needed shade and are a great feature of the area.</i>
Other (new) suggestions (n=7)	• Concerns about weeding, safety (re: bees and slippery synthetic turf), request to avoid obstructing the playing field view, retain	<i>Lots of kids run around barefoot so please avoid flowering plants near the playground that will attract bees.</i>

	the flood watercourse and incorporate a tactile garden and open grass area for picnics.	
Improve playing/ training surface (n=3)	• Requests that the playing surface be better maintained/ improved.	<i>Level the grass area at the back as this is used for footy warm up by the teams.</i>

3.7 Retention of playground elements

When participants were asked what items they would like to see retained within the relocated and replaced playground, 60 respondents provided free text comments. Analysis of these comments identified 9 themes and 79 separate mentions.

The majority (78%) of the comments (n=62) offered specific suggestions about or were generally supportive of the playground being retained and upgraded. Of the remaining comments, 16% (n=13) expressed negative sentiment about the proposal for the playground, and 7% (n=4) specified and they had no suggestions.

As summarised in the table below, the most common theme was suggestions about specific playground equipment to retain (n=20 mentions), followed by general support for the retention and upgrade of the playground (n=13 mentions) and replicating the existing playground (n=11 mentions). Among the negative sentiment, the most common theme was opposition to the proposed location for the playground (n=10).

Table 9. Retention of playground elements

Theme and mentions (n)	Descriptor	Example quotes
Specific suggestions / supportive (n=62)		
Specific equipment suggestions (n=20)	• Suggestions to retain/upgrade existing play equipment that is well used, and for additional equipment (Swings/group swing, slide, climbing equipment, sand pit, water play, monkey	<i>Swings, monkey bars, climbing walls and slides. They all get used heavily...</i>

	bars, equipment for younger/older children, flying fox, inground trampolines, more equipment, steppingstones, balance logs, cubby house, see saws, rope climb, bridges)	
Generally supportive of playground retention/upgrade (n=13)	The playground is well used but outdated. It needs to be retained but upgraded to meet the needs of local users.	<i>I would like to see a significant upgrade of the playground equipment given it is used by many children every day, and particularly when sporting events / training is on.</i>
Replicate the existing playground (n=11)	The existing playground works well and should include the same or similar equipment and capacity when relocated.	<i>The playground is a great community space, and all elements should be re-purposed in its new location as it is entirely fit for purpose</i> <i>The size of the playground being maintained and not reduced.</i>
General suggestions (n=5)	Safe, functional, challenging, modern, attractive to kids, active play in nature.	<i>Playground is old and should be made adventurous. Use of timber or natural colours would be preferred.</i>
Enlarge the playground (n=4)	Make the playground bigger.	<i>There are a lot of families around the area. We would love to see it bigger than it currently is.</i>
Unsupportive (n=13)		
Unsupportive of proposed location (n=10)	Prefer to keep the playground closer to the Pavillion.	<i>It does not need to be relocated as far as it is in the plans. There is sufficient room behind the goals on the oval for this to fit. You should consider that when any events are held at the oval, the playground is full, and it makes sense to be next to the Pavilion so parents and children are close together. If it is moved significantly this won't be possible.</i>

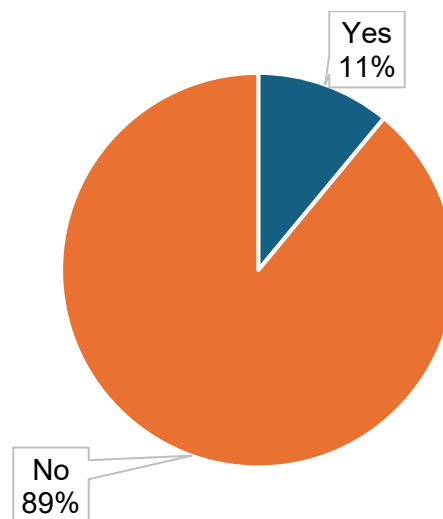
Reduce the size of or question the need for the playground (n=3)	• There are better playgrounds nearby.	<i>- could question if required at all. There is a great playground less than 200 meters away in the wetlands - this didn't exist when the current playground was built.</i>

3.8 Current use of the Community Garden

Participants were asked whether they use the current Community Garden, with the option of choosing Yes or No.

As illustrated in the chart below, 82 respondents said no (89%) and 10 respondents said yes (11%).

Figure 5. Do you use the current Community Garden?



3.9 Community Garden design

When participants were asked if they have any feedback about what the relocated Community Garden should include, 59 respondents provided free text comments. Analysis of these comments identified 8 themes and 74 separate mentions.

Around 45% of the comments (n=33) were generally supportive of or offered specific suggestions about retaining and relocating the community garden. Of the remaining comments, 30% (n=22) expressed negative sentiment about the garden, and 24% (n=18) specified and they had no suggestions.

As summarised in the table below, the most common theme was generally supportive comments (n=11) followed by suggestions about specific infrastructure the community garden should include (n=10). The predominant negative sentiment questioned the overall need for (n=15) and proposed location (n=8) of the garden.

Table 10. Community Garden design

Theme and mentions (n)	Descriptor	Example quotes
Specific suggestions / supportive (n=33)		
Generally supportive (n=11)	The garden is important, enjoyable to walk through, and provides a community feel.	<i>Community gardens are a great part of the community, and I support such initiatives fully.</i>
Specific infrastructure suggestions (n=10)	- The garden needs to be equipped with basic infrastructure (e.g., a nearby tap or watering system, compost bins, storage, raised garden beds. - Other suggestions, e.g., gravel paths, a seasonal planting calendar, free food and book library, seating.	<i>Is a communal compost heap a thing? I'd love to be able to access one if so.</i> <i>It would be great if it was bigger, so more people would feel like they can participate. It would also be great to have a free food and book library in the reserve, so left over food from the community garden could be made available. And the book/tiny library idea isn't related to the garden, but would be a great location.</i>
Specific plant suggestions (n=4)	Suggestions for specific (functional) plants – for consumption or shade.	<i>Herbs and Lemon Trees - the community love herbs and Lemons!</i>

Adequate maintenance and oversight (n=5)	The garden needs to be adequately maintained, administered and overseen – current community and council involvement is limited, the garden is unsightly and prone to plant damage and litter.	<i>Building it is just one part of the equation. I facilitate a community garden just like this as the council has a food insecurity plan to activate these areas for those without access to gardens. These models of community collective growing are becoming more popular but need ongoing support.</i>
Accessibility (n=3)	The garden should be more accessible to the broader community, and people with disabilities.	<i>I am strongly opposed to the current community garden being relocated. Where it the suggested relocation is to occur will not be wheelchair accessible.</i>
Unsupportive (n=23)		
Unsupportive of need for the garden (n=15)	Questionable overall value/need - not used or well maintained, attracts pests, consider removing/ assess need.	<i>The community garden has not been used for over 12 months and even when used produced very little ... I question its viability and whether it's really needed..</i>
Unsupportive of proposed location (n=8)	Mixed concerns about proposed location (too shady, on flood plain, too close to housing and sports areas, too far from Pavillion, not required at a sports facility).	<i>The current proposed location is mostly shaded which isn't ideal for the community garden. I'd suggest it's relocated to the other side of the cricket nets between the path/scoreboard and the cricket nets which it will receive far more sunlight.</i>

Emails

Five emails were received during the consultation period, reflecting five key themes which have been summarised below (in order of mentions):

Tree Removal and Vegetation: Concerns about the removal of canopy trees and vegetation. The feedback emphasises the importance of preserving large trees and the negative impact of removing them on the environment and community. There was one suggestion for altering the entrance for Walter Street Reserve so that no trees would be removed.

Climate Change and Environmental Impact: The community expresses concerns about climate change and the need for more green spaces to combat the heat island effect. There are mentions of the climate emergency and the importance of increasing tree cover. It was also suggested that the airconditioned pavilion could be used as a climate refuge for locals without air conditioning during hot period.

Playground and Recreational Facilities: Feedback includes suggestions for improving playground facilities, such as adding sun protection and keeping it close by the club house for supervision purposes, a basketball half-court and rock/wall climbing facilities. There was also a request for Council to address noise issues and safety issues from the cricket nets.

Community Amenities and Infrastructure: There are concerns about the enlargement of the pavilion and its impact on the community, including increased congestion, noise, and loss of amenity.

Wildlife and Natural Spaces: The feedback highlights the importance of preserving natural spaces for wildlife and the community, mentioning the return of Tawny Frogmouths and the need for more trees and shrubs.

Conclusion

The majority of respondents supported the upgrade, particularly emphasising the need for modern and separate facilities for female and junior players. Many comments highlighted the importance of upgrading the toilets and changerooms to cater to the increasing number of users. Proposed upgrades to the Pavilion's parking and lighting, community spaces and catering facilities were also welcomed, as was the incorporation of external art/cultural features.

Some respondents expressed concerns about the removal of established trees, emphasising the ecological impact and the importance of preserving the natural environment. Some local residents also expressed concerns about impact of the upgrade on noise and traffic in the area.

Overall feedback about the proposed relocation and upgrade of the playground highlighted the importance of retaining the playground as a valuable community asset.

Specific feedback included the need to ensure that the new playground is safe for children (including some concern the proposed location is unsafe) and that it retains its current size and functionality. There were also suggestions to incorporate additional features into the playground, such as more seating and shaded areas.

In relation to the community garden, while overall sentiment was supportive, there was strong concern about the need for the garden to be adequately equipped and maintained. There was also some uncertainty about the need for and accessibility of the garden and the suitability of the proposed location.

Overall, the feedback was largely positive, with a strong focus on making the Pavilion more functional, inclusive, and environmentally sustainable

Appendices

5.1 Your Say page


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Walter Street Reserve Pavilion Upgrade

We are seeking community feedback about the proposed concept plan for the Walter Street Reserve Pavilion upgrade.

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Home / Walter Street Reserve Pavilion Upgrade

Walter Street Reserve is a much-loved local park providing a well-used playing field and high-quality sports facilities in a setting of native trees and shrubs. The upgrade of the Walter Street Reserve Pavilion is an important initiative to ensure the Reserve continues to meet the sporting and broader needs of the local community in a functional, aesthetic, ecological and sustainable manner.

The design approach for the Pavilion Upgrade Concept Plan considered the existing character of the reserve, minimum standards for national/state sporting bodies and the needs of current sports club tenants, and the wider community.

The Plan includes extension and renovation of the existing sporting pavilion, and provides a framework for the relocation, upgrade and replacement of existing elements of the natural and built environment. Some specific elements included in the design are:

- More changerooms and toilets, to cater for the increasing number of junior and female players.
- More modern, female friendly toilets and separate change rooms.
- Internal toilets for spectators and function attendees.
- A new public toilet will be available to reserve users during daylight hours.
- A more functional internal layout.
- Increased circulation and storage space in the kitchen.
- Increased storage space for general club items.
- Multipurpose spaces for use by the wider community outside of sports club allocated hours.
- Relocation and potential upgrades to the existing playground and community garden.

We're keen to hear from community members who use the Pavilion, or who have a general interest in improvements to the Reserve. Have your say today!

Check out our design concept plans!

[Open our plans](#)

Have your say!

[Click here for the survey](#)

Frequently Asked Questions

- ? Why does the pavilion need upgrading?
- ? Who and how many people currently use the pavilion?
- ? How much input can the community provide into the concept design for the pavilion?
- ? Are there any elements in the concept design which can't be changed?
- ? How will the upgrade impact existing vegetation?
- ? How will the upgrade impact the footprint of the existing playground and community garden?

Timeline

- ★ Consultation open for feedback
18 November 2024
- ☆ Consultation closes
15 December 2024
- ☆ Community feedback considered
January 2025
- ☆ Detailed design completed
June 2025
- ☆ Construction
July 2026 - June 2028
(Subject to Council budget processes)

[See less](#)

Contact Us

Have questions or want to learn more about this project, contact us below:

Name Community Engagement Team
 Phone 92438888
 Email yoursay@mvcc.vic.gov.au
 In writing 9 Kellaway Avenue
 Moonee Ponds, VIC, 3039

5.2 Survey – Walter Street Reserve Pavilion Upgrade

Your current use of the Pavilion and level of support for the upgrade design

1) Do you currently use the Pavilion?*

☐ Yes

☐ No

2) To what extent do you support the proposed concept design for the Pavilion? (Please choose one option from the five choices below)*

☐ Strongly oppose ☐ Oppose ☐ Neutral ☐ Support ☐ Strongly support

3) Would you like to provide any comments to support your rating? (Please write your response below)

Additional (optional) feedback about the Pavilion

4) Do you currently experience any barriers accessing the facilities within the Pavilion or Reserve? (Please write your response below)

5) Do you have any suggestions about the external appearance of the Pavilion? (Please write your response below)

6) There may be opportunities to incorporate additional elements into the design. Do you have any suggestions about potential external art/cultural elements, such as a mural? (Please write your response below)

Additional feedback about the Reserve

7) Are there any specific vegetation or landscaping suggestions you would like to see incorporated into the Reserve? (Please write your response below)

8) It is proposed that the current playground will be relocated and replaced as part of this project – what items would you like to see retained? (Please write your response below)

9) Do you use the current community garden? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

10) A similar sized community garden is planned to be relocated on the reserve, do you have any feedback on what this should include? (Please write your response below)

11) What is your connection to Moonee Valley?

☐ I live here

☐ I work here

☐ I study here

☐ I visit here

☐ I own property

☐ I own a business

☐ I am associated with a business or community group / organisation. Please name:

☐ I am a Moonee Valley City Council staff member

12) Suburb you live in

13) To which of the following age groups do you belong?

☐ Under 18

☐ 18 – 24

☐ 25 – 34

☐ 35 – 49

☐ 50 – 59

☐ 60 - 69

☐ 70 – 84

☐ 85+

14) Do you identify as:

☐ Woman

☐ Man

☐ Non-binary

☐ Prefer to self-describe: _____

☐ Prefer not to say

15) Do you usually speak a language other than English at home?

16) Please indicate if you identify as any of the following (select all that apply):

☐ Aboriginal

☐ Torres Strait Islander

☐ LGBTQIA+

☐ A person with a disability

☐ A carer

☐ A disability ally (someone who supports and amplifies the cause of people with disability)

☐ Need help with self-care activities

☐ Need help with body movement activities

☐ Need help with communication activities

5.3 Onsite poster



Walter Street Reserve Pavilion Upgrade

Council is currently progressing a design stage for future construction of an extension and refurbishment of the Walter Street Reserve Pavillion.

We are keen to hear feedback from community on the look and feel for this facility. Have your say today!

The renovation of the pavilion will see the facility updated to meet AFL and Cricket Australia guidelines and standards, which will better cater for the growing number of female and junior players at the reserve.



Have Your Say

-  03 9243 888
-  council@mvcc.vic.gov.au
-  yoursay.mvcc.vic.gov.au

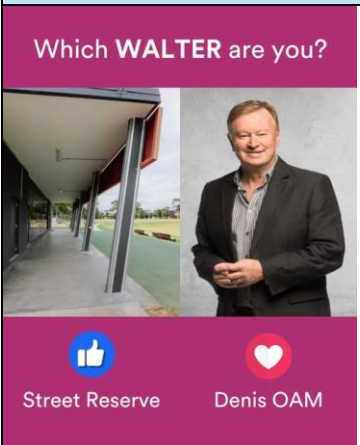


5.4 Social media posts

Post: 9 December 2024

Graphic	Facebook		Instagram	
Instagram  cityofmooneevalley    cityofmooneevalley  A little MORE consultation...and a lot MORE action! ... more	Reach	912	Reach	454
	Reactions	9	Reactions	8
	Shares	1	Comments	0
	Comments	0		
	Clicks	5		

Post: 6 December 2024

Graphic	Facebook	
	Reach	3,880
	Reactions	28
	Shares	1
	Comments	1
	Clicks	233

5.5 Free text comments

Would you like to provide any comments to support your rating? (regarding level of support for the proposed concept design)

The current pavilion is not fit for purpose for the current sporting clubs and restricts any future growth in community sport. The juniors whole canteen is outside and exposed to the elements, 1 set of change rooms are not fit for both males, females and over 35s playing at the ground at the same time, the social space is small and the location of the working portable toilets is not safe for children.

I support the Pavilion as it is desperately in need of an upgrade given the amount of use it gets. I strongly urge you to consider building a permanent cafe or similar as part of the facilities as the area has grown dramatically due to residential development and it is a great hub for people to congregate all days of the week. This would also promote further health and activity.

Whilst upgrades to community facilities are always welcome, I believe the current Pavilion meets the needs of its current users and there are other parks and Pavilion's in Moonee Valley that require upgrades

Child participation in football & cricket at Walter st

A long needed upgrade for the local community

Would love more child friendly facilities to be able to encourage my own children to eventually play for the club and make use of the facilities

The current facilities are so far from being fit for purpose it's hard to describe. The lack of changeroom facilities to safely support the needs of the ever-growing number of girls in football is just the start. Lack of storage means umpires do not have a private space before, during and after games, inadequate catering facilities make it very difficult to enable the football and cricket clubs who use Walter st to raise funds through canteen sales to be self sufficient NFPs, providing valuable sporting opportunities to our community. The update will also provide for an increased social area, safely supporting the sporting clubs awards and presentation days. Outside of this, there is upside in improved parking and lighting to be realised. The list goes on for this much needed upgrade.

The Pavilion should provide a community hub for members and the community alike and be an asset to attract further participants in the sport. Coming from Qld where facilities are new and provide for a growing base, female participation is growing, I believe that new facilities are paramount to have a standard of quality and a separation for female and male players where usage crosses over. Upgraded facilities will also assist in the club becoming further self funding.

It's long overdue. As a footy player myself and travelling to play at other council grounds it's quite apparent how old and unsuitable the current facilities at Walter Street are.

Currently use it as I play masters footy for ascot vale panthers. Rooms and facilities are in desperate need of upgrade and are too small and dysfunctional

The facilities are dated. The ascot vale panthers use these facilities to accommodate teams ranging from young children right through to over 50s level. The showers are barely functional. There aren't enough toilets to allow for privacy and separation amongst children, adults, males, females and those with disabilities. Currently, portable toilets are in place. The change rooms are small and uncomfortable. The community deserve better.

The proposed changes would be very welcomed. Change rooms for females, a proper functioning kitchen and first aid/ medical area are necessities for any modern inner city sporting facility.

This upgrade project is desperately needed which bring a facility to the base level needed for such a large new housing community. The oval is used every day by sporting clubs bursting at the sides.

There is a clear need to accommodate additional sports teams.

As a male football player the changerooms need to be extended to allow all players to fit also an additional female changeroom for the ever increasing female participation both in juniors and seniors there are no facilities dedicated to them, the extra space on top level will allow more social attendance with roomier facilities

The Pavilion needs to ensure it has ample space on the outside for sponsor signage, as Clubs are dependent on it, and there needs to be space on the walls on the inside for hanging perpetual trophies

More council money being spent on sporting clubs

As a player for Ascot Vale Masters football club, I see first hand how in need of an upgrade the facility is.
My children (boy and girl) both play football at Panthers. For such a large junior club, unfortunately the rooms are just simply not fit for purpose. We desperately need this upgrade to support both boys and girls teams to have appropriate facilities including separate boys and girls change rooms and toilet facilities. I strongly support this redevelopment
I've been involved with the Ascot Vale Panthers for 8yrs and in short, the level and condition of the facilities is poor - especially compared to all the other grounds we visit during the seasons.
The pavilion is in dire need of an overhaul and upgrade, the facilities are in poor condition and need upgrading
Planned extension will create a hard wall to access the park from Walter St.
Design seems appropriate for high level of usage
I am pleased to see more appropriate facilities for females in the plans. The Umpire rooms and additional rooms for teams to use when at the site is much required. Improved parking and lighting in the area is also a benefit to the communities who use the facilities.
The facilities are no longer fit for purpose. A public toilet that is accessible during the day (when no sport is on) is sorely needed.
Changing rooms for girls and women is a basic necessity and should be provided asap to encourage more female athletes!
Current facilities inadequate for qty of people using it
We currently use the pavilion for both football & cricket club use and this upgrade is long overdue. The current facilities are not fit for purpose with basic amenity (private toilets, change rooms etc.) not provided.
The current pavilion is too small for the clubs it catered for. They need new bathroom and toilet amenities
Its not a bad Pavilion but the changerooms are too small for most adult teams, there are no female changerooms, and parking is at an absolute premium often having to park blocks away which I know annoys the local residents.
Replacement of the current Walter St Facility is well overdue considering it is 80+ years old and completely unsuitable for the sports clubs and community. The new housing estate contributed a very significant amount of funds into MVCC DCP and us as the Community whom contributed should be able to use those funds towards community projects like this one.
I am involved with the cricket club, and the current changerooms are inadequate for the combination of male and female teams using facilities in the same day, storage for clubs within the facility is poor and the lack of designated female toilets for use during men's matches is appalling. Well overdue for an overhaul to support the fantastic growth of ascot vale panthers and Flemington gulls
The current clubrooms are not adequate for the members and supporters to use. The lack of facilities are in need of a major upgrade.
With the increase in sporting participation and the growth in Females in sport (Football, Cricket, etc) which use this oval this will ensure there is appropriate change rooms and bathrooms (both in size and functionality) as well as â□ Inclusion of female bathrooms and change areas supporting a safe and inclusive environment for children and adults. Not only will this support gender diversity it will also ensure support future community events with an extended social and viewing space for local community and events increasing the connection with the community.
Upgrade club rooms and facilities
I think that a basketball court - even a half basketball court - should be included for the surrounding grounds. Perhaps near the mobile phone towers
The area needs an upgrade, especially public toilets.
Inclusion of female changing facilities is needed. Larger social area to support community use. Kiosk area to support community use and access.
I have heard that some trees will be removed during the project and I am sure that this is not necessary and that solutions to keep the trees can be explored
I live on Walter Street and my children play ball sports and walk our dog around the Reserve weekly. I welcome the upgrade but would like to see the community garden closer to the playground, so that gardening parents can keep a closer eye on kids using the playground equipment. With the cricket nets between them,

I'll lose line of sight of the kids. What is not shown on the design is the location of the drinking fountain and bins, which would be helpful to know. More bins are required to cope with the level of rubbish produced over the weekends during the cricket and football seasons. While I love that cricket and footy are catered to let's also embrace a netball hoop to be included in the reserve so that our local girls' most popular sport has resources dedicated to it. The Flemington Kensington netball club is one of the largest and yet there are no hoops publically available in Ascot Vale. (The Fairbairn Reserve netball courts are locked unless there are scheduled matches/training so young players can't practice).

I would like to see: â€¢ Improved parking â€¢ Improved lighting â€¢ Appropriate change rooms and bathrooms â€¢ Inclusion of female bathrooms and change areas which is imperative as games overlay and we have boys using the same space as girl â€¢ Increased social area size on an elevated platform â€¢ Kitchen and canteen area with external servery â€¢ Umpire rooms

The three large canopy trees should not be removed! Birds and other animals use those trees and they cannot be replaced by younger trees and still provide the same environment

I support the upgrading of the amenities and the pavilion. I do not support the removal of 3 established native trees. There is adequate space between the melaleucas and the gum for an entrance way. To remove established trees for an aesthetic and to replace with I assume heat radiating concrete is extremely reckless in such a fragile environmental state. We need to be minimising tree removal at all costs. Council should be doing more than the bare minimum to ensure trees are retained.

Current public toilet facilities are completely inadequate as are change facilities within the club rooms - these upgrades are well overdue

I support the improved facilities and the provision of a public toilet. This is a great public area and the upgrade will improve it further, but I am concerned about the removal of trees next to Walter St. These provide shade and atmosphere and I do not want to see them removed.

With most of these projects, design is really insular. Theres no broad sky thinking about what that space could do for the entire local community. These spaces could be community hubs, not just pavilions. ESD is essential and including facilities like EV charging are now pretty rudimentary. But having the building designed so public get access to the toilets really opens up the space. With medium density development all around, the garden is going to play an increasing role in connecting community and biulding community resilience. The unnecessary removal of mature trees is not acceptable.

The adequate change rooms improvements are a good thing. Three things are very ill conceived and obviously not done by a local architect or someone who knows the street . 1/ the community garden is an eye sore , not maintain and not used ...2/ the secondary access is right near the cricket nets (how stupid from an OHS perspective) it should be central as cater for access to the pavilion and finally the playground should stay closer to the pavilion so the families are included in the sporting atmosphere and close to where their parents participate.(right near our expensive score is again just silly)

The removal of playground and large trees which provide shade do not seem worth it. They should build above to increase the pavilion size not take over lovely community green space.

The current pavilion is not fit for purpose for a growing and vibrant club like the Ascot Vale Panthers and Flemington Gulls. Having to use portable toilets, for example, is not appropriate in today's age.

The current pavilion does not meet the needs of the Football clubs esp as the junior club grows. The change rooms are not suitable for both over 35s and juniors sharing the ground on the same day. There is no canteen area. Juniors are moving equipment out each Sunday and subject to the weather. Socials rooms are small and storage is minimal

The proposed relocation site for the playground is dangerous as it right next to the corner of Gillespie Ave and MacArthur Ave. This is a blind corner. I fear children will run onto these streets on or around that corner as it is so close and may get hit by cars.

Given the number of people that use the facility, it had better go through. The portable toilets are not acceptable

The proposed pavilion will be an awesome addition to this sporting area. Especially making it gender neutral and inclusive to all.

Support but design does not suit

It desperately needs an upgrade to have the facilities other clubs have!

This is a high growth space for local families and needs to be upgraded so it is fit for purpose and continue to support the use of the space
Use of playground and toilets
We need upgraded facilities to adequately cater for the increased numbers of girls/females participating in football. Outside toilets in portables are well overdue to be replaced. No current canteen facilities. The umpires room is also a basic portable which is not great.
I am a current player for the ascot vale panthers over 35s, and use the facilities weekly from March through to September. The facility is in dire need of upgrade, has limited accessibility and isn't functional in its current form for the quantity of sporting members that use it.
Not enough detail as yet only a vague proposal or area.
Whilst I agree with the need to upgrade the Pavilion, I'm apposed to an increase in a greater use by wider community groups when the facility is not use for sporting activities (after hours). This will impact on local residents.
The canteen area is usually staffed by volunteers that miss out on seeing the games being played. I strongly recommend putting it somewhere with a clear view to the oval itself
I support the expansion to allow the use of the space by the wider community and not just sporting clubs
I believe we need the following for the new pavilion for function to its full potential, considering the growth of the various sporting clubs using the facilities -Improved parking & lighting - Appropriate change rooms and bathrooms - Inclusion of female bathrooms and change areas - Increased social area size on an elevated platform - Kitchen and canteen area with external servery - Umpire rooms Thank you
Community hub Football - AV Football Club and Super rules Cricket - Flemington Gulls Running
As a regular user of Walter st oval, I strongly support the redevelopment to better support participants and community. Lighting, parking, change room, kitchen and community space all need upgrading given volume of participants, and rapid growth, particularly girls sport. Public toilets are needed and Canteen facilities will enable clubs better support themselves financially, keeping participant fees low. This oval is so well positioned in the community, upgrades to facilities will enable clubs to continue to support sports involvement and community gatherings.
[REDACTED] Currently, the use of the pavilion creates noise pollution from the footballers, football crowd, football sirens, loud music after the football has finished. There is currently a security spotlight that shines nightly into [REDACTED]. At the moment there is a dangerous storm water drain that I have constantly observed unsupervised children as young as preschoolers playing on and around the drain and they are there every football game and football training nights. There has already been one accident that I have witnessed in which a young child about 8-10 had his leg stuck in the grate and I volunteered my own time to help the child and the adults that were in attendance. In the current proposal my concern is moving the playground to near the cricket nets is much closer to the drain and further away from parents. Is having the playground so close to the stormwater drain going to be a bigger incentive for children to play there? Having the playground so far away from the pavilion I am concerned there will be an increase in unsupervised children playing in the playground and will, by default, become an unfair responsibility for residents living in close proximity. Will there be an increase in lighting around the playground and the pavilion? It is already too light with the current spotlight and football ground lights. I am concerned about noise pollution from the close proximity of the playground. Will the building of the new playground disturb any underground structures such as the below storm water drain and if so is that going to create further water works in our area. Will the playground be built in a flood zone and will there be increased rain runoff into our property? I am also concerned that the proposal of the new playground is built near a blind corner and close to a busy road, Mcarthur Ave. In our area alone there is already 4 well known and close playgrounds within walking distance of residential areas such as Victory Park, Pipemakers park, the playground in the Enclave estate wetlands, and the playground in St Leonard's Rd. I am concerned that moving the current raised community garden beds and its existing compost bins to near the cricket nets will create a harbour for pests such as rodents and mosquitoes and foxes. There has been many sightings already of fox activity in our area. Again will having the garden beds so close to our home which is a flood zone created any possibility of higher than normal rain runoff into our yard and home. I strongly oppose any removal of local native trees or shrubs. It has taken many years for native birds to return to this end of Walter reserve but I have personally noticed the increase in native corellas and rosellas feeding on the ground around the cricket nets and more recently tawny

frogmouths nesting in the trees near the cricket nets. Building a playground and moving the raised garden beds to this area will be disruptive to the current native birds and wildlife species in the area and may even see a decline in populations. Will having a larger and newer pavilion create more functions? The current football club has many functions on weekends and weeknights at the pavilion and the sound pollution from the pavilion coming into our bedrooms at night is like a nightclub and they often play loud music well past curfew.

Pavilion upgrade and improved accessibility are a genuine requirement. The key issues are the ancillary facilities - the playground and community garden which are being relocated too close to residential areas.

Walter street's community sports clubs are vibrant and need the pavilion upgrade for various reasons: appropriate change rooms including separate facilities for males and females, improved parking and lighting, larger social and viewing areas for families and supporters at football and cricket matches, proper kitchen with outside canteen window, suitable facilities for umpires (compared to the present portable tin shed)

I currently use the pavilion for football as part of the ascot Vale super rules. I fully support the new club rooms as it really needs it. No umpire change rooms or female toilets located in the pavilion

I feel due to the development of the clubhouse and the relocation of the playground and community gardens to outside No. 56 -70 Gillespie Ave it makes for an overuse of space and that everything will be crammed into one area. It will greatly disturb these residents - visually and with noise levels and lighting increased. Any parent in/near the clubhouse cannot supervise children in the playground. It is also proposed to be situated on a 'blind corner' and closer to the storm drain where children currently cannot resist playing. I object to trees being cut down and the effect on native birds just returning to this area. The community gardens, with compost bins attract vermin - we are already seeing many foxes in the area. There will be increased dog walkers with unleashed dogs and poo deposits.

Would like to get more information on the overall plan to prevent overuse and growth affecting residents in a negative way. While refurbishing existing rooms is needed, this shouldn't be at the expense substantially increasing the footprint and relocating the playground etc. Also, use of rooms for end of season functions, not monitored well now, will get worse.

Do you currently experience any barriers accessing the facilities within the Pavilion or Reserve?

Poor parking Poorly lit No female bathroom Not accessible for elderly

Is it difficult to walk from Walter Street through to the reserve given the concrete planting boxes and bollards. We can not wheel a kids bike through to the playground / bike path area and then have to take it via the driveway which is dangerous with cars.

I think that "control" during the winter season is deemed to be for the sole use of the club that it is allocated to and requests to the allocated club for access is always met with negativity and conflicts of interest.

Lack of public bathroom access / limited access during sports (except for portables) is problematic. Grandparents / those with mobility issues have trouble accessing facilities

Difficult to park safely, insufficient space

Parking can be an issue as there is not enough

No

There are numerous challenges accessing the facilities, especially on wet game days when all supporters are huddled under the awning where we are trying to safely run a BBQ and canteen service due to having no external servary.

Yes it is extremely busy and changers need to be shared not appropriate for seniors men and junior girls

yes. Sadly i'm in a wheelchair now due to a stroke and the only wheelchair entrance is round the back. The one disabled toilet is also very small .

Poor parking poor lighting poor layout and too small

The only toilets available are in the change rooms and there is one in the club room. The portables situated near Walter St are not of any standard at all. Having used these facilities for 13 years now, I've not seen any development whatsoever.

Limited car parking during football season

My daughters and wife can only use a temporary dirty portable toilet when training and playing at the oval. The car park is overflowing during training and games There are no suitable kitchen facilities for clubs to run a canteen. The bbq currently used is quite unsafe and expecting kids to just eat a sausage every Sunday is unacceptable. The sports clubs can't use the pavilion for events as it is too small and need to hire venues off other hotels or sporting clubs. We need sustainable and modern unisex/female facilities. Showers with a curtains are not acceptable in a model society.
No
The parking lot is way to small for all members to attend, most away teams or late comers affect neighbours by parking in streets
I'm glad to hear there will be toilets available to park users during daylight hours.
I'm somewhat scared of walking on the track around the oval, at the point where the cricket nets near the path when there is cricket training on as I feel that I could easily get hit with a cricket ball. It would be good to have some sort of protection there.
When my two daughters come to watch me play there is no toilets for them to use.
No barriers for access, just inappropriately designed rooms for the numbers of boys and girls we have
Apart from the change rooms being to small, the toilet facilities are poor especially with a portable out the back
Parking and the lighting in the car park can be an issue during night time training - difficult to see kids
Seems to be only for sporting groups. Community groups and residents (for family events) should be able to utilise this space.
Yes - toilets are not available when pavilion is not being used. So when I go down to Walter St with kids to use cricket nets, footy oval or playground and kids need to go to toilet need to go home. Need to be toilets available to public at Walter St
Improved parking would be beneficial for visiting clubs to the location, it can get busy and crowed.
No. But toilet facilities would be a welcome addition
No
Toilet facilities limited
Yes in the fact that the facilities within the pavilion are largely unusable. There are no barriers on accessing the reserve.
Just getting a park nearby
The current facilities don't support young children and teens requiring basic toilets, change rooms and large social rooms suitable for a large community sports clubs.
I have often had to turn away women or children during match days asking for toilets as I just could not facilitate them. Since the portables have been out in it is embarrassing to send opposition clubs to them
Yes. Right now there is limited access points for cars and the off street parking is tight. The parking lot is also dark in Winter when the children are looking for their parents in the car park or on the side streets as the parents wait in their cars due to the lack of outside viewing area which is covered.
No although concerned about the continual waste of ratepayer funds on existing facilities which are quite adequate.
The toilets are portables
Lack of toilets, they are at back of facility. No where to buy food, only a bbq and no canteen Old and dated inside Parking is a nightmare Lighting is poor at night
Toilets not open outside of clubroom times. No female bathrooms. Playground area needs upgrade- rusty and poor quality. Very poor lighting in winter- safety risk esp to children given antisocial behaviour/ drug sales observed in car park at times.
No female changing facilities
No
No
Yes the change rooms are very dated and small for the 500 users
No

Toilets are often inaccessible and there are no other facilities nearby
No
Only really accessible to the sporting community not the wider community,
Yes , Poorly maintained pathways , gardens are not well maintained , bluestone walls are falling down, too many dogs off leash makes it dangerous.
No
There is no wheel chair access to the change rooms. There are no inside toilets for the social rooms. There are no female friendly change rooms.
No
the gravel race from the pavilion to the oval is dangerous, and slippery in winter
No
No
No
No
If council money is spent on the facilities it should be open to the public, including available public toilets that can be used outside of sports hrs
The carpark can easily full during footy season, especially in finals.
No barriers myself. The amenities are just barely ok for males. They are non-existent for females.
NO
No
Yes it's only reserved for sporting clubs
No barriers accessing the facilities but the pavilion is very outdated and not large enough
It's not an ideal situation that, with the largest junior girls' program in Moonee Valley, our facilities still fall so far behind what is needed to support the growth of girls' participation in football. As a father of three children with all involved in the junior boys & girls program, I see firsthand how inadequate and unsustainable the current setup is. We are working with only two small clubrooms, and when there are multiple games happening simultaneously—which is almost every week—there are no separate change rooms available for the girls in particular. This means players, coaches, and parents are constantly navigating an often awkward situation where girls are left without basic privacy or space to prepare for their games. The lack of dedicated change rooms for the girls isn't just an inconvenience; it's a barrier to providing an inclusive, equitable, and professional environment for our players. For a program of this size and significance, it's frankly not ideal and an urgent upgrade is needed. If we want to continue fostering participation and success in girls' football participation, addressing these infrastructure issues must become a top priority.
My son and I often ride to Walter Street for footy training. We do not have a safe place to leave our bikes. We should have an undercover area where bikes can be parked so they won't get wet in the rain.
Toilets are not available when sports events are not on. Moving from pavilion to reserve has very uneven terrain, and there is inadequate parking
Yes, we are not members. You can't use the "community" garden beds unless you are a part of the garden group and there is no information about how to be a part of the group.
There is a lack of public toilet facilities at the reserve and within the broader wetlands area- the closest ones are near the tennis courts
Kitchen is poorly located and lacks access to customers outside
I would like to see all dog owners having their dogs on leash. I would say only 50% abide by this rule over the last 10 years. I have seen a warden twice in these years.
Could be modernised and have everything included i.e. toilets etc. Better soundproofing
Do you have any suggestions about the external appearance of the Pavilion?
Neutral
No, I am sure that MV is well resourced to supply an appropriate design
Sympathetic to local environment

No
No
Not really
planter boxes perhaps?
Facility should be designed to cater for the growing community and use environmentally sound materials that reduce energy consumption
Make it modern reflecting the new modern and vibrant housing community around the oval.
Needs to be updated as the more and more kids and adults use the facilities
It should reflect high quality design.
The need to upgrade old looking buildings and atco toilets is a necessity
As per earlier answer, ensure there is room for sponsor signage on the exterior
No
currently looks dated and the only section that is undercover is too small and it would be better if there weren't as many columns
The view back across the park towards the river is amazing so should be capitalised
Should try to sit in the natural environment.
no
No, it looks like a community sports facility.
Murals that show the history of the sporting clubs that use the facilities
No
Low maintenance materials and recycled products where possible
The plan looks to address the appropriate needs of the pavilion.
It could do with a larger outdoor under cover area and additional seating. Plus paving the area would keep the carpet cleaner!
Love the raised platform and steps leading down to the oval.
The fake grass in front of the current club rooms should not be used again, better off having uncovered concrete
No, anything would be better than what it looks like today with temporary toilets blocks and storage rooms which get broken into easily and the community then need to clean and fix.
In keeping with nature
Mural or artwork, colourful Elevated viewing space under cover
Keep all the beautiful canopy that already exist on the site
No apart from the structure being flood-proof
I would like to see 2 levels to make a large social space for the community
No
Retaining all trees and planting as many indigenous plants as possible
Ideally it will be in keeping with the surrounding residents areas
A cool mural or piece of street art would be nice.
light materials to reduce Urban heat, this space is part of the flood zone and therefore linked to the river corridor. More should be done to provide resources for insects and birds and support more biodiversity
Something that fits it with the environment, a Corten product would be good so that the natives fit in well and the external facade is not too overpowering for the street scape. The structure should be unassuming and the Walter st Gardens should be much improved
The pavilion should blend into the current leafy surroundings
Social space should be glass to take advantage of sunken ground.
No
There seems to be a lot of stairs, is there access for wheelchairs, and disabled toilets
No

2 storey
Modern/fitting in with the locale
Include a basketball court
No suggestions for further changes
No.
NO
No
I would like to propose the relocation of the telecommunication tower on top of or close to the Pavillon. This should be considered as an option with the current Walter Reserve Telco Tower relocation plans.
It needs to be double story similar to Aberfeldie club rooms to maximize the space
It should be double story. There is a wasted opportunity not making this larger with the growing community.
It would be great to have an undercover area to stand when it rains during the footy season. There is a lot of mud on kids' footy boots when they enter the changing room, so the changing room and club floor must be designed to accommodate this.
I think it looks good. More bins in the area would be good and refill the dog poo bags more often.
Only that it remains in keeping with the green of the open space
Too small given it's flanked by portable sheds for public toilets and umpires room
There is a larger green area further from residents, and the road, and the storm drain only 100m along the oval path. This would be more acceptable.
Not a mega-structure and to keep playground next to it, don't move to other side near Gillespie Avenue as is too far especially for toilets, pets off lead and near a blind corner.
Do you have any suggestions about potential external art/cultural elements, such as a mural?
A mural would be a fantastic addition to the community, especially incorporating the sports around the area
Sustainability focused?
Increased social space, including opportunity to cater to external of venue
Yes I think it should be conducive to the heritage of the area.
Implement a "green or living roof"?
A mural by a local artist/s would be amazing, even more so from an indigenous artist
I welcome the move of the community gardens as these bring joy to people and the playground gets used a lot
Landscaping to improve the general area.
Maybe a big Panther - but should be zero cost. All dollars should be put into functionality - not wasted on nice to haves
I like the idea, I feel that if it was vandalised it would be quite disappointing to the community. If that could be addressed something to reflect the Woi-wurrung people would be wonderful.
Mural would be perfect, only if it's commissioned to a local artist, aboriginal artists would be the best!
I'd like to see large social room facilities so the building can be used for larger groups in the Community such as Ascot Vale West Primary and St Mary's Primary whom have limited facilities and located less then 500m away from this new social space. It should be for the future growing needs for the next 80 years and not just the current point in time.
Both tenant clubs have a strong stance on inclusivity, indigenous artwork on the building would be a fantastic link to the effort both clubs are putting in. Space for a mural showcasing the ascot vale community and landmarks would also be a fantastic addition
Indigenous design
mural would be great
See request re basketball court
I would like to see the access and internal paths upgraded to shared path width (min. 2.5m, ideally 3m) so they are (legally) accessible to all forms of micromobility.

Need to add: Improved parking Improved lighting Appropriate change rooms and bathrooms Inclusion of female bathrooms and change areas Increased social area size on an elevated platform Kitchen and canteen area with external servery Umpire rooms
Aboriginal artwork
Maribyrnong means 'I can hear ringtail possums' in Wurundjuri and Walter Street is full of possums. Perhaps a possum motif would be fitting given the proximity to the Maribyrnong river and our abundant native wildlife.
I think any additional funds should be incorporated into the building itself or reinstating the community garden
Yes a mural would be brilliant
Space for a CDS reverse vending machine, EV charging, bike parking, more vegetation to landscape it and provide shade over hard surfaces.
Inclusion of a Koorie mural facing the primary entrance would state inclusion on a otherwise subdued , grounded building
Something that is local to the area and means something. Maybe the social rooms or home change rooms could be named after Callan Tenabel. A huge contributor of the club and a advocate of the new rooms
Incorporate team colours into the designs
Murals come and go. Something artistic yes but more permanent. Maybe a competition
Playground relocation is not suitable
Local art
Basketball court !!!
Better playground upon relocation- it's a large space so could do with something bigger
Anything that would be representative of the local community would be appropriate.
You can never have enough storage space
Just get on with it! We have been waiting too long already
There should be an upstairs balcony
Many volunteers have been involved in enabling community sport at Walter st, they should be acknowledged
I am very happy to have a mural and would even suggest my fence as a potential canvas. 70 Gillespie Ave.
Public art, murals and acknowledgement of First Nations history would be welcome. Pipe makers on the other side of the river is an excellent example
Art which links the pavilion to the broader Walter st reserve, wetlands and river precinct
Mural not required, save money and make better use of it.
No
No
None really
No I'd prefer to just have a nice design rather than a mural.
No
I don't, sorry.
No
No
No I don't have suggestions for further changes
Nil
No
Are there any specific vegetation or landscaping suggestions you would like to see incorporated into the Reserve?
Yes, the tree and planting area along Walter Street and the reserve is terrible, and constantly overgrown with weeds. The council should consider fully planting these areas with natives to make them far more attractive.
Always nice to be in keeping with current vegetation
As much greenery / natural cover as possible

Sympathetic to native area
No
No
No
Level the grass area at the back as this is used for footy warm up by the teams.
No
No.
Watering of oval requires upgrade to allow even growth
The community garden should be expanded.
Playing surface needs rejuvenating
No
The section between the pavilion and the actual ground could have a better layout with more seats
As mentioned, replacement of playground is important, it is well used
Thicker vegetation. Use on some exotics species to provide sun in winter, shade in summer.
Get rid of those vegetable plots. They are not maintained and are an eyesore
No.
Please fence the playground.
More greenery the better! Local indigenous plant life usually survives better with less maintenance. It will be better to have some local flora and fauna.
Trees for shade , just not those terrible ones that drop stuff all over Walter st footpaths and road they really need to be replaced BTW they are a hazard
Native planting throughout with larger trees to ensure appropriate shade would be good.
More medium sized shrubs to reduce wind
Indigenous plants only please
It would be good to have some areas of the open park space allocated to a native woodland to foster native wildlife
Nil. There is currently a community vege patch which is great. If this can remain or be moved, where the community and child care could use this would be great.
Why is there are need to remove trees near but not hindering the facility???
Native plants
no
Native plants to encourage animals and less maintenance
Keep all the existing canopy
Lots of kids run around barefoot so please avoid flowering plants near the playground that will attract bees.
Leave the existing trees
Indigenous plants and retaining all trees
Planting should be in keeping with the surrounding area
I am concerned about removal of trees as part of this upgrade and urge that taking out mature trees be avoided wherever possible. These trees provide much needed shade and are a great feature of the area.
See previous comments. Just not enough. And the removal of mature trees needs to be avoided at all costs
Yes , yes , yes .Walter garden bed are huge and have been recently planted out .But clearly a landscape architect was not involved .This is a opportunity to have year round interest .A comprehensive design by an architect should include a tactile garden for the vision impaired. [REDACTED]
Keep the trees and don't remove them
There is no need for a community garden. It wasn't maintained before and looks terrible now the seeds spread out everywhere. It is a waste of time and money
open grass areas, near where the park was to allow for spectators to have a picnic
No

Basketball court
Need to ensure it remains a dogs on leash area
A better option for the apron between the club and the oval as the fake turf gets extremely slippery during the winter months.
More shade trees would be good around the oval.
No
No
Natives
Vegetation needs to be able to withstand many kids playing there, and should not obstruct view of the playing field. It's particularly windy from river end in winter, maybe more shrubs back towards wetlands?
I would ask that any removal of or adding of vegetation be given careful consideration of the current native animal species in the area
The community gardens and playground are being relocated too close to residential housing. There is already amenity issues with noise, light pollution and litter, but it is currently far enough away not to cause complaints. But the residents regularly clean up left drink bottles etc around the cricket nets after the weekend practice. The playground is frequently unsightly with discarded food and wrappings. The compost bins were misused for rubbish. There is no way that these facilities should be located so close to families living in Gillespie Avenue.
Expand existing steps of seating to the south
Ensure the flood watercourse is retained, more trees around boundary path
It is proposed that the current playground will be relocated and replaced as part of this project – what items would you like to see retained?
100% yes it needs to be retained. It does not need to be relocated as far as it is in the plans. There is sufficient room behind the goals on the oval for this to fit. You should consider that when any events are held at the oval, the playground is full and it makes sense to be next to the Pavilion so parents and children are close together. If it is moved significantly this won't be possible. I would like to see a significant upgrade of the playground equipment given it is used by many children every day, and particularly when sporting events / training is on.
I am not an expert in playground equipment and unable to comment
Swings Climbing equipment
Climbing ability, and swings
I can't recall off the top of my head how exactly what elements are currently there. But slide as a minimum
The playground is a great community space and all elements should be re-purposed in its new location as it is entirely fit for purpose
Swings area for kids and even bbq facilities
the playground is heavily used so something of similar capability..
Current items sufficient
Whatever is safe and functional for the community
Swings, slides & climbing frame
Make it bigger if possible and covered with shade cloth
Please include a modern and challenging playground that will attract kids. The group swing is always positive. Maybe a sand pit/water play area?
Wood chips under playground
Slide, swings, climbing frame, monkey bars
It's great that it's being retained as many of the younger siblings and younger players use this facility
All of it is very well used
Playground is old and should be made adventurous. Use of timber or natural colours would be preferred.
None - make it new and better

Swings, monkey bars, climbing walls and slides. They all get used heavily.
It's an excellent playground that is suitable for a wide age bracket. Perhaps some equipment that is specific to the youngest cohort would be useful.
Slides, more swings
A new playground would address this need
The entire lot, plus more addrd
There are a lot of families around the area. We would love to see it bigger than it currently is.
The playground is very basic and easily moved in my opinion. There is also a playground on the other side of the playground in the reserve which can also be used. There have actually been incidents on the playground itself given its age
better items, a bit dated
Badly needs an upgrade. Suggest keep slide, swings and replace climbing equipment. Remove veggie garden- unused and is an eyesore. Add flying fox or in ground trampolines
Climbing equipment and swings
The existing trees
Climbing elements
Not sure
No opinion
The relocation is too far away from the pavilion, keep things tighter. More areas where kids can have active play in nature ie stepping stones , balance logs etc , PLEASE KEEP it close where parents are playing so everyone is included
The size of the playground being maintained and not reduced. Moved to a shaded area.
Playground should upgraded and accommodate equipment for older children (5-8yrs) given demographic of local families
If it is still fit for purpose, all of it should be reused.
There needs to include a basketball court or half court in the design as there is non in this area apart of this council
See my previous comment. I suggest the playground stay where it is.
all of it
What ever kids like to use nowadays
Poor design. Playground should remain in position close to clubhouse not further away. Position means parents are close to children. Bad idea next to nets. Kids run around and will get hit with cricket balls. Clubhouse should utilise current footprint better even having 2 storey
None - the old playground is very old and outdated
Make playground bigger and put in basket ball court
The swings are the most popular followed by the slides
Nothing - that playground needs a complete overhaul. A newer, larger playground should be installed with appropriate fencing
None, a new playground would be good.
None - playground should NOT move from current location
The relocation of the play ground far away from the Pavilion and toilets denies logic. Its placement approximately, 10 metres from residents is not acceptable and as it will severely impact on their privacy.
Not fussed, my kids are too old to use it.
Just as it is&is fine
Keep it similar. It works well. Relocation is not an issue.
The cubby house and climbing frame. Kids enjoy the challenge of more difficult play equipment
I am strongly opposed to the playground being relocated as already discussed.
What about reconsidering if it is even needed. There are multiple playgrounds within easy walking distance of the site. The playground is not used as frequently given the better facilities at the nearby wetlands. And they

certainly should not be relocated so close to a blind corner and so close to the residents of Gillespie Avenue. There's an additional danger of the playground being too far from the Pavillon for them to attend activity and keep a watchful eye.
Swing, slide and climbing frame. This play equipment provides valuable activities for young players and their younger siblings.
Rope climb, swings, bridges and slide
Reduce the playground with brand new equipment.
Swings, slides, climbing wall, see saws + other new equipment. Suggest that it be fenced and located adjacent to the pavilion rather than down past the cricket nets. That location is not ideal and, if nothing else, locating near the pavilion will save on some landscaping costs after the build is complete.
Current playground should remain in current location - could question if required at all. There is a great playground less than 200 meters away in the wetlands - this didn't exist when the current playground was built. New location is way too close to residential properties causing noise, rubbish, dogs, no toilet, safety issues, lack of parking
A similar sized Community Garden is planned to be relocated on the reserve, do you have any feedback on what this should include?
The community garden has not been used for some time and has all died out. I would consider removing this altogether as it adds limited value.
Community Gardens are important and should be promoted
Consider whether community garden is needed. The current one does not appear to be used. The boxes are full of dry dirt and weeds and the area around the boxes is poorly maintained with high grass, weeds, etc. The area would look better without it?
No
No
No feedback
No
A sign with a season planting calendar might be helpful?
Should be designed to cater for the entire surrounding community
No
Storage area for tools/equipment, compost bins, raised garden beds, irrigation/water tap
It would be great if it was bigger, so more people would feel like they can participate. It would also be great to have a free food and book library in the reserve, so left over food from the community garden could be made available. And the book/tiny library idea isn't related to the garden, but would be a great location
Current one is a disaster. I would not waste the money
No
No, but i love walking through it with my kids
Should it be relocated? Does not look like it is used.
Not sure why it's needed. Doesn't seem to be maintained. Could divert savings back into pavillon
Herbs and Lemon Trees - the community love herbs and Lemons!
The garden gives the reserve a great community feel. Please keep it.
Community gardens are a great part of the community and support such initiatives fully
Someone designated to maintain it to a minimum standards
I don't have a view on this
No it sounds good
The current proposed location is mostly shaded which isn't ideal for the community garden. I'd suggest it's relocated to the other side of the cricket nets between the path/scoreboard and the cricket nets which it will receive far more sunlight.
As per my answer above.
looking at our local facebook groups, nobody attends the garden anymore

I think this is a waste of money - basketball court would be used
Needs to be maintained- currently eye sore
I'm currently the acting admin for the community garden. The original admin left the area and both of the original founders of the community garden have not been involved for many years. I set up gardening working bees to keep the garden running. I also liased with a council community liaison officer who connected all the community gardens through digital and in person meetings. Unfortunately this stopped when the liaison left council. I maintained the garden throughout the COVID lockdown. Post COVID volunteer numbers at working bees declined and in the end there was very little interest in the community garden by the locals who live in the immediate area. It became a struggle to maintain the garden. There were a number of issues encountered while keeping the garden alive and flourishing. The gardens would often get trampled on and destroyed by children playing sports that were not being supervised. It was often a dumping ground for rubbish from visitors using the playground, sporting activities and people walking through from local events. I no longer tend the garden, the gardens green bin has long disappeared, there was no storage for gardening equipment and because of the initial agreement with council on setting up the garden, there was little input or assistance from any council members. I have been looking for someone else to take over the admin role for the community garden without success as I'm already too busy with other community groups. Going forward my suggestion would be to actually see if anyone living around Walter Reserve actually want the community garden and who wants to take lead on making it a successful garden with community involvement. I would also suggest making sure there is some type of storage area for gardening equipment (watering hoses, spades etc) so that people don't have to drag equipment there every time the garden is used. Make sure you have a tap close to the garden to make it easy to access water to maintain the garden. Seating around the garden would also be of benefit, like it currently has. Please feel free to contact me if needed. [REDACTED]
Vegetables and herbs
Is a communal compost heap a thing? I'd love to be able to access one if so.
No
Herbs and companion planting
No
Building it is just one part of the equation. I faciliate a community garden just like this as the council has a food insecurity plan to activate these areas for those without access to gardens. These models of community collective growing are becoming more popular but need ongoing support.
GET RID OF IT , NO ONE MAINTAINS IT IT IS AN EYESORE AND A HAVEN FOR RATS
If it's being used, it should be relocated
As mentioned before it should not be included and previous council members decommissioned it due to lack of use and no maintenance
No
There MUST be a water point at the garden beds,
No
If it is relocated likely to be vandalised. Needs to be closer to clubhouse to determine bad behaviour
No, it is a great idea to keep it
It's basically weeds
Automated irrigation would improve its usage
There needs to be a mix of shade areas for the garden to work
No, but although I don't use it, I believe it's important to keep a relocated garden in the design footprint.
Should be relocated but not where planned as there is a watercourse
The community garden has not been used for over 12 months and even when used produced very little. As with the placement on the playground away from the Pavilion, I question it's viability and whether it' really needed..
No
Fine

I am strongly opposed to the current community garden being relocated. Where it the suggested relocation is to occur will not be wheelchair accessible. And I ask that there is information about the garden and how to be involved be made available to the community.

It is a lovely idea but the current one is an eyesore and has been left uncared for, the compost bins were removed because they became a hazard and the site were they are being relocated to the flood plain/ swale - too close to residential housing.

Watering system

No

This isn't needed at sports facility. It's needs to be relocated to other end of the park near the lake

Raised planter boxes with gravel paths between. Shed for tools (or a space in the Pavilion for tools).

I would rather have the community gardens and the compost bins further away from residents and the play areas - both cricket nets and playground. The flies and vermin it will attract is unfair and unnecessary.

Proposed location will be an eyesore and current garden is not maintained and plants are dead. Note there is a swale to move floodwater there which was constructed 5 years ago to the oval by Melbourne Water - presumably from the large open drain way. Perhaps move to the west side near phone towers - if is required.