GLEN EIRA CITY COUNCIL

Mackie Road Reserve dog park

Engagement report

AUGUST 2025

BENTLEIGH
BENTLEIGH EAST
BRIGHTON EAST
CARNEGIE
CAULFIELD
ELSTERNWICK
GARDENVALE
GLEN HUNTLY
MCKINNON
MURRUMBEENA
ORMOND
ST KILDA EAST

Executive summary

We're building a dedicated dog park at Mackie Road Reserve, in the vacant space at the Orange Street end of the Reserve.

The space will be fully fenced with a double-gated entry and will include play areas with tunnels, logs and boulders — a dogs playtime paradise. With over 13,000 dogs registered in Glen Eira, we know the importance of having dedicated fun spaces for dogs to play and socialise.

The park is being delivered with support from the Victorian Government's *New and Upgraded Dog Parks Program.*

How we engaged

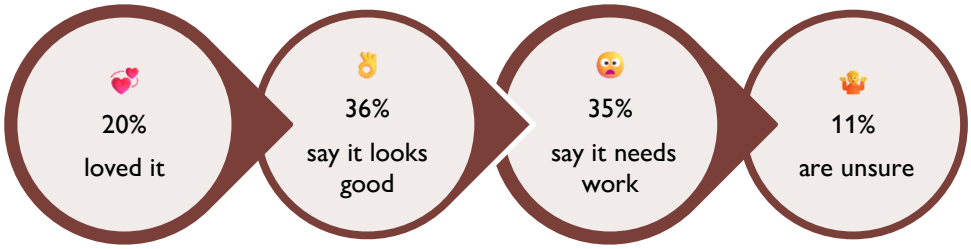
We engaged the community by asking for feedback on the draft concept plan. We ran a communication campaign alongside the engagement using several channels to raise awareness and encourage participation — with most efforts targeted at residents and dog owners living in Bentleigh East and Mackie Road Reserve site users. The engagement took place over a three-week period from 7 July to 27 July 2025.

Opportunities for community feedback included:

- an online survey on Council's Have Your Say Glen Eira web page — with hard copy surveys available, if required.
- email or phone call submissions.

Across the engagement activities we received a total of 296 pieces of feedback, including 285 online survey submissions and 11 email submissions.

What we heard

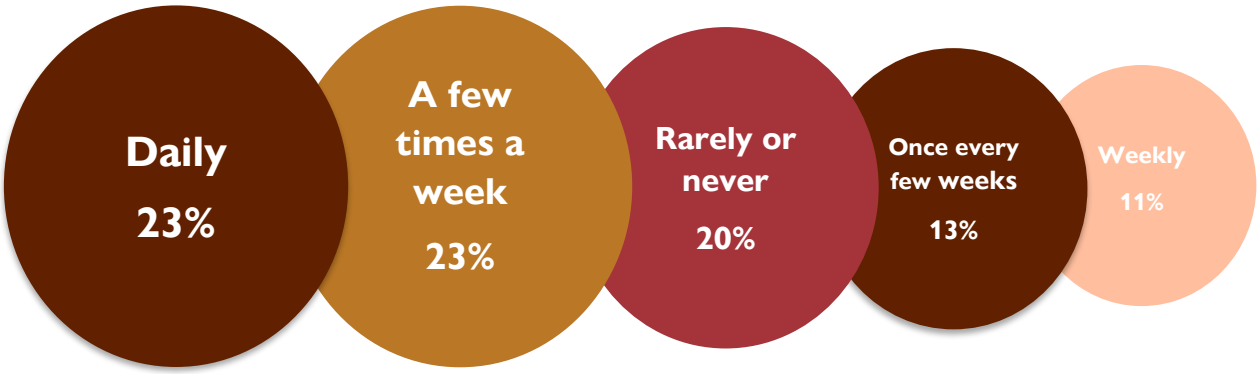


Feedback on play and agility equipment 	83 per cent (236) of respondents provided feedback on the proposed play and agility equipment which received a mix of support and additional suggestions. The top themes were: • Positive responses to the inclusion of agility features, describing them as fun and stimulating for dogs. • Consistent concerns were raised about the limited space, the choice of surface material (strong preference for grass not sand), and the lack of natural elements such as trees and greenery. • There were calls for additional amenities, better equipment variety, and separate areas for small and large dogs. • A smaller group questioned the need for agility equipment altogether, preferring open space for free play.
Feedback on the importance of parks amenities 	86 per cent (246) of respondents supported the importance of including features like seating, shelters, and drinking fountains in the dog park. • Feedback was mostly positive, with 76 per cent giving the highest possible rating (five thumbs up 👍👍👍👍👍) and a further 13 per cent rating these features highly (four thumbs up 👍👍👍👍). • The results indicate positive support for including practical amenities that help make the park more comfortable, accessible, and welcoming for all users.
Suggestions to improve the dog park experience 	81 per cent (232) of respondents provided feedback and suggestions on what could be included in the dog park to improve owner and dog experience. The top themes were: • A strong preference for grass and greenery and natural surfaces. • Suggestions to include more interactive and natural play features elements such as logs, water play, and digging areas. • Concerns that the size of the space is too small or poorly located, with recommendation to either expand it or find an alternative site. • Requests for increased shade and shelter for comfort during hot or rainy weather for both dogs and owners. • Requests for separate areas for different sized dogs with designated zones for small and large dogs. • Requests for dog waste amenities including more bins and poop bag dispensers, for convenience and cleanliness. • Requests for improved lighting and accessibility features for evening use and accessible entry points including those with mobility needs.

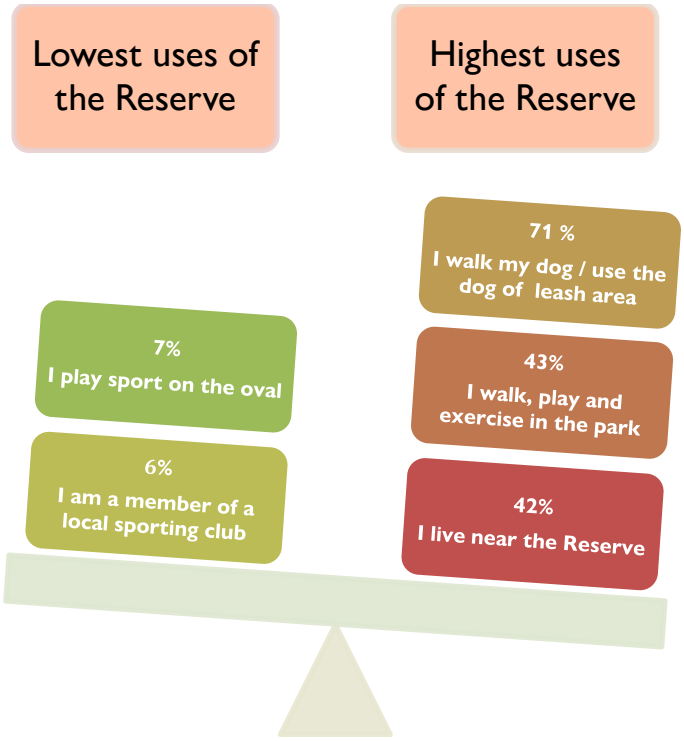
Feedback on what is missing in the concept plan	71 per cent of respondents (203) provided feedback on what they believed was missing in the concept plan for the dog park. The top themes were: • Clear preference for grass over sand. Many respondents want the park to have grass as the main surface. • Requests for more shade, trees, and natural features including additional greenery and natural elements. • Requests for more amenities and essential infrastructure such as water fountains, shaded seating, lighting, bins, signage, and accessible pathways. • Requests for separate areas for small and large dogs. • Concerns about size and layout of the space being too small or not well laid out with calls to expand the space or improve the design. • Requests for more dog equipment including interactive play features like ramps, tunnels, and water elements to enrich a dogs' experience. • Support for the concept plan, with respondents expressing satisfaction with the draft plan as is. • Requests for suitable fencing focused on materials and safety features.

Visitor patterns to Mackie Road Reserve

Respondents visit Mackie Road Reserve:



They spend their time in the following ways:



We heard from

Age	All age ranges were represented. The highest respondents were aged between 35 to 44 (30 per cent), 45 to 54 (25 per cent) and 55 to 64 (20 per cent). Under 18 and 85+ age ranges made up one per cent of respondents and 18 to 25 made up two per cent.
Gender	74 per cent of respondents identify as women or girls, and 23 per cent as men or boys.
Suburb	75 per cent live in Bentleigh East. A smaller proportion — seven per cent live in Bentleigh and four per cent live in Carnegie.
Identity	Among those who selected an identity group, the most common were a person born overseas (14 per cent), a person from a multicultural background (eight per cent), a person with a disability and LGBTIQA+ both at five per cent. One per cent of respondents identified as a First Nations person.

Engagement report

We're building a dedicated dog park at Mackie Road Reserve, in the vacant space at the Orange Street end of the Reserve.

With over 13,000 dogs registered in Glen Eira, we know the importance of having dedicated fun spaces for dogs to play and socialise.

The park is being delivered with support from the Victorian Government's *New and Upgraded Dog Parks Program.*

The engagement asked for community feedback on the draft concept plans for the new dog park.

The project involves the transformation of an underutilised green space into a fully fenced dog park with the following features:

- Double gated entry
- Natural play features such as tunnels, logs, boulders
- Water drinking fountain with a dog water bowl
- Shelter
- Seating
- Bins and dog bag station.

Background

We have plans to upgrade Mackie Road Reserve in Bentleigh East to make sure it continues to meet the growing needs of our community.

Open spaces like Mackie Road Reserve in Bentleigh East are important places for our community to be connected and active. They're a big part of our great quality of life here in Glen Eira.

The *Mackie Road Reserve Masterplan* is our long-term blueprint that guides future upgrades of the Reserve. It includes a range of upgrades, such as:

- A new dog park
- Redeveloping the pavilion and car park
- Upgrades to lighting, pedestrian connections and gardens
- Upgrades to the play space

It was developed in 2022 in collaboration with the community and endorsed by Council in late 2022.

Communication activities

During the engagement period we ran a communication campaign using several channels to raise awareness and encourage participation widely across the community. Most efforts targeted residents and dog owners living in Bentleigh East and Mackie Road Reserve Park users. The table below outlines the channels we used and how far each one reached.

Communication activities	Reach
Glen Eira News Article in July 2025 edition	Delivered to approx. 64,500 residences
Have Your Say engagement page Live with the survey available	Views: **1,611** Visitors: **1,474** Followers: **40** Submissions: **285**
Social media: Facebook and Instagram Glen Eira City Council Facebook and Instagram accounts concluded the campaign with four posts.	Views: **44,150** Reach: **29,156** Interactions: **358** Link clicks: **167**
Community engagement e-newsletter June edition	Recipients: **4,448** Opened: **2,403** Link clicks: **62**
Targeted promotion — Glen Eira dog owners in Bentleigh East Targeted email distributed to registered dog owners in Bentleigh East	Email sent to **2670** dog owners in Bentleigh East
Poster (banners) On display at Mackie Road Reserve to promote the engagement	**2**
Postcards Shared at Council facilities, including Glen Eira Town Hall and libraries and during pop ups	**250** postcards
Letterbox drop Letter delivered to Mackie Road Reserve neighbours	Approx. **120** properties
Digital screens Screen on display at Customer Service	Displayed from 7 July to 27 July
Website News item	Page views: **58** Link clicks: **30**
Golden Days Radio 95.7FM	Over **56,000** listeners during the engagement period

Engagement activities

The primary engagement activity delivered was an online survey through Council's Have Your Say platform. We also delivered two pop-up engagements at Mackie Road Reserve. The first on Wednesday 10 July, 10am to 1pm, and the second on Thursday 17 July, 2pm to 5pm during the term two school holiday period.

We received a total of 296 pieces of feedback, including 285 online submissions and 11 email submissions.

Engagement activities	Number who participated
Have Your Say online community survey **7 July to 27 July**	285 survey submissions
Email submissions	11 emails
Pop up engagement **10 July 2025, 10 to 1 pm**	Conversations: 37 Postcards given out: 47
Pop up engagement **17 July 2025, 2pm to 5pm**	Conversations: 39 Postcards given out: 52

Have your say survey responses

The online survey included a total of 15 questions and three sections:

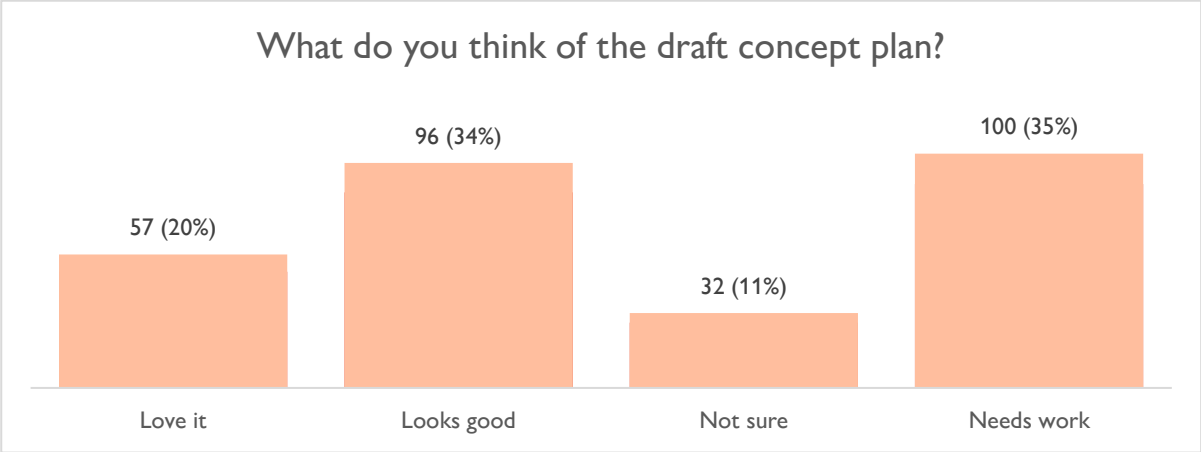
- Feedback on the concept plan of the dog park
- Visiting Mackie Road Reserve
- About you (demographics)

Question one: What do you think of the draft concept plan?

This was a required question. It received a 100 per cent response rate — 285 submissions.

54 per cent of respondents provided positive feedback on the concept plan with 20 per cent (57) saying they 'loved it' and 34 per cent (96) saying it 'looked good'.

In contrast, 35 per cent (100) of respondents indicated that the concept plan 'needed work', while 11 per cent (32) were 'unsure' about it.



Question two: What do you think about the play and agility equipment shown in the draft plan?

This was an optional open-ended question. It was answered by 83 per cent of respondents (236) while 17 per cent (49) chose to skip it.

A wide range of responses were received from local dog owners and community members. The feedback has been grouped into key themes to highlight common priorities and concerns, supported by direct quotes from respondents.

Theme	Description	# of comments	Quotes
🌳 **More shade, grass, trees, and natural features.**	There was strong support for incorporating more greenery, shade, and natural elements to improve comfort, aesthetics, and usability of the space.	🗨 50 comments	*"Dogs (and humans) love grass and greenery."* *"More trees or shrubs, dogs love to mark, sniff and scenting work."* *"Requires more trees within the site, not just at the edge."* *"More logs would be good."*
🗺 **Concerns about size and layout.**	A number of respondents felt the proposed area was too small or poorly laid out, especially for larger dogs or	🗨 42 comments	*"It's too small and looks like a concrete cage."* *"It is a small block of land and not suitable*

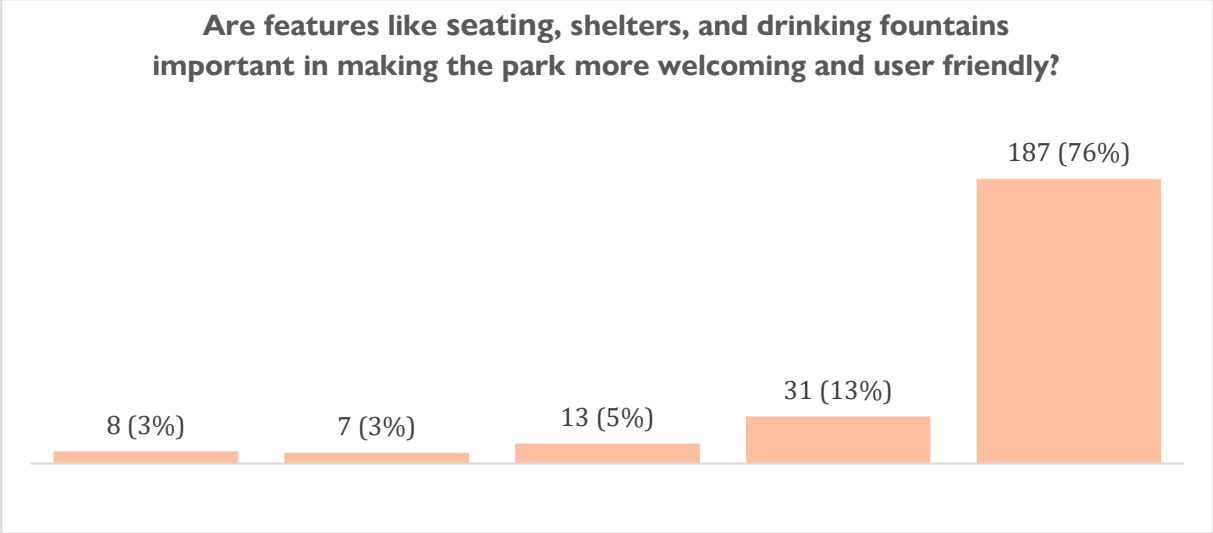
	multiple dogs using the space at once.		*for more than ten big dogs."* *"Too many obstacles prohibit running."* *"Move it out of the middle."* *"I don't think the area is big enough for equipment."*
🪵 **Support for the park and agility equipment.**	Many respondents welcomed the inclusion of agility features, describing them as fun, stimulating, and a great way to engage dogs.	🗨️ 40 comments	*"Agility play sounds wonderful."* *"Definitely like it. Very excited and looking forward to this dog park."* *"Be excellent stimulation for my dog."* *"The equipment looks fabulous."* *"Awesome, just what the area needs."*
Requests for more or better equipment.	Many felt the equipment was too basic, sparse or boring and suggested specific additions such as tunnels, ramps, bridges, and interactive features.	🗨️ 39 comments	*"Needs more equipment."* *"Add a bridge with steps."* *"Agility equipment should include tunnel, jumps, A-frame, raised dog walk, seesaw."* *"Besides the tunnels the agility parts need more mind stimulating obstacles."*
🏞️ **Concerns about the surface material.**	There were frequent concerns raised about the hard surface proposed with a clear preference for grass.	🗨️ 29 comments	*"Surface area needs to be grass or similar to ensure dogs don't burn their paws."*

	They thought the sand could become unsafe or uncomfortable in hot weather.		*"It needs more grass and less concrete."* *"Concrete will get very hot during Summer."* *"Not comfortable without grass. It looks like a prison yard."*
🚰 **More amenities and practical features.**	Several respondents requested essential features such as water fountains, seating, bins, signage, and accessible pathways.	🗨️ 24 comments	*"Poop bag dispensers and dog fountain are essential."* *"Seating, shelter, water fountains, rubbish bins are all very important."* *"Accessible seating/facilities for wheelchairs and other users with mobility aids."*
🐶 **Need for separation of small and large dogs.**	Several respondents emphasised the need for separate enclosures or spaces to cater for different sized dogs to ensure safety and comfort for them.	🗨️ 21 comments	*"We need a fenced separate area for puppies or small dogs."* *"Should ideally replicate Pawfield Park… one for small dogs and one for large dogs."*
❌ **Skepticism or opposition to agility equipment.**	Some respondents questioned the need for agility equipment, preferring open space and natural play for dogs to run and socialise.	🗨️ 20 comments	*"As a dog owner I don't think the equipment is actually required at all."* *"Dogs don't need equipment, they need space to run around."* *"Agility things are usually a waste of time."*

Question three: The plan includes features like seating, shelters, and drinking fountains. Do you think these features are important in making the park more welcoming and user friendly?

This was an optional rating question using the 'thumbs up' 👍 feature. It was answered by 86 per cent of respondents (246 people), while 14 per cent (39) chose to skip it.

Most respondents felt that features such as seating, shelter, and drinking fountains were important for making the park welcoming and user-friendly. A strong majority — 76% (187) — gave the highest rating of five thumbs up 👍, and a further 13 per cent (31) gave four thumbs up 👍.



Question four: What else could we include to improve you and your dog's experience?

This was an optional open-ended question. It was answered by 81 per cent of respondents (232) while 19 per cent (53) chose to skip it.

Respondents shared a wide range of suggestions, reflecting the diverse needs of dog owners and park users. The feedback has been grouped into key themes to highlight common priorities and concerns, supported by direct quotes from respondents.

Theme	Description	# of comments	Quotes
🌱 **Preference for grass and more greenery — not sand.**	Respondents consistently preferred grass or turf over concrete, gravel, or sand. Many felt the proposed design looked barren and	🗨️ 34 comments	*"Must be grass."* *"Grass would be more appealing."* *"It should definitely be grass not sand. Like Wishart dog park in Hampton East."*

	stressed the importance of soft, natural surfaces for dogs to run, dig, and toilet safely. Concerns about heat, comfort, and lack of greenery.		*"The flooring should be grass, not concrete. Grass is easier on dogs' paws."* *"Grass. Many dogs only toilet on grass and many only on the outer edges away from activity."* *"Make it feel like a park, not a car park!! It looks terribly uninviting and dull."*
🪵 **More dog play options and natural elements.**	Respondents wanted more engaging features for dogs, such as space to run, dig, sniff, and explore, as well as natural elements like logs, rocks, and water play.	🗨️ 25 comments	*"Dogs should be able to play and run and dig some grounds in there too."* *"More plants inside the fence—dogs like to sniff and pee on things!"* *"Water play area."* *"A path inside and around the boundaries so I can run/walk with my dog next to me off leash."* *"A lot more bushes and trees, logs, a sand pit for them to dig."*
🗺️ **Concerns around size and location.**	Several respondents felt the space was too small or poorly located and suggested expanding or relocating the park to better suit community needs.	🗨️ 24 comments	*"Grass and larger space, wrong location."* *"It's very small and nowhere to really go if you need a quiet place."* *"A larger area like the one not used in Mackie Road that was going to have a playground originally."* *"Looking at the space, it may not be big enough."* *"Include access to the oval where dogs can run around."*
🤓 **More shade and shelter.**	Many respondents requested more shaded areas, especially for hot days. Suggestions included trees, shelters, and covered seating to keep dogs and owners cool and comfortable.	🗨️ 23 comments	*"More seating and shaded area especially for seating. If hot weather, dogs will need some shade to cool down in."* *"Ensure there is enough shade for dogs and owners."* *"More trees for shade for sunny days."* *"Ensure there is cover/tree shade*

			provided over park benches." *"Plenty of shade and shelters from rain."*
🐶 **Separate areas for large and small dogs.**	There was strong support for separate areas for small and large dogs, with some suggesting a third space for puppies or nervous dogs.	🗨️ 17 comments	*"Please small dog area and large dog area."* *"Small gated section for puppies or small dogs… play with older or larger dogs could be rougher."* *"Separate areas for small and large dogs."* *"A smaller sub-area sectioned off to allow separation for smaller dogs."* *"The fences need to be high enough to permit larger dogs such as greyhounds."*
🗑️ **Convenient dog waste amenities.**	Requests for more bins and poop bag dispensers, with emphasis on easy access and regular maintenance.	🗨️ 10 comments	*"Poop bag dispensers and bins for the poop bags."* *"Rubbish bins and doggy bags availability."* *"Bins inside the area. People are lazy and leave their bags of poo in the Pawfield park area all the time."* *"Important to have dispenser for poo bags."* *"Signage for owners to pick up their dogs' poop."*
💃 **Improved lighting and accessibility.**	Requests for lighting for evening use and accessible entry points for all users.	🗨️ 8 comments	*"Lights at night in winter."* *"Lights that are on late so that people can use the park even when it gets dark early."* *"Access/entry locks to gates accessible and reachable."* *"Wheelchair accessible"* *"Be mindful of fence size as you would be surprised how small a gap dogs can fit through."*
⚠️ **Other Suggestions.**	Broader feedback including community priorities, amenities, and concerns about non-dog users.	🗨️ 10 comments	*"I don't want a dog park. I would like a playground for my kids more."* *"Less focus on dogs, more focus on families. Get the playground done."*

			"Perhaps a coffee/snack van there would be good for adults." *"Free snacks."* *"You need to consider the footpath and safe access to the park and street for everyone else."*

Question five: Is there anything important you feel is missing from the draft concept plan?

This was an optional open-ended question. It was answered by 71 per cent of respondents (203) while 29 per cent (82) chose to skip it. Much of the feedback previously highlighted in open ended questions have again been reinforced in these responses. The feedback has been grouped into key themes to highlight common priorities and concerns, supported by direct quotes from respondents.

Theme	Description	# of comments	Quotes
🌱 **Preference for grass not sand.**	Respondents raised concerns about the proposed surface and expressed a preference for grass. They thought the sand could become unsafe or uncomfortable in hot weather.	🗨 51 comments	*" Surface of the park it looks like concrete which is to hot on the dogs paws Grass would be more suitable Off leash area should be fenced off"* *"Grass for enrichment and toileting purposes."*
🌳 **More shade, trees, and natural features**	Support for incorporating more greenery, shade, and natural elements to improve comfort, aesthetics, and usability of the space.	🗨 41 comments	*"more green and trees"* *"Keep it natural it for our dogs. Bushes and trees should our dogs can run, play, hide explore. It needs to be bigger so they can run"*
🌿 **More amenities and practical features.**	Respondents requested essential features such as water stations, seating, bins, signage, accessible pathways and more lighting.	🗨 40 comments	*"Poo bags and a bin. Seats placed so they get shade in summer and sun in winter."* *" I can't see lighting in the space, just the lights from the tennis court section. this area will require lighting for before dawn or after dusk to prevent tripping hazards"*
🐶 **Need for separation of**	Respondents emphasised the need for separate	🗨 32 comments	*"Separate area for small/timid dogs"*

small and large dogs.	enclosures or spaces to cater for different sized dogs to ensure safety and comfort for them.		*"Separate enclosures i.e. one for small dogs and one for medium/large dogs"*
🗺️ **Concerns about space and layout.**	Respondents felt the proposed area was too small or poorly laid out, especially for larger dogs or multiple dogs using the space at once.	🗨️ 23 comments	*"Only concern is the size of this space."* *"I think that there needs to be a bigger area for the dogs to run, even though we have the oval right next to this site, it's not completely fenced off and is often used for sporting events and sprayed with chemicals that make it unsafe for the dogs."*
🚿 **Requests for more or better equipment.**	Respondents suggested additions such as tunnels, ramps, bridges, and interactive water features.	🗨️ 12 comments	*"More dog play equipment"* *"There appears to be 3 separate stumps elements. Can you remove one and add a ramp element. This is more inclusive for smaller dogs."*
📜 **Support for the concept plan and proposal.**	Respondents provided support for the existing plans without any suggestions.	🗨️ 6 comments	*"Plan looks really nice"* *" Nothing missing in this design, but this style of park is great for dogs that like to play and owners who like to sit, but I hope dog access to the Mackie Rd oval will also be retained to enable ball throwing and a larger space for human walking."* *" I think it's great."*
🤺 **Fencing requirements.**	Respondents raised concerns about either the height of the fence, or materials used to construct the fence.	🗨️ 5 comments	*"For pet safety, the perimeter fence to be constructed on a concrete strip footing so the dogs cannot dig beneath the fence & escape"* *" All fences need to be self closing or be double gates so that no one can leave the gate open."*

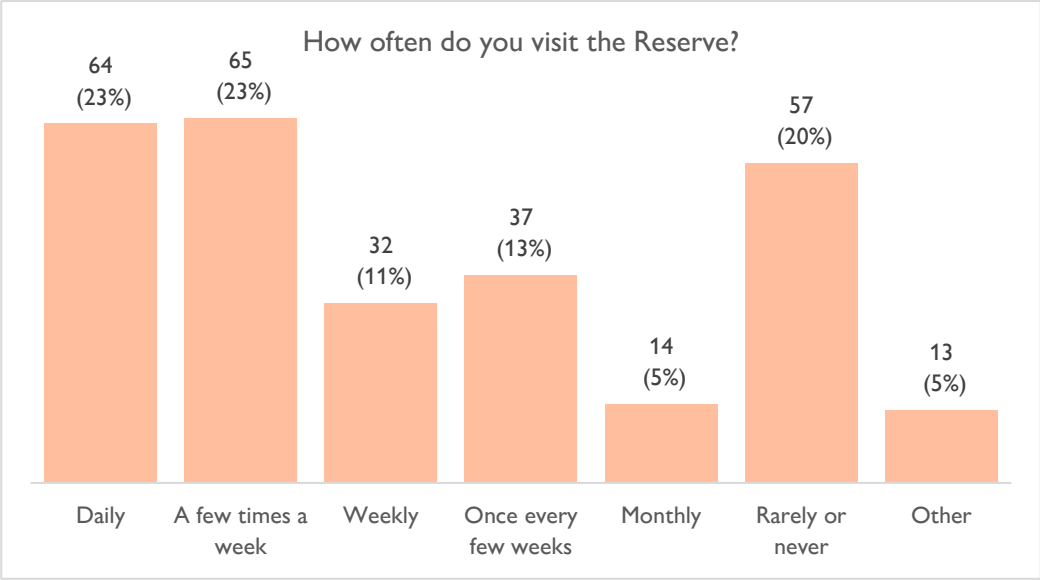
Question six: How often do you visit the Reserve?

This was an optional open-ended question and was answered by 99 per cent of respondents (282) while one per cent (three) chose to skip it.

Many respondents use the park daily or a few times a week, both 23 per cent (65).

On the other hand, about 20 per cent (57) rarely or never use the park. 13 per cent (37) visit once every few weeks and 11 per cent (32) visit weekly.

Five per cent of respondents (13) provided other responses to the question. "Other responses included mentions of occasional or rare visits to the park, several respondents being unaware of the park or living too far away. There were comments about people's interest in visiting more often if improvements like secure fencing, lawn areas, or small dog zones were added. A few mentioned personal circumstances such as pet loss or mobility issues, while others appreciated the park's general atmosphere and community use.

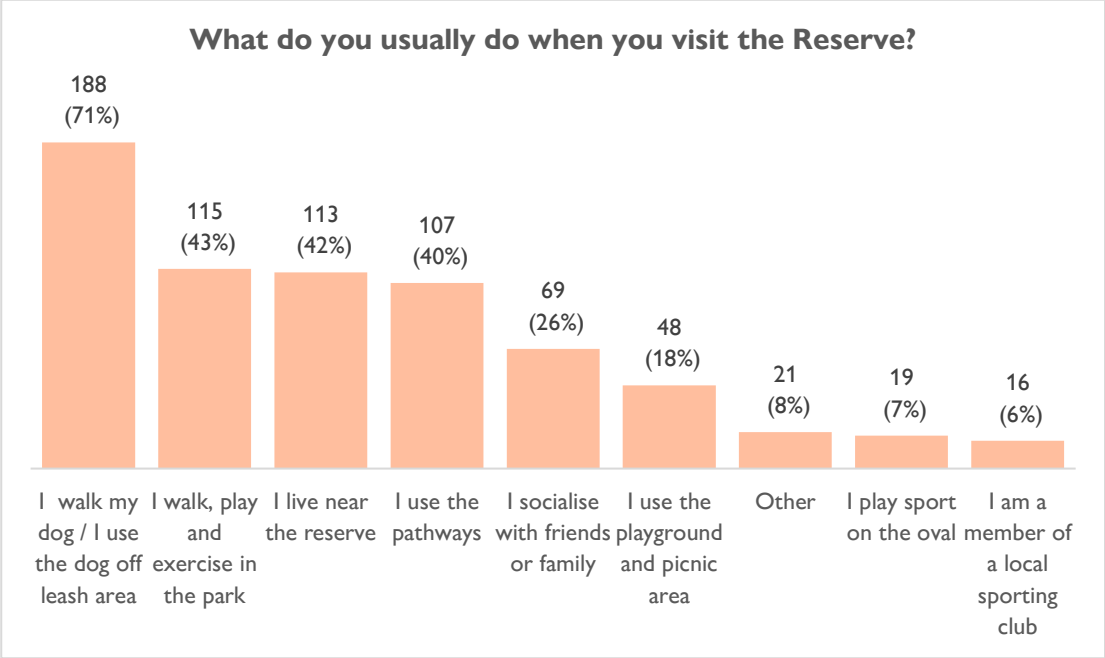


Question seven: What do you usually do when you visit the Reserve?

This was an optional select box question and was answered by 93 per cent of respondents (266) while seven per cent (19) chose to skip it. People could select all the options that applied to this question.

The top responses for visiting the Reserve:
🐶 I walk my dog / I use the dog off leash area —71 per cent (188)
🚶 I walk, play and exercise in the park — 43 per cent (115)
🏠 I live near the reserve — 42 per cent (113)
🌿 I use the pathways — 40 per cent (107)

Eight per cent of respondents (21) provided other responses to the question. "Other" responses included not currently visiting the Reserve due to distance, lack of fencing, or preference for other parks. Some were unaware of the Reserve or don't own a dog. However, many expressed interest in visiting more often if a fully fenced, well-equipped dog park was available. A few use dog parks professionally or plan to visit regularly in future.



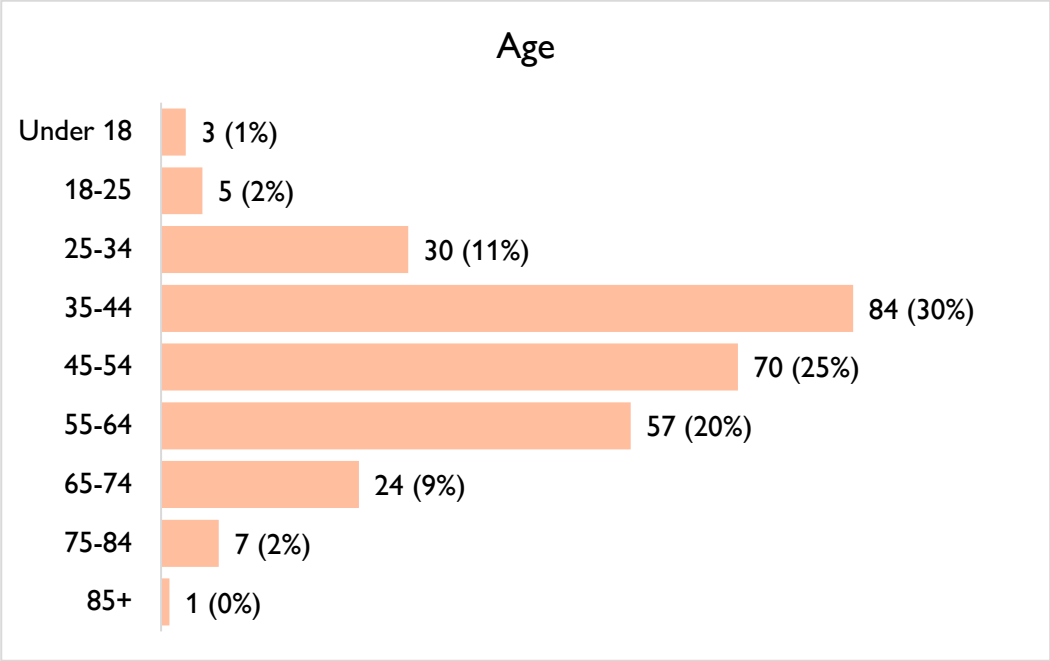
Demographic profile

Question eight: What is your age?

This was an optional question and was answered by 99 per cent of respondents (281) while one per cent (4) chose to skip it.

Respondents ranged across all age groups, with the largest proportion aged 35 to 44 (30 per cent), followed by those aged 45 to 54 (25 per cent) and aged 55 to 64 (20 per cent).

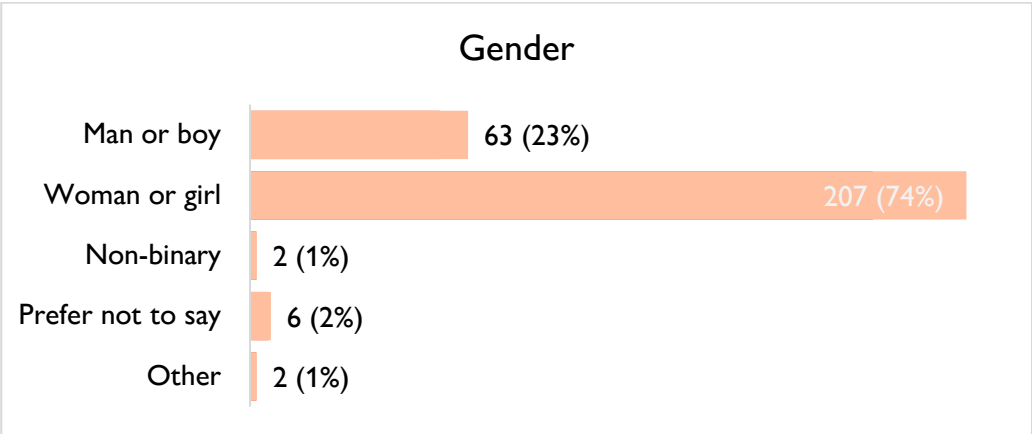
Younger respondents (under 25) and older respondents (65 and over) make up a smaller share of the total.



Question nine: What is your gender?

This was an optional question and was answered by 98 per cent of respondents (280) while two per cent (5) chose to skip it.

Most respondents by a large majority identify as women or girls (74 per cent), followed by men or boys (23 per cent).

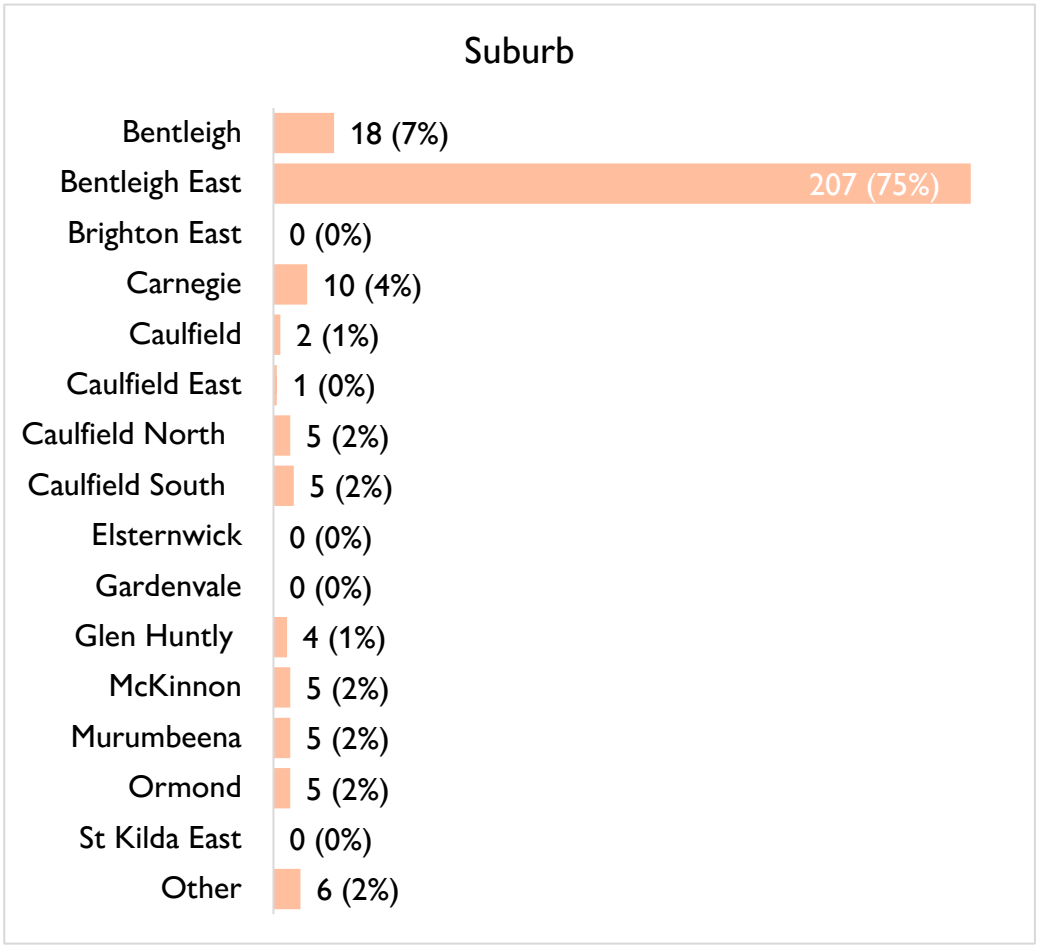


Question ten: What suburb do you live in?

This was an optional question and was answered by 97per cent of respondents (276) while three per cent (9) chose to skip it.

The majority of respondents came from Bentleigh East (75 per cent) followed by Bentleigh

(7 per cent) and Carnegie (4 per cent). Given the engagement was mainly targeted at people living in Bentleigh East, this result was anticipated.



Other suburbs: Highett, Hughesdale, Edithvale, Malvern, Oakleigh, and Hampton East.

Question eleven: Do you identify as any of the following?

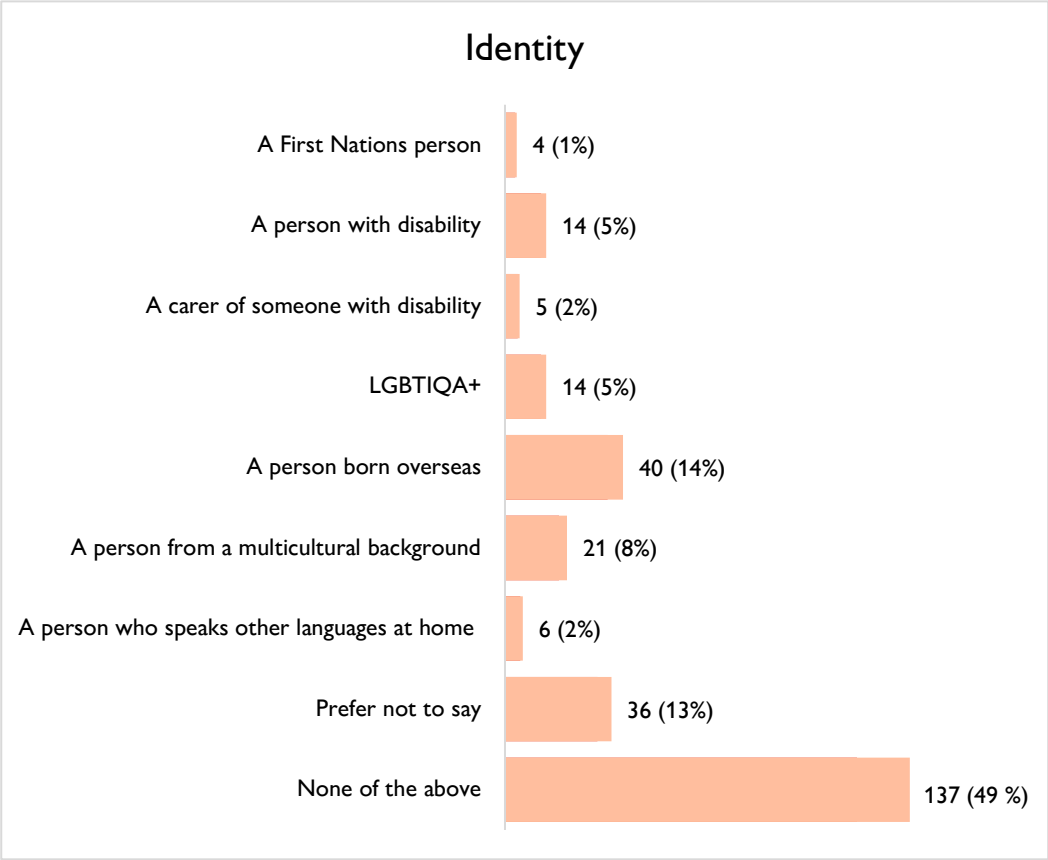
This was an optional question and aimed to gather insights into a range of identity and diversity characteristics relevant to respondents. The question was answered by 97 per cent of respondents (277) while three per cent (8) chose to skip it.

Almost half of respondents, 49 per cent (137) did not identify with any of the listed categories.

Among those who did, the most common groups were respondents born overseas, 14 per cent (40) and respondents from a multicultural background, eight per cent (21).

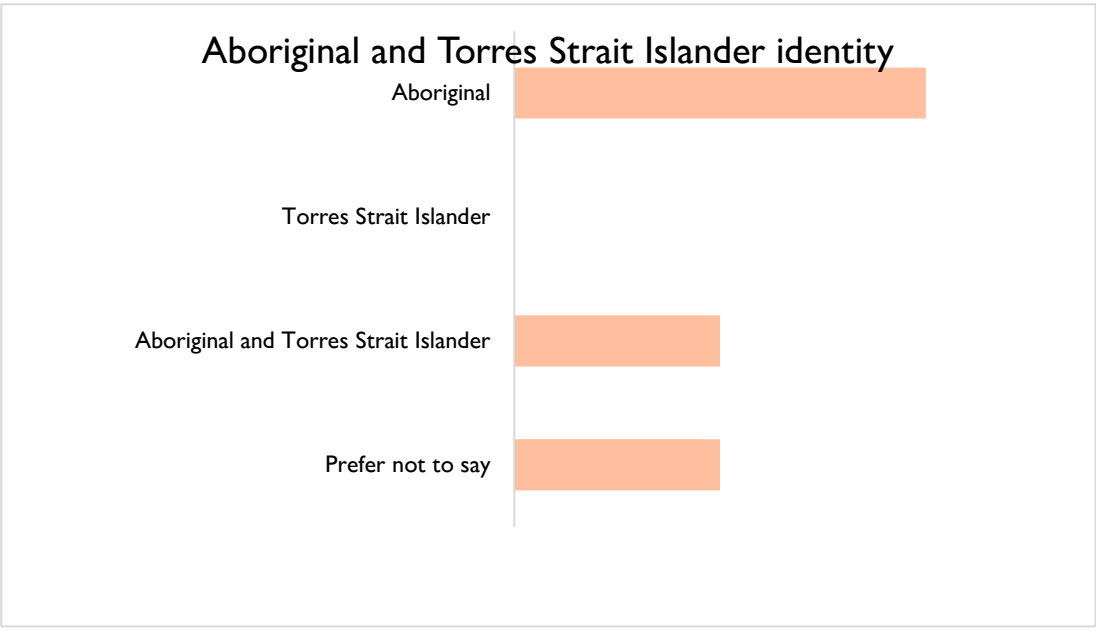
Respondents who identified as persons with disability and LGBTIQA+ were five per cent of the respondents (14 each).

13 per cent of respondents (36) selected 'prefer not to say'.



Question twelve: Which identity relates to you?

This was an optional question for people who identified as a First Nations person. Four people responded, two identified as Aboriginal, one as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and one preferred not to say.



Question thirteen: Which country?

This was an optional question for people who identified as being born overseas. It received 37 responses. A higher proportion of people were born in English speaking countries with United Kingdom, South Africa, and Ireland having the highest responses.

Country	Number of responses	Per cent of responses
United Kingdom	6	16 per cent
South Africa	3	8 per cent
Ireland	3	8 per cent
Scotland	2	5 per cent
United States	2	5 per cent
New Zealand	2	5 per cent
Indonesia Denmark Malaysia France USSR Venezuela Israel Sri Lanka Ukraine Greece Europe Switzerland Moldova	1 (each)	3 per cent (each)

Question fourteen: Which language?

This was an optional question for people who identified as speaking another language at home. It received four responses: Italian, Afrikaans, Greek and Portuguese.

Question fifteen: What culture?

This was an optional question for people who identified as being from a multicultural background. It received 17 responses.

The most common response was Chinese, with three respondents. Two people identified coming from a Greek cultural background. All other responses were singular with people identifying their culture as: Vietnamese, Singaporean, South Slavic, Mauritian, Eastern European, Anglo Saxon, Croatian, Polish, German, Indian, Hungarian, and Malaysian.

Email submissions

There was a total of 11 email submissions received; nine during the engagement period and two just outside the engagement period, received on 28 July and 1 August. Feedback on each email is summarised below:

Email one:

The respondent supports the idea of improving the area but wants to make sure the dog park works for everyone—especially families and older people.

They asked for

- Accessible toilet facilities to be close, easy and safe to use, especially for seniors and families with young children.
- Suggests hooks near toilets to secure pets and pet drinking stations nearby.
- Recommends dog waste bags and bins (noted difficulty viewing map details).
- Feels the agility equipment is sparse; suggests more varied and interactive features.
- Seating for all ages, a walking track within the dog park and maybe even a BBQ.
- Emphasises that dog parks should cater to seniors and families, not just dog owners.

Email two:

The respondent is happy about the dog park being close to their home and plan to use it. They asked for signs reminding people to clean up after their dogs.

Email three:

A community member reported a technical issue that the Mackie Road Reserve masterplan document not working. This was fixed.

Email four:

The respondent requested clarification noting that the masterplan showed two existing trees, while the concept plan only showed one. They wanted to know which of the two was accurate.

Email five:

The respondent is excited about the dog park and fully supports it. They said "bring it on!"

Email six:

The respondent is happy about the dog park and wants to know when construction will begin and when it is expected to be completed.

Email seven:

The respondent thinks the dog park is an excellent idea and highlights the need for more dog parks, especially since many existing parks are used for sport and dogs and sports don't mix well. He is interested to learn more about the concept.

Email eight

The respondent thinks the proposed design is a positive step forward for dogs and their owners and provided detailed suggestions to enhance the design:

- Separate areas for large and small dogs (for safety and comfort).
- More shaded areas and seating.
- Water access and a drinking station for dogs.
- Varied ground surfaces (such as grass and mulch, not just sand).
- Secure double-gated entry.
- Dog waste stations throughout the park.
- Clear signage with park rules and emergency information and general guidance on respectful dog behaviour.
- Accessibility features like paved paths (for mobility aids, prams and wheelchairs).
- Enrichment and sensory features like agility equipment, tunnels and sensory gardens.

Email nine:

The respondent questioned why a dog park was being built before a children's park. They would like to see more trees and greenery and identified that the sand surface gets too hot.

Email ten:

The respondent thanked Glen Eira Council and state government representatives for funding the proposed off-leash dog park at Orange Street but raises a range of concerns about the current plan. They believe the location and design are not suitable and suggest an alternative site within the Mackie Road Reserve. Their main concerns are:

- Site is too small and won't suit the number or variety of dogs.
- The sand surface is unsuitable, potentially harmful to dogs, and expensive to maintain.
- The agility equipment is limited and not useful for most dogs.
- The park would interfere with Coatesville Tennis Club operations and disturb nearby residents due to barking.
- The concept plan lacks detail and doesn't reflect dog owners' needs.
- There's not enough shade, seating, or parking.
- The fencing and layout could pose safety risks for dogs and children.

The suggest an alternative proposal:

- To use the space currently occupied by two tennis courts and nearby grassy areas.
- Include existing trees and garden beds for shade and sensory stimulation.
- Add dog-friendly features like tunnels, mounds, water sprays, and digging areas.
- Provide water stations, bins, poo bag dispensers, and shaded seating.
- Improve fencing and safety around Tudor Street.
- Ensure the space is large enough for dogs to run, play, and rest comfortably.
- Relocate/upgrade tennis courts to make room for the dog park.

The respondent is open to further discussion and to work with Council, the tennis club, and community to find a better solution that meets everyone's needs.

Email eleven:

The respondent is excited about the dog park. They would like Council to consider a separate area for small and large dogs for safety similar to Pawfield Park.

Next steps

All feedback will be considered as we refine the design to better meet the needs of our community. We're committed to creating a space that balances agility features with open play areas, natural elements, and practical amenities.