



Engagement outcomes report  
*Leichhardt Park Plan of Management  
and Master Plan*

## Contents

Summary.....	3
Background .....	3
Engagement Methods.....	3
Promotion .....	3
Engagement outcomes .....	4
Officer comments.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>

# Summary

The draft Leichhardt Park Plan of Management and Master Plan was publicly exhibited from 12 September 2020 to 19 October 2020.

Council received 65\* individual responses and 1 business response through its online engagement hub 'Your Say Inner West'. It also received a number of responses via email.

**\*V1 of this Engagement Outcome Report had the number of individual responses as 57, this was a typo. We have replaced this with the correct number of 65 in V2.**

In response to the question 'Do you support the proposed Plan of Management and Master Plan?', those who answered via Your Say Inner West were split:

- Yes 57
- No 2
- Not sure/neutral 7

The comments received have been themed with the main concerns covering these issues:

- Para rowing facility
- Proposed Lilyfield Skate Plaza
- Congestion, parking and access to Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre
- Congestion of the Bay Run
- Sustainability
- Dog off leash area

## Background

Council is required to have Plans of Management for all community land in the Inner West Local Government area.

In mid-2019, we asked the community how they use Leichhardt Park and how they want to use it into the future. We used that feedback along with expert advice and extensive research to develop the proposed Leichhardt Park Plan of Management and Master Plan. The plans were exhibited at the end of 2019 before they went to the Minister for Water, Property and Housing for owners consent. This report presents the engagement outcomes of the second and final public exhibition of the draft plans.

## Engagement Methods

What was the method of engagement?

- Online on [yoursay.innerwest.nsw.gov.au](https://yoursay.innerwest.nsw.gov.au)

## Promotion

The public exhibition was promoted via:

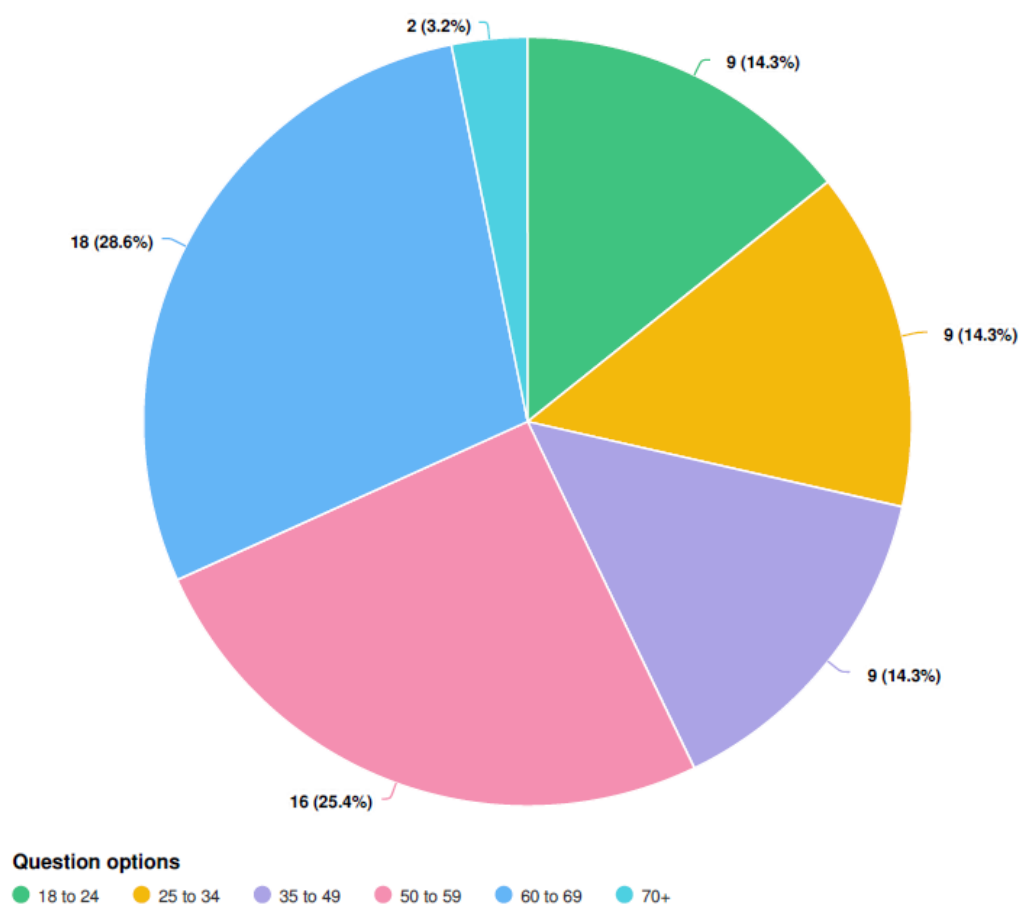
- Signage in the park

- Council's social media channels
- Council's E-news channels
- Council's website
- Directly to stakeholders via email

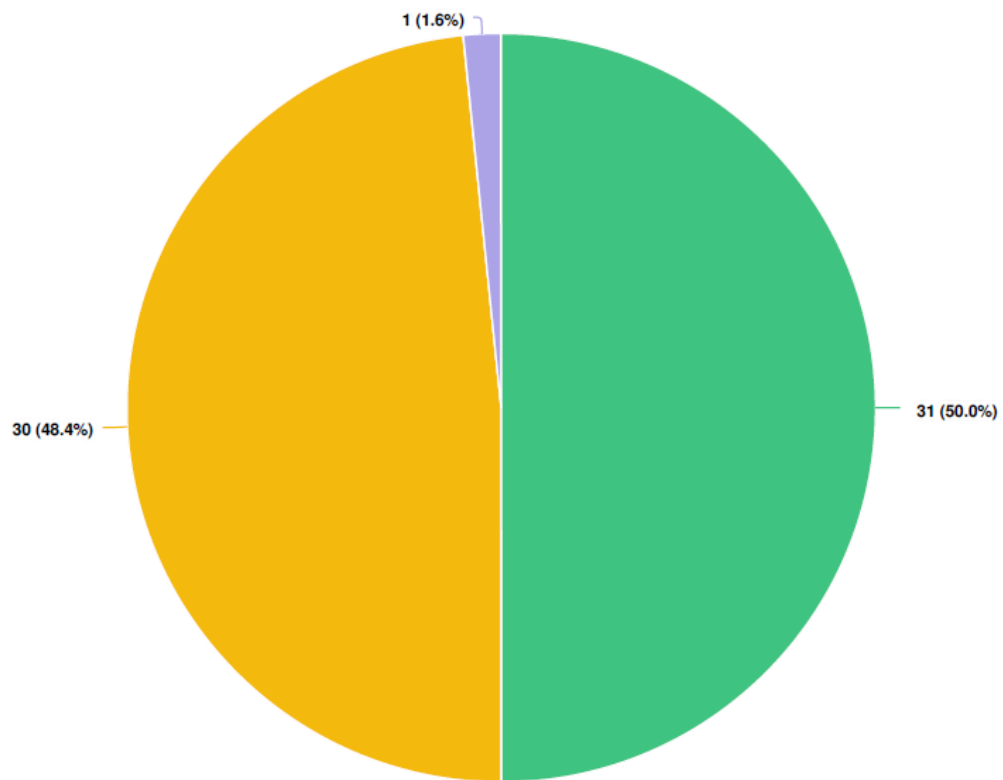
## Engagement outcomes

*Who did we hear from?*

*What is your age?*



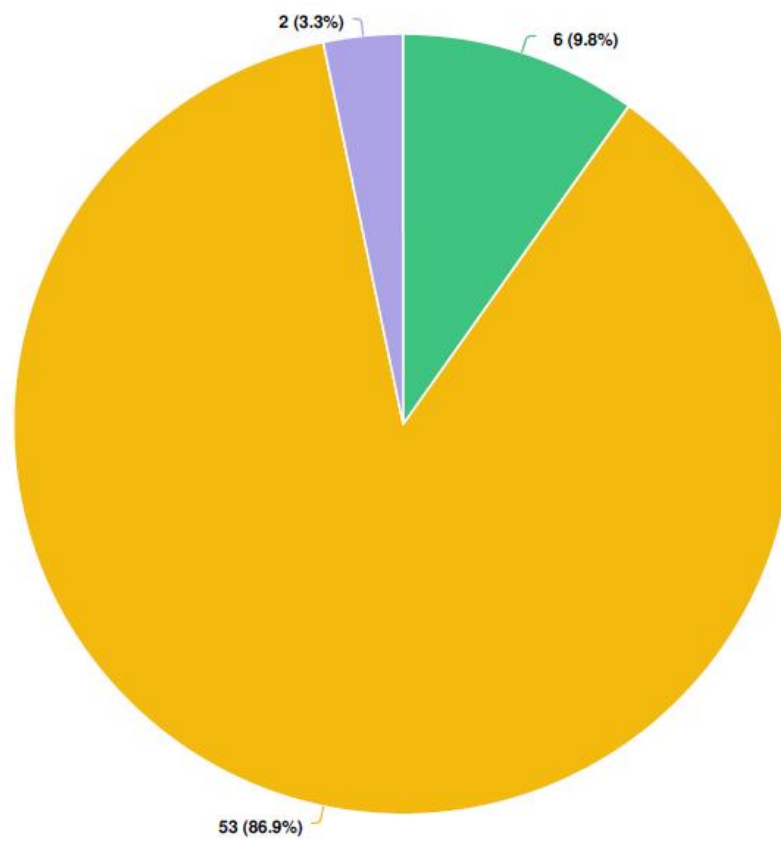
*What is your gender?*



**Question options**

Female Male Non-binary / Alternative identity

*Do you identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander?*



**Question options**

Yes No Prefer not to say

*What did you say?*

***Online via [yoursay.innerwest.nsw.gov.au](https://yoursay.innerwest.nsw.gov.au)***

#### Para rowing facility

- There were competing views on the Para rowing facility, from strong support to strong opposition. Responders commented that the rowing facility was supported by Leichhardt Rowing Club, however there was also strong opposition from some local residents about disrupting views from the park and closing in open space.
- Some responses questioned the need for a separate rowing facility when Leichhardt Rowing Club is already located in the park. The responses requested that the Para Rowing facility be included in an expanded version of the existing rowing club.

#### Proposed Lilyfield Skate Plaza

- There were a variety of responses regarding the proposed Lilyfield Skate Plaza. Whilst responses generally supported the need for a skate facility within the Leichhardt Ward and were even supportive of a skate plaza in Leichhardt Park, about half the responses wanted the skate plaza moved to a location other than the proposed.
- One response questioned the need for a skate plaza within Leichhardt Park considering there is a skate park in Five Dock.
- There were requests for the skate plaza to include a skate bowl to ensure the facility was inclusive of a variety of skate types.

#### Synthetic Turf Field

- There were a variety of responses regarding the Leichhardt Oval 2 being converted into a synthetic field. However, responses were generally supportive of the synthetic surface with comments noting the opportunities for increased use and less wet weather delays.

#### Congestion, parking and access to Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre

- There were a variety of responses regarding congestion, parking and access to and around Leichhardt Park. These responses can be categorised into 3 main categories
  1. Prioritisation of the car
  2. Congestion due to additional facilities within the park
  3. Management of parking

##### Prioritisation of the car

There were a number of concerns about Councils prioritisation of the car. The responses noted that Leichhardt Park was located in the inner city and should not rely or elevate the importance of the motor vehicle.

##### Congestion due to additional facilities within the park

There were some responses concerned with the proposed additional facilities within the park. Responses were concerned that the proposed skate park and rowing facility would cause additional congestion around the park and reduce the 'tranquil' park amenity.

##### Management of parking

There were concerns about the management of parking at Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre and Le Montage.

#### Congestion of the Bay Run

- Responses referring to the Bay Run were concerned with the safety of pedestrians and cyclists. There was strong support for ensuring that pedestrians and cyclists had separated pathways.
- There were requests that the footpath needs to be widened to ensure congestion was managed and safety was improved.
- Responses identified that the dedicated pedestrian path needed to be located closest to the water as walkers were more likely to stop, enjoy the view and take photos.

#### Sustainability

- There were some responses concerning the long term sustainability of the plan including the management of climate change and rising sea levels, especially during King Tides. The responses request Council to ensure we manage our assets and provide long term contributions to improving the environment.

#### Dog off leash area

- There were some requests for the existing dog off leash area to be moved from Leichhardt Oval 3 to Peace Park. The requests noted that the existing dog off leash area was only accessible when there was no organised sport on the field. The responses noted that the field was frequently being used, and with the addition of the skate park, the dog off leash area could become dangerous.

#### Other responses from individuals

There were a number of individual emails received from organisations or residents. Generally, the responses were regarding strong support for the synthetic turf at Leichhardt Oval 2 and strong opposition to the Para Rowing Club.

- The main reasons the responses supported the synthetic turf were due to the increased usage of the fields, reduced water use in irrigation, management of maintenance and favourable playing surface for consistency and quality.
- The main reasons the responses were opposed to the Para Rowing facility was due to the existing green space on the foreshore being disrupted by a third rowing club which can reach two storeys in height.

## Officer comments in response to public exhibition

In response to the feedback received from the community, the following amendments have been made to the Plan of Management and Master Plan.

1. Rowing facility has been included as a permissible use under the long term lease and short term licence section of Leasing and Licencing
2. Confirmation that the link road between Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre and Leichhardt Oval 3 will be one way from Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre.
3. Change from Para Rowing facility to being of 'exceptional' ecological standards to 'high' ecological standards.