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Your insights on Garema Place

Garema Place public realm upgrade

Key engagement insights and design feedback

July 2023

Comment	Response
Furniture and outdoor dining	
<p>Furniture and public outdoor dining</p> <p>Respondents felt there was not currently enough seating in Garema Place, particularly in the sun.</p> <p>Community requested more seating with backs and arm rests, seats that face each other as well as moveable ones.</p>	<p>The next phase of design will consider the feedback and look to include comfortable robust furniture suitable for all users. Consideration will also be given to moveable tables and chairs, and well as seats in the sun and shade.</p>
<p>Outdoor dining</p> <p>Provide consistent high quality outdoor dining in Garema Place, that allows for easily navigation through the space.</p> <p>Please do not reduce space available to businesses for outdoor dining areas.</p>	<p>The Authority will consider opportunities to support easy navigation through Garema Place, as well as a high-quality environment. This will include consideration of both public outdoor dining, but also working with business to guide the location and quality of their outdoor dining offerings.</p> <p>The design will not reduce existing approved outdoor dining areas. In late 2023 the Authority will work directly with relevant businesses to discuss the final design in detail.</p>
Surrounding buildings and businesses	
<p>Existing old shops and buildings</p> <p>Refresh surrounding buildings and businesses. This included suggestions for new commercial offerings and street edge uses.</p>	<p>The Authority wants to encourage building owners to present a freshened or upgraded asset and shop front condition to Garema Place. The Authority will continue to work with business and building owners to support the urban renewal effort.</p>
Planting	
<p>Planting – trees and shrubs</p> <p>For seasonal shade and sun, to enhance comfort and microclimate opportunities and support wildlife and increase biodiversity and sustainability.</p> <p>Maintain all existing trees and where possible increase the number of trees for summer shade but still allow for winter sun.</p>	<p>In response to feedback the Authority is looking to ensure all existing trees will be retained. New deciduous trees will be incorporated with consideration of different species to support biodiversity.</p> <p>Discussion continues about the opportunity for successional planning changing tree species for</p>





<p>Garden beds of local lush endemic mid-level plants was preferred. Plantings create a beautiful, relaxed, attractive, and ambient place to meet and spend time, and break up the drab city feeling.</p>	<p>better public health effects, maintenance, and cultural referencing.</p> <p>The planting palette will look to learn from the success of City Walk as well as feedback from stakeholders and community groups. This may include local endemic species, in discussion with First Nations.</p>
<p>Impact of proposed trees and shrubs on properties and tenants</p> <p>Ensure proposed new trees don't block views from adjacent properties, and ensure they don't limit outdoor dining opportunities.</p>	<p>Adjustments have been made to the design to prevent this impact.</p>
General project support	
<p>Community is supportive</p> <p>Enthusiastic about seeing Garema Place get an upgrade.</p>	<p>The Authority will continue to work with our design consultants to deliver the aspirations of the community.</p>
Public art	
<p>Big Swoop – stay or go?</p> <p>Desire to have Big Swoop and the Cushion sculptures remain in or around Garema Place and increase interactive art and focal points.</p>	<p>The Big Swoop is a temporary piece of artwork. The Authority will consider options for the Big Swoop in and around Garema Place during detailed design.</p> <p>It is intended for the cushion to be retained in Garema Place near Bunda Lane entry.</p>
<p>Space lacks a focal point</p> <p>Respondents felt that the space lacks a focal point or draw card in the proposed design</p>	<p>The Authority is working with the First Nations community to deliver a cultural and interpretive narrative to provide a focal point with the design.</p> <p>The present design provides a clean canvas for the Ngannawal cultural response where key designed infrastructure could deliver multiple opportunities.</p>





Playfulness Respondents felt that the aspiration to include playfulness was not yet reflected within the design and needed further exploration. Specific representation regarding opportunities for playful elements to be included, footpath treatments, climbable art, water and lighting.	The current design presents a clean canvas to include playful elements. The Authority will priorities exploration of playfulness during the next stage of design to ensure this aspiration is delivered in a manner that suits the setting and purpose of Garema Place.
Aesthetic appeal	
Our Australian Capital City It was noted that the proposed design doesn't appear to let you know that you are in the heart of Australia's capital city, with the opportunity for Ngunnawal representation noted.	<p>The design provides a refreshed modern plaza that is flexible to allow for a capital City response as well as events and activation opportunities.</p> <p>The Authority is working with the First Nations and Ngunnawal community to deliver cultural and interpretive narrative to the place that could provide a focal point for the design.</p>
Maintenance	
Maintenance and cleaning Concern was expressed for lack of maintenance over the years, and discussion about future maintenance needs.	<p>The new decluttered space with the new public realm design will provide a refreshed modern space, that will be easier to maintain and keep clean.</p> <p>The City Place Team carry out daily cleaning and general maintenance every morning to the Garema Place and City Walk precinct.</p>
Homelessness	
Homelessness – what can you do Concern for those sleeping rough and desire to provide additional support to help them get back on their feet.	The Authority will continue to work with the Community Service Directorate to understand how to support our community.
Antisocial behaviour	
Antisocial behaviour a problem Concern over anti-social behaviour in Garema Place.	The Authority will work with Justice and Community Safety Directorate, Police and business owners to reduce anti-social behaviour in and around Garema Place
Events and entertainment	





<p>Variety of day and night use</p> <p>How to strike a balance between day use and night use.</p>	<p>As the heart of the City, supporting an active space throughout the day and night is critical. The design provides the opportunity for a flexible space that can be both active during the day and the evening.</p> <p>Improved lighting will further encourage night-time activity. Opportunities for playful artistic lighting will be considered to provide variety and intrigue.</p> <p>Access paths for heavy vehicles for bump in and out will be designated for structural strength.</p>
<p>Size and shape of useable space</p> <p>Flexibility and maintaining large events space opportunities.</p>	<p>The design provides a new uncluttered, one level surface with new events infrastructure, increasing overall useable space to support a wide variety of events.</p> <p>As detailed design occurs consultation will be ongoing with event organisers</p>
Pavement	
<p>Current paving</p> <p>Paving is long overdue for a refresh and is a hazard for safety and accessibility.</p>	<p>The project intends to replace existing paving and provide a single level space to ensure provide a consistent level surface and improve accessibility.</p>
<p>Rising tree roots lifting paving</p>	<p>The new design reduces the effect of the Plane trees rising roots by installing large planting beds over root zones instead of the paving. This also increasing permeability and sustainable outcomes.</p>
<p>Colour of concrete paving</p> <p>Not all grey!</p>	<p>The project aims to replace all the old pink and grey cobbled pavers.</p> <p>The detailed design phase will include further work to understand opportunities to provide different, types, scales and paving colours that are appropriate to the place.</p>
Lighting	
<p>Old types of streetlights</p> <p>Lighting was desired to increase the feeling of safety at night and to add to the atmosphere.</p>	<p>New functional lighting is included in the design to improve the perception of safety.</p>





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	Aesthetic and artistic lighting is included to provide a vibrant evening atmosphere and a point of difference for the space.
Safety	
New lighting and surveillance	<p>New street lighting and ambient lighting is included.</p> <p>CCTV will be reviewed as part of detailed design.</p> <p>De-cluttering and improving sightlines will further support improved feeling of safety.</p>
Active travel	
Improve active travel Was seen to improve active travel.	<p>Designated spaces for bicycle stands and e-scooter parking spaces will be considered during the next phase of design.</p> <p>The decluttered space will aid safer active travel and foot traffic.</p>
Accessibility	
Level pavements and desire lines	Decluttering the place, new paving and one level surface will improve accessibility within Garema Place.

