

Yerrabi Pond

REPORT ON WHAT WE HEARD



YERRABI POND

Yerrabi Pond in Canberra's north is a popular recreation spot for people to exercise, take their dog, sit and relax, play, skate and enjoy social events.

The ACT Government, in consultation with community advocacy groups, has identified the opportunity for additional amenities to be included in the areas surrounding the pond. Stakeholder and community engagement was conducted to gather ideas and feedback from the Canberra community on improvements people would like to see made in the area surrounding Yerrabi Pond.

The improved amenities suggested include more rubbish bins, more public toilets, improved signage, recreational facilities for young people and path improvements for pedestrians and cyclists.



THE CONVERSATION

Online survey

An online YourSay survey was open during the consultation period from Friday 23 April until Friday 4 June 2021 for the local community to provide feedback on how the open spaces are used around Yerrabi Pond and what improvements they would like to see.

Members of the local community also provided feedback via emails and comments on Facebook.

Three pop-up sessions were held near the playground at Yerrabi Pond District Park.

On Saturday 1 May, Thursday 6 May and Tuesday 11 May 2021, three public pop-up sessions were hosted for the local community to ask questions and share their thoughts about improvements to Yerrabi Pond.

Community members were invited to discuss the project and were able to complete hard copy surveys.

WHO ENGAGED

Consultation and engagement targeted the local community who use and are regular visitors to Yerrabi Pond.

Pop up sessions were attended by regular users of Yerrabi Pond. Many regular users of Yerrabi Pond filled out the online YourSay survey while seven of them filled out hard copy surveys. Those who engaged by filling out hard copy surveys were predominantly aged between 50-59 and they primarily walk or run around the Pond for exercise or use it on their way to another destination.

The majority of respondents from the online survey were Amaroo residents between the ages of 35-39 (19.3%) that identified as being part of a couple with children living at home (52.7%).

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Key insights

Rubbish

1. more rubbish bins would be welcomed right across the Yerrabi Pond area
2. particular focus could be on the provision of more facilities to encourage responsible disposal of waste by dog owners

Toilets

3. more toilets would be welcomed, with the most common place suggested being the Bizant Street playground area
4. upgrade of the existing toilets, with maintenance and more frequent cleaning

Improvement of general maintenance in the area

5. concerns were raised about the water quality in Yerrabi Pond and requests for improvements
6. more mowing, weeding, trimming of trees and general upkeep of the green areas would be welcomed
7. more frequent cleaning of facilities including toilets and BBQ areas would be welcomed too

Lighting

8. concerns about safety due to the dark nature of many areas of the walking tracks
9. lighting was suggested across all areas of Yerrabi Pond including carparks, existing basketball facilities and at the skatepark

Cafes and businesses near the waterfront

10. coffee vans were suggested near playgrounds and BBQ areas, markets, pop-up food stalls and other community type events
11. opportunities for recreation businesses such as scooter and kayak hire places

Improved facilities

12. suggestions for more seating alongside playgrounds and BBQ areas
13. additional BBQ facilities for use by the community

Gardens, trees and open spaces

14. planting more trees, maintaining trees and weeding garden areas
15. enhanced green open spaces for use by the community

Parking

16. more parking opportunities would be welcomed
17. improved lighting in carparks

Shared paths

18. concerns about successful sharing of paths between pedestrian and cyclists
19. improved shared path signage
20. wider or separated paths for pedestrians and cyclists



WHAT'S NEXT?

We will now consider this feedback to establish our priorities for short-term improvement of amenity, which has been funded in the budget, as well inform longer term planning for the area.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FEEDBACK

3

We delivered 3 community pop-up sessions

20

We sent emails to approximately 20 key stakeholders

976

We received 976 survey responses

1,000+

We received over 1,000 items of feedback

2,000+

Over 2,000 flyers were distributed

4,000+

We received 4,225 page views via YourSay

7,000+

A total 7,214 different ideas and suggestions were received and analysed

20,000+

We reached a social media audience of 21,288, with 12.8% engagement