

Vision testing analysis report

Haig Park Masterplan Community Engagement

Purpose of engagement

To consult the community on the draft vision for Haig Park and to further involve community members in identifying possible improvements to Haig Park as part of the masterplan process.

The draft vision tested as part of this engagement process was:

(In 2022) Haig Park is a vibrant and inclusive urban park that provides a series of spaces for passive and active enjoyment, and opportunities to connect to the heritage of the park. Used by the whole community, it is a place for social and cultural exchange.

We also tested three 'other considerations' statements and asked community members how important they felt each concept was:

- *A healthy urban forest, cooling the surrounding city, that supports a unique 'Haig park' ecology and maintains its heritage value*
- *A landscape with a range of facilities that encourages vibrant social gatherings and creative pursuits. Paths, play equipment and seating areas that are unique to Haig park, sustainable, respectful of heritage and encourage a variety of active and passive pursuits*
- *A safe and accessible community space, where the park encourages quiet reflection, community connection and active movement through dedicated spaces; a place to disconnect from the city and journey through an immersive green oasis in a variety of ways*

The draft vision and 'other considerations' statements were developed using the visions identified in the March community workshop, as well as general comments and feedback we received in phase 1 community engagement.

Summary of feedback:

In general, the community were largely supportive of the draft vision and felt that it was a good starting point for guiding future work. Community members felt that the vision generally reflected community views and it was described as a 'catch-all' statement for the broad range of interests in the park. There was feedback from community that people are interested in seeing how the vision will be realised in the masterplan (i.e. the design phase).

The comments received on the 'other considerations' statements show that there are a broad diversity of interests and park users in the community. All statements were rated fairly equally, supporting that people want the park to provide for a variety of different pursuits, from active to passive activities.

Engagement methods

We conducted online and face-to-face engagement from 4 April to 18 April 2017 to consult the community on the draft vision for Haig Park. Approximately 115 people participated in this engagement process over the two weeks. The methods, timing and participation numbers are summarised below:

Method	Dates conducted	Participation
Your Say online	4 April – 18 April 2017	23 people participated online (1 via email).
Drop-in consultation sessions	Braddon (Mort Street entrance) Tuesday 11 April, 5-6 pm Turner (Sullivans Creek bike path), Wednesday 12 April, 8.30-10am You Are Here event, Friday 7 April, 6-7.30pm	Approximately 12 people attended the drop-in session over the two days, five in Turner and seven in Braddon. Approximately 80 people attended the You Are Here drop-in session event

What we heard:

Online

The Your Say online engagement page was used to seek community views on the draft vision and to identify anything that it was missing. This activity was open for two weeks and 23 people participated. We asked participants to respond to the following questions using a star rating tool, from one star (not at all) to five stars (very much):

Question asked	Average rating	Number of people providing ratings (not all participants provided ratings)
<i>How well do you think this vision reflects what was said by the community?</i>	3.7 out of 5	3 people
<i>How much do you agree with this vision?</i>	4.5 out of 5	4 people

Participants were also asked to respond to an open ended question “(Is there) anything this vision is missing”? Participants provided 10 responses. The dominant themes mentioned were: heritage (3 comments), trees (2 comments), pathways (2 comments), and open space (2 comments). Comments for each theme could be positive or negative (i.e. suggesting changes related to that theme, or stating support for or value of the current conditions of Haig Park). See appendix A, page 8, for a full list of themes mentioned in online comments

Examples of community responses to this question are provided below:



Participants were also asked to rate the three “other considerations” statements on the five star rating from “not important at all” (one star) to “the most important” (five stars). 22 people provide ratings for this activity. Average ratings for each statement are listed in the table below.

Statement	Average rating (from 1-5)	Number of people providing ratings (not all participants provided ratings)
<i>A safe and accessible community space, where the park encourages quiet reflection, community connection and active movement through dedicated spaces; a place to disconnect from the city and journey through an immersive green oasis in a variety of ways</i>	4.6	22
<i>A landscape with a range of facilities that encourages vibrant social gatherings and creative pursuits. Paths , play equipment and seating areas that are unique to Haig park, sustainable, respectful of heritage and encourage a variety of active and passive pursuits</i>	4.2	22
<i>A healthy urban forest, cooling the surrounding city, that supports a unique ‘Haig park’ ecology and maintains its heritage value</i>	4	21

There was a space online for participants to leave any additional comments about the park. 15 people provided additional comments; the majority of these comments were about particular ideas or suggestions for the park, rather than responding to the vision statement. The dominant themes of these comments were trees (six comments) and activities (four comments). A smaller number of comments related to pathways, open space, heritage and park amenities (see appendix A, page 8, for a full list of themes mentioned in online comments).

Examples of community responses to this question are provided below:

Important to include gardens in addition to trees. And a mix of native and existing exotic trees.

The existing trees are forlorn. Non-native trees lined up like a plantation forest. Inappropriate.

Haig park should be used to connect East and West cycling and pedestrian paths.

With the influx of residential apartments it needs a fantastic playground and barbecue facilities as well as a dog park on the other side.

Online demographics

A total of 22 people participated in or commented on the vision testing and/or 'other considerations' testing using the YourSay website.

Age category	Count
19-24	3
25-34	5
35-44	5
45-54	6
55-64	1
65 years and over	2
Total	22

Drop-in consultation sessions

Approximately 92 community members attended across three vision testing drop-in sessions in April. Members of the community engagement and project team were available at these sessions to talk about the project and get feedback on the draft vision for Haig Park. The feedback received is summarised below.

You are Here festival ‘Electric Avenues’ event, Friday 7 April 2017

The community engagement team set up a number of interactive activities in Haig Park as part of the Electric Avenues event in Haig Park. Approximately 80 people came to talk about the project and participate in these activities.

Participants were asked to respond to the draft vision using sticky notes, to tell us what’s good and what’s missing from the statement. Most comments we received were about general ideas for Haig Park rather than comments on the vision:



Participants were also asked to rate the Haig Park ‘important to consider’ statements from ‘not important at all’ to ‘the most important’ using stickers on a board with printed statements (figure 1). The table below lists the statements and their ranking in order of importance based on the average sticker rating:

Statement	Average sticker rating
<i>A landscape with a range of facilities that encourages vibrant social gatherings and creative pursuits. Paths, play equipment and seating areas that are unique to Haig park, sustainable, respectful of heritage and encourage a variety of active and passive pursuits</i>	most important
<i>A safe and accessible community space, where the park encourages quiet reflection, community connection and active movement through dedicated spaces; a place to disconnect from the city and journey through an immersive green oasis in a variety of ways</i>	most important to moderately important
<i>A healthy urban forest, cooling the surrounding city, that supports a unique ‘Haig park’ ecology and maintains its heritage value</i>	moderately important

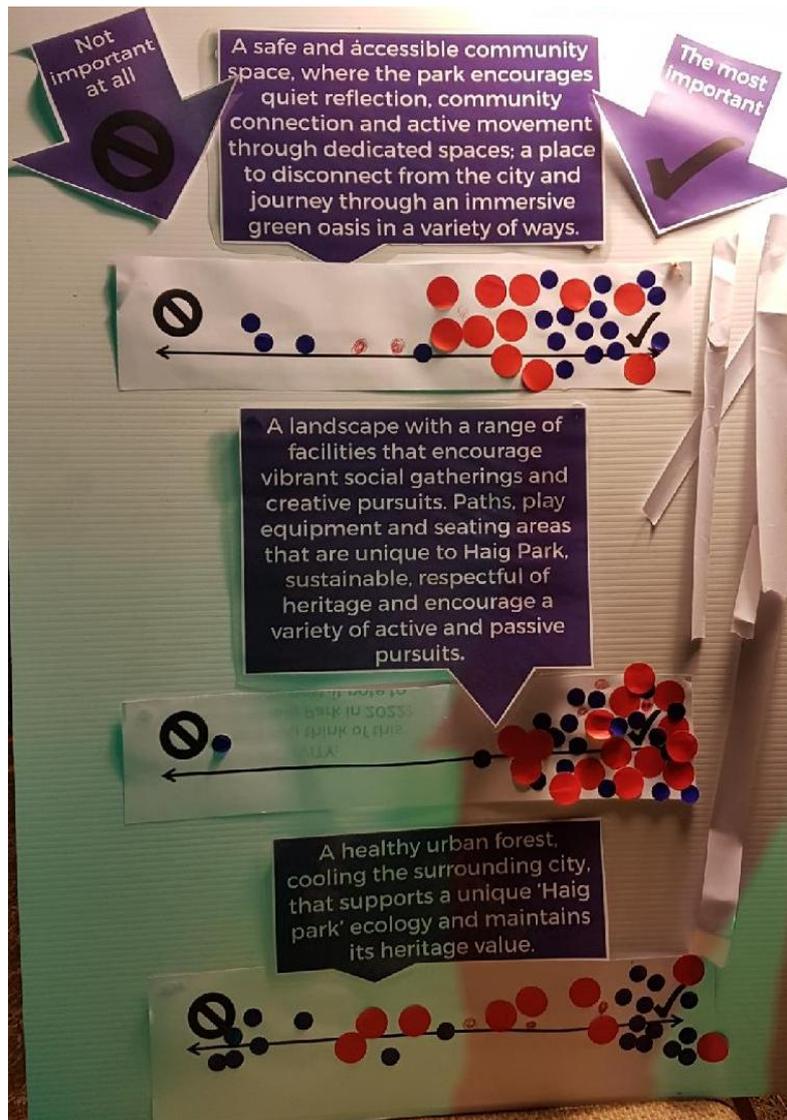


Figure 1. 'Other considerations' rating tool at electric avenues event

Braddon and Turner drop-in consultation sessions, 11 and 12 April 2017

Approximately 12 people attended the drop-in sessions over the two days in April, five in Turner and seven in Braddon. A majority of people had seen the sessions advertised either in our April update email, the Our Canberra newsletter or in the Canberra Times article.

The majority of people we spoke to lived in the local area surrounding the park and had come to the location specifically to speak with us. Participants generally provided comments on specific ideas for Haig Park and did not provide much feedback on the vision. The community feedback is summarised by theme below:

Pathways	Amenities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The road network is creating a barrier to accessing Haig Park, general thought to implement safe crossings and ways to get over the road without crossing Widen footpaths Add an east-west cycle path, to get east west is dangerous on roads and some people don't like riding on roads – this should be on the edge of the park, it needs to be well lit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More picnic tables and BBQs Parking is a concern if there are more 'activities', potential to have clearway parking at allocated times Water fountains that have dog water bowls
Activity Spaces	Safety
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add some kids play equipment Fenced dog area (100m x 100m) Turner end used by Tai Chi group Nothing that increases noise Fitness equipment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve the lighting Local residents use the park at night
Trees	Other
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lose some trees and space them out more The U3A group visit Haig Park to learn about the trees The trees require more active management The pine cones drop needles that are slippery 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fix the depot (Braddon) Have more events like You Are here (Braddon) Markets (Braddon) It should be a space for people that don't have backyards Bird and wildlife valued Have a tram stop outside Haig Park Love as it is but could have better maintenance and rubbish bins

Appendix A

Table 1: List of themes mentioned by all online comments. Comments for each theme could be positive or negative (i.e. suggesting changes related to that theme, or stating support for or value of the current conditions of Haig Park). As some comments related to multiple themes, these were counted for each theme that they mentioned. There were a total of 26 comments provided across the two online Your Say activities.

Theme	Comments
Trees	8
Pathways	5
Heritage	5
Open Space	4
Activities	4
BBQ/Seating	2
Amenities	1
Playground	1
Wildlife	2
Bridge	1
Indigenous	2
Dog Park	1