



Dedicated to a better Brisbane

Victoria Park Barrambin

Draft Master Plan

Community Engagement Report

2023





Artist impressions:
Front cover: The lower wetlands
This page: The parkway loop



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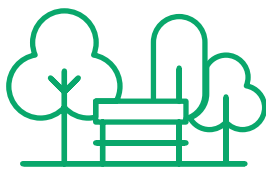
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Transforming 64 hectares of inner-city greenspace

Brisbane City Council is transforming Victoria Park / Barrambin into an iconic parkland with something for everyone. The Brisbane community and visitors have been freely exploring the park and its sprawling city views since it opened as a park in July 2021.

In late September 2022, Council released the Victoria Park Barrambin Draft Master Plan as part of the next exciting phase of the park's transformation. The Draft Master Plan integrates the community's feedback on the Victoria Park Vision with technical refinements to illustrate key features, spaces and connections to create the final plan.

With the release of the Master Plan, the community will start to see the exciting transformation of the park come to life while continuing to explore and enjoy its natural spaces with family and friends.



The park joins Brisbane's network of more than **2180** parks with its transformation underway to become a natural retreat and urban park for adventure, discovery and reconnection over the coming years.





Introduction

The Victoria Park Vision was the starting point for the transformation of the park. The Vision is an aspirational, flexible framework that provides a foundation and structure for future planning.

A master plan is a coordinated planning document that is intended to guide future growth and development for a precinct over a long time. The preparation of a master plan is a well-considered process that is typically informed by a vision, consultation outcomes and detailed technical studies.

The Victoria Park / Barrambin Master Plan is consistent with Council's approach to master planning with inclusions such as vision statements, principles, strategies, actions and key projects supported by artist impressions, illustrative designs and maps that communicate long term spatial outcomes for an area.

The Victoria Park / Barrambin Draft Master Plan was developed based on your ideas and feedback on the Victoria Park Vision to transform the 64 hectares of greenspace over the next 15 to 20 years.

Vision, guiding principles and strategies

The Vision for the park, supported by the Brisbane community, is for the park to be **a natural retreat; an urban park for adventure, discovery and reconnection.**

The following three guiding principles, developed through the Vision phase, were used to create the Draft Master Plan. The principles consider the park's unique history, the needs of the city and surrounding communities, environmental imperatives and opportunities offered by the site's natural features and location.



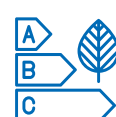
Recognition

We will create a place that honours and celebrates the connections between Country, culture and history across past, present and future generations.



Restoration

We will heal the landscape by reinstating and reintroducing the interconnected ecosystems unique to the region.



Reconnection

We will create transformational connections that weave the park into Brisbane's city fabric.

Timeline: Victoria Park / Barrambin Vision and Master Plan

Aug-Sep 2019

Have your say – Ideas for Victoria Park

Jan 2021-Jun 2022

Detailed technical site assessments and master planning

Phase 1

Phase 2

Jan-Jul 2020

Have your say – Draft Victoria Park Vision

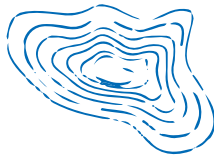
Dec 2020

Victoria Park Vision released

Sep-Oct 2022

Have your say – Victoria Park Barrambin Draft Master Plan

The following nine strategies were used to create the Draft Master Plan.



Cultural landscape



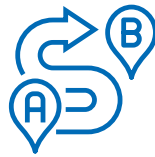
Room for water



Connected habitats



Health and recreation



Connections



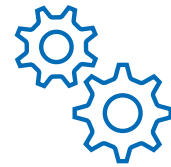
Unique places and experiences



Creative expression



Partnerships and relationships



Other key enablers

Nov 2022

Consider community feedback and update *Victoria Park Barrambin Master Plan*

Jun 2023 onwards

Seek Land Management Plan approval and commence planning approval pathway



Jun 2023

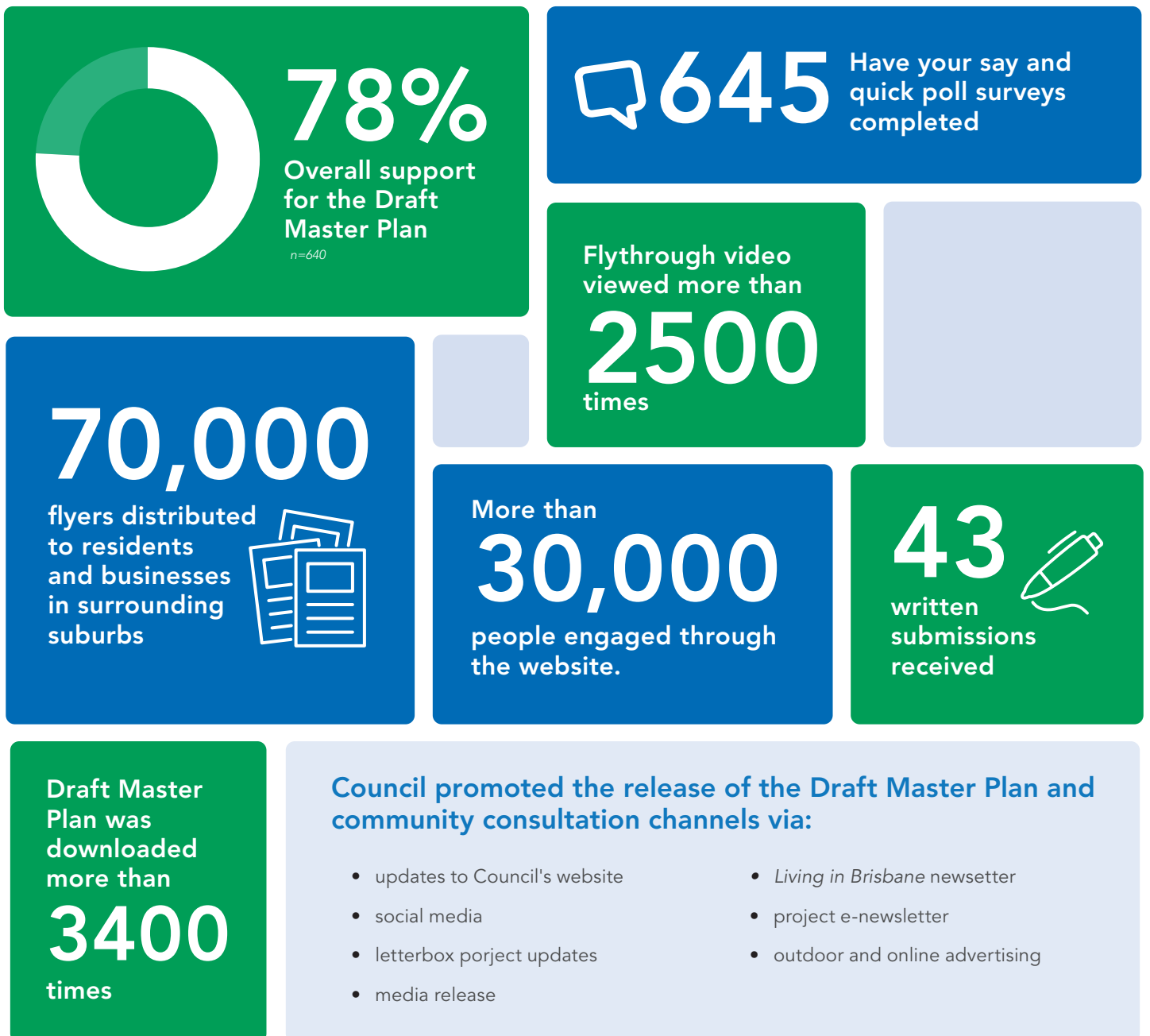
Release final *Victoria Park Barrambin Master Plan*

Jul 2023 onwards

Implementation of the *Victoria Park Barrambin Master Plan* including early projects

Draft Master Plan engagement

Council released the Victoria Park / Barrambin Draft Master Plan on 27 September 2022. This was the start of a five week consultation period where the community was invited to explore the Draft Master Plan and provide their feedback through surveys, face-to-face and online events, and by making submissions to Council. The survey closed at midnight on Sunday 30 October.





Engagement Events

Council offered a range of opportunities, over a five week period, for the community and stakeholders to provide feedback on the Draft Master Plan. These included face-to-face engagement and pop-up events, stakeholder briefings and online engagement.

Queen St Mall pop-up events

Council initially ran one pop-up event in Queen Street Mall on Wednesday 5 October from 11am-2pm to allow people who work and live in the city to provide feedback on the Draft Master Plan. The event was staffed by the project team and members of the public were encouraged to learn more and share their feedback on the Draft Master Plan.

A further three pop-up events were organised in the Queen Street Mall, following the cancellation of Discovery Day (a free family event in the park cancelled due to wet weather). These events were held over three consecutive days from Wednesday 26 to Friday 28 October, 11am-1pm.

Feedback at all four of the Queen Street Mall pop-up events was positive overall, with discussions with more than 325 people.



>200

people gave feedback
at the Herston Busway
pop-up events.



Herston Busway pop-up events

Council held two mid-week pop-up events at the Herston Busway station entrance on Wednesday 12 and 19 October from 7-9am. The intention of these events was to capture feedback from the local community as well as commuters who work or study in the area. The project team were joined by Precious Coffee who provided attendees with their morning coffee fix.

Overall feedback from the more than 200 people engaged was positive and many were excited about the future of the park.

Spring Hill information session

More than 70 members of the public were engaged on the Spring Hill side of the park near Centenary Pool on Saturday 15 October from 8-10am. The project team was available to provide further information about the Draft Master Plan and answer any questions. The overall sentiment from this event was very positive.



Artist impression: Inner City Pedestrian and Cycle Bridge, and adjacent lawn near Gilchrist Avenue

Urban pump track and Herston information session

Our event in the Herston corner of the park saw approximately 30 members of the community come by to meet the project team and learn more about the design of the urban pump track. The pump track designer and landscape architect attended the event to answer technical questions about the track and plans for the park.

Approximately eight local residents shared their concerns about the location of the urban pump track as well as feedback on the amount of concrete and development in the park, and impact to local residents with increased traffic, parking and noise in the area.

Online Information session

Council ran an online information session via Microsoft Teams as an alternative option to the face-to-face engagement events. A detailed presentation of the Draft Master Plan was provided, followed by questions from attendees. A total of 14 people attended the session.

Outdoor Cinema in the Suburbs event

The project team had a pop-up information session at the Outdoor Cinema in the Suburbs event at the park on Saturday 29 October from 5-8:30pm. More than 600 people attended the event with members of the project team available to answer questions on the project. Overall sentiment at the event was positive.

> 600

people attended the
Outdoor Cinema in
the Suburbs event.



Artist impression: Performance space at the parkland arrival. Dancers depicted from the Nunukul Yuggera Aboriginal Dance Company

Stakeholder briefings

Council engaged with 31 targeted stakeholder groups including those with an interest in the project along with those who are neighbours or in close proximity to the park. These included:

- Traditional Custodian groups and elders
- Access and inclusion groups and advocates
- Major institutions around the park including universities and medical institutions
- Queensland Government departments and agencies
- Utility providers
- Local schools
- Park lessees (commercial and community)
- Community interest groups.

Traditional Custodian engagement

Since the inception of the project, Council has engaged extensively with Traditional Custodians about the transformation of the park and recognition of the rich cultural history of the area.

Key themes from Traditional Custodians include:

- Response to Country
- Connections outside the site
- Language
- Truth telling
- Celebrating culture.

Council takes an inclusive approach and has engaged with Turrbal, Yagarabal Elders / Moreton Gorenpul and Nunukul Yuggera, Jagara Daran, Yugara Yugarapul, and elders that have a connection to Country at Victoria Park / Barrambin.

Engagement has included face-to-face meetings, phone calls, online briefings and site tours to hear directly from Traditional Custodians and Elders about their personal stories of the park and the history of their ancestors who lived and gathered in the park, as well as aspirations for the park's future.

Council will continue to consult with the park's Traditional Custodians throughout the project and beyond, to feature Aboriginal design elements, land management, language, stories and heritage across the park.



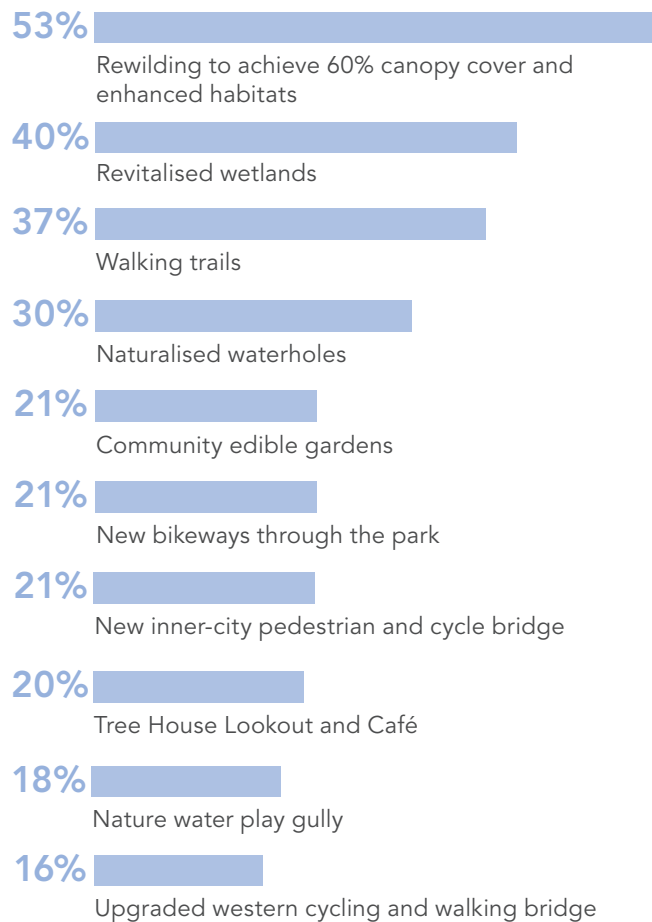
Feedback through the Have your say survey

Overall support for the Draft Master Plan was high, with 78% overall support. An analysis of all feedback received has identified key themes and areas for refinement.

Community Priorities

When asked which proposed features in the park were most important, the Brisbane community told us that rewilding the park to achieve 60% canopy cover and enhanced habitats was a priority.

The features considered most important to the community are*:

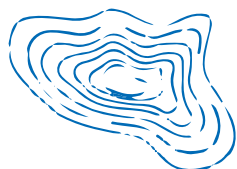


*Respondents were asked to select their top four most important features from a list of 20 key features. n=537

Artist Impression: The Tree House lookout

Overview of feedback for each strategy

As part of the consultation survey the community was asked to what extent they supported the features and actions of each strategy.



Cultural landscape

A natural space that celebrates Country and Brisbane's shared Aboriginal and European heritage.

74% support for the Cultural landscape strategy*

*156 survey responses were provided on the Cultural landscape strategy (from 579 surveys completed overall)

Suggestions from some community members through the survey and submissions	What Council is doing
<p>More involvement from Traditional Custodians in the design and ongoing management of the park.</p>	<p>Building on the engagement approach through the Vision and Master Plan phases of the project, Council will continue to take an inclusive approach to engaging with all Aboriginal groups and Elders that have a connection to Country in the park.</p> <p>The Cultural landscape strategy has been updated to include Aboriginal employment pathways to manage and maintain the landscape, including training and recruitment of Aboriginal people in land management, cultural awareness and cross-cultural education programs.</p>
<p>More representation of First Nations heritage, including local Aboriginal art and sculptures and Aboriginal led park activities.</p>	<p>The Master Plan will establish employment pathways to manage and maintain the landscape. This may include training and recruitment of Aboriginal people in land management, cultural awareness and cross-cultural education programs.</p> <p>The Creative expression strategy will include working with Aboriginal artists to share their art and stories of Country.</p>
<p>Aboriginal language is considered in the park name, renaming the park to Barrambin first and Victoria Park second.</p>	<p>Aboriginal language will be shared through place and building names, as well as through signage and wayfinding.</p>
<p>Greater clarity of the level of engagement that has taken place with the Aboriginal community.</p>	<p>Council has engaged with Traditional Custodians through the Vision and Master Plan phases of the project. The Master Plan outlines this engagement process.</p>
<p>Inclusion of bush tucker in the community garden</p>	<p>Native and endemic species, including bush tucker plants will be included in the park.</p>
<p>Inclusion of the park on the Queensland Heritage Register</p>	<p>Areas of the park are heritage-listed at the local and state government level.</p> <p>Careful consideration of the ongoing management and protection of heritage forms a key part of the Master Plan, and appropriate protocols and procedures will be adopted during its implementation.</p>



Room for water

Re-established waterways, wetlands and waterholes will restore natural cooling, cleansing and drainage, as well as habitat for wildlife.

94%

support for revitalised wetlands*

92%

support for recreated waterholes*

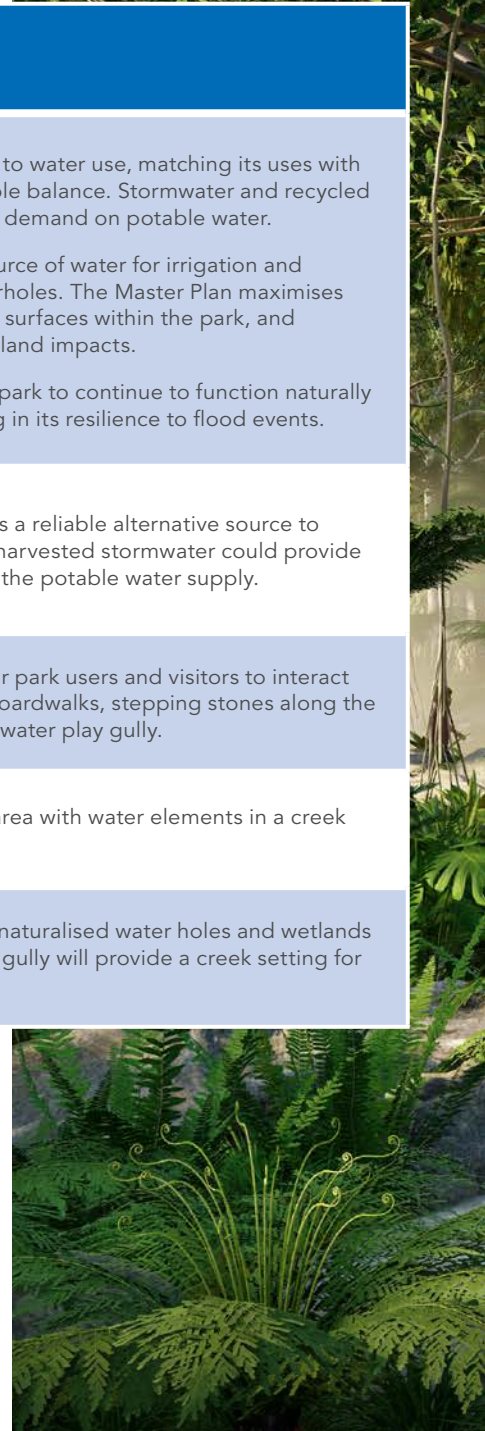
84%

support for nature water play gully*

*165 survey responses were provided on the key features in the Room for water strategy (from 579 surveys completed overall).



Suggestions from some community members through the survey and submissions	What Council is doing
Green initiatives and sustainability measures that ensure water cleanliness, conservation, and drought mitigation.	<p>The Master Plan adopts a sustainable approach to water use, matching its uses with appropriate water quality to achieve a sustainable balance. Stormwater and recycled water will be used where possible, reducing the demand on potable water.</p> <p>Stormwater harvesting provides an alternate source of water for irrigation and maintains water levels in the wetlands and waterholes. The Master Plan maximises opportunities to capture water runoff from hard surfaces within the park, and passively irrigate spaces, reducing urban heat island impacts.</p> <p>The Master Plan design also allows parts of the park to continue to function naturally as overland flow paths and flood plains, building in its resilience to flood events.</p>
Use of recycled water in the park	Council will investigate options to reuse water as a reliable alternative source to rainfall. Recycled water, roof water, run-off and harvested stormwater could provide water for toilet flushing and reduce pressure on the potable water supply.
Adding water design features like waterfalls, fountains, and ponds.	The Master Plan provides a multitude of ways for park users and visitors to interact with water. This includes meandering wetland boardwalks, stepping stones along the naturalised edges of the waterholes and nature water play gully.
More natural waterholes, informal and formal water play areas for adults and children.	Nature water play gully is an all-ages wild-play area with water elements in a creek style setting.
Areas for swimming, kayaking and pedal boating.	Though not suitable for water play or kayaking, naturalised water holes and wetlands will be reinstated in the park. Nature water play gully will provide a creek setting for exploration.







Connected habitats

Revitalised ecosystems and restored habitats will increase canopy cover and draw wildlife back to the city to enrich our connection with nature.

97%

support for 60% tree canopy*

96%

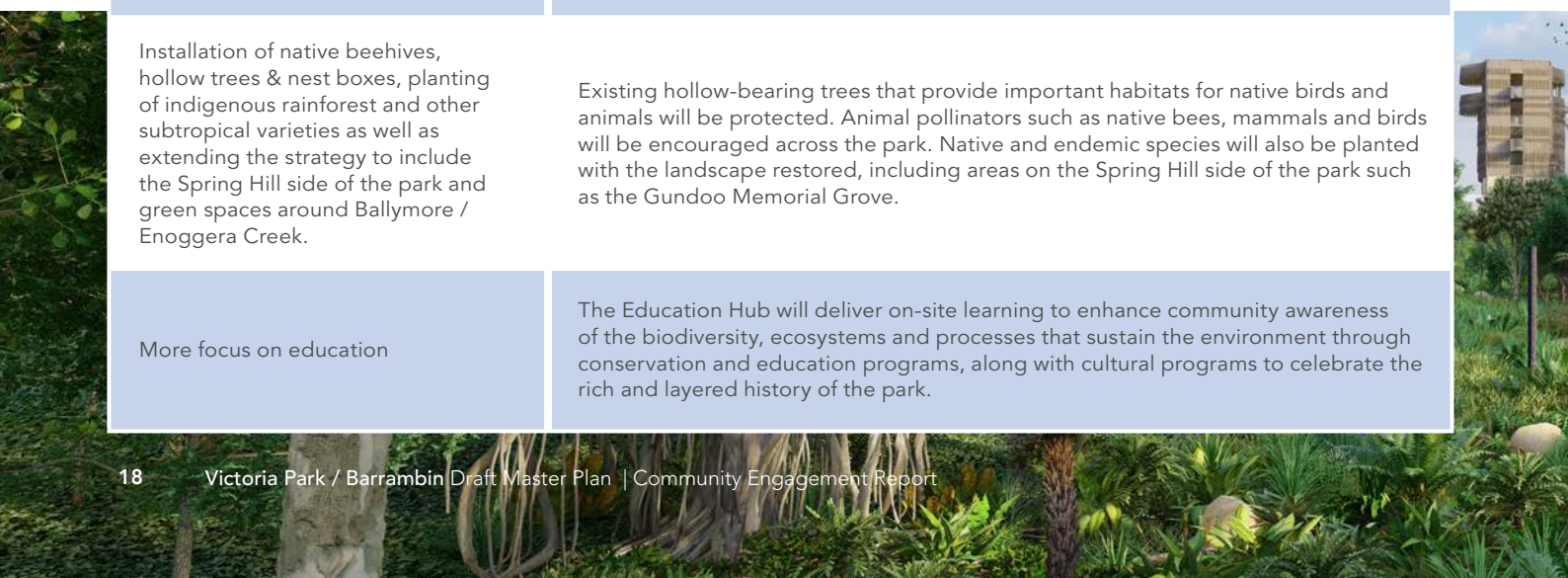
support for re-wilding and habitat enhancement*

93%

support for creating an avenue of trees*

*170 survey responses were provided on the key features in the Connected habitats strategy (from 579 surveys completed overall).

Suggestions from some community members through the survey and submissions	What Council is doing
<p>Less building infrastructure and hard surfaces like concrete and bitumen in favour of more rewilding and natural surfaces like grass, trees, and dense vegetation.</p>	<p>The Visitor Centre, entry plazas at Herston and Spring Hill, the Community Fitness Precinct, the water squirt play and the multi-level carpark have been removed to limit the amount of hard infrastructure following community feedback. In relation to the multi-level car park, parking demand will be monitored, and this decision will be reevaluated as park visitation increases over time. A managed car park solution, with an element of paid parking, will be introduced for the main car parks at Herston Road and Spring Hill.</p> <p>Primary paths, including the parkway loop will be concrete with low carbon concrete options to be explored. Secondary paths will be a mix of concrete and other materials.</p> <p>Council is providing more lawn areas around the Tree House precinct and near the Education Hub for picnicking, informal gatherings and to enable small-medium scale community events such as 'Cinema in the Suburbs'. As outlined in the Master Plan, the Murray Spinaze Bushland remains and is expanded within the parkland, along with significant stands of existing Corymbia and Eucalypt species on the boundary with Queensland University of Technology (QUT).</p> <p>Additional rewilding will occur adjacent to the Herston busway with the long term goal of 60% canopy retained for the park.</p>
<p>Fauna management strategies that protect wildlife, particularly in areas close to main roads</p>	<p>Areas of the park that contain remnants of traditional ecosystems and endemic flora species will be expanded and rehabilitated. A planted habitat corridor that provides connections for fauna within the park will be created.</p>
<p>A canopy cover target of more than 60%.</p>	<p>Rewilding of the park to achieve 60% canopy cover is the highest priority for the community. This is being achieved while increasing lawn areas for the community to gather.</p>
<p>Installation of native beehives, hollow trees & nest boxes, planting of indigenous rainforest and other subtropical varieties as well as extending the strategy to include the Spring Hill side of the park and green spaces around Ballymore / Enoggera Creek.</p>	<p>Existing hollow-bearing trees that provide important habitats for native birds and animals will be protected. Animal pollinators such as native bees, mammals and birds will be encouraged across the park. Native and endemic species will also be planted with the landscape restored, including areas on the Spring Hill side of the park such as the Gundoo Memorial Grove.</p>
<p>More focus on education</p>	<p>The Education Hub will deliver on-site learning to enhance community awareness of the biodiversity, ecosystems and processes that sustain the environment through conservation and education programs, along with cultural programs to celebrate the rich and layered history of the park.</p>





Health and recreation

A retreat in the heart of the city that promotes healing, wellness and connection to nature.

80%

support for creating a community fitness precinct*

60%

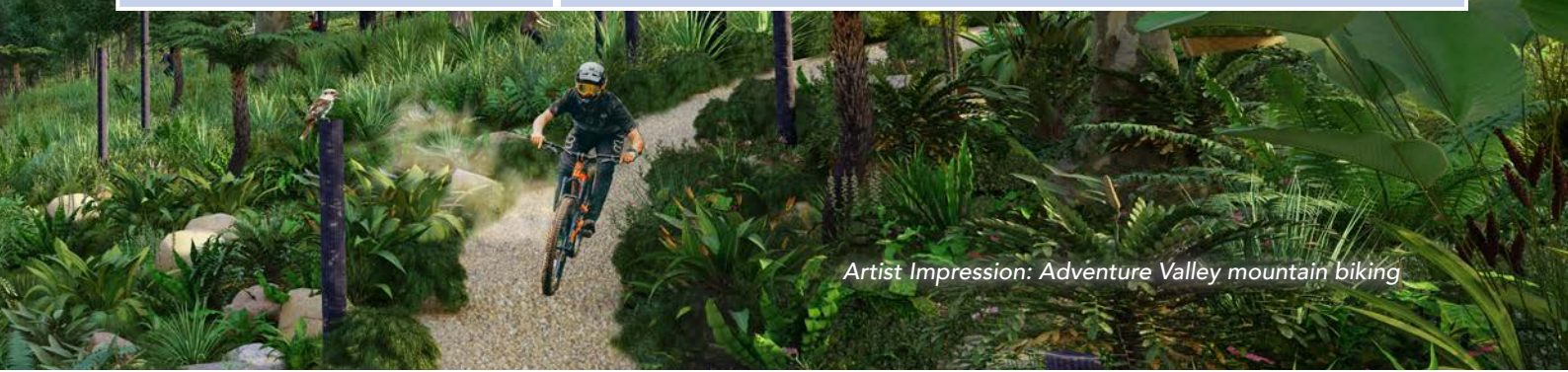
support for maintaining the driving range and putt-putt*

77%

support for consolidated community sports precinct*

*235 survey responses were provided on the key features in the Health and recreation strategy (from 579 surveys completed overall).

Suggestions from some community members through the survey and submissions	What Council is doing
<p>Closure of the driving range</p> <p>Reduction in the amount of concrete within the park.</p>	<p>The driving range is under a lease arrangement until 2029 and is will be retained as a recreational use in the park. In the medium term, the driving range will also be used for larger scale events.</p> <p>The Visitor Centre, entry plazas at Herston and Spring Hill, Community Fitness Precinct, water squirt play and multi-level carpark have been removed to limit the amount of hard infrastructure following community feedback. In relation to the multi-level car park, parking demand will be monitored, and this decision will be reevaluated as park visitation increases over time. A managed car park solution, with an element of paid parking, will be introduced for the main car parks at Herston Road and Spring Hill</p> <p>Primary paths, including the parkway loop will be concrete with low carbon concrete options to be explored. The parkway loop will be seven metres wide to ensure the path can accommodate pedestrians, mobility devices, wheelchairs, prams and low speed cyclists.</p> <p>The topography of the park is challenging; however accessibility is essential to ensure all members of the community can enjoy the park and access facilities.</p> <p>Secondary paths will be a mix of concrete and other materials.</p>
<p>Focus on retaining green, quiet spaces rather than adding amenities to the park.</p>	<p>Extensive areas have been dedicated to quiet spaces throughout the park to enable reflection and connection to the natural surroundings.</p>
<p>Separate walking and cycle / e-scooter paths for the safety of walkers.</p>	<p>The parkway loop will be suitable for pedestrians and low speed cyclists/mobility devices. Separate bikeways will be located on the Spring Hill side from near Brisbane Girl's Grammar School to the land bridge, along the Inner City Bypass and along the western edge of the Inner Northern Busway.</p>
<p>Inclusion of dedicated walking / running tracks designed with gravel rather than concrete.</p>	<p>Dedicated walking and running tracks will be included. The tracks will be constructed of natural materials where possible.</p>



Artist Impression: Adventure Valley mountain biking



Connections

Making the park easier to get to by supporting public and active transport choices and improving pathways and connections within.

95% support for upgrading and constructing new cycling and pedestrian bridges to connect the north and south of the park*

86% support for providing an accessible parkway loop*

93% support for creating new active travel connections with a dedicated separate cycle route*

75% support for upgrading the entry off Herston Road, including new signalised intersection*

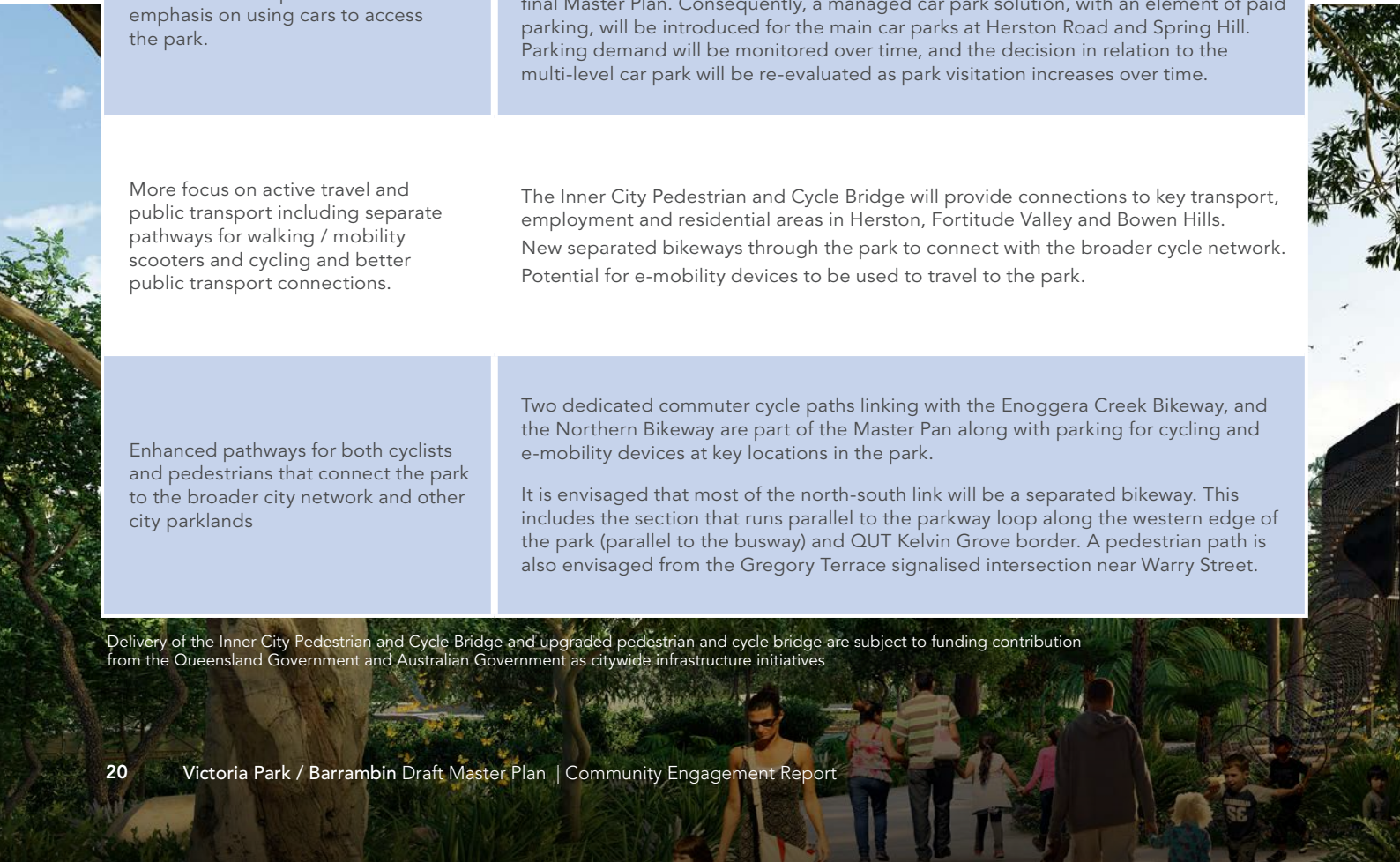
88% supporting for linking the existing land bridge to the heart of the park with an elevated pedestrian and cycle link*

48% support for expanding car parking at multiple locations around the park*

*205 survey responses were provided on the key features in the Connections strategy (from 579 surveys completed overall)

Suggestions from some community members through the survey and submissions	What Council is doing
Reduction in car parks and less emphasis on using cars to access the park.	As a result of community feedback, the multi-level car park and the car park in the corner of the park along Victoria Park Rd, Kelvin Grove have been removed from the final Master Plan. Consequently, a managed car park solution, with an element of paid parking, will be introduced for the main car parks at Herston Road and Spring Hill. Parking demand will be monitored over time, and the decision in relation to the multi-level car park will be re-evaluated as park visitation increases over time.
More focus on active travel and public transport including separate pathways for walking / mobility scooters and cycling and better public transport connections.	The Inner City Pedestrian and Cycle Bridge will provide connections to key transport, employment and residential areas in Herston, Fortitude Valley and Bowen Hills. New separated bikeways through the park to connect with the broader cycle network. Potential for e-mobility devices to be used to travel to the park.
Enhanced pathways for both cyclists and pedestrians that connect the park to the broader city network and other city parklands	Two dedicated commuter cycle paths linking with the Enoggera Creek Bikeway, and the Northern Bikeway are part of the Master Pan along with parking for cycling and e-mobility devices at key locations in the park. It is envisaged that most of the north-south link will be a separated bikeway. This includes the section that runs parallel to the parkway loop along the western edge of the park (parallel to the busway) and QUT Kelvin Grove border. A pedestrian path is also envisaged from the Gregory Terrace signalised intersection near Warry Street.

Delivery of the Inner City Pedestrian and Cycle Bridge and upgraded pedestrian and cycle bridge are subject to funding contribution from the Queensland Government and Australian Government as citywide infrastructure initiatives





Unique places and experiences

Creating drawcard destinations and experiences and expressing Brisbane’s distinctive outdoor lifestyle.

90% support for creating a community edible garden*

77% support for delivering a bespoke Tree House with lookout or cafe*

82% support for delivering an accessible adventure playground*

69% support for inclusion of an Adventure Valley (mountain biking and high ropes)*

*190 survey responses were provided on the key features in the Unique places and experiences strategy (from 579 surveys completed overall)

Suggestions from some community members through the survey and submissions

What Council is doing

More iconic design or features such as greenhouses, a labyrinth or maze.

An iconic Tree House has been included in the Master Plan for the park. Sculptural and artistic elements will also be featured throughout the parkland.

More food and drink options throughout the park.

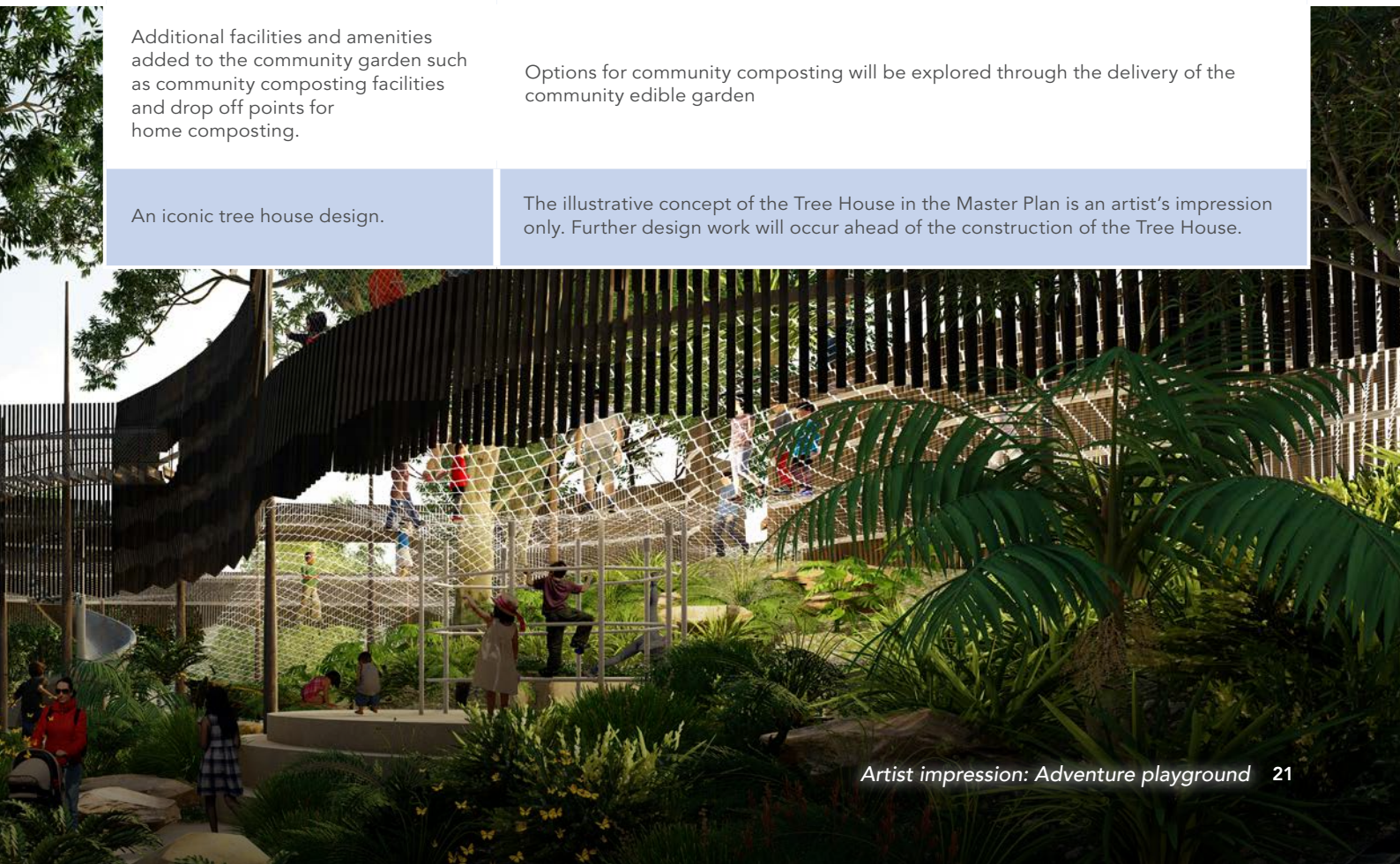
Food and drink options will be available at kiosks and cafes in the park, including near the Education Hub and the Tree House.

Additional facilities and amenities added to the community garden such as community composting facilities and drop off points for home composting.

Options for community composting will be explored through the delivery of the community edible garden

An iconic tree house design.

The illustrative concept of the Tree House in the Master Plan is an artist’s impression only. Further design work will occur ahead of the construction of the Tree House.





Creative expression

World-class architectural forms and unique public spaces will create opportunities for memories and for people to share their own stories.

69% support for the Creative expression strategy*

*123 survey responses were provided on the Creative expression strategy (from 579 surveys completed overall)

Suggestions from some community members through the survey and submissions	What Council is doing
Dedicated areas of creative expression separate from commercial operations in the plan.	There will be a range of creative experiences in the park including artwork and performances.
Lighting features such as fountain light shows and colour transitions.	Appropriate and creative lighting in the park is an essential element that will be managed carefully to avoid environmental impact.
Removal of adventure elements in favour of more art.	The community vision is that the park will be a natural retreat, an urban park for adventure, discovery and reconnection. In the Master Plan there is a balance between creative and adventure elements. Refer to the Health and Recreation and Creative expression strategies in the Master Plan for more information.
High impact and large-scale artworks	As part of the Creative expression strategy a Curatorial Framework will be developed for the park to support the delivery of artworks.
Art festivals or events with local artists.	Festivals and events are a key feature of the Creative expression and Unique places and experiences strategies, which will include local artists and performers.





Partnerships and relationships

Well located links to neighbours and future partnerships will invite people into the park, adopting its spaces and places as their own.

57% support for the Partnerships and relationships strategy*

*130 survey responses were provided on the Partnerships and relationships strategy (from 579 surveys completed overall)

Suggestions from some community members through the survey and submissions	What Council is doing
A reduction in commercial partnerships and activities within the park.	New commercial activities are minimised. The Visitor Centre and associated elements have been removed. There will be some small-scale food and beverage options throughout the park to cater to visitors. The operation of the Adventure Valley high ropes course is still to be determined, however it is likely to be a paid experience to provide diverse experiences for different audiences.
Ongoing, or an increase in, partnerships with local and community stakeholders.	Council is committed to establishing and supporting partnerships with park neighbours and the community and will implement partnership programs and pathways as part of the implementation of the Master Plan.
More information added to the Master Plan on the Partnerships and relationships strategy.	The updated Partnerships and relationships strategy in the Master Plan reflects the broad range of opportunities that can be explored with the Brisbane community, however this is not an exhaustive list and Council encourages those interested in partnership opportunities to contact the Victoria Park project on victoriapark@brisbane.qld.gov.au



Land Management Plan

The Master Plan is intended to be submitted to the Department of Resources for approval as a Land Management Plan for the park under the Land Act 1994.

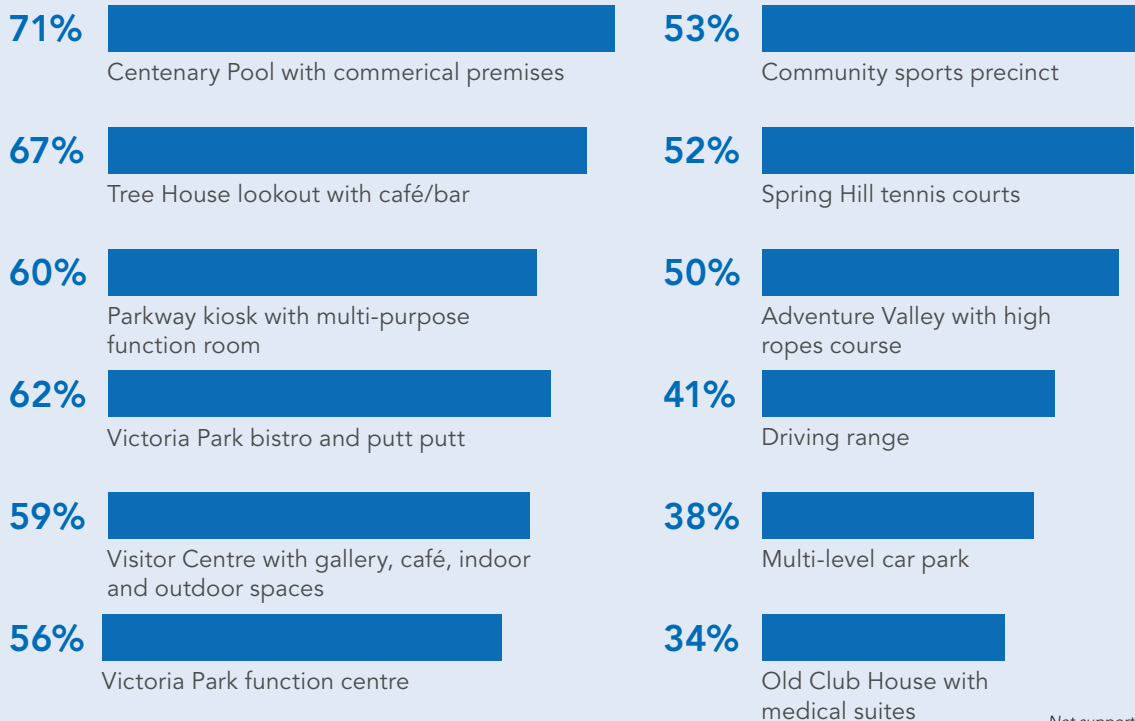
A large portion of land within the park is managed by Council as trustee to the Queensland Government under a Deed of Grant in Trust (DOGIT). The permitted primary purposes for the land under the DOGIT are for park and recreation. Council asked the community for feedback on the secondary uses for the park through the community survey. A 'secondary use' is a term for a use or activity on land either carried out by the trustee that may be inconsistent with the primary purposes, or under a trustee lease or trustee permit issued by the trustee to another person or organisation. Secondary uses are permitted

where these uses do not compromise the primary purposes assigned to the land. However, there is flexibility for secondary uses which are inconsistent with the primary purpose of trust land to be approved by the Minister. Secondary uses often generate ongoing revenue that will contribute to the ongoing maintenance of the park.

Following community feedback, the multi-level car park and Visitor Centre with gallery, café, indoor and outdoor spaces have been removed from the Master Plan and consequently the Land Management Plan. The removal of the multi-level car park has resulted in the at grade car park being included as a secondary use to reflect the potential for a managed car park solution. The Driving Range and the Old Club House with medical suites have been retained as these are subject to existing trustee lease arrangements in the long term.

The Land Management Plan has been updated to reflect the existing use of the sports field.

The level of support for secondary uses in the park, identified through the Have your say survey*





Written submissions

A total of 43 written submissions were received during the Draft Master Plan consultation period.

Formal submissions were received from individual residents, resident action groups, government bodies, local businesses, neighboring institutions and community interest groups.

Twenty-two of the submissions were from local residents and local resident action groups who raised concerns about:

- parking and traffic impacts to local streets
- insufficient consultation period
- lack of technical information
- large scale events and activations bringing too many people into the area
- commercialisation of the park
- amount of concrete and hard infrastructure in the park
- light, noise and litter impacts from events.

Other feedback received through submissions included:

- desire for more land allocated to community gardens
- need for separated pedestrian and cycle paths
- opportunities for further development on site including residential development
- improved connections between Roma Street Parklands, South Bank and local destinations such as Herston Quarter and Barrambin Hill
- permeability on the edges with QUT and Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital
- activations for local workers
- desire for more information about Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games events in the park.

Consultation outcomes

Council has carefully considered the feedback from the surveys, polls, submissions and engagement events.

Overall support for the project remains high with 78% strongly or somewhat supporting the Master Plan with the community continuing to support the vision and strategies for the park.

Rewilding, restoring native habitats and returning water to the park are the most important features the community want in the park.

Council has amended the Master Plan based on community feedback. While some elements have been removed or designs refined, many of the key elements that received strong community support in the Victoria Park Vision have been retained in the Master Plan.

This feedback has influenced key changes reflected in the final Master Plan. Key changes include:

- removal of the multi-level carpark to reduce infrastructure and concrete and the amount of onsite car parking. This has resulted in the at-grade car park being included as a secondary use to reflect the potential for a managed car park solution. A managed car park solution, with an element of paid parking, will be introduced for the main car parks at Herston Road and Spring Hill. Council will reassess this decision at a future date should park visitation require additional parking
- removal of the car park at Kelvin Grove, along Victoria Park Road
- removal of the Visitor Centre and plaza with provision of a smaller arrival space to reduce both concrete and hard infrastructure, and to remove commercial activities from the park
- Spring Hill entry plaza reduced in size to reduce concrete and infrastructure
- Community Fitness Precinct removed to reduce concrete and infrastructure and increase lawn space
- no upgrade to the existing playground on the Spring Hill side
- additional lawn space around the Tree House and through the centre of the park near the Education Hub
- reduction of nature water play gully to provide more lawn space
- removal of water squirt play element to reduce concrete and infrastructure.



78%

Overall support
for the Draft
Master Plan

n=640



Feedback themes and changes

Overall, 78% of people who completed the Have your say survey or quick polls were supportive of the Draft Master Plan. A number of people provided additional written feedback on the plan.

Key feedback

Suggestions from community and stakeholders	What Council is doing
<p>Reconsider the amount of concrete and hard infrastructure; concerns there is too much going on in the park</p>	<p>The Visitor Centre, water squirt play area, significant arrival plaza at Spring Hill, Community Fitness Precinct and car park on Victoria Park Road, Kelvin Grove have been removed. Concrete plazas have been reduced in scale to limit the amount of hard infrastructure. The multi-level car park has been removed. Consequently, a managed car park solution, with an element of paid parking, will be introduced for the main car parks at Herston Road and Spring Hill. Parking demand will be monitored, and this decision will be re-evaluated as park visitation increases over time. The park administration and operations building will include screening vegetation on the sides to reduce its impact.</p> <p>Primary paths, including the parkway loop, will be concrete with low carbon concrete options to be explored. The parkway loop will be seven metres wide to ensure the path is wide enough to accommodate pedestrians, mobility devices, wheelchairs, prams and cyclists.</p> <p>Secondary paths will be a mix of concrete and alternative surface treatments.</p>
<p>Reconsider the amount of parking, including the multi-level car park</p>	<p>The multi-level car park and the car park on Victoria Park Road, Kelvin Grove have been removed. Consequently, a managed car park solution, with an element of paid parking, will be introduced for the main car parks at Herston Road and Spring Hill. Parking demand will be monitored over time, and the decision in relation to the multi-level car park will be re-evaluated as park visitation increases over time.</p> <p>There are currently 447 spaces in the park. Approximately 217 additional car park spaces will be delivered as part of the Master Plan. A number of paid parking facilities are also in the area. Additionally, the park has excellent active and public transport facilities which provides choice in travel options for park patrons.</p>
<p>Concerns about commercial uses in the park</p>	<p>Existing secondary uses (including relocation of some) remain unchanged, although the plan has been updated to reflect the secondary use of the playing fields.</p> <p>The multi-level car park and Visitor Centre have been removed. This has resulted in the at-grade car park being included as a secondary use to reflect the potential for a managed car park solution. A managed car park solution, with an element of paid parking, will be introduced for the main car parks at Herston Road and Spring Hill. Parking demand will be monitored and this decision in relation to the multi-level car park will be re-evaluated as park visitation increases over time.</p>
<p>Provide more open lawn areas</p>	<p>Rewilding of the park to achieve 60% canopy cover is the highest priority for the community. This needs to be balanced with feedback to increase lawn space.</p> <p>Additional lawn areas will be provided around the Tree House precinct, near the parkland arrival and near the Education Hub for picnicking, informal gatherings and to enable small-medium scale community events. Nature water play gully will also be reduced in length to allow more lawn space in the centre of the park. Additional rewilding will occur in the eastern area of the park between Gilchrist Avenue and the Herston busway access to retain the long term goal to achieve 60% canopy cover.</p>

Other feedback

Suggestions from community and stakeholders	What Council is doing
Remove the driving range and rewild the area	The driving range is under a lease arrangement until 2029 and will be retained as a recreational use in the park. In the medium term, the driving range will also be used for larger scale events.
Remove vehicle access to the Tree House	Only emergency and maintenance vehicles are permitted on the parkway loop.
Provide separated cycle paths for commuter use	The location of separate bikeways has been made clearer in the Master Plan.
Concerns over impacts to local residents from traffic, parking, noise, lighting, events, security and opening hours	<p>Events will continue to be held in the park subject to operational measures for noise, lighting, security and parking management.</p> <p>The park will be open 24 hours a day, however lighting within the park after 9pm will be restricted to the parkway loop and commuter paths to minimise impact to wildlife. Lighting will be designed and installed in accordance with the relevant Australian standards to manage potential impacts.</p>
Greater focus on the involvement of Aboriginal people in the park's design and operation	<p>Building on the engagement approach through the Vision and Master Plan phases of the project, Council will continue to take an inclusive approach to engaging with all Aboriginal groups and Elders that have a connection to Country in the park.</p> <p>The Cultural landscape strategy has been updated to include Aboriginal employment pathways to manage and maintain the landscape, including training and recruitment of Aboriginal people in land management, cultural awareness and cross-cultural education programs.</p>
Provide greater information on sustainability measures in the park and integration with Council's <i>Brisbane. Clean, Green, Sustainable</i> strategy	Master Plan updated with additional information on the alignment of the Master Plan with Council's <i>Brisbane. Clean, Green, Sustainable 2017-2031</i>
Changes in the scaling of maps	Community members provided feedback that the graphic scale bars shown below each plan were incorrect. It was determined that this was a graphic error. This error does not impact the scale of the Master Plan design or relative size of areas/elements shown. In the final Master Plan this has been remedied.

Elements unchanged following community feedback

Suggestions from community and stakeholders	What Council is doing
Strong support for the Draft Master Plan at a citywide level	Continue to deliver on the vision of a natural retreat and urban park for adventure, discovery and reconnection. The guiding principles and strategies remain unchanged.
Concern that the high ropes, tree house café and parkway kiosk are not suitable	<p>Features such as the high ropes, tree house café and parkway kiosk with multi-purpose function room received support from the community, will support the anticipated future use of the park and ensure the park will be an adaptable resilient and usable community asset in the future.</p> <p>The Tree House café will provide food and beverage options in the western parkland with the multi-purpose function room providing opportunity for small scale community events. Food and beverage options in the park will be implemented over time as demand and visitation increases</p> <p>The Master Plan is a long-term plan and roadmap for future elements and features in the park. Benchmarking was completed at the start of the project to understand the type of visitor services commonly included in parks of this size. The Master Plan provides for multi-use flexible facilities that will meet a variety of needs in the long term.</p> <p>It is also important to note that while some features of the Master Plan are being delivered in the next 10 years, other features may not be delivered for another 10 to 15 years.</p>
Feedback from local residents that the location of the urban pump track, sports fields and dog park is not suitable	<p>Through the Victoria Park Vision phase there was feedback from residents for a local community park in the Herston corner of the park. Council consulted with the community in 2022 and received 65% support for an urban pump track with small skateable features. This section of the park is closest to local residents in Herston and Kelvin Grove to provide easy walking access to the park for local families.</p> <p>The location of the sports fields and dog park have been assessed and placed in the most appropriate location that considers the park's topography and other park uses.</p>
Desire for more land dedicated to urban farming	Feedback received during the Vision and Master plan phases showed overwhelming support for prioritising the restoration of original landscapes and vegetation and reinstatement of water over urban farming. However, a managed community edible garden is proposed in the Master Plan on the Spring Hill side of the park.
Desire for more natural water holes and informal and formal water play areas	Returning water to the park is a priority for Council. Naturalised water holes and wetlands will be reinstated in the park, however these will not be suitable for water play or kayaking. Nature water play gully will provide a creek setting for exploration.
Stronger focus on encouraging active travel and public transport connections	<p>The Connections strategy identifies key initiatives to encourage active travel and public transport, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Inner City Pedestrian and Cycle Bridge will provide connections to key transport, employment and residential areas in Herston, Fortitude Valley and Bowen Hills • new separated bikeways through the park to connect with the broader cycle network • potential for e-mobility devices to be used to travel to the park. <p>The park is well serviced with two busway and Metro stations at QUT Kelvin Grove and Herston with easy access to the park. Marketing of events and activations in the park will promote public transport and active travel options. No event parking will be available for large scale events.</p>

Delivery of the Inner City Pedestrian and Cycle Bridge and upgraded pedestrian and cycle bridge are subject to funding contribution from the Queensland Government and Australian Government as citywide infrastructure initiatives

Suggestions from community and stakeholders	What Council is doing
Desire for more information about Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games events in the park	<p>Victoria Park / Barrambin will be part of the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games as the venue for the equestrian cross-country and BMX freestyle events. These temporary events have been integrated into the master planning process. The plan incorporates design elements that will support the park in delivering these events, and in its evolution as a vital inner city sanctuary for the people of Brisbane.</p> <p>Council is working with the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games Organising Committee and the relevant international sporting federations to progress plans for the temporary venues for these two events, to ensure the integrity of Victoria Park/Barrambin is maintained in the lead up to, during and after the 2032 Games.</p>
Repurpose existing buildings such as the Old Clubhouse and the Function Centre	<p>Decisions to rebuild or repurpose existing buildings within the park were assessed on suitability, efficiency for park operations and to minimise disruptions to park visitors.</p> <p>Repurposing buildings such as the Old Clubhouse or the Function Centre has been considered and deemed not suitable for other uses due to location, the inability to cater for necessary functions (e.g. onsite maintenance equipment storage in park administration and operations facility) and the underlying zoning of the land and land management planning requirements.</p> <p>The park administration and operations building has been positioned in a location that is free from overland flow, vegetation constraints and provides vehicular access.</p>
Feedback about a lack of technical information available, including supporting data on visitation and costs	<p>The Master Plan was developed based on detailed research and investigations by a variety of technical consultants. Technical reports will be made publicly available as part of the planning pathway for the project. Over time, Council will collect metrics on park visitation to inform the operation and ongoing management of the park. The project will be delivered in stages.</p>
Feedback about the lack of reference to development control in the Draft Master Plan	<p>The Master Plan is not intended to provide development control. This will be delivered through the planning pathway.</p>
Enhanced permeability with QUT and Herston Health Precinct	<p>Opportunities for enhanced permeability are included in the Master Plan and will be further developed through detailed design of the Master Plan. Key entries, pedestrian connections and wayfinding signage is situated along Herston Road.</p>
More signage in the park	<p>Wayfinding that integrates the requirements of accessibility, information, identification, orientation, education and interpretation as well as the safety of park users will include signage to indicate all delineated pathways. Wayfinding remains a key enabler of the Master Plan and the project will implement signage guidelines addressing pathway use in the park.</p>
Concerns about commercial uses in the park identified in the Land Management Planning section	<p>Existing secondary uses (including relocation of some) remain unchanged, although the plan has been updated to reflect the secondary use of the sports fields.</p> <p>The multi-level car park and Visitor Centre have been removed. This has resulted in the at-grade car park being included as a secondary use to reflect the potential for a managed car park solution. A managed car park solution, with an element of paid parking, will be introduced for the main car parks at Herston Road and Spring Hill. Parking demand will be monitored and this decision in relation to the multi-level car park will be re-evaluated as park visitation increases over time.</p>



Next steps

Council has released the final Master Plan for the park with refinements that reflect community feedback.

A planning process will now occur. This will include statutory consultation providing the community with a further opportunity to give feedback on the project as part of the formal planning approval process. Technical reports supporting the planning pathway will be made publicly available as part of this process.

The final Master Plan will be submitted to the Department of Resources to consider the Master Plan's suitability as a Land Management Plan.

In late 2023, construction will commence on the first projects in the park including the Spring Hill Common and urban pump track. These projects have gone through a separate development assessment process.

Delivery will be staged in line with approved Council budgets.

Council is converting the park to provide much-needed greenspace for the city. The Master Plan delivers on the community vision for the park of a natural retreat and urban park for adventure, discovery and reconnection.





Dedicated to a better Brisbane



Artist Impression: The wetlands



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Every effort is made to ensure that
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