

Data analysis from Shirley Strickland Engagement Process

Summary

The commentary provided by the community using an interactive social map was analysed using two main techniques.

The first method involved the use of Nvivo, which is analytical software for qualitative data such as electronic word and pdf documents, printed and scanned documents, audio-visual recordings and responses to open questions in surveys. Similarly to quantitative or statistical software, a range of analytical tools (tests) are provided to enable a deeper level of insight than simply counting the number of people who said this or that. Using Nvivo it is possible to explore qualitative data to identify themes which can be illustrated by direct quotations.

The second method involved the use of Intramaps to provide visual and spatial representations of the data (such as clusters of responses) on a map.

Together, these methods provided the Project Management Team with insights into how local people use the reserve with the intention of:

- Retaining valued spaces or places within the park;
- Potentially enhancing valued spaces or places within the park during detailed design;
- Mitigating any potential losses with alternative provisions; and
- Minimising any potential disruption to day to day living during construction.

The extent to which Shirley Strickland reserve is important to the community living around it was clearly identifiable from the data. In total, 221 comments were provided by 134 people placing markers on an interactive map of the reserve on MelvilleTalks. One person was so enthused about the engagement process they provided 14 comments.

What emerged from the data was that Shirley Strickland is used as a place:

- to exercise daily, primarily through walking the family dog;
- for socialising with other dog walkers;
- where parents, grandparents and their kids and grandkids get together close to the playground area, often after school;
- where people can contemplate nature as they walk amongst the trees.

Three separate maps show specific places where people exercise, socialise and spend time out of doors.

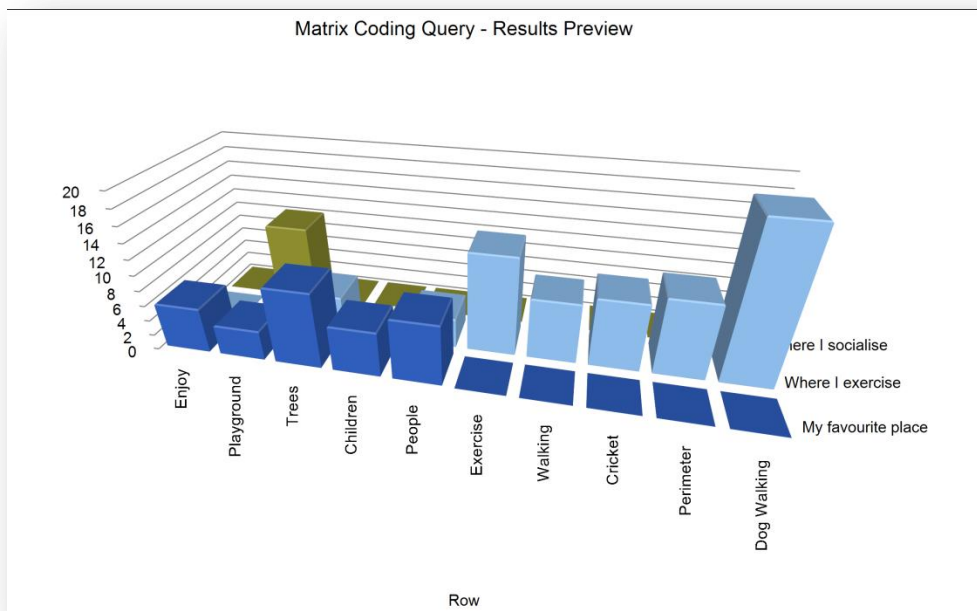
The complete list of comments provided by the community is shown at the end of the report.

Figure 3. “My favourite place” word cloud



3. Created nodes for most frequently recurring words in each of the three areas and then completed a review of the sentence within which the top 3 or 4 words occurred.
4. Coded/recoded text (sentences) where the words were used to identify emergent themes.
5. Used matrix coding query to provide a visual representation of nodes as they link with “Where I socialise;” “Where I exercise;” and “My favourite place.”

Figure 4.



The matrix shows that the playground is the most important place for socialising.

"I have 2 small children, and they frequently play at the old playground with the other kids from the neighbourhood."

"Our kids go to the playground every day after school."

"Regularly take grandkids to the playground."

The matrix also shows that favourite places within the reserve are those where there are trees.

"Sit under the trees with the kids and watch the birds, dogs playing and people playing sport."

"I walk around amongst the trees as it makes me feel like I'm in a forest."

"We enjoy the visiting birds from the trees on the oval on a daily basis."

Lastly, the matrix shows that for most people, exercise includes walking the family dog and socialising with other dog walkers.

Other forms of exercise identified included walking, running and jogging around the perimeter and cricket.

"This park is a great place... to bring our dogs for exercise, both for us and our pooches."

"I walk my dogs every day in the morning and also in the late afternoon and evening. It is also very social as all of the dog owners know each other and their dogs. The highlight of the day [is] especially late afternoon. There are sometimes 70 or more dogs... . We also enjoy sitting under the trees in the shade and the dogs use the special drinking water drinking fountain. Please could you allow plenty of walking and playing areas for the dogs. It is one of the... [few]... places in the area where the dogs can run safely off the lead."

Qualitative data analysis using Intramaps

The second stage of analysis using Intramaps provides three separate maps for 'Where I socialise etc.' Each map shows a detailed breakdown of activities as indicated by symbols and selected quotations from participants.



WHERE I SOCIALISE



MY FAVOURITE SPACE



Walk around the park daily

My husband exercises with his friends in the morning before work

Where we exercise with our kids and dog

Play ball games, learn to ride bikes, fly kites with kids

We walk our dog around the outside of the footy oval and rugby ovals

Family use to practice cricket

Kids sometimes kick footy here

My husband walks around the perimeter of the park most mornings

I walk around the park every second day

WHERE I EXERCISE

All feedback

My Favourite Place

53 comments were provided by 45 individuals.

<p>We walk on this oval most days. Also "people and dog watch" from our house all day every day. We enjoy the visiting birds from the trees on the oval on a daily basis. We enjoy the fact that so many others also enjoy this space constantly. Gives a real community feel. Particularly love the fact that children use the space. There was a tree that kids used to climb and unfortunately it was cut down. So sad kids can't be kids any more due to the threat of litigation. Use the playground whenever the grandies visit. Feel so lucky to live near such a beautiful, untouched open space. Long may it remain.</p>
<p>Great little place to recreate with kids/grand kids</p>
<p>I love to take my dog here and play football!</p>
<p>The north west side is my favourite</p>
<p>My kids love to play at the playground and the ovals.</p>
<p>I love to take my nephew down to the park with my dog. I'd love an update to the playground in line with similar suburbs - e.g, Kadidjiny Park in Melville.</p>
<p>I like to sit here to watch local sport.</p>
<p>I take the grand children there regularly.</p>
<p>walking and socialising our dog, we also love sitting on our deck and watching sport and everyone enjoying the park especially the dog walkers:)</p>
<p>SSR is increasingly important for us as a refuge from the rush and pressure of everyday life. Somewhere for us to walk to, with or without the family dog, go with grandchildren to play, meet family and friends and neighbours or just to sit and ponder and watch the world go by. So many other local families do just the same, particularly as 'back yards' are no longer in vogue. In an age when most of our time seems to revolve around cars and technology the importance of open spaces like SSR cannot be overestimated for our well being and sanity. Improve changing facilities and public facilities by all means but please retain the reserve as a place we can all freely access and enjoy.</p>
<p>My 3 year old loves running around the open spaces.</p>
<p>My favourite spaces extend along the tree-line starting at Sweetman, to Mitchell Road. In any season, at any time of the day, there is a choice of sun or shade. This walking route is allows easy socialising with others, and walking a dog. Family and friends with grandchildren are well catered to, by the playground under the pines. In any re-development plan, I would suggest graded pathways from the road/parking opposite Olympic Place. This would allow for wheelchair/pram access. This could lead to toilet facilities (incl disabled and parent-friendly) at ground level incorporated into the the club-rooms overhaul.</p>
<p>We walk our dog here</p>
<p>Big pine tree near playground - provides food for Carnaby cockatoos. Was also used by a family of goshawks to nest and fledge last summer - really amazing sight</p>

My Favourite Place continued;
I walk around in amongst the trees as it makes me feel like I'm in a forest. Please don't remove any trees from this magnificent park. It's my spiritual place, my "church".
An area I walk my dog and with my children, unfortunately it is overrun with dogs off leads that owners can't control (big and small), it would be great to have an ON lead and an off lead DESIGNATED AREAS of the park, where people and children can go without fear of being jumped on and attacked by dogs off leads, it would bring me back to the park more which I have stopped going to with my children and my dog because it is just so unpleasant to be jumped on and have dogs constantly come up to you while your trying to relax and enjoy, instead worried and scared I'm going to be attacked by a giant uncontrolled dog. It would make sense to have the ON LEAD area near the children's playground for safety.
We exercise our dog and play with our daughter.
dog exercise
Exercise my dog here daily
Take grandkids on a regular basis
I frequently sit here of a weekend to read and soak up the afternoon sun
My children enjoy riding to this playground and having a run around the oval and play on the equipment.
Closed in playground please dont get rid of it!
I love this big park for multiple reasons and that is, to come here and walk my dog, come for walks with the family, meet other people and meet there four legged friends. I also drive here to just sit back and enjoy the open area, the tranquillity, take in the view of the trees and at times watch people playing sport as I sit with my hairy friend. I also enjoy the security of the larger oval for letting my dog off the lead as it is a lower level, with high surrounding sides, making a good barrier for retaining my dog in.
Come here regularly with my kids for a play. Bigger playground would be awesome as it does get busy at times. No nature based playground please. Some more seating for adults would also be appreciated.
We have views over the park from here - it's so nice to see the trees and the grass is always well kept. Great to see the ovals being used for sport in the evenings and weekends, dog walking, families and kids etc.
This is where I walk my dog & play fetch with him :)
Grew up here
This area is not only one for social gathering but a place where my children and grandchildren have played. we bought here for that reason. I get great enjoyment from this area.
I sit under these trees and meditate
A relaxing area with trees and open space.
My kids love running/rolling up and down these hills
We like to visit this park with our toddler (it is the only park in walking distance from our house). However because the dogs are off-leash, it is very unsafe for our toddler to run around and enjoy herself. Most (not all) dog owners do not understand the danger of their dogs to small children and it's frustrating that the dogs are allowed the run of the whole park while people cannot use it. I have had many dogs run up to my daughter and try to jump on her. People are following the rules as dogs are allowed off-leash but the rules need to be changed so that everyone can enjoy the park, not just the dogs. Also there is always dog feces in many parts of the park which is gross.
my son flies his kite here on a windy day

My Favourite Place continued;
I enjoy sitting on the hill to watch the dogs socialise/play. Would be great to have bench seating up here.
Loved the swing attached to the tree - bought kids from the neighbourhood together for good old fashioned play, but the swing keeps getting removed.
Our kids love playing here and running around. Afternoon tree shade helps. Our young kids are scared of dogs so we like to close the playground gate.
In winter I sometimes sit here if it's a sunny day.
Sit under the trees with the kids and watch the birds, dogs playing, and people playing sport.
The trees here give this part of the park a nice natural feel, and provide some shelter from rain. It's nice to walk through here.
My kids and I come here a lot to kick a ball around. They love the slope here.
Love all these trees - for shade and birds
My children loved to swing from a rope attached to a large tree. A shame it's been removed.
Kids favourite place to play! They love running down the hill. Also close proximity to playground, and a good large area for dog to run around at the same time.
I sometimes sit on the benches in the morning and practice some meditation.
Magnificent old pine (?) tree here. Often pause to admire the sunlight on this tree.
The swing tree!
I walk my dog along the tree line around the large cricket oval throughout the year. The large, mature trees are a very important asset of Shirley Strickland Reserve as they provide shade during the summer months when it is too hot to walk in the sun.
quiet contemplation on the park bench
I take all three of my toddlers here
Take our grandchildren here to play on the swings while we talk with other parents/Grandparents doing same.
I enjoy the elevated position on this ridge between two of the playing fields, and the nearby park bench, again whilst walking my own dog and any others that I happen to be walking with at the time. The size of this stand of trees is particularly nice, and the shade cast by them in the warmer months is excellent.
To sit,relax and watch people, pets and children enjoy this great area

Where I exercise

118 comments were received from 104 individuals. 11 were supplied by one person and 7 from another.

walking the dog
like the natural hill and grass separating the two ovals
Exercise across each of the rugby fields
Walk the dog daily around the lower oval
Exercise on the west side of the oval and the northern side of the rugby field
I walk the dog and exercise every day (unless it is raining!)
Where I exercise my dog every day
Where I walk my dog
This park is a great place to bring our dogs for exercise, both for us and our pooches.
I walk my dogs everyday in the morning and also in the late afternoon and evening. It is also very social as all of the dog owners know each other and their dogs. The highlight of the day especially late afternoon. There are sometimes 70 or more dogs once the two parks. We also enjoy sitting under the trees in the shade and the dogs use the special drinking water drinking fountain. Please could you allow plenty of walking and playing areas for the dogs. It is one of the best places in the area where the dogs can run safely off the lead. It gives us a better quality of life. Such a beautiful large park.
Three to four times a week I use the park for exercise, jogging it's perimeter.
Where we exercise with our kids and dog
walk around the park daily
Where I play cricket for 7 months of the year.
We love this park and come down with our dogs. We lived previously in Blaven Way now in Gibson Street and when we move into our new place later in the year will also come here. That is Moolyeen Street Mt Pleasant.
I walk the dog and sometime play football etc with kids. It would be great if the Park included a formal community or multi-function center of some kind that included permanent activity (eg recreation center, bowls club, tennis, cafe / restaurant, child care etc). Anything really that makes it more than a passive activation space, increases active surveillance and day-to-day usage for more residents - beyond things like dog walking.
Pathways recommended from Sweetman and Mitchell respectively to any ground-level toilet facilities (incl disabled and parent-friendly), for easy access to Reserve, not only from main carpark.
Touch rugby Games
I would love to see a dedicated running/walking track around Shirley Strickland- Somewhere where not only myself, but my wife with her running baby stroller can exercise safely. As there is many elderly residents, perhaps this track can be made from a proper running/walking track material. ie shock absorptive for people with stiff and/or arthritic joints. Properly marked with left/right lanes, and distance markers.

Where I exercise continued;
Making use of the square section of bitumen here, could we install a basketball hoop at one end, and a netball hoop at the other. Being in the central area the noise of basketballs bouncing will not disturb surrounding homes. I believe the next closest public basketball/netball area is in Brentwood (Bluegum Reserve) which is quite a distance away.
My wife and I exercise here regularly. We would love to see a dedicated outdoor gym area (along the lines of Mount Pleasant and Applecross foreshores) with a range of outdoor gym equipment for people of all ages and fitness levels.
We generally enter from this corner once or twice a week to walk our family dog. We usually walk around the boundary of the entire park (including the rugby grounds) once or twice. Some maintained turf around the edges would be nice together with gardens and walking tracks.
I walk my dog on the oval & surrounding areas.
I walk my dog in this area
We regularly use the oval for personal exercise as well as dog play/exercise
Exercise with dog around this oval
I walk around the perimeter of the oval under the trees with my dog most days, sometimes twice a day. I love the tree cover, the bird life, the smell of the air (it is definitely fresher at the park) and the atmosphere in the early morning and late afternoon
My little boy loves to run up and down the hills
I exercise/walk my dog here
Exercise my dogs here - a very friendly area with all sorts of dogs & owners
Kids fav spot to kick goals
Where I walk my dog off leash
Use cricket nets to practice September to March
One of our regular walking tracks at least once per week
I live over the road from the oval and regularly use it to walk my dog and also catch up with friends while exercising
I walk through here with my children to go to primary school along Drew Road, there needs to be a concrete path through the center of the park lining up with Olympic place and Drew Road, this thoroughfare is heavily trafficked by people walking their dogs down the laneway between Ardross and Olympic and because there is no footpath on Olympic Place people walk all over the road, it also gets very wet and dirty in winter. Also a path all the way around the park would encourage bike, walking, running, pram use, around the edge instead of walking on the road.
Take my child here regularly to use the gated park. Wish it was a bit bigger as it often gets congested.
Where I walk for exercise
My dog loves coming down to the oval and playing with the other dogs.
The area around these rubbish bins and the clubhouse is often left filthy after some of the sporting groups (football, cricket, softball etc) have been playing on the weekends. The bins are often left overflowing with bags stacked around the bins. Also, public drinking on and around the oval by some of the sporting groups detracts from the family atmosphere,
The area around the oval is untidy and there is no link between the parking bays/footpath and the oval apart from walking through the mud or dust (depending on season). It feels like untidy bush, not a park.

Where I exercise continued;
Most of the park benches are in odd locations... in the sun in summer and in the rain in winter. Benches would be better under shade of trees and on a concrete/paved pad to minimise dust/mud.
The parking bays were a great idea, but why was no attempt made to grow grass or maybe pave around them. Still looks like a construction site.
Some bike racks would be good so people don't have to ride on the oval or chain their bikes to trees.
These charity bins are often messy as people dump their rubbish here.
Play Cricket
Hopefully womens cricket here
I walk my dog here everyday
I walk Shirley Strickland oval most afternoons. Such a great space - I feel the border of the oval is subject to erosion since the carparks have been added this year. They are a good addition, but the surrounds have not been regressed and are unsightly on just a beautiful park, and are at risk of erosion.
Where I exercise
I like to walk and run around the oval, sometimes with my dog, to keep fit.
Myself and family utilise all aspects of Shirley Strickland Reserve for exercise and socialising, I (we) would like to see a more formal walking/jogging track around the perimeter, generally following the informal track. We would also like to see an expanded playground and perhaps a playground near the south eastern corner to allow more interaction for families living closer to this side. A few more seats at the southern end of the football oval is also needed. Thank you for taking this into consideration.
I exercise here once a week doing sprints on the oval
Our local school holds sporting events and sports days here regularly throughout the year
I take my grandchildren to the playground every Tuesday. Whilst the children are playing I exercise the dogs on the adjacent playing area. I don't like the 'category' below because I do NOT socialize there, I do NOT exercise there and it is NOT my favorite spot!!! SO I am giving mis-information!!!
We walk our dogs here
I walk my dog here
A wide path around the perimeter of the park would be great. Maybe with a starting point with a water tap. It would be really fantastic if it could be marked every 100 meters to accommodate the runners.
We walk our dog around the outside of the footy oval and rugby ovals.
I like to walk around the outskirts of the park. It would be awesome if the path could be put in as planned - it would be great as a running/walking path, and a safe place for little kids on bikes/scooters.
Shade is very important to me. I walk almost every day in the shade of the trees right around the oval and the two rectangular play grounds. A couple times a week, my grandchildren and their two dogs come for a visit and we go to the park to play ball with the dogs, because I have very small front yard and almost no backyard.
I use the cricket strip in the middle of the oval to practice yoga.

Where I exercise continued;
I walk around on the perimeter of the park under the trees and on the oval and fields twice a day with the dogs and socialise with other users of the park and the community. Many of us clean up littering especially after sporting events: eg sweet wrappers, bottles, plaster and tape discarded irresponsibly. Smokers discarding their cigarette butts irresponsibly remains a major pain. I'd like to see the more "natural" landscape around the periphery better respected and more trees and smaller vegetation planted and maintained around the edges. I've heard people coming from other areas to this reserve remark at what a gem it is, not only for the sporting fields and facilities, but also because of the little bit of "bushland" which gives it a special attraction and valuable shade in summer. Please consider how Fremantle turned the old storm water sump corner of Nannine and Hope Streets, White Gum Valley into a lovely landscaped garden and stormwater sump for what could be done with our sump
I would like to see a skate park or basketball court at Shirley Strickland oval. My son is 15 years old and likes to skateboard. Please can you add in a skatepark? Thanks
I walk my dog at the park usually 4 times a week
Usually walk the dog around the edges of the sporting oval unless there is a sport on then I move to the other open area near the playground.
I exercise here often and i stroll with my girlfriend occasionally and enjoy the peaceful green space. Im yet to read what the construction plans are but apart from building a state of the art "wave pool
Where I exercise my dog
Twice per week we do group exercise either at the corner of Mitchell and Sweetman, in winter on the top oval on Sweetman, or if it is pouring down we use the shelter of the club house. Depending on the wind direction we can always get out of the weather and make it work, so you will find us there year round. Having this group exercise has changed my life - it is a social event and in my early 40s I'm fitter than I've ever been. I hope we'll be able to use the reserve in this way.
I walk around these playing fields every night.
We walk through the oval with the kids playing frisbee and flying kites
We often walk across here with two little kids. It would be great for dogs to have a seperate area as there's often dog poo left on the oval - can't imagine what it must be like for the footy players!
Kids play on the grass here with footy. Away from dogs which is easier to throw a ball around.
Would be great to have a formal path to walk around the perimeter of the two ovals, with added bush/natural gardens to attract the birds/lizards etc.
I would like a far more substantial play area for children similar to Heathcote - a mix of adventure areas with others for younger children.
Our kids like to run around here and like the grass hills to ride/run down.
Have often found grounds difficult at time as our young kids are fearful of dogs and it can impact how we're able to play. Say if we go to kick a ball but sometimes big dogs are running around up to us it stops our play a lot. Hard issue most dog owners use lower park grounds which is better.
Kids sometimes kick footy here.
Family use to practice cricket.
Nice having drink fountain and toilets when with the kids.

Where I exercise continued;
Could the council please install more doggy doo bag dispensers around the park at all of the main access points, not just car park. So many dog owners do not pick up after their dogs. So over having to watch out for droppings when I take the kids there, not pleasant cleaning shoes. If bags are more readily available then hopefully people will grab them on their way thru.
Hard walking thru this verge area, all sandy, hard with bikes. Could be improved for access.
A path around the outskirts of the park would be nice. Located off the road a little would be great for the kids to ride or scoot.
Shade over the playground in summer would be nice.
Please look at an ON and OFF lead designated area for dogs. We often take kids to this playground or to play sports on the oval but are always getting bothered by dogs off lead approaching us. Our young kids are fearful of the dogs and don't want them coming up to them, which happens all the time and is constantly stopping our play time and is quite annoying. Some of this fear was caused from our child being knocked over in this park from a big dog years ago. We just want to play in peace and not be bothered, I understand dogs want to run too. Could there be a middle ground brought into play so OFF lead dog runs could happen at main lower oval where most frequent and ON lead at upper area so kids can play in peace. Win win for all.
Basketball and netball hoops either end would be handy.
We walk the dog on this park daily. We also kick the footy on a weekly basis.
play ball games, learn to ride bikes, fly kites with kids
Where my 3 sons and husband kick the football using the goals.
My husband exercises with his friends in the morning before work.
My sons use regularly in the cricket season to practice.
My husband walks around the perimeter of the park most mornings.
i run around the perimeter of the park - a path would be appreciated!
please build a swing here like the one that gets taken down - kids love it
i have played family cricket matches here
drink taps are handy
Where I exercise my dog
I run and walk here.
Walk perimeter treeline informal path with our fur-kid.
Walk these grounds to exercise and walk our dog - particularly when sport is being played on the other oval.
Entering the park from Coogee across the verge - verge would be better if grassed or wood-chipped. It is currently unfinished and it is messy walking through the sand.
Walk dogs
Walking the dog each morning
Where the kids train for cricket
I walk the dog once running clockwise from here around the outside. A 1km cicuit. Then I walk clockwise with the dog free.
I walk the dog every day.
This is where i play cricket with my mates on a Saturday!
Dog walking 2 x a day
Excercise

Where I exercise continued;
We love to play here with our Grandchildren, running up and down the banks and kicking a ball around the fields and over the goals.
Exercise circuit for rehabilitation of knee pain.
I agree with the sentiments of many other people, the ovals themselves are so well kept, but the large areas between the road side and ovals are not well kept at all. I would propose: A) Maintain and reticulate the grass ALL the way up the embankment to where it will no longer grow because of too much shade from the trees, this will make it comfortable for people to sit on the embankment and just enjoy the view or watch sporting matches as well as improving the look and access B) under the trees where shade is too much for grass to grow, build a multi use path way with different lanes for walkers / runners (with markers every hundred meters) and a separate lane for kids on bikes / scooters etc. C) surrounding the path way, have the grass all the way up to it and / or well designed native gardens (like those in Kings Park) to ensure there is no dead space filled with dirt
Along this Northern perimeter of the park, the grass is maintained all the way to the road side. This makes this space much more user friendly than the southern end where it is untidy and not maintained between the road side and oval.
I often use the footy goals for a kick and then the cricket nets in the summer for a hit. Absolutely need to keep these amenities.
Playing cricket - games and training
Having a medium/large-sized Labrador dog, my wife and our 3 (nearly) adult children variously use the park on an almost daily basis all year round by walking a large circuit around the entire park. It has always been acknowledged that having a space this size to allow enjoyment of pets off-leash, is a treasured rarity. Dogs need to run. Unfortunately Perth's (and Australia's) social/governed environment lags behind many other nationalities and cities in the world with regard to accommodating pets and their owners, which is simply odd given how enriching animals are to the human condition. We will often watch the sporting groups as they play; soccer on the northwest pitch, touch rugby and fitness classes on the north-east pitch, cricket or footy on the southern oval. Our walking circuits can encompass all 3 in a figure-8 passing near the existing club house. My favourite however is the oval, followed by the lower north-east pitch.
I use the oval for exercise , watching local team sports, personal relaxation and walking with my wife and other friends. In addition I would like to see some exercise equipment as provided by the South Perth Council along the Swan River
I walk around the park every second day.
Run around with the dog and family
exercise with the dog and the footy

Where I socialise

49 comments were received from 42 individuals

The kids ride their bikes from a nearby street and use the playground. We kick a ball or fly a kite on the rectangular playing field next to it.
children love to play ball here after school.
A nice place to take my dog to run and socialise with residents of our community.
Regularly take grandkids to the playground
Take our grandchild to the playground about once per month at present
I regularly walk to the park with my 3 kids and dog. We love the little playground:)
We are always using the playground and the oval to obviously play, fly kites, kick the soccer ball or footy. We also use the cricket nets and the football goals for play.
Where my kids go to play
My dog and I have been visiting this park most afternoons for ten years. It is her favourite time of the day, and I have made great friends too. We walk laps, but it is more a social outing than exercise.
I love sitting on the existing benches overlooking the oval, and playground. More of these would be excellent, to share with friends and family... In this approximate position facing southeast over the oval, and also others facing north over the playground.
I watch my son play footy
Meet friends here - am here most days throughout the year, sometimes twice a day
There used to be an old jarrah bench seat here, which I loved because it was so characteristically Australian. I used to sit on it to watch cricket or whatever sport was being played on the main oval. I miss it very much (and the other one that was further around on the Simpson Street side of the oval). I don't really understand why they were removed - they were so handy and had character.
I exercise my dog at the oval. And I socialise with all the lovely dog owners.
Playground
I use this area with my 2 children aged 6/7 and unfortunately the playground is too small, doesn't have much equipment, fencing is inadequate i.e. I sit outside the playground under the shade of a tree but often get jumped on by off lead dogs not being controlled by their owners. Would be nice to have a big large fenced area, with a large playground with shade, and tables and seats with BBQ's, no dogs allowed inside.
A netball court or something similar with proper base would be great for the kids in the area, the area has a lot of young kids, would love to see families and younger children having some fun with play equipment, a few nice netball/basketball courts, exercise equipment for adults, proper fenced areas for BBQ's, tables and seats, path around the edge and middle, think BIBRA LAKE recreational park, great for families of all ages. LOVE all the trees in the park, so nice.
It's great having this area so that dogs can have a run around.
ACC Clubrooms!
Like many others I bring my dog here to socialise with other dogs
The new buildings must have cafe's and family facilities to socialise and relax with family and friends. It may be an idea to incorporate a gym as part of the facility as parking for other gyms in the area are often limited.

Where I socialise continued;
Our kids go to the playground every day after school. We take them to kick footy on the weekends, on the footy field. We fly our drones on the footy field and socialise with dog owners. I run laps around the footy oval, on the soft grass. Our kids play with their wooden go kart on the slopes of the park.
The cigarette butts left behind by mainly the cricketers is absolutely disgraceful.
Playground - it would be great if this could be improved ASAP. Lots of neighbourhood kids come here, but the equipment is outdated. It could be a great hub for socialising and getting community together if we could have a quality playground, like many new ones in other areas.
I exercise my dog and socialise with other dog owners about once a week. It's a lovely alternative to other dog exercise areas as there are plenty of trees and shelter for protection in summer and winter.
Take our grandson here to play.
I have 2 small children, and they frequently play at the old playground with other kids from the neighbourhood. A new modern playground facility is needed and brings parents, grand-parents, pets and the like together as a community.
Grandchildren and I play kick to kick on rugby / footy fields and love the children's playground
I take my children here to play. I love the enclosed fencing. Bigger area would be great though with more seating for the adults!
Bench seats on the hill in the shade would be nice.
Miss the tree swing, the kids used to love it, kept getting removed. Was so nice seeing kids from the neighbourhood meet there.
I meet friends with dogs and we walk and chat
Roll down the hill with the kids. Run around. Kick soccer ball around.
My kids love playing on this playground in the evenings.
We often come here with our two young kids to play and use the swings. Can you please include some of the traditional equipment in any new playground. Eg swings, sea saws etc. Our preference is for it not to be nature based.
i often relax on this bench
my house overlooks these verges and they are an eyesore. i dont know of any other parks in our area that look so unkempt around the edges
Take the kids here regularly to play on the playground and let dog have a run
Exercise dog here about once a week (when it's peak dog walking time in the afternoon). Kids love watching all the dogs too.
Walk our fur-kid and socialize
Catching up with neighbours
This is a good local spot for me to play Pokemon Go; either to battle together with other Melville Locals at this spot, or by myself via a quick walk around the small oval.
We take our son here to play. It's great to play with and meet other kids, but the equipment isn't safe for toddlers, and kids with special needs.
We come most days to meet the dogs!

Where I socialise continued;

This stretch along the southern side of the park between the road side and park is particularly deep and a bit of a dead space as it is currently. I believe it could be improved by

- A) removing a couple of the trees to allow more light
- B) including the perimeter path through here
- C) building a gazebo or two along with permanent BBQ facilities and benches
- D) planting native plants or other to cover the dirt and extend the grass up the embankment ensuring it is maintained as with the ovals.

I agree with the sentiment of other comments which have suggested to include a permanent mixture of businesses at this site along with temporary usage facilities such as club rooms, changing rooms etc. will be great.

I think the best choices would be a cafe or two (must be high quality like those on Ardross St in Applecross) along with a community centre like those at the City of Melville Rec centre which can be used by whoever wants.

I often gather here with other dog owners, year round, to speak with people from the surrounding suburbs and enjoy the interactions between our pets. It seems to bring everyone together regardless of any other details; just simple and relaxing activity.

this is where we socialise, the kids would love a large nature playground here. we often cut across the park to walk/ride to school so it would be good to have a path that runs through the park for bikes, prams, etc.

Play here with my Kids on the swings and equipment