

Media Release

Subject: Shirley Strickland Reserve Concept Sketch Released

Date: Wednesday, 11 May 2016

A concept outlining proposed developments at Shirley Strickland Reserve will be released for community feedback on Monday, 16 May 2016, at www.melvilletalks.com.au, with local residents and users of the Reserve able to provide feedback until Sunday, 12 June 2016.

An upgraded pavilion including new change rooms and facilities, a new cricket field and improvements to verges, vegetation and parking facilities, are some of the prioritised works currently funded in the City's long term financial plan.

The concept sketch was drafted following community consultation in November 2015, when local residents, casual users and sporting groups were invited to complete a survey on their use and future preferences for the Reserve. A total of 535 responses were received, including those of seven sporting clubs.

City of Melville Mayor Russell Aubrey said the concept sketch had been based on the needs of the community, and set the vision for the future of Shirley Strickland Reserve.

"The City's aim is to develop the Reserve to meet the needs of both our casual recreational users and our sporting clubs, so the concept plan takes into account the need to upgrade or redevelop existing built infrastructure while also ensuring preservation of the natural open space,"

"The proposed improvements and upgrades address what the community identified as top priorities, including upgrades to the shared pavilion, improvements to verges and parking, and retaining the shared open space and tree coverage," said Mayor Aubrey

The concept plan also includes additional improvements for future consideration, subject to additional funding.

"The community feedback highlighted a number of potential improvements, including a nature playground, outdoor fitness equipment, BBQ area and interpretive signage to recognise the history of Shirley Strickland," said Mayor Aubrey.

"Any changes or improvements to the much loved Reserve are aimed at enhancing the health and wellbeing of the local community by providing more opportunities for physical activity, mental wellbeing and community connectedness," Mayor Aubrey added.

While investigations into the possible relocation of the Mount Pleasant Bowling Club to the Reserve confirmed that two bowling greens could be accommodated without encroaching on the existing field layout, preliminary findings of a wider bowls strategy for the City indicates the Reserve is not suitable to accommodate a bowls facility suited to the long term sustainability of the sport.

The City's strategic position on lawn bowls is expected to be presented to Council in June 2016.

The community is encouraged to view and comment on the sketch by Sunday, 12 June 2016. Following the public comment period, the concept will be refined and finalised plans and cost estimates presented to Council in approximately September 2016.

For more information on the project and to provide feedback, visit www.melvilletalks.com.au/shirleystrickland. Alternatively, enquiries and comments can be made by calling 1300 635 845 | 9364 0666.

Image caption: Shirley Strickland Reserve Concept Sketch

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