

Livvi's Place at Taylor Park

August 2023





Project Background

Council has received Stronger Country Community Funding - round 5 to improve the play provision, access and amenity of Taylor Park to create an inclusive playspace and park. The vision is to create a thriving community hub where locals and visitors can rest, recreate, gather and connect.

The Touched By Olivia Foundation is working with Weddin Shire Council to support the delivery of the exciting new inclusive play and recreation space in Taylor Park, referred to as Livvi's Place - Taylor Park. It will offer a unique and inclusive play experience, promoting play for everyone.

Extensive community consultation has taken place via face-to-face meetings and an online survey. Seeking and listening to all voices to gain an understanding of what the park is currently used for, by who and the future wants and needs. The feedback received will help form the development of a draft masterplan for the park.



Inclusion is

When the school children were asked:

Being together

Interesting and fun for everyone

Improves well-being for everyone

Changing the rules

Everyone allowed to play

Everyone thought of

Why do we need inclusive playspaces?

The Importance of Play

Many children in Australia do not have play opportunity because their local playspace is built without considering what is required for them to be able to play.

Connecting Community

Inclusively designed spaces bring communities together, strengthen family and community bonds, enhance social interactions and promote healthy lifestyle choices.

Access ≠ Inclusion

Inclusion is more than access. It's about feeling welcome, safe, valued and that you belong. It is about being able to participate with choice, value and independence. We challenge and change the way we use, design and build public spaces.



Initial Community Feedback

April/May 2023

Who did we speak to?

- Close to 200 community members including 140 children aged 6-16 years and 45 adults via
 - face to face community consultation
 - one on one sessions with key stakeholders/groups
 - Imagineer workshops at all schools
- 70 responses received through an online survey that ran over 8 weeks.

In summary, the local community would like for the park to be activated and inviting for children, teens, families, greater Weddin Shire residents and visitors to enjoy.

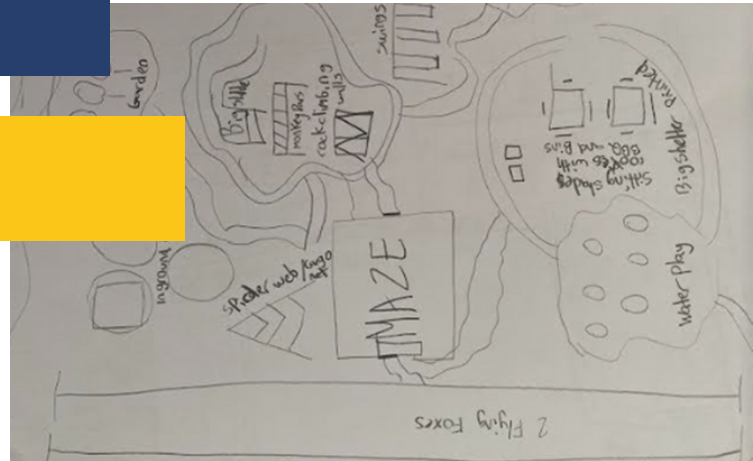
A place that is theirs to play, gather, relax, connect, learn and celebrate together.

A beautiful, fun and local park for individual and small group use, but then can stretch to accommodate for larger groups, parties and even whole community events.

An intergenerational space, supported with amenity, where everyone is safe, comfortable and able to participate in a connected community lifestyle.

Overwhelmingly, all stakeholders welcome the co-creation of the park to promote ownership and greater use of the space and people coming to town.

What the children said...



What would you like to DO there?

- Have fun!
- Play with others (when we come to town and parents do shopping)
- Relax, gather and chat, with others
- Go with the whole family
- Meet up before and after school
- Learn with kids from other schools
- Have BBQ's
- Have birthdays and parties there
- Be calm and relax
- Connect with nature – water/sand
- Kick a footy/run

How would you like to PLAY there?

- Climb, climb, climb
- Swing, hang, bounce
- Flying fox races
- Adventure / journey
- Imaginative play - tribes/shops/superheros

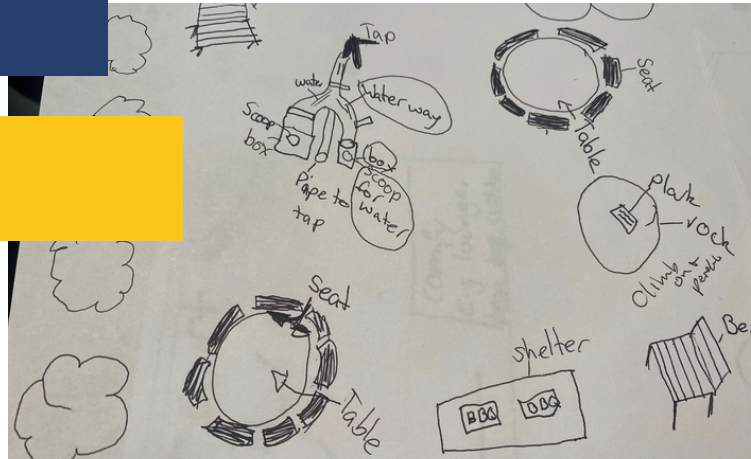
Over 90% of students indicated they wanted a comfortable and fun space they could spend time with others for free play, recreation and family gatherings.

High emphasis on making it beautiful, fresh and bright.

What would you like to HAVE there?

- Equipment we can play together on
- Lots of seating, tables and benches
- More trees, gardens and play spaces under real trees
- Small spaces - caves, tee pees, cubbies
- Sensory/waterplay for when it's hot
- Learning/performance space
- Reading nooks and chessboard tables
- Nature play
- Habitats for animals – butterflies/ birds/ lizards
- Pathways that connect the park and playspace that we can journey around. With smaller spaces from them to gather, chat and play in
- A sound space – with pots and spoons, egg-beater, tins joined by string, saucepan lids to clang, all tied to a low wall
- Scented garden – lavender, lemongrass, mint and different texture spikey, soft and mushy
- Bubblers
- Shade, BBQ's, tables and seating

What the teens said...



What would you like to DO there?

- Get together before and after school
- Get food and eat there together
- Hang out together
- Play music
- Study
- Have movie nights
- Go with whole family
- Move - be active - climb/swing/challenge
- Enjoy nature
- Think and relax
- Be in a beautiful space - gardens, art, sculpture
- Be with other people

What would you like to HAVE there?

- Enough seating to fit everyone in - BIG tables/benches
- Relaxed seating under trees – study space
- A bush tucker garden
- Age appropriate spaces and equipment – so we can be active and fit
- A water feature to look at or paddle in
- Flowers and gardens
- An amphitheatre/stage/performance space

How would you like it to look and feel?

- Nice colours and plantings
- Ensure it won't age and get old looking
- Have some privacy from people looking in at you
- Consider First Nations history with some art or sculpture – story poles
- Share our history of the gold rush and Henry Lawson
- Have the atmosphere of a gathering of community
- Sustainability with natural materials

What the adults said...



What would you like to SEE there?

- More shade and shelter from the sun, weather and the street
- Lots of seats and tables with shelter from sun and weather
- Access to water
- BBQs
- Lots of pathways with little break away spaces off them - little pods
- More trees - to be less exposed
- Green space
- Outdoor theatre, performance, events space, amphitheatre style
- NO Bark, its filthy and unsafe
- Use old tractors, tyres etc as play equipment.
- Lots of colours and planting
- Art and sculptures
- Connection to traditional history through art, sculpture and language

Play wise?

- Interesting equipment for group play, children to play together and able to play with adults too
- Equipment adults can fit on and move on
- Bike/trike track and can double as a walking track
- More challenging equipment, progression and graduated risk, to build them up to the skate park playground
- Climbing, swings, bouncing, flying fox
- Nature play – raw space, messy play, mud kitchen with water supply
- Sound makers

What the adults said cont...



What would you like to DO there / future use?

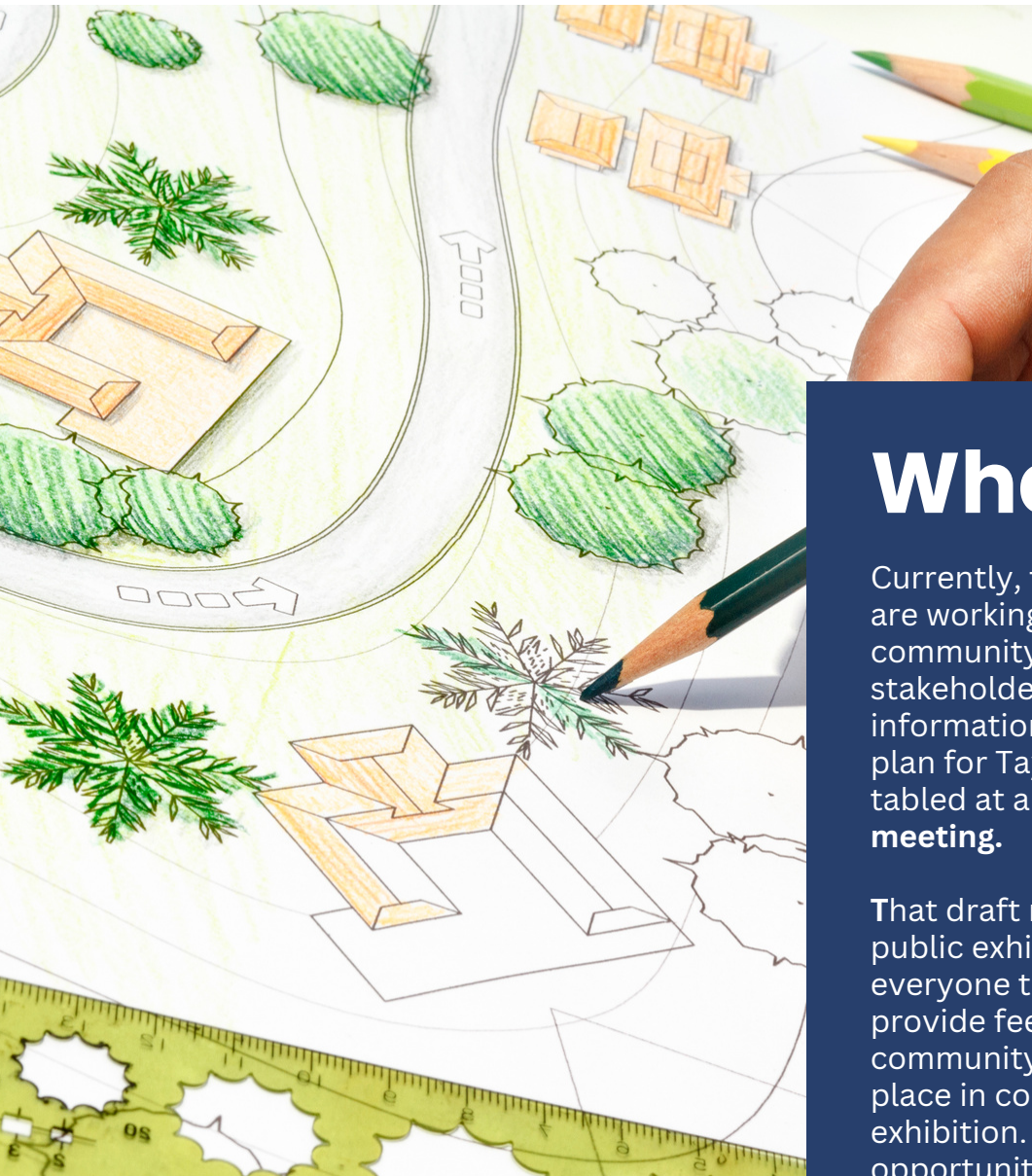
- Play with others - equipment we can play on together
- Relax, gather and chat with others
- Go with whole family (age appropriate spaces)
- Sensory/waterplay for when its hot
- Gather as play groups, youth groups, the schools and small community groups
- Celebrate birthdays and have parties

Overall vision for the space?

- An intergenerational space that has spaces and equipment for everyone to enjoy
- A beautiful, functional space that will unite the community and attract visitors to Grenfell
- Ability for it to expand for more large events – NAIDOC/carols/performances
- Great pathways, fencing and shade, BBQ's and tables and play equipment and some green space all within the fence line – a big space with lots to do in there

General Comments and input

- Parking needs to be considered - buses, funerals, school kids pick up. Drop off zone required. Tourist traffic to be considered
- Rotunda is no longer fit for purpose - size, location and ability to use modern AV equipment. Needs to be updated and perhaps even relocated and upgraded as a central focal point for events and increase the use of the park as an event space
- Rosebushes are hazards and dangerous as children running into them
- The skate park is for older children only and is very dangerous for smaller children
- Also poorly laid out for supervision and general use, too spread out



Whats next?

Currently, the landscape architects are working through all of the community consultation and stakeholder engagement information to form a draft master plan for Taylor Park. This will be tabled at an **upcoming Council meeting**.

That draft master plan will go on public exhibition for 28 days, giving everyone the opportunity to provide feedback. Further community engagement will take place in conjunction with the public exhibition. This will be the last opportunity for changes to be made to the master plan.

All the feedback will be collated and provided to the landscape architects. They will take this information into consideration when pulling together the final master plan.

The final master plan will be presented to council for adoption. Once it has been adopted tenders will start going out for various aspects of the redevelopment.

Should you have any questions about the Taylor Park project please do not hesitate to contact Weddin Shire Council on:

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