O.H. Reid Reserve – Playground improvement

Issues and Recommendations Report- Round 2 - May 2025

Comments Received (Edited from respondents own words)

	ISSUE (# responses received in brackets)	**RECOMMENDATION**
Improvements to O.H. Reid Reserve playground:		
1.0 – PLAY AREA		
1.01	New equipment will be cheap and flimsy.(1)	Considering the natural surroundings of the playground, thoughtful attention has been given to the selection of new equipment. The new equipment will be sturdy and most of them are made of hardwood timber to complement the natural environment.
1.02	Cubby house requires replacement with something similar. (1)	A new cubby house has been proposed.
1.03	Upgrade mirrors and sound system. (1)	The mirrors and sound system will be demolished and replaced with new play equipment.
1.04	Expand activities to range from toddlers to teenagers. (1)	A range of activities are proposed to cater to wider age groups. E.g. the climbing wall and lookout tower is for older kids while the cubby on the underside will be used by the toddlers.
1.05	Provide imaginative spaces. (1)	A cubby and a lookout tower are proposed as imaginative play spaces.
1.06	Please consider adding some monkey bars for the older children. (1)	A complex climbing structure with monkey bars will be considered during the renewal of rope climbing structure in the next stage.
1.07	Zip-line for kids (1)	Due to space constraint there is insufficient space for a zip line.
1.08	Animal carving on the totem pole to include a Powerful Owl. (1)	The totem pole carving will include the Powerful Owl.
1.09	Expensive development of playground is not required except repairs and maintenance of current playground. (1)	An extensive community consultation has been undertaken for the improvement of the playground. The identification of playground improvement works was informed by the feedback provided by the community in the first round of consultation and the co-design workshop participants. Council will be retaining play equipment which is in good condition.
1.10	Do not use the sandstone benches for the temporary basketball court. (1)	The sandstone seating blocks have been placed back along the oval after the temporary basketball court trial period.
1.11	Don't have chimes. They get broken and are quite difficult for young children to use. It also detracts from the quiet location. (2)	The chimes have been replaced by voice tubes.
1.12	More running space for adventures. (1)	The playground footprint doesn't provide dedicated space for running and adventure activities.
1.13	Install stepping stones. (1)	Stepping stones are proposed.
1.14	The plan includes changes that align with only a limited number of the recommendations. (1)	Whilst desirable, not all features that were requested could be incorporated in the playground due to space and budget constraints.
1.15	Sand pit needs regular sand replenishing. (1)	This is included as part of the park maintenance schedule.

1.16	The benches and seats need fixing. (1)	All the seating will be refurbished.
1.17	Regular mowing. (1)	This is included as part of the park maintenance schedule.
1.18	Requires sun protection other than relying on small new tree planting. (1)	The playground is surrounded by a good number of mature trees, providing some natural shade. Additionally, new semi-mature trees (75 -100 Lt) will be planted near the slide to ensure faster growth and enhance sun protection in that area.
1.19	Shade cloth above the slide. (1)	
1.20	There should be a way sign at the entrance to the bushtrack and a path or grassed area to make it easier for walkers. (1)	Wayfinding signs to mark the entry of the bushtrack will be trialled. A connection pathway to the bushtrack entrance will be formalised.
1.21	The new picnic shelter will obscure the entrance to the bush track. Keep entrance clear and improve the signage. (1)	
1.22	Sufficient seating. (1)	Given the scale of the playground, there are sufficient seating and resting spaces.
1.23	More rubbish removal bins. (1)	Given the scale of the playground there are sufficient rubbish bins.
1.24	Exercise equipment. (1)	This is beyond the scope of playground renewal works.
1.25	A communication board to make the playground inclusive to nonverbal children. (1)	A communication board will be considered to be installed in future playground renewals at nearby reserves and can be considered at O.H Reid Reserve playground at a later stage.
1.26	The shelter area to fit two picnic table settings. (1)	Shelter is an appropriate size for the space available. There is another picnic table nearby.
1.27	Wildlife signage. (1)	These signs are due to be actioned as part of the Reserve Action Plan. Local fauna theme has been retained in playground through elements like the lookout tower and totems.
1.28	The entry to the bush track which leads down to the golf course is currently not signposted. So occasionally someone will walk through the playground with their dog to access the track. There could be an alternative route to reach this path. (1)	Wayfinding signs to mark the entry of the bushtrack will be trialled. These include designated dog off leash areas.
1.29	Council should cancel all non-essential upgrades until the recent rate increased is reversed. (1)	The renewal of the O.H Reid playground has been informed by Council's Asset Renewal Program. Recent inspections identified a number of items which reached the end of their life and others in poor condition. This renewal will address the items and improve the play value at this reserve.
1.30	Would like to see something to acknowledge the Cammeraygal and Wallumedegal people. Perhaps the renaming of the playground. Totems could provide an opportunity for this. (1)	Renaming of playground is beyond the scope of the playground renewal. The totems will have animal carving depicting the local fauna. Council will consider including the Aboriginal acknowledgement during renewal of park signage.
1.31	The plaque for the memorial to Stella Cornelius is very low and hard to read. (1)	The memorial to Stella Cornelius including the plaque has been pressure washed and cleaned.
1.32	Please include a visible no balloon policy. (1)	Policy creation is outside the scope of this playground renewal however this feedback has been forwarded to the relevant Council staff.

1.33	The sunken amphitheatre area requires a clean up and good drainage. (1)	The amphitheatre area will be improved and the drainage issue will be addressed.
2.0 – OTHER FACILITIES AND AMENITIES		
2.00	Improved toilet facilities. (1)	This is beyond the scope of playground renewal works.
2.01	Improved half court or full basketball court as well as a pickleball & paddle courts. (1)	
2.02	Use the space above water tank as a basketball court with fencing instead of the carpark. (1)	This is beyond the scope of playground renewal works. Prior to delivery of the temporary basketball court a number of locations were investigated, including the top of the water tank; however, they were found to be not feasible.
2.03	Comments in relation to the granting of a lease to Chatswood Golf Club for use of land adjacent to O.H. Reid Reserve playground. (1)	This is beyond the scope of playground renewal works however has been forwarded to the relevant Council staff.