



CAMBRIDGE STREET RESERVE EXPANSION
'CLOSE KNIT' - FINAL CONCEPT DESIGN PROPOSAL
COUNCILLOR UPDATE OCTOBER 2021



FINAL CONCEPT PLAN - CAMBRIDGE STREET RESERVE EXPANSION

COLLINGWOOD - A 'CLOSE KNIT' COMMUNITY

The consultation results around the draft concept plan reveal the community here really care about the place they live in and can see beyond the immediate, to support the long-term environmental and social benefits the proposal will bring to their neighbourhood.

They see the park as a welcome respite from the austerity of high density development in the area, and the increasing starkness of contemporary urban form.

The design theme, 'close knit' celebrates the community and embraces the idea of the park serving as a backyard. Integrated sculptural components reference suburban history, childhood and universal warmth, by using familiar elements of domesticity such as the hills hoist and the woolen jumper flying off the clothes line to bring playfulness and celebrate the virtue of the simple.

The artwork challenges expectations of materials and 'serious' subjects. The sculptures transform the domestic and humble into the iconic, and invite the community to recognise and engage with the new park.

MAIN CHANGES FROM DRAFT TO FINAL CONCEPT PLANS

Based on the consultation results, we have:

- Removed the BBQ area and included a social seating area;
- Included traditional play and exercise equipment; including a basket swing which allows use by multiple children or children and carers at the same time, a chin up bar and a balance beam;
- Reviewed of the plant species selection;
- Provided more resolution on the proposed artwork;
- Developed a lighting plan; and
- Provided better delineation of bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure.

We have retained the proposed full road closure and associated loss of 17 parking spaces as this was generally supported by the wider community. While there were a number who were opposed to this outcome, the level of support shown was higher. There will be at least 8 new parking spaces provided to mitigate the loss in parking.

LEGEND

1. Passive irrigation for rain gardens along Peel Street
2. Shared paths connecting Cambridge and Peel a in north, south direction
3. Social seating and gathering spaces
4. Integrated artwork and sculptures
5. Entry plaza
6. Central lawn
7. Traditional play and exercise equipment
8. Improved connection into adjacent housing development
9. Improved connection into laneway leading to Peel Street
10. Bike parking and drinking fountain
11. Seating wall



ARTISTIC RENDER - VIEW SOUTH FROM PEEL TO CAMBRIDGE STREETS



ARTISTIC RENDER - VIEW NORTH FROM CAMBRIDGE TO PEEL STREETS

DESIGN INTENTION

'Close knit' makes the familiar, the domestic and the humbly comfortable an icon in a community park. It makes virtue of the domestic and the homely with its multi layered references to suburban history, childhood and universal warmth.

It is a respite from the austere urban environment.

Drawing inspiration from the familiar 'knit', the park looks to provide warmth and comfort in an increasingly austere and cold environment.

The park draws on the suburban context, championing familiarity, humbleness, domesticity and intimacy, and offering a 'backyard' to its local community.

Further inspiration has been taken from the local urban context in its use of materials and simple forms.

TREE SPECIES INTENT

Tall trees will provide verticality and not close down the space, we are seeking light and canopy to provide dappled light and shade for both winter and summer. A simple tree planting palette has been chosen to help calm the space and provide respite from the busy urban environment.

GARDEN BED PLANTING PALETTE

The garden bed plant designs will be made up of native plants with a preference for indigenous species. Plant sizes have been considered to ensure good lines of sight are maintained across the site and no hidden areas are created.

Large flowering and messy garden beds will provide a casual, homely and inviting feel as well as a mix of texture and warmth. Flowering shrubs reference the domestic gardens of Melbourne's suburbs and add to the light heartedness and fun of the park.

LIGHTING PLAN

Safety is paramount and a lighting plan has been developed to manage the use of the park, the impact of light spill on adjacent residences and to ensure the space is inviting and safe at all times.