

Newcastle Voice Islington Park



Dec 2010 - Feb 2011

Table of Contents

Table of Contents.....	1
Executive Summary	2
Introduction	3
Methodology	5
Survey Findings	9
Visitation Patterns	9
Current Image	13
Islington Park Most Liked Characteristics	15
Current Facilities and Services.....	19
Future Services and Facilities	21
Short-Term vs Long-Term Improvements	23
Expressions of Interest – Working Groups	32
Appendix I - Questionnaire	
Appendix II - Demographics of Sample and Respondents	
Appendix III - Quantitative Results - Topline Report	
Appendix IV - Qualitative Results - Open-Ended Questions	

Executive Summary

Community consultation was conducted from December 2010 to February 2011 to gather broad community opinion on the current and future services or facilities at Islington Park – as a collaborative place-making project. This report summarises the results of 483 responses gained from within the Newcastle LGA in both Ward 1 and Ward 2, using the Newcastle Voice community reference panel, and park visitors.

A survey was sent to all online Newcastle Voice members in Wards 1 and 2, and gained 318 responses from 1239 invitations. A further 165 people were interviewed in the park by community groups or were completed online from Council's website. In all responses, there were no marked differences between the responses from Newcastle Voice respondents compared with broader community members and park visitors. The consultation generated 958 individual comments about various aspects of the park.

The top three activities currently undertaken in the park are:

1. Bike ride
2. Taking a short cut – passing through
3. Playground visits

The characteristics which respondents most like are the open space parkland, with abundant vegetation, good cycleway and footpaths – as well as the playground and off-leash dog facilities. Consistent with this, the current services and facilities which are most appreciated at present are as follows:

1. Open Space
2. Quality of paths
3. Vegetation

When asked to identify future improvements, respondents prefer those improvements which would enhance their current usage of the park – extended cycle and footpaths, improved facilities including an extended playground (in the current location), an unlocked toilet, and increased plantings across the park.

This consultation served a useful educational purpose, in that many respondents did not know the range and number of activities and facilities already in the park, such as the basketball and netball court, the off-leash dog area and public art installed along the creek.

The results will inform the creation of the Islington Park Concept Master Plan. Shorter term place-making projects could proceed sooner, in light of this report, where they do not conflict with longer term plans – and complement priority improvements.

Introduction

Islington Park is a city park with a range of activities available in 9.4 hectares. It is actively used for passive recreation across the neighbourhood, is a commuter link from the city to the western suburbs and the university, and hosts team sports during the day and at night on the sporting field close to Maitland Road. The off-leash dog park is one of the few in the city and includes dog obstacle courses and jumps.

A number of community initiatives had come to the attention of the Place Making Team in Council during 2010, including proposals for community gardens, events and playground improvements. These interests were brought together in a series of workshops in September 2010. The two community place making workshops, facilitated by Place Partners, were held at Islington Public School. The first workshop on 22 September 2010 was attended by 50 people and the second in conjunction with Islington Village Community Group's monthly meeting on 3 November 2010, was attended by approximately 25 people. At the conclusion of the second workshop, community working groups were formed around the four key priority areas arising from these workshops being:

- Community Playground
- Community Events
- Environment
- Art & Creative Expression

At the conclusion of the second workshop, the community working groups were invited to talk with their peers and networks in the community to develop ideas and actions around these four key priority areas to improve Islington Park.

These workshops and site investigations led to a report about the park's current facilities and usage, future priorities and degree of community interest in active involvement in park improvements: *Islington Park Place Making Stage 1 – Master Plan Background Report, November 2010*.

Report Purpose

This report is intended to test the findings of the Place Partners report with the wider community. It is intended to broaden the community involvement in the planning for the park and test wider community interest in ongoing projects around the four themes which emerged: Community Playground, Community Events, Environment and Art & Creative Expression.

The objectives of this place-making engagement process are to work with the community to make places that reflect their needs and aspirations:

- Guide the development of a Concept Master Plan for the park - reflecting the community's needs and aspirations in relation to Council's resourcing capacity
- Maximise community building opportunities through the positive use of the park and associated facilities
- To determine who is interested in working on projects as follows: 1) Community Playground; 2) Community Events; 3) Environment; and 4) Art & Creative Expression
- To determine the profile of the current users of Islington Park
- To determine the current uses of Islington Park, including receptiveness to changes in current uses
- To determine future services and facilities in Islington Park

Methodology

Data Collection

A survey, using a structured questionnaire with a total of 15 questions, was sent to all active Newcastle Voice members in Wards 1 and 2 as these are the closest to the park, and therefore its most likely users and used as a field research tool in the park at the same time. A survey was created to gather information about current usage, degree of satisfaction with Islington Park's current image and services/facilities, and preferences for future services and facilities. The survey was administered in a number of ways:

1. Newcastle Voice members – online in Wards 1 and 2
2. On-site visitors – were interviewed by community members, from 21 December 2010 to 9 February 2011.
3. Council's website
4. Islington Village Community Group's website

The survey was developed using the following subject areas for exploration: Current Activities, Current Image, Current Services and Facilities, Future Services and Facilities, Place Making Potential. There were several opportunities for open-ended comments regarding short and long-term improvements. To control order bias, the Sparq system automatically rotated the presentation of items within certain questions on a random basis. A copy of the survey is provided in Appendix I.

A survey invitation and link to the on-line survey was sent on 30 January 2011. Electronic reminders to those online members who had not yet completed the survey were sent on 4 February 2011 and 9 February 2011. The survey closed at midnight on 11 February 2011.

On site visitors were polled by community volunteers between 21 December 2010 and 10 February 2011 to gather information during school holidays. A total of 18 questions were completed by on-site visitors and anonymous community members off the internet. The additional questions pertain to respondent demographics.

Sample Selection

A total of 1293 Newcastle Voice members were surveyed. This number represents all active on-line panel members in Wards 1 and 2 who have previously completed the Profile Study.

In addition, on-site visitors were interviewed using a questionnaire matching the Newcastle Voice survey.

Survey Area

Residents and ratepayers from the Newcastle City Council local government area (LGA) were consulted, through Newcastle Voice. Visitors to Islington Park were consulted through the intercept study conducted by community members.

The breakdown of the demographics is provided in Appendix II. These include the demographics of those in the Newcastle Voice panel sample, as well as the actual respondents. No marked differences are found between the demographics of the Newcastle Voice sample and the actual respondents. Demographics of the onsite visitors are provided to the extent which they were collected. They are also available in Appendix II.

It should be noted that being a Newcastle Voice member is voluntary, and therefore participation in its activities is also voluntary.

Statistical Representation

Although sampling 1239 panel members represents over 1% of the Newcastle LGA population in Wards 1 and 2, the sampling frame for this survey was not strictly statistically representative of the population.

The field questionnaire gathered a further 165 responses from park visitors. These responses represent the views of some higher user groups during different times of the week and day, as they were collected by volunteers from the three community groups involved.

Consistent themes presented in this report are derived from contributions and reliability and validity of the interpretations can be assessed.

There is a possibility that anonymous community members completed the survey multiple times online or in hard copy. The panel management system cannot detect duplicate entries from anonymous respondents, deterring individuals who may have wished to 'stack' the survey results.

Participants

The breakdown of the demographics by gender, age and employment status is provided for the sample as well as for the respondents in Appendix II. The following table shows the demographics of both sets of respondents: those interviewed in the park or accessing the survey through the community groups involved, and Newcastle Voice members from Wards 1 and 2. Unsurprisingly, the proportion of those living in the suburbs immediately adjacent to the park is much higher from the On-site Visitor group. The methods of consultation have allowed a broader spectrum of results to be gathered.

Table 1: Demographics of Newcastle Voice respondents vs. On-site Visitors

	Newcastle Voice Respondents	On-site Visitors
Gender		
Female	55.35%	61.35%
Male	44.65%	37.42%
Age		
16-24	1.57%	11.04%
25-39	27.67%	39.26%
40-54	32.08%	32.52%
55-69	33.65%	12.88%
70+	5.03%	3.07%
Residence		
Suburbs adjacent to the park	21.07%	77.30%
Suburbs nearby the park	29.56%	10.43%
Elsewhere in Newcastle	49.37%	9.20%
Elsewhere	0%	2.45%

Data Handling and Analysis

The data handling and analysis was carried out by staff in the Customer Service, Communication and Consultation service unit.

The approach used during the consultation is designed to increase inclusiveness and generate data for analysis into themes. Trend analysis was conducted from the open-ended question responses. All responses are treated in confidence to ensure the anonymity of respondents, and edited only for grammar and spelling if inserted as comments into the body of the report. No identifying information is included with any responses selected for this report. All comments received are included in Appendix IV.

Response Rate

The Newcastle Voice survey had a 26% response rate (318 out of 1239) and a 29% participation rate (365 out of 1239). That means that 29% of respondents started the survey, but 3% did not complete it (47 out of 1239). Of those who chose not to complete the survey, 72% dropped out before reaching the second question.

The survey was administered in a number of ways. Below are the response rates :

165
responses

1. Newcastle Voice members – online in Wards 1 and 2 (318 responses)
2. On-site visitors – were interviewed by community members, from 21 December 2010 to 9 February 2011.
3. Council's website
4. Islington Village Community Group's website

Survey Findings

The results from the Newcastle Voice respondents and onsite visitors were compared, but reported in combined form, as there were no marked differences between these two groups. Combined results will allow the findings to be actioned more directly. All raw results are included in Appendixes III and IV.

Overall, there is a very positive response to Islington Park, with the following remarks typical of many comments received when asked what people most like about the park. It is apparent from respondents that this neighbourhood park is much appreciated for a number of reasons:

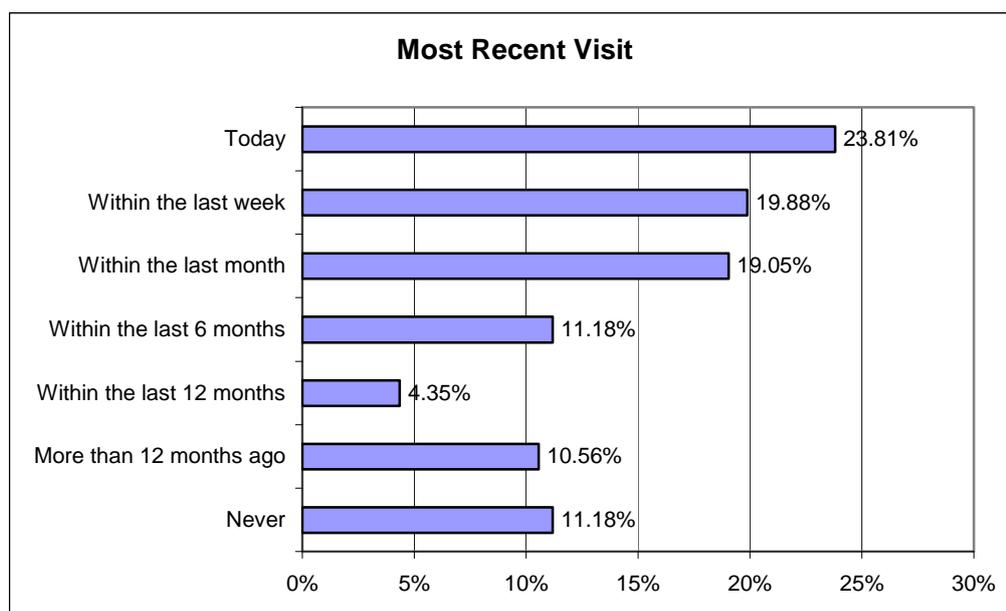
- “I love the shade, the fig trees and the general ambience of the park. I would not like the peaceful ambience to change - except if it meant more access to young people enjoying the natural advantages of the park, or a more all age playground for 8-14 year-olds.”
- “Avenue of fig trees; sports field; kids playground; dog exercise area; native tree areas; barbeque & picnic area; views of the creek; kooky uncomfortable concrete lounge artwork.”
- “The lovely ride along the river, with sculptures, trees and bushes. Which could be improved so that it is continuous from Islington around TAFE and to the University.”
- “The feeling of open space and accessibility from surrounding streets.”

Visitation Patterns

Recency of visits

Most respondents have visited Islington Park within the past month (62.74%), with almost a quarter visiting ‘today’ (23.81%) and 11.18% stating that they had ‘never’ visited the park. It reflects a neighbourhood park with many regular visits throughout the year.

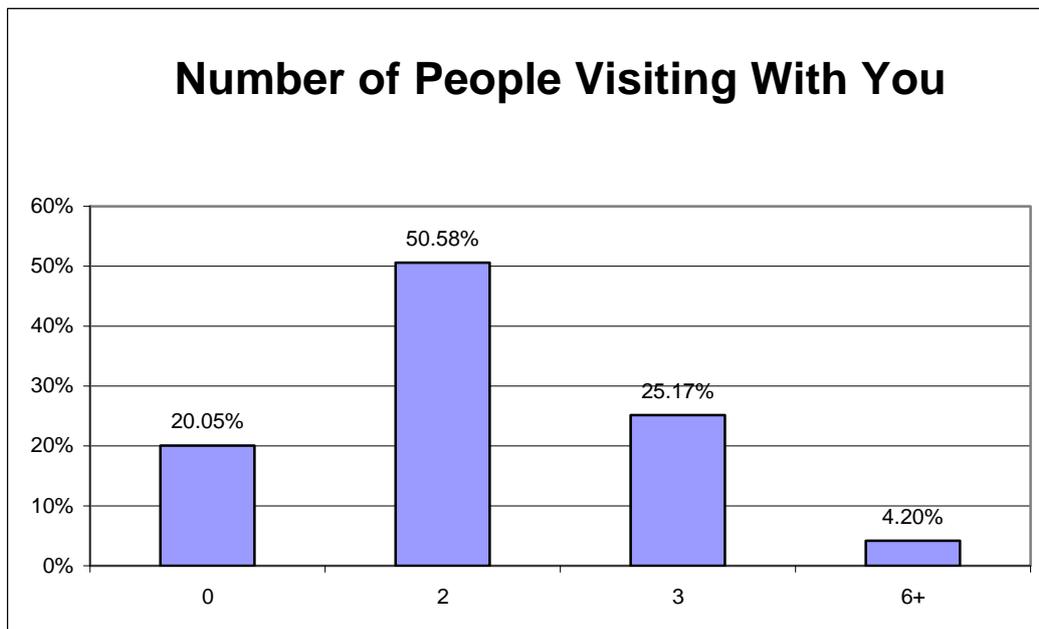
Graph 1: Most recent visit



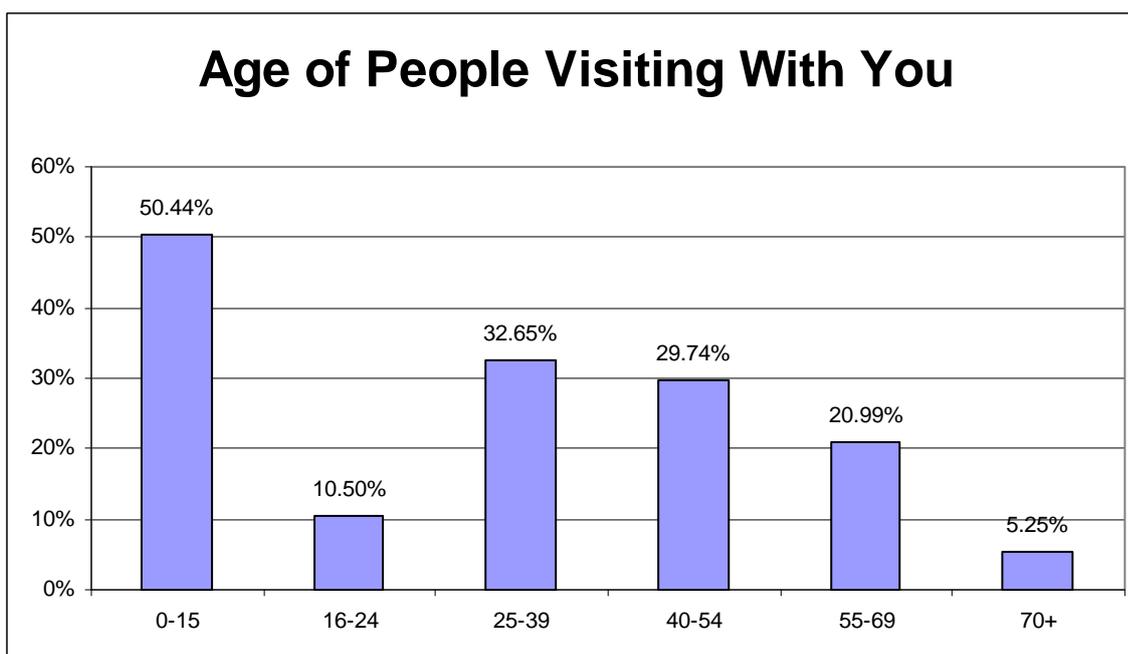
Group age and size

The majority of people visiting Islington Park are families with young children (50.44%), while one in five (20.05%) visit the park alone. Most respondents (50.58%) stated that they visit Islington Park with one to two people and the majority of those in the visiting party (50.44%) are children under 15 years old. The dip in visitation from the 16-24 category could be attributed to the relative lack of youth-specific facilities.

Graph 2: Number of People Visiting With You



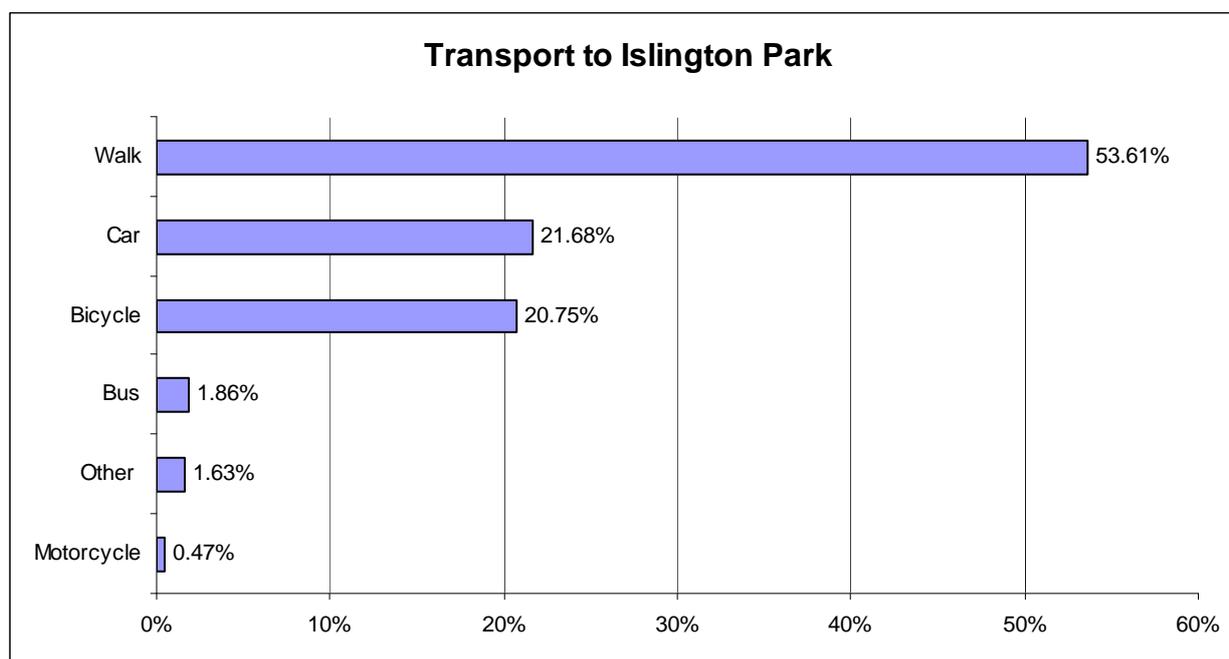
Graph 3: Ages of those visiting with you



Transport

The majority of respondents arrive at Islington Park by walking (53.61%) or cycling (20.75%) as the main transport methods. This demonstrates the high usage of the park as a neighbourhood park which people use for a range of informal recreation purposes. Its appeal stretches across the city though, with almost a quarter arriving by car (21.68%). Interestingly for a park on several bus routes, only 1.86% of respondents indicated using the bus. In the 'other' category, the dominant response is by skateboard or scooter.

Graph 4: Travel to Islington Park



The attractiveness of the park as a walking location or destination is frequently commented on. The cycle path and connection to the harbour and river, the city and locations beyond Islington Park is highly valued, as the following comments from open-ended responses show:

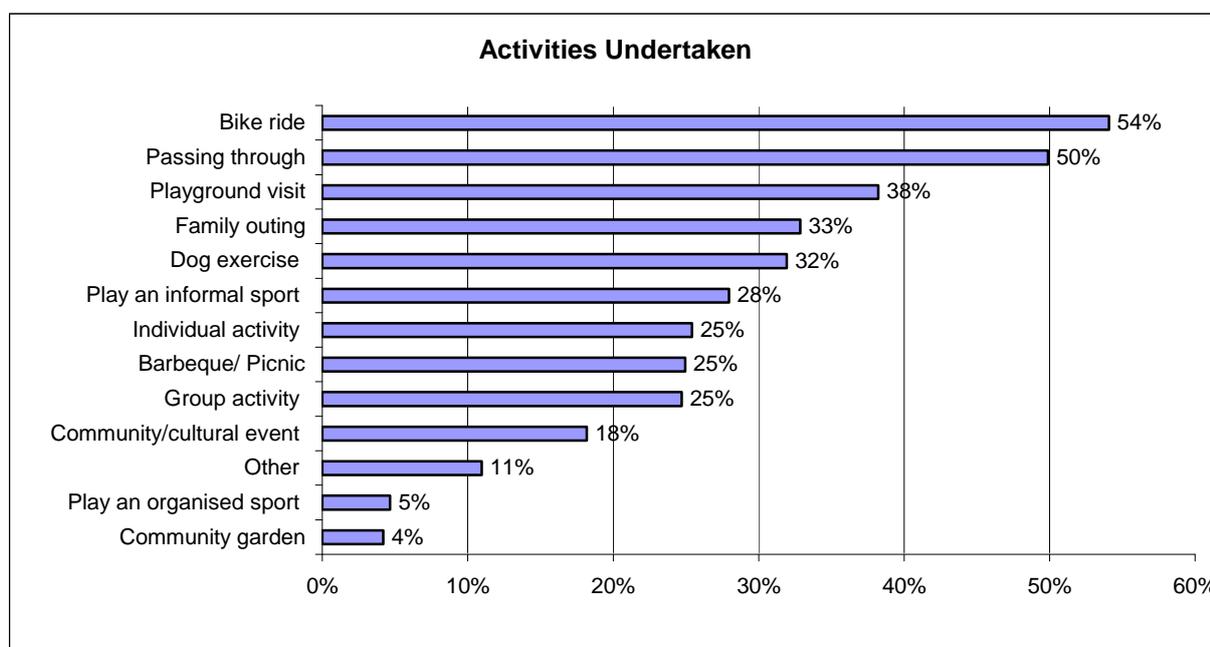
- "I like the bike path along the edge of Throsby Creek and the fact that it connects to the creek along the Hunter River into Newcastle."
- "The cycle ways and footpaths not only need to stay but could do with widening with the current traffic (both walking and cycling) - the original width seems to have been selected because the engineers didn't believe that anyone would actually use it."
- "Beautiful bike and walking paths to enjoy, shady fig trees, vistas over Throsby Creek."
- "Loop routes along the creek - I jog and walk the dog pretty much daily. I either do a loop over William St bridge up one side of the creek either to Hannell St or to the pedestrian bridge and back down the other side."
- "Commute to work on bike."

Activities

Islington Park's main role is as a cycle or walking destination for informal recreation activities – or as an attractive way to reach other destinations, with 'bike ride' as the highest activity response (54.08%), followed by 'taking a short cut, passing through' (49.88%). The playground is the third activity, gaining 38.23% of responses. Family outings are fourth (32.87%) and dog exercise is fifth (31.93%), highlighting the importance of the park to the city's pet owners.

Informal activities – such as running, walking, flying kites or skating – undertaken individually (25.41%) or in groups (24.71%) are the main activities while in the park, with picnic/bbq at almost a quarter of all respondents (24.94%). The figures in the graph do not add to 100% as respondents were naturally able to nominate several activities.

Graph 5: Activities Undertaken



Comments to illustrate the graph above:

- “This is healthy community where people know one another. You wave to people at the playground as you ride by on your bike, jog or walk the dog (as I do). Busy means well-observed and safe. I can well understand people wanting to expand the playground.”
- “I particularly like the leash-free dog zone that has a fantastic community feel to it and a strong following.”
- “No reduction in passive recreation infrastructure or facilities. Keep formal sport constrained within its current areas (or - better still - open these up more to other activities).”
- “We have had some great kids’ birthday parties at the playground. The kids love walking over the bridge and watching leaves float down the creek and pelican spotting. ”

Current Image

Respondents were asked to rate their satisfaction with ten dimensions relating to wellbeing, cleanliness and the park's overall image:

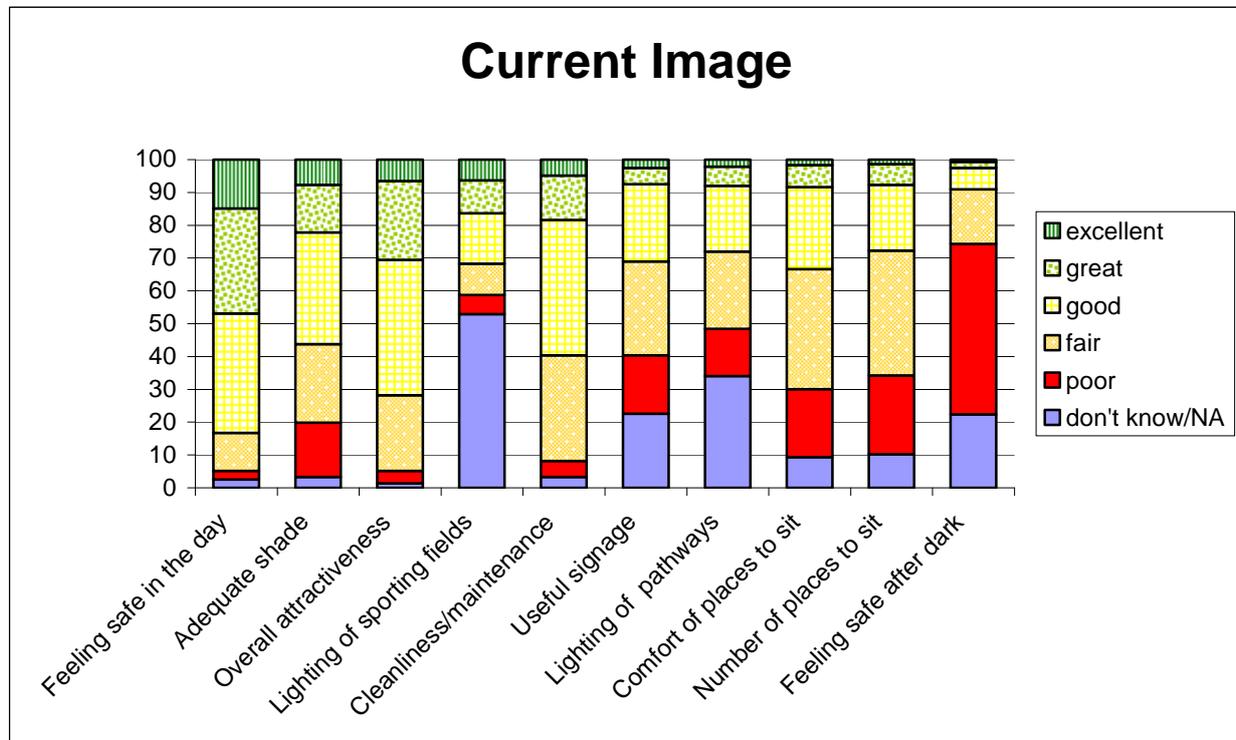
- Adequate lighting of pathways
- Adequate lighting of sporting fields
- Adequate shade
- Cleanliness/quality of maintenance
- Comfort of places to sit
- Easy to read & informative signage
- Feeling safe after dark
- Feeling safe during the daytime
- Number of places to sit
- Overall attractiveness

The graph below lists the results and reveals that 'feeling safe during the day' and the 'adequate shade' and 'overall attractiveness' gained the highest results. The lighting of the sporting field (significantly upgraded in 2010 in response to community concerns about public safety) has been noticed by many respondents, with its approval rating now in the top five. Interestingly, the lighting of the sporting field also gains a high 'don't know' rating (52.91%), suggesting perhaps that the field is at present under-used.

The right hand side of the graph shows the aspects garnering the lowest image ratings at present. The absence or poor quality of picnic and bbq facilities is reflected in the results, as are the related aspects of lighting of pathways and feeling safe after dark (the highest 'poor' rating, at 51.98% of responses).

The relatively high proportion of don't know's (blue in the graph below) could be due to the scale of the park, in that there are many facilities which are not used by everyone – and mainly used during the daytime.

Graph 6: Current Image



Comments which add depth to the graph above:

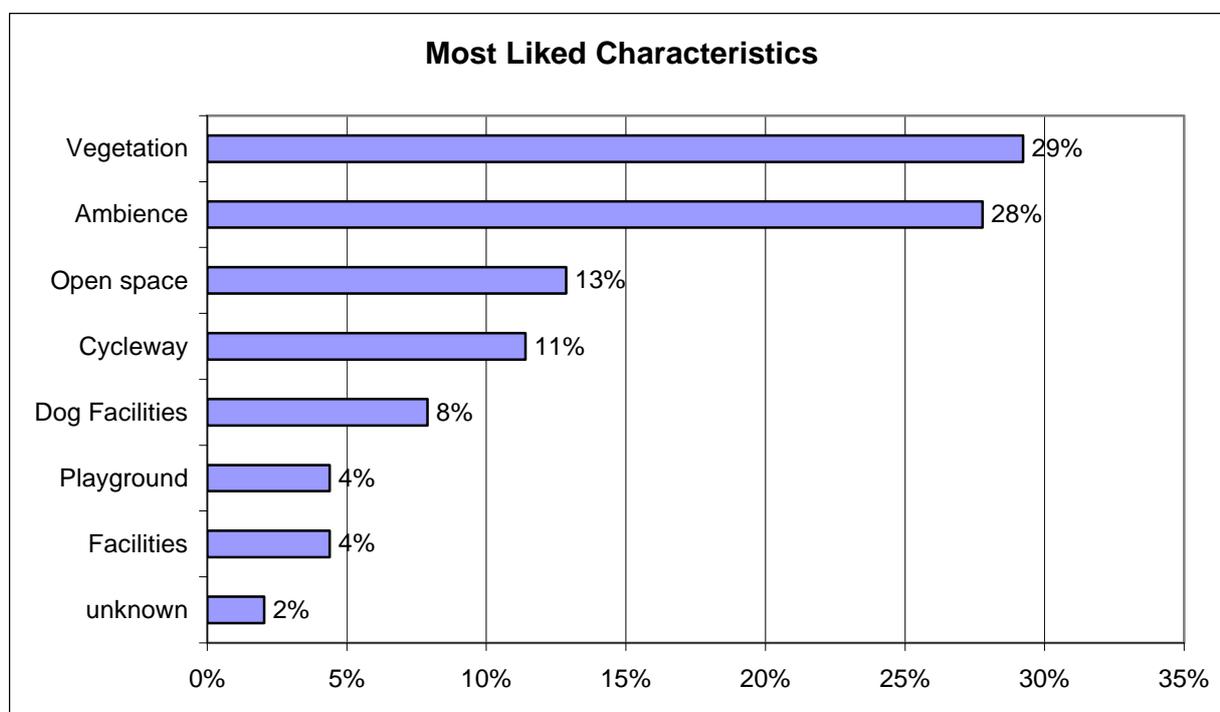
- “I’d like to feel it was safe to walk in at all times of day / night.”
- “Plant more trees near the barbecue area so that in future the seating can be extended with more shade.”
- “Shade over current playground as very hot for most of day in summer (too hot to use after early morning as slide etc can burn skin). This could be erected in a way that it could be used for future playground upgrades.”
- “Improve the lighting. The soccer field lights dramatically change the dynamics of the park, particularly safety. Perhaps a few much smaller (than the soccer) floodlights highlighting distinct park features but also spanning across the park.”
- “Just the cleanliness - there are often condoms around the playground! And a bigger gazebo for picnickers to get out of the weather - there are only a couple of sad small sheltered tables. And sun protection over the playground!”
- “I think activating the space after dark (movies, markets, concerts) is also invaluable in the fight to change the perception that the park is a haven for criminal activity once the sun goes down.”

Islington Park Most Liked Characteristics

When asked ‘*What do you particularly like about Islington Park that you do not want changed?*’, visitors mostly identified the following characteristics: the natural vegetation of the park and creek surrounds, the ambience and atmosphere of the park created by a range of activities, the open spaces in a built-up area, the cycling and pathways, the off-leash dog park, the playground and other facilities such as the basketball court and skate park. The following graph shows the ranked results, from an iterative analysis of the 342 comments received.

This graph contrasts well with the activities chart, in that the playground receives a lower ranking here, despite being one of the major reasons for visiting the park.

Graph 7: Most Liked Characteristics



Vegetation, Environment

Over a quarter of comments made by respondents (29%) focused on the range of vegetation in the park, including many about the heritage fig trees, mangroves in Throsby Creek, the planted trees, formal garden beds and open grassed areas. The following comments illustrate the span of comments received – and demonstrate that people view the park as extending along the creek bank towards Hannell Street:

- “Love the fig trees. Unique feature of the park and makes it very attractive.”
- “Fig trees. Do not cut down.”
- “Mangrove vegetation; creek side walking, existing shade, sculptures, bridges.”

- “The fig trees along Maitland Road, the mangroves and vegetation on the edge of the creek, the paper bark trees near the picnic shelters, the sports field.”
- “The bike path/walkway, especially where the lemon scented gums are at HVRF. Wish there were more of these beautiful trees in the park.”

Ambience

A further 28% of people address the ambience of the park – created by the range of activities, facilities and experiences available – in comprehensive comments. Again, the perception of the park extending to Hannell Street along the cycleway/footpath is evident. The following illustrates:

- “1.Green and shady trees; 2.Waterway; 3.maintainance of the space through safety audit investigations; 4. Links to the foreshore at Hannell Street - the crossing is dangerous and difficult but there is high usage; 5. Community ownership and community instigated events; 6 Thoroughfare to Hamilton adding value to Hamilton. This is demonstrating the communities lifestyle of walk-and-ride to the 5 suburbs around via the open spaces via the park; 7. The walk to the Throsby Creek water way into Honeysuckle; 8. Waratah residents ride to work along Throsby Crk/ Islington park; taking up jobs in Newcastle CBD Honeysuckle and 9.Novacastrians are connected to the park in that it links the suburbs and provides a vein for outdoor and fresh environment opportunities.”
- “Keep the amount and scale of built development (including hard stand facilities) to a minimum, though I think it would be an excellent site for a large scale modern children's playground, such as Lake Macquarie has at Speers Point.
- “Beautiful large shade trees and overall relaxed nature of the park (ie should not be too manicured).”
- “I love the openness of the park, the beautiful big trees that give brilliant shade. It has a relaxing feel for a park that is situated in the heart of a city...love it...”
- “The canopy of old figs along Maitland road are a real feature. The park has a really inclusive feel to it with facilities for all ages and dog lovers too.”

Open Space

There is high appreciation for the open space in this built up area, with 13% of comments received about this topic. People comment on the scarcity of open space in the city generally, on the diversity of activities which are undertaken in the open parts of Islington Park, and all the opportunities for active and passive recreation. The following comments illustrate:

- “Open space is important whether it's in constant use or not. Places like Islington Park are the lungs of the city.”
- “It is nice & open and not over crowded.”
- “I like the sense of open space. Too many trees can crowd activities out - with the space available I often see teenagers playing footy/soccer/cricket in various parts of the park.”
- “The open space. I wish they had not cut down the lovely old climbing tree near the playground.”

- “There is no parking in the park itself. This should be maintained. Don't sacrifice park for car park - car parking could be created at bottom of Union St.”

Cycleway and Footpaths

As the major activities and uses of the park, the cycleway and footpaths are commented on. The low percentage of comments indicates the scope for improvements of most-used assets. The following comments illustrate:

- “Good bike paths - can take the whole family. BBQ, playground etc.”
- “The line of Port Jackson/Moreton bay figs along Maitland Rd. Pedestrian path along Throsby Creek. Public art along above pedestrian path.”
- “Make better paths for bikes and not use black tar it's cheap and looks bad. I would prefer gravel over tar; link Islington Park to a cycle way to the university. The cycle way to Maitland Road from the city is fair but after Islington Park where do the cyclists go?”
- “Quality of paths are a good standard, wide enough to be cycle/pedestrian friendly.”
- “Loop routes along the creek - I jog and walk the dog pretty much daily. I either do a loop over William St bridge up one side of the creek either to Hannell St or to the pedestrian bridge and back down the other side.”

Dog Facilities

Newcastle's dog owners have relatively few large off-leash areas so this one is much appreciated, for its association with space for longer walks, agility equipment and sociable environment for wider community cohesion. Some comments address the need for vigilance with dog waste and suggest possible improvements. The following comments demonstrate the span of comments received:

- “Dog off leash area. I use it every day and love it.”
- “The Leash free area and the walking path connectivity to Hannell Street.”
- “The dog leash-free area is a wonderful get-together place for dog owners and their dogs. Some more poop bins (maybe nearish to the gathering points) may encourage more people to dispose of their dogs' waste sensibly.”
- “Love the off leash area - it must remain - it is not only important for dogs but for the people in the community - large groups of people regularly meet and build up a community spirit - get to know neighbours. We moved from Sydney and the dog park was where we met many people who are still our friends and helped us get established in the area - ESSENTIAL. DO NOT EVEN THINK ABOUT GETTING RID OF IT.”

Playground

The playground, while widely used, is not considered an essential feature that does not require change. In fact, upgrading of the playground was the community interest which gave rise to this consultation program. The following comments illustrate the community dilemma:

- “The childrens’ park is great even if it does need some improvement. The bit I like most is the three dimensional nature of the small mound and sandstone causeway. My kids and all the others really enjoy running around these and up and down the hill playing "chases". Be nice to keep the three dimensional nature of the park in this way.”
- “Proximity of play equipment to Throsby Creek footbridge...close to creek breeze better for mozzies and nature observation by children.”
- “The children's playground and skate bowl should stay but also be upgraded. There are some fantastic examples of these in King's Park in Perth. The adventure playground idea is enjoyed by all ages.”
- “Move the playground - that is a RIDICULOUS SUGGESTION. It should be in a central location.”

Facilities

A group of respondents address a range of facilities, including public toilets, barbeques, the community garden established in 2010, the concrete lounge and pelicans as well as other artworks as being the essential characteristic of the park which they do not wish to see changed, illustrated by the following comments:

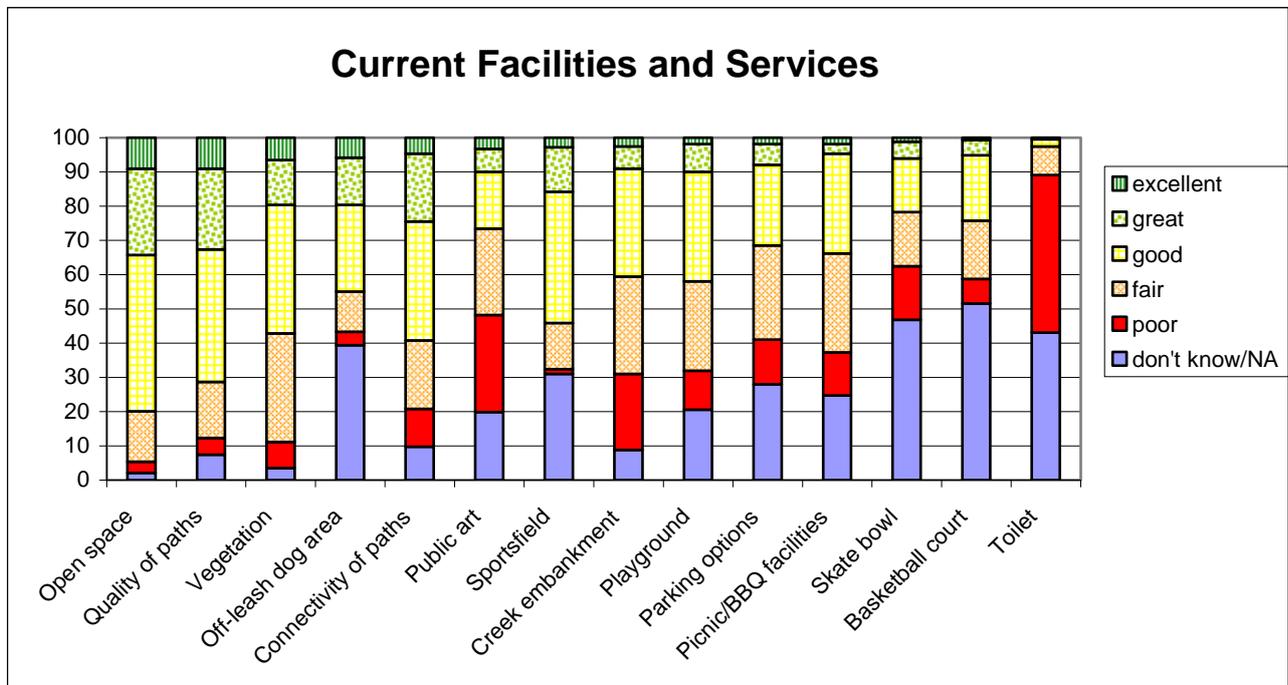
- “The sculptured lounge chair. It is comfortable and attractive. I really appreciate sculpture that serves a purpose. Too often, it is just an expression of one person's ideas and doesn't always appeal to others. Nature provides the most beautiful vistas, so art works in the park should enhance the natural beauty, not detract from it.”
- “Its multi purpose nature, skate park, ball sports, play ground and formal oval. Its increasing use as a family area.”
- “Love the barbecue area and facilities. A toilet would be fantastic. More community events especially in the evening would be excellent such as open air cinema. I love the trees. Also extending bike path access into Mayfield area over rail bridge.”
- “The sporting field and basketball hoop.”

Current Facilities and Services

Respondents were asked to rate their satisfaction with fifteen current services and facilities at Islington Park, and the results are presented in the chart below:

- Basketball/netball court
- Parking options
- Connectivity of cycleway and paths
- Cycling and footpath
- Off-leash dog area & equipment
- Open space including the quality of grass
- Picnic and barbeque facilities
- Playground
- Public art and sculptures
- Skate bowl
- Sporting field
- Throsby Creek embankment
- Toilet
- Vegetation (tress, shrubs, flower beds)
- Water bubblers

Graph 8: Current Facilities and Services



The open space of the park is rated as 'great' or 'excellent' by 34.26% of respondents, followed by the quality of paths at 32.63%. Vegetation of all kinds, previously discussed at Essential Characteristics, gains a 'great' or 'excellent' rating of 19.58%.

Of interest is the percentage of respondents who were unaware of the following services/facilities or unable to rate them. In relation to the toilet – many people indicating that they did not know that there is a toilet in the park which is reserved for use by sporting clubs on team sports days:

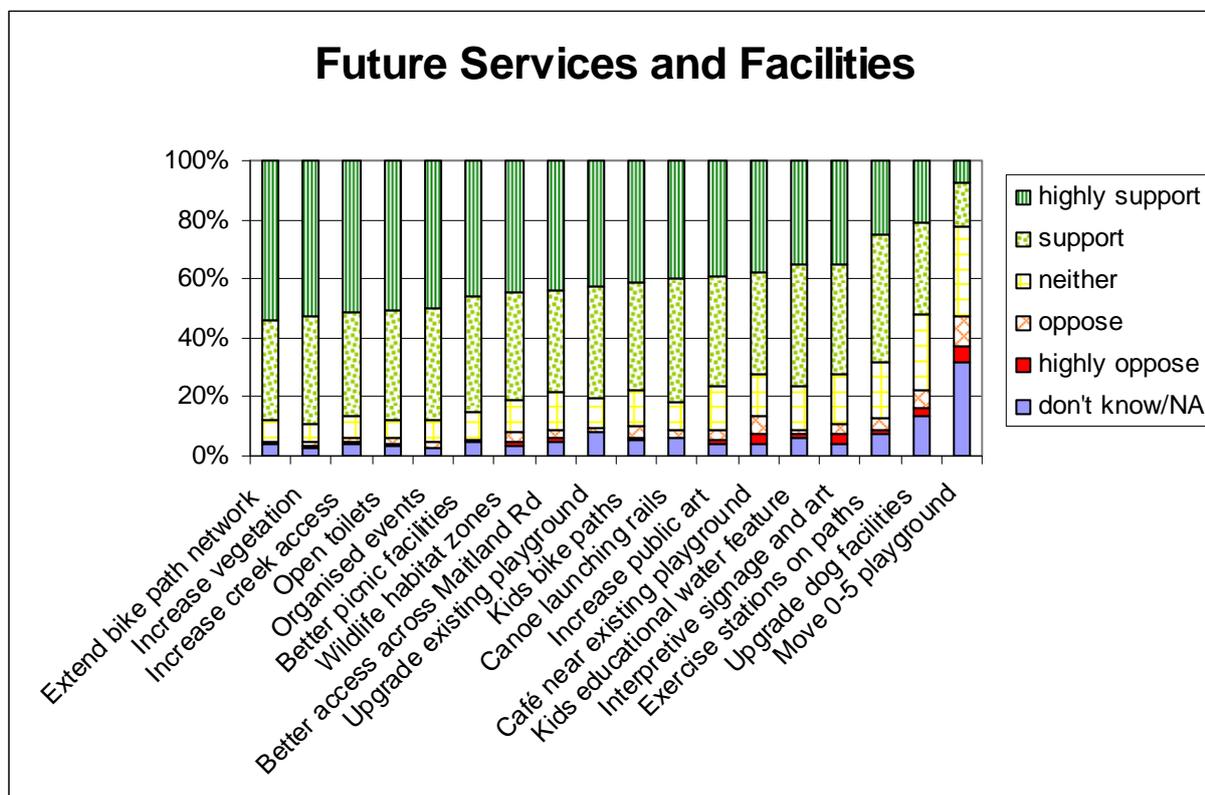
1. Basketball courts – 51.52%
2. Skate bowl – 46.85%
3. Toilet – 43.12%
4. Off-leash dog area – 39.39%

Future Services and Facilities

Respondents were asked if they would support the following improvements in Islington Park:

1. Advocate with Hunter Water for improved access to Throsby Creek for recreation and education (i.e. boardwalk/jetty)
2. Better picnic facilities (additional tables and barbeques)
3. Café near existing playground
4. Children's bike paths
5. Children's water educational feature
6. Exercise stations with distance markers for runners
7. Formal community events (outdoor cinema, markets, Dog's Day Out, community picnic)
8. Improved access across Maitland Road
9. Interpretive signage and art promoting Aboriginal history and cultural heritage
10. Kayak/canoe launching rails
11. Move 0-5 playground near Morgan Street
12. New shared paths and extensions to the bike path network
13. Open and accessible public toilets
14. Plant more native trees, shrubs and flower beds around the park
15. Temporary and/or permanent public art exhibition
16. Upgrade existing playground in current location for all age groups and abilities
17. Upgrade facilities in off-leash dog area
18. Wild life habitat zones (eg bird breeding boxes)

Graph 9: Future Services and Facilities



Many of the improvements gained extremely high support, as shown in the long strips of green in the chart above. Extending the bike network, increasing shared pathways, increased planting, improved creek access, open toilets and organised events all gain over 50% 'high support' from respondents.

The proposal to move the 0-5 playground received the least support, with a small proportion (in red and orange in the chart above) opposed and strongly opposed to this idea (15.62%). Upgrading dog facilities and installing exercise stations with distance markers for runners similarly received least support, and are shown towards the right of the chart.

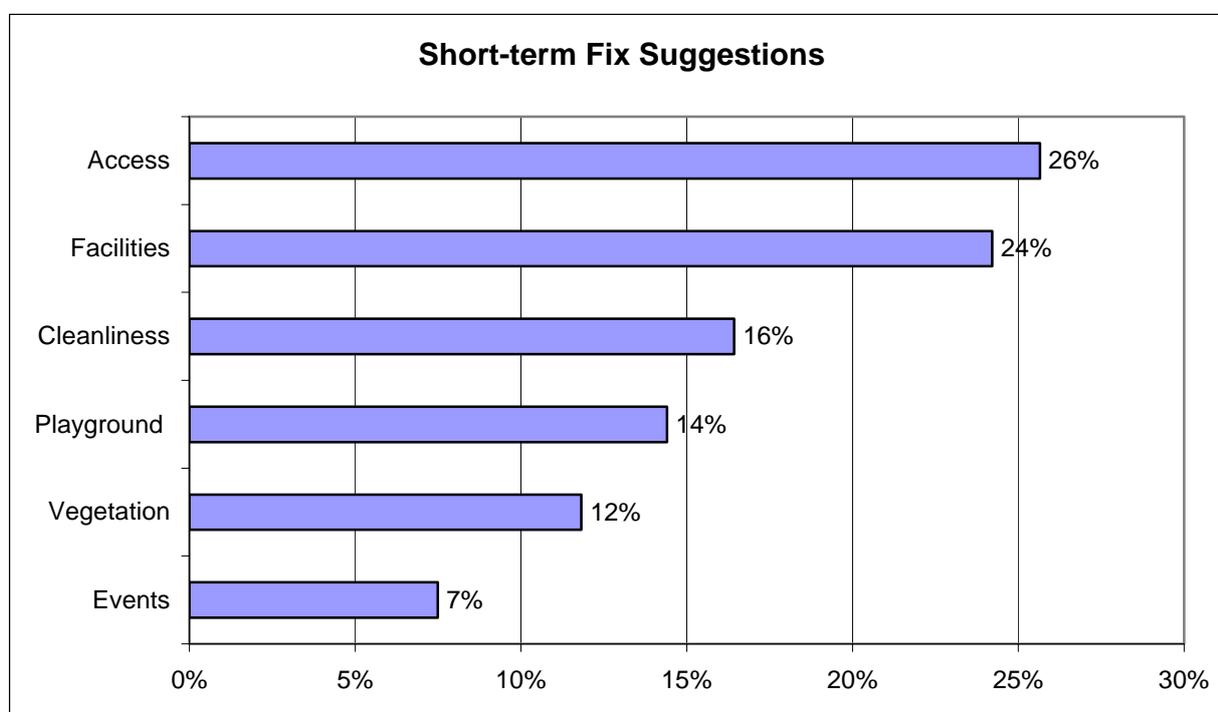
Short-Term vs Long-Term Improvements

Respondents are quick to suggest both long and short-term improvements for Islington Park, with 583 individual comments recorded in the two open-ended questions. Improvements to facilities, with toilets high on the list, feature prominently in both lists.

Short-term Improvements

A host of short term improvements are identified across the following spectrum, iterated from the open-ended comments: access, facilities, cleanliness, playground, vegetation, events.

Graph 10: Short-Term Improvements Suggestions



Access

Access to the park is the most sought short-term improvement, from extensions to footpaths and cycleway connectivity, to more level access for wheelchairs and prams and lighting to increase the appeal of access after dark. In addition, there are calls for some access to be restricted or reduced, with references to prostitution, dogs off their leads outside the leash-free area and drug users. Comments to illustrate the span of comments received:

- “Complete footpaths in areas where grass is clearly worn by frequent use indicating a path is required there.”
- “Better bike path facilities, especially connections to Maitland Road is needed. A wide bike-pedestrian share path is needed along the creek. Better crossings/under/overpasses are needed for the small roads breaking the bike path along the creek. They are particularly hard/ dangerous to navigate on a bike.”

- “The foot/bike path around the oval needs work - it is well used but gets very muddy.”
- “Lighting at dog park side; bbq's at dog park side; more bins at dog park side in a location where others can't dump rubbish (not near road); access to toilets at dog park. We have up to 100 people using the dog park between 4-7pm and no access to toilets!”
- “A crackdown on prostitutes. banning them from entering the park during the day when many families are present.”
- “More lighting, so people feeler safer working in the park at dawn, dusk and at night.”
- “There have been times when I have been using the oval to run on and drunks and bogans have been drinking at the table and have tried to start fights. Some policing would be nice.”
- “More signage for cyclers on path and maybe a separate path for bikes.”
- “Enforce on leash/offleash areas. Can't take my dog off leash, yet off leash dogs are often on the onleash side.”

Facilities

Facility improvements are sought, with open public access to the existing toilet during daylight hours, an upgrade to the barbeque which ensures that it heats properly, a café and increased seating both in the dog park and near the playground as some of the suggestions. The following comments illustrate:

- “For 6 years we never saw any toilets open in Iso Park. This is a disgrace, as is the lack of public toilets all the way along the walking / bike track from Iso to Nobbys!! We continuously brought this lack of facilities to the attention of Councillors and staff for the whole time Throsby Community Forum operated. A related problem is the break of lighting on the walking / bike path between Lewis and Hannell. This is an important matter as it breaks the link of the continuous path at night. This issue was continuously ignored by Councillors and council staff. Not good enough!!”
- “BBQ upgrade, as they just don't get hot enough!”
- “Canoe/ kayak launching centre, improved dog off leash facilities, more garbage bins, bbq stations, and would be great to have exercise stations, with km markers to show the length of a course. This encourages people to walk/ run that little bit further which promotes a healthier lifestyle...subtle encouragement.”
- “Paint the fence across Throsby creek at Hannell st, it needs it badly.”
- “I think open and accessible toilets should be the highest priority.”
- “More shade, more seating under the trees so you don't have to sit in the sun.”
- “Public toilets and more seating. Also need for better alignment of cycleway on west side of William Street to remove two sharp bends and improve line of vision for traffic in both directions to allow safer crossing of road.”

Cleanliness

Cleanliness and maintenance is sought for the park in the short term, in the form of increased rubbish removal from the park, continuing clean-up of Throsby Creek and more rubbish bins, illustrated by the following comments:

- “Clean up rubbish; Maintain rubbish bins, especially the one near the barbecues.”
- “Cleaning up the litter in the creek with a better approach in the longer term for eliminating it.”
- “Main problem is things getting damaged. I have always said that the canal needs to be cleaned.”
- “More proactive with rubbish please - especially glass.”
- “Put in motion-sensor bright lighting - it makes the park safer. I wouldn't go there now after dark. Keep it clean, especially the creek.”
- “Removal of rubbish from creek embankment. NCC bins emptied more often, near Mayfield end of park. Iron nets on basketball hoops. Change tap at skate bowl to bubbler, put bubblers at bus stops (park side).”
- “Council cleaning every day. I have found empty condom wrappers and slide with lollies melted onto it, and I wonder if the park is checked/cleaned on a Saturday/Sunday. If not it should be.”

Playground

Immediate suggestions to improve the playground include shade over the top, the installation of additional equipment and the reinstatement of some removed elements, as follows:

- “1. More seating throughout the park but particularly near playground; 2. provision of shade over part of the playground or near playground; 3. Add some new play equipment and more swings.”
- “Better play equipment, although I see this as a long-term investment, ie, a brilliant play park similar to the one next to the beach at Umina and the one in Bathurst, that is accessible for young and older kids.”
- “Expand the children's play area; put sails/cover over it.”
- “Do not commercialise or overdevelop. more native plant/ a community garden, sensory garden/playground equipment for children with disabilities/more art works/sculptures.”
- “Plant more trees or shade structure over existing play ground and improvement of existing playground.”
- “Playground is an absolute priority - in the short term there needs to be some serious discussion with significant s/holders as to what the long term vision will be. This needs to be supported by a commitment from NCC in terms of time, money and a staged implementation plan that is available to the community.”

Vegetation

Again, short term improvements are sought to the vegetation, with emphasis on the mangroves and weeds growing along the creek edge. As the creek is maintained by Hunter Water, there is an identified need for collaboration with Council in this regard. The following short-term improvements are sought in relation to all plantings and native trees:

- “Remove concrete drain walls & replace with granite boulders. Remove the rose garden & replace with a lily-pilly hedge maze or native garden.”
- “I like the fact that there are mangroves in Throsby Creek and wouldn't like to see these damaged in any way. If access to the water involves damage to these I would disagree with it.”
- “Better planting around the play park for appearance and shade. Better maintenance of the grass.”
- “I believe that mowing of the open space grasslands and along the cycleways should receive high priority. Sometimes the areas become overgrown and extremely unsightly. The image projected for walkers/cyclists is very poor.”
- “Plant more shady trees for the future.”
- “Perhaps an enhancement of the flower beds. That is either more flowers more often or the upgrading of the presentation and appearance of beds; i.e. elevated gardens with stone retaining walls.”
- “Native landscaping in various locations of the park around interactive installations for kids to play on.”

Events

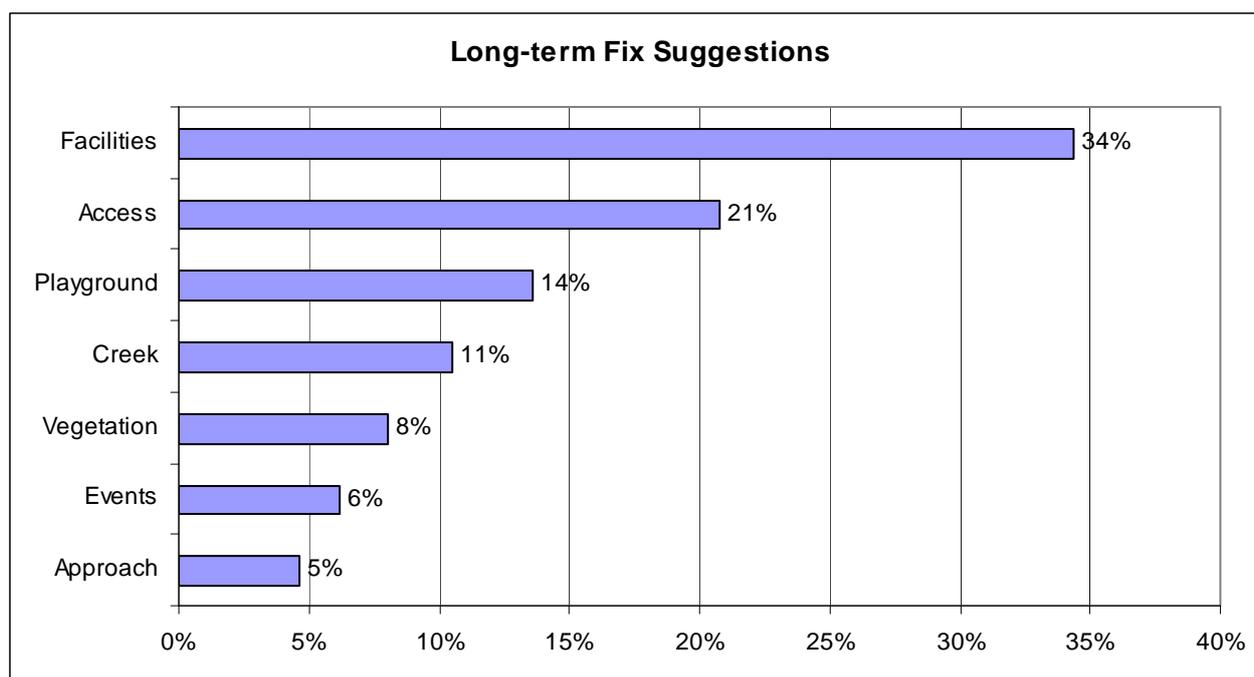
Events are called for in the form of outdoor cinema, art or sculpture exhibitions, markets and the continuation of the Throsby Long Brunch initiated in 2010:

- “History of land use for Aboriginal people in this area; more art work and sculptures; community events including music that is inclusive of all ; cultures including Aboriginal.”
- “Encouragement of more people to the park it is one of the most beautiful parks in Newcastle but Islington's reputation for a bad element has stopped people from wishing to go there. More events in the park may help people jump over that stigma.”
- “Outdoor cinema screenings, band concerts, pop concerts, even carols by candlelight would appeal to people from inner city and outer suburbs and indeed to those who have never used the park facilities. Using this park would lift its profile and give King Edward Park a break from wear and tear.”
- “Perhaps competitions to produce a range of creative enviro-artistic options for future use with an additional focus on Pre-European history of the area.”

Long-Term Improvements

Improvements to facilities are most sought in the list of long-term suggestions respondents supplied (34%), followed by access (21%) – which mirrors the short-term priorities. The playground continues to be of significant community interest for the long-term. This consistent community expectation may assist implementation planning and budget allocations to improvements in the park.

Graph 11: Long-term Fix Suggestions



Facilities

Toilets are sought in the long-term and the short-term – and this expectation needs to be weighed against the major usage of the park as an exercise destination. Other facilities which are of community interest in future are a kiosk (possibly dog-friendly), canoe facilities, better seating, barbeques and shade. The following comments demonstrate the spectrum:

- “Improved overall night time lighting for paths and cycle ways to improve safety. New play ground equipment. More seating in shaded areas for parents and children to sit when visiting the park. Improved BBQ facilities.”
- “Upgrade the whole aspect to a modern, public foreshore with seating, play areas of all types, good barbecue areas. Go and look at the Gold Coast and see how they upgraded their foreshore at the Broadwater – it’s a wonderful community area that has concerts, great play equipment and BBQs for the whole family, plenty of toilets, swimming area, shop etc. What’s wrong with Ncle? Get with the times!”
- “Rationalize existing parking and arrangements with Tafe to have access to parking on weekends.especially with cars and vehicles carrying bikes. Improve connectivity between TAFE and cycleway and proposed extra kids loop. Upgrade existing parking

near tram bridge and dog park. Then build a cafe with sufficient capacity for small functions and site it in the space between the arms of Throsby Creek and Styx Creek. Tenders could be called for its lease. The cafe could provide a coffee rickshaw which could ply the cycleway loop and down along the creek.”

- “Public toilets! More picnic tables and covered areas, better lighting! Shade over children’s playground, more rubbish facilities and bubblers.”
- “Please - no more exotic trees. No more magnolias. No cafe please - there are plenty nearby.”
- “Old timers tell us there used to be a bridge over the Selwyn St rail tracks from Selwyn St near Greaves St at Mayfield East to Ferndale St, Tighes Hill. What is now needed is a lightweight bridge over the tracks at that location for bikes and foot traffic only. That would provide an important new link to Iso park and the good walking / bike track all the way to Nobbys.”
- “More gardens, decent toilets and I loved the exercise station idea.”
- “For ideas see New Farm Park Brisbane: attractive picnic and bbq areas.”
- “In this day and age of obesity epidemic, I’m sure exercise equipment through Islington Park (continuing down the path through to Linwood) would be a great asset to the community. The local schools often use the park, so maybe they could utilise the equipment (grants might be available for this through the Education Department or through Health).”

Access

As before, improved access for pedestrians, cyclists of all types and onto the creek are sought in the long-term. Reduction in access to drug users and prostitutes is sought by some respondents. The following comments illustrate the spectrum received:

- “A new bike track as part of a road safety education facility for young children.”
- “Improve cycle access to the park- connect existing bike path to bike path that runs behind Energy Australia stadium - fix road crossing over Lewis St (current crossing is not user friendly and very dangerous)”
- “Making the cycle and walkways even more shaded and connected to Mayfield.”
- ”Bike track down both sides of creek; Kids bike path; more shade along bike path.”
- “No more drug users and syringes left around, no more use of the park by prostitutes, safety at night (better lighting).”
- “To open up the water way again and have a wonderful clean water way with lots of fish for children to learn to fish in safety would be such a boost for the area. There are not enough places for families to enjoy water sports other than at the beach in this area.”
- “All weather access via park from Maitland Road/Tighes Terrace to northern end of footbridge.”

Playground

The playground would be a highly-visible area to commence improvements as it is so widely used. A large range of suggestions as to how that improvement could occur were received, including shade, more equipment for all ages and abilities, timber construction, use of the hillside and integration of public art and existing facilities into the design. The following comments illustrate the community's enthusiasm:

- "1. New adventure playground that attracts a wider age range, is wheelchair accessible and caters to children with disabilities."
- "Expand playground facilities and improve shade near the existing playground. Make all plantings native species - showcase local indigenous plants. More public art - movable, interactive pieces."
- "The Bathurst one uses a sloping area to great effect. They are really wonderful and my boys (aged 7 and 10) play endlessly on the flying fox, the sensory 'bits' etc. It could also incorporate a kids' bike track and maintain the skate park and basketball court as part of the design."
- "More playground equipment for kids 5+ and TOILETS!!!"
- "The most used area in the park is near the playground and bbq. If there were some other areas with seating (and there are other areas with trees and shade during the day) these areas might also be used. I have seen more than one child's birthday trying to happen in the same small area."
- "Upgrade playground, make it more imaginative, eg adventure landscape features (children like to climb on the collection of rocks in Civic Park)."
- "A wonderful playground such as is at Speers Point. With shade and barbeque facilities and picnic area adjoining. A kiosk and toilet facilities. An improved basketball and skate bowl area for teenagers and young adults."

Creek

The further rehabilitation of the creek is commented on at this question, so some advocacy with Hunter Water will ensure that these works continue. The following comments illustrate respondent concerns:

- "Continue the Throsby Creek rehabilitation started by the Tighes Hill - Maryville Residents Action Group during the late 80's. The original plan was to allow the mangroves to slowly recolonise the creek banks and break up the concrete walls. I think this should continue. A new bridge from the Maitland Rd side of the park across to the bottom of Union St, Tighes Hill would be nice. Upgrade the lighting."
- "Foster revegetation on creek banks in general and a better inter-tidal zone with the creek at western end of the park beyond the cycle path (south side of creek) which isn't used very much. The bank could be cut back to allow for salt marsh/intertidal flora and fauna to thrive. A short boardwalk (per Carrington Boardwalk design) could poke through from this section of the park through the mangroves to a jetty-style platform for sitting over the creek."
- "Also activities associated with Throsby Creek - when people can be confident of the safety issues."
- "Clean up Throsby Creek. It's incredibly ugly at low-tide."

Vegetation

A variety of vegetation and longer-term environmental suggestions are made from respondents, about the types of plantings, about species of trees and weeding. The following comments illustrate:

- “Ensure there are more trees being planted to replace any trees that need to be removed in the future.”
- “Native gardens - more native trees and bushes. A lot more work on the creek to clean it up.”
- “The mangroves are doing very well and should be further encouraged by breaking up some of the concrete along the embankments.”
- “You need enough replacement trees - the row of what I presume are replacement Moreton Bay trees is too small in number. These are the ones parallel to the veteran trees at the eastern end of the park. Way too few.”
- “Planting of more shade trees. Weeding/maintenance of the grass.”
- “Create a bush food garden along the river bank and perhaps in co-operation with the community garden. Maintain good quality grass coverage for the parkland and sporting fields.”

Events

Events are suggested for longer-term improvements to change any lingering perception of the park’s negative reputation – and to bring together the people living around this park. Art and sculpture exhibitions, cinema, markets, music are all sought, as illustrated by the following remarks:

- “Community displays/events - such as arts, theatre, concerts, night markets, yoga, tai chi, working bees (i.e.cleanup days, native gardens, community gardening). Commissioned art pieces (sculptures)to show the history and diversity of the area.”
- “Same as short term, plus..public art, and exhibition area, regular markets and cultural days, Encourage the local schools to use the park for their sport days, and daily exercise time.”
- “Implementation of improvements mentioned, eg. fitness equipment, sitting areas, information, use by community groups, speakers' corner? Outdoor dance areas? Specialized markets eg. ethnic. Medieval fair? The more use- in general- the safer the area will be.”
- “A little bit more seating and more community weekend park things with more notice (like on Sundays).”
- “More public use by groups i.e markets, concerts aboriginal walks/info wetlands type set up and info days.”

Approach

At long-term fix suggestions, some respondents mention the continuing collaboration with the community and to retain the natural environment of the park as essential to the approach to any works in the park. In view of the strong response to place-making assistance, it seems likely that this park will succeed in this way. The following comments illustrate:

- “Increased public use, multiple uses & involving more local residents in use & decision-making.”
- “The park could become a centre-piece for an artistic and environmentally innovative space. Aboriginal history must also be represented.”
- “Not keen on overdevelopment of parks. I prefer them to be spaces for people to use creatively: picnics, fetes etc. I would not be keen to see it "congested" or over developed with concrete boundaries and car parking.”

Expressions of Interest – Working Groups

This consultation was designed to work with the community to make places that reflect their needs and aspirations.

Part of this consultation was designed to gauge the degree of community commitment to improving the park and working on one of the four identified project areas. A strong response was received for each of the working groups established during a previous workshop session on 3 November – and many more people expressed an interest in being informed of progress. The following numbers of people responded as follows:

Working Group	Join the Group	Be Informed
Community Playground	45	101
Community Events	56	146
Environment	65	131
Art/Creative Expression	43	131

Contact details will be forwarded to the nominated representative of each working group under separate cover; each project champion has signed a confidentiality agreement to ensure that this information is not used for any other purpose.

The strength of community support and coherence of responses to this survey will ease the planning and implementation of improvements for this much-appreciated neighbourhood park.



Appendix I – Questionnaire

Islington Park Place Making Survey

Using a place-making approach, The City of Newcastle has held community workshops to generate ideas and understand local priorities to help develop a master plan for future uses and facilities at Islington Park. Community working groups were formed at those workshops around four emerging priority areas:

- Art & Creative Expression,
- Community Playground,
- Community Events, and
- Environment.

Over the coming month, Council, in conjunction with community working groups, community members and local community groups in Islington, Tighes Hill and Maryville will be involving YOU - to develop ideas and actions to enliven Islington Park.

We invite you to be part of this process. Your input will help shape the Islington Park Masterplan. Please take 5-10 minutes to fill out this questionnaire. Please answer ALL of the questions. You can be assured that all your answers will remain completely confidential.

Q1. When was the last time you visited Islington Park? **Please select one response only.**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Today (GO TO Q2)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Within the last week (GO TO Q2)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Within the last month (GO TO Q2)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Within the last 6 months (GO TO Q2)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Within the last 12 months (GO TO Q2)
<input type="checkbox"/>	More than 12 months ago (GO TO Q2)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Never

Because you have never been to Islington Park, the remainder of this survey does not apply to you. Please send your survey back to The City of Newcastle. Thank you for taking the time to participate in the survey.

Q2. How many people typically visit Islington Park with you? **Please select one response only.**

<input type="checkbox"/>	I go alone (Go to Q4)
<input type="checkbox"/>	1-2
<input type="checkbox"/>	3-5
<input type="checkbox"/>	6+

Q3. What is the age group of those typically visiting with you? **Please select all that apply.**

<input type="checkbox"/>	birth-15
<input type="checkbox"/>	16-24
<input type="checkbox"/>	25-39
<input type="checkbox"/>	40-54
<input type="checkbox"/>	55-69
<input type="checkbox"/>	70+

Q4. How do you typically travel to Islington Park? **Please select one response only.**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Car
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bus
<input type="checkbox"/>	Motorcycle
<input type="checkbox"/>	Walk
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cycle
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other, please specify _____

Q5. What activities have you done during previous visits to the park? **Please select all that apply.**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Barbeque/ Picnic
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bike ride
<input type="checkbox"/>	Group activity (eg birthday party, children's playgroup)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Individual activity (eg read book, sit)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Community garden
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dog exercise
<input type="checkbox"/>	Family outing
<input type="checkbox"/>	Community/cultural event (eg Carols by Candlelight, Throsby Long Brunch)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Take a short cut - passing through
<input type="checkbox"/>	Play an informal sport (eg basketball/netball, frisbee, boules, skating, run, walk)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Play an organised sport (eg cricket, soccer)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Playground visit
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Please specify) _____

Q6. Please rate the various aspects related to wellbeing and cleanliness in Islington Park overall. **Please select one response for each.**

	Excellent	Great	Good	Fair	Poor	Don't know/Not applicable
Adequate lighting of pathways	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Adequate lighting of sporting fields	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Adequate shade	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Cleanliness/quality of maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Comfort of places to sit	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Easy to read & informative signage	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Feeling safe after dark	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Feeling safe during the daytime	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Number of places to sit	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Overall attractiveness	<input type="checkbox"/>					

Q7. Please rate the current services and features at Islington Park right now. **Please select one response for each.**

	Excellent	Great	Good	Fair	Poor	Don't know/Not applicable
Basketball/netball court	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Parking options	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Connectivity of cycleway and paths	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Cycling and footpath	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Off-leash dog area & equipment	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Open space including the quality of grass	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Picnic and barbeque facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Playground	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Public art and sculptures	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Skate bowl	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Sporting field	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Throsby Creek embankment	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Toilet	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Vegetation (tress, shrubs, flower beds)	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Water bubblers	<input type="checkbox"/>					

**Q8. To what extent would you support the following services or features in the future?
Please select one response for each option.**

	Highly support	Support	Neither	Oppose	Highly oppose	Don't know/Not applicable
Advocate with Hunter Water for improved access to Throsby Creek for recreation and education (i.e. boardwalk/jetty)	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Better picnic facilities (additional tables and barbeques)	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Café near existing playground	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Children's bike paths	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Children's water educational feature	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Exercise stations with distance markers for runners	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Formal community events (outdoor cinema, markets, Dog's Day Out, community picnic)	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Improved access across Maitland Road	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Interpretive signage and art promoting Aboriginal history and cultural heritage	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Kayak/canoe launching rails	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Move 0-5 playground near Morgan Street	<input type="checkbox"/>					
New shared paths and extensions to the bike path network	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Open and accessible public toilets	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Plant more native trees, shrubs and flower beds around the park	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Temporary and/or permanent public art exhibition	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Upgrade existing playground in current location for all age groups and abilities	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Upgrade facilities in off-leash dog area	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Wild life habitat zones (eg bird breeding boxes)	<input type="checkbox"/>					

Q9. What do you particularly like about Islington Park that you do not want changed? **Please be as specific as possible. (optional)**

Q10. Please suggest any improvements that could be made to Islington Park in the short-term. **Please be as specific as possible. (optional)**

Q11. Please suggest any improvements that could be made to Islington Park in the long-term. **Please be as specific as possible. (optional)**

Q12. Community working groups were formed around four key priority areas arising from place making workshops held in September and November. Would you be interested in joining one of the Islington Park community working groups? **Select all that apply.**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes, Community Playground
<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes, Community Events
<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes, Environment
<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes, Art & Creative Expression
<input type="checkbox"/>	No, but I would like to be kept informed about Community Playground
<input type="checkbox"/>	No, but I would like to be kept informed about Community Events
<input type="checkbox"/>	No, but I would like to be kept informed about Environment
<input type="checkbox"/>	No, but I would like to be kept informed about Art & Creative Expression
<input type="checkbox"/>	No , not interested (GO TO Q16)

In order to contact you as a member of a community working group or to be kept informed, we need some final information. The information will be kept confidential and will only be used by Council staff and community working group leaders for the purpose of the Islington Park place making projects.

There may be a lag between survey completion and your being contacted. If you wish to speak to someone sooner, please call the Place Making team at 4974 2891 or email placemaking@ncc.nsw.gov.au.

Or, you may wish to contact one of the community groups directly:

Islington – islingtonvillagecg@hotmail.com

Tighes Hill – tigheshill@gmail.com

Maryville – maryvillecg@live.com

Q13. Your name _____

Q14. Your e-mail address _____

Q15. Your preferred daytime phone number _____

Before completing this survey, we would like to ask you a few demographic questions.

Q16. Are you... **Please select one response only. (optional)**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Male	<input type="checkbox"/>	Female
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Q17. What age group are you? **Please select one response only. (optional)**

<input type="checkbox"/>	16-24
<input type="checkbox"/>	25-39
<input type="checkbox"/>	40-54
<input type="checkbox"/>	55-69
<input type="checkbox"/>	70+

Q18. Where do you live? **Please select one response only. (optional)**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Islington, Tighes Hill, Maryville
<input type="checkbox"/>	Suburbs adjacent (Wickham, Hamilton, Hamilton North, Broadmeadow, Mayfield, Mayfield East, Waratah, Georgetown)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Anywhere else in Newcastle
<input type="checkbox"/>	Outside of Newcastle

Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey.



Appendix II – Demographics

General Characteristics of Newcastle Voice Sample

Length of Time Lived in Newcastle, LGA

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Less than a year	51	4.16 %
O2	1 - 3 years	139	11.34 %
O3	4 - 10 years	307	25.04 %
O4	11 - 25 years	302	24.63 %
O5	More than 25 years	427	34.83 %

Gender

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Male	606	48.91 %
O2	Female	633	51.09 %

Age

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	16-24	52	4.20 %
O2	25-39	379	30.59 %
O3	40-54	424	34.22 %
O4	55-69	332	26.80 %
O5	70+	52	4.20 %

Employment Status

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Employed full time	676	56.47 %
O2	Employed part time	232	19.38 %
O3	Looking for work	31	2.59 %
O4	Studying	115	9.61 %
O5	Domestic activities/caring	72	6.02 %
O6	Retired	165	13.78 %
O7	Other [specify]	79	6.60 %
O8	Prefer not to answer	13	1.09 %

Suburb of Residence

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Adamstown	53	4.28 %
O2	Adamstown Heights	35	2.82 %
O3	Bar Beach	33	2.66 %
O4	Beresfield	0	0.00 %
O5	Birmingham Gardens	0	0.00 %
O6	Blackhill/ Lenaghan	0	0.00 %
O7	Broadmeadow	28	2.26 %
O8	Callaghan	0	0.00 %
O9	Carrington	27	2.18 %
O10	Cooks Hill	89	7.18 %
O11	Elermore Vale	0	0.00 %
O12	Fletcher	0	0.00 %
O13	Georgetown	0	0.00 %
O14	Hamilton	71	5.73 %
O15	Hamilton East	12	0.97 %
O16	Hamilton North	9	0.73 %
O17	Hamilton South	48	3.87 %
O18	Hexham	0	0.00 %
O19	Islington	57	4.60 %
O20	Jesmond	0	0.00 %
O21	Kooragang	0	0.00 %
O22	Kotara	0	0.00 %
O23	Lambton	0	0.00 %
O24	Maryland	0	0.00 %
O25	Maryville	52	4.20 %
O26	Mayfield	111	8.96 %
O27	Mayfield East	24	1.94 %
O28	Mayfield West	20	1.61 %
O29	Merewether	194	15.66 %
O30	Merewether Heights	24	1.94 %
O31	Minmi	0	0.00 %

O32	New Lambton	0	0.00 %
O33	New Lambton Heights	0	0.00 %
O34	Newcastle (CBD)	99	7.99 %
O35	Newcastle East	38	3.07 %
O36	Newcastle West	10	0.81 %
O37	North Lambton	0	0.00 %
O38	Rankin Park	0	0.00 %
O39	Sandgate	0	0.00 %
O40	Shortland	0	0.00 %
O41	Stockton	43	3.47 %
O42	Tarro	0	0.00 %
O43	The Hill	52	4.20 %
O44	The Junction	35	2.82 %
O45	Tighes Hill	44	3.55 %
O46	Wallsend	0	0.00 %
O47	Warabrook	11	0.89 %
O48	Waratah	0	0.00 %
O49	Waratah West	0	0.00 %
O50	Wickham	20	1.61 %
O51	I don't live in the Newcastle area.	0	0.00 %

Ward

	PD as % LGA	Survey sample %
Ward 1 (Carrington, Cooks Hill, Islington, Kooragang, Maryville, Mayfield, Mayfield East, Mayfield West, Newcastle (CBD), Newcastle East, Newcastle West, Stockton, The Hill, Tighes Hill, Warabrook, Wickham)	25	56.26
Ward 2 (Adamstown, Adamstown Heights, Bar Beach, Broadmeadow, Hamilton, Hamilton East, Hamilton North, Hamilton South, Merewether, Merewether Heights, The Junction)	25	43.74
Ward 3 (Georgetown, Jesmond, Kotara, Lambton, New Lambton, New Lambton Heights, North Lambton, Waratah, Waratah West)	25	0
Ward 4 (Beresfield, Birmingham Gardens, Blackhill / Lenaghan, Callaghan, Elernmore Vale, Fletcher, Hexham, Maryland, Minmi, Rankin Park, Sandgate, Shortland, Tarro, Wallsend)	25	0

Planning District

	PD as % LGA	Survey sample %
Inner City South	15.8	46.33
Inner City North	8	19.61
Hamilton	18	20.65
Mayfield	10.1	13.40
Lambton	19.5	0
Jesmond	6.2	0
Wallsend	13.5	0
Blue Gum Hills	7.2	0
North West	3.4	0

General Characteristics of Newcastle Voice Respondents

Length of Time Lived in Newcastle, LGA

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Less than a year	13	4.11 %
O2	1 - 3 years	38	12.03 %
O3	4 - 10 years	80	25.32 %
O4	11 - 25 years	69	21.84 %
O5	More than 25 years	116	36.71 %

Gender

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Male	142	44.65 %
O2	Female	176	55.35 %

Age

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	16-24	5	1.57 %
O2	25-39	88	27.67 %
O3	40-54	102	32.08 %
O4	55-69	107	33.65 %
O5	70+	16	5.03 %

Employment Status

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Employed full time	164	52.40 %
O2	Employed part time	54	17.25 %
O3	Looking for work	5	1.60 %
O4	Studying	30	9.58 %
O5	Domestic activities/caring	18	5.75 %
O6	Retired	60	19.17 %
O7	Other [specify]	28	8.95 %
O8	Prefer not to answer	2	0.64 %

Suburb of Residence

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Adamstown	9	2.83 %
O2	Adamstown Heights	5	1.57 %
O3	Bar Beach	5	1.57 %
O4	Beresfield	0	0.00 %
O5	Birmingham Gardens	0	0.00 %
O6	Blackhill/ Lenaghan	0	0.00 %
O7	Broadmeadow	5	1.57 %
O8	Callaghan	0	0.00 %
O9	Carrington	6	1.89 %
O10	Cooks Hill	19	5.97 %
O11	Elernmore Vale	0	0.00 %
O12	Fletcher	0	0.00 %
O13	Georgetown	0	0.00 %
O14	Hamilton	22	6.92 %
O15	Hamilton East	3	0.94 %
O16	Hamilton North	3	0.94 %
O17	Hamilton South	11	3.46 %
O18	Hexham	0	0.00 %
O19	Islington	31	9.75 %
O20	Jesmond	0	0.00 %
O21	Kooragang	0	0.00 %
O22	Kotara	0	0.00 %
O23	Lambton	0	0.00 %
O24	Maryland	0	0.00 %
O25	Maryville	19	5.97 %
O26	Mayfield	33	10.38 %
O27	Mayfield East	8	2.52 %
O28	Mayfield West	3	0.94 %
O29	Merewether	46	14.47 %
O30	Merewether Heights	8	2.52 %
O31	Minmi	0	0.00 %

O32	New Lambton	0	0.00 %
O33	New Lambton Heights	0	0.00 %
O34	Newcastle (CBD)	16	5.03 %
O35	Newcastle East	9	2.83 %
O36	Newcastle West	2	0.63 %
O37	North Lambton	0	0.00 %
O38	Rankin Park	0	0.00 %
O39	Sandgate	0	0.00 %
O40	Shortland	0	0.00 %
O41	Stockton	13	4.09 %
O42	Tarro	0	0.00 %
O43	The Hill	9	2.83 %
O44	The Junction	8	2.52 %
O45	Tighes Hill	17	5.35 %
O46	Wallsend	0	0.00 %
O47	Warabrook	2	0.63 %
O48	Waratah	0	0.00 %
O49	Waratah West	0	0.00 %
O50	Wickham	6	1.89 %
O51	I don't live in the Newcastle area.	0	0.00 %

Ward

	PD as % LGA	Survey respondents %
Ward 1 (Carrington, Cooks Hill, Islington, Kooragang, Maryville, Mayfield, Mayfield East, Mayfield West, Newcastle (CBD), Newcastle East, Newcastle West, Stockton, The Hill, Tighes Hill, Warabrook, Wickham)	25	60.70
Ward 2 (Adamstown, Adamstown Heights, Bar Beach, Broadmeadow, Hamilton, Hamilton East, Hamilton North, Hamilton South, Merewether, Merewether Heights, The Junction)	25	39.30
Ward 3 (Georgetown, Jesmond, Kotara, Lambton, New Lambton, New Lambton Heights, North Lambton, Waratah, Waratah West)	25	0
Ward 4 (Beresfield, Birmingham Gardens, Blackhill / Lenaghan, Callaghan, Elernmore Vale, Fletcher, Hexham, Maryland, Minmi, Rankin Park, Sandgate, Shortland, Tarro, Wallsend)	25	0

Planning District

	PD as % LGA	Survey respondents %
Inner City South	15.8	38.37
Inner City North	8	28.94
Hamilton	18	18.23
Mayfield	10.1	14.47
Lambton	19.5	0
Jesmond	6.2	0
Wallsend	13.5	0
Blue Gum Hills	7.2	0
North West	3.4	0

General Characteristics of Anonymous Respondents

Where live

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Islington, Tighes Hill, Maryville	126	77.30 %
O2	Suburbs adjacent (Wickham, Hamilton, Hamilton North, Broadmeadow, Mayfield, Mayfield East, Waratah, Georgetown)	17	10.43 %
O3	Anywhere else in Newcastle	15	9.20 %
O4	Outside of Newcastle	4	2.45 %

Age

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	16-24	18	11.04 %
O2	25-39	64	39.26 %
O3	40-54	53	32.52 %
O4	55-69	21	12.88 %
O5	70+	5	3.07 %

Genre

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Male	61	37.42 %
O2	Female	100	61.35 %



Appendix III – Topline Report

Q1. When was the last time you visited Islington Park? **Please select one response only.**

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Today	115	23.81 %
O2	Within the last week	96	19.88 %
O3	Within the last month	92	19.05 %
O4	Within the last 6 months	54	11.18 %
O5	Within the last 12 months	21	4.35 %
O6	More than 12 months ago	51	10.56 %
O7	Never	54	11.18 %

Q2. How many people typically visit Islington Park with you? **Please select one response only.**

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	I go alone	86	20.05 %
O2	1-2	217	50.58 %
O3	3-5	108	25.17 %
O4	6+	18	4.20 %

Q3. What is the age group of those typically visiting with you? **Please select all that apply.**

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	birth-15	173	50.44 %
O2	16-24	36	10.50 %
O3	25-39	112	32.65 %
O4	40-54	102	29.74 %
O5	55-69	72	20.99 %
O6	70+	18	5.25 %

Q4. How do you typically travel to Islington Park? **Please select one response only.**

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Car	93	21.68 %
O2	Bus	8	1.86 %
O3	Motorcycle	2	0.47 %
O4	Walk	230	53.61 %
O5	Cycle	89	20.75 %
O6	Other	7	1.63 %

Q5. What activities have you done during previous visits to the park? **Please select all that apply.**

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Barbeque/ Picnic	107	24.94 %
O2	Bike ride	232	54.08 %
O3	Group activity (eg birthday party, children's playgroup)	106	24.71 %
O4	Individual activity (eg read book, sit)	109	25.41 %
O5	Community garden	18	4.20 %
O6	Dog exercise	137	31.93 %
O7	Family outing	141	32.87 %
O8	Community/cultural event (eg Carols by Candlelight, Throsby Long Brunch)	78	18.18 %
O9	Take a short cut - passing through	214	49.88 %
O10	Play an informal sport (eg basketball/netball, frisbee, boules, skating, run, walk)	120	27.97 %
O11	Play an organised sport (eg cricket, soccer)	20	4.66 %
O12	Playground visit	164	38.23 %
O13	Other	47	10.96 %

Q6. Please rate the various aspects related to wellbeing and cleanliness in Islington Park overall. **Please select one response for each.**

aspects_0: Adequate lighting of pathways

QUESTION TOTAL: 429

NO RESPONSE: 0

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Excellent	9	2.10 %
O2	Great	25	5.83 %
O3	Good	86	20.05 %
O4	Fair	101	23.54 %
O5	Poor	62	14.45 %
O6	Don't know/Not applicable	146	34.03 %

aspects_1: Adequate lighting of sporting fields

QUESTION TOTAL: 429

NO RESPONSE: 0

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Excellent	27	6.29 %
O2	Great	43	10.02 %
O3	Good	66	15.38 %
O4	Fair	41	9.56 %
O5	Poor	25	5.83 %
O6	Don't know/Not applicable	227	52.91 %

aspects_2: Adequate shade

QUESTION TOTAL: 429
NO RESPONSE: 0

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Excellent	33	7.69 %
O2	Great	62	14.45 %
O3	Good	146	34.03 %
O4	Fair	103	24.01 %
O5	Poor	71	16.55 %
O6	Don't know/Not applicable	14	3.26 %

aspects_3: Cleanliness/quality of maintenance

QUESTION TOTAL: 429
NO RESPONSE: 0

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Excellent	21	4.90 %
O2	Great	58	13.52 %
O3	Good	177	41.26 %
O4	Fair	138	32.17 %
O5	Poor	21	4.90 %
O6	Don't know/Not applicable	14	3.26 %

aspects_4: Comfort of places to sit

QUESTION TOTAL: 429

NO RESPONSE: 0

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Excellent	7	1.63 %
O2	Great	29	6.76 %
O3	Good	107	24.94 %
O4	Fair	157	36.60 %
O5	Poor	89	20.75 %
O6	Don't know/Not applicable	40	9.32 %

aspects_5: Easy to read & informative signage



QUESTION TOTAL: 429

NO RESPONSE: 0

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Excellent	11	2.56 %
O2	Great	21	4.90 %
O3	Good	101	23.54 %
O4	Fair	123	28.67 %
O5	Poor	76	17.72 %
O6	Don't know/Not applicable	97	22.61 %

aspects_6: Feeling safe after dark

QUESTION TOTAL: 429

NO RESPONSE: 0

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Excellent	3	0.70 %
O2	Great	8	1.86 %
O3	Good	28	6.53 %
O4	Fair	71	16.55 %
O5	Poor	223	51.98 %
O6	Don't know/Not applicable	96	22.38 %

aspects_7: Feeling safe during the daytime

QUESTION TOTAL: 429

NO RESPONSE: 0

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Excellent	64	14.92 %
O2	Great	137	31.93 %
O3	Good	156	36.36 %
O4	Fair	50	11.66 %
O5	Poor	11	2.56 %
O6	Don't know/Not applicable	11	2.56 %

aspects_8: Number of places to sit

QUESTION TOTAL: 429

NO RESPONSE: 0

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Excellent	6	1.40 %
O2	Great	27	6.29 %
O3	Good	86	20.05 %
O4	Fair	163	38.00 %
O5	Poor	103	24.01 %
O6	Don't know/Not applicable	44	10.26 %

aspects_9: Overall attractiveness

QUESTION TOTAL: 429

NO RESPONSE: 0

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Excellent	28	6.53 %
O2	Great	103	24.01 %
O3	Good	177	41.26 %
O4	Fair	99	23.08 %
O5	Poor	16	3.73 %
O6	Don't know/Not applicable	6	1.40 %

Q7. Please rate the current services and features at Islington Park right now. **Please select one response for each.**

current_services_0: Basketball/netball court

QUESTION TOTAL: 429

NO RESPONSE: 0

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Excellent	3	0.70 %
O2	Great	19	4.43 %
O3	Good	82	19.11 %
O4	Fair	73	17.02 %
O5	Poor	31	7.23 %
O6	Don't know/Not applicable	221	51.52 %

current_services_1: Parking options

QUESTION TOTAL: 429

NO RESPONSE: 0

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Excellent	8	1.86 %
O2	Great	26	6.06 %
O3	Good	101	23.54 %
O4	Fair	118	27.51 %
O5	Poor	56	13.05 %
O6	Don't know/Not applicable	120	27.97 %

current_services_2: Connectivity of cycleway and paths

QUESTION TOTAL: 429

NO RESPONSE: 0

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Excellent	20	4.66 %
O2	Great	85	19.81 %
O3	Good	149	34.73 %
O4	Fair	86	20.05 %
O5	Poor	47	10.96 %
O6	Don't know/Not applicable	42	9.79 %

current_services_3: Cycling and footpath

QUESTION TOTAL: 429

NO RESPONSE: 0

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Excellent	39	9.09 %
O2	Great	101	23.54 %
O3	Good	166	38.69 %
O4	Fair	70	16.32 %
O5	Poor	21	4.90 %
O6	Don't know/Not applicable	32	7.46 %

current_services_4: Off-leash dog area & equipment

QUESTION TOTAL: 429
NO RESPONSE: 0

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Excellent	25	5.83 %
O2	Great	59	13.75 %
O3	Good	109	25.41 %
O4	Fair	50	11.66 %
O5	Poor	17	3.96 %
O6	Don't know/Not applicable	169	39.39 %

current_services_5: Open space including the quality of grass

QUESTION TOTAL: 429
NO RESPONSE: 0

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Excellent	39	9.09 %
O2	Great	108	25.17 %
O3	Good	196	45.69 %
O4	Fair	63	14.69 %
O5	Poor	14	3.26 %
O6	Don't know/Not applicable	9	2.10 %

current_services_6: Picnic and barbeque facilities

QUESTION TOTAL: 429

NO RESPONSE: 0

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Excellent	8	1.86 %
O2	Great	12	2.80 %
O3	Good	125	29.14 %
O4	Fair	124	28.90 %
O5	Poor	54	12.59 %
O6	Don't know/Not applicable	106	24.71 %

current_services_7: Playground

QUESTION TOTAL: 429

NO RESPONSE: 0

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Excellent	8	1.86 %
O2	Great	35	8.16 %
O3	Good	137	31.93 %
O4	Fair	112	26.11 %
O5	Poor	49	11.42 %
O6	Don't know/Not applicable	88	20.51 %

current_services_8: Public art and sculptures

QUESTION TOTAL: 429

NO RESPONSE: 0

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Excellent	14	3.26 %
O2	Great	29	6.76 %
O3	Good	71	16.55 %
O4	Fair	108	25.17 %
O5	Poor	122	28.44 %
O6	Don't know/Not applicable	85	19.81 %

current_services_9: Skate bowl

QUESTION TOTAL: 429

NO RESPONSE: 0

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Excellent	5	1.17 %
O2	Great	21	4.90 %
O3	Good	67	15.62 %
O4	Fair	68	15.85 %
O5	Poor	67	15.62 %
O6	Don't know/Not applicable	201	46.85 %

current_services_10: Sporting field

QUESTION TOTAL: 429
NO RESPONSE: 0

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Excellent	12	2.80 %
O2	Great	56	13.05 %
O3	Good	164	38.23 %
O4	Fair	58	13.52 %
O5	Poor	6	1.40 %
O6	Don't know/Not applicable	133	31.00 %

current_services_11: Throsby Creek embankment

QUESTION TOTAL: 429
NO RESPONSE: 0

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Excellent	11	2.56 %
O2	Great	28	6.53 %
O3	Good	135	31.47 %
O4	Fair	122	28.44 %
O5	Poor	95	22.14 %
O6	Don't know/Not applicable	38	8.86 %

current_services_12: Toilet

QUESTION TOTAL: 429

NO RESPONSE: 0

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Excellent	0	0.00 %
O2	Great	2	0.47 %
O3	Good	9	2.10 %
O4	Fair	36	8.39 %
O5	Poor	197	45.92 %
O6	Don't know/Not applicable	185	43.12 %

current_services_13: Vegetation (tress, shrubs, flower beds)

QUESTION TOTAL: 429

NO RESPONSE: 0

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Excellent	28	6.53 %
O2	Great	56	13.05 %
O3	Good	161	37.53 %
O4	Fair	136	31.70 %
O5	Poor	33	7.69 %
O6	Don't know/Not applicable	15	3.50 %

current_services_14: Water bubblers

QUESTION TOTAL: 429

NO RESPONSE: 0

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Excellent	1	0.23 %
O2	Great	13	3.03 %
O3	Good	57	13.29 %
O4	Fair	129	30.07 %
O5	Poor	115	26.81 %
O6	Don't know/Not applicable	114	26.57 %

Q8. To what extent would you support the following services or features in the future?
Please select one response for each option.

future_services_0: Advocate with Hunter Water for improved access to Throsby Creek for recreation and education (i.e. boardwalk/jetty)

QUESTION TOTAL: 429

NO RESPONSE: 0

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Highly support	219	51.05 %
O2	Support	151	35.20 %
O3	Neither	33	7.69 %
O4	Oppose	6	1.40 %
O5	Highly oppose	4	0.93 %
O6	Don't know/Not applicable	16	3.73 %

future_services_1: Better picnic facilities (additional tables and barbeques)

QUESTION TOTAL: 429
NO RESPONSE: 0

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Highly support	196	45.69 %
O2	Support	170	39.63 %
O3	Neither	41	9.56 %
O4	Oppose	3	0.70 %
O5	Highly oppose	0	0.00 %
O6	Don't know/Not applicable	19	4.43 %

future_services_2: Café near existing playground

QUESTION TOTAL: 429
NO RESPONSE: 0

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Highly support	161	37.53 %
O2	Support	150	34.97 %
O3	Neither	59	13.75 %
O4	Oppose	27	6.29 %
O5	Highly oppose	15	3.50 %
O6	Don't know/Not applicable	17	3.96 %

future_services_3: Children's bike paths

QUESTION TOTAL: 429

NO RESPONSE: 0

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Highly support	176	41.03 %
O2	Support	156	36.36 %
O3	Neither	54	12.59 %
O4	Oppose	16	3.73 %
O5	Highly oppose	3	0.70 %
O6	Don't know/Not applicable	24	5.59 %

future_services_4: Children's water educational feature

QUESTION TOTAL: 429

NO RESPONSE: 0

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Highly support	152	35.43 %
O2	Support	175	40.79 %
O3	Neither	63	14.69 %
O4	Oppose	8	1.86 %
O5	Highly oppose	4	0.93 %
O6	Don't know/Not applicable	27	6.29 %

future_services_5: Exercise stations with distance markers for runners

QUESTION TOTAL: 429

NO RESPONSE: 0

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Highly support	108	25.17 %
O2	Support	185	43.12 %
O3	Neither	80	18.65 %
O4	Oppose	19	4.43 %
O5	Highly oppose	5	1.17 %
O6	Don't know/Not applicable	32	7.46 %

future_services_6: Formal community events (outdoor cinema, markets, Dog's Day Out, community picnic)

QUESTION TOTAL: 429

NO RESPONSE: 0

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Highly support	215	50.12 %
O2	Support	161	37.53 %
O3	Neither	33	7.69 %
O4	Oppose	7	1.63 %
O5	Highly oppose	2	0.47 %
O6	Don't know/Not applicable	11	2.56 %

future_services_7: Improved access across Maitland Road

QUESTION TOTAL: 429

NO RESPONSE: 0

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Highly support	187	43.59 %
O2	Support	150	34.97 %
O3	Neither	53	12.35 %
O4	Oppose	13	3.03 %
O5	Highly oppose	5	1.17 %
O6	Don't know/Not applicable	21	4.90 %

future_services_8: Interpretive signage and art promoting Aboriginal history and cultural heritage

QUESTION TOTAL: 429

NO RESPONSE: 0

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Highly support	152	35.43 %
O2	Support	157	36.60 %
O3	Neither	75	17.48 %
O4	Oppose	14	3.26 %
O5	Highly oppose	14	3.26 %
O6	Don't know/Not applicable	17	3.96 %

future_services_9: Kayak/canoe launching rails

QUESTION TOTAL: 429

NO RESPONSE: 0

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Highly support	170	39.63 %
O2	Support	180	41.96 %
O3	Neither	41	9.56 %
O4	Oppose	11	2.56 %
O5	Highly oppose	1	0.23 %
O6	Don't know/Not applicable	26	6.06 %

future_services_10: Move 0-5 playground near Morgan Street

QUESTION TOTAL: 429

NO RESPONSE: 0

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Highly support	33	7.69 %
O2	Support	64	14.92 %
O3	Neither	130	30.30 %
O4	Oppose	44	10.26 %
O5	Highly oppose	23	5.36 %
O6	Don't know/Not applicable	135	31.47 %

future_services_11: New shared paths and extensions to the bike path network

QUESTION TOTAL: 429

NO RESPONSE: 0

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Highly support	231	53.85 %
O2	Support	146	34.03 %
O3	Neither	33	7.69 %
O4	Oppose	2	0.47 %
O5	Highly oppose	1	0.23 %
O6	Don't know/Not applicable	16	3.73 %

future_services_12: Open and accessible public toilets

QUESTION TOTAL: 429

NO RESPONSE: 0

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Highly support	217	50.58 %
O2	Support	160	37.30 %
O3	Neither	27	6.29 %
O4	Oppose	7	1.63 %
O5	Highly oppose	4	0.93 %
O6	Don't know/Not applicable	14	3.26 %

future_services_13: Plant more native trees, shrubs and flower beds around the park

QUESTION TOTAL: 429

NO RESPONSE: 0

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Highly support	227	52.91 %
O2	Support	156	36.36 %
O3	Neither	27	6.29 %
O4	Oppose	5	1.17 %
O5	Highly oppose	2	0.47 %
O6	Don't know/Not applicable	12	2.80 %

future_services_14: Temporary and/or permanent public art exhibition

QUESTION TOTAL: 429

NO RESPONSE: 0

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Highly support	167	38.93 %
O2	Support	160	37.30 %
O3	Neither	64	14.92 %
O4	Oppose	16	3.73 %
O5	Highly oppose	5	1.17 %
O6	Don't know/Not applicable	17	3.96 %

future_services_15: Upgrade existing playground in current location for all age groups and abilities

QUESTION TOTAL: 429
NO RESPONSE: 0

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Highly support	182	42.42 %
O2	Support	162	37.76 %
O3	Neither	45	10.49 %
O4	Oppose	5	1.17 %
O5	Highly oppose	1	0.23 %
O6	Don't know/Not applicable	34	7.93 %

future_services_16: Upgrade facilities in off-leash dog area

QUESTION TOTAL: 429
NO RESPONSE: 0

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Highly support	91	21.21 %
O2	Support	132	30.77 %
O3	Neither	110	25.64 %
O4	Oppose	25	5.83 %
O5	Highly oppose	13	3.03 %
O6	Don't know/Not applicable	58	13.52 %

future_services_17: Wild life habitat zones (eg bird breeding boxes)

QUESTION TOTAL: 429

NO RESPONSE: 0

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Highly support	192	44.76 %
O2	Support	156	36.36 %
O3	Neither	46	10.72 %
O4	Oppose	16	3.73 %
O5	Highly oppose	5	1.17 %
O6	Don't know/Not applicable	14	3.26 %

Q12. Community working groups were formed around four key priority areas arising from place making workshops held in September and November. Would you be interested in joining one of the Islington Park community working groups? **Select all that apply.**

	OPTIONS	TOTAL	PERCENT
O1	Yes, Community Playground	45	10.49 %
O2	Yes, Community Events	56	13.05 %
O3	Yes, Environment	65	15.15 %
O4	Yes, Art & Creative Expression	43	10.02 %
O5	No, but I would like to be kept informed about Community Playground	101	23.54 %
O6	No, but I would like to be kept informed about Community Events	146	34.03 %
O7	No, but I would like to be kept informed about Environment	131	30.54 %
O8	No, but I would like to be kept informed about Art & Creative Expression	131	30.54 %
O9	No , not interested	144	33.57 %



Appendix IV – Open-ended Questions

informal sport
 passing through
 passing through
 passing through

skatepark
 Commute to work on bike
 Drive past or pass it in the bus
 Park to visit traders across the road

Transport_other

travel

cycle
 walk
 cycle
 scooter/skate
 scooter/skate
 scooter/skate
 scooter/skate

travel_6_other

bike
 jog
 ride &walk
 scooter and pram
 skate
 skate
 skate/scoot

Essential Characteristics to Maintain

- subject** **essential_characteristics (n=321)**
- * Love the avenue of fig trees along Maitland Rd. Please ensure these are maintained, and plan for their (long-term) replacement when this is NECESSARY (not preemptively, as proposed for Laman St).
 - * I love the leash free area for dogs at the Tighes Reserve part of the park, but I don't think this should be expanded. Perhaps more seating facilities, but no more dog exercise facilities or area expansion. A program is also needed to make dog owners more aware of their responsibility to clean up after their dogs (too many don't do this, and some are VERY rude or aggressive if it's suggested that they should).
 - * I'd be happy to see the large cricket ground go and replaced with a "village green" space - but I know this wouldn't be popular among the sports lobby.
 - * Keep the amount and scale of built development (including hard stand facilities) to a minimum, though I think it would be an excellent site for a large scale modern children's playground, such as Lake Macquarie has at Speers Point.
 - * More tree planting/seating along the cycleway (as per the Lewis St to Industrial Hwy stretch).
 - * Love the idea of non-motorised boating launch facilities at the park, but Hunter Water will kill that. The management of the waterway should be transferred to NSW Maritime, so it can be properly used and developed as a recreational waterway.
- ambience** * Previously removed large trees (e.g., near the playground/creekbank area) should be replaced with similar large species.
1. Fig trees along Maitland Rd
 2. location of Children's playground
 3. Accessibility and open plan feel
- ambience** 4. Connection with Throsby Creek
1. Green and shady trees
 2. waterway
 3. maintainance of the space through safety audit investigations
 4. links to the foreshore at Hannel street , the crossing is dangerous and difficulty but there is high useage
 5. Community ownership and community instigated events
 - 6 thoroughfare to Hamilton adding value to hamilton eatery and retail /chemists. This is demonstrating the communities lifestyle of walk and ride to the 5 suburbs around via the open space of the via the park
 7. the walk to the throsby creek water way into Honeysuckle
 8. Waratah residents ride to work along Throsby Crk/ islington park; taking up jobs in Newcastle CBD HoneysuckleMany
 9. Novacastrians are connected to the park in that it links the suburbs and provides a vain for outdoor and fresh environment opportunities
- ambience** BASically the positions of everything, like the playground, benches, trees are in easily accessible positions.
- ambience** Beautiful bike and walking paths to enjoy, shady fig trees, vistas over Throsby Creek.
- ambience** Beautiful large shade trees and overall relaxed nature of the park (ie should not be too manicured).

- Because of the location it attracts lots of people from all cultures, age groups etc.
- I particularly like the fact that Throsby Creek runs through it.....Newcastle has so few 'water features' (lakes/ponds/creeks etc.) in our parks (except Blackbutt and Wetlands)...
- Beyond the play equipment, the avenue of trees and the rotunda are lovely. However, we don't use this area at all. I'd love to keep the trees. If you consider the dog park part of Islington Park, then I would also say that the dog park is very large and I love this. I also love that the park is accessible by bike.
- Big open area close to the city that COULD be developed. Lovely trees there as the basis plus sporting oval plus bike access plus Throsby Creek could be made more of a feature.
- big, green, flowing water, urban, an access rout
- casual space, no cafes or commercial ventures
- Clean and has all I need
- Close to home, size of park, big old fig trees, throsby creek
- I love how big it is - and the potential that brings
- I love the beautiful trees and open park land and enjoy seeing the birds fishing, love the look it is a special place.
- I love the community feel about the place and don't want big commercial activities in the park.
- I love the concrete couch/ lounge sculpture
- cycleway connectivity
- I love the fig trees along Maitland Road. We have had some great kids birthday parties at the playground. The kids love walking over the bridge and watching leaves float down the creek and pelican spotting. We have also spent many afternoon at the off the leach dog park and trained the dog to use all the agility equipment. We frequently ride through the park on the way to the foreshore or Carrington.
- I love the mix of open space and gardens, especially the native plants. I really value the respite that Islington park offers and as such would like to see this public space remain free from commercial ventures such as cafes.
- I love the openness of the park, the beautiful big trees that give brilliant shade. It has a relaxing feel for a park that is situated in the heart of a city...love it...
- I love the shade, the fig trees and the general ambience of the park. I would not like to the peaceful ambience to change except if it meant more access to young people enjoying the natural advantages of the park, or a more all age playground for 8-14 year-olds.
- I love the trees, and the fact that there are facilities that people actually use.
- I really kike the Figs
- Also I really like its slightly old fashioned look.
- It is really important as a cycleway link in Newcastle.
- i really like the fig trees on maitland road,the cycle way and the mangroves.
- I would not like to see additional trees in Islington Park restrict vision from roads and keys areas within the Park. I feel the Park needs to have an open feel and provide a safe environment for everyone to use.
- I would not like to see too much development as the park itself is a natural area. It reminds me of St James Park in London and I think too much upgrade would take that naturalfeel away from it.
- Integration of park and Creek. Lovely trees. Bike paths

integration with surrounding community,
 high level of permeability from a variety of access points.
 Existing bike paths
 Open space
 use by wide range of groups

ambience
 Islington park is an extension of the 'back-yard' philosophy for many residents. I would hate to see it become "just another park" which looks and feels the same as a generic park in another area. It needs communal meeting places and a playground which support the "back-yard" idea.

The cafe would have to be an extension of this. It needs to be very small and different to other cafes. I would hate to see it become a Shopping precinct instead of a park.

ambience
 I like that the park supports lots of different groups of people and think this should continue.

Islington Parks' iconic fig trees are magnificent and need to stay.

The cycleways and footpaths not only need to stay but could do with widening with the current traffic (both walking and cycling) - the original width seems to have been selected because the engineers didn't believe that anyone would actually use it.

The children's playground and skate bowl should stay but also be upgraded. There are some fantastic examples of these in King's Park in Perth. The adventure playground idea is enjoyed by all ages.

The dog leash-free area is a wonderful get together place for dog owners and their dogs. Some more poop bins (maybe nearish to the gathering points) may encourage more people to dispose of their dogs' waste sensibly.

ambience
 The flower garden is small but lovely and adds colour and calm to that area of the park.

ambience
 it is accessible to a wide range of people and well cared for

ambience
 It is used by a diverse range of people. It's a lovely park with beautiful trees - a calm oasis in a busy suburb. I love the creek, the jumping mullet and the pelicans.

ambience
 It's a friendly community based place to be. People say hello as they pass.

ambience
 It's a great location by the water and it's fun to cycle along the bank.

ambience
 It's a GREAT park Please maintain

ambience
 it's a lovely large space, unique in the city. I wouldn't want the park to be encroached by homes or businesses or roads

ambience
 It's accessibility in that everyone can use it at no cost.

ambience
 The canopy of old figs along Maitland road are a real feature. The park has a really inclusive feel to it with facilities for all ages and dog lovers too.
 The grand old figs along Maitland Road!

I also like the fact that the whole area actually feels informal, it's more like a big back yard rather than a park.
 I feel strongly that any plans to modify the area should try to preserve the informal nature of the place.
 I noticed that this survey asked questions about signage, public art and sporting access to Throsby creek. I feel that the signage should be kept to a minimum as too much signage is visual pollution and will take away from the casual feel of the place.

ambience
 I also feel that the creek area should be protected as an inner city aquatic habitat. By

protected I don't mean a ban on people using Throsby creek itself , but I don't think usage should be encouraged.

I am worried that many of these surveys seem to imply that a place has to be in constant use by someone to be valuable and if it can't be made attractive to as many users as possible then that space fails its function.

Open space is important whether it's in constant use or not. Places like Islington Park are the lungs of the city.

ambience Any changes should be the bare minimum needed, such as public toilets.
 The lovely big fig trees and the creek running through it give it a lovely vista.
 The mature trees especially the Moreton Bay figs, the Hill's figs and the camphor laurels.
 I like the cleanliness of the park.
 I like the birdlife that I see there.
 I like the skate park and the playground and the fact that local children and teenagers use the park.
 Love the water.
 Like the bridge across the water.
 Like the bike park/walkway that passes through the park.
 I like what public art there is - but I'm only aware of the seat on the walkway along Throsby Creek.

ambience The absence of food vending (apart from the soup kitchen). Any cafe proposal has to take into account litter and sustainability so should not have take throw-away utensils and packaging.

ambience The natural beauty encompassing Throsby Creek
 ambience Existing trees. Open spaces. No overdeveloped with plastic playgrounds
 ambience feels like a neighbourhood park

ambience General character. Council done much good work in recent years to make it attractive and interesting. Especially important that grand fig trees be retained and well cared for.

ambience General layout and trees. Easy access for walkers and cyclists.
 ambience good basic close area for kids to play
 ambience Good size and variety of spaces

ambience I believe that the value of the open space and the beautiful trees should not be undervalued

ambience I have lived at Stockton for approx 7 years and visited Islington park only once. Due to its location close to Institute of technology , predominately residential zone and access to waterway I would support its use for passive and active recreational actiities. However due to the surrounding delapidated retail/ commercial buildings and bad reputation "after dark" could lead to vandalism and crime to structures and facilities which comes at a high cost which rate payers would foot the bill.

ambience I like Islington Park as it is but it would be nice to improve it.

ambience I like the creek and the walk way around it the best. I also like the open spaces and those graceful fig trees that line the street.

ambience I LIKE THE eNGLISH COUNTRY GREEN ATMOSPHERE WHICH SHOULD REMAIN.

I like the fact that it is a bit shabby and has a bad reputation so it is not over run by people. So I am torn about asking for new or improved facilities, as I am not keen for an influx of people.

ambience Also, I find the Islington Action Group to be a divisive and evil force with ulterior motives and I do not want them to be given anymore more power than any single citizen in this development process.
The non structured aspect that allows a free and easy do your own thing should not change.

ambience The fig trees are very important

ambience the size of the park and the fig trees and all the green space makes it feel like an oasis. It is a beautiful feeling to take the kids for a walk along the creek and having a vista while running is awesome. I like that it is like a central area for people in the surrounding suburbs to enjoy and it is a lovely contrast when driving along maitland road compared to the spartan shops on the opposite side.

used by a wide range of the community - kids, families, events AND the soup kitchen - nice to see homeless / poor people being able to use the space in a good way - great interaction between different groups in the community.

The sports are good - any organised sport or active and participatory activity is good. Nice to have the lights to enable this activity during the night.

The playground is well used, and should be improved or expanded. Dog park similar. The bike path to town is great - should also be expanded / upgraded.

more community events - the carols and long lunches are great.

ambience the bbq's are great - very well used. should be maintained / upgraded. Could do with some more shade.
1) The quality of the mowing service as it is kept in good condition through-out the year.
2) Good to keep some open grass areas (apart from the oval)for children to run around in, although some of the current grass areas could be used for other uses without detracting form openness (ie. there is more than dequate grass ares at the moment)
3) The range of ages catered for in the activities present (eg. skating to sports fields to childrens playground..)

ambience Its position. It could be developed into a delightful relaxing (serious) Botanical Garden. Maybe the University could be involved it is development and planting, how instructive and educational it could be, as well as a place to visit and spend time.

ambience Thank you.

ambience It's size and access to everyone and the amount of trees and landscaping.

ambience Large old trees, open, well cared for space, bike paths
Links to other places - eg pathway along the Creek to Linwood.

ambience Large area of open space in inner city - the lungs of the city, don't over develop it, but there is definite room for improvement to playground and other amenities.

ambience Love the fig trees. Unique feature of the park and makes it very attractive.

ambience Love the open spaces and vistas across Throsby between the trees. Do not support flower beds and shubbery - Islington is not really that sort of park. Upgrade the playground, BBQ and shelter, plus an accessible toilet - that is all that is needed. That sort of infrastructure would then support all kinds of events in the area.
 ambience Natural looking with water views
 Not too formally organised.

ambience Don't over organise it
 ambience Open access, size and trees
 ambience OPENESS AND TREES.

ambience Overall, Islington Park is a lovely, relaxed urban park. I'd love it to keep this laid-back vibe and not see too many physical changes made (e.g. upgrade facilities but don't move play equipment or change paths).
 ambience Park looks great, lighting at night is fantastic. Fig trees help to create a relaxed atmosphere.
 ambience Size and general accessibility.
 ambience That it is a suburban park for community use. I like its informal spaces - and that it's not built up and controlled and commercial.

ambience I like the trees and mulch beds. I like the mangroves reestablishing in the creek. I like the fig trees.
 that it is not TOO developed or crowded..
 the playground,
 the mangroves,
 the moreton bay figs,
 the art along the walkway
 the pedestrian bridge
 ambience The art works along the creek the beautiful natural scenery
 ambience The atmosphere
 ambience accesibility

ambience avenue of fig trees
 ambience sports field
 ambience kids playground
 dog exercise area
 native tree areas
 barbeque & picnic area
 views of the creek
 ambience kooky uncomfortable concrete lounge artwork
 ambience Close to our home
 ambience Closeness to town

I like the sculptural work around the water.
 I like that there is a skate park
 I like the openness of the area and the water view.

ambience I love that there is now a small community garden.
 I like the trees (fig trees!!!) which I do hope Council will not think of removing for safety/liability issues in the near future as is their intention in Laman Street.

ambience

Park is well landscaped. Walkway from Honeysuckle could be improved and maintained. Public art along the canal was fun to come across, however needs to be maintained due to graffiti, weeding etc

As I do not live in the area I have never had cause to spend time in the park (apart from when we walked through).

Park always looks attractive and appealing when driving into and out of Newcastle along Maitland Road. Gives the impression that Newcastle is a tree-friendly place. It is relatively un-cluttered and has spots that provide solitude in the urban environment.

The ability to ride through the park is great.

ambience

The playground is excellent and in a good spot although parking is tricky. The concrete lounge chair, which is both art and comfortable seating.

Community gardens, but we need room for expansion so that many more people would be involved. The space at the end of Phoebe St looks like a likely place.

The off leash dog area - although I don't use it, so I can't comment on facilities there.

The cycle/walkway along the creek.

ambience

The giant fig trees. I would like to see more planting in the same vicinity to replace them when they inevitably die. Giant trees are so rare in our environment, and we need them just as much as any other. There are not enough places where we can plant and appreciate them without going to a botanic garden.

ambience

The Creek and the Fig Trees and the fact that the Bowling club was demolished when it was not viable and the land returned to the Park.

ambience

the open space, large trees and wildness of the place

ambience

The park has a good feel, with lots of open space and things available, and connection to the waterway

ambience

The people I meet here

ambience

The size and flow of the park

ambience

There is no particular feature. It is a pleasant park but could benefit from upgrades.

ambience

This is the most beautiful park in the Newcastle area in my mind but the obvious danger of drug users and prostitutes in the area have traditionally made it off limits to most people, such a shame. Would be great to have more activity there and ban the working ladies from the area, I'm sure the residents would be delighted. Good lighting and police presence would be good. I also understand there is some sort of drug treatment place not far away, maybe that could be moved to a less isolated location. Parking areas could look safer and be well lit and the whole place made more available for young families, bikers and walkers, joggers and people accessing the creek for boats

ambience

Throsby Creek and the bridge across the creek, the fig trees and all the trees, bike path, art/sculpture.

ambience

Trees along main road, cycleway, mangroves, placement of playground

ambience

trees, pathways, art

ambience

The large trees, the paths, the playground

Wonderful border of trees along Maitland Road, provides clear delineation of park, visually and sound deadening.

ambience	Tranquility of park when cycling through, or stopping for a water break. fig trees shared cycleway sports field
cycleway	community garden
cycleway	Fig trees
cycleway	Tram bridge
cycleway	Willow trees
cycleway	Good bike paths - can take the whole family. BBQ, playground etc.
cycleway	Figtree avenue adjacent to Maitland road. Cycleway, large grassed areas. I like the bike path along the edge of Throsby Creek and the fact that it connects to the creek along the Hunter River into Newcastle.
cycleway	I love the beautiful big shade trees along the edge of Maitland Road. I like that the off leash dog area is separated from the main park by Throsby Creek.
cycleway	i like the bike paths and lots of open space.
cycleway	As I enjoy cycling through Islington Park I would not like that to be negatively affected by other changes
cycleway	Being able to cycle around the water edge
cycleway	bike paths connecting to foreshore bike path
cycleway	bike paths
cycleway	trees
cycleway	kids playground
cycleway	bike paths, children playground
cycleway	Cycle way
cycleway	Cycle ways/footpaths, sculptures(could be increased, not remove existing ones)connection with Throsby creek ie existence of mangroves & other natural veg
cycleway	Cycleway along side Throsby creek
cycleway	cycling and walking paths
cycleway	I love the bikeway.
cycleway	The bike track along Thorsby Creek, the fig trees and the large size of the green space for many community uses.
cycleway	The cycle way
cycleway	The lights along the path. They look beautiful when riding home at night. They reflect well off the water.
cycleway	Also the big trees. The line of Port Jackson/Moreton bay figs along Maitland Rd.
cycleway	Pedestrian path along Throsby Creek.
cycleway	Public art along above pedestrian park.

	The location of playground, mozzies worse near morgan st. Bike paths, love connectivity with city.
cycleway	Open space areas
cycleway	The Lovely ride along the river, with sculptures, trees and bushes. Which could be improved so that it is continuous from Islington around TAFE and to the University.
cycleway	keep/improve cycle way
	Like dog park facilities.
cycleway	Like cycle/walking path connecting to Wickham and Newcastle City.
cycleway	Love walking around this park, both side of creek walkway/cycleway should be priority
	make better paths for bikes and not use black tar its cheap and looks bad i would prefer gravel over tar
	link islington park to a cycle way to the university.
cycleway	The cycle way to maitland road from the city is fair but after Islington park where do the cyclists go?
cycleway	Mangrove vegetation; creek side walking , existing shade, sculptures, bridges
cycleway	Quality of paths are a good standard, wide enough to be cycle/pedestrian friendly.
cycleway	bike paths, dog walking
	I like the large trees that are alongside the footpath and the main road.
cycleway	I like the bike path and the footbridge across Throsby Creek. These features I would like to see retained and maintained.
cycleway	I like the shade trees and the cyclepath.
cycleway	the connection via bicycle along creek; the sculpture
cycleway	The path around the Creek
cycleway	The pathway and lighting that follow Throsby Creek from Maitland Road, Islington to Hannell Street, Wickham.
cycleway	The trees to look at and the shade they provide when you are cycling is lovely and if I walk or cycle through the park it is nice watching the dogs. I particularly like the area with the gazebo and benches and the sculptures along the cycle path.
cycleway	There is not much to like about it. I ride my bike through there occasionally, but the park really doesn't have alot going for it. Its a pretty boring park, sorry to say.
cycleway	Very little! Existing bike and foothpaths are very good. Vegetation is improving with recently planted fig trees but they will clearly take some time to add significantly to the amenity of the park.
cycleway	walkway and cycle pth
cycleway	we need to get a new bridge across throsby its a hazard for young children
dog facilities	Excellent dog exercising area.
	I like all the trees but more shade would be better.
dog facilities	Keep the leash free area for dogs.
dog facilities	i like that this is a place especially for dogs. i want it to stay that way and thus oppose making it a more child friendly environment.
dog facilities	dog off leash area. I use it every day and love it
dog facilities	dog park. bike paths
dog facilities	dog park. Throsby Creek walk path
dog facilities	Dog walking/exercise leash free area.
dog facilities	dogleash area

I particularly like the leash free dog zone that has a fantastic community feel to it and a strong following.

I like the open feel of the park land near tidal river water and especially the fig trees that give the park and the Islington region a distinctive character and appeal to locals and visitors of the area.

The trees and grassy park softens the urban and industrial landscape. It has the strong potential to showcase a positive use of shared community space with good and sensible integrated land usage.

Islington Parks' iconic fig trees are magnificent and need to stay.

The cycleways and footpaths not only need to stay but could do with widening with the current traffic (both walking and cycling) - the original width seems to have been selected because the engineers didn't believe that anyone would actually use it.

The children's playground and skate bowl should stay but also be upgraded. There are some fantastic examples of these in King's Park in Perth. The adventure playground idea is enjoyed by all ages.

The dog leash-free area is a wonderful get together place for dog owners and their dogs. Some more poop bins (maybe nearish to the gathering points) may encourage more people to dispose of their dogs' waste sensibly.

The flower garden is small but lovely and adds colour and calm to that area of the park.

The canopy of old figs along Maitland road are a real feature. The park has a really inclusive feel to it with facilities for all ages and dog lovers too.

the dog park

The Leash free area and the walking path connectivity to Hannell Street

keep off leash dog park

Leashfree area, fig trees

Like dog park facilities.

Like cycle/walking path connecting to Wickham and Newcastle City.

Love the dog off lead area.

Love the off leash area - it must remain - it is not only important for dogs but for the people in the community - large groups of people regularly meet and build up a community spirit - get to know neighbours. We moved from Sydney and the dog park was where we met many people who are still our friends and helped us get established in the area - ESSENTIAL DO NOT EVEN THINK ABOUT GETTING RID OF IT.

off leash dog area is a very important aspect of the park

off leash dog area. It incorporates lots of age groups different lifestyles - including sporting and recreational facilities, walking and resting zones.

Off leash dog park

off leash; big trees for shade

dog facilities

dog facilities

dog facilities
dog facilities
dog facilities
dog facilities
dog facilities

dog facilities
dog facilities

dog facilities
dog facilities

dog facilities
dog facilities
dog facilities

- The avenue of Moreton Bay fig trees (preserve for as long as possible).
- No reduction in passive recreation infrastructure or facilities. Keep formal sport constrained within its current areas (or - better still - open these up more to other activities).
- No further expansion of dog park (I love it, but it's enough).
- No commercialisation of the public space (e.g., no permanent cafe building or service).
- dog facilities No reduction in vegetation (including mangroves).
The issue re dogs off-leash area is laughable as people just let their dogs run off-leash everywhere. My daughter (4) is afraid of dogs and finds this confronting. Council should start to control dog use - when I have asked dog owners to put their dogs on a leash/control them I get abused.
- dog facilities I like the picnic/barbie area and the playground.
- dog facilities the off leash area
- dog facilities The off the leash dog area and the full enclosed fence around the oval
- dog facilities Trees, off dog leash area, pathways
fig trees
- shared cycleway
- sports field
- facilities community garden
- facilities Basketball court and skate bowl
- facilities bbq and playground
- facilities childrens play equipment and bbqs
- facilities I really appreciate the green spaces & shade under the tress. I would like to see better conectivity for pedesrains & cyclists & better access through Maitland Road. I would also like to see more seating & picnic tables & areas & more sgaded spots as well as amenities such as c;ean & accesibletoilets, environmental & water info & activities centre with cafe attache.
- facilities I want to see a childrens educational type cycle area adjoining the existing cycle way. I envisage this would take the shape of a mini road system with stop signs and intersections, etc. This facility would help enable parents to teach their kids about road rules and safe riding.
Its multi purpose nature, skate park, ball sports, play ground and formal oval.
Its increasing use as a family area.
- facilities The figs
- facilities Keep the figs and sporting fields. Retain/improve the open space /lawns as future growth will increases Islington's density making them even more valuable as public amenity.
- facilities The mix of available options for activities
- facilities Kids love the place. Varied facilities for all ages.

facilities Love the barbecue area and facilities. A toilet would be fantastic. More community events especially in the evening would be excellent such as open air cinema. I love the trees. Also extending bike path access into Mayfield area over rail bridge - it is very very dangerous for children who travel between Mayfield and Islington to use the park. Perhaps even cutting back the shrubbery that leans over the bike path in front of the TAFE car park to start with. I think a cafe is unnecessary and could be quite ugly in the natural park like environment. Specially as it is already so close to local cafes on Beaumont Street. The basketball court also needs some improvement.

facilities sporting field

facilities the skateboard area

facilities the sporting field and basketball hoop

The very big fig trees. There are so few big trees in our environment, I'd like to know that the fig trees will remain, and will be replaced as they get too old.

The bike path/walkway, especially where the lemon scented gums are at HVRF. Wish there were more of these beautiful trees in the park.

facilities The sculptured lounge chair. It is comfortable and attractive. I really appreciate sculpture that serves a purpose. Too often, it is just an expression of one person's ideas and doesn't always appeal to others. Nature provides the most beautiful vistas, so art works in the park should enhance the natural beauty, not detract from it - or not be there at all.

open space dont make it smaller

I love it's shade, the way it makes you not feel like you are in the city. It has ample space for multiple activities.

open space It is nice & open and not over crowded

open space Its feeling of openness.

open space It's openness and lack of commercialism

open space Its openness and cleanliness in the most part.

open space The broad open spaces and the bike/walking paths

open space the feeling of open space

open space The feeling of open space and accessibility from surrounding streets.

open space the friendly expanse. Room to move- privacy and open spaces

open space The grassed areas

The location of playground, mozzies worse near morgan st. Bike paths, love connectivity with city.

open space Open space areas

open space Open public space

open space Open space

open space open space

open space open space and bike access

open space Open Space available to the public No council parking charges

open space Open space, clean water, big trees

open space Open space, trees. Unpretentious

open space Open spaces

open space Open spaces, fig trees, trees

open space Open spaces, Trees left there, Small garden opposite the Tafe, maybe that could be extended.

open space Openness

openness and number of trees - change would be to increase amount of trees and plants

open space non commercial feel of it

open space Plenty of open spaces

open space Sense of openness, the big fig trees (?) along Maitland Road

open space space

open space space and friendliness

open space I like the sense of open space.

open space I like the sense of open space. Too many trees can crowd activities out - with the space available I often see teenagers playing footy/soccer/cricket in various parts of the park.

open space The open area and the closeness of the playground to the picnic area, allowing adults to supervise the children from teh picnic area.

open space Also the walkways and bikeway along Throsby Creek.

open space the open areas

open space The open space and the beautiful figs.

open space The open space. I wish they had not cut down the lovely old climbing tree near the playground

open space The open space, the sports fields

open space the open spaces

open space The open spaces.

open space the openness of the park

open space the size a big area with plenty of potential

open space The size. Do not take any of it away for other purpose except public space and recreation.

open space the space

open space the space and area that is available

open space there is no parking in the park itself. this should be maintained. don't sacrifice park for car park - car parking could be created at bottom of Union st.

open space wide open space, very casual

open space First, thankyou for leaving some ended Qs in this survey. I hate it when they don't do that!

Playground in the middle of the park - As the playground went in before the bike path it is now located at a squeeze point. Whilst this might not be ideal, it is relevant to co-locate the bbq with pthe playground and this creates a central activity hub. This is healthy community where people know one another. You wave to people at the playground as you ride by on your bike, jog or walk the dog (as I do). Busy means well-observed and safe. For such a large scale attractive park I can well understand people wanting to expand the playground to achieve better utilisation.

I think this could be done as a slightly seperated area for different age groups without relocating the existing playground. Its good to slightly seperate equipment for different ages. Conflict with the bike path can be managed with a fence (at the squeeze point only & make sure you comply with Ausroads and offset 500-1m from the bike path.

Kiddies bike path? One just went in at Speers Pt. Review it to see whether its value for money.

playground

I like the space between the oval and the eastern properties. Don't fill it up with anything. Open flat areas are a facility in themselves.

I have a dog. He must give other dogs the finger (in dog language) as they reliably go him, especially big ones. As such I can't use the dog park. It would be great to have fenced divided spaces in dog parks for little dogs and big dogs. Just a little under the trees near the dog exercise area would be ideal, signed with a code of conduct.

Whilst not probably legal, lots of people (descreetly) use the oval and the adjoining open space, I think for this reason. Please let it be. It may sound melodramatic but quality of life declines when your dog is unhappy.

Having said that, the dog park is well used by others. Its a social Mecca. Its a great facility away from traffic, with good amenity. A few low 'table-seats' around the perimeter and a few grouped together would be great.

I'm hoping someone will open a dog cafe, particularly now the state gov have forced rule changes on local government with over-zealous health inspectors. Opportunities for appropriate zonings around the park and

I support use of the space by cricketers - dual use is great, however if you did the numbers on use by dog owners, it would be overwhelmingly in their favour. Fencing an area may help when conflicts in use arise.

Loop routes along the creek - I jog and walk the dog pretty much daily. I either do a loop over William St bridge up one side of the creek either to Hannell St or to the pedestrian bridge and back down the other side.

Dumpy section between Hannell St and William St on the north side of the creek - I know theres some pressure to formalise this with a concrete shared path, but I think to expend money on this irresponsible. We have a cycle path. I want better cycle facilities elsewhere in Newcastle.

Its also great to let my unruly dog off lead for a short run where theres no bikes & other dogs to worry about for 5 minutes.

Sure, tidy it up a little - bring in some gravel to cover the trip hazards, get rid of the weeds(lobby adjoining property owners for this eg. EA, BOC) plant some good riparian species and encourage adjoining property owners to plant some small shade trees within their boundary (won't work for maintenance access otherwise). But thats all it needs.

The EA site as a vacant lot - I know it can't last but its a great while it does.

Sculptures - they're great. They're off-beat style is consistent with the community feel. These things make people want to move to this area.

Bike path - How fantastic it is to be able to ride along the foreshore right in to Nobbys. We love it. We use it.

Crappy lighting along the path - I know its gets request for better lighting but I'm not sure that it would make me feel safe in the park at night. The night-time activity along Islington Road combined with poor surveillance within the park, is source for feeling unsafe at night. Better lighting wouldn't address this and I quite like the crap lighting standards in Newcastle and Lake Macquarie - its energy efficient.

Maitland Road crossings - There's two sets of lights and good paths leading to each. What more do we need? Whereas Industrial Drive is a different story - don't waste money on Maitland Rd crossings.

Toilet - Hmm. Well people need them but making it safe is a challenge with Maitland Rd activity. Perhaps just letting the sporting clubs open and close for their use is the way to go. I'm open-minded on this one.

Maitland Rd 'activity' - I like it. If I wanted a sterile environment, I'd live somewhere else. Houses prices are going up and the area is on the cusp of gentrification. I hate to see it tip over into boring. It will lose its appeal and character.

Figs - I tell my visitors from Sydney to turn right after the park with the Figs. This says it all to me. Thank you Council for thinking to plant some replacement figs earlier rather than later. We love trees but they have a span in an urban environment. We just need to manage the transition process sensibly.

Mangroves along the creekline - More mangroves and saltmarsh. Less wire gabions and concrete wall please.

The creek - Throsby Waters as the R/Es call it. Who doesn't like water, even its smelly water when the tide is low.

Shade tree planting around the oval - The community did a nice job with this. Its coming along well.

- playground The slope up to Maitland Road - It creates a natural barrier to the busy road.
- playground location of playground
- playground Move the playground - that is a RIDICULOUS SUGGESTION. It should be in a central location.
- playground OPen plan of the playground. No big fences please. Vegetaion barriers instead please.
- playground Diversity of uses and groups who feel welcome.
- playground Retain the large trees, especially figs.
- playground playground location
- playground Playground, trees
- playground Proximity of play equipment to throsby creek footbridge...close to creek breeze better for mozzie's and nature observation by children.
- playground Removal of the fig trees.
- playground Location of the playground.
- playground swings

Islington Parks' iconic fig trees are magnificent and need to stay.

The cycleways and footpaths not only need to stay but could do with widening with the current traffic (both walking and cycling) - the original width seems to have been selected because the engineers didn't believe that anyone would actually use it.

The children's playground and skate bowl should stay but also be upgraded. There are some fantastic examples of these in King's Park in Perth. The adventure playground idea is enjoyed by all ages.

The dog leash-free area is a wonderful get together place for dog owners and their dogs. Some more poop bins (maybe nearish to the gathering points) may encourage more people to dispose of their dogs' waste sensibly.

playground The flower garden is small but lovely and adds colour and calm to that area of the park.

playground playground The childrens park is great even if it does need some improvement. The bit I like most is the three dimensional nature of the small mound and sand stone cause way. My kids and all the others really enjoy running around these and up and down the hill playing "chases". Be nice to keep the trhee dimensional nature of the park in this way. the cleanliness and upkeeping of the play equipment don't want kid's playground to get any smaller. Shaded area near BBQ - leave the trees there. Do not want a cafe - spoil the low key non-money0making family area (only place we don't take money

playground playground playground)
Want to keep a playground, bike track to city and open space.
Where the playground is!

unknown I haven't been at Islington Park enough to comment

unknown More safety

unknown Not a big user and not a local so it doesn't really fall to me to decide.

unknown Note - I just moved into the area from Sydney.

unknown Nothing!

unknown Only used in once so no comment

unknown all needs improvmnt

vegetation Existing trees, bike/walking paths.

vegetation Exixting large fig trees

vegetation Fig trees

vegetation fig trees

vegetation fig trees

shared cycleway

sports field

vegetation community garden
fig trees

vegetation sporting oval
fig trees

vegetation sporting oval should stay

should stay same size

Fig trees
Tram bridge
Willow trees

vegetation Fig trees. Do not cut down.

vegetation Figtree avenue adjacent to Maitland road. Cycleway, large grassed areas.

vegetation Grand Avenue of Fig Trees along Maitland Rd.

vegetation I like all the trees but more shade would be better.

vegetation Keep the leash free area for dogs.

vegetation I like the existance of large native trees

vegetation i like the fig trees in islington park---cool and shady--i also like the the shared bike /

vegetation walk path along throsby creek

vegetation keep the stand of trees along maitland rd

vegetation keep the trees

vegetation Keep the trees along Maitland road

vegetation Large grassed oval for sports and recreation shade trees

vegetation Large open grass areas with nice gardens and trees.

vegetation Large shade trees

vegetation Large shady fig trees

vegetation large trees

vegetation Large trees. Lots of open space.

vegetation layout and care of flower beds and arbours

vegetation Leave the figs alone

vegetation Love the big trees and the open space.

vegetation love the fig trees

vegetation Love the fig trees and open spaces

vegetation Love the fig trees and the path along the water's edge.

vegetation Love the fig trees. Unique feature of the park and makes it very attractive.

vegetation love the old figs and the size of the park

vegetation Maintenance of existing Hills Figs and extent of open space

vegetation Mangrove vegetation; creek side walking , existing shade, sculptures, bridges

vegetation Moreton Bay figs

vegetation Nice fig trees.

vegetation Open grassed areas.

vegetation Open green space

Overwhelmingly the community are AGAINST the fig trees planted along the embankment of the off leash dog park and we want to keep the willows. These willows provide shade in the summer and being deciduous, allow for plenty of sunshine in the park during winter. If council are determined to get rid of the willows we would ask that deciduous trees be planted instead of these figs.

The open space of the whole of Islington Park should also be maintained. This allows for plenty of activities as well as providing that all important sense of open space that people enjoy.

Removal of the fig trees.

Location of the playground.

Shade trees along Maitland Road

Dog leash free area

vegetation Shade trees open areas
vegetation Stop cutting down trees, protect existing figs.
vegetation the amazing fig trees! the water and wildlife

The avenue of Moreton Bay fig trees (preserve for as long as possible).

No reduction in passive recreation infrastructure or facilities. Keep formal sport constrained within its current areas (or - better still - open these up more to other activities).

No further expansion of dog park (I love it, but it's enough).

No commercialisation of the public space (e.g., no permanent cafe building or service).

vegetation No reduction in vegetation (including mangroves).
The beautiful big shady trees.

vegetation That it's walking distance for those living in Tighes Hill, Maryville and Islington.
vegetation The beautiful Morton Bay Fig Trees
The beautiful trees which provide a lot of shady areas. The walking & cycling paths.

vegetation Sufficient tables & chairs, plus other seats, for relaxation.
vegetation All the open space and big beautiful trees

As I have answered in previous comments I have not been to Islington Park since my days on Newcastle City Council. I certainly like the look of the park as I drive by or look at it from a bus. I really like the trees, so please leave the trees there.

Incidentally, my husband is with Newcastle Voice and he has never been to Islington Park, so he will not complete his survey.

He does like parks and as we live in Newcastle East we do have lovely parks where we visit and spend lots of time in.

vegetation Big Trees
vegetation i love the figs - keep the figs.
vegetation I love the openness and I love the fig trees.
vegetation I love the row of big trees along Maitland Road and the walking track.

vegetation the big fig trees along maitland road and big eucalyptus throughout park; the creek
vegetation and open access and foot bridge; art work, live endsculptures and big sofa
the big trees, the walk bridge,

vegetation The bike track along Thorsby Creek, the fig trees and the large size of the green
space for many community uses.

vegetation The canopy of old figs along Maitland road are a real feature. The park has a really
vegetation inclusive feel to it with facilities for all ages and dog lovers too.
the existing trees

vegetation The fig tree line, open green vista, to be kept, dont over kill with tree cover, try not
vegetation to lay down more tar/concrete, keep it simple, keep buildings out of sight.
The Fig trees

vegetation The fig trees along Maitland Road, the mangroves and vegetation on the edge of the
creek, the paper bark trees near the picnic shelters, the sports field

vegetation the fig trees and existing vegetation.
The Fig Trees

Size of park

Access from various streets

vegetation access to pathways along Throsby creek
vegetation The Fig Tress and existing Flora
vegetation The figs - they just make the park
vegetation The gardens and the creek
The grand old figs along Maitland Road!

I also like the fact that the whole area actually feels informal, it's more like a big back yard rather than a park.

I feel strongly that any plans to modify the area should try to preserve the informal nature of the place.

I noticed that this survey asked questions about signage, public art and sporting access to Throsby creek. I feel that the signage should be kept to a minimum as too much signage is visual pollution and will take away from the casual feel of the place.

I also feel that the creek area should be protected as an inner city aquatic habitat. By protected I don't mean a ban on people using Throsby creek itself , but I don't think usage should be encouraged.

I am worried that many of these surveys seem to imply that a place has to be in constant use by someone to be valuable and if it can't be made attractive to as many users as possible then that space fails its function.

Open space is important whether it's in constant use or not. Places like Islington Park are the lungs of the city.

vegetation Any changes should be the bare minimum needed, such as public toilets.
vegetation The huge figs providing such lovely shade.
The line of Port Jackson/Moreton bay figs along Maitland Rd.

Pedestrian path along Throsby Creek.

vegetation Public art along above pedestrian park.
vegetation I like the large figs and the creek

I like the large fig trees and wish more figs and other shade trees were planted along the creek enbankment. There should be more seating in tree shaded areas along the creek from Maitland Rd to Industrial drive and then along the Honeysuckle foreshore where there is little good shade.

vegetation I like the natural mangroves that boarder throsby creek. I would like to think it would be safe to walk at dark but lets be realistic where is it safe to do that these days..

vegetation I like the shade trees and the cyclepath.
vegetation the old trees and the grass areas its a beautiful park
vegetation The shade and trees.

the shade figs need to be kept and a replacement strategy put in place for age replacement
vegetation
vegetation The shade, the unclutteredness

vegetation	The shaded fig tree arch along Maitland Road. Fabulous shade for the Throsby Long Brunch.
vegetation	The shady figs. The sculptures around Thrsby Creek.
vegetation	The large established trees in the park the park that they remain
vegetation	The ti-trees are lovely!
vegetation	The trees
vegetation	the trees
vegetation	The trees all through the park should not be touched!. This is one of the prettiest parks in Newcastle
vegetation	The trees and grassy open spaces.
vegetation	Access for residents to be involved in outdoor activities.
vegetation	Location near transport as well as by bike.
vegetation	The trees and the large uncluttered stretches of grass
vegetation	The trees,
vegetation	the walkways
vegetation	The trees, they offer fantastic shading and look great along Maitland Road.
vegetation	The trees. I love the trees, please don't change them or cut them like in Laman street.
	The very big fig trees. There are so few big trees in our environment, I'd like to know that the fig trees will remain, and will be replaced as they get too old.
	The bike path/walkway, especially where the lemon scented gums are at HVRF.
	Wish there were more of these beautiful trees in the park.
vegetation	The sculptured lounge chair. It is comfortable and attractive. I really apprecialte sculpture that serves a purpose. Too often, it is just an expression of one person's ideas and doesn't always appeal to others. Nature provides the most beautiful vistas, so art works in the park should enhance the natural beauty, not detract from it - or not be there at all.
vegetation	The vibe, with the fig trees.
vegetation	The wide open spaces are great but grass needs work. The great trees are under no circumstances to be cut down !!!!!!!!!!! they are its best feature.
vegetation	Tree line
vegetation	Trees
vegetation	Trees
vegetation	Trees, off dog leash area, pathways
vegetation	Trees; Community garden
	Wonderful border of trees along Maitland Road, provides clear delineation of park, visually and sound deadening.
vegetation	Tranquility of park when cycling through, or stopping for a water break.
vegetation	Would like to see large fig trees on Maitland Road retained and maintained.
	I like the large trees that are alongside the footpath and the main road.
vegetation	I like the bike path and the footbridge across Throsby Creek. These features I would like to see retained and maintained.

Short Term Improvement Suggestions

subject	<p>short term fix (n=302)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Water trough for dogs in the off leash area please. - Retain willow trees. Great for shade and compliment the European rose garden - Creek regeneration to improve water quality, vista and habitat, Connectivity –
access	<p>Extend shared path along Throsby</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. not sure if the walkway along throsby creek from the william street bridge to hannell st is part of islington park but i would like lights put along there so people can walk and ride at night time 2. a toilet block and more seats near the playground would be great 3. more native trees would be great 4. take down the fence around the skate ramp - its quite ugly or make it look better if it is needed. 5. paint the fence across throsby creek at hannell st, it needs it badly 6. plant appropriate vines over the existing trellises on the maitland rd side of the park, i assume that's what the trellises are there for. 7. Do more work on that section of the park where the trellises are - it doesn't seem to get a lot of attention
access	<p>A connection for bicycles along the western side of the creek</p> <p>A jetty for fishing and small boats</p> <p>clean up of the creek to make it an area to swim</p>
access	<p>A cafe, this would make the place more alive and would discourage the drug users</p>
access	<p>a crackdown on prostitutes. banning them from entering the park during the day when many families are present.</p> <p>A new pathway from Maitland Road, near the bus stop, that links up with the main pathway that follows Throsby Creek.</p>
access	<p>It's currently a worn-down dirt track.</p> <p>ACCESS TO THE PARK BE BETTER</p> <p>PARKING AREAS</p> <p>MORE BARBEQUES</p>
access	<p>Better bicycle paths through the park.</p> <p>Better bike path facilities, especially connections to Maitland road is needed.</p>
access	<p>A wide bike-pedestrian share path is needed along the creek.</p>
access	<p>Better crossings/under/overpasses are needed for the small roads breaking the bike path along the creek. They are particularly</p>

hard/dangerous to navigate on a bike.

- access better bike/walking tracks and easier access to the water for canoeing
 - access Better defined access from Maitland Road, which may create a hub,
 - access defined light-up secure zone.
 - access better footpaths
 - access better lighting, picnic/BBQ facilities and improved access
 - access Better night lighting
 - access better paths
 - access better seating, and access from Maitland Rd. I have a mobility disability and find the slope hard to negotiate
 - access Better wider and MORE cycleways, more park benches for picnics and families.
 - access bike access from the dog park, all the way along the park on the north side
 - access Bike access to Maitland Rd and Tighes Hill
 - access Cafe and better cycle paths
 - access Cement the walk way around the oval so small rocks don't get lodged in your shoes and hurt your feet
 - access Complete footpaths in area's where grass is clearly worn by frequent use indicating a path is required there.
 - access Connect the pathway from Throsby Creek south to Maitland Road - there's a row of lights there already. Finish what you start.
 - access Cycleway
 - access Cycleways, sitting areas, cafes
 - access Dog park - Table seats around the perimeter in singles and small groups. Some for the doggy crew, some for the cricket crew, some for the bocce crowd, etc.
- Dog park - a seperate fenced area for the little dogs. And/or dual use for dog exercise allowed on the main oval (sign for the rangers). And/or fence and sign the space adjoining the main oval, for this purpose. It may sound extravagant but the demand is there for this.
- Playground - Expand with facilities for the 5-10 age group. The space between Islington Rd is under-utilised. The change in grade could make it more interesting. Be careful not to go too big. A district/regional facilities needs more parking than is available it Iso Park.
- Erosion to creek banks - Stabilisation by natural means as the preferred method where possible. The replacement planting indicates its already on the radar but the willows can go and be replaced with more appropriate riparian sp.
- Improved access at Industrial Drive shared path crossing. And not some crazy idea to redirect people down to the traffic lights please! This would waste a large section of path at Linwood and no one would bother. Wider kerb ramps for family groups. A wider median for trailers and family groups to fit on. There are also movement activated pedestrian lighting systems used in america that could set off some school style flashing slow zones when people approach the crossing. Some rumble strips (as per Burwood Rd crossing Fernleigh Track) might also help. These simple ideas could improve safety (it is currently a death trap) without large expense.
- access Canoe launching facilities - This would get heaps of use. Must be floating

pontoons for tidal zone. HWC might not allow it but people canoe/kayak up and down all the time. Storm flows are never that fast and strong that it would be a hazard. Council needs to lobby Hunter Water with the community on this one.

Dog Cafe - A Haberfield style cafe would go off in the dog park. Suggest a Cafe2U style business to be viable. Council just needs to be prepared to allow a license to operate such in the park. And perhaps even encourage it by advertising a license for sale.

Cafe in the main park - ditto. All cafe suggestions welcome.

BBq facilities - They get used but probably not as well used as you'd expect. Perhaps the reason needs looking at? More picnic furniture (table-seats are nice and informal and would go well under the Melaleucas)? more shelters? Better playground?

Fencing between the playground and bike path - This would probably take the pressure off parents trying to manage their kids (& picnic) in this tight space.

access Extend the Bike path around the oval to achieve greater local access

access Extending the bike paths towards Beaumont St would be great, as many people come/go from there and there is no bike path.

Extension of walkways to enable users to avoid walking in and around the fig trees and reduce needed for walking on the sticky leaves that drop from the fig trees.

access More regular cleaning of the leaf drop from the pathways and around the fig trees to prevent this leaf drop sticking to your shoes.

access Fix footpath on Mitland Rd.

formalisation and lighting of commonly used routes either side of the oval between the existing bike path and Maitland road

time limited use of the oval as an early morning off leash dog walking area. it is used in this way by people who are seeking to be responsible dog walkers as it is seen as not being a conflict of use and as it is fenced there is a sense of safety as dogs are seperated from pedestrians and bikers.

access The existing offleash area is very heavily used, particularly in the afternoon and not all people feel okay about taking their dogs there

access I believe that mowing of the open space grasslands and along the cycleways should receive high priority. Sometimes the areas become overgrown and extremely unsightly. The image projected for walkers/cyclists is very poor.

I live in Mayfield and it is almost impossible to ride a bike with children safely to Islington Park. A connection to Mayfield is urgently needed either with a physically separated bikepath along Maitland Road or through TAFE from Litchfield Park made accessible with a bridge over the rail line.

Coming from Maryville along Throsby Creek after dark, the stretch between Industrial Drive and Islington Park is not illuminated and it is therefore quite dangerous to cycle after dark.

access Although both suggestions are not directly for Islington Park, I hope you take them into consideration nonetheless as it would tremendously improve safety around the area and I would be considering visiting the park more often on the bike with my children.

access I would definitely NOT like to see any more sporting fields added. I would also definitely NOT like any extra parking added. There should only be additions that would encourage more cycling and walking in the area.
access I'd like to feel it was safe to walk in at all times of day / night.
Improve cycle access to the park,

- extend lighting on path past Lewis St onto Industrial drive
- extend path so that it runs into foreshore walk in Carrington (Currently stops at start of boardwalk which has no cycle access)
- Paint a median line on path to help remind users that traffic comes both ways down path

access Improve the lighting. The soccer field lights dramatically change the dynamics of the park, particularly safety. Perhaps a few much smaller (than the soccer) floodlights highlighting distinct park features but also spanning across the park.
Improve the playground

access Get proper lighting for the cycle path from hannel st to william st. Access to islington park is limited by peoplesfear of using that pathway at night
Improved lighting and security to allow for a feeling of safety. Security cameras for night time and Council Rangers to regularly patrol the area.

Connection between cycle and footpaths could be improved.

access More community events. Open Air Theatre is a great idea. Any outdoor picnic event is a great way to get families, friends together.
access Improved pedestrian & cycle connectivity & safety; improved toilets; seating & picnic areas; shaded areas; cafe/water/environment info & activities centre
access improvements to cycleway access

access improving the connection to the cycle path from Maitland Rd. When you are coming from Mayfield the path through the park under the trees is very bumpy, has tree litter and dangerous when wet.
access increased police presence to deter drug users and prostitutes
access It is difficult to access from Maitland Road - this needs to be improved
access Just better lighting.

- access

kayak access

toilet closer to playground
extension to shared path
- access

Keep the tree the overhangs the cycle path near the maitland road crossing trimmed.
Have a special traffic light at that same corner to make life easier for cyclists.
Add a chin-up bar for adults.
Keeping the mangrove area clean
- access

Policing the part adjoining Maitland Road
- access

kids bike path around oval
- access

Kids playground upgrade.
- access

Lighting around the bbq area would be good and amy assist to deter the groups that congregate there in the evenings drinking
- access

lighting at dog park side; bbq's at dog park side; more bins at dog park side in a location where others can't dump rubbish (not near road); access to toilets at dog park. we have upto 100 people using the dog park between 4-7pm and no access to toilets!; children's playground at dog park side
- access

lighting in the off-leash dog park - this is not a useable space in winter afer work without lighting. Make Islington oval a timed off leash area - if it is fenced and safe for dogs
- access

Make proper path from footbridge around oval up the bank to Maitland Rd. There are bits but not good for riding a bicycle. There should also be a pedestrian island in Maitland Rd so walkers can cross where the path comes out (just west of chainsaw and mower shop). Plant more trees near the barbecue area so that in future the seating can be extended with more shade.
- access

more lighting
- access

more lighting on/around the playground area
- access

More lighting, better foot and cycle tracks, more seats
- access

More lighting, or perhaps some sort of security (drive by) at night.
- access

More lighting, so people feeler safer working in the park at dawn, dusk and at night.
- access

more lighting, tree coverage, community events, cleaning/maintenance improvements and a bush tucker/community garden
- access

More lights at night
- access

More organised art activities.
- access

At least two more pedestrian crossings between Hubbard and May Streets on Maitland Road.
- access

More reflection of aboriginal history/activity in the area. Signage, artwork.
- access

Information and viewing points for wildlife around the Waterway.
- access

More paths for ripsticking, shade over playground
- access

More safety, lighting and police presence to discourage undesirable visitors

- access more security patrols and ranger patrols for dogs off their leads in the wrong area
more shade
- access cycleway connectivity through TAFE and or to East-West cycle route at Jackson St
- access more signage for cyclers on path and maybe a separate path for bikes
more trees
- access better paths & bike paths
- access New shared pathway linking existing pathway to Maitland Road at south eastern corner, near George/Power Street
- access Night lighting in the off leash dog park will mean that the community can use this park in the winter months for longer. It will also help to control some of the undesirable activities and hopefully discourage the graffiti. Oh I already wrote these in the last answer:
- access Prune trees leaning over bike path in front of TAFE carpark to improve bike path access from Mayfield, TOILET, Fix up basketball court
One of the questions was about Toilets.
- For 6 years we never saw any toilets open in Iso Park.
- This is a disgrace, as is the lack of public toilets all the way along the walking / bike track from Iso to Nobbys!!
- We continuously brought this lack of facilities to the attention of Councillors and staff for the whole time Throsby Community Forum operated, and they ignored us.
- A related problem is the break of lighting on the walking / bike path between Lewis st and Hannell st.
- This is an important matter as it breaks the link of the continuous path at night.
- access This issue was continuously ignored by Councillors and Council Staff. Not good enough!!
- Open the toilets more and keep them clean and safe to use.
- Increase lighting especially at night and the winter seasons.
- Improve water quality by installing gross rubbish traps to collect floating debris, plastic bottles, wrappers etc.
- Install more rubbish bins and drinking bubblers.
- Provide the community garden with tool or storage shed.
- access Provide signage about the local bird life, mangroves habitats and value of tidal estuaries to ecosystems.
- access pathways upgraded gardens

- Plant more trees - upgrade toilets
- access Lighting at night
plant more trees or shade structure over existing play ground and improvement of existing playground.
- access improve nighttime security in the park

Planting and footpaths.

Connectivity between dog area and Islington park (Stix and Throsby creeks).
- access Playground and picnic area.

Planting and footpaths.

Connectivity between dog area and Islington park (Stix and Throsby creeks).
- access
access Playground and picnic area.
Proper bike path separated from pedestrians
Providing a branch of the current cycleway to extend from the southern end of the footbridge around the right of the oval and up the embankment where the current bitumen path runs. Then extend it along under the figs, following the natural track which exists, but extend to the end of the park, thereby enabling exit from park quitebnear to the existing traffic lights at the Gateway Hotel.

This would provide a good incentive flow on the cycleway across to the Islington end of Beaumont Street.

It would also be good, if not dangerous within an off leash park, to extend the cycleway across thefootbridge an around the northern bank of the creek through the dog park, across the old tram bridge near the Tafe then across the Styx creek bridge to join the existing cycleway. This would be a good loop for families with smaller riders and, coupled with some jetties and points of interest along the way, would provide a lovely outing.

Would be loathe to see too much emphasis on the provision of parking, as the current situation means that many people walk and ridento the park. With that in mind, some form of canoe and kayak landing stage on a section of the bank where access is possible on most tides would increase the possibility of people from wick ham, maryville, Carrington etc being able to canoe up the creek
- access Put in motion-sensor bright lighting - it makes the park safer. I wouldn't go there now after dark.
- access Keep it clean, especially the creek.

Recognition of Aboriginal heritage - Awabakal LALC is just down the road.

Clean up the creek banks.

Expand the new community garden! this is a great initiative. This should be supported by council - it encourages physical activity and healthy eating and cohesion, community safety, etc etc.... Excellent initiative.

Invite events - live-sites etc - to use the space.

The driveway / parking at the end of phoebe st / power st needs work.

The foot/bike path around the oval needs work. it is well used but gets very muddy

access

A large shelter with tables (similar to the rail sheds, or some of the ones along the beaches) that could be used for kids birthday parties, community events etc. This should be near the BBQ's.

access

Security cameras, more lighting because it is quite a risk going through that park from 6:00pm onwards.

access

The dog park should be fully fenced with gates.

access

The off leash dog park should be fully enclosed with a fence and gate.

access

There have been times when I have been using the oval to run on and drunks and bogans have been drinking at the table and have tried to start fights. Some Policing would be nice.

access

upgrade bike paths, create a kids bike path (eg centennial park style - playground in the middle, BBQ facilities)

access

Upgrade the pathways!! Shade the playgrounds

access

Widen and improve shared cycleway/footpath from Mailand Rd to Hannell St, improve crossing of Lewis/William St

Widen cycle ways for increased traffic.

More poop bins in dog park.

access

Expand and improve children's playground.
- Cleanliness

- Basic facility upgrade eg- Clean play equipment and BBQ facilities.

cleanliness

- New Garbage bins / more regular emptying to avoid smell that is often there near the childrens playground.

cleanliness Encourage the community to use the park, to see what a great open space and recreation area is available so close to the city, and that they can be safe using ie Livesites - open air movies, and cultural days. Encourage the TAFE to use as a facility within some of their courses. Maintain the pathway lighting. Improve the cleanliness and flow of the creek. Maintain the skate bowl.

I'd like more rubbish bins along the Throsby creek trail (both sides of Lewis St). I'd like to think that this might help with the disgusting amount of Rubbish that ends up in Throsby Creek.

Better Lighting.

cleanliness More edible food trees along the trail!

cleanliness Improve cleanliness and safety of toilets.

cleanliness Improved maintenance of throsby creek, improved GPT systems to remove larger floating rubbish from the creek.

cleanliness Just the cleanliness - there are often condoms around the playground...!
 And a bigger gazebo for picnickers to get out of the weather - there are only a couple of sad small sheltered tables. And sun protection over the playground!

cleanliness Less rubbish collecting in the creek

cleanliness Main problem is things getting damaged.

I have always said that the canal needs to be cleaned, Canoes etc could be hired but a boundry set to stay within the area. Maybe a private adventure for someone.

Toilets are needed very much so.

Another thing that could be is a Food van there on weekend within the park and sinage out front of park telling people.

I would not like to see large concerts held in that park or Wickham Park. Carols by Candlelight would be the biggest allowed.

cleanliness Make it look nice and then bris, e school formals may like to take their photos there as well.

cleanliness Maintenance

cleanliness Make people take their poobags instead of heaping them in the park next to the playground

More Accessable toilets with soap that are cleaned every day.

more picnic tables.

cleanliness Plant native trees and water them or get responsible locals to water them everyday

cleanliness please

cleanliness more bins

cleanliness more dog bins and normal bins

cleanliness more garbage bins

cleanliness More garbage bins please

cleanliness More proactive with rubbish please - especially glass. Enforce on leash/offleash areas. Can't take my dog off leash, yet off leash dogs are often on the onleash side.

cleanliness more rubbish bins, lighting, fencing around the dog park

Remove old green shipping container which is placed behind the cricket shed. It is where prostitution takes place on a daily occurrence, and where needles and condoms are left lying around. If that is not an option, have a bright light installed which would discourage activity there. (Although, daylight doesn't discourage, even when children are playing in the area).

Allow community garden area to be expanded (preferably at the end of Phoebe St), so that more people could be involved.

The childrens playground needs to be rebuilt and expanded, but I wonder about the existing position. It doesn't appear to allow for much expansion there.

And there needs to be a kiosk, not a cafe adjoining, with toilets attached. And plenty of shade and seating and more barbeque areas around the playground.

cleanliness
And we need a designated parking area near both the sports field and the playground. At present, cars come into the park for sports events and park wherever the best shade is.
Remove veg around the manmade rock waterway next to park, I am always anxious about sharps being left in there, and kids are drawn to that area.

Council cleaning every day. I have found empty condom wrappers and slide with lollies melted onto it, and I wonder if the park is checked/cleaned on a Saturday/Sunday. If not it should be.

cleanliness
cleanliness
Reposition seats to be under shade and closer to playground.
rubbish, glass bottles and syringes need to be cleaned up
Shade at children's play equipment

cleanliness
More bins in the dog park
More bird attracting and habitat trees/ shrubs planted
Signs about keeping dogs on leads
Extra seating around playground
Shade over playground
Better rubbish booms to stop so much accumulating on creek edge
Signs to dog off leash area

cleanliness
cleanliness
cleanliness
cleanliness
Better ranger presence
That the creek be cleaned up and some toilets made accessable (I know not really a short term project but SOOO necessary for a public park)
The removal of rubbish from the Creek
The state of Throsby Creek - full of rubbish, looks pretty polluted at times.

- cleanliness
 - watered regularly and mowed regularly ... everybody in Newcastle visits the forshore at least a few times a year so why don't you lot fix that up first?

- events
 - acknowledgement of Awabakal land and its people
 - history of land use for Aboriginal people in this area
 - more art work and sculptures
 - community events including music that is inclusive of all cultures including Aboriginal
 - sensory garden
 - playground to include equipment for children with disabilities
 - toilets
- events
 - Artwork installations (exhibitions), comunity vege and herb garden
- events
 - extension
- events
 - Better lighting, more after dark community events, make it a positive space after dark, eg cinema, mobile cafe.
- events
 - community events to be held to attract people to park

- events
 - Encourage the community to use the park, to see what a great open space and recreation area is available so close to the city, and that they can be safe using ie Livesites - open air movies, and cultural days. Encourage the TAFE to use as a facility within some of their courses. Maintain the pathway lighting. Improve the cleanliness and flow of the creek. Maintain the skate bowl.

- events
 - Encouragement of more people to the park it is one of the most beautiful parks in Newcastle but Islingtons reputation for a bad element has stopped people from wishing to go there. More events in the park may help people jump over that stigma
- events
 - Events to encourage people to attend the park and better lighting and surveillance at night.

- events
 - Hold more family oriented events there.
 - Construct some shade making covers of some sort.
 - Put in some bubblers and toilets.

- events
 - Establish a sound park management plan that is strongly supported by the local community.
 - Better night-lighting.
 - Support and promote events such as the Throsby Big Brunch.
 - Test support for major playground expansion.

- events
 - Installation of interpretive signage and/or art installations to communicate the history of the park from pre-European settlement to today (including the rehabilitation of Throsby Creek in the 1980-90s).
 - Native landscaping in various locations of the park around interactive installations for kids to play on.
 - Promoting and supporting the park as a venue for community events, similar to those run through the LiveSites program to encourage people to use the park during the day and night.

Playground is an absolute priority - in the short term there needs to be some serious discussion with significant stakeholders as to what the long term vision will be. This needs to be supported by a commitment from NCC in terms of time, money and a staged implementation plan that is available to the community.

We ran TBB without funding but in 2011 will be seeking funding (from whoever) to access insurance and hire equipment etc. Support for other events such as Movies in the park will ensure we can continue to attract people to the area and build community.

I am sure there will be other ideas from the environment/arts groups that can be implemented in the short term.

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| events | There has been such a momentum and energy associated with Placemaking - we need to harness it !! |
| events | Skate bowl and basketball court could be better maintained. Playground could be improved and lighting improved at night. Cultural events could begin, such as the outdoor cinema suggested etc. |
| events | stop the free feed there every Saturday. more organised activities promoting the park. |
| events
events | Upgrade activity type things. Make it unattractive to dogs off the leash (there is an area perhaps the other side of Throsby Creek could be utilised specifically for the people wanting this feature. Barbeque facilities and undercover seating. Bike education facility for kids similar to Maitland Park might be good. Water features ... fountains, ponds with water birds, etc use for special events; access to Throsby Creek for recreational activities. |
| facilities
facilities | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. More seating throughout the park but particularly near playground 2. provision of shade over part of the playground or near playground 3. Add some new play equipment and more swings. 4. better signage throughout park, particularly regarding on and off leash areas for dogs. 5. More ranger patrols - too many dog owners have dogs off leash in the childrens playground. <p>A cafe.
A connection for bicycles along the western side of the creek

A jetty for fishing and small boats

clean up of the creek to make it an area to swim</p> |
| facilities | A cafe, this would make the place more alive and would discourage the drug users |

acknowledgement of Awabakal land and its people
 history of land use for Aboriginal people in this area
 more art work and sculptures
 community events including music that is inclusive of all
 cultures including Aboriginal
 sensory garden
 playground to include equipment for children with disabilities

facilities

toilets
 Adequate seating at vantage points along the creek. Clean well-posted
 toileting facilities. Kayak hire or small boat cruises which could go to
 Newcastle harbour or Honeysuckle.
 Better access to the creek for paddlers.
 Better lighting - safety at night
 better lighting, picnic/BBQ facilities and improved access
 Better setting, BBQ areas and some shade
 better skate park
 better toilets. more shade and seating
 cafe lighting toilets
 cafe would be good, to normalise the after hours concerns I have for the
 area
 Cafe/commercial activity

facilities
 facilities
 facilities
 facilities
 facilities
 facilities
 facilities
 facilities

facilities
 facilities

Canoe/ kayak launching centre, improved dog off leash facilities, more
 garbage bins, bbq stations, and would be great to have exercise stations,
 with klm markers to show the length of a course. This encourages people
 to walk/ run that little bit further which promotes a healthier lifestyle...subtle
 encouragement.
 clean up Throsby Creek. open toilets during day light hours
 Community Information boards

facilities
 facilities

facilities

Expansion of the Community Gardens
 Create edge line along Maitland Rd to delineate parking lane, if enough
 space. Improve signage and heritage interpretation.

facilities
 facilities
 facilities

Toilets always open during daylight, and clean!
 Cycleways, sitting areas, cafes
 Depending how short? Temporary exhibitions. More seating under trees.

Dog park - Table seats around the perimeter in singles and small groups. Some for the doggy crew, some for the cricket crew, some for the bocce crowd, etc.

Dog park - a seperate fenced area for the little dogs. And/or dual use for dog exercise allowed on the main oval (sign for the rangers). And/or fence and sign the space adjoining the main oval, for this purpose. It may sound extravagant but the demand is there for this.

Playground - Expand with facilities for the 5-10 age group. The space between Islington Rd is under-utilised. The change in grade could make it more interesting. Be careful not to go too big. A district/regional facilities needs more parking than is available it Iso Park.

Erosion to creek banks - Stabilisation by natural means as the preferred method where possible. The replacement planting indicates its already on the radar but the willows can go and be replaced with more appropriate riparian sp.

Improved access at Industrial Drive shared path crossing. And not some crazy idea to redirect people down to the traffic lights please! This would waste a large section of path at Linwood and no one would bother. Wider kerb ramps for family groups. A wider median for trailers and family groups to fit on. There are also movement activated pedestrian lighting systems used in america that could set off some school style flashing slow zones when people approach the crossing. Some rumble strips (as per Burwood Rd crossing Fernleigh Track) might also help. These simple ideas could improve safety (it is currently a death trap) without large expense.

Canoe launching facilities - This would get heaps of use. Must be floating pontoons for tidal zone. HWC might not allow it but people canoe/kayak up and down all the time. Storm flows are never that fast and strong that it would be a hazard. Council needs to lobby Hunter Water with the community on this one.

Dog Cafe - A Haberfield style cafe would go off in the dog park. Suggest a Cafe2U style business to be viable. Council just needs to be prepared to allow a license to operate such in the park. And perhaps even encourage it by advertising a license for sale.

Cafe in the main park - ditto. All cafe suggestions welcome.

BBq facilities - They get used but probably not as well used as you'd expect. Perhaps the reason needs looking at? More picnic furniture (table-seats are nice and informal amd would go well under the Melaleucas)? more shelters? Better playground?

facilities

Fencing between the playground and bike path - This would probably take the pressure off parents trying to manage their kids (& picnic) in this tight space.

facilities

Fix bubblers on bike track near Maitland Road, improve basketball court with another backboard etc.

Flood/Uplight Avenue of Fig Trees along

facilities

Maitland Rd.

facilities

I think open and accessible toilets should be the highest priority.

	I would like to see a cafe in the park, more trees and plants with signage like a botanical educational walk. More seats with picnic tables would be great too. I've just return from a walk from Tighes Hill to Beaumont st with my dog and would love to see some water bubblers in that direction for me as well as the dog.
facilities	
facilities	improve parking, lighting, toilet facilities.
facilities	improve toilets
	Improved drainage
	Increased seating provisions
facilities	Beautification of Throsby Creek bank walking areas
	Improved seating
facilities	Function area e.g. For Weddings, Photo.s etc
	Improved skate facility! Drain in existing skate bowl doesnt work; bowl silts up and should be cleaned regularly. Seats should also be cleaned more often. If concrete can be change, sides of bowl should be cut back so they are not so steep. Bubblers where tap is now.
facilities	
	is the cricket oval fence really needed---an open field would suit all users much better and save the council a lot of money in maintenace of the fence---what does the fence really do in 2011----plastic cups to outline the field when games are played would be enough at this level of sport--always think about how vandals think before designing any work as this park is dark and isolated at night which is when these cretins operate
facilities	Maintenance to soft landscaping ,walkways seating and lighting.
facilities	mangroves should be looked after and/or expanded with boardwalk.
	Toilets!!
facilities	mobile cafe/kiosk at existing playground
facilities	More facilities in off leash area
facilities	more public art and activities
facilities	more seating
facilities	More seating away from the playground
	More seating
facilities	Eercise area
facilities	More seating. Toilets would be nice.
facilities	More shade sheds and toilet
	more shade
facilities	cycleway connectivity through TAFE and or to East-West cycle route at Jackson St
	More shade, more seating under the trees so you don't have to sit in the sun
facilities	
facilities	No, really does not need much. Possibly a public toilet

	<p>Onr of the questions was about Toilets. For 6 years we never saw any toilets open in Iso Park. This is a disgraces, as is the lack of public toilets all the way along the walking / bike track from Iso to Nobbys!!</p> <p>WE continuously broght this lack of facilities to the attention of Councillors and staff for the whole time THrosby Community Forum operated, and they ignored us.</p> <p>A related problem is the break of lighting on the walking / bike path between Lewis st and Hannell st.</p> <p>This is an important matter as it breaks the link of the continuous path at night. This issue was continuosuly ignored by Councillors and Council Staff. Not good enough!! open accesible toilets - please please please</p>
facilities	
facilities	playground upgrade
facilities	Open public toilet - lock at night. More bbqs.
facilities	Open public toilets near playground adn barbi area. Open the toilets more and keep them clean and safe to use. Increase lighting especially at night and the winter seasons. Improve water quality by installing grose rubbish traps to collect floating debris, plastic bottles, wrappers etc. Install more rubbish bins and drinking bubblers.
	Provide the community garden with tool or storage shed.
facilities	Provide signage about the local bird life, mangroves habitats and value of tidal estuaries to ecosystems. Onr of the questions was about Toilets. For 6 years we never saw any toilets open in Iso Park. This is a disgre, as is the lack of public toilets all the way along the walking / bike track from Iso to Nobbys!! We continuously broght this lack of facilities to the attention of Councillors and staff for the whole time Throsby Community Forum operated, and they ignored us.
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facilities	Open toilet facilities
facilities	open toilets during daytime hours please
	toilets near the playground
facilities	upgrade playground equipment
facilities	Picnic area and more BBQs and seating

facilities	picnic areas, i.e. more than two picnic tables, toilets!, shade over the playground.
facilities	Plant extra shade trees and erect shade structure over equipment. Replace damaged equipment. Provide backed seating near equipment for breastfeeding mothers. Put a secure fence around the equipment and add a children's bike path to intersect with it. Increase habitat and shade planting along creek way and remove concrete creek embankment. Add small boat launching spot for non motor boats.
facilities	Promote what facilities that are currently available and encourage their use.
facilities facilities facilities	Provide safer parking - other than on Maitland Rd - for parents taking kids to the playground Toilets near the playground public art, water safety, toilet Public Toilets
facilities facilities facilities	Public toilets and more seating. Also need for better alignment of cycleway on west side of William Street to remove two sharp bends and improve line of vision for traffic both directions to allow safer crossing of road. Public Toilets. Public toilets. Shade sails over children's playground for summer.
facilities	Rangers need to enforce dog regulations in the park and in particular the sporting oval. Migratory birds are attacked by dogs off their leashes in restricted areas on the south eastern Islington Maryville side of the park grounds.
	Recognition of Aboriginal heritage - Awabakal LALC is just down the road.
	Clean up the creek banks.
	Expand the new community garden! this is a great initiative. This should be supported by council - it encourages physical activity and healthy eating and cohesion, community safety, etc etc.... Excellent initiative.
	Invite events - live-sites etc - to use the space.
	The driveway / parking at the end of phoebe st / power st needs work.
	The foot/bike path around the oval needs work. it is well used but gets very muddy
facilities	A large shelter with tables (similar to the rail sheds, or some of the ones along the beaches) that could be used for kids birthday parties, community events etc. This should be near the BBQ's.
facilities	Regular dog control patrols particularly 5 - 7am and 5-8pm. Improve signage indicating dogs kept on leash and pick up dog faeces and a sign indicating off leash area.

Remove old green shipping container which is placed behind the cricket shed. It is where prostitution takes place on a daily occurrence, and where needles and condoms are left lying around. If that is not an option, have a bright light installed which would discourage activity there. (Although, daylight doesn't discourage, even when children are playing in the area).

Allow community garden area to be expanded (preferably at the end of Phoebe St), so that more people could be involved.

The childrens playground needs to be rebuilt and expanded, but I wonder about the existing position. It doesn't appear to allow for much expansion there.

And there needs to be a kiosk, not a cafe adjoining, with toilets attached. And plenty of shade and seating and more barbeque areas around the playground.

facilities And we need a designated parking area near both the sports field and the playground. At present, cars come into the park for sports events and park wherever the best shade is.

Sealing of the end of Morgan Street - it is currently a muddy gravelly pit with ponding and erosion. Unsightly and polluting.

Replace the garbage bins.

Install bins nearer the creek and along the cycleway so that people who want to do ad-hoc collection of some of the volumes of litter that land on the creek banks have somewhere to put it.

It would be great if the Place Making corflute signs put up months ago could be taken down. They're still stuck on poles around the place, starting to get 'tagged' and don't look very nice...nor give the impression of program follow-up.

More shade trees around the oval

facilities Promote the goals of the Lower Throsby Rehabilitation Feasibility Study and work with Hunter Water to implement it.
Seating

Children's playground desperately needs cleaning/repairing

water bubblers

facilities SHADE for the playground!!

facilities Shade cloth over the childrens park, BBQ upgrade, as they just dont get hot enough!

Shade. I took my granddaughter to the park and she could not use one piece of equipment as it all burned her.

We ended up not staying as I was worried about her getting sun burned.

facilities Public toilets are obviously needed as well.

facilities shading above the playground. Paint the bridge to Tighes hill. repair the playground.

facilities Skate bowl and basketball court could be better maintained. Playground could be improved and lighting improved at night. Cultural events could begin, such as the outdoor cinema suggested etc.

facilities skate park and no more skate bowl. Garden and more vegetation

facilities That the creek be cleaned up and some toilets made accessible (I know not really a short term project but SOOO necessary for a public park)

facilities The BBQ area really needs be cleaned up and maintained. Picnic tables need to be replaced.

The turf in all areas of the park drastically needs upgrading. Mostly it is just weeks with a lot of cats eyes, and bindii which makes walking in the park with thongs or sandals painful at times. Watering of the entire area (not just the cricket pitch) so the grass can grow properly and be used to picnic on.

Dredging of the creek is paramount to enjoying the park, as on hot days at low tide the stench from the creek is unbearable.

More bins available for people to use with appropriate signage about picking up dog poo. I've seen parks in Melbourne with bins absolutely everywhere and little signs reminding dog owners of there responsibility. It makes for a much more pleasant experience walking in the park.

Fencing off the childrens play area for safety. The creek is so close and people with several children might have problems keeping an eye on every child.

facilities Decent signage to explain where the leash free area is.

facilities Toilet

facilities Toilets

facilities toilets

facilities Toilets near the playground

facilities Shade cloth over the playground

facilities Toilets would be great - only if locked at sundown

facilities Upgrade of facilities, everything seems so tatty.

facilities use the water

Hold more family oriented events there.

Construct some shade making covers of some sort.

facilities Put in some bubblers and toilets.

- 1) Brighten the lighting along the bike path (to as bright as new lights at top of park-maybe just need new globes or a clean!)
- 2) OH&S concerns -
 - a) Shade over current playground as very hot for most of day in summer (too hot to use after early morning as slide etc. can burn skin of children). This could be done smartly as it could be erected in a way that it could be used for future playground upgrades.
 - b) more regular emptying of needle bins.
- 3) Fencing of potential playground area to keep children away from water/dogs away from children in playground.
- 4) Painting of bridge (red would look smart)
- 5) a couple of extra seats (just benches, tables not required) near current playground (on rise to west of urrent equipment)
- 6) repring of graffitti by council maintenance staff (eg place making signs that have been there and delapidated for months now. many chances to remove)
 - 1. More seating throughout the park but particularly near playground
 - 2. provision of shade over part of the playground or near playground
 - 3. Add some new play equipment and more swings.
 - 4. better signage throughout park, particularly regarding on and off leash areas for dogs.
 - 5. More ranger patrols - too many dog owners have dogs off leash in the childrens playground.
- A shade shelter over the playground and some trees on the western edge of the playground for afternoon shade.
- Plant some new shade trees now so that they start to grow.
- A picnic shed with a couple of tables under it.
- Better planting around the play park for appearance and shade.
- Better play equipment, although I see this as a long-term investment, ie, a brilliant play park similar to the one next to the beach at Umina and the one in Bathurst, that is accessible for young and older kids.
- Better maintenance of the grass.
- Better playground
- bigger play equipment- tunnels to crawl through etc.
- Childrens play qeupment and BBQ areas need to be improved
- Clean toilets. More shade over kids play area!!

	council spray regime- not when windy/ peak times.
	BMX/Skatepark improve
playground	better playgrounds
playground	do not commercialise or overdevelop. more native plant/ a community garden, sensory garden/playground equipment for children with disabilities/more art works/sculptures
playground	Establish a sound park management plan that is strongly supported by the local community.
playground	Better night-lighting.
playground	Support and promote events such as the Throsby Big Brunch.
playground	Test support for major playground expansion.
playground	expand the children's play area; put sails/cover over it
playground	Gated playground for small playground
	Hold more family oriented events there.
	Construct some shade making covers of some sort.
playground	Put in some bubblers and toilets.
	Improve the playground
playground	Get proper lighting for the cycle path from hannel st to william st. Access to islington park is limited by peoplesfear of using that pathway at night
playground	Improvements to playground, bbq area, shade and seating
	more kids play equipment
playground	throsby creek clean up
playground	More paths for ripsticking, shade over playground
playground	More shade over the play area
	More shade to play equipment.
playground	Toilet facilities
	open toilets during daytime hours please
	toilets near the playground
playground	upgrade playground equipment
playground	park equipment
	Parking 'stations' for push bikes near playground.
playground	Shad cloth/ covering over playground
	plant more trees or shade structure over existing play ground and improvement of existing playground.
playground	improve nighttime security in the park
	Planting and footpaths.
	Connectivity between dog area and Islington park (Stix and Throsby creeks).
playground	Playground and picnic area.

playground

Planting and footpaths.
Connectivity between dog area and Islington park (Stix and Throsby creeks).
Playground and picnic area.

Playground is an absolute priority - in the short term there needs to be some serious discussion with significant stakeholders as to what the long term vision will be. This needs to be supported by a commitment from NCC in terms of time, money and a staged implementation plan that is available to the community.

We ran TBB without funding but in 2011 will be seeking funding (from whoever) to access insurance and hire equipment etc. Support for other events such as Movies in the park will ensure we can continue to attract people to the area and build community.

I am sure there will be other ideas from the environment/arts groups that can be implemented in the short term.

playground
playground
playground

There has been such a momentum and energy associated with Placemaking - we need to harness it !!
playgrounds

Proper playground fencing, adequate fencing and shading.
Remove old green shipping container which is placed behind the cricket shed. It is where prostitution takes place on a daily occurrence, and where needles and condoms are left lying around. If that is not an option, have a bright light installed which would discourage activity there. (Although, daylight doesn't discourage, even when children are playing in the area).

Allow community garden area to be expanded (preferably at the end of Phoebe St), so that more people could be involved.

The children's playground needs to be rebuilt and expanded, but I wonder about the existing position. It doesn't appear to allow for much expansion there.

And there needs to be a kiosk, not a cafe adjoining, with toilets attached. And plenty of shade and seating and more barbeque areas around the playground.

playground

And we need a designated parking area near both the sports field and the playground. At present, cars come into the park for sports events and park wherever the best shade is.

Remove veg around the manmade rock waterway next to park, I am always anxious about sharps being left in there, and kids are drawn to that area.

Council cleaning every day. I have found empty condom wrappers and slide with lollies melted onto it, and I wonder if the park is checked/cleaned on a Saturday/Sunday. If not it should be.

playground

Reposition seats to be under shade and closer to playground.

	Seating Children's playground desperately needs cleaning/repairing water bubblers SHADE for the playground!!
playground	
	Shade and seats for playground, signs for must have dog on leash and directions for the dog off leash area, gravel paths improved and up to maitland road on the western side of oval, general tidiness and more bins and special dog poo bins, improvements to creek edge, getting close to bike track in spots.
playground	
	Shade at children's play equipment
	More bins in the dog park
playground	More bird attracting and habitat trees/ shrubs planted
	Shade cloth over the childrens park, BBQ upgrade, as they just dont get hot enough!
playground	
	shade for kids playground - it's too hot at 9am currently! We have waited too long. Improve cycle paths for kids near playground. more trees!
playground	
	shade over playground
playground	
	shade sails over playground
	Shade. I took my granddaughter to the park and she could not use one piece of equipment as it all burned her.
	We ended up not staying as I was worried about her getting sun burned.
playground	
	Public toilets are obviously needed as well.
playground	
	shading above the playground. Paint the bridge to Tighes hill. repair the playground. Shading for the playground toilets frequent maintenance, anti-graffiti etc.
playground	
	more picnic/BBQ facilities Signs about keeping dogs on leads
	Extra seating around playground Shade over playground Better rubbish booms to stop so much accumulating on creek edge
	Signs to dog off leash area
playground	
	Better ranger presence
	some changes improvement to playground. Development that is part of a long term vision plan. Support for Throsby big brunch and other events such as movies in the park
playground	
	sun shade on playground

The childrens playground area is good of an afternoon but very hot and unshaded in the morning/midday. The installation of shade cloth or other structures providing shade for or near the playground would be good.

playground I think activating the space after dark (movies, markets, concerts)is also invaluable in the fight to change the perception that the park is a haven for criminal activity once the sun goes down.

playground The playground needs to be upgraded as soon as possible, and possibly remove the skate-bowl now that Wallsend and Empire Park have new facilities.

playground The soft fall in the playground heats up very quickly because it is black and has quite a caustic smell. Would like to see more attractive play equipment and shade

playground Upgrade and shade childrens play equipment, clean up Throsby Creek upgrade kids playground with new equipment.

install large shade sails over playground.

more park benches along cycleway to enjoy the views of the creek.

more stairs down to the creek on embankments.

remove concrete drain walls & replace with granite boulders.

playground remove the rose garden & replace with a lily-pilly hedge maze or native garden.

unknown Again not a local or big user.

unknown Don't know

unknown Islington Park is fine the way it is

unknown It us under utilised, and has the potential to be a lovely family area for many outdoor activities. This would have the advantage of restricting some of the undesirable functions that take place in this lovely park.

unknown I've insufficient knowledge of Islington Park to comment

unknown Not really, as I am not in the position to recommend any improvements, I haven't visited it for such a long time. Must rectify that situation soon.

unknown Short term it's almost perfect

unknown Well maintained for my current purposes/usage.

- Water trough for dogs in the off leash area please.
- Retain willow trees. Great for shade and compliment the European rose garden
- Creek regeneration to improve water quality, vista and habitat,

Connectivity –

vegetation Extend shared path along Throsby

1) Brighten the lighting along the bike path (to as bright as new lights at top of park-maybe just need new globes or a clean!)

2) OH&S concerns -

a) Shade over current playground as very hot for most of day in summer (too hot to use after early morning as slide etc. can burn skin of children). This could be done smartly as it could be erected in a way that it could be used for future playground upgrades.

b) more regular emptying of needle bins.

3) Fencing of potential playground area to keep children away from water/dogs away from children in playground.

4) Painting of bridge (red would look smart)

5) a couple of extra seats (just benches, tables not required) near current playground (on rise to west of current equipment)

6) reporting of graffiti by council maintenance staff (eg place making signs that have been there and delapidated for months now. many chances to remove)

vegetation

1. not sure if the walkway along throsby creek from the william street bridge to hannell st is part of islington park but i would like lights put along there so people can walk and ride at night time

2. a toilet block and more seats near the playground would be great

3. more native trees would be great

4. take down the fence around the skate ramp - its quite ugly or make it look better if it is needed.

5. paint the fence across throsby creek at hannell st, it needs it badly

6. plant appropriate vines over the existing trellises on the maitland rd side of the park, i assume that's what the trellises are there for.

vegetation

7. Do more work on that section of the park where the trellises are - it doesn't seem to get a lot of attention

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vegetation

Additional tree planting

as more sporting groups use the park, parking becomes a problem. People park cars in the park itself, not just in the parking circle.

Desinated parking areas would help, as would having access through Phoebe and Morgan Streets as Power Street is the only current access and it gets VERY busy!!

The end of Power Street needs a no standing / no parking sign before the gates to the parking circle, where there is a place to turn around in. People who live in the street rely on this small space to turn their cars and often visitors park there making it difficult and dangerous to turn around.

repainting the walk bridge would be nice, the paint never really took and has flaked off.
the creek need to be cleaned of ALL shopping trolleys and dumped waste.

More frequent mowing of the creek paths.

More gardens.

vegetation
vegetation
vegetation
vegetation

More bins are needed.
better grass
Better lighting, more shrubs in some of the now open, grassed areas.
better maintainance

Better planting around the play park for appearance and shade.

Better play equipment, although I see this as a long-term investment, ie, a brilliant play park similar to the one next to the beach at Umina and the one in Bathurst, that is accessible for young and older kids.

vegetation
vegetation
vegetation

Better maintenance of the grass.
Bigger community garden
bigger community garden, safety at night time

vegetation

do not commercialise or overdevelop. more native plant/ a community garden, sensory garden/playground equipment for children with disabilities/more art works/sculptures

I am a member of the community gardens in Islington Park. We need more space to expand so that more people can be involved. There has been a lot of interest but 6 plots can only accommodate so many people. At present we are constrained by the site. I believe the land at the end of Phoebe Street would be ideal for community gardens, but it would need a water supply and a garden shed for storage. Public access would not be hindered by gardens at that site, and interest would be enhanced.

The present site for the gardens was chosen because of water access and the use of a room in the cricket shed for storage. Obviously this will only be temporary.

vegetation

There is a shipping container behind the cricket shed which is used for storage of cricket related machinery. The space between the shed and the shipping container is used by prostitutes and their clients on a regular basis, even in daylight. The rubbish they leave is a health hazard as well as a shameful eyesore.

vegetation

I believe that mowing of the open space grasslands and along the cycleways should receive high priority. Sometimes the areas become overgrown and extremely unsightly. The image projected for walkers/cyclists is very poor.

Installation of interpretive signage and/or art installations to communicate the history of the park from pre-European settlement to today (including the rehabilitation of Throsby Creek in the 1980-90s).

Native landscaping in various locations of the park around interactive installations for kids to play on.

vegetation
vegetation

Promoting and supporting the park as a venue for community events, similar to those run through the LiveSites program to encourage people to use the park during the day and night.

vegetation
vegetation
vegetation
vegetation
vegetation
vegetation
vegetation

Just maintain the green grass cover, open plan aspect it looks great as is. mangroves should be looked after and/or expanded with boardwalk.
Toilets!!
More indigenous vegetation for shade & aesthetic value
more plants and trees
More shade in park area
more trees
more trees planted in the northern section
native trees and BBQ facilities

vegetation

Pedestrian crossing on Maitland Rd. Garden beds, increased lighting of paths, shaded areas
Perhaps an enhancement of the flower beds. That is either more flowers more often or the upgrading of the presentation and appearance of beds; i.e. elevated gardens with stone retaining walls.

vegetation
vegetation

Picnic tables and seats with shade. Perhaps a smaller version of the new covered picnic/seating area at Cooks Hill park near the surf pavillion, Merewether Beach.
Plant more shady trees for the the future.
Plant more trees - upgrade toilets

vegetation

Lighting at night

vegetation vegetation	<p>plant more trees. art & environmental events to raise awareness of local artists and environmental issues</p> <p>Plant shady trees</p> <p>Plant trees. Trees need to be planted now because of the long period for growth.</p> <p>Do embankment planting and remove areas of concrete embankment to make the creek more natural and simply not a drain.</p>
vegetation	<p>All other formal work can be left to medium term.</p> <p>Planting and footpaths.</p> <p>Connectivity between dog area and Islington park (Stix and Throsby creeks).</p>
vegetation	<p>Playground and picnic area.</p> <p>Planting more trees and shrubs to make it look more attractive and extending the play equipment. putting in basic facilities like toilets and BBQ areas. They may be there already, but i haven't seen them.</p>
vegetation	<p>I'm sure i have seen people doing drug deals there and the prostitutes hanging around Maitland road dont make me want to visit the park. Proactive planting of more figs near existing line along Maitland Rd boundary.</p> <p>Public toilet.</p>
vegetation	<p>More shade structures.</p> <p>Road workers recently painted numbers on the bases of some of the Moreton Bay figs lining Maitland Road - they should be charged with vandalism and the damage made good.</p> <p>It's a shame that the trees that have been planted facing Islington Park are pear trees - these are a waste of time: too small to provide shade, you've chosen an ugly type of pear tree, and you haven't even planted enough of them to look good.</p> <p>I like the fact that there are mangroves in Throsby Creek and wouldn't like to see these damaged in any way. If access to the water involves damage to these I would disagree with it.</p> <p>I think there are plenty of access points to the water for canoeists at Carrington - I wouldn't like to see these added at islington Park.</p> <p>I'd be happy to see public art added.</p> <p>I think the netball/basketball court needs some maintenance - or did last time I looked.</p>
vegetation vegetation	<p>More imaginative play equipment would get my vote - I think any new Ausplay would be such a shame.</p> <p>the bush tucker garden sounds great</p>

The mangroves in the creek are a major concern and need to be removed.

They are not natural and were planted. They are irreparably damaging the heritage stonework of the man made drain.

The growth rate of the mangroves will in a few short years obscure the creek and the beauty of the watercourse.

Opposite the Caltex the mangroves have grown in less than 20 years to totally hide the creek.

The mangroves also trap rubbish, breed mosquitoes and midge. These pests may curtail night activities in the park.

I like mangroves but the vista of the park is far more important.

We should not lose sight of the fact that the drain was constructed as a flood prevention measure. With increase flood concerns the channel must be maintained at full capacity and as opportunities arise the bank height should be raised, further flood gates installed and the channel kept fully dredged.

vegetation

Mangrove growth encourages silting up eg near the foot bridge. The issue of the mangroves needs some real thought.

vegetation

there need to be beautification of the area - new rocks around the edge of creek like Carrington

vegetation

turn flower garden opposite Tech into grass, put in seats and shade

vegetation

Where the palms are near the walking bridge, plant some quick growing trees for shade.

Long Term Improvement Suggestions

subject	long_term fix (n= 281)
access	<p>A bridge across the creek to include the park near the TAFE. This will improve the linkages between the 3 parks that make up Islington Park. A connection for bicycles along the western side of the creek</p> <p>A jetty for fishing and small boats</p> <p>clean up of the creek to make it an area to swim</p>
access	<p>A cafe, this would make the place more alive and would discourage the drug users</p>
	<p>A new bike track as part of a road safety education facility for young children.</p> <p>A new playground equipment area at distance from the current one to permit the spread of families through the park.</p>
access	<p>Better access to the park from Maitland Road for residents from the west side of Maitland Road.</p>
access	<p>Access from Maitland Road is non existant and probably why no one goes there</p> <p>Additional rubbish bins and regular collection.</p>
access	<p>improve walkways for pedestrians and cyclists.</p>
access	<p>all previous ideas esp. better cycleways, canoeing/kayak ,dog ,events areas ,</p>
access	<p>All weather access via park from Maitland Road/Tighes Terrace to northern end of footbridge</p> <p>Better Lighting</p> <p>Bike paths</p>
access	<p>Seating</p>
access	<p>Better lighting, paths and BBQ facilities. Upgrading ball courts would be FAB!</p>
access	<p>Better off street parking.</p> <p>Better parking</p> <p>Bike track down both sides of creek</p>
	<p>Kids bike path</p>
access	<p>More shade along bike path</p> <p>Boardwalk installations</p>
access	<p>Increased pathways and cycleways</p>
access	<p>Cafe near the playground/ foot bridge and cycle path. Pathways connecting The Avenue, morgan St to the other paths. Better pathways around the entire park perimeter</p>

	<p>Childrens adventure playground as in Maitland. or Speerspoint suitable for various ages. Improved cycle ways to intergrate with foreshore etc Toilets possibly attached to Coffee shop near playground to make it a attractive destination for all Newcastle residents</p>
access	Access to water for canoes. kyaks etc
access	cycleway and kids playground equipment
access	Cycleways, jogging and exercises path.
	<p>Develop bird habitat along creek and a Creek board walk. Include triangle of land near TAFE into usable park space by footbridges to dog park and play park. Separate cycle and pedestrian pathways.</p>
access	Dredge Throsby Creek and renovate the concrete embankments.
access	ephasise access to the waterway
	<p>extend the bike path around oval to create facility for little kids and connect to the end of Beaumont street. Bike educational area for little kids to teach road rules. Exrcise area for those using the bike path. Extension of the existing playground. Coffee shop selling good, nutritious food for families using the area. Community meeting area/building. Extension of community garden. Extensive covered area for shade and rainy days. Fencing around play ground.</p>
access	
	<p>Good quality bike paths - wide paths with lanes for bikes and space for pedestrians.</p>
access	Greater lighting and improved public safety (or at least perception of)
	<p>Improve cycle access to the park, - connect existing bike path to bike path that runs behind energy Australia stadium - fix road crossing over Lewis St (current crossing is not user friendly and very dangerous)</p>
access	
	<p>Improve long term plantings of shade trees using appropriate species and staggered plantings. Improve the bridge crossings- at present the fencing at the lewis st crossing is only on one side and is very narrow with crude fencing. the bridge crossing has a pedestrain crossing near the school that is tricky to navigate for traffic and walkers alike- potential accident waiting to happen there. Improve water quality and revegetate throsby creek along the entire river bank creating a proper green corridor. create a bush food garden along the river bank and perhaps in co-operation with the community garden. maintain good quality grass coverage for the parkland and sporting fields. Install and maintain an interactive water feature for children and adults especially in summer</p>
	<p>Provide space for a small cafe that could demonstrate some of the food from the community garden and the bush food tucker. Make connections with the tafe students as a space to use for recreation, photograpy, art, outdoor catering. Offer it to community groups to hold food markets showing african, chinese and international foods, teas, coffee and sweets etc etc</p>
	<p>Keep the leash free dog area and encourage show day events with guest demonstrators and dog exhibitions and breeders etc etc.</p>
access	

access	<p>Improve Throsby creek embankment, signage, children's cycle paths & linking cycle pathways & general landscaping and shade over playground</p>
access	<p>Improved pathways and cycleways. Known to be a popular area at night with prostitution and drug use - makes it very family-unfriendly. I would be reluctant to take my family there for a picnic or play date.</p>
	<p>Install lighting along the Lewis St - Hannell St section of the Throsby Ck trail (increased safety at night).</p>
	<p>A Cafe/Restaurant/Shopping facility at Maitland Rd side of park (maybe where the old Bob Jane is).</p>
	<p>Better education along the whole Throsby Ck watershed; Anything that can reduce waste going in to the creek.</p>
access	<p>Better integration of the trail system with the Newcastle CBD.</p>
	<p>Islington park in its Hey Day was a place of gathering and water sports e.g. sculling and boating.. To open up the water way again and have a wonderful clean water way with lots of fish for children to learn to fish in safety would be such a boost for the area. There are not enough places for families to enjoy water sports other than at the beach in this area.</p>
access	lighting
access	lighting
access	lighting around park area
access	Lighting, cameras, more police.
access	link it to a cycle way through mayfield or tighes hill behind the TAFE to Uni.
access	Make a feature of Throsby creek for water activities.
	<p>Make it more user friendly with better parking, maybe some off street parking area established and definately some area maked for wheelchairs only. The cycle way is not a friendly option for wheelchair, or really children on cycles either.</p>
access	<p>Make it safe to use the waterway and encourage community involvement in looking after the park.</p>
access	Make it safer after dark
access	Make the bicycle path part of a signed track to the University.
access	make the park a cyclists and kayak hub
	more access across Maitland Road to Islington Park
access	<p>The cafe sounds a grat idea as it could help the Park to be more of a destination (particularlry if it does weekend breakfasts)</p>
access	More bike paths, shade from vegetation, cafe
access	More lighting, running and cycling paths access to the creek for a rowing club, canoeing and Kayaking.
	more trees
	extension of bike paths
	paths on tighes hill side of throby creek
access	new creek embankments
access	more trees cycling paths and dog areas
access	more trees, cycleways on both sides
access	pathways, handrails, disability access

access pedestrian access under/over industrial highway
 access Proper bike path separated from pedestrians
 access Put paths where people walk, recycle leaf litter establish worm farm stop
 access using cancer risk glyphosates
 access Safety
 access safety, better lighting, more art, make it easier to cross Maitland Road
 Same as short term, plus....public art, and exhibition area, regular markets
 and cultural days, Encourage the local schools to use the park for their sport
 days,and daily exercise time. Develop a great playgroud and picnic area for
 families to enjoy.
 access cleaner and safer
 access make into a genuinely family friendly park....
 I have reliably heard of people finding used syringes in the park. At present it
 is not a park I would feel very confident bringing kids to play
 access removal of needles- fenced off play area so kids dont run everywhere
 access Get all ages play ground
 enhanced skate part
 tenniscourts and ball area
 improve access to throsby with a canoe launch area at the william st end.
 BarBQ area and cafe facility
 Promote better access through it with better cycle paths.
 Link Islington with Kotara and Mayfield by following the natural water course
 access as a cycle path. Make sure it is lit.
 In this day and age of obesity epidemic, I'm sure exercise equipment through
 Islington Park (continuing down the path through to Linwood) would be a
 great asset to the community. The local schools often use the park, so
 maybe they could utilise the equipment (grants might be available for this
 through the education department or through Health).
 The kids play area is in drastic need of upgrading.
 The creek embankment needs urgent upgrading. I was involved in the
 artworks along the creek including the lounge and pelicans, I know under the
 grass is lots of granite/stone retaining blocks. They could be excavated and
 re-used - far more attractive than concrete.
 Wind sculptures that also have a practical use in providing power would be
 exciting and innovative.
 Provide incentives for home owners on the park to improve their fences and
 landscaping to enhance the park. (I should declare my house is on the
 access boundary of the park).
 access no more drug users and syringes left around, no more use of the park by
 prostitutes, safety at night (better lighting)

- access security from thugs and criminals, get rid of the prostitutes and drug dealers that frequent the area, close down all the brothels in the area as that stops decent people and families from visiting the park.
Separate cycle and walkways
- access Improve access to Throsby Creek
Protect wildlife
Encourage community activities and involvement
More public art and cultural/heritage signage
the creek itself, ferwer shopping trolleys.
- access making the cycle, walkways even more shaded and connected to Mayfield
- the most used area in the park is near the playground and bbq. if there weere some other areas with seating (and there are other areas with trees and shade during the day) these areas might also be used. I have seen more than one childs birthday trying to happen in the same small area.
- plantings along the creek in the style of those between the willian st bridge and hannell st would be a lovely and improve the amenity of the bike path by shading it. this could also include places along the lenght of the creek to sit, perhaps a bench facing the water or a picnic table
- a cafe would be wonderful.
- access another attraction which could be great is a community wood fired pizza oven. I lived in Albury for some years and their was one there and it was fired up once a month for public use and this was often combined with anothr activity such as a musical event. I reckon this could be very popular.
- toilets in the main park area are really necessary.
- lighting along the paths all the way from the TAFE to Hannell st. there are many sections especially behind the old wool sheds where there is no lighting at all.
- more seating along the creek between the main park and hannell st.
- more art
- access CONTINUED cleanups of the creek to remove shopping trolleys and the like.
upgrade walking & cycle paths throughout park
upgrade cricket club building
upgrade skate bowl with a newer skate plaza area
build new public toilet block.
- access more trees to climb
water usage....Newcastles 'Serpentine'....
- access more eating/dining facilities to enjoy a view of the park on the perimeter..

	As I have never used the park, I do not feel that I can suggest anything for the long-term apart from ongoing maintenance.
	Not keen on overdevelopment of parks. I prefer them to be spaces for people to use creatively: picnics, fetes etc. I would not be keen to see it "congested" or over developed with concrete boundaries and car parking.
	Maintenance of the canal/Throsby Creek no doubt keeps NCC busy with rubbish pollution.
approach	Community involvement ongoing
approach	Do it NOW
approach	don't know. NCC proposals look pretty good.
approach	greater consultation and involvement in art. i love the art works leading to the park
approach	Increased public use, multiple uses & involving more local residents in use & decisionmaking
approach	Love the suggestions listed
approach	more of what was suggested previously - paths, equipment, parking etc
	More quirky art.
	More public events (like Long Brunch)
approach	Implementing lots of the ideas developed in conjunction with the community.
approach	Most of the things that I supported earlier in this survey.
	the park could become a centre-piece for an artistic and environmentally innovative space. aboriginal history must also be represented
approach	not reduce its size at all
approach	Those outlined in this survey would be FABULOUS!!
approach	Those that I have already ticked
	Upgrade the whole aspect to a modern, public foreshore with seating, play areas of all types, good barbecue areas. Go and look at the Gold Coast and see how they upgraded their foreshore at the Broadwater - it's fantastic and used by the public. It transformed it from a carpark where the hoons used to hang out and do burn outs to this wonderful community area that has concerts, great play equipment and BBQs for the whole family, plenty of toilets, swimming area, shop etc. What's wrong with Ncle? Get with the times!
approach	clean up the smelly throsby creek area
creek	clean up throsby creek foreshore
creek	Clean up Throsby Creek. It's incredibly ugly at low-tide.
creek	More shade structures and eating areas.
	Clean up Throsby Creek. Put in lighting for winter months when it gets dark early
creek	community gardens, rehab of creek embankments, community events
creek	



Continue the Throsby Creek rehabilitation started by the Tighes Hill-Maryville Residents Action Group during the late 80's.

The original plan was to allow the mangroves to slowly recolonise the creek banks and break up the concrete walls. I think this should continue.

A new bridge from the Maitland Rd side of the park across to the bottom of Union St, Tighes Hill would be nice. Upgrade the lighting.

creek
DO NOT BUILD ANY BUILDINGS IN THE PARK. Give the businesses along Maitland Rd a chance. Cafe's should be encouraged in Tighes Hill, Maryville and Islington.

Create areas of dappled and areas of heavy shade by tree planting with many more seating arrangements along the embankment from Maitland Rd to Industrial Drive. The area from around Maryville is very neglected.

creek
Do embankment planting and remove areas of concrete embankment to make the creek more natural and simply not a drain.
Development of a community centre or multi-purpose centre on the Tighes Hill side of the park for use as a venue for community events and gatherings.

Continuing the work began in the 1980s on the rehabilitation of Throsby Creek (in line with the Lower Throsby Creek Rehabilitation Feasibility Study June 2006, WBM for the Hunter-Central Rivers Catchment Management Authority).

creek
NSW Maritime taking ownership from Hunter Water of the section of Throsby Creek from Hannell St to Maitland Road and managing it as a recreation area.
Foster revegetation on creek banks in general and a better inter-tidal zone with the creek at western end of the park beyond the cycle path (south side of creek) which isn't used very much.

The bank could be cut back to allow for salt marsh/intertidal flora and fauna to thrive. A short boardwalk (per Carrington Boardwalk design) could poke through from this section of the park through the mangroves to a jetty-style platform for sitting over the creek.

creek
Also promote the goals of the Lower Throsby Rehabilitation Feasibility Study and work with HW to implement.

creek
Great use for wildlife of Throsby creek

I think some sort of cafe in the park is great idea for future

creek
Also activities associated with Throsby Creek - when people can be confident of the safety issues.



Improve long term plantings of shade trees using appropriate species and staggered plantings.

Improve the bridge crossings- at present the fencing at the lewis st crossing is only on one side and is very narrow with crude fencing. the bridge crossing has a pedestrain crossing near the school that is tricky to navigate for traffic and walkers alike- potential accident waiting to happen there.

Improve water quality and revegetate throsby creek along the entire river bank creating a proper green corridor.

create a bush food garden along the river bank and perhaps in co-operation with the community garden.
maintain good quality grass coverage for the parkland and sporting fields.

Install and maintain an interactive water feature for children and adults especially in summer

Provide space for a small cafe that could demonstrate some of the food from the community garden and the bush food tucker.

Make connections with the tafe students as a space to use for recreation, photography, art, outdoor catering. Offer it to community groups to hold food markets showing african, chinese and international foods, teas, coffee and sweets etc etc

creek

Keep the leash free dog area and encourage show day events with guest demonstrators and dog exhibitions and breeders etc etc.

creek

Improve Throsby creek embankment, signage, children's cycle paths & linking cycle pathways & general landscaping and shade over playground

creek

Improved banks to Throsby Creek, perhaps car parking to promote more activities and drive out any undesirables
improvement in access to Throsby Creek

creek

More community events held in the park

creek

increase dog leash free area, improve the mangroves area, clean it up get rubbish out and possibly have some recreational areas along the creek as long as they don't destroy the mangroves

Long term management plan for fig tree maintenance and EVENTUAL replacement.

Expand playground (to major facility, such as Lake Macquarie's Speers Point Park).

Install boat launch facilities (non-motorised).

Find a more productive community use for the former Islington Bowling Club section of the park.

Grow more big trees (especially where these have been removed).

Develop the park as a natural urban eco-centre and outdoor community art gallery, focusing on the mangroves, islands and the cycleway (building on existing strengths) and promote these as part of what Newcastle has to offer.

creek

Gondola trips from Islington Park to Newcastle Harbour (one of my recurrent fantasies!)

creek	Maintain the trees with more native planting to attract birds and continue the Throsby Creek regeneration.
creek	More shade trees, landscaping, improve creekbank
	more trees
	extension of bike paths
creek	paths on tighes hill side of throby creek
	new creek embankments
	More trees and gardens. Perhaps a Community vegetable garden.
	Better utilisation of the waterway. Kayak launching points.
	Everything could be cleaner. There is a lot of rubbish and graffiti along the cycleway.
	The sculptures and historical exhibits could be better maintained.
creek	A program of community events to suit all ages of families.
	native gardens - more native trees and bushes.
	a lot more work on the creek to clean it up
	better recognition of Aboriginal heritage
	expanded playground.
	expanded community garden.
	cafe (but should be managed well)
	wireless internet
	better shelters / bbq facilites
	better path connectivity
	some work on the basketball court (but definately dont remove it)
	more events-carols/easter hunt/soup kitchen/older adults excercise/any kind of sport or physical activity/
	good safe toilets
	ART!!! more of it. temporary, permanent, Indigenous, in partnership with TAFE.
creek	Anything else in partnership with TAFE.
creek	sometimes the dogs have trouble climbing out of the creek as the walls get slippery. perhaps some cement stairs descending into the water would help

Styx/Throsby Waterway recognised as a recreation area, transferred from Hunter Water stormwater drain status, therefore taken on by NSW Maritime.

Environmental/art focussed playground upgrade.

Bi-annual art prize. Sculptures-by-Throsby.

Footbridge from Bowling Club side to dog Park.

Community Meeting place and cafe established on the Bowling Club site.

Walkway educational area established like the Carrington Boardwalk.

creek

Attractive well designed public lavatory.

In this day and age of obesity epidemic, I'm sure exercise equipment through Islington Park (continuing down the path through to Linwood) would be a great asset to the community. The local schools often use the park, so maybe they could utilise the equipment (grants might be available for this through the education department or through Health).

The kids play area is in drastic need of upgrading.

The creek embankment needs urgent upgrading. I was involved in the artworks along the creek including the lounge and pelicans, I know under the grass is lots of granite/stone retaining blocks. They could be excavated and re-used - far more attractive than concrete.

Wind sculptures that also have a practical use in providing power would be exciting and innovative.

creek

Provide incentives for home owners on the park to improve their fences and landscaping to enhance the park. (I should declare my house is on the boundary of the park).

creek

make the banks of the creek look natural or line with sand stone(to look old/historic)

creek

Parts of concrete embankment need repair or replacement.

creek

Rehabilitation of Throsby Creek

creek

rocks along the creek similar to carrington near the footbridge

creek

Sculptures and making Throsby Creek accessible for water activities similar to the Wetlands at Shortland.

the creek banks on both sides should be made into a promenade like the foreshore.

creek

The promenade could have a wall above the path (like the foreshore)that would act as extra flood prevention and as a long informal seat.

creek	<p>The creek is beautiful and looking after and dredging the creek would be a great start it gets a bit smelly round there. This would be beneficial long term when the water runs full with the mullets and the crabs and the bird life it is a great draw card with the children and adults, the rose gardens as well. Beautiful art works doesn't have to be prominent artists we have great you artists in this area whom would love to get their work out there. Family friendly and interesting park it is a unique area where you can leave from Merewether beach go along the coast walk the foreshore link on to the park and on to Hamilton for transport restaurants alike glad to see you are looking at the area it deserves it.</p> <p>the creek itself, fewer shopping trolleys.</p>
creek creek	<p>making the cycle, walkways even more shaded and connected to Mayfield Throsby Creek channel deformatisation</p>
events	<p>A little bit more seating and more community weekend park things with more notice (like on Sundays)</p>
events	<p>again community events - picnic areas make the place welcome to those who frequent it - cafe would be good</p>
events	<p>Art in the park, sculptures etc</p>
events	<p>Art work event like Sculpture by the Sea</p>
events	<p>as identified - more organised activities. bike paths</p>
	<p>BBQ areas</p>
	<p>seating</p>
	<p>public art</p>
	<p>more trees</p>
	<p>community events</p>
events events	<p>rotunda like King Edward Park Cafe, sculptures & art Community displays/events - such as arts, theatre, concerts, night markets, yoga, tai chi, working bees (i.e. cleanup days, native gardens, community gardening).</p>
	<p>Commissioned art pieces (sculptures) to show the history and diversity of the area.</p>
	<p>Designated family areas (picnic/playgrounds).</p>
events events	<p>Design and construction of a "community space/house" available for resident groups & local NFP organisations. community gardens, rehab of creek embankments, community events Improve long term plantings of shade trees using appropriate species and staggered plantings.</p>
events	<p>Improve the bridge crossings- at present the fencing at the Lewis St crossing is only on one side and is very narrow with crude fencing. the bridge crossing has a pedestrian crossing near the school that is tricky to navigate for traffic and walkers alike- potential accident waiting to happen there.</p>

Improve water quality and revegetate throsby creek along the entire river bank creating a proper green corridor.

create a bush food garden along the river bank and perhaps in co-operation with the community garden.

maintain good quality grass coverage for the parkland and sporting fields.

Install and maintain an interactive water feature for children and adults especially in summer

Provide space for a small cafe that could demonstrate some of the food from the community garden and the bush food tucker.

Make connections with the tafe students as a space to use for recreation, photography, art, outdoor catering. Offer it to community groups to hold food markets showing african, chinese and international foods, teas, coffee and sweets etc etc

Keep the leash free dog area and encourage show day events with guest demonstrators and dog exhibitions and breeders etc etc.

More events

coffee station

move the shed and utilise it more

events

Safety audit in 18 month

events

more public use by groups i.e markets, concerts aboriginal walks/info wetlands type set up and info days
More quirky art.

More public events (like Long Brunch)

events
events

Implementing lots of the ideas developed in conjunction with the community.
Outdoor entertainment / events
Planting of more shade trees

Implementation of improvements mentioned, eg. fitness equipment, sitting areas, information, use by community groups, speakers' corner? Outdoor dance areas? Specialized markets eg. ethnic. Medieval fair?

The more use,- in general,- the safer the area will be.

At present parts of the park are no go areas, especially near the main road.

Community garden?

events

Food, coffee outlet or kiosk?
promote activities / functions in the park for families.

events

for too long the park has been managed by pimps and prostitutes and until this stigma is removed people will not expose families to this area.

- events
 events

regular community events, a cafe in the park, access across maitland rd.
 safer & more activities

Same as short term, plus....public art, and exhibition area, regular markets and cultural days, Encourage the local schools to use the park for their sport days, and daily exercise time. Develop a great playgroud and picnic area for families to enjoy.
 Separate cycle and walkways
- events

Improve access to Throsby Creek

Protect wildlife

Encourage community activities and involvement
- events

More public art and cultural/heritage signage

Cleaning up of the creek - it is awful at low tide when you can see the trolleys and the garbage that has just been thrown in (it can also smell).

As mentioned before well maintained public toilets are a necessity.

I think a kiosk of cafe would be great. As it can be quite hard and some distance to get over Maitland Road to get to shops it would be helpful to be able to buy drinks and snacks there.
- facilities

Family friendly, Canoes for canal, CLEAN CREEK (Canal) up. Maybe some tables and shelters of a CONCRETE nature not wood and screws.
- facilities

Food van or some kind of light meal provisions.
 I would love to see some of it turned into one of the fantastic play parks I have seen at Umina and Bathurst. The Bathurst one uses a sloping area to great effect. They are really wonderful and my boys (aged 7 and 10) play endlessly on the flying fox, the sensory 'bits' etc. It could also incorporate a kids' bike track and maintain the skate park and basketball court as part of the design.

Well-maintained amenities are required in the park, including a drinking source.

Attractive sheltered areas for parties, barbies etc would be fantastic so the park becomes a 'whole day' destination.
- facilities

Please, please, please provide rubbish bins and a dog poo bin!!!!!!
 Improved overall night time lighting for paths and cycle ways to improve safety.

New play ground equipment.

More seating in shaded areas for parents and children to sit when visiting the park.
- facilities

Improved BBQ facilities. Could actually install mor



- 1) adventure playground.
 - 2) art installations (eg.as in Maryville and others)
 - 3) Toilets (open during the day)
 - 4) Cafe near palyground
 - 5) Events (eg live sites)movies in the park
- facilities
- 6) Childrens "learn to ride: track.
 - A BBQ Areas including shelter
 - B Promote the Park as being Family environment
 - C Improve Lighting
 - D Improve Safety
 - E Include/Improve activities for children under 15 years
 - F Improve Parking
 - G Improve access accross Maitland Road for Families and Children
 - H Reduce motor vehicle speed on Maitland road to 40 KPH, to improve the safety of persons using the park - access and egress of familes using the Park.
- facilities
- a cafe somewhere near the water
- facilities
- a jetty to launch small boats and for fishing on the tighes hill side
- facilities
- A cafe with toilet facilities.
- facilities
- A cafe. A small art gallery. A music bowl.
 a community garden accessible to everyone - similar to Fig Tree - would be great
- facilities
- more shade trees and seating around the playground
 A connection for bicycles along the western side of the creek
- A jetty for fishing and small boats
- clean up of the creek to make it an area to swim
- facilities
- A cafe, this would make the place more alive and would discourage the drug users
- facilities
- a space for outdoor theatre/cinema
- BBQ and picnic tables could be installed near playground. Parking improved and cycleways. Skate bowl could be extended and improved as it is a little basic how it is at the moment. Canoe launching area etc made, overall maintenance of grounds improved.
- facilities

	Beautiful toilets.
	More art works.
facilities	All the things on the list of things to improve: signage and aboriginal history, access to Throsby creek, water educational centres, running/exercise stations, small child bike paths like at Maitland Park, more playground areas catering for different age groups.
facilities	better lighting and appropriate shade from daily sun
facilities	Better lighting and night activities
facilities	Better lighting and security to make it feel safe. Try to remove people that leave unsafe drug-related items in the park.
facilities	Better lighting at night, more bbq facilities, more use of the creek
facilities	Better playground and recreational facilities
facilities	Better playground, better picnic areas, public toilets
facilities	Better playground, better shade, use the creek better
facilities	Better playgrounds for older kids big swings, tall complex webs. some more cute witty art. I don't think that anyone will ever feel safe there at night while it is occupied by junkie pimps, clients and used condoms/syringes. Your staff deserve medals and bonuses for the cleanups they do every day.
facilities	Better seating - better access from Maitland Rd. Improved BBQ facilities and shaded areas. More vegetation
facilities	better toilets and picnic facilities and parking
	better trash racks for throsby creek
facilities	Hubbard st/ Maitland rd junction bare grass, great for a BMX/skate park.
facilities	Bigger and better playground, cafe, toilets bike paths
	BBQ areas
	seating
	public art
	more trees
	community events
facilities	rotunda like King Edward Park Cafe and cycle paths.
	More infrastructure around the playgrounds.
facilities	More public art and sculptures Cafe near playground
	Expanded (possibly community) playground
	Art installations
	More plantings
facilities	Indigenous history

facilities cafe near playground. improved use of throsby creek for recreational activities. installation of art works

facilities Cafe near the playground/ foot bridge and cycle path. Pathways connecting The Avenue, morgan St to the other paths. Better pathways around the entire park perimeter

facilities Cafe, sculptures & art

facilities Cafe.

facilities cafe/water/environment info & activities centre;

Childrens adventure playground as in Maitland. or Speerspoint suitable for various ages.

Improved cycle ways to intergrate with foreshore etc

Toilets possibly attached to Coffee shop near playground to make it a attractive destination for all Newcastle residents

facilities Access to water for canoes. kyaks etc

facilities Clean and safe public toilets. More bubblers. Pedestrian path along Tighes Hill side of park. More pitpossum trees with family tables. Bduild sound-proof fencing along Maitland Road with additional pedestrian crossing between Hubbard and George Streets.

facilities Community arts centre

facilities Construct and maintain clean public toilet ammenities near play equipment.

facilities Exercise structures spread around edge of park for people wanting a circuit for exercise.

facilities A childrens play area.

facilities family areas, sporting uses; education/culture area

facilities fencing, facilities

facilities For ideas see New Farm Park Brisbane: attractive picnic and bbq areas.

facilities Fully fence dog excercise area.
 Get all ages play ground

enhanced skate part

tenniscourts and ball area

improve access to throsby with a canoe launch area at the william st end.

BarBQ area and cafe facility

Promote better access through it with better cycle paths.

facilities Link Islington with Kotara and Mayfield by following the natural water course as a cycle path. Make sure it is lit.

Good Toilets that are open and light the parth between Lewis St and hannel St

We now live in Mayfield East,and have discovered there is no easy conectivity for Mayfield / Mayfield East residents to get to Tighes Hill and on to Iso Park and the Wakling/ Bike path that will soon be continuous from Iso to Nobbys.

Both bridges at Maitland Road and Hannell St are not good for bikes or foot traffic.

Old timers tell us there used to be a bridge over the Selwyn St rail tracks from Selwyn St near near Greaves st at Mayfield East to Ferndale St, Tighes Hill.

facilities

What is now needed is a lightweight bridge over the tracks at that location for bikes and foot traffic only. That would provide an important new link to Iso park and the good walking / bike track all the way to Nobbys
 I (plus a couple of friends) whole heartedly believe that a Cafe would be great. Maybe up in the space near the units on Maitland Rd, under the shady trees with indoor and outdoor seating and...a toilet! Maybe council owned (to bring some revenue in...better than charging for parking in the CBD) and locally managed. There are many talented and creative people in our area...I'm sure some with skills to operate a modern cafe with a good vibe. There's parking up on Maitland Rd and it's easy to walk to for Tighes Hill and Maryville residents...safer than crossing Maitland rd and walking to Beaumont St if you have small children.

A new play ground would be wonderful but not essential. My children enjoy what's there but when we do a bigger activity with other families we tend to head to places like Lambton or Speers Point.

facilities

Love to see the creek cleaned up. Hate seeing rubbish and shopping trolleys discarded.

facilities

I mostly walk or cycle through the park but its obvious the skate bowl is outdated and I refuse to use the toilets because of the condition they are in. I buy water at the service station and use their toilet. I think adding to the sculptures would be great. Any improvements to the park to encourage families and use of the creek is a great idea

I think some sort of cafe in the park is great idea for future

facilities

Also activities associated with Throsby Creek - when people can be confident of the sfaety issues.

facilities

increase dog leash free area, improve the mangroves area, clean it up get rubbish out and possibly have some recreational areas along the creek as long as they don't destory the mangroves

facilities

indegenuous acknowledgement of place and significance. interactive environment activity places

facilities

Install a jetty, ampitheatre

It should be developed so that people outside the immediate area are drawn in. Possibly the increased use would generate some business for that part of town. Even a couple of coffee shops or a decent bakery (and I'm NOT talking about a Brumby's!) might flourish if there were more people using the park regularly. There should be something in the park or about the park that appeals to multiple ages and interests.

Public art, and art exhibitions are good, free classical concerts in the summer, like they do down at Warner's Bay? Free family movies on Saturday nights in the Autumn? Something that draws in *families*, not just teenagers.

facilities

You need a calendar of events that are well managed and *regular* so people get used to going to the park for thing other than a casual family picnic and to toss around a ball (although those things are good, too, they aren't specific to Islington).

Long term management plan for fig tree maintenance and EVENTUAL replacement.

Expand playground (to major facility, such as Lake Macquarie's Speers Point Park).

Install boat launch facilities (non-motorised).

Find a more productive community use for the former Islington Bowling Club section of the park.

Grow more big trees (especially where these have been removed).

Develop the park as a natural urban eco-centre and outdoor community art gallery, focusing on the mangroves, islands and the cycleway (building on existing strengths) and promote these as part of what Newcastle has to offer.

facilities

Gondola trips from Islington Park to Newcastle Harbour (one of my recurrent fantasies!)

facilities

Maybe some flower beds but I think it should be left as it is. With maybe a few more eating areas and bbq's.

facilities

More exercise facilities

More extensive bike paths and BBQ facilities near the water. Water features which would be suitable for younger children or water park which could be suitable for all ages.

A 'tree house' made for climbing in and using like a cubby house.

facilities

A cafe or coffee shop on (floating or built on a pole structure) or near the water.

facilities

more facilities (eg. picnic/BBQ play equipment areas for small and older kids. Work on building up wi9ld life habitat. Toilets

facilities

more family focused activities and entertaining areas that are adequate to use. a cafe would be exceptional

facilities

More gardens, decent toilets and I loved the exercise station idea.

facilities

more picnic facilities, eg bbqs, seating and shade

	More picnic tables & bbq facilities
facilities	Public toilets
	More public art. Non-motorised boat launch facilities (including mobile hire). Gondola rides on Throsby Creek, from Islington Park to Carrington Bridge and back (a long term fantasy of mine for years!)
	Long term replacement strategy for avenue of Moreton Bay figs along Maitland Rd.
	Upgrade to playground area (e.g., Speers Point Park).
facilities	Further rehabilitation of creek (including deformatisation of creek banks where possible).
facilities	more shade and BBQ facilities, toilets and seating
facilities	more shade, more seating in BBQ area, a toilet we know about (is there a public toilet? it isn't signposted very well as we've not found it).
facilities	More shady areas, more bbqs and space for gatherings, beter skate park
facilities	More sitting areas ... and infrustructure like cafe etc and duck ponds to encourage families to visit and spend time at the park. (Similar to areas in Blackbutt Reserve)
facilities	More toilets, more shelter, with BBQ areas and more park benches
	more vegetation- more shady trees near playground would be great
facilities	cafe near playground
facilities	New fencing
facilities	paths, play equipment, cafe, gatherings, maybe markets anything to bring people in
facilities	Personally I think the skate bowls hould be improved, or made a smaller bowl because at the moment it's too deep. picket fence around oval
	better pedestrian & bike paths
	more trees and plantings
	more tables & picnic facilities
facilities	toilets Possibly increased car parking facilities. This could be done adjacent to the waterfront at Park Rd or/and between the park and the Dick Smith store.
facilities	The cycle link from the park to Tighes Terrace is very important and should NOT be abandoned if a new car park is to be built there.
facilities	Public toilets Public toilets
facilities	more shade
facilities	Public toilets! More picnic tables and covered areas, better lighting! Shade over childrens playground, more rubbish facilities and bubblers.
facilities	Public toilets,more BBQ facility's,adventure playground, cafe
facilities	rails to protect from creek - improved fencing



facilities
facilities
facilities
facilities

Rationalize existing parking and arrangements with Tafe to have access to parking on weekends..especially with cars and vehicles carrying bikes.
Improve connectivity between Tafe and cycleway and proposed extra loop.

Upgrade existing parking near tram bridge and dog park. Then build a cafe with sufficient capacity for small functions and site it in the space between the arms of throsby creek and Styx creek. Tenders could be called for its lease.

As part of the lease, or separately, the cafe could provide a coffee rickshaw which could ply the cycleway loop and down along the creek. Some cafe kart bays could be provided to make it a bit safer for the rickshaw to park and operate.

remove oval fence for good so all users can use this area.

safe injecting facility

Shop or cafe would be good.

Styx/Throsby Waterway recognised as a recreation area, transferred from Hunter Water stormwater drain status, therefore taken on by NSW Maritime.

Environmental/art focussed playground upgrade

Bi-annual art prize. Sculptures-by-Throsby.

Footbridge from Bowling Club side to dog Park.

Community Meeting place and cafe established on the Bowling Club site.

Walkway educational area established like the Carrington Boardwalk.

facilities

Attractive well designed public lavatory.

In this day and age of obesity epidemic, I'm sure exercise equipment through Islington Park (continuing down the path through to Linwood) would be a great asset to the community. The local schools often use the park, so maybe they could utilise the equipment (grants might be available for this through the education department or through Health).

The kids play area is in drastic need of upgrading.

The creek embankment needs urgent upgrading. I was involved in the artworks along the creek including the lounge and pelicans, I know under the grass is lots of granite/stone retaining blocks. They could be excavated and re-used - far more attractive than concrete.

Wind sculptures that also have a practical use in providing power would be exciting and innovative.

facilities

Provide incentives for home owners on the park to improve their fences and landscaping to enhance the park. (I should declare my house is on the boundary of the park).

facilities

More seating, tables and BBQ area - would be good near dog park so social groups maybe have evening BBQs

facilities

New skate park with ramps, similar to Mayfield, Newcastle, Bar Beach.
Pedestrian access across Maitland Road. Bubbblers.

- New/challenging children's playground
- access to Throsby creek
- Toilets
- lighting
- planting of more shade trees
- facilities weeding/maintainance of the grass
- facilities Open public toilet near playground and barbi area
- The cafe and outdoor events sound like lovely ideas. It would be good to have great lighting and be able to use the park, cycle ways & cafe at night too, not just during the day. Having the night aspect gives the whole park a new dimation. Put a function room & bar there for people to hire out for birthdays / weddings / fundraisers etc.
- facilities if you build it.....they will come :)
- facilities Toilet block
- facilities toilets
- facilities toilets
- facilities Toilets
- facilities Toilets and outside bands entertainment
- Toilets are in need!
- facilities A children's water feature would be great.
- toilets in the main park area are really necessary.
- lighting along the paths all the way from the TAFE to Hannell st. there are many sections especially behind the old wool sheds where there is no lighting at all.
- more seating along the creek between the main park and hannell st.
- more art
- facilities CONTINUED cleanups of the creek to remove shopping trolleys and the like.
- facilities Toilets, bike track following Throsby creek with bridge to avoid going up to Maitland Rd
- facilities Toilets, extend bike path into Mayfield.
- facilities toilets, gardens
- Trees on edge of bike track, improved playground wiht more equipment, sheltered picnic areas for hire, creek improvements and access - dredging or simialar to remove smell at low tide, full shared track on both sides of creek to industrial drive and maitland rd.
- facilities Upgrade basketball court.
- A kids bicycle track.
- facilities Clean leaf litter under figs, they get covered in bat poo and stick to shoes, pram wheels etc. Its gross.

	upgrade children playground- like lambton park
facilities	Scooter/childrens bike circuit. skatepark
facilities	upgrade of play equipment . toilets. cafe/kiosk upgrade or replace skate bowl
	upgrade playground
facilities	plant more trees
	Upgrade the childrens playground and expand it. Over the past 3 years the number of children using this park has tripled at least.
	Lots of kids are into their scooters and learning to ride bikes. Be great to see a childrens bike track by the basket ball court, and perhaps even make use of the embankment up to maitland road from the skatebowl to make a kind of scooter race way - perhaps an easy one (low steepness grade) and more advance for the older kids with jumps/humps and steeper grade
facilities	
	Upgrade the whole aspect to a modern, public foreshore with seating, play areas of all types, good barbecue areas. Go and look at the Gold Coast and see how they upgraded their foreshore at the Broadwater - it's fantastic and used by the public. It transformed it from a carpark where the hoons used to hang out and do burn outs to this wonderful community area that has concerts, great play equipment and BBQs for the whole family, plenty of toilets, swimming area, shop etc. What's wrong with Ncle? Get with the times!
facilities	
	upgrade walking & cycle paths throughout park
	upgrade cricket club building
	upgrade skate bowl with a newer skate plaza area
	build new public toilet block.
facilities	more trees to climb Very little needs to be done, but lets provide a visitors stop on Maitland road, eg
facilities	Proper toilet facilities, showers, BBQ shed, with perhaps kiost provisions- helps to provide security/ services. water usage....Newcastles 'Serpentine'....
facilities	more eating/dining facilities to enjoy a view of the park on the perimeter.. well i said a toilet block near the playground in short term - or long term if that is budget wise.
facilities	i don't want any major developments in Islington Park thanks You need enough replacement trees - the row of what I presume are replacement Moreton Bay trees is too small in number. These are the ones parallel to the veteran trees at the eastern end of the park. Way too few. Please - no more exotic trees. No more magnolias.
facilities	No cafe please - there are plenty nearby.

	<p>1. New adventure playground that attracts a wider age range, is wheelchair accessible and caters to children with disabilities.</p> <p>2. Better connectivity between park and creek. Perhaps a boardwalk and jetty similar to Carrington.</p> <p>3. A program of community events such as markets and outdoor cinema, including night events.</p>
playground	<p>A new bike track as part of a road safety education facility for young children.</p> <p>A new playground equipment area at distance from the current one to permit the spread of families through the park.</p>
playground	<p>Better access to the park from Maitland Road for residents from the west side of Maitland Road.</p> <p>A wonderful playground such as is at Speers Point. With shade and barbeque facilities and picnic area adjoining.</p> <p>A kiosk and toilet facilities.</p> <p>An improved basketball and skate bowl area for teenagers and young adults.</p> <p>Improved community gardens, as mentioned on previous page.</p>
playground playground	<p>Improved club house for sports. bigger play area and undercover area Cafe near playground</p> <p>Expanded (possibly community) playground</p> <p>Art installations</p> <p>More plantings</p>
playground	<p>Indigenous history</p> <p>Childrens adventure playground as in Maitland. or Speerspoint suitable for various ages.</p> <p>Improved cycle ways to intergrate with foreshore etc</p> <p>Toilets possibly attached to Coffee shop near playground to make it a attractive destination for all Newcastle residents</p>
playground	<p>Access to water for canoes. kyaks etc</p>
playground playground	<p>Community playground, although I must declare an interest in the project founding Newcastle community playground Inc. cycleway and kids playground equipment</p>
playground	<p>Expand playground facilities and improve shade near the existing playground. Make all plantings native species - showcase local indigenous plants. More public art - movable, interactive pieces.</p>

For the longest time I have dreamt of a cafe at Islington Park! It would be such a fantastic spot to meet friends for a coffee while the kids play at the park. And it would mean there could be toilets, but in a supervised safe place (i.e. next to the cafe).

A multi-age playground with a fence around it (Maitland Road is very busy!) would be SUCH an asset. We currently drive to Maitland or Speers Point for such a playground, and Newcastle has nothing comparable at all. Shade is so important, too. And to include something for older children/young teens such as a flying fox or mini rock climbing wall would be excellent. (There are two pieces of playground equipment at Maitland Park that are excellent: the flying fox and the spinning ride with 3 or 4 seats hanging off it.)

playground

Better BBQ/Picnic facilities would be excellent.
Get all ages play ground

enhanced skate part

tennis courts and ball area

improve access to throsby with a canoe launch area at the william st end.

BarBQ area and cafe facility

Promote better access through it with better cycle paths.

playground

Link Islington with Kotara and Mayfield by following the natural water course as a cycle path. Make sure it is lit.

playground

I think it would be a great site for a giant kids playground, including a kids cycleway.

I would love to see some of it turned into one of the fantastic play parks I have seen at Umina and Bathurst. The Bathurst one uses a sloping area to great effect. They are really wonderful and my boys (aged 7 and 10) play endlessly on the flying fox, the sensory 'bits' etc. It could also incorporate a kids' bike track and maintain the skate park and basketball court as part of the design.

Well-maintained amenities are required in the park, including a drinking source.

Attractive sheltered areas for parties, barbies etc would be fantastic so the park becomes a 'whole day' destination.

playground
playground
playground
playground

Please, please, please provide rubbish bins and a dog poo bin!!!!!!
Improved playground facilities, seating, shade.
Improvements to the playground
larger playground area for toddlers

Long term management plan for fig tree maintenance and EVENTUAL replacement.

Expand playground (to major facility, such as Lake Macquarie's Speers Point Park).

Install boat launch facilities (non-motorised).
Find a more productive community use for the former Islington Bowling Club section of the park.

Grow more big trees (especially where these have been removed).

Develop the park as a natural urban eco-centre and outdoor community art gallery, focusing on the mangroves, islands and the cycleway (building on existing strengths) and promote these as part of what Newcastle has to offer.

playground

Gondola trips from Islington Park to Newcastle Harbour (one of my recurrent fantasies!)

playground

More features for public participation/ usage should be explored. There is a large amount of free space available for expansion of the playground and the provision of fitness stations around the extremities of the park. It would be a great opportunity for Council to promote fitness and exercise to the community.

playground

More play and climbing equipment. Follow up on Q6,7 and 8 - cleanliness, current likes, future facilities.

playground
playground
playground
playground

more play equipment, upgrade skatepark and basketball venues; coffee shop and toilets; more bubblers along the path; some sections separate bike and pedestrian
More playground equipment for kids 5+ and TOILETS!!!
more trees,maintenance,and a much bigger playground
New playground and better lighting around facilities

Place a great childrens playground, water features would be fantastic. Develop the area to attract night use which would restrict the inappropriate use of the park. (How, I have no idea, sorry!) With an improved playground comes parental concerns of drug paraphernalia being discarded.

Community garden would be ideal at this location.

playground
playground
playground
playground
playground

Replace the Skate bowl, which is useless/dangerous in its current form due to undulating curves in the 'transition' or curve of the ramp. Its a good location to have a skate facility, being so close to the TAFE (youth).
play equipment
Playground extention like the ones done in Lake Mac council
Playground for 6-12 year olds please!
Playground shading

playground
playground

playground upgrade, better use of throsby - for recreation and education, more seating, improve skate bowl, more flower beds, accessible toilets
playgrounds

playground playground	<p>Same as short term, plus....public art, and exhibition area, regular markets and cultural days, Encourage the local schools to use the park for their sport days, and daily exercise time. Develop a great playground and picnic area for families to enjoy.</p> <p>shade over playground Shade over playground equipment</p>
playground	<p>more vegetation along creek</p>
playground playground	<p>special needs kids area - even just to the point that the playground is fenced in would be great.</p> <p>The quality of the playground and the shade cover at the playground New/challenging children's playground</p>
playground	<p>access to Throsby creek Toilets lighting planting of more shade trees weeding/maintenance of the grass</p>
	<p>the most used area in the park is near the playground and bbq. if there were some other areas with seating (and there are other areas with trees and shade during the day) these areas might also be used. I have seen more than one child's birthday trying to happen in the same small area.</p> <p>plantings along the creek in the style of those between the willian st bridge and hannell st would be a lovely and improve the amenity of the bike path by shading it. this could also include places along the length of the creek to sit, perhaps a bench facing the water or a picnic table</p> <p>a cafe would be wonderful.</p>
playground	<p>another attraction which could be great is a community wood fired pizza oven. I lived in Albury for some years and there was one there and it was fired up once a month for public use and this was often combined with another activity such as a musical event. I reckon this could be very popular.</p>
playground	<p>Trees on edge of bike track, improved playground with more equipment, sheltered picnic areas for hire, creek improvements and access - dredging or similar to remove smell at low tide, full shared track on both sides of creek to industrial drive and maitland rd. upgrade children playground- like lambton park</p>
playground	<p>Scooter/children's bike circuit. skatepark Upgrade of children's play equipment to suit all ages and abilities Upgrade and extension of skate facilities</p>
playground playground	<p>Environmental education and habitat restoration/ plantings upgrade of play equipment . toilets. cafe/kiosk Upgrade playground, make it more imaginative, eg adventure landscape features (children like to climb on the collection of rocks in Civic Park)</p>
playground	<p>A kiosk.</p>

Upgrade the childrens playground and expand it. Over the past 3 years the number of children using this park has tripled at least.

playground Lots of kids are into their scooters and learning to ride bikes. Be great to see a childrens bike track by the basket ball court, and perhaps even make use of the embankment up to maitland road from the skatebowl to make a kind of scooter race way - perhaps an easy one (low steepness grade) and more advance for the older kids with jumps/humps and steeper grade

playground when the old playground was taken away (those lovely old swings and the big slippery dip - so much fun) and the plastic one installed, there was a water feature with an old fashioned pump. This kept getting vandalised, so it was eventually removed. I would like to see something imaginative like this, but tougher against vandals.

unknown again, not sure.

unknown All good suggestions as made previously in the survey.

unknown All the ones i advocated for previously

unknown As I do not use this park very often and only as a cyclist there is little I could suggest here.

unknown As per previous Q - you pick. I'm out of steam.

unknown please see previous

vegetation As previously suggested, develop a Botanical Garden. If you need the area for sporting activies, okay, but moved into a specific section, leave the rest to a Botanical Garden. Involved the N'cstle Uni.

vegetation Cease poison spraying garden edges and paths. NCC policy on so called weed reduction is highly dangerous to all who frequent the park humans wildlife and pets.This policy is borne of irresponsible disregard for our city for the sake of a perceived quick and easier fix. NCC is killing our future. Our children!!!

vegetation GLYPHOSATE ROUND UP EQUALS CANCER

vegetation community gardens, rehab of creek embankments, community events

vegetation Conservational direction.

vegetation Ensure there are more trees being planted to replace any trees that need to be removed in the future.

vegetation Floral garden displays

Improve long term plantings of shade trees using appropriate species and staggered plantings.

Improve the bridge crossings- at present the fencing at the lewis st crossing is only on one side and is very narrow with crude fencing. the bridge crossing has a pedestrain crossing near the school that is tricky to navigate for traffic and walkers alike- potential accident waiting to happen there.

Improve water quality and revegetate throsby creek along the entire river bank creating a proper green corridor.

create a bush food garden along the river bank and perhaps in co-operation with the community garden.

maintain good quality grass coverage for the parkland and sporting fields.

Install and maintain an interactive water feature for children and adults especially in summer

Provide space for a small cafe that could demonstrate some of the food from the community garden and the bush food tucker.

Make connections with the tafe students as a space to use for recreation, photography, art, outdoor catering. Offer it to community groups to hold food markets showing african, chinese and international foods, teas, coffee and sweets etc etc

vegetation
vegetation
vegetation
vegetation

Keep the leash free dog area and encourage show day events with guest demonstrators and dog exhibitions and breeders etc etc.
More native plants/habitat areas.
more trees
more trees - native grasses subtle solar-powered lighting

vegetation
vegetation
vegetation

More trees and gardens. Perhaps a Community vegetable garden.
Better utilisation of the waterway. Kayak launching points.
everything could be cleaner. There is a lot of rubbish and graffiti along the cycleway.
The sculptures and historical exhibits could be better maintained.
A program of community events to suit all ages of families.
more trees cycling paths and dog areas
more trees, cycleways on both sides
more vegetation- more shady trees near playground would be great
cafe near playground

vegetation

vegetation

More vigilant monitoring of fallen branches off the figs, particularly on the footpath.
Ampitheatre style structure on the area close to the creek.

	<p>native gardens - more native trees and bushes. a lot more work on the creek to clean it up better recognition of Aboriginal heritage expanded playground. expanded community garden. cafe (but should be managed well) wireless internet better shelters / bbq facilities better path connectivity ome work on the basketball court (but definately dont remove it) more events-carols/easter hunt/soup kitchen/older adults excercise/any kind of sport or physical activity/ good safe toilets ART!!! more of it. temporary, permanent, Indigenous, in partnership with TAFE.</p>
vegetation	Anything else in partnership with TAFE.
vegetation	Plant flower beds
vegetation	Plant more trees
	Plant native trees
vegetation	Cycle & walking path
vegetation	plant shade trees
	Planting of more shade trees
	Implementation of improvements mentioned, eg. fitness equipment, sitting areas, information, use by community groups, speakers' corner? Outdoor dance areas? Specialized markets eg. ethnic. Medieval fair? The more use,- in general,- the safer the area will be. At present parts of the park are no go areas, especially near the main road. Community garden?
vegetation	Food, coffee outlet or kiosk?
	New/challenging children's playground
	access to Throsby creek
	Toilets
	lighting
	planting of more shade trees
vegetation	weeding/maintainance of the grass
vegetation	There could be more native plantings and information signs regarding the history (including Aboriginal) and natural history of the area.
	There is great potential for this area and also Throsby Creek to be a much more valuable birdlife area. Some measures to control the Indian Mynas that have started to gather in the hundreds in the mangroves during the winter months will help the native birds to re-establish. Already we are seeing the herons nesting on the island adjacent the off leash dog park and young have been reared there 3 years in a row to date. The mangroves are doing very well and should be further encouraged by breaking up some of the concrete along the embankments.
	Clear signs should be place further downstream to discourage boats with outboard motors. For some reason we are starting to see these up in this part of the creek.
vegetation	
	Upgrade of children's play equipment to suit all ages and abilities
	Upgrade and extension of skate facilities
vegetation	Environmental education and habitat restoration/ plantings



vegetation

You need enough replacement trees - the row of what I presume are replacement Moreton Bay trees is too small in number. These are the ones parallel to the veteran trees at the eastern end of the park. Way too few. Please - no more exotic trees. No more magnolias. No cafe please - there are plenty nearby.