

**ELECTRONIC ATTACHMENTS
FOR
BUSINESS PAPER**

6:30 PM, TUESDAY, 29 APRIL, 2025

REPORTS FOR COUNCIL DECISION

Item 1 Public Exhibition - Draft Community Strategic Plan, Draft Delivery Program and Operational Plan 2025-29 and Draft Long Term Financial Plan 2025-34; and Adoption - Community Engagement Strategy 2025-29

Attachment 4: Community Participation Plan - Public Exhibition outcomes report 2

Item 3 Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre Stage 2 Upgrade

Attachment 1: Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre Upgrade (Stage 2) Community Engagement Outcome Report 5

Item 8 Expanding Jazz in the Park

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Public exhibition outcomes report – Community Participation Plan

The community was invited to comment on the draft Community Participation Plan between 27 February 2025 and 27 March 2025.

During the public exhibition period, there were:

- 5 submissions through Your Say Inner West
- 1,162 visits to the Your Say Inner West project page
- 357 total downloads of the exhibition materials

Submissions

- 4 submissions supported the draft plan
- 1 submission did not support the draft plan

Verbatim comments and Council officer responses:

Comment	Officer response
i'm championing for more urban street / pathways greening infrastructure, more trees and street pathway bed-gardens.	Not a consideration for the CPP.
<p>I AGREE with following + Comments/Suggestions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provision of more detail WHO will be notified when a planning matter is exhibited (a) SUBMISSIONS: Accurate process of reporting on submissions & informing (b) DECISION-MAKING: Accurate decision-making of Council & governing of Planning Proposals (c) NOTIFICATION process for Planning Proposals & Development Control Plans: Consistent and transparent approach (d) HOUSEKEEPING: Amend terminology to better reflect wording in legislation as 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Both owners and occupiers within the specified radii will be notified. (b) + (c) Following the exhibition of a draft planning document (e.g. planning proposal, development control plan, local strategic planning statement), an Engagement Outcomes Report is prepared to document submissions received. This is considered by Council as part of the decision-making process and submitters are advised of reporting dates and Council decisions.

<p>well as update reference to non superseded SEPPs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Notification of Development - neighbours informed - Development Type B 14days - add Solar Panels = warrants community engagement - Development Type C 21days - add supportive accommodation, group homes, co-living and built-to-rent housing <p>TRACKED CHANGES to ADOPTED COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION PLAN 2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Planning & Development Documents: Minimum mandatory time frame for public exhibition should be 30-35 days NOT 28 (e) Submissions, Notification areas, Notification process: OK 	<p>(d) The Community Participation Plan aims to ensure that there is a consistent and transparent approach to the notification of planning proposals and development control plans.</p> <p>Housekeeping</p> <p>The wording was already amended in the new draft to reflect current SEPPS, for example the Housing SEPP 2021. The proposed changes include notification of solar panels in Type B, supportive accommodation, group homes, co-living and built-to-rent housing in Type C.</p> <p>(e) Schedule 1 of the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i> stipulates the minimum public exhibition periods for development control plans (28 days) and planning proposals (as stated in a gateway determination or 28 days). The CPP reflects these legislated timeframes.</p>
<p>Clarifications, alignment of language with planning policies and use of plain language all seem helpful.</p> <p>Wishing in future for there to be a way to sign up for electronic notifications of DA submissions and major changes. Paper and mail based system feels increasingly archaic and eats significantly into period for reviewing and commenting on DA submissions.</p>	<p>Council officers continue to look for ways to streamline access to information and notification. There are however residents that do not have access to computers or email. Therefore, any solution would need to be an opt in with the technology to enable residents to either opt in or opt out at any time.</p>

<p>Remove all community consultation. Clearly, as all evidence shows, we cannot be trusted.</p>	<p>Council's CPP must be consistent with minimum mandatory public exhibition periods specified in the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i>.</p>
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Recommendation

Following the public exhibition of the draft amended Community Participation Plan, officers reviewed the comments received and responded to them in the table above. No further changes to the draft are recommended.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY REPORT

Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre Upgrade
Stage 2 Concept Layouts



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Executive Summary

01. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

From 8 November 2024 to 31 January 2025, the community was invited to provide feedback on the Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre Upgrade—Stage 2 Concept Layouts. This community engagement builds on the previous engagement undertaken for Stage 1 of the project.

The engagement included interactive drop-in stalls at the Centre, an online survey on the Your Say Inner West website, emails, and social media.

The engagement scope included seeking community feedback on the 50m Olympic pool and a new multiuse 25m pool with a moveable floor that can be used for water polo, learning to swim, aqua aerobics, and other activities.

During the 11-week engagement period there were 9,260 visits to the Your Say Inner West Project Page. Overall the engagement period saw 640 submissions or comments received. This included 265 people who provided feedback via the information stalls at the Centre, and 167 people who provided feedback through emails, Facebook, or Instagram.

The feedback indicated that 60% of those who responded supported the Stage 2 Concept Layouts. However, it varied across the different mediums of communication. For instance, feedback at information stalls showed that 74% of participants were in favour. However, of participants who provided feedback via the online survey, 46% were in favour, 34% opposed, and 20% were unsure.

The majority of respondents were supportive of the proposed facilities and improvements. However, feedback was received requesting further changes, which included providing more shaded areas, including a spa and sauna, re-configuring the pool layout, including a dive pool, providing facilities for underwater rugby, and increasing the number of lanes. The depths of the new 50m and 25m pools were confirmed during the Council Meeting on 14 June, 2022. As per the resolution, the 50m pool will have a depth ranging from 1.1 metres to 1.8 metres, while the 25m pool will have a maximum depth of 2.1 metres, excluding the thickness of the moveable floor.

Community feedback received will be presented at the April 2025 Council meeting.

Context



02. CONTEXT



01 Previous Community Engagements

The Council has previously undertaken and concluded community engagements in regard to the Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre Upgrade Masterplan in 2018 (from 22 January 2018 until 28 February 2018) and 2020 (from 16 March until 20 April 2020).

02 Master Plan

In 2020, the Council adopted the Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre Master Plan, which guides the upgrades and improvements for the next 10 years.

03 Community Feedback | Stage One

From late November 2023 until the end of January 2024, the council invited feedback from the community on Stage 1 of the updates, which included the children's pool. The Council has now finalised and endorsed plans for the Stage 1 upgrade.

04 Community Feedback | Stage Two

Between 8 November 2024 and 31 January 2025, the Council sought feedback from the community on Stage 2, which included a new heated 50m Olympic pool and a new multiuse 25m pool with a moveable floor that can be used for water polo, learning to swim, aqua aerobics, and other activities. The outcome of this engagement aligns with the results of previous engagements conducted in 2018 and 2020.

05 Report to Council

Community feedback received will be reported to the April 2025 Council meeting and where possible with consideration of the project's restraints, feedback will be incorporated into the design development.

Community Engagement



03. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Engagement with the Community

Between 8 November 2024 and 31 January 2025, the community was invited to provide feedback on the Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre Upgrade – Stage 2 Concept Layouts.

The community engagement process was intended to be as inclusive as possible, with various forums for feedback. It included drop-in-style information stalls, an online survey posted on the Your Say Inner West website, emails, and social media.

Promotion

The community engagement events and online survey were advertised through flyers delivered to properties in the Inner West Local Government Area, emails, posters at the Centre, social media advertisements, and the Council's website.

During the consultation period, 36,287 notification flyers were delivered to properties in the Inner West Local Government Area, over 110,000 emails were sent to the public, and 10 posters were displayed at Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre.

The engagement process was also heavily promoted online. The Council's Facebook posts reached 46,410, 2837 link clicks and 153 interactions. Posts on the Council's Instagram page achieved 15,351 views and 378 interactions.

On-site engagement events

Between 27 November 2024 and 24 January 2025, 11 on-site pop-ups were held at Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre. These sessions were staggered over various times and days to capture a broad spectrum of users.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENTS

Date	Time	Thumbs Up	Thumbs Down
Wednesday, 27 November 2024	4-7pm	40	2
Saturday, 30 November 2024	9-11am	45	2
Wednesday 4 December 2024	9-11am	18	3
Tuesday, 10 December 2024	8-10am	3	6
Monday, 16 December 2024	6-8pm	12	0
Thursday, 19 January 2024	7-9am	1	0
Tuesday, 7 January 2025	3-5pm	13	3
Sunday, 12 January 2025	9-11am	17	9
Wednesday, 15 January 2025	11am-1pm	13	2
Thursday, 23 January 2025	6-8pm	26	40
Friday, 24 January	8-10am	7	3
Total		195	70
Percentage		74%	26%
Total Feedback		265	

At the stalls, people could cast a vote to give the Concept plans the thumbs up or thumbs down. Respondents could also leave comments.

This was the most popular forum for feedback, with 265 responses.

The peak engagement periods for engagement were from 27 November to 4 December 2024, followed by 13 to 23 January 2025.



Online Survey

Between 8 November 2024 and 31 January 2025, 9,260 people visited the project page, 135 of whom completed the online survey.

As part of the survey, respondents were asked, “Do you support the proposed concept plan for LPAC stage two upgrades?”. Of the 135 responses submitted, 46% were in favour, 34% opposed, and 20% were unsure.

Peak periods for visits and contributions were early to mid-November 2024 and mid-January 2025. The peak visitation day was Wednesdays.

Emails and social media

During the consultation period, 172 people directly commented to the council via emails, Facebook, Instagram, and written submissions.



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Community Engagement poster and DL flyer

Proposed features

- ▶ A new heated 8-lane 50m Olympic pool (1.1m - 1.8m depth)
- ▶ New 25m heated pool with moveable floor (2.1m depth)
- ▶ New spectator seating
- ▶ New shade sails structures
- ▶ New first aid room
- ▶ New storage and lifeguard rooms
- ▶ Improved landscaped areas for recreation including BBQs and picnic spaces
- ▶ New concourse slab within 50m and 25m pool areas
- ▶ Indoor program pool hall heating and cooling system upgrade
- ▶ New fully electrified pool water heating plant

Energy efficiency initiative

We will upgrade the heating pool plant and shift from conventional gas boilers to a cutting-edge electric heat pump system.

This forms part of Council's commitment to being 100% renewable and divested from fossil fuels.

Background

Stage one:
We invited the community to provide feedback on the proposed upgrades for the children's pool at LPAC from late November 2023 until end of January 2024. Plans for the stage one upgrades have now been finalised.

Next steps

Stage two:
We are now seeking feedback from the community on the final design.

The final design will feature a new heated 50m Olympic pool and new multiuse 25m pool with a moveable floor that can be used for water polo, learn to swim, aqua aerobics and other activities.

The new 50m and 25m pools will be relocated to achieve improved access and functionality.

Any questions?

Contact: Alex Nord, Senior Project Manager
 ☎ 02 9335 2191
 ✉ alex.nord@innerwest.nsw.gov.au
 📮 Inner West Council PO BOX 14 Petersham 2049 c/o Alex Nord



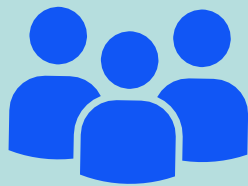
Who we heard from

04. WHO WE HEARD FROM

The council gathers basic demographic information as part of the participant registration process online at Your Say Inner West. This information is needed to understand who has responded and whether we need to engage further on the proposal.

The data obtained during the engagement period showed that the percentage of males and females participating in the engagement process was about the same, with the dominant age groups being 40 to 49, followed by 30-34, and then 60 to 64.

Most respondents (52%) lived in Leichhardt, Birchgrove, Annandale, and Marrickville. This was a change from Stage 1 when 60% of respondents lived in Leichhardt, Annandale, and Rozelle.



Data obtained showed the dominant age groups being 40 to 49, followed by 30-34, and then 60 to 64.

52%

Most respondents (52%) lived in Leichhardt, Birchgrove, Annandale, and Marrickville.

05. SUMMARY OF FEEDBACK

Summary of feedback

During the 11-week engagement period, 640 submissions or comments were received. This included 265 people who provided feedback via the information stalls at the Centre, 135 participants who completed the online survey, and 167 people who provided feedback through emails, Facebook, or Instagram.

The feedback includes:



Detailed written feedback has been received from NSW Underwater Rugby, Balmain Water Polo Club, and Leichhardt Swimming Club.

96 emails to Council

2 key comments from the IWC and Aquatics Instagram pages.

265 votes recorded at on-site engagement stalls.

The feedback indicated that 60% of those who responded supported the Stage 2 Concept Layouts.

The feedback indicated that 60% of those who responded supported the Stage 2 Concept Layouts.

When examining the data, two key factors need to be considered. Firstly, responses varied across the different forms of communication. For instance, feedback received at the drop-in stalls showed that 74% of participants were in favour.

However, support was less from respondents who provided feedback via the online survey, with 46% in favour, 34% opposed, and 20% unsure.

Another point to consider is the composition of the 70 participants who voted at the drop-in stalls to give the plans the thumbs down. Most of these votes (40) were cast on Thursday, 23 January 2025, coinciding with Underwater Rugby training.

Community Comments

During the consultation period, the council received 172 comments via emails, Facebook, Instagram, and written submissions.



The most prominent comments included:

- Need for more shaded areas (61)
- Inclusion of a spa and sauna (29)
- Changes to pool Layout (20)
- Inclusion of dive pool (18)
- Changing the pool design to accommodate underway Rugby (18)
- Increasing the number of pool lanes (18)
- Potential construction impacts (15)
- Need for more parking (11)
- Better facilities for Water Polo (10)
- Improvements to change Rooms (10)
- Accessibility at 25 m pool (6)

06. NEXT STEPS

The community feedback received will be reported to the April 2025 Council meeting.





A New Balmain Festival

Engagement Outcomes Report

12 Feb-12 Mar 2025



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Summary

From 12 February -12 March 2025, the community was invited to provide feedback on transforming Jazz in the Park into a new street festival on Darling Street in Balmain.

During the engagement period there were:

- 2400 people visited the Your Say project page.
- 159 participants completed the online survey
- 21 email submissions received.
- 1 submission received by the Balmain Rozelle Chamber of Commerce

Overall, the survey and emails received showed support for the proposal with 93.08% supporting the project. Of note is the low number of respondents who do not support the proposal.

Contribution	You said
Summary	
Do you support the proposal outlined below 159 responses	Yes – 93.08% No – 2.52% Don't know/Unsure – 4.4%
Did we get the location right 159 responses	Yes – 74.84% No – 10.06% Don't know/Unsure – 15.09%
Did we get the time right? 159 responses	Yes – 61.01% No – 22.64% Don't know/Unsure – 16.35%
Do you support the activities outlined below 159 responses	Yes – 93.71% No – 2.52% Don't know/Unsure – 3.77%
Are you a local business? 159 responses	Yes – 13.21% No – 86.79%



<p>[if you are a local business] Would you be interested in participating in the festival 21 responses</p>	<p>Yes – 76.19% No – 4.76% Don't know/Unsure – 19.05%</p>
<p>What new elements could be included that would celebrate the character of Balmain? 108 responses</p>	<p>See detailed comment section</p>

Other points to note include:

- There was a large amount of support from the community for involving local businesses in the event. 76.19% of local businesses who participated in the survey indicated that they would be interested in participating, but few offered any further details about the nature of their participation.
- Whilst the majority of respondents supported the time of the festival, a number of free text comments indicated that they did not want a Balmain Festival in December as the month was too busy and/or too hot and either suggested an earlier Spring event or an Autumn event. There were also a small number of suggestions to hold the event on a Saturday
- A small number of overall respondents also wanted a later finish time of between 7-8pm for the event. By contrast, a small number of respondents indicated they wanted an earlier event such as 9am-3pm.
- There was a variety of suggested amendments to the overall street location, including suggestions to extend the event footprint up to the Town Hall or down to Curtis Rd. There were also a variety of suggestions that the festival should take place in another park location such as Callan Park, Birchgrove Oval or Mort Bay Park. A small number of respondents indicated they want to retain the event in Gladstone Park as part of this proposal, or in place of the Balmain Festival.
- A small number of respondents including those that support the overall proposal raised concerns about traffic and public transport impacts, increased car congestion and parking as a result of a festival on Darling Street.



- There were a variety of suggestions about specific elements that could be included as part of the festival, including highlighting local history, the local food and licensed venues, live music, kids and dog-friendly activities.



Project background

Jazz in the Park is an annual event that has been run by Inner West Council in Gladstone Park, Balmain for more than 10 years. A picnic-style event, the festival celebrated the best of Inner West Jazz talent and featured numerous multi-award winning performers including The Vampires, Matt McMahon, Ellen Kirkwood, Dan Barnett and Emma Pask.

At the 12 November 2024 Council meeting, Inner West Council resolved the following:

Motion: (Howard/Atkins)

- 1. That Council consult with the community and relevant organisations such as Balmain Rozelle Chamber of Commerce about expanding Jazz In The Park and relocating the Festival to Darling Street in late 2025 so that it celebrates the unique character of Balmain and involves more locals and businesses.*
- 2. That staff provide initial costings in relation to expanding and moving the festival, including the possibility of reallocating funds from under patronised local events in the Baludarri (Balmain) ward and exploring State Government funding opportunities including programs in the NSW Vibrant Streets Package.*
- 3. That Council report to the March 2025 Ordinary Council meeting on the outcomes of the community consultation and potential budget cost and funding opportunities so they can be considered in preparation of the 2025/2026 budget.*



Promotion and engagement methods

The project was promoted via methods outlined in the table below

Promotion method	Stakeholders engaged
Project page on Your Say Inner West	2400 people viewed the project page 906 email subscribers to YourSay Inner West were notified when the project opened. 59 of those recipients clicked through to view the survey.
Letters to residents	Letters were distributed to 21,790 people in the Baludarri ward
Council's social media	2 Instagram posts and 2 Facebook posts -14,900 people reached - 143 likes - 26 shares
Posters and/or postcards	80 Poster distribution run in shops in Rozelle and Balmain Additional 30 Posters distributed to members of the Balmain Rozelle Chamber of Commerce 15 Posters on site in Balmain and Balmain East at key intersections

The community provided feedback via the methods below

Engagement method	Stakeholders engaged
Online survey	159 surveys completed
Direct contact from residents	19 emails from individuals

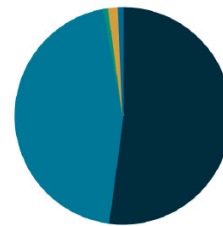


Who did we hear from?

Council gathers basic demographic information as part of the participant registration process online at Your Say Inner West. We use this information to understand who has responded and whether we need to engage further on the proposal.

Gender

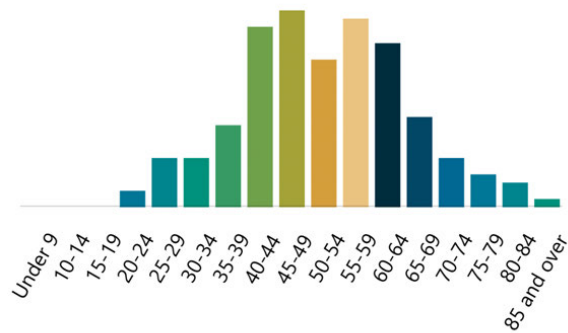
Most of the respondents are identified as woman or females, followed by man or male. Distribution of the gender group is captured in the pie chart.



- Woman or female
- Man or male
- Non-binary
- Prefer not to say
- I use a different term

Age

Most of the respondents are within 40-49 range followed by 50-64 range. Distribution of each aging group is outlined in the column chart.



INNER WEST**Location**

The vast majority of respondents were located in the Baludarri ward, with a clear majority of respondents from Balmain.

- 84 respondents were located in Balmain
- 31 respondents were located in Rozelle
- 15 Respondents were located in Birchgrove
- 11 respondents were located in Balmain East
- 10 respondents were located in Lilyfield.

The remaining respondents were located further afield in Leichhardt, Ashfield, Canterbury, Rockdale and Old Toongabbie

Serena Chalker

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 12 February 2025 1:49 PM
To: Serena Chalker
Subject: Balmain Festival

Fantastic. This is the direction Balmain should be heading in. Forget the late night venue stuff of the past that impacted so many people in a negative way and focus on events that reflect what people in the area really want. A safe joyful village for everyone to enjoy.

Regards

[REDACTED]

Sent from [REDACTED] iPhone

