

7 Dec 2021

Upgrading our playgrounds

Renewal program 2021

INNER WEST



In this presentation

Background

Important considerations:

- Adding new play experiences
- Improving play experiences
- Variety of play
- Feedback from the community
- Inclusive play
- Shade

What can you influence?

The proposed playgrounds

What's included in the upgrades?

Next steps



Background

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Improving our playgrounds

Each year, Council undertakes a review of the playgrounds across the Inner West

We look to renew ageing equipment and improve play experiences for everyone – not just children

When deciding which playgrounds to upgrade each year we look at factors such as:

- Age of equipment
- Condition of equipment
- Improving play experiences



Important considerations

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Will the playgrounds be inclusive?

It's important to us that people of all ages, abilities and cultural backgrounds can access and enjoy our playgrounds

We're committed to following the principles set out in the NSW Government's ["Everyone Can Play" guide](#) where possible

Some playgrounds offer more opportunities than others for inclusive play

- E.g. those with flat gradients are more accessible
- Where space and budget allow, inclusive play such as intergenerational play and all abilities play equipment will be incorporated



What does 'applying inclusive principles' look like?

Supported equipment with wide seats and appropriate supports (e.g. back support, handholds)



*Image credit:
Sandra Chin, Boundless Playground ACT*



Intergenerational equipment suitable for a range of ages and abilities



*Image credit:
Waverley Council, Bondi Beach playground*

What does 'applying inclusive principles' look like?

A mixture of solo and group play opportunities



Graduated challenges

Accessible surfacing in and around equipment

A coordinated colour scheme to highlight use in a predictable way



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*Image credit:
Sandra Chin, Boundless Playground ACT*

What will we do about shade?

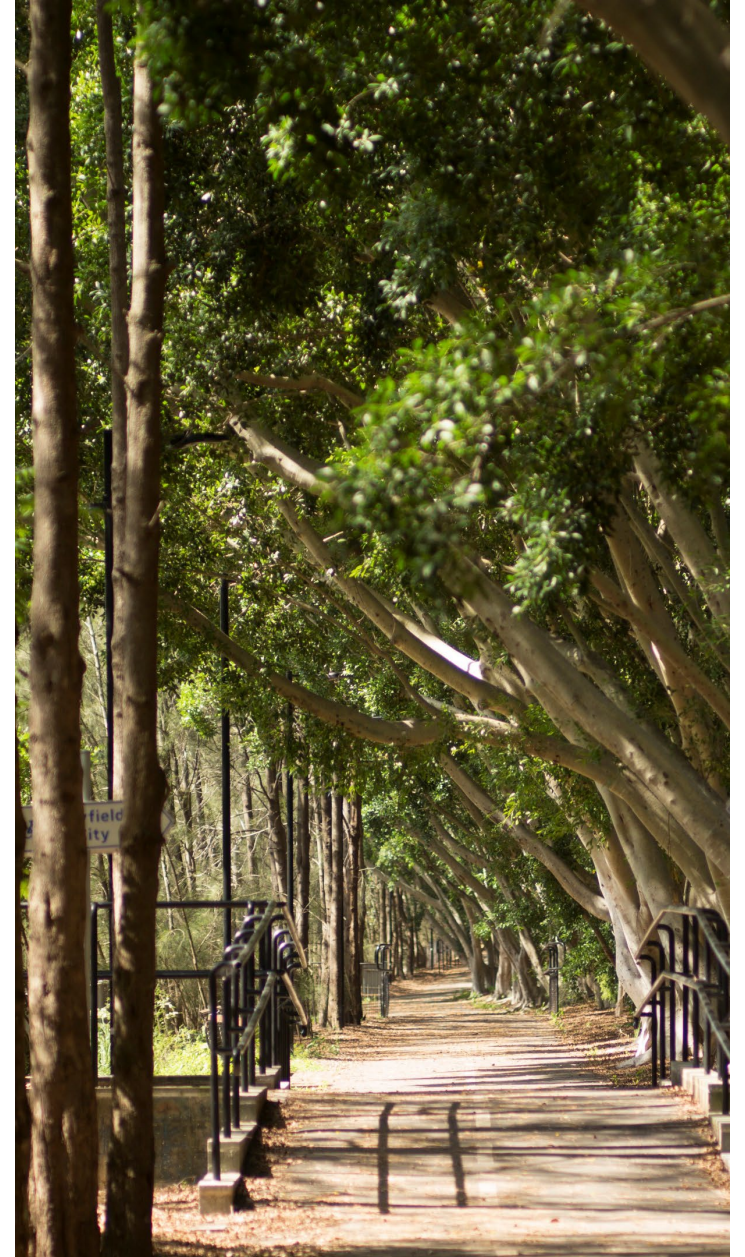
We know providing shade is important to our community and we look to improve shade provision wherever we can

Shade sails are a simple solution but are expensive (upwards of \$15,000)

To maximise the money we spend on play experiences, we also look at other techniques like:

- Thoughtful equipment orientation
- Not using metal surfaces
- Planting trees for natural shade cover

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What happens to old equipment?

We replace equipment because it's reached the end of its safe life

This means that in most cases we can't repurpose it somewhere else

Where possible, we recycle or reuse materials if we can do so safely



What can you
influence?

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We'd like to hear your thoughts on:

Play equipment

Nature play

Imaginative play

Sensory play

Landscaping

Softfall (e.g. rubber, mulch)



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What play experiences would you like to see?

Swinging

Sliding

Climbing

Spinning

Monkey bars

Springers/see-saw

Nature Play

Imaginative Play

Intergenerational play

Sensory play

Multi-play

Adaptive play



*Image credit:
Sandra Chin, Boundless Playground ACT*

What do you like most about the play space?

Is it...

- Place for the community to gather
- Unique character/charm
- Type of equipment available
- Open space
- Quiet

...anything else?



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The proposed playgrounds

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Mort Bay Park, Birchgrove

King George Park, Rozelle

Lion St Playground, Croydon

Rose St Playground, Ashfield

John Paton Reserve, Summer Hill

Rowe Playground, Dulwich Hill

Kendrick Park, Tempe



Budget

Total budget for upgrades = \$996k

Council secured \$2.875mil in compensation from Transport for NSW for the WestConnex project

\$480k of this compensation is allocated to the playground upgrade at King George Park

The remaining \$516k of funding is distributed between the remaining six playgrounds



What's included in
the upgrades?

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Mort Bay Park

What's included in the upgrade

New play activities and play space to replace the timber deck unit

Opportunities

Utilise the natural shade

Water/boat theme

Views to the Bay

Considerations

Play spaces are within Tree Protection Zone



King George Park

What's included in the upgrade

Review the existing Constellation Playground theme and create a new identity

Changes to the sandpit area

New shade sails

Softfall in other parts of the playground will be upgraded

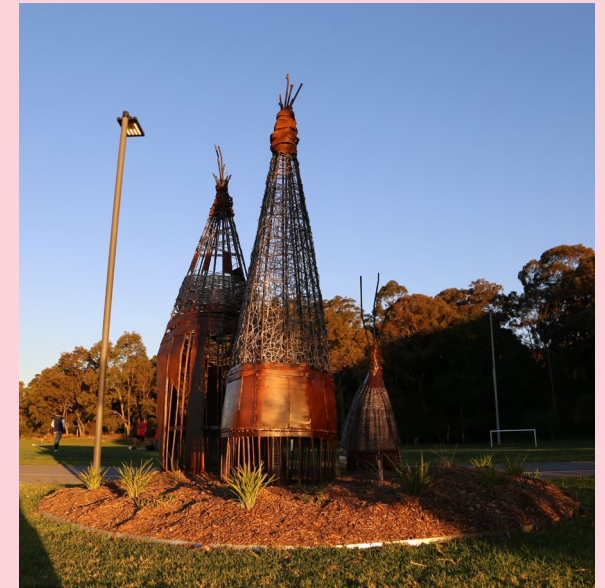
Opportunities

New theme

Reference the new play experiences with the nearby fish trap sculptures, e.g. loose parts to make your own fish trap or fishing/boat theme

Considerations

Only some equipment will be upgraded



Fish Traps by Edward Clarke



Lion Street Playground

What's included in the upgrade

Remove all equipment and softfall, and replace with new

Opportunities

Replace the dated equipment with new multiplay unit

Considerations

Small space

Proximity to houses – privacy and noise issues

Play space may be within the Tree Protection Zone – arborist to assess



Rose Street Playground

What's included in the upgrade

Remove all equipment and replace with new

Opportunities

New multiplay unit

Considerations

Small space

Play space may be within the Tree Protection Zone – arborist to assess



John Paton Reserve

What's included in the upgrade

Remove all equipment and softfall, and replace with new

Opportunities

Replace the dated equipment with new multiplay unit

Considerations

Play space is within Tree Protection Zone

Proximity to houses – privacy and noise issues



Rowe Playground

What's included in the upgrade

Remove all equipment and softfall, and replace with new

Opportunities

Make the exit gate to the road safer

Retain and refurbish the slide unit if possible

Or replace with multiplay unit

Considerations

Play space is within Tree Protection Zone

Proximity to apartments – privacy and noise issues



Kendrick Park

What's included in the upgrade

Remove all equipment from the two play spaces and synthetic grass softfall, and replace with new

Opportunities

Improve accessibility from the carpark

Improve connection between the two play spaces

Utilise the natural shade



Considerations

Play spaces are within Tree Protection Zone

Next steps

Engagement Outcomes Report



The project team will use your feedback to develop the final playground designs. Feedback will be collated in an Engagement Outcomes Report.

Factors we consider include:

- Desired play experiences
- Budget for each playground
- Space constraints

Everyone who provides feedback will be updated via email and on the project page



Have your say

By **Sunday 12 December 2021**

Complete the feedback form

[yoursay.innerwest.nsw.gov.au/
upgrading-our-playgrounds](https://yoursay.innerwest.nsw.gov.au/upgrading-our-playgrounds)

Contact the Parks Project Manager

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