

Spring Farm Play Space

**PUBLIC
CONSULTATION**

MAY 2023

CREATED BY
Kingborough Council

Kingborough

Plan for Spring Farm Play Space

Based on initial consultation undertaken in September 2022, a landscape design plan for the Spring Farm Play Space has been prepared by Inspiring Place Landscape Architects.

The landscape design plan provides for a series of flowing spaces, integrating play with the native landscape.

This will allow for seamless active play and movement, encouraging exploration and offering quieter pockets to gather, rest and sit.

The landscape design plan can be viewed here: [Spring Farm Play Space Draft Design](#)

Consultation 2023

The landscape design plan was released for public consultation from 13 April 2023 until 11 May 2023.

Nine submissions were received.

The themes identified in these submissions are outlined in this report.

All submissions will be taken into consideration in future works.

Timeline

September 2022:

Council conducted initial consultation asking for feedback about the most important elements that should be included in the design of the Spring Farm Play Space.

December 2022:

Council engaged Inspiring Place Landscape Architects to provide a landscape design plan in response to the initial consultation.

April / May 2023:

Public consultation was undertaken on the landscape design plan.



Public Submissions & Responses

Nine submissions were received.

All submissions were responded to by the Council Urban Designer and ideas will be considered in future works.

THEMES IDENTIFIED:

1. BBQs:

- **Three submissions**

Response:

Under Kingborough Council's Playspace and Playground Strategy, Spring Farm is classified as a Local Urban Playground.

BBQ facilities are considered more appropriate for district and regional playgrounds such as Dru Point, Kingston Park & Silverwater Park.



2. MORE PARKING:

- **One submission**

Response:

The amount of available parking is considered sufficient.

Spring Farm is classified as a Local Urban Playground.

The intent of this classification is for the majority of access to be from local residents within 500 to 800 meters or 5 to 10 minute walk.

3. COMMUNITY GARDEN:

- **One submission**

Response:

There is a Kingston community garden at Gormley Drive near the Kingborough Sports Centre.

The initial community engagement process did not identify a community garden as a priority.

If there is more community demand for a community garden in future, Council may choose to consider a community garden at another site.

4. BIKE TRACKS FOR SMALL CHILDREN

- **Two submissions**

One submission noted that Kingston Park bikes tracks are not designed with very small children in mind.

Response:

The Spring Farm play space does not have sufficient space, nor the funding available for a bike path.

The pump track at Kingston Park has been designed with beginner riders in mind, with the size and shape of the rollers and berms reduced accordingly.

Flat paved surfaces or smooth grass surfaces would be best for children who are not yet confident or capable of using the Kingston Park pump track.

There is a network of paths and grassed areas adjacent to the Kingston Park pump track.

5. CONNECTING PATHS

- **Two submissions**

Response:

Council will be constructing a shared use pathway from Spring Farm Road, parallel to Whitewater Creek.

This path will allow pedestrians and cyclists to travel parallel to Whitewater Creek to Kingston Park.

6. VISIBILITY/SAFETY

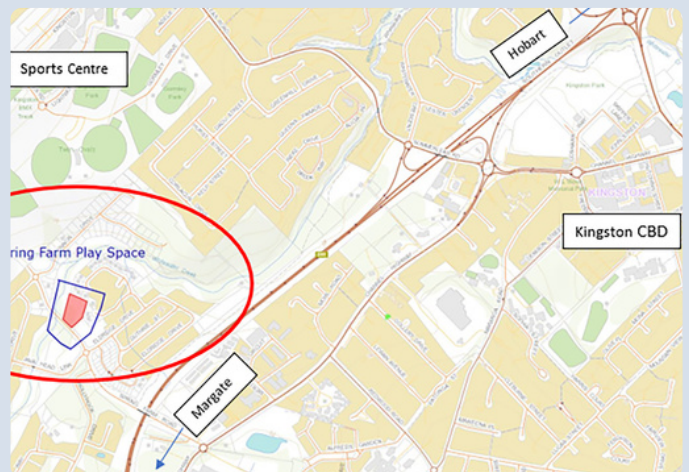
- **One submission**

Response:

Passive surveillance and security of park spaces is always considered in new play space design.

Selection of plant species, park element placement and maintenance of plantings will all assist in providing the best outcome for park user security.

Based on the high level of feedback during the initial community engagement, it is anticipated the park space will receive a lot of regular use, which will assist in reducing the likelihood of nuisance behaviour.



7. ROCK BOULDERS

- **One submission**

Supportive of rock boulders connecting the park to Whitewater Creek.

Response:

Staff will pass the above comments on to Council's Recreation Officer for consideration.



8. ACCESSIBILITY / MULTI-GENERATIONAL

- **One submission**

Requested input from the Disability Inclusion Access Advisory Committee regarding access and maneuverability for persons with limited mobility and prams. Also, would like to see the space as inviting for multiple generations.

Response:

Whilst the emphasis on the plans is for nature play and smaller play equipment, the intent of the function and access of the space is to be inclusive.

This site has gentle gradients which, when combined with suitable pathway surfacing and widths, should allow for an open space to be enjoyed by users with a range of abilities.

9. INTERACTIVE EDUCATIONAL SIGNAGE

- **One submission**

Response:

Council has a separate project running to construct a walking path along Whitewater Creek from Spring Farm Road, connecting into the existing Whitewater Creek path and on to the Kingston Park/Hub area.

Council's Recreation Officer will consider interpretive signs along this path when construction is complete.



10. MORE PLAY EQUIPMENT

- **One submission**

Request for a birds nest, net twister, sand, slide & swing

Response:

While the request for additional play equipment is acknowledged, the budget for this space is limited and additional larger items of play equipment beyond the draft design may not be possible.

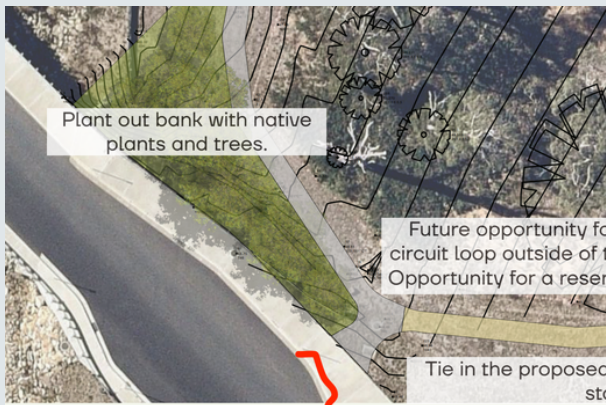
11. KERBING FOR BETTER ACCESSIBILITY

- **One submission**

To make playground more accessible and to create a pedestrian island to slow down traffic in the area (see picture below).

Response:

Council's Roads Engineer will consider the issue of kerb ramps and pedestrian islands.



12. BIKE RACKS

- **One submission**

Response:

The suggestion will be added to the list of items that may be added.



13. NATIVE PLANTS

- **One submission**

Concern was raised about the potential for reduced activity of pollinating insects and honeyeaters.

Response:

In the proposed planting for the park space, Council has selected many bird and insect attracting plants. We hope this assists in encouraging bird and insect visits, as well as introducing park visitors to a variety of species.



14. ANIMAL FAECES IN SAND

- **One submission**

Response:

It is not an issue Council has experienced across all our play spaces and as such Council does not consider it a reason to not use sand soft fall.