

Eastern Busway EB3C Burswood Park

Summary of community consultation held
October to December 2024

February 2025



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1. Executive summary

This report provides an overview of the engagement and consultation undertaken by the Eastern Busway Alliance (the alliance) from October to December 2024 on the proposed upgrade of Burswood Park in the project area of Eastern Busway Zone 3 Commercial (EB3C).

The purpose of the consultation was to engage the Burswood community on their aspirations for the upgrade of Burswood Park.

The alliance has a requirement to upgrade Burswood Park to satisfy Condition 68 of EB3C designation condition, which states that “prior to construction commencing in Burswood Esplanade Reserve (East), the Requiring Authority must implement the following upgrade in Burswood Park subject to obtaining all necessary approvals:

- a) A new playground to cater for all abilities and ages; and
- b) Improved shade and/or shelter”

Early engagement took place to seek feedback on the draft concept design and agree the approach to consulting with the local community. This included:

- Hui with the Eastern Busway mana whenua working group of representatives from Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki, Ngāti Whanaunga and Ngāti Maru – 30 October 2024
- Hui with the Auckland Transport Southern Mana Whenua Transport forum – 31 October 2024
- Workshop with the Howick Local Board – 28 November 2024
- Briefing sessions with Auckland Council Parks and Community Facilities – 20 February 2024, 17 July 2024, 21 August 2024, 23 October 2024.

Consultation seeking the community’s views took place from Thursday 5 December to Friday 20 December 2024.

A consultation pop-in event was held on Thursday 5 December from 3pm to 6pm and the alliance sent invitations to all properties within the map in Appendix 6.1. The event was attended by 97 community members including Damian Light, Howick Local Board Chair and Peter Young, Howick Local Board member.

Questionnaires encouraged people to share their views on how Burswood Park could be upgraded. Sixty-one responses were received at the pop-in event and 21 responses were emailed to the alliance before the consultation period closed on Friday 20 December 2024.

From the 82 community consultation responses the main feedback themes included a desire for the following elements, listed in order of preference:

- additional shade and shelter with a focus on shade
- more areas for children to play excluding nature play
- a multi-use court for tai chi, dancing, badminton, pickleball and table tennis
- more seating
- more trees and planting.

Other suggestions for the park re-development included; different types of activities such as basketball and badminton that a multi-use court could enable, lighting, more exercise equipment, levelling out some areas to ensure grass spaces are flat enough for ball play opportunities, and fencing to separate a play area and dog park.

2. Introduction

2.1 About this report

This report outlines the purpose and methods of engagement and consultation by the alliance that were used to share information and generate feedback on the proposal to upgrade Burswood Park, and summarises the comments received.

The consultation and engagement approaches were aligned with best practice guidance including the International Association of Public Participation guidelines and Auckland Council's Significance and Engagement Policy - Kaupapa Here Whaitake, Whakatāuteute¹.

2.2 Overview of the existing park

The alliance sought feedback for the upgrade of Burswood Park, which is located central to the suburb of Burswood, in the Eastern Busway project area of EB3C. Burswood Park has an existing small junior playground, bench seating, pergola, adult exercise equipment, a large grassed open space and a small number of native juvenile trees. Burswood Park is a neighbourhood park and as noted by the Auckland Council Parks team, this is the *'backyard for many residents in Burswood and will be used more as housing density and urban growth increase in this area'*.

There are five interconnected concrete footpaths that create links to and from Burswood Drive, Fernbrook Close, Foxley Place and Brompton Place. The park is well used by people walking their dogs and is visited by families with children to use the playground. Burswood Park offers access near the southern park boundary to the Burswood coastal path that runs along the suburb's perimeter.



Figure 1: Aerial plan of Burswood Park used as consultation collateral at the community event

¹ <https://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/plans-projects-policies-reports-bylaws/our-policies/Pages/significance-engagement-policy.aspx>

Feedback from community advised that the eastern area of the park gets wet during raining weather and is unable to be used by the community or mowed. The lack of shade was a key concern of many community members.

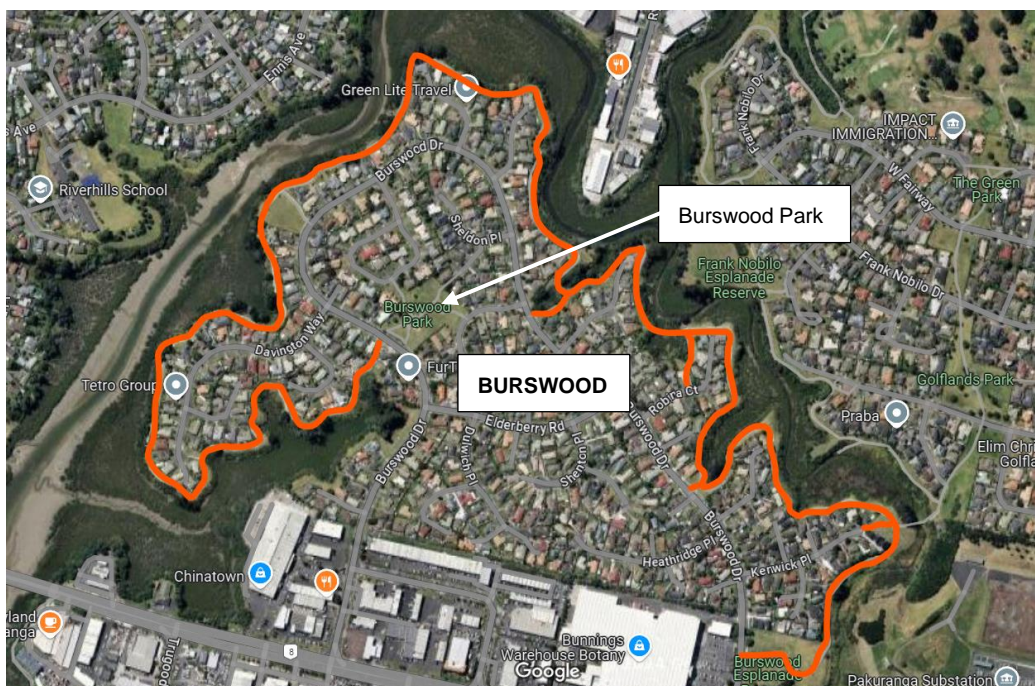


Figure 2: Existing coastal pedestrian path shown in orange around Burswood

2.3 Eastern Busway project overview

The Eastern Busway is a significant project for Auckland and forms part of the region's rapid transport network. When it's completed, the busway and Ra Hihi (flyover) will make local trips easier and more efficient by providing better connections and sustainable travel options for walkers, cyclists, motorists, bus and train customers. It will also create a reliable bus and train service between Botany and Waitemata Station (Britomart) and will establish more reliable journey times.

More than a transport project, the Eastern Busway will increase access to jobs and education, lead to more social and community opportunities, attract investment and growth, enable urban development, and help reduce emissions.

The below map shows the project overview, showing the location and context of Burswood, and Burswood Park circled in red within the Eastern Busway project area.

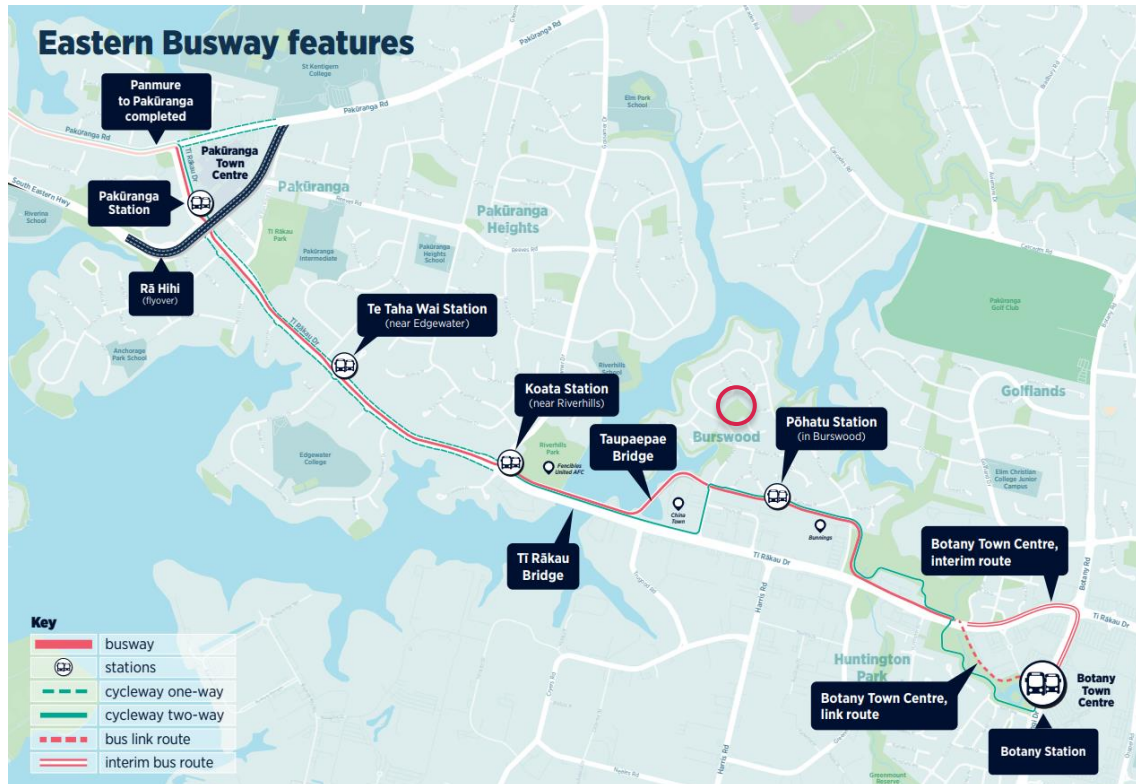


Figure 3: Map of the Eastern Busway from Pakūranga towards Botany

2.3.1 Project benefits

The key benefits the project will deliver include:

- Better connections and sustainable travel options for pedestrians, cyclists, motorists, bus and train customers
- making local trips easier and more efficient and with reliable travel times
- 12km of safe and separated walking and cycling routes
- 5km of busway between Pakūranga and Botany fully separated from other traffic
- 5 new bus stations with quality facilities
- Ra Hihi (flyover) connecting Pakūranga Road to the South Eastern Highway, and reducing vehicle congestion around Pakūranga Town Centre
- by 2028 the busway will carry 18,000 passengers per day, more than four times the 3,700 bus passengers per day before Covid-19. By 2048 it is expected to increase to 24,000 passengers per day.

2.3.2 Project timeline

The project's milestones are in the table below.

Stage	Date
EB1	
Construction of busway from Panmure to Pakūranga	Complete
EB2, EB3R, EB3C, EB4i	
Construction of Ra Hihi (flyover)	2024 onwards
Construction from Pakūranga Town Centre, along Tī Rākau Drive, through Burswood to the northern end of Te Koha Road	
Eastern Busway construction complete	Estimated late 2027

3. Consultation

3.1 Purpose of consultation

The purpose of the consultation was to enable the Burswood community to share their aspirations and views on the redevelopment and upgrade of Burswood Park.

3.2 Approach to the consultation

26-27 November 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ paper questionnaires in English and Simplified Chinese were delivered to all residential mailboxes in the Burswood suburb seeking feedback on the elements the community would like to use and experience in the park, and what needs or ideas should be considered during design▪ the closing date for feedback was Friday 20 December 2024.
5 December 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ a community BBQ was held at Burswood Park from 3:00 to 6:00pm▪ consultation materials included:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- an aerial map of the existing park- a paper questionnaire in English and Simplified Chinese seeking feedback on the elements the community would like to use and experience in the park, and what needs or ideas should be considered during design.

3.3 Advertising the consultation

The consultation was advertised in the following ways:

3.3.1 Invitation

- Tuesday 26 and Wednesday 27 November - invitations in English and Simplified Chinese were delivered to all Burswood residential addresses
- Wednesday 27 November - printed invitations in English and Simplified Chinese placed at the following Burswood businesses and religious centre:
 - Fulton Swim School
 - Wonderkids
 - East City Wesleyan Church



Figure 4: Print and digital invitation to the community consultation BBQ event on Thursday 5 December in English and Simplified Chinese.

3.3.2 Social media

- Monday 25 November – the BBQ invitation was posted on the Burswood Grapevine Facebook page in English and Simplified Chinese to help reach as many residents as possible. group.



Figure 5 and 6: Photographs of the Burswood Park community consultation event on Thursday 5 December

4. Questionnaire feedback

The questionnaire asked:

1. what activities and features the respondent would like to see in Burswood Park by ticking what was most important to them
2. listing any other ideas the respondent had to improve or enhance Burswood Park and any considerations the alliance should be aware of during construction
3. asking for contact information so they could opt to receive project updates and to be contacted by the alliance about construction activities.

Sixty-one people completed the paper questionnaire at the community BBQ event and 21 questionnaires were emailed to info@easternbusway.co.nz by 20 December, the official closing date for community consultation feedback. The total number of responses was 82.

A summary of all survey feedback is provided in sections 4.1 to 4.3 of this report.

4.1 Question 1

The questionnaire asked: **Please let us know what you would like to see in Burswood Park by ticking the boxes next to activities and features that are most important to you.**

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> More areas for children to play | <input type="checkbox"/> Quiet space for rest and relaxation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nature play space | <input type="checkbox"/> Improved paths |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fitness space for people of all ages | <input type="checkbox"/> More seating |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-use court for tai chi, dancing, badminton, pickleball and table tennis | <input type="checkbox"/> Picnic tables |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shade and shelter | <input type="checkbox"/> Artwork |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> More trees and planting |

82 people responded to this question with multiple 'ticks' to separate activities and features. The responses are shown in the table below.

Shade and shelter	77	
More areas for children to play	64	
Multi-use court for tai chi, dancing, badminton, pickleball and table tennis	62	
More seating	54	
More trees and planting	47	
Fitness space for people of all ages	39	
Picnic tables	39	
Quiet space for rest and relaxation	27	
Nature play space	23	
Improved paths	21	
Artwork	17	

Shade (77 of 82 responses) was the highest priority in re-developing the park. There is limited shade as the existing trees are juvenile and there is only one small, fixed shade structure. The opportunity to provide shade throughout the park with tree planting should be prioritised, and it would be beneficial for consideration to be given to species that will provide a large shade canopy and tolerate wet soils in the eastern extent of the park. This is supported by the high response to 'more trees and planting' in the questionnaire (47 of 82 responses).

The community had many ideas of how a play area (64 of 82 responses) and a new multi-use court (62 of 82 responses) could enhance their neighbourhood. Priority suggestions for both are listed in the table in section 4.2. Additional play areas for children was the second highest priority to the Burswood community and focusing on expanding the existing play space with an increased range of play equipment for both young and older children is key. There is an opportunity to consider the park as a whole when designing for children to play. Feedback on underused grass areas for ball play activities should be considered when designing for children's play spaces; through providing grassed spaces that are large, flat, even, well mown and maintained.

Activity ideas for the multi-use court featured as the highest response to Question 2 and could be one of the popular areas of the park. The size, shape and range of activities available on the court is important in the design. Of the activities suggested in the survey, the community prioritised basketball - with low and high goals for older and younger children - pickleball, soccer goals, and badminton.

Additional seating (54 of 82 responses) is key to providing rest areas in shade for monitoring children playing.

Picnic tables and fitness spaces for people of all ages received equal weighting of feedback with 39 of 82 responses supportive of provision of both. The community suggested additional gym equipment for the fitness spaces including bench press, pull up bars and additional exercise activities.

4.2 Question 2

Please list any other ideas you have to improve or enhance Burswood Park, or if there is anything we should be aware of during construction.

51 of the 82 respondents answered this question, with 134 suggestions in total for enhancing the park.

The majority of feedback in order of preference focused on ideas supporting:

Highest feedback	Additional suggestions
Multi-use court	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ basketball court with low and high goals (older and younger children) ▪ pickleball ▪ soccer goals ▪ badminton
Shade and shelter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ shade for play and seating areas ▪ shade for picnic tables ▪ fixed shelter to protect from sun and rain
Improved playground	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ playground equipment for younger and older children ▪ increase the size of the play space ▪ more and better range of play equipment ▪ monkey bars and climbing structures ▪ flying fox ▪ fencing the play space
More seating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ provide seating for guardians watching the play space ▪ seating under trees for shade.

Medium feedback	Additional suggestions
Trees and plants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ more trees and flowers for birdlife ▪ garden spaces
Exercise equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Gym equipment including bench press and pull up bars ▪ Additional exercise activities
Lighting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lighting for safe access and use of the park at night

There was feedback about levelling the grassed areas to ensure there were flat spaces for ball play opportunities. This could be an opportunity to increase the useable area of the park replacing the current uneven ground that is often wet.

Creating a fenced dog park is another opportunity to deliver the community's request for fencing to separate the play area and a fenced off-leash space for dogs.

4.3 Question 3

The questionnaire asked: **If you would like to receive Eastern Busway project updates and for us to contact you about construction, please provide your details.**

35 people responded to this question and their contact details were added into the alliance's stakeholder management system *Simply Stakeholder*.

From February 2025 these stakeholders will receive monthly email and printed project updates and will also receive Burswood specific construction updates while work is taking place in the community.

5. Conclusion and next steps

This report will be shared with the Auckland Council Parks and Facilities team, the alliance's Zone 4 team, and Landscape Architects.

The next steps will be to undertake the following to ensure momentum continues on the development and delivery of Burswood Park:

13 February 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none">the alliance and Auckland Council Parks and Facilities team will present an update on Burswood Park proposals to the Howick Local Board (HLB) workshop
March 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none">share the Burswood Park Consultation Report with the Burswood Community
March 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none">design briefing document will be issued by the alliance to Landscape Architects to refine the draft concept design of Burswood Park
March 2025 onwards	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Burswood community will be invited to an event for the alliance to share the final concept design for Burswood Park
April 2025 onwards	<ul style="list-style-type: none">final concept design will be presented to the Burswood community.

When the final concept design has been distributed to the Burswood community, it will be developed For Construction and tendered. Construction is expected to start in September 2025.

Ongoing partnership with mana whenua and engagement with the Auckland Council Parks and Facilities team, the Howick Local Board, key stakeholder groups and the community will continue throughout the project.

6. Appendix

6.1 Burswood community consultation invitation distribution (residential)



Area shown within the dashed line is the community consultation invitation drop distribution area to all residential Burswood homes. Multiple invitations were dropped to the 1. East City Wesleyan Church, 2. Wonder Kids, and 3. Fulton Swim School for distribution to their respective communities.

6.2 Burswood Park questionnaires in English and Simplified Chinese



BURSWOOD 公园 咨询会 调查问卷

从Pakūranga到Botany的东部公交专用道正在建设中,这是东奥克兰的一个重要项目。竣工后,公交专用道和Reeves Road上方的天桥(Rā Hihī)将为步行者、骑行者、司机、公交车和火车乘客提供更好的道路连接和可持续的出行选择,从而使当地的出行更加便捷、高效。

东部公交专用道项目组计划改善 Burswood 公园,以控制施工期间对该地区的影响。我们希望您能提出宝贵意见,帮助我们制定方案,确保公园能反映出您所在社区的期望。

请在您认为最重要的活动和特色旁边的方框 中打勾,告诉我们您希望在Burswood公园看到什么。

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 为儿童提供更多的游戏场所 | <input type="checkbox"/> 供休息和放松的安静空间 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 亲近自然的游戏空间 | <input type="checkbox"/> 改善小路 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 各年龄段的健身场所 | <input type="checkbox"/> 更多座椅 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 遮阳棚和遮蔽物 | <input type="checkbox"/> 野餐桌 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 可供打太极拳、跳舞、打羽毛球、匹克球和乒乓球的多用途球场 | <input type="checkbox"/> 艺术作品 |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> 更多树木和植被 |



Burswood Park consultation questionnaire

The Eastern Busway from Pakūranga to Botany is being built and is a significant project for East Auckland. When they're completed, the busway and Rā Hihī (flyover) above Reeves Road will make local trips easier and more efficient by providing better connections and sustainable travel options for walkers, cyclists, motorists, bus and train customers.

The Eastern Busway Alliance has plans to improve Burswood Park as part of managing our impacts on the area during construction. We would like your views to help shape our proposal and ensure that the park reflects the aspirations for your community.

Please let us know what you would like to see in Burswood Park by ticking the boxes next to activities and features that are most important to you.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> More areas for children to play | <input type="checkbox"/> Quiet space for rest and relaxation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nature play space | <input type="checkbox"/> Improved paths |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fitness space for people of all ages | <input type="checkbox"/> More seating |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-use court for tai chi, dancing, badminton, pickleball and table tennis | <input type="checkbox"/> Picnic tables |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shade and shelter | <input type="checkbox"/> Artwork |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> More trees and planting |



请列出您对改善或提升Burswood公园的其他想法,或者在施工期间我们需要注意的事项:

感谢分享您对改善Burswood公园的想法。

Ngā mihi nui
东部公交专用道项目组

如果您希望收到东部公交专用道项目的最新信息,并希望我们就施工事宜与您联系,请在下方提供您的详细信息。

姓名

地址

邮箱

电话



Please list any other ideas you have to improve or enhance Burswood Park, or if there is anything we should be aware of during construction:

Thank you for sharing your ideas for the development of Burswood Park.

Ngā mihi nui
The Eastern Busway Alliance

If you would like to receive Eastern Busway project updates and for us to contact you about construction, please provide your details below.

NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL

PHONE

6.3 Burswood Park draft concept plan

Please note that the below draft concept plan produced by Boffa Miskell, was not consulted on with the community. Its purpose was to help stakeholders, and the alliance, understand the likely design and cost of developing the park.

CONCEPT PLAN

DRAFT

BURSWOOD PARK PLAYSPACE CONCEPT

LEGEND:

- ① Renewed central concrete path between playspace areas, rationalising existing surfaces and providing seamless flow to covered seating areas.
- ② Updated seating area for caregivers, beneath refurbished pergola
- ③ Junior slide mound reshaped and enhanced with Ladybug rocker and a demountable shade sail. Existing slide and climbing elements retained.
- ④ Nature play adventure trail through planted islands, with timber steppers, logs, balance beams and rope, and basalt boulders repurposed from Burswood Esplanade Reserve
- ⑤ Tipi accessible carousel, set on wetpour rubber safety surface
- ⑥ Existing single bay swings relocated and extended to include an accessible, all-abilities basket swing on a wetpour surface. Shade is provided by demountable sails
- ⑦ New timber seats
- ⑧ All ages fitness area with existing outdoor gym equipment clustered for a more social experience, and enhanced with box steppers and calisthenic workout unit on an all-weather surface.
- ⑨ New shelter with two picnic tables
- ⑩ Multi-use court for tai chi, yoga, dancing, badminton, basketball and social and community events.
- ⑪ Thrilling Serious Air high swings
- ⑫ Expanded and enhanced senior play module to include challenging overhead activities, climbing and balancing, alongside existing slides and rock wall climber
- ⑬ Low, lush native planting integrated with the nature play trail
- ⑭ New specimen trees, including four native shade trees and three fruit trees
- ⑮ Existing stormwater catchpits



6.4 Partner and stakeholder feedback

The following feedback has been provided to the alliance in advance of the community consultation. Hui and meetings were held with mana whenua, Auckland Council Parks and Community Facilities, and the Howick Local Board on the proposed draft concept design (refer section 6.2) for Burswood Park.

6.4.1 Mana whenua feedback

Hui held on 30 October 2024

- Construction within flood plain - need to consider drainage
- Design to be very natural looking
- Include mahi toi in the design
- Additional planting that provides attractive amenity and enhanced shade
- Fruit trees
- Open space for all ages
- Toka (rocks) being used as asset / play (not just as no-parking bollards)
- Water element
- Re-use Rā Hihi pier form
- Do not support taking toka (rocks) from Burswood Esplanade but could get some from the quarry below Chinatown.

6.4.2 Auckland Council Parks and Community Facilities feedback

Meeting held on 23 October 2024

- Good to see shade provision recognised
- How can we get fine tune blend of demographic needs - elderly wanting to use the space as well and need to think about how we cater for them
- Pause and reflect spaces with shade are popular in other parks and could be useful in this park based on local demographics
- Good to consider residual land if it can have a use such as tai chi – consider how residual land spaces could be used
- If active court (pickleball/badminton) is implemented, this does not need to be paved – it can be a simple hard stand surface
- Fitness options to consider could be tai chi, wheel of fortune, table tennis
- Ensure there is shade provision
- Fine tune the blend between adult spaces and children's play spaces

- Consider if all elements need to be implemented in this park – if budget is an issue, then potentially consider some elements from this proposal are distributed into another park space in Burswood. Look at Burswood as a whole
- Supportive of taking on board the narrative from iwi to influence the design.

6.4.3 Howick Local Board feedback

Workshop attended on 28 November 2024

- prefer a 'parent and child' swing
- factor intensification into the design e.g., high-rise apartments and change in demographics
- ensure shelters / sheltered set of seats
- demarcate areas of the park with some taller trees to provide a buffer
- tree canopy for shade
- potential for calisthenics equipment or other equipment for teenagers to utilize
- Burswood Park is on the HLB list for dual naming of parks; te reo Māori naming of signage and official naming when the park opens.