Engagement Summary

Parks Improvement Program 2026/27

Consultation open Friday 21 August - Sunday 20 September 2026

Performance summary

Views	Visits	Contributions	Contributors	Followers
605	531	60	52	0

What we asked

We asked the community to review the early draft designs for seven local parks and reserves planned for redesign in 2026/27 and tell us whether we are heading in the right direction. We invited feedback on the proposed designs, and any changes or improvements residents would like to see before the designs are finalised.

The parks we consulted on were:
Addicott Way Reserve, Taylors Hill

Fairhaven Reserve, Melton West

Maud Jan See Chin Reserve, Melton

Springside Recreation Reserve, Caroline Springs

Stefan Drive Reserve, Melton West

Windsor Gardens, Caroline Springs

Fay Street Reserve, Melton South

The consultation did not include Cambrian Way Reserve, as planning and design work for that site is still underway and will be approached separately.

Alongside the online surveys for each site, community members were also invited to attend face-to-face consultation sessions to discuss the proposed upgrades with Council staff and Councillors. Sessions were held at Caroline Springs Library and Learning Centre on Saturday 29 August for the eastern sites (Addicott Way Reserve, Windsor Gardens Reserve and Springside Recreation Reserve) and on Saturday 12 September for the western sites (Fairhaven Boulevard Reserve, Maud Jan See Chin Reserve, Stefan Drive Reserve and Fay Street Reserve).

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What we heard

Community feedback across the seven sites indicates they are well used, with most respondents visiting a few times each week. Despite this regular use, participants generally felt the existing play spaces do not meet community needs, with average satisfaction ratings between 1 and 2 out of 5, highlighting a strong desire for improvement. Across all sites, the most popular proposed inclusions were new shade trees and garden beds, swings, and combination play equipment, reflecting a preference for a mix of natural shade, attractive landscaping and engaging play opportunities.

Overall, feedback indicates a desire for parks that support active recreation, family-friendly amenities and comfortable gathering spaces, complemented by features such as shade, seating and other supporting infrastructure. Residents also emphasised the importance of safe, inclusive and well-maintained parks, with key themes including improved maintenance, enhanced safety, facilities for all ages and abilities, and park identities that incorporate native planting and biodiversity outcomes.

Next steps

Thank you to everyone who shared their feedback. Your comments and ideas will now be reviewed by relevant Council teams to help inform the development of concept designs for each site. Final designs will be presented back to the community in March 2027.

Further to the requests:

- Requests for basketball facilities were received across several sites. Due to space and planning constraints, basketball opportunities can only be accommodated at Fay Street Reserve.
- All sites will be upgraded with new drinking fountains and additional seating to improve comfort and accessibility for park users.
- Some community members expressed concerns about interactions between park users, vehicle traffic and nearby parking areas, and requested fencing at certain locations. Opportunities to improve safety will be considered through landscape design, including the use of planting, natural barriers and park layouts that help separate people from vehicle movements while maintaining an open and welcoming park environment.

Timelines for individual park closures will be announced via the conversations page closer to construction.

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