

## PROJECT NEWS

Project number: K1899

### Jessica Park Improvement Ideas

### **Project summary**

Sunshine Coast Council is undertaking early planning to for potential improvements at Jessica Park, Minyama.

Guided by analysis of the park's current uses, constraints and opportunities, council has developed an initial vision for what the park could include in the future.

While these improvements are not currently included in council's 10-year Capital Works Program for construction, community feedback on the plan will help council to determine the priorities for staging improvements and seek potential future grant applications and/or funding opportunities.

### Improvement Ideas

These improvements, aim to respond to current site issues, enhance the overall function and usability of the park, revitalise park amenities and facilities and look to meet the needs of the growing community. These ideas are based on the following key principles:

- Identity: Emphasise the site's unique character and strengthen its visual identity and prominence to its surrounds and context.
- 2. Nature and recreation: Balance the strong natural character of the site between usable open space and functionality within the park.
- 3. A shared and connected backyard: Enhance connections into and within the site to link the community to its active and communal spaces.
- Safety and accessibility: Create a park that is accessible and safe for visitors of all ages.

## The opportunities for park improvements include:

- Enhancing gateways and access points into the park from its surrounds.
- Investigating a consolidated amenities hub to include toilets, a potential kiosk and cycle rest-stops.
- Improving accessibility, wayfinding and lighting throughout the park.
- Exploring play opportunities suitable for a district-level facility with a range of play experiences suited to different age groups and abilities.
- Improve sightlines and visual permeability across the site.
- Address vegetation and tree issues at the park.
- Explore interactive and educational opportunities for the central pond on site and foster ongoing biodiversity.
- Reimagine picnic areas with upgraded shelters, picnic tables and BBQs.
- Provide spaces that offer a variety of recreational uses and promote active living.

### **Share your feedback**

The plan shows how the park could look in the future.

Council invites you to share your feedback on the plan which can be viewed overleaf or online at council's website:

haveyoursay.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au

When providing your feedback please consider each question carefully to help identify your priorities for the park improvements, as the project will most likely be progressed in stages and as funding becomes available.

Scan the QR code or visit Council's Have Your Say webpage to complete the survey before 12 December 2022.





Figure 1: Project Location Plan

#### **Timeline**

# Mid 2022: Investigate and develop Concept Ideas Plan – (ONGOING)

Analysis of the park's current uses, constraints, and opportunities. Ideas for what the park could look like in the future (subject to funding, council endorsement and approvals).

# ◆ Late November 2022: Community engagement – (WE ARE HERE)

A community survey and key stakeholder meetings to discuss the plan, seek feedback and capture any new ideas or information.

#### Early to mid-2023: Assess feedback

Confirm the community's aspirations for the future of the park. Determine the community's priorities for future upgrades to help identify construction stages.

## TBC: Prepare a final Master Plan / funding and construction

The final plan presented to council for consideration and determine staged construction and funding.

# Register for future updates or for further information

Council's committed to sustainability means that all future updates will be <u>emailed</u> to those who register to receive them. Please visit Council's Have Your Say webpage to register for future updates.

You can also seek further information about the project by emailing the team on <a href="mailto:jessicaparkconcept@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au">jessicaparkconcept@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au</a>

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### A note from your local councillor

As our community continues to grow our region's parks and gardens become more valuable as places where we connect with nature and each other. Jessica Park is a much loved, but underutilised park that is now looking a little tired. Although there are no immediate plans to upgrade the park, as the Divisional Councillor I've chosen to progress this concept plan as a way of seeking our community's feedback about the park, including identifying the priorities, and to assist with future potential funding opportunities.

Cr Joe Natoli, Division 4



#### Legend

- 1 Existing carpark retained, new linemarking and Accessible parking bays better defined
- 2 Park Entry Signage
- 3 Amenities Hub (toilets, cycle rest-stop, potential kiosk) in central area
- 4 Expansion of sports and games opportunities to the existing sports court area
- 5 Retention of the central pond and enhancement to its edges and potential viewing deck
- 6 Coherent footpath network, walkable circuit and accessible grades for footpaths site-wide
- 7 Consolidated communal shelters with picnic settings and BBQs in key areas
- 8 Removal of existing cricket pitch
- 9 Usable open lawn space
- 10 Upgrade of existing children's play space
- 11 Proposed extension of play space to include district-level Adventure Play within a natural setting
- 12 Upgraded seating at key points along the pathway network
- 13 Wayfinding signs and markers
- 14 Retention of Butterfly Gardens
- Existing trees to be retained throughout park pruning, crown-lifting and clearing of lower shrubs for improved sightlines

#### Figure 2: Improvement Ideas Plan

#### lease note:

The intended purpose of this plan is to communicate possible ideas for improvements at Jessica Park. This is conceptual only. The feedback provided to council will guide further investigations and design.



Figure 3: Artist impressions of improvement ideas (Top to bottom: Reimagined Park Entry, Adventure Play, Communal Areas)