

Dumbarton Avenue Reserve

Community Engagement Findings



May 2019

Community Consultation Background

After reviewing wider community feedback about dog parks, Council endorsed the staged implementation plan of an upgrade to Dumbarton Avenue Reserve that addresses the needs of both dog owners and the broader community ([GC260618R10](#)).

Funding has been allocated to make the reserve a dog friendly reserve, with the following improvements:

- Additional shelter and seating
- Drink fountain with dog bowl

Further feedback was sought on the proposed improvements as well as what residents may like to see in the reserve in the future.

The playground at Dumbarton Avenue Reserve is classified as a local level playground and was built in 2010. An upgrade of the playground is not in the forward 10 year plan.

Community Consultation Purpose

Before progressing the installation of dog friendly improvements community feedback was sought to consider the overall development of the site and plan for future upgrades.

The intention for this consultation was to determine:

- If there was support to separate the playground from the dog friendly area in the eastern part of the reserve.
- If a separation was supported, should this be a fence or landscaping?
- What future improvements residents would like to see at the site?



DUMBARTON AVENUE RESERVE

Stage One



Council has endorsed minor improvements for Dumbarton Avenue Reserve including drink fountain with dog bowl, shelter and seating. Refer plan for locations.

KEY

-  New shelter with bench seat
-  New dog drink fountain/bowl




Minor Reserve improvements

For further information contact Council's Open Space and Recreation Planner Amy Liddicoat on phone: 8375 6600

Community Consultation Program

Community consultation was undertaken over a three week period from 8 to 29 April 2019 and included:

- A Making Marion online survey,
- Postcards delivered to 893 households, within a 400m catchment, directing them to the online survey,
- Signs installed at Dumbarton Avenue Reserve,
- Social media marketing; and
- On site meeting held at 10.15am on Saturday 13 April.

The following report provides an analysis of the feedback received and provides recommendations for works to be undertaken.

Recommendations:

The recommendation is to provide a separation between the playground and the dog friendly area using a fence. To achieve a suitable play area with room for kick about and free play the recommendation is to fence along the path line across the reserve.

A drink fountain and shelter should also be included in the off leash area.

Upgrade the local level reserve at a cost of approximately \$50,000 with

- Fencing
- Landscaping
- Shelter with seating
- 1 drink fountain in off leash area
- 1 drink fountain in playground area

A current budget allocation of \$30,000 was identified in 2018/19. This would offset the costs of the option above.

A further allocation of \$21,406 has been endorsed by ELT, through Special Distribution Funding for the addition of a fence and other safety improvements at Dumbarton Avenue Reserve.

Additional feedback was received on options that would inform a future staged plan, these include items such as additional landscaping and pathways in the playground area, nature play, BBQ and shade over equipment.

These considerations will now be taken into account as part of the City Property Strategic Asset Management Plan, 'The Plan', works, with potential further upgrades advised at a future point in time, once all assets are assessed.

Consultation Findings

In summary, during the three week consultation period Council received:

- 24 completed surveys,
- More than 30 visitors to the on-site consultation meeting,
- 3 email responses; and
- More than 20 Facebook comments.

Making Marion Online Survey Findings

A map was provided to show a proposed location for the drink fountain and shelter. The majority of comments have shown that the drink fountain needs to be further from the entrance. While comments suggested that the shelter should be moved, the separation of the two areas will address these concerns.

Of the 24 respondents who completed surveys **87.5% supported separating the playground from the dog friendly area in the eastern part of the reserve.** Of those residents, the majority (85.7%) preferred a separation by fence.

The majority of respondents wanted to see further improvements through park landscaping (15) and nature play (12) including:

- Maintenance on grassed areas to improve turf (4 comments)
- Install double gates / add a gate from Towers Terrace (2 comments)
- Further education for dog owners (1 comment)
- Skate park (1 comment)

The survey responses are expanded in Summary of Making Marion Online Survey Findings.

On-site Consultation

The on-site consultation was well attended with more than 30 attendees, the following items were raised in response to the survey questions:

- Fencing – favourable to the idea of fencing to separate the playground from the dog friendly area (9 comments)
- Agility equipment for dogs (1 comment)
- Addition of a gate at Towers Terrace (1 comment)
- Maintenance and renewal of lawns (1 comment)
- More seating (1 comment)
- Education for dog owners (2 comments)
- Double gates (1 comment)
- Toilet (1 comment)
- Drink fountain with water bottle filler (1 comment)
- Liked existing traditional playground (1 comment)
- Planting along back fence to provide a noise buffer (2 comments)
- Shelter (away from fences) (2 comments)
- BBQ (1 comment)
- Dog rules displayed in reserve (1 comment)
- Can the public buy dog bags at a discounted rate from council? (1 comment)

Representatives from the Marion City band attended the consultation and were concerned that they would not have a place to practice marching. They are able to practice on Edwardstown Oval but were concerned for the children in the band about crossing Raglan Avenue.

The prevailing attitude of the meeting was to provide the separation between playground and dog area as a priority before other items are considered. While initially attendees were not happy with the proposed location of the shelter, with the acknowledgement that the current shelter would be fenced into the playground area, the location was agreed.

Summary of Making Marion Online Survey

Consultation was held over three weeks, closing on the 29 April 2019, the findings are summarised below:

Question 1

Do you have any comments about the proposed location of the shelter and drinking fountain?

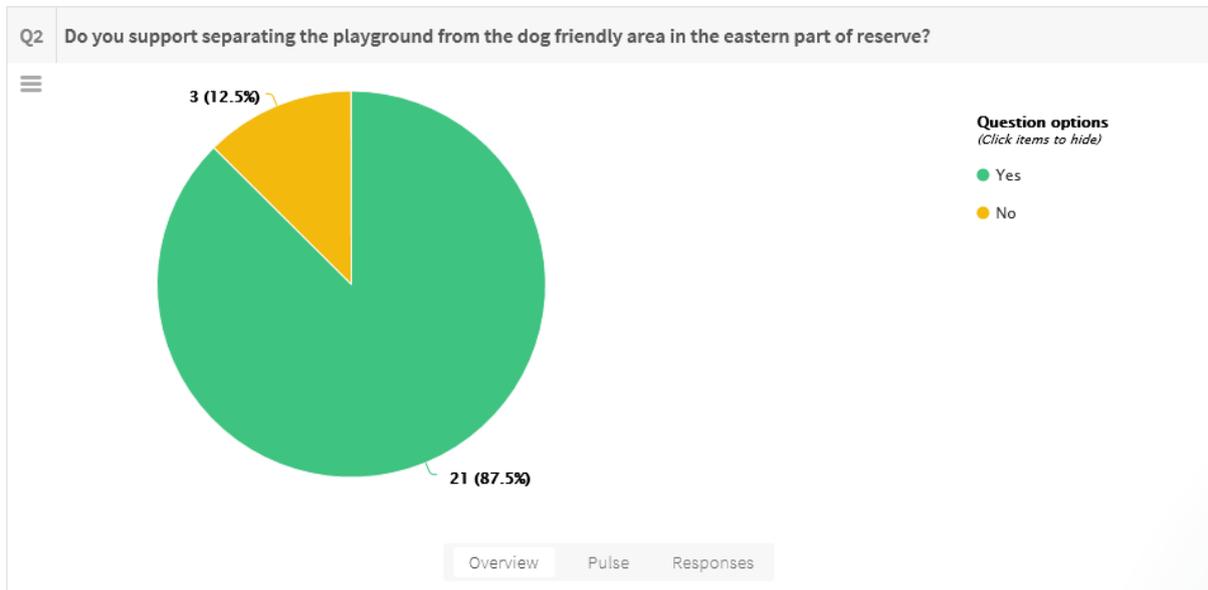
- The shelter is in an ok position but the drinking fountain should be closer towards the shelter. It's too close to the gate to come in. So when the dog owners who have their dogs off lease and the dogs go to drink on their own, people will come in and the dogs will run over and jump on the people or try to run out the gate before the owners who are usually far away from them can get there. I saw this happen just last week and a massive lab jumped up on some kids coming into the playground whilst their irresponsible owners sat in the playground even though they didn't have kids.
- The drink fountain is quite close to the gate. dogs often gather around drink fountains and also like to "greet" other dogs and people as they enter a park. Having the fountain so close to the gate could mean that people entering and leaving the park are always having to worry about other dogs trying to get out of the gate and/or

having a pack of dogs running at them as they enter the park which could startle the new dog and cause unnecessary issues/fights. Moving the fountain towards the northern fence could be a better spot.

- "What a ridiculous place to put a new shelter. Towers Terrace side of playground which parents and children could utilise would be much better in my opinion. Place within the new fenced area for parents and children."
- that looks like a good position for those things
- The proposed shelter has absolutely no purpose for its location and does not address the specific needs we have addressed for the initial spend. A fence around the playground and a small part of the grasses area is what needs to be a priority so that children and families can play happily without the interference of dogs. This is the soecific need and necessity for the initial spend, not a shelter over the other side of the park with no specific purpose!
- The bin (that dog poo) is put into is just inside main gate...first thing when you walk in is the smell...right near dog bowl. Maybe consider bin location too.
- The proposed location of the shelter and drinking fountain encroaches on the open space. The park is not very big and I suggest that any additional structures could be kept closer to the perimeter.
- The drinking fountain is too close to the gate. It's tricky when dogs gather in this space and someone enters the space to allow the new comers space to enter, or children the ability to stay away from dogs if they wish.
- The drinking fountain is too close to the gate which may cause issues to those entering/exiting the park.
- "It would make sense to put the new shelter in an enclosed playground area. There needs to be a small section of grass for families to sit on/play on within the enclosed playground area. This will be a safe space for families to play whilst watching their dog in the park.
- The park needs to work for dog owners and non-dog owners. The safety of child is paramount. "
- I believe priority should be to separate play area from dog area before these improvements
- Potential to move the shelter as close as possible to the boundary fence to avoid impinging in space for dogs to run around
- Both additions are great...but the water fountain needs to be nearer the shade of trees to catch the afternoon shade in summer. The water and bowl get very hot by the afternoon.

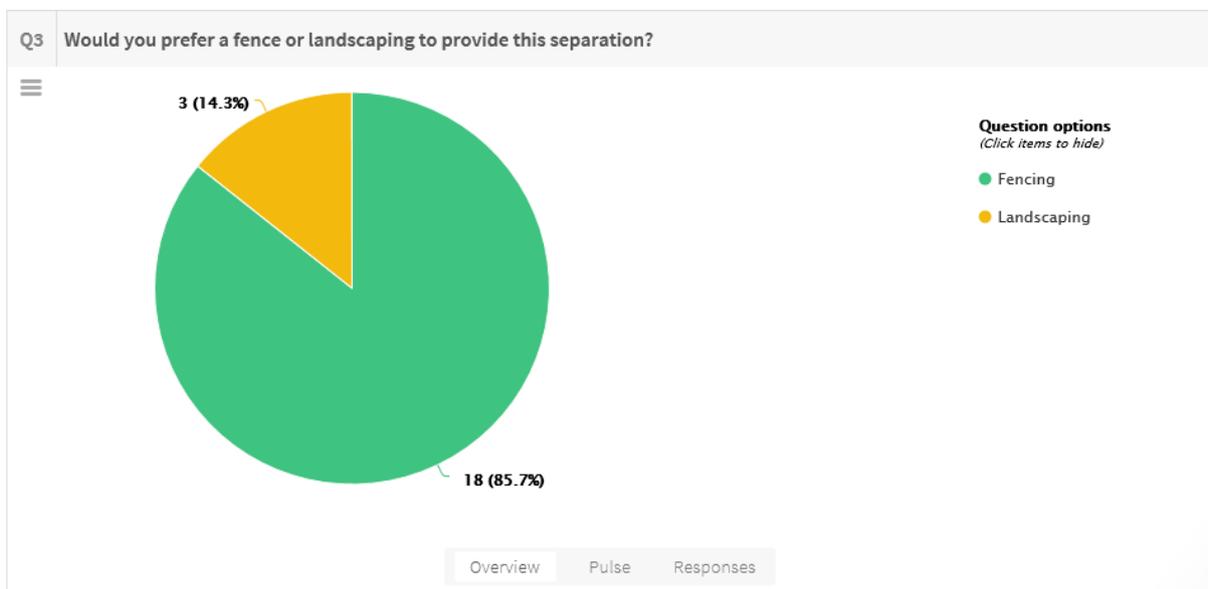
Question 2.

Do you support separating the playground from the dog friendly area in the eastern part of the reserve?



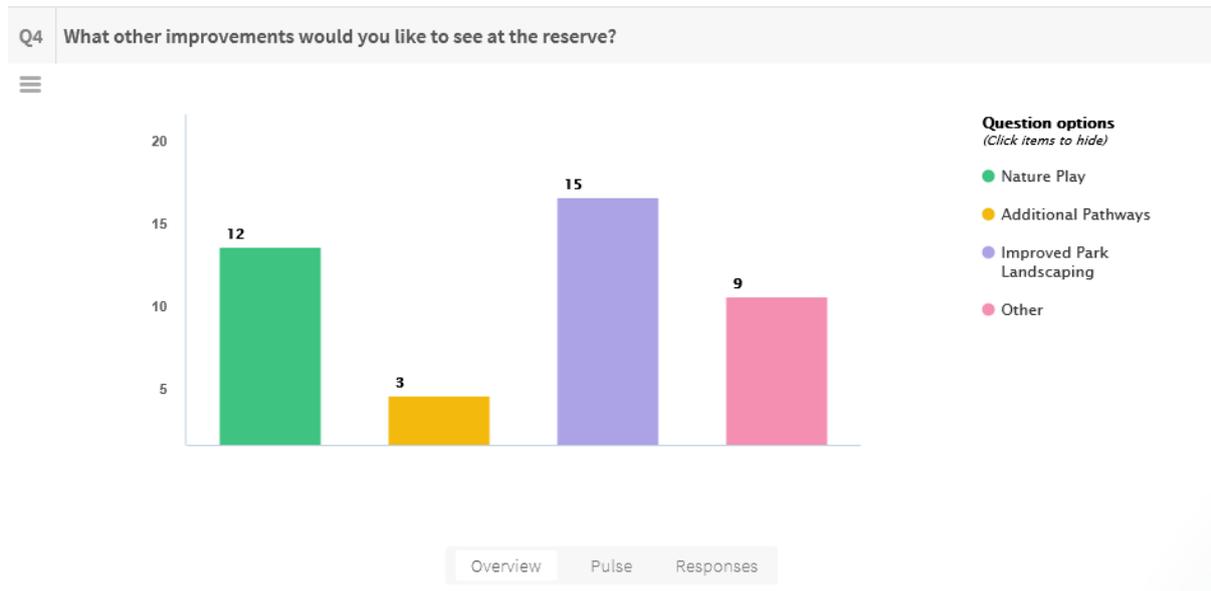
Question 3.

If yes, would you prefer a fence or landscaping to provide this separation?



Question 4.

What other improvements would you like to see at the reserve?



Other:

- Fence between the two areas and then the dogs can enter from the eastern side having no access to the playground side for the reasons above.
- Some extra play equipment, landscaping, and picnic area/bbqs at the western end would improve the park for everyone
- "Fencing should be the top priority . The extra shelter should come in phase two. Double entry gate for dog security."
- the unevenness of the ground on the western end is a hazard ready to turn an ankle.
- "As a twice daily user of the park both for off leash dog exercising and using the play equipment for my son, we don't need things like nature plays. We want to retain the openness of the park. Additional pathways just makes the area smaller and only makes the areas smaller!

The propose additional shelter is a baffling initial spend item and is not a necessity! We need double gates for child/dog safety when entering the park and need the coucil to plant new lawn to fix the dust bowl that currently exist I. Front of the current shelter.

I'm disappointing with what the council thinks should be the initial spend. In terms of a fence, we need a fence around the playground, not dividing the park in half!

Please remember we are looking for compromise. At the end of the day, non dog users have other spaces they can use. We have one fully fenced space We can use

in the immediate area but we understand kinds and families can come and play without being annoyed by the dogs. "

- Reminder that it is a public shared park..not an exclusive dog park. When multiple dogs in park the owners didnt like sharing the grounds area with community group needing some off street space... even when approached and asked for a 20 min window. Not all dog poo is picked up in grass areas so lingering faeces and smells are still present. Owners may use paths but dogs dont need them... and kids run around not needing more pathes either. No more paths needed. Or fences...if kids are in park then tighter rules on dog freedoms ciuld be exercised by owners.
- Improvement to the turf as it is very uneven and has many holes in it.
- "I am proposing to implement a skatepark at the Dumbarton Avenue Reserve. It is currently a park which has low usage compared to Jervois Street Reserve. The current play facilities suit younger age groups better and don't account for older children restricting popularity of the park. With the addition of a low-cost simple skatepark, it will motivate children to be active and outdoors more often, Increase activity around the neighbourhood, inflate overall safety and help residents interact with each other. With the presence of a bus depot opposite the noises and activity when building and being used will not affect residents. These days children are constantly on devices, but with the facilities to be outdoors and learn new things, kids will be occupied more often and be keeping fit and healthy while doing things they love. It will encourage outdoor play and increase interactivity within children, helping them make new friends and develop new social skills. It will increase outdoor activity and movement within the suburb as children and parents will be out and about more often. With the presence of people being outside, safety will boost due to more activity and people looking out for each other. This causing comfort when unaccompanied by family as there are many other people around. With the constant activeness, people will be forced to interact more and make new friends, escalating resident and citizen overall interactivity. A general idea could recreate something similar to Avenue Road Skatepark as it is still simple but provides many riding options. It will be locate in the North-East Corner of Dumbarton Avenue Reserve. Leaving the playground available for other park users. Another location that could be recreated could be pennington mini mini as it has beginner jumps that are simple and don't require much maintenance

I hope you consider my idea/proposal, and it would be an dream to come true.

- Upgraded play equipment (e.g. mini flying fox, nest swing); Native plants / shrubs around the boundary. Do something with the rocky section on the Towers Tce side. It's a useless space right now.

Question 5.

Do you have any other comments?

- If you are going to make this more dog friendly a fence is a MUST! I have already called before more than once to complain about the amount of irrisponsible dog owners using the area. They don't listen to the signs and the dogs are in the playground area and bothering the kids. Just this week an off lease dog zoomed

through the playground and nearly pushed my daughter off the swing. I've seen a dog push a kid over and stand on them and get in their face on the grass area. I've seen many dogs pooping in the playground. I've had dogs wee on my pram. I've had dog owners abuse my mother in law because she told them to keep the dogs away from the playground. My dad has also been abused by a dog owner after he asked him to clear up his dogs poo. I have nothing against dogs in fact I'm getting one shortly, but it's the owners who have no respect. If you can't control your dog, it shouldn't be off lease, especially with kids around. It's only a matter of time before a kid gets seriously hurt by a dog and the council gets taken to court. This park is too small to be both a playground and a dog park with no fence. I have been asking for one for years now and I hope the council finally listens! Please make a fence a priority, this is so much more important than an extra shelter or a dog fountain. We are talking about kids safety!!!

- The playground would need to be fenced off from the dog area to reduce the risks to kids which implies the path would form the boundary of the dog friendly area, in which case the space isn't big enough for bigger dogs to run around without being a hazard to everyone around them. The plan would work if the dog area was restricted to small dogs (I say this as an owner of large dogs).
- More dog bag dispensers as the current one keeps running out and irresponsible dog owners will leave the droppings in situ if no bags available.
- Get rid of the rocks on towers tce side, dangerous.
The playground should be fenced off from the dog area thats a big risk for children and dogs mixing in that small area its just asking for injuries, since its become an off leash area with dogs constantly annoying kids trying to play.
flatten the grassed area on the towers tce side.
good having another shelter and the dog water fountian, is a bbq able to be installed near the original shelter and have that enclosed in the playground area.
- We use the park for a safe place to walk around with our band for marching drill etc. We have had a variety of encounters with the dogs and their owners. Most are welcoming when we spend 45 mins on a sunday afternoon. It would be good to encourage more dog owners to be aware when their dog relieved it's bowels and they haven't cleaned up afterwards.
if there was to be a separation of the space, then the western end would need more landscaping to create a safe area for ball games and other outdoor activities.
- Marion City Band and Warriparinga Brass use the park for marching practice. This has become problematic recently due to the increased number of dogs in the park and in particular owners that do not pick up after their dogs. If the east side of the park is to be fenced off and dedicated to dogs then we will no longer be able to use the park for marching practice. The western end is too uneven and has too many obstacles. Perhaps we could use the new oval?
- The only logical allocation of funding is for a fence to separate the playground and the so called "dog park". You are going to have a serious incident one day, dogs running around and small children is dangerous (aside from the hygiene issue). I would like to see the feedback results because a shelter and extra dog bowl to improve this "dog park" is absolutely ridiculous - don't waste the money. Use the money to put a fence right through the middle, that's what's needed. Honestly can't

stress the safety risk here. I have a medium size dog who will run and not stop for a small child. If you can mitigate that risk with a new dog bowl, then the Council needs to reevaluate it's principals.

- I believe it is very important to fence off the playground to make it safe for the children. I can't take my over zealous dog to the park when children are there which makes it difficult for us to be able to go at all, given I need to check the park is all clear first. There is no where else in the area for her to run off lead.
- The Marion City Band have their rehearsal hall opposite Dumbarton Reserve. We use the park for approximately 4 marching rehearsals on a Sunday afternoon, twice to three times a year prior to competitions. The terrain is not ideal and we often have to dodge dog faeces. The location is very convenient, saving the band members from needing to drive to another location. The addition of fencing, landscaping, playgrounds or shelters will restrict the available open space. The band is a local community organisation with approximately 100 members.
- Landscaping isn't going to do much to seperate the space sufficiently, dogs can still run through this or around it. Only a gated area would truly keep dogs off the playground.
I think the existing sheltered area should be included in the fenced area, as well as some surrounding grass area to make the space more welcoming. "
- Please dont circle the playground with a fence.

I believe the park could be cut in half to allow families (without dogs) to enjoy the park, kick balls etc.

I am unable to get to the park meeting om but I make myself available to chat with council as i back onto the park (via wright St)

Regards

- Our family has lived in the area for almost 38 years. We were sadden to see that the park has become more of a dog park and not a safe children's playground, as it has always been in the past. My wife regularly takes our grandchildren to the park. If there are to many worrying breeds of dogs, she won't take the chance of any harm coming to the children and will go to the park over at Harris st. We are a dog owner and all our grand kids have dogs but we can't trust a strange dog with a small child hence our desire for a fence. We feel not all owners can control there dogs properly as Saturdays meeting showed with one dog peeing on playground bark and another having a poop. After hearing the concerns from the people whom homes back onto the park ,we think there should be a time curfew on dogs at the park. Our only concern with installing a fence is that there be ample space given to the play area including a grassed area to allow kids to run around. We also feel the existing shelter would be better if it were moved away from the residents fence towards Dumbarton Ave TowersTce corner. We are hopeful that we can return with our grandchildren to the park in the near future and feel that they are safe. Finally we love to hear the band playing.
- Strongly support laying new turf in areas that have no grass

- Street parking on Dumbarton Avenue is often difficult due to the bus depot across the road. The buses are frequently parked along Dumbarton avenue on the northern side of the road.

Additionally, the movement of buses in and out of the premises on the Southern side is done without a spotter or any other obvious safety mechanism for pedestrians.
- I am proposing to implement a skatepark at the Dumbarton Avenue Reserve. It is currently a park which has low usage compared to Jervois Street Reserve. The current play facilities suit younger age groups better and don't account for older children restricting popularity of the park. With the addition of a low-cost simple skatepark, it will motivate children to be active and outdoors more often, Increase activity around the neighbourhood, inflate overall safety and help residents interact with each other. With the presence of a bus depot opposite the noises and activity when building and being used will not affect residents. These days children are constantly on devices, but with the facilities to be outdoors and learn new things, kids will be occupied more often and be keeping fit and healthy while doing things they love. It will encourage outdoor play and increase interactivity within children, helping them make new friends and develop new social skills. It will increase outdoor activity and movement within the suburb as children and parents will be out and about more often. With the presence of people being outside, safety will boost due to more activity and people looking out for each other. This causing comfort when unaccompanied by family as there are many other people around. With the constant activeness, people will be forced to interact more and make new friends, escalating resident and citizen overall interactivity. A general idea could recreate something similar to Avenue Road Skatepark as it is still simple but provides many riding options. It will be locate in the North-East Corner of Dumbarton Avenue Reserve. Leaving the playground available for other park users. Another location that could be recreated could be pennington mini mini as it has beginner jumps that are simple and don't require much maintenance

I hope you consider my idea/proposal, and it would be an dream to come true.
- During busy times with lots of dogs there it is hard to keep them off the playground area as they are usually going berserk and having fun. I would like a fence to go around the playground area and not across the park blocking off the western end to dogs. During busy times there are a lot of dogs there and only having the eastern end would be too confining especially when the bigger dogs are there. I suggest to keep kids safe and the area clean to fence the playground and shelter adjacent to playground off. Or don't fence in the shelter but add bench seating in the fenced off playground area for parents to sit while their kids play. That way the dogs have the whole park to run around on without stressing owners of dogs and children out worrying where they are. Also put back the gate on Towers Tce side. Don't understand why it was removed. Because of the buses parked on Dumbarton Ave there is usually limited car parking.

Cars could park on Towers Tce and enter via the gate reinstalled. Would be helpful for those who need to drive to the park for their dogs to have some exercise and fun.
- I hope Council bears in mind that there are no other fenced, off-leash dog parks nearby. If there is a separation between play and dog space, please consider making the dog section large enough. Simply splitting down the middle would not be a good idea. The dog park needs to be large enough to cater for dogs of various sizes. It could become dangerous for dogs to be in a cramped area. It might be worth having a designated off-leash time at the new Edwardstown oval, too.

Summary of Social Media

Engagement was undertaken on Facebook to invite community members to have their say via Making Marion.

Over 20 comments were provided to the Facebook posts. The comments concerned fencing the playground from the dog friendly area and further reserve improvements.



City of Marion
April 12 at 9:51 PM · 🌐



City of Marion
April 9 at 3:37 PM · 🌐

Community consultation opportunity for Dumbarton Avenue Reserve, Edwardstown [🗨️](#)

After reviewing wider community feedback about dog parks, Council endorsed the st...
[See More](#)

👍 4 1 Comment

👍 Like 💬 Comment ➦ Share

Most Relevant ▾

 Write a comment... 😊 📷 GIF 🗨️

 **Angela Curtis** How about a toilet?
Like · Reply · 2w 👍 1

City of Marion
April 9 at 3:37 PM · 🌐

Community consultation opportunity for Dumbarton Avenue Reserve, Edwardstown 📍

After reviewing wider community feedback about dog parks, Council endorsed the staged implementation plan of an upgrade to Dumbarton Avenue Reserve that addresses the needs of both dog owners and the broader community.

Funding has been allocated to make the reserve a dog friendly reserve, v the following improvements... [See More](#)



👍❤️👍 17 20 Comments · 6 Sh

👍 Like 💬 Comment ➦ Share

Most Relevant ▾

Write a comment...

Anna Merola I hope the playground equipment is not removed but it'd be great to have a fence around the playground so both kids and dogs can play in harmony! We use the reserve for both but it's a bit hard to keep the dogs 5 metres away from the playground equipment.

Like · Reply · 3w · Edited 👍❤️👍 6

Most Relevant is selected, so some replies may have been filtered out

Kaara Feetham Totally agree Anna! I think a fence is a must with the first spend. We used to use this playground a lot but had to stop going as there was too many dog/dog owner issues...dogs knocking kids off the play equipment, pooding in the playground, kids being jumped on, parents abused etc. Both can enjoy the area in harmony but definitely not as it is in a small area with no fence.

Like · Reply · 2w

Most Relevant is selected, so some replies may have been filtered out

Write a reply...

Damien Wolff A fence around the playground and a small section of grasses area (for families and kids to play) is a must in the initial spend. The shelter on the other side fits what purpose. We need an extension of the current shelter to fit more people!

Like · Reply · 3w 👍❤️👍 1

Similarly, fencing ... [See More](#)

Like · Reply · 3w 👍❤️👍 5

Damien Wolff Nadia Schmidt great call, my question is, has this been considered in the initial spend, the focus seems to be on the council wanting to install another shelter, which in the future would be great, but is that an absolute must for the initial spend!

Like · Reply · 3w 👍❤️👍 1

Owen Loney Agree!

Like · Reply · 2w 👍❤️👍 1

Write a reply...

Owen Loney Wonderful landscaping and clean, modern playground facilities in Marion

Like · Reply · 2w

Andrew Bignell The council would benefit greatly from visiting the dog parks in the West Torrens, City or North Adelaide areas to see it's done.

Like · Reply · 3w · Edited

Lee Gibbons you need to address the reback problem in the rock pile in the Nth Wst corner of the park adjacent to Towers Tce. A lot of kids mess around with the rocks in there and I've noticed a helluva lot of redbacks in there. But yeah, more seating and shelter would be good, just DO NOT rip up the trees along the Eastern end of the park: don't even cut them back, and leave all trees sheltering the playground.

Like · Reply · 3w

Kate Beard Rudie Jac I recall you mentioning that Hugo likes this playground? Might be worth checking out the proposed changes. Good for Rudie!

Like · Reply · 3w 👍❤️👍 1

Jeff Wescombe .From what I recall there has always been a dog bowl by the gate. But I don't think it was made for marching practice ie dodging dogs balls and people. Convenient yes, practical no.

Like · Reply · 3w

Heath Nash Nas Makhokina Trent Martin

Like · Reply · 3w ❤️ 1

Amanda August Simon Fabbian

Like · Reply · 2w

Loong William I hope there is a 100% new council at next council elections..

Like · Reply · 3w 👍❤️👍 1

Emma Miller Tom Miller

Like · Reply · 3w 👍❤️👍 1

Sarah Harrison Mathew Harrison

Like · Reply · 3w

Nicole Howell Terry Ross

Like · Reply · 3w

Rebekah Zammit Neeta Saldanha Alan Saldanha I think you guys should definitely have a say lol

Like · Reply · 3w 👍❤️👍 1

Emails received

I am not a marion ratepayer but my son and daughter are and they live very close to the Dumbarton avenue Reserve I find it impossible to take their children aged 4 and 2 to this reserve as there are always dogs roaming They seem to be unable to read the sign that states that they cannot be closer to the playground than 5 metres Instead of making the fencing issue a future consideration as stated in your survey you **MUST** address this issue as of paramount importance before a child gets bitten

Nice to have met you today and you did listen to me about people using mobility aids such as wheelchairs and gophers. I know I am only a simple old lady but it does worry me about those who have so much to 'put up' with in this society. Yes, I did mention marion customer service, and I will say again how great these particular council workers are. They are polite and helpful, and have a very good knowledge about things concerning those with disabilities and have been trying more than anyone, to try to find answers. They also do not judge.

One thing I did forget to mention, silly me, were the elderly who use a walker as they cannot, often, let go of their mobility aids to 'reach up' or 'over' to unlock gate.

Also did not, but this was deliberate, say that the main reason I do not use the dog park is the owners of many of the dogs. They let dogs race at people , children and other dogs. Many dogs also react to use of mobility vehicles and will bark, growl or try to 'attack' the wheels and this frightens me. So another park I can't use except when it is empty and I can open the gate. I feel terrible to be so much trouble!

Thank you again for listening

Thank you for taking the time to listen last Saturday. As mentioned I am very concerned about any developments re Dumbarton reserve. I am the grandparent/ now mother again of a beautiful 4 year old grandson with autism. The Dumbarton playground used to be a place he found an adventure and a safe play area. Unfortunately now if there are dogs in the area he will not go in. This is because on two occasions he has been overwhelmed by dogs bounding up to him and the owners either ignoring the situation or simply saying its ok he won't hurt you. This comment to a 4 year old or an adult with a child is irrelevant as they do not know the dog.

I listened to all sides put forward whilst I was there and everyone who spoke put forward relevant issues. There is no reason why this area could not be a shared space with sectioned off area if the following were put in place and policed, with action being taken when necessary.

- Specific hours for dogs to be allowed unleashed on the premises. Clearly signed and action taken if not adhered to. (this works well at beaches) **A bright low barrier not a fence around the playground** would still make the play ground itself look inviting and if dog owners take responsibility & prevent dogs from going on the actual playground area to relieve themselves. (As witnessed on Saturday) there would be no need to have a fenced off area.

· My feeling is consideration needs to be given to those families whose properties adjoin the playground and their wishes are very valid and important. (We all witnessed the noise and commotion on Saturday from the dogs present and the owners who actually did not take responsibility for their dogs. I have seen this time and time again. I have put in complaints to the council only to be told nothing can be done. If nothing can be done and it is not policed then it probably needs to be an area for human recreation; not dogs as there will come a time when a child is attacked.)

· This is an area that should be enjoyed and able to be utilized by everyone who goes there and no-one should be stopped from using the area.

VERY CLEAR SIGNAGE, RE HOURS OF USE FOR UNLEASHED DOGS AND RULES WHICH ARE ADHERED TO AND POLICED BY THE COUNCIL SHOULD MAKE THIS A WORKABLE AREA FOR ALL CONCERNED WITHOUT A DIVIDING FENCE.

In conclusion this is a rare and great area for all to use please don't destroy it with fences just make it workable for all concerned. As adults we all know what rules are and most know how to follow them. There will always be those who are the exception and if policed and actioned people will very soon realise their behaviour is inappropriate.