150 CAMBRIDGE ROAD KILSYTH

Initial Community Engagement Report for the Draft Concept Plan

April 2024

PROJECT BACKGROUND

Yarra Ranges Council is developing a draft concept plan at 150 Cambridge Road, the former site of Pembroke Secondary College. The draft concept plan aims to support revegetation of native and Indigenous plants, outdoor public open spaces and strengthen the character of Kilsyth.

An initial community engagement was held in September and October 2023, seeking feedback on what the community would like to see at the site. The themes of suggested elements included Urban Forest/Woodland, Water, Open Space, Recreation and Park Amenities. Council asked if any elements resonated with community aspirations, and to provide any other suggested elements and ideas.

The Engagement Report summarises the feedback provided by the community during this consultation, and offers a snapshot of the design initiatives Council is developing based on that feedback. The result will be a draft concept plan to guide the redevelopment of the public open space at 150 Cambridge Road, Kilsyth. This draft concept plan will be presented to the community for their review and further feedback.

WHO WE SPOKE TO

A 6 week engagement period for the planning of 150 Cambridge Road was undertaken (19th September 2023 - 31st October 2023)

600 letters were dropped in letter boxes of property owners in the Kilsyth area to inform the community about the engagement, provide details about the project and the open period for feedback.

1675 emails were sent to the Kilsyth Community providing information on the proposal and collect feedback.

A stakeholder consultation session (key representatives of community groups) was conducted at Lilydale Community Link on the 19th October 2023.

6 On-site Face-to-Face Sessions were conducted at 150 Cambridge Road, Kilsyth).

1269 page views of the Shaping Yarra Ranges - 150 Cambridge Road Kilsyth page from 810 unique visitors.

194 contributions through the Shaping Yarra Ranges - 150 Cambridge Road, Kilsyth page from 122 unique contributors.

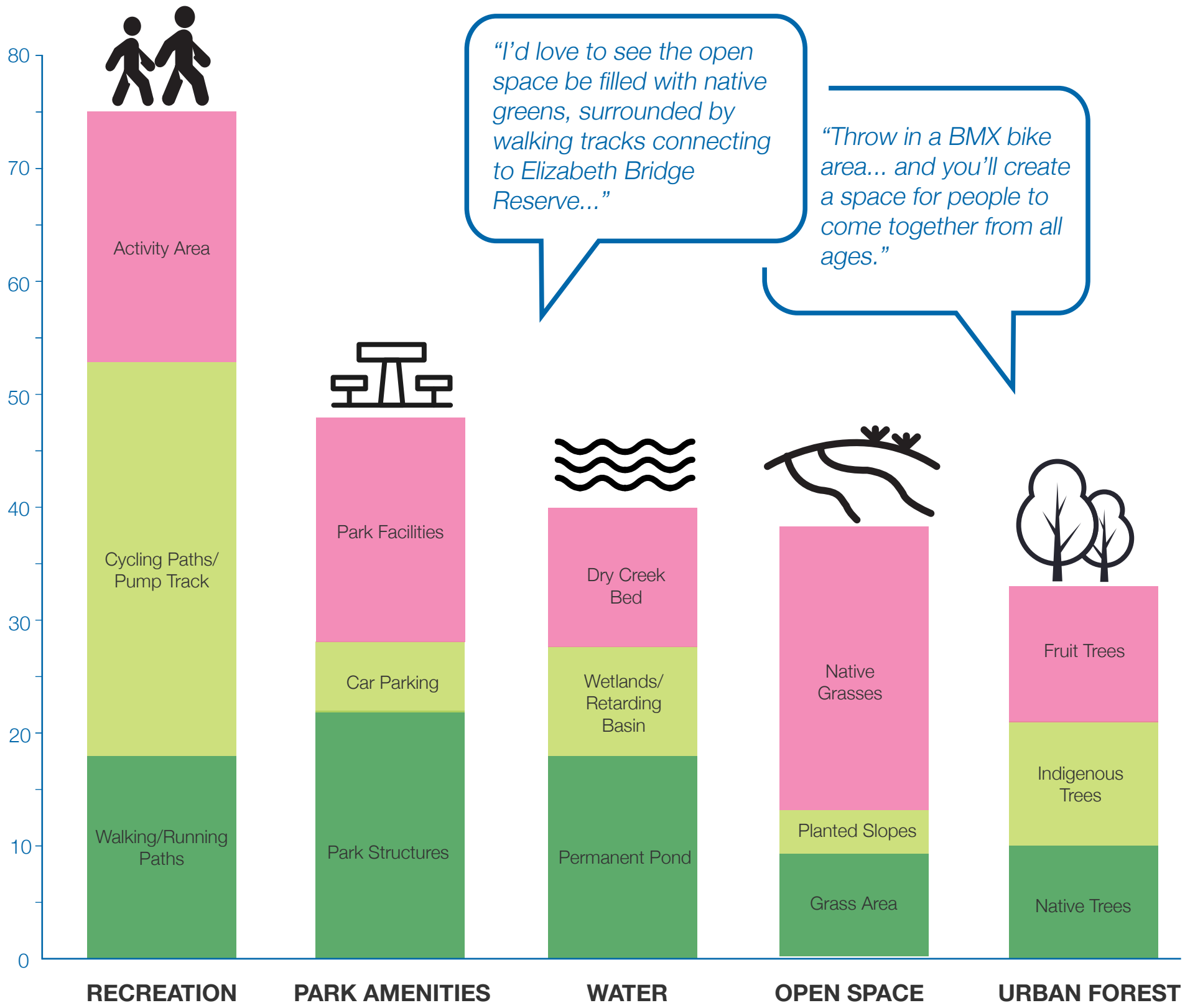
Website visitors came from Direct to Shaping Yarra Ranges 40%, Social Media Channels 31%, Campaines 15%, Websites 8% and Search Engines 6%.

One of the on-site sessions at Elizabeth Bridge Reserve in Oct 2023

WHAT WE HEARD

We received a total 234 'votes' for various popular elements that the community would like included in the 150 Cambridge Road Draft Concept Plan. These are listed below, broken up into the themes of Urban Forest, Water, Open Space, Recreation and Park Amenities. Elements are shown in the order of highest interest to the lowest. Each element is further divided into the key three items indicted with red, light green and green.

POPULAR ELEMENTS



NEXT STEPS:

After reviewing the insights captured from the community consultation, we are investigating design initiatives to produce a framework to guide the draft concept plan.

KEY DESIGN INITIATIVES

RECREATION

- BIKE FACILITIES
- WALKING PATH
- PLAY SPACE
- COURT SPACE

PARK AMENITIES

- SHELTER, TABLES & SEATS
- CAR PARK

WATER

- EPHEMERAL WETLAND
- (DRY)POND

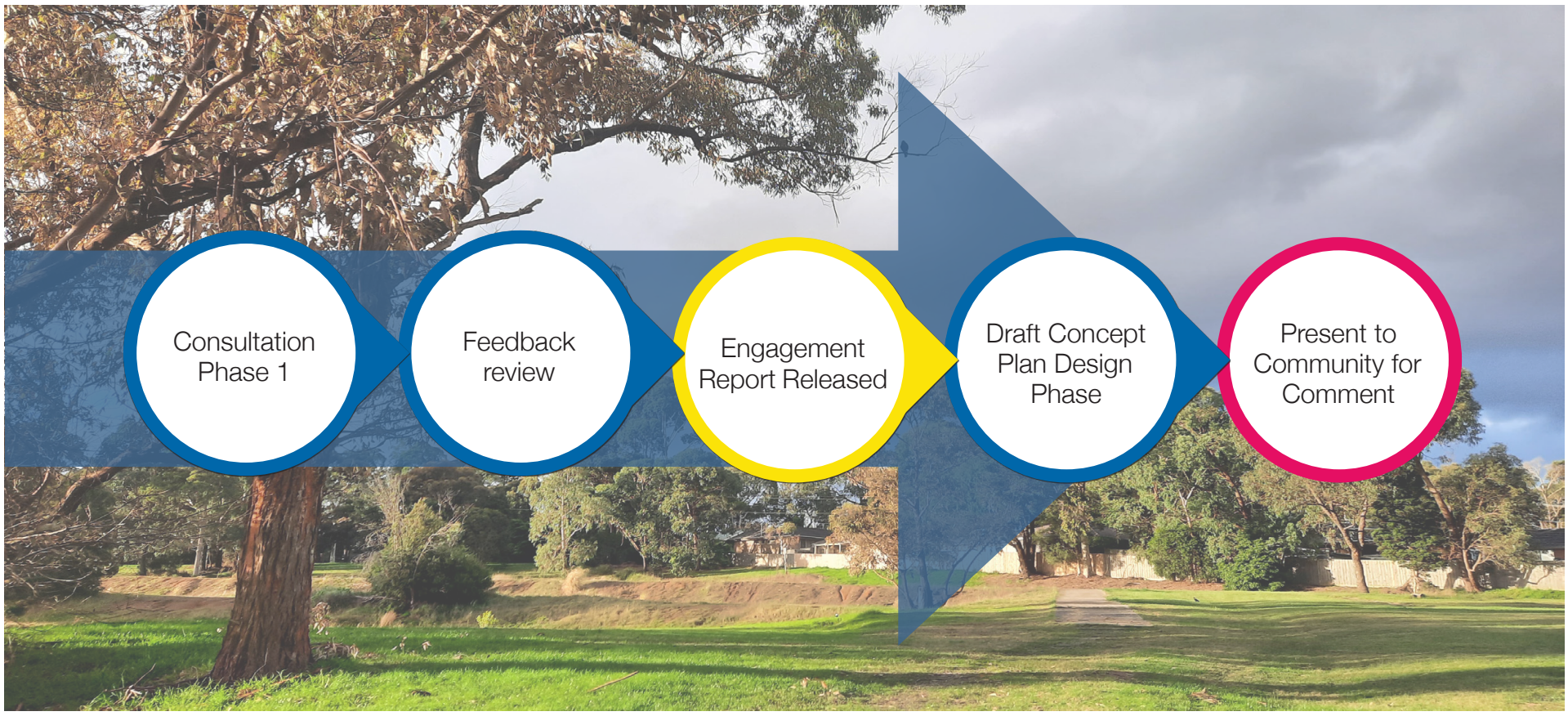
OPEN SPACE

- COMMUNITY GATHERING SPACE
- OPEN GRASSED AREA

URBAN FOREST

- GREEN SPACE
- NATIVE & INDIGENOUS TREES
- SENSORY GARDENS

OTHERS

- ACCESSI-BILITY
- EDUCATIONAL
- INDIGENOUS CULTURE

The next steps in the preparation of the 150 Cambridge Road Concept Plan are outlined below.