

Harbour Foreshore Community Reference Group

220721 Meeting 3: Key Findings Summary

Overall, there was a positive response to the revised concept plan for the Harbour Foreshore precinct and the concept plan for the Wharf Road precinct for the Newcastle Harbour Foreshore Masterplan. Participants praised how well feedback received during the formal consultation period had been incorporated into the concept plans.

Harbour Foreshore - Revised Concept Plan

Finding 1: Participants praised Awabakal design elements and story, including the cultural walk.

Finding 2: Participants liked the relocation of the playspace, community garden and skate arena but were concerned the new skate arena may be too small when considering current use of the frog pond.

Finding 3: Participants praised links to the harbour, cycling route and Tug Berth Lane (TBL) but wanted to ensure the design minimises conflicts between all pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles; and that there is planned provision of cycling facilities.

Finding 4: Participants wanted to ensure access to Port facilities across TBL are maintained and planned tree heights do not block navigation lanes.

Wharf Road - Concept Plan

Finding 5: Participants praised the dedicated cycleway, making this a first-class plan, however there was concern about conflicts between pedestrians/cyclists and people moving in and out of cars. Participants also suggested access for business owners (eg. loading zones) along Wharf Road should be maintained.

Finding 6: Participants liked the addition of foreshore seating and wooden decks however these need to be accessible to all abilities. Opportunities along the foreshore edge for those who like to traditionally 'sit and fish' needs to be considered.

Finding 7: Participants liked the idea of community nodes around Scratchley's restaurant and Lynch's café and the large pedestrian crossing that provides access to the foreshore and Queens Wharf however the design needs to be mindful of existing sight lines and potential blind spots. Participants also reflected on the need to retain existing trees where possible.

Finding 8: Participants raised the lack of Indigenous interpretation along Wharf Road suggesting themes from the Harbour Foreshore Park should flow into this adjacent part of the city foreshore.