

Southern Memorial Park – Drop-In Consultation Register**Saturday 8 May 2021 Woden #1**

	Name	Time	Email	Stay updated
1		10:30		
2		10:40		
3		10:50		
4		10:55		
5	Name withheld	11:00		
6	Name withheld	11:10		
7		11:15		yes
8		11:18	as above	yes
9	Name withheld	11:18		
10		11:35		yes
11	Name withheld	10:00		
12	Name withheld	10:05		
13		10:15		yes
14	Name withheld	10:35		
15	Name withheld	10:45		
16	Name withheld	11:00		
17	Name withheld - family	11:15		
18	Name withheld	11:20		
19	Name withheld	11:30		
20	Name withheld	11:40		
21	Name withheld	12:20		
22	Name withheld	12:35		

Comments from 23 people were all positive and interest. Specific observations:

- * Happy with the plan (1-22)
- * Cemeteries should be part of community life and not hidden away (4)
- * Where is it? (14)
- * Why would anyone object? (15)
- * Needs to be friendly – happy with the design (20)
- * Happy with the plan (21)
- * Need something down south (25)

From: [REDACTED]
To: [TCCS_CommunityEngagement](#)
Subject: Southern Memorial Park
Date: Wednesday, 12 May 2021 4:38:06 PM

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Hello,

I have a question about the Master Plan for the SMP. The Master Plan Report Part A Page 26 Fig 9 indicates there will be extensive areas for Natural Burials, and acknowledges there is a growing desire within the Canberra Community for this type of burial. The Staging Plan on Page 28 Fig 11 does not show any provision for natural burial areas within stages 1 and 2 ie first 0-50 years. The areas for natural burial only appear on Page 29 in Stage 3 50-85 years. Is this correct? If so, why has the SMP not made provision for a small area for natural burial within the first stage of the development of the SMP?

Regards

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [TCCS_CommunityEngagement](#)
Subject: Southern Memorial Park
Date: Tuesday, 18 May 2021 8:06:06 AM

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The concepts appear to be really tasteful and well thought out, I'm curious as to whether the design features any space dedicated to a children's cemetery? Thanks. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Southern Memorial Park – Drop-In Consultation Register

Thursday 20 May 2021 Woden #2

	Name	Time	Email	Stay updated
1	Woman	11:10	Lovely	
2	Women x 2	11:15	Upgrade Mugga lane faster	
3	Man	11:20	Interest in upright burials. Mugga Lane traffic concerns.	
4	██████████	11:30	██████████	yes
5	Young man	11:57	Positive	yes
6	Man	12:25	Natural burials proposal is good. Sensitive design.	
7	Men x 2	12:37	Innovative proposal. Mugga Lane roadworks needed	
8	Man	12:42	Need to consider vandalism and pandemic management.	
9	Woman	11:20	A cemetery near the tip is a horrible idea	
10	Man	11:35	Interested in the burial options.	
11	██████████	12:00	██████████ liked the design and would like to buy in time	yes
12	Man	12:00	Interested in where it is and what was included	
13	Man	12:00	Little discussion but accepted a flyer	
14	Woman	12:20	Liked the visualisation.	
15	Men x2	12:20	Interested to know where it was	
16	██████████	12:30	Really interested. ██████████	yes
17	Men x2	12:30	Generally interested – from Gungahlin. Will look at <i>YourSay</i>	
18	Man	12:35	Just having a look	
19	Woman	12:35	Had not heard of the proposal but is interested. Will look up <i>YourSay</i>	
20	Tara	12:40	Interested and positive	
21	Man	12:40		
22	Man	12:40	Really liked the concept and interested in the natural burials	
23	Man	12:45	Positive interest in the location and the project	
24	Man	12:50	Interested – particularly in natural burials option	
25	Woman	11:00	Good idea	
26	Woman	11:15	Good idea. What will you do for water	
27	Man	11:30	Thanks for the information	
28	People x3	11:35	Superficial interest in the project - location/buildings	
29	Woman	11:40	I am impressed and intrigued with the garden idea. Lovely to have a playground and a friendly environment for families.	
30	Man	11:50	Cool!	
31	Man	12:00	Great	
32	Man & woman	12:30	Thanks. Good idea.	
33	Man	12:35	Thanks – very interested	
34	Man	12:45	Mistakenly thought this was urban development and a 'land grab'; very happy to learn an innovative garden cemetery was proposed and associated environmental restoration	
35	Woman	12:55	Dog trainer. Looks good. Can a dog park be included? There is nothing in the Gordon/Banks area.	
36	Woman	13:00	General interest	
37	Man	13:00	Interest in the plan and natura burials in particular.	
38	Woman	13:00	That's nice	
39	Woman	13:00	What is this? Near the tip? Yuk!	

Good general interest and comments were positive overall. Specific observations:

- * 46 people registered as above but more stopped in a concentrated rush period – so not recorded
- * Two objections to the location (9 & 39)
- * Interest from a young male demographic – unusual when compared to other drop-ins to date
- * Interest from local MLA (4)

Southern Memorial Park – Drop-In Consultation Register				
Saturday 15 May 2021 Tuggeranong #2				
	Name	Time	Email	Stay updated
1	Couple - names withheld	11:40		
2	Couple - names withheld	11:45		
3	Couple - names withheld	12:00		
4	██████████	12:00	██████████	Yes
5	██████████	12:00	██████████	Yes
6	Couple – names withheld	12:45		
7	Male	10:45		
8	Female	10:50		
9	James	11:55	██████████	Yes
10	Male & son - names withheld	10:55		
11	Male	10:58		
12	██████████	10:50	██████████	
13	Male & female	11:10		
14	Male	11:15		
15	██████████	11:20	██████████	Yes
16	██████████	11:25	██████████	Yes
17	Another 20 people			

Comments with refence to the above:

- * Very busy drop-in session with continuous engagement.
- * Comments were overwhelmingly positive.
 - o Timing - start ASAP
 - o Community amenity – great idea to have trails, playgrounds and gardens
 - o Bush feeling is good – much better than Gungahlin cemetery
- * Good idea (1)
- * Is there bus access? (4)
- * The architecture could use more colour. Comment possibly related to lack of planting being shown on the architectural perspectives. (6)
- * Ngunnawal woman. Respected the consultations undertaken to date with men elders but said consultation with Ngunnawal women was also needed as they had other perspectives. Offered help with Ngunnawal women’s consultation. Was advised that there would be opportunity at future design stages. (12)
- * Worked for Canberra cemeteries when 2012 Masterplan was prepared. Interested to see progress. Very supportive of the new entry proposed. (14)
- * ██████████ report that 20 more people participated – however not documented (17)
- * Overall interest and supportive of the SMP Masterplan proposal - no significant concerns.
- * There were a few questions: location/bus transport/building design/crematorium/natural burials discussed and reportedly satisfactorily addressed.

Note:

42 participants recorded however estimated at more (50-60).

The email addresses highlighted may have errors in transcription

Southern Memorial Park – Drop-In Consultation Register

Thursday 22 May 2021 Weston Creek #1

	Name	Time	Email	Stay updated
1	F	11:30	Interested	
2	M	11:45	Great! Wetlands and bush environment an opportunity for birdwatching	
3	F	12:00	All the best but I'm not interested; I'll be scattered in the Bridabellas	
4	F&M - young	12:05	Interested. Looks good.	
5	M	12:00	I think it's good. Very suitable location.	
6	F	12:45	Great idea	
7	██████████	11:00	Interested & positive. Will cremation be an option? ██████████	y
8	M	11:10	Suggested upright burials	
9	M&F	11:15	Really positive. Liked the idea of memorial park and the buildings	
10	F	11:20	Not interested – already have a plot in a country cemetery	
11	F&M	11:25	Not interested – have no one to go there	
12	█	11:30	Very interested and positive. Concerned that project may not go ahead. ██████████	y
13	F	11:45	Really interested. It is what a modern cemetery should be.	
14	M	11:50	Positive. Also asked if upgrade to an old play ground in Weston Creek is also proposed.	
15	██████	10:10	Agreed that a new cemetery is needed but unhappy with the location next to the tip. ██████████	y
16	M	10:15	Curious about the location	
17	F	10:20	Really positive. Looks really good and hope there are funds to build it.	
18	F	10:25	Was aware of the proposal	
19	██████████	10:35	Very interested – when will the plots be released? ██████████	y
20	M	10:45	Interested to know more about the location	
21	F	10:50	That's fantastic. Positive. Interest in the location and who will fund	
22	F	10::55	Very positive – liked the idea. Can ashes be spread in the gardens?	
23	F	12:10	Positive. Especially about the crematorium and burial options	
24	M	12:20	Generally positive	
25	██████	12:30	Really positive and happy to be included in the consultation – 'not just like other projects that just happen' ██████████	y
26	██████████	10:21	██████████	y
27	M x2	10:25	Took flyers	
28	F	10:30	Interest in general access for the community	
29	F + child	10:43	Looks isolated ██████████	Y
30	F	10:45	Took flyer	
31	M	10:46	Concern about possible pollution form the crematorium	
32	M	11:00	██████████	y
33	M & F - young	11:15	Just interested in the drawings	
34	F & M	11::30	No issues with the proposal	
35	F	12:00	Mobility access is important ██████████	y
36	██████████	10:00	Great	
37	M x2	10:05	Good ideas. Need a new cemetery.	
38	M	10:05	Good idea	

39	M&F – older couple	10:10	Didn't like the idea of any kind of development – but we do need another cemetery. Wouldn't take my kids.	
40	M	10:20	Interested. How long will it last?	
41	F & child	10:20	Great – good work	
42	F	10:45	Very nice. Can I book now?	
43	M x2	10:50	Good. Need to plan ahead.	
44	F&M	11:00	Will keep tabs on it	
45	F&M	11:20	Interested	
46	X4	10:20	Positive feedback	
47	M	10:25	Rubbish will be a concern	
48	X2	10:25	Positive	
49	F	10:25	Positive	
50	M	10:45	Concern about pollution	
51	██████	-	Interested. ██████████	y
52	X4	-	Positive comments	
53	F	11:00	Location is okay	
54	M x2	11:25	Positive	
55	M x3	11:30	Positive	
56	X2	11:35	Positive	
57	X1	11:35	Like the trails	
58	X1	11:50	Good idea	
59	X1	12:15	Positive	
60	X2	12:15	Positive	
61	X2	12:46	Great idea and themes	

Good general interest and comments were positive overall. Specific observations:

- * Over 80 people stopped for brief or extended conversations (refer table above) – however there was a concentrated rush period – so not all interactions were recorded at this time.
- * Comments positive overall; four concerns as highlighted above
- * Interest from people with young children in contrast to the generally older age groups who stopped at Tuggeranong and Woden Town Centres

From: [REDACTED]
To: [TCCS_CommunityEngagement](#)
Cc: [REDACTED] info@westoncreek.org.au
Subject: WCCC comments for Southern Memorial Park
Date: Monday, 31 May 2021 5:37:12 PM
Attachments: [31.5.21. WCCC Submission - Southern Memorial Park.pdf](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the ACT Government. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Please find attached Weston Creek Community Council comments for the Sothern Memorial Park.

Regards
Michelle Bourdet
Secretary
Weston Creek Community Council

■ ■ ■ weston creek
■ ■ ■ community
■ ■ council

Southern Memorial Park (SMP)

Weston Creek Community Council Comments

Your local voice

■ ■ ■ weston creek
■ ■ ■ community
■ ■ council

www.westoncreek.org.au
info@westoncreek.org.au
PO Box 3701
Weston Creek ACT 2611
Telephone (02) 6288 8975

communityengagement@act.gov.au

Consultation closes 7 June 2021.

Southern Memorial Park

Weston Creek Community Council (WCCC) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Southern Memorial Park. As a Community Council we are committed to advocating and supporting the Weston Creek residents in pursuing the expectations and values that enhance and ensure their safety, well-being, and quality lifestyles. We offer the following comments.

With current population growth, population projections, and the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) becoming more culturally diverse, Weston Creek Community Council (WCCC) supports the need for Government to provide a cemetery and crematoria which all Canberrans can access.

Weston Creek Community Council (WCCC) acknowledges that the Woden Cemetery is fully subscribed for most major faiths. Council also acknowledges that extending Woden Cemetery is not viable given that Eddison Park is considered a key public open space area and the Woden Town Centre is expanding.

It is appreciated that the Southern Memorial Park (SMP) is proposed to be a full-service cemetery that will meet the diverse needs of the ACT community, offering various types of burials, cremations, and memorial gardens. The bush garden style is a welcome design for families to visit. Council welcomes the garden design.

Of some concern is the expected timeline of delivery. Stage one, to be operational five years after a detailed design is completed, will provide 2 500 plots. In stage two some of the most needed facilities are expected to be operational but the remaining features are to be implemented over 50 years (already a possible +10 years from when the design is completed). This step includes the crematoria which is already at high need as the Gungahlin crematoria is not suitable for all needs. Stage three which incorporates natural burials and ashes interment, progressively adds another 35 years after stage two. Is current and /or projected demand being adequately met? Council is concerned that this timeline is

not timely considering the date of original conception, planning, and then staged development. Additionally, current fast population growth and population projections would suggest a review of the staged developments of the Park is required.

SMP Masterplan was originally prepared in 2012. The continued practice of developing a Master Plan, not acting on it, then reviewing and redrafting the Master Plan incurring additional costs is becoming a source of frustration for the Weston Creek community. Council is hopeful that this prolonged process does not continue.

Noted are the types of burial plots, additionally ashes memorialisation calculations are not included. There appears a leaning to traditional types, with natural burials plots not available until stage two at a heavily reduced yield (stage 1 of 2, 500 + 6,900 traditional plots: to 2,000 natural plots only from stage 2). The natural burial is a form of interment that seeks to make as little impact on the environment as possible. Demand for natural burials has incrementally increased during the last five years and is most likely on the increase. Are these ratios appropriate? With consideration to the environment and management of the Territory's garden spaces, this needs to be questioned.

Air quality is of concern to the residents of Weston Creek. Council feels that additional information is required concerning the type of crematoria being built, the capacity of the crematoria so that it can manage environmental coffins, and any emissions from the site.

SMP Masterplan shows a new signalised intersection on Mugga Lane. Another main road, a tree-lined 500 metre boulevard from the main gates, takes people to the main visitor precinct. WCCC welcomes the inclusion of walking trails, the connection to the Canberra Centenary Trail network and the retaining of existing horse-riding trails. Planned transport features in the Final Master Plan Report (31 March 2021) list, "bus routes are located along Monaro highway to the south-east of the site". Has consideration been undertaken for connections to the public transport network, public transport travel and convenient bus stops? Council requests that careful consideration be made for easy access to the Southern Memorial Park, particularly by public transport in alignment with the Transport for Canberra Policy and the ACT Active Travel goals.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Weston Creek Community Council looks forward to future updates and developments for the Southern Memorial Park.

Yours sincerely
Weston Creek Community Council

Southern Memorial Park – Drop-In Consultation Register

Thursday 03 June 2021 Weston Creek #2

	Name	Time	Email	Stay updated
1	██████████	11:05	Bring natural burials earlier ██████████	
2	F&M	11:10		
3	F & teenager	11:10		
4	M	11:02		
5	F	11:20	Supportive. Good location. Good to have natural burials brought in earlier.	
6	M	11:45	Mugga Lane upgrade is essential.	
7	M	11:50	'Anyone who complains about this has rocks in their head...'	
8	████	12:01	Supportive. ██████████	y
9	M	12:30	Supportive	
10	F	12:45	Supportive	
11	M	11:05	Just need a crematorium – doesn't take up space	
12	F	11:10	Where is it – interested but can't stop	
13	██	11:20	That's great ██████████	No
14	M	11:40	Good idea. I will be cremated	
15	M	11:45	I'm happy for it to happen	
16	██████████	12:15	Great	
17	████	12:25	Will lots be limited leasehold or perpetual lease?	
18	F	11:25	Took flyer and asked where the horses would be moved to	
19	M	11:30	??	
20	F & child	12:00	Really excited to know about the project. Family interested in cremation	
21	F	12:10	Just stopped for a general chat	
22	F	12:15	Location is really good – easy to access	

General interest and comments were positive overall. However - it was cold/wet and many people on their way to other business with no interest in stopping. Specific observations:

- * 23 people stopped - mostly for very brief comment.
- * Comments positive overall
- * Interest from people with young children in contrast to the generally older age groups who stopped at Tuggeranong and Woden Town Centres

From: [REDACTED]
To: [TCCS_CommunityEngagement](#)
Subject: Feedback on Southern Memorial Park
Date: Saturday, 5 June 2021 6:31:23 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the ACT Government. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input to the proposed Southern Memorial Park.

Given our growing population and demographic, and our commitment to a greener, low emission environment, I believe the ACT should seriously consider a human composting system as an alternative to cremation. The following link provides detail on how such a system works:

https://www.seattletimes.com/life/recompose-the-first-human-compositing-funeral-home-in-the-u-s-is-now-open-for-business/?fbclid=IwAR3iEJLTrjUcX1oIzvZP_pczuAa4K7H1bFQmxOia3n_87f-rcD5WovU561g

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED]
To: [TCCS_CommunityEngagement](#)
Subject: Memorial Park
Date: Sunday, 6 June 2021 4:21:20 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the ACT Government. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear ACT Government,

It is clear that that ACT needs additional cemetery capacity, as the Woden cemetery is at capacity, and there is limited space at Mitchell. The proposed concept of the Southern Memorial Park is reasonable, but the location adjacent to the ACT's waste disposal site and industrial areas seems less than ideal. Although it may be a bit late to advance this concept, may I suggest that a portion of the Arboretum be set aside for the purpose of natural burials and committal of ashes? It would provide a much more pleasant environment in which to pay one's respects to the deceased.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [TCCS_CommunityEngagement](#)
Subject: Southern Memorial Park
Date: Sunday, 6 June 2021 7:30:58 AM

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I would like the plan to include a recomposing option for the deceased to allow human remains to be composted for reuse in the ecosystem.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [TCCS_CommunityEngagement](#)
Subject: Proposed Southern Memorial Park and Crematorium Draft Masterplan (Have YourSay)
Date: Monday, 7 June 2021 6:00:39 AM

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In 2010 we rejected this proposal for the Southern Cemetery and Crematorium.

I attended the ongoing community discussion forums since 2009, requesting TCC to hold a proposed southern cemetery in the ACT discussion with the relevant agencies at their next meeting in 2009, which was held in February, I attended the TCC meeting in February when the cemetery meeting was held, which was presented by the ACT Public cemeteries authority, I attended a TCC environment and land and planning subcommittee meeting held in February, that was around the proposed southern cemetery, the ACT Public cemeteries authority meeting held Thursday 25/2/10, and finally, a TCC meeting held 2/3/10, that reported on Thursday 25/2/10, meeting held by ACT Public cemeteries authority.

I attended the TCC public meeting on 1/6/21 when the proposed Southern Memorial Park and Crematorium was presented by the ACT Public Cemeteries Authority.

While you have moved 'The main entry to SMP will be signalised intersection located on Mugga Lane, 600 metres south of the Mugga Lane and Long Gully Road intersection', you will still be developing and destroying the Long Gully Road area for burial sites etc.

As the fire tore through these areas, it is recommended that the Eastern Grey Kangaroos and other wildlife be protected and encouraged to habitat these entire areas to prevent the bushfires as they keep the fire hazard fuel down.

Approximately 1568 kangaroos to be violently illegally killed in 2021 ACT unnecessary violent annual killing advertised to be from 16/5/21 to 31/5/21 that is still happening now in June. The Kangaroos are killed daily, annually, infertility programs illegally genetically altering them wiping them out committing mass extinction upsetting the ecosystem.

Infertility Programs suppressing the milk from the Joeys committing long term suffering slowly starving them to death.

CANBERRA more 1,958 Violent Kangaroos killing commenced on Monday 15/6/20-1/8/20 continuing after daily violent killings, 1080 poison baiting, poison spraying, bushfires, arson, pandemic etc.

Ban hazard reduction burnings and backburnings to save lives and to prevent ongoing sufferings and mass extinction.

Over 500 people were killed during the 2019-2020 bushfires due to the toxic bushfires smoke inhalation, the Bushfires victims numbers are still rising on death doors diagnosed with and suffering from lung/throat cancer etc due to bushfires smoke inhalation.

26/5/20-The Royal Commission Bushfires Inquiry:

445-450 dead due to smoke inhalation.

33 people dead due to the bushfires burnt to death.

3,000 homes and 7,000 outbuildings burnt down to the ground, 10 million hectares burnt to oblivion.

Orroral Valley burnt more than 1/3 of the ACT, and 80% of Namadgi National Park.

‘..... Associate Professor Fay Johnston, from the Menzies Institute for Medical Research at the University of Tasmania, said her team estimated around 445 people died as a result of the smoke, over 3,000 people were admitted to hospital for respiratory problems and 1,700 people presented for asthma....’

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-05-26/bushfire-royal-commission-hearings-smoke-killed-445-people/12286094>

Increased fires drove the largest Kangaroos Tropical Megafauna to extinction, a total of 13 species.

The fuel hazard is naturally reduced by Kangaroos and other animals.

End the Kangaroo and other violent killings of animals and the infertility programs illegally genetically altering them committing mass extinction that also starves their Joeys to death suppressing the milk from their mother.

Nearly **three billion** animals – mammals, reptiles, birds, and frogs – were killed or displaced by Australia's devastating 2019-20 bushfires. It's almost three times an earlier estimate released in January. The breakdown is 143 million mammals, 2.46 billion reptiles, 180 million birds, and 51 million frogs. 28 July 2020



Expanding Woden Cemetery:

Close to public transport - no public transport on Long Gully road, which was one of the reasons given on why they want a cemetery/crematorium on Long Gully Rd, which clearly is not a valid reason.

Woden cemetery is having unnecessary buildings developed around it, which will need to be scrapped, if the authority is to keep their agreement and work with the community, and instead, use this space to expand the woden cemetery.

Woden cemetery was closed.

When was the woden cemetery closed?

Why was woden cemetery closed?

When did woden cemetery re open?

Why did woden cemetery re open?

- Saving taxpayers money, already developed, already has public transport on route
- No further destruction to wildlife and wildlife habitat on and around Long Gully Rd
- They want to develop the natural burial site in a wildlife corridor on Long Gully Rd.
- Heavy machinery will destroy the entire area, and disrupt and destroy wildlife and wildlife habitat, having to constantly dig up the ground for burials, which will be ongoing, every day, and increase noise pollution
- More roads will be developed that will lead to more wildlife road kills, which have already been developed next to the woden cemetery
- Respite centre on top of hill, means funerals disrupting traffic to and from this respite centre, and traffic to and from respite centre disrupting funerals.
- Bodies could upset the soil mineral balance/chemical imbalance.

We already have 4 cemeteries around ACT, Woden, Hall, Gungahlin, and one in Queanbeyan, which will suffice, sites that can be extended, and save taxpayers money, because they have already been developed, and they already cover the ACT for close proximity for residents living on the south side and the north side.

As for the crematorium, funerals can be held anywhere, in the already established churches is the usual place, again saving taxpayers money and wildlife habitat, where the bodies can be picked up by the Gungahlin crematorium, or the funeral parlours, and delivered to the Mitchell Crematorium, this method already exists in Melbourne, and is successful.

People feel that this method is also less stressful on the mourners.

Investigate if other possible cemetery sites were considered and if so why were they dropped in favour of Long Gully Rd.

No other sites were investigated.

Another cemetery would only be wasting taxpayers money, with 4 cemeteries already in existence in and around the ACT, with 3 in the ACT, and 1 in Queanbeyan.

Long Gully road site has already been knocked back for other developments, because of the wildlife corridor, rich wildlife and wildlife habitat, the surrounding horse paddocks, and the respite centre.

It is not a suitable site for any development, and needs to be maintained as a wildlife corridor, and as wildlife habitat for wildlife.

The EIS found:

Woodland Birds - white-winged triller, brown treecreeper, swift parrot - that have only just returned to the ACT, seen at Tuggeranong Lake on 26/5/21, screenshot attached, hooded robin, regent honeyeater, painted honeyeater.

Reptiles - pink tailed worm lizard

Yellow box red gum grassy woodland, which exists in the wildlife corridor.

Concerns raised, expiry date of graves, and when they are recycled, which we were advised does not occur in the ACT, however, we find this reply questionable, with the closing down and reopening of the Woden cemetery.

Further concerns, having to pay for the same families burial site after the 50 years expires, twice, and ongoing for the generations of the same family, to prevent recycling their grave.

While the ACT Public Cemeteries authority, spokesperson, Hamish Horne, invited people to visit the Gungahlin cemetery to visit the kangaroos and other wildlife on the cemetery/crematorium grounds, at the forum on 25/2/10, the cemetery manager, informed us that the buck was killed, and all the kangaroos are gone.

The proposed southern cemetery construction will be very destructive to the wildlife corridor, wildlife habitat and wildlife, that will aid in driving our native wildlife to extinction.

The toxic emissions from the crematorium will be extremely harmful to the surrounding residents, and wildlife.

Heggies Report, Reference in quotes from [REDACTED] comments lodged 3/5/21, Southern Memorial Park draft masterplan

‘..... Particulate Matter pollution:

- Dispersions of PM10 and PM2.5 particles were studied, but not for the more relevant finer particles. The fine PM1, ultrafine PM0.1 and nano PM0.05 particles are the more dangerous pollutants as they can travel farther [13, pp13-15], can enter the bloodstream through the lungs and can result long-term in cognitive impairment[14];
- The modeling found that PM10 and PM2.5 particle concentrations would be 2 orders of magnitude below the relevant Criterion over 24 hours and 3 orders of magnitude below the relevant Criterion on an annual basis. However, representations of concentrations averaged over long periods are not particularly relevant as cremation is a stop-start process that can produce much higher concentrations over short periods and resulting puffs of concentrated pollution may travel far before dispersing;
- The relevant maximum allowable Criteria are expressed in weight/volume (igram/cm3) and defined for sealevel and room temperature (20iC). These Criteria need adjustment for local P and T conditions. Elevation at the site of the proposed crematorium is 630 m, meaning that the local air is 7% less dense than at sealevel. Local temperatures will frequently reach over 40iC in summer with progressing climate change, meaning another reduction in air pressure of up to 13%, and a compound reduction in the density of local air of up to about 20% [21, p28]. Incineration will produce about equal amounts of pollutants at sealevel and room temperature as at 630 m and over 40iC, but in such less dense local air residents in the suburbs and workers at Hume will have to breath in more air for the same amount of oxygenation and consequently will breath in more pollutants. The relevant maximum allowable Criteria have not been adjusted for local conditions in the Heggies report [9, pp16, 28], constituting a flaw of not-unconsiderable implications;
- The unique “ridge-and-valley”topography of the upper reaches of the Jerrabomberra,

Tuggeranong and Woden valleys was not considered in the modeling. These ridges, Fadden Ridge and Isaacs Ridge in particular, are pronounced and north- south aligned. Prevailing northwestern and southeastern winds can form standing eddies on the leeward side of the ridges, concentrate pollution above the populated valleys and drop particles on the population. Such effects were demonstrated in the CALPUFF study conducted by Pacific Air & Environment for the gas-fired power station conducted in mid 2008 [15] (Figure 1). Yet the Heggies study did not extend to the ridges and concerned only “sensitive receptors” in a region of low topography about 2.5 km around the crematorium site. The CALPUFF modeling in the Heggies report is based on a Digital Elevation Model (DEM) with a resolution of 90 m and on therefrom derived gridded data with grid distances ranging from 30 m to 300 m [9, p21]. The DEM and the grids are far too coarse to properly capture the effects of the ridge-and-valley topography. Geoscience Australia nowadays offers free access to a 5 m resolution DEM [16] that will allow proper capture of the ridge-and-valley effects in studies using much finer grids than applied in the Heggies study;

- The “Have Your Say” documentation [10-12] provides annual estimates for traditional and natural burials, yet no estimates for cremations. The SMP proposal [10, p3] shows two cremation units rather than the single unit underlying the Heggies study, potentially doubling their pollution estimates.

The Pacific Air & Environment CALPUFF study for the gas-fired power station identified pollution “hotspots” in Fadden, upper Wanniasa, upper Farrer, Macarthur, Hume-Tralee and Chisholm [15] (Figure 1). The pollution-concentrating effects of the pronounced ridge-and-valley topography of the upper Jerrabomberra, Tuggeranong and Woden valleys makes the upper Jerrabomberra Valley a particularly poor choice for siting a crematorium and probably one of the worst possible locations in the ACT.....’

Any development in this area, will drive vulnerable species to extinction, with the government strongly advised against any development throughout this area, as a result of the findings of the EIS.

Furthermore, these developments will accelerate climate change.

<https://wildlifecarersgroup.wordpress.com/2019/01/13/wildlife-carers-group-submission-animal-welfare-legislation-amendment-bill-2019-closes-7-2-19/>

<https://wildlifecarersgroup.wordpress.com/2017/05/15/submission-amended-draft-animal-welfare-and-management-strategy-2017-2022-closes-wednesday-24-may-2017/>

Sincerely

LADY NORA PRESTON - Independent Volunteer, began rehabilitating wildlife in the early 1980's

Founding President - since 2004

Honorary Life Member - since 2004

Animal Welfare Inspector - since 2004, advice given began in the 1970's

WILDLIFE CARERS GROUP - (WCG) founded in 2004

PO Box 3509

WESTON CREEK ACT 2611

Mobile: [REDACTED]

Email: wildlife_carers_group@yahoo.com.au

WILDLIFE CARERS GROUP is a VOLUNTARY INDEPENDENT NON PROFIT COMMUNITY BASED GROUP with no Government funding – Independent – adj. 1. Not governed by a foreign power; self-governing. 2. Free from the control of another or others; self-reliant.

Website: <http://wcg.awardspace.com> (we've been unable to update this website, as hard as a few of us have tried, updates on Facebook and Wordpress, some on Twitter)

<http://wildlifecarersgroup.wordpress.com/?sn=1>

We are also on Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/nora.preston.16> with photos included on the site, and become a friend.

You can now follow us and join us on Twitter <http://twitter.com/wildlifecarersg/>

<http://canberra.climateexchange.org.au/wildlife-carers-group>

<http://www.myspace.com/wcginc> (not updated)


Check out <http://www.myspace.com/wcginc> and become a friend.

Support WCG. WCG is an independent, non profit, non government community based charity providing animal/wildlife care, rescue/rehabilitation and is also an animal/wildlife welfare group, providing protection for our wildlife/animals, run solely by volunteers, with no government funding, saving taxpayers money


Aims and Objectives: To promote the general welfare and continued survival of native fauna and flora as an essential element of the environment, and specifically to undertake the specialised care necessary for the rehabilitation of orphaned, sick and injured native birds and other animals, to promote public awareness of the need to conserve existing wildlife species, and an understanding of their particular habitat and feeding requirements.

Disclaimer: WCG and the author do not assume or accept any responsibility and shall not be liable for the accuracy or appropriate application of the information contained in this letter/email/blog/report/article.



ABC Canberra 

27 May · 

More than 30 swift parrots were spotted at Tuggeranong Lake yesterday. 

Credit to Victor Braguine for snapping this photo of the elusive prattle!



[Sent from my iPhone](#)

From: [REDACTED]
To: [TCCS_CommunityEngagement](#)
Subject: Southern Memorial Park submission AF
Date: Monday, 7 June 2021 5:04:01 PM
Attachments: [Southern Memorial Park Project.docx](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the ACT Government. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

See attached...

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.
www.avast.com

Southern Memorial Park Project

To whom it may concern

Some years ago I was part of a small focus group drawn together to discuss the future of cemeteries in the ACT. Although the attendees requested feedback & follow up, that next step did not occur. Then, as if out of nowhere, signage notifying the Southern Memorial Park appeared on the side of the Long Gully Road in Hume. Now, there is a limited window of opportunity for citizens to comment prior to the establishment of the new cemetery.

Accordingly, last week I was able to hear information about the proposal at this site, via zoom, at a TCC meeting. Of course, zoom attendance has serious limitations. And, I observed that a number of online important questions were not answered.

I seek answers to the following:

- Why were other identified sites rejected in favour of this site?
The location appears to have been moved much further east along Long Gully Road.
- \Why is this relocation supported?
- How is the industrial area of Hume going to be screened?
- How is the increasing pollution from Hume going to be controlled?
- How is the still active tip site to be screened?

The Methane gas plant regularly causes pungent fumes in the local area. Nearby residential suburbs are also impacted from time to time. The proposed nearby cemetery site will definitely be impacted, despite the fact that the report states that the prevailing winds will mitigate the problem.

- Are there any plans to relocate this plant?

According to the report, there are plans to signalise the entry to the proposed site. The entry appears to be located between a roundabout and a right turn into Mugga Lane. This length of road is often very busy and carries a significant number of heavy vehicles. Mugga Lane is quite narrow and winding. The juxtaposition of funeral processions, cemetery visitors and heavy through traffic is clearly going to be problematical.

- Are the experts confident that the proposed signalised entry is in the best Location?
- Was the Mugga Lane turn considered for a signalised entry point?

- What support is there for a playground within the proposed cemetery site?
- Is it common practice to include playgrounds in cemeteries?

- Has consideration been given to a not-for-profit service on-site including shrouded /green burial, shrouded cremation, free burial for First Nations people & culturally aware options included human composting?

The TCC meeting spent well over an hour discussing the proposed cemetery. Even so, the discussion was far from exhausted. **This proposal should be aired at community meetings in other areas of Canberra, in particular the inner south, before a decision is reached.**

I look forward to feedback about this important initiative.

[Redacted Signature]

7th June 2021

From: [REDACTED]
To: [TCCS_CommunityEngagement](#)
Subject: FW: Southern Memorial Park Submission by Tuggeranong Community Council
Date: Monday, 14 June 2021 4:42:03 PM
Attachments: [Southern Memorial Park submission Final \(002\).pdf](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the ACT Government. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 14 June 2021 4:33 PM
To: 'Anne.Breckwoldt@act.gov.au' <Anne.Breckwoldt@act.gov.au>
Cc: president@tuggcc.com
Subject: Southern Memorial Park Submission by Tuggeranong Community Council

Anne,

Please find attached the Tuggeranong Community Council's submission concerning the Southern Memorial Park Master Plan.

We appreciate your making time to present the Master Plan to the Community Council and the opportunity to offer our comments on the plan.

Regards,

Harvey Bell

For Tuggeranong Community Council



**Southern Memorial Park draft masterplan
“Have Your Say” comments lodged 14 June 2021 at communityengagement@act.gov.au**

The Tuggeranong Community Council has supported the need for a cemetery in Tuggeranong for several years. We acknowledge that the proposed design of the Southern Memorial Park (SMP) could make it a unique cemetery, in a wonderful bush setting, designed to serve the ACT and surrounding locations for decades to come. The Master Plan sets out proposals that can be a model of sustainable development that respects and enhances the natural bush settings.

TCC support these proposals which can increase biodiversity on site, while caring for country and respecting the indigenous heritage values.

We fully endorse Minister Steel’s comments in his recent media release “that we want Southern Memorial Park to be a space where families, friends and loved ones can gather together to share memories in a beautiful bush setting”.

However, there are several concerns about the SMP raised by our members. In our view, the ACT Government should address these concerns to assure the ACT community generally, that the SMP remains a viable proposition going forward.

Firstly, we retain serious concerns about the increased health and amenity risks associated with increased air pollution in the Tuggeranong area due to the introduction and ongoing operation of the crematoria. The introduction and growing use of the crematoria, is clearly another unnecessary hazard to air quality for Tuggeranong Valley suburbs adjacent or near the SMP

Our concerns lie principally with the impact of crematoria pollutants upon the inversion layer (which often occurs in the Tuggeranong area). We are aware that pollution particulates remain in the air for a considerable time before dispersion. In our view an operational gas-fired crematorium could only increase particulate pollution to levels that clearly present a health risk to Tuggeranong residents.

Moreover, we note that given the government’s policy of reaching net zero emissions, the introduction and operation of a new gas-fired crematoria is inconsistent with that goal.

In our view, it is highly likely that there will be an increasing demand for alternate funeral arrangements such as an alkaline hydrolysis chamber - as proposed in the master plan. To that end, we urge the ACT Government to consider more ecofriendly 21st century alternatives to cremation.

The development of the SMP would seem to us to be an opportunity for the ACT to become innovative and a leader of new and better 21st Century technologies that are more in keeping with community expectations and green environment targets



Obviously, the location of the SMP near the MLRMC and the Hume Industrial Estate and the Monaro Highway will, in all probability increase the extant pollution levels. We cite the Pacific Air & Environment CALPUFF study for a gas-fired power station where:

... 'identified pollution "hotspots" in Fadden, upper Wanniasa, upper Farrer, Macarthur, Hume-Tralee and Chisholm. The pollution-concentrating effects of the pronounced ridge-and-valley topography of the upper Jerrabomberra, Tuggeranong and Woden valleys makes the upper Jerrabomberra Valley a particularly poor choice for siting a crematorium and probably one of the worst possible locations in the ACT'.

The ACT currently has three air quality monitoring stations, in Monash, Florey and Civic. However, Hume is the ACT's main industrial area and is the only area earmarked for heavy industry. Unfortunately, there is no air quality monitoring in Hume.

As a first step to assessing the negative impacts of the SMP upon air quality, the TCC recommends the installation of an air quality monitoring facility in Hume, prior to further development, to establish reliable base line data.

While there might be a need to fine tune the SMP design over the period of construction, it is important that the key issues are agreed upon at the beginning. All stages should be looked at carefully at the start of the assessment process prior to stage one development so that the proposed crematorium and its impact are determined.

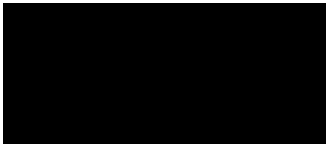
Additional concerns about the proposed SMP have been raised by the Tuggeranong community with the TCC. These are summarised as:

1. There does not appear to be provision for public transport to the SMP. We consider this is a major negative impact to the efficacy of constructing the SMP in the proposed location.
2. We acknowledge that the new traffic signal entrance will be to an appropriate standard, however we have concerns for the standard of Mugga Way and Long Gully Road. There is currently no adequate shoulder on the road and the heavy vehicles resulting from the Landfill and other industrial sites in Hume currently cause an ongoing maintenance and safety issue. This can only deteriorate as traffic increases in the future.
3. The main entrance to the Southern Memorial Park is located close to the spray pools at the landfill. These pools can give off an offensive odour on occasion, which will impact on the amenity of the SMP. We regularly have people who live in Fadden and Macarthur complaining about odours from the landfill, particularly in the time since the landfill cells were expanded. We are seeking ways and means to explore how the odour impacts can be mitigated.
4. No natural burials seem to be available in the initial construction phase of the SMP. In our view, natural burial sites should be included in stage one of the SMP
5. The high voltage power lines on the site could limit the development of the site and not allow appropriate screen planting. Therefore, the proposal in the SMP Master Plan to place both the high voltage and low voltage power lines underground is supported.



6. Development of the SMP will further intrude on the Southern Wildlife Corridor which is already limited by the Mugga Lane solar farm and southward extension of the Hume industrial complex.
7. The SMP will be situated in a fire corridor. The 2003 fire that swept over Mount Taylor and Farrer Ridge was stopped at Fadden Ridge. Had this disastrous fire not been stopped on this ridge which overlooks the SMP site then the Hume industrial and the now-developing housing estate at Tralee would have been directly in its path. We support the planting of indigenous species with fire-retardant qualities.

Thank you for attending the Tuggeranong Community Council meeting to present the Master Plan for the Southern Memorial Park, and for the opportunity to comment on this significant development in the Tuggeranong area.



Jeffrey Bollard
President
Tuggeranong Community Council

14 June 2021

From: [REDACTED]
To: [TCCS_CommunityEngagement](#)
Subject: Feedback on Mugga Cemetery
Date: Thursday, 16 September 2021 5:07:40 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the ACT Government. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Thanks for the opportunity to review the public documentation to date on the web page. Couple of queries, which may or may not be factored into the conceptual design:

1. Term of burial plots ie in perpetuity or fixed term eg 20? years (or whatever) and the plot reverts for re-use. This is an important consideration when people buy plots, and important for a growing city which may find itself short of burial space again.
2. Multi faith principle was built into the design. How are the increasing number of agnostic people being accommodated?
3. Natural burial - love this concept. Will this also be divided up into the different faiths and hopefully agnostic/Aboriginal? There are so many concepts associated with natural burial, and no doubt many more will evolve. What constraints will be imposed on the undertakers/families of the recently departed so they can be accomodated in the natural burial area. As an example to illustrate my point, cardboard boxes/cane boxes fall into natural burial but this may have implications on overall cemetery design and operational practices. Similarly will traditional aboriginal practices be accommodated eg platforms in trees. I'm thinking outside the box to stimulate innovation for the options that can be included into Natural burial for the short and long term plans.

Regards [REDACTED]

Southern Memorial Park - Feedback

Title/Question: Southern Memorial Park - have your say!
Tool Type: Form
Activity ID: 920
Report Date Range: 14 Apr 2021 - 7 Jun 2021
Date Exported: 24 Nov 2021 04:13 pm
Exported By: EmilyWadwell

Contribution ID **Date Submitted** **Please prioritise each of the below into th**

Ngunnawal language **People of local and cultural significance**

52433 Jun 07, 2021, 10:53 PM

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52432 Jun 07, 2021, 10:50 PM

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52407 Jun 07, 2021, 09:01 PM

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52397 Jun 07, 2021, 08:15 PM

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52391 Jun 07, 2021, 08:07 PM

52373 Jun 07, 2021, 04:48 PM

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Place the right column with the theme you feel strongest about at the top.

How important is a high-quality visitor experience to you?

Places of cultural significance

Plant species of cultural significance

Animal species of cultural significance

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What elements will

**Well maintained
landscape**

Easy car parking

**Public transport to the
cemetery**

Cycle paths

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4	2	5	9
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5	3	4	2
1	6	7	8
1	2	6	7
1	4	8	3

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1	4	5	9
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8	9	7	1
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2	7	8	9
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1	6	4	3
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4	9	3	2
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2	3	4	7
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1	2	6	8
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1	6	4	3
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1	5	7	8
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1	3	8	9
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1	2	8	9
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1	5	8	7
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1	2		
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4	1	3	2
1	2	3	6
3	1	8	9
1	2	9	5
1	3	4	7

1	3	2	8
2	9	1	4
2	4	7	6
2	1	4	9
4	2	5	9
1	8	9	4

1	4	2	7
1	2	8	7
4	5	6	9
2	3		
1	2	3	
4	1	9	6

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2	1	8	7
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4	6	1	9
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1	2	3	9
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1	2	3	8
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5 2 3

1 2 6 5

1 4 5 9

1 6 5 8

1 4 5 7

1 5 3 7

5

3

4

9

help create a high-quality visitor experience?

Public art	Memorial halls and function halls	Cafe and florist	Paths	
	5	9	6	1
	8	2	9	4

5

1

8

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6	9	7	3
8	5	3	4

7	8	9	6
8	3	7	6
			2

7	9	8	5
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5	6	9	4
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7	6	8	1
9	2	3	5
4	5	9	3
7	6	9	2

3	5	4
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6	2	7	3
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2	4	5	3
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6	1	5	3
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7	8	5	2
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8	7	5	1
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9	5	8	6
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9	4	5	7
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5	7	9	2
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2	3	9	4
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6	2	4	5
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3	5	7	4
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3	6	9	2
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7	4	9	6
5	7	6	3
5	8	1	3
7	3	8	6
8	3	6	7
6	2	5	3

8	3	6	5
6	3	4	5

8	3	2	7
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7	5	9	2
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9	4	8	3
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5	6	4	3
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4		1	3
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3	7	2	5
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9	6	7	3
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7

Please detail below any additional element/s you think would help create a high-quality visitor experience:

How important is engaging with the community to you?

Crematorium

A space that welcomes children - a playground perhaps. I would also like to see environmentally sustainable option - composting or perhaps a shrouded burial. A place for events and artists residences.

8

Nature play

100

1

6

100

1

2

7

Not to put the
crematorium right next
to the landfill tip that
smells

1

1

Publicly accessible
reflection space

80

1

7

Absence of
crematorium until a
comprehensive
impartial impact
assessment has been
conducted

90

Play ground area with
seating. Seating under
trees. Reflection pool. A
community area for low
cost funerals

100

2

70

1

5

No mercury and dioxin
emissions from the
crematorium

1

2

1

2

1

7

60

1

Not being next door to
the rubbish tip

3

1

9

90

1

Regeneration of the surrounding nature reserves, which are in a poor state of preservation.

3

80

1

Ease of access for people with limited mobility, such as those using wheels walkers, with plenty of benches that are not low to the ground and have arms to help people stand., plenty of toilets easily accessed without having to walk for long distances.

5

90

drink water fountains,
vase washing taps near
graves

4	50	
9	90	1
Plenty of tank water to fill flower pots.		
5	90	1
1		
3		1
Big deciduous trees - natural shade during our hot summers, but will let the wonderful sunshine warm visitors during winter		
2	60	1
7	90	1

2

70

1

1

a kid's playground or
reflection space

8

100

1

9

70

It's a bad site for a crematorium, too close to Woden - Isaacs, O'Malley etc are just on the other side of the hill. What assurances are there that fumes from the crematorium won't reach Woden. The prevailing winds are East to West, ie towards Woden.

10

Excellent signage to assist navigation on site.		
4	60	1
1	90	1
3		1
7	90	1

Security should also be a very high priority. At other cemeteries, including Woden, thefts and vandalism are common. Don't let it happen here and improve security at this cemetery. Also the location - the smell in this area is gross because of the tip.

3

Playground near the function halls would be a valuable feature for families holding a wake on site.

30

1

90

1

9

1

5

The site has to be accessible - Woden cemetary has many access paths and there is a reason for that. People will want to walk there, cycle there, use it as an objective in their exercise routines, etc.

9 80 1

4 50 1

8 1

5
For the ACT Government to find a different location. The proximity to the Mugga Lane resource centre is highly inappropriate.

2 80 1

8 60

Not having the
cemetery stink of
garbage, as is currently
common for this area

1

30

2

2

1

the over riding effect
should be one of
natural park in a bush
setting keeping all else
other than essential
services to a minimum

3	70	1
e-bike /scooters (free) commemorative tree planting (i.e. private living memorial);water garden for plaques picnic facilities for family gatherings; make it more park-like than the dead centre of town; no equestrian (short thoroughfare but not free range		
9	50	
9	100	
1		1
1	80	1

6		1
4	Design it as a park that also functions as a cemetery/crematorium, NOT a cemetery that also functions as a park. That will draw visitors other than those mourning a loss and breathe life into the precinct.	
9		1
6		1
1	90	1
3	100	
	Creating a multi-use space, that encourages use as a community space as well as a cemetery.	
8	70	1
6	90	1
7		1
6	40	
4	60	1

6			1
	Maintained gardens/ playground/ family gathering areas to encourage family groups to spend time		
5		80	1
5		70	1
3			
2			1

a not for profit
community led funeral
service on site

5	100	1
8		
9	90	1
5	100	1
1		1
Needs to be known as park rather than a cemetery, that needs to have multiple uses		
7	100	1

Signage about different burial types, different areas of the cemetery, local plants, animals, etc. In addition to a chapel, a place where other faiths can follow their own memorial practices (e.g. ceremonial water troughs and places to light candles)

9

50

9

The crematorium and cafe and florist need to be stage one and I am concerned as to safe entry off Mugga Lane it may need lights or a roundabout

1

Widening long gully road

1

8

50

1

Making sure paths are wide and sealed to enable disabled and elderly can move across the whole site. Also enabling vehicle access across the whole site so the disabled and elderly can see the landscape.

6	20	1
No or low traffic noise (mugga lane can be a very busy road with lots of trucks/heavy vehicles). It needs to be a quiet place for reflection		1
outdoor chapel		
1		1
Protection from the elements be it shade cover or rain cover. Been to too many funerals negatively impacted by the elements.		

No smell from the
WMC!

3

100

native animals using
native plants to attract
them. ? families able to
plant a tree in the
cemetery. No cycle
tracks!!Is the cemetery
going to have a fence
around it as all others in
Canberra and for safety
of art work, animals,
grave stones,security.

7

80

1

60

4

why would this create a visitor experience, it's near a smelling tip, it's filthy and it's in Hume

2

Private 'crannies' to sit, converse and grieve; noting need for shade in summer and sun in winter.

6

effective lighting, video security and ability to fence, gate and secure the area to stop vandalism, function center to cater for multi faith memorials and private functions on site.

1

3

Available staff

100

4

nothing

20

1

4

Good location, partly means next to tip is problematic given smells when northerly and easterly winds.

3

80

1

Not smelling the stench
of the tip

4	10	
Dedicated Christian/Catholic area, with Crucifix, Virgin Mary Statue and Church.		
5		
Mitigation of smell from 9 the tip	70	1
new elements to draw people in such as a climbing wall and nature play space, maybe a bike pump track and water feature either to just view or for kids to play in		
	100	1
not being knocked over by cyclists		
8		1
A good directory to easily find who or what you are looking for		
2	10	
Would be good for tje South side to have its own place yo say good bye to love ones		
5	70	1
Bench seats		
6		

By visitor experience,
I'm thinking of facilities
for people attending a
funeral, or visiting a
grave. A cafe is less
important than a florist
in a cemetery. I'd like to
put cafe lower down
but can't because the I
can't separate the
choices

1	10
Not having the cemetery across the road from the tip	

1	80
Big trees	

Natural burial
information for visitors.

9			1
	Non denominational chapel. A reflection pool.		
1	A well maintained area which people are happy to visit - no obvious vandalism, graffiti etc		
7	Water, even in a drought tolerant/friendly way is		
2	important	80	
	Not being next to the rubbish tip		
3	None	90	
8		30	
	A decent site, far from the Tip		
4		70	1

A memorial hall is a must, somewhere for people to say goodbye to their loved one in an indoor space.

As part of a commitment to encourage the local community to use the Southern Me

Equestrian trail	Walking trail	Pump track within nature play	Mountain bike trail
	1	1	1
	1	1	

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morial Park, which kind of recreational activities would you like to see incorporated?

Picnic area	Interpretation of local First Nation heritage and cultural	Café	Public toilets
	1	1	1
	1	1	1

1

1

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How important is reflecting the chosen site and its cultural history to you?

What elements are imp

Other

Use of locally native trees and plants exclusively

Interpret the site's cultural history

1

70

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80

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1

80

1

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100

1

1

Covered gazebo,
weather protection
outdoor space.

70

70	1	1
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60	1	
----	---	--

90	1	1
----	---	---

10		1
----	--	---

70		1
----	--	---

80	1	1
----	---	---

	1	
--	---	--

	1	
--	---	--

80	1	1
----	---	---

100	1	1
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1

1

90

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1

70

1

Its a memorial park for solemn reflection on the ones that have passed, not a theme park. So nothing that distracts from its purpose or disrespects the people that are coming there to mourn their loved ones. There are plenty of other sites that provide mountain biking/equestrian/pump track facilities etc

20

90

1

1

60

1

1

50

90

1

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1

At least one decent sealed, joint-use path from the vicinity of Macarthur (1km) or Chisholm shops (2.5km). Another trail from south end of Isaacs alongside Long Gully Rd through existing underpass and thence enter the northern end of proposed cemetery.

1

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60

100

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30

60

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80

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1

50

1

1

Interpretation of
European culture,
alongside indigenous

1

1

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20

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60

community hall for workshops, like a 'coffin club' and creative death literacy (shroud making, candle making, painting, sculpture, collage, drawing, singing, poetry). This gathering space could have complement the space for plays or dance performances

1

1

60

1

100

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100

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60

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1

outdoor chapel/
meditation space

60

1

1

1

Don't think it is the right place for many of the above, eg why would you want a bike or equestrian trail in a cemetery?

1

90

1

1

None of the above. It is a place of reflection, peace, beauty to be with nature.

1

1

1

1

1

Quiet meditation
'nooks'.

1

1

function center for
ceremonies, wakes,
place of reflection.

50

1

1

90

1

1

90

1

1

1

None it is a cemetery
not a play ground.
Some where to go for
mourn and remember
those who have died.

70

1

80

1

1

80

1

This is a cemetery, not an entertainment space. I don't want to hear concerts or people cheering while attending a funeral. I don't want to see horse droppings near graves or mountain bikes tearing up turf. This is disrespectful to the community.

30

Cemeteries are places of reflection and peace, I don't think MTB trails and jumps would be appropriate.

20

Parents change room for their young children, with a chair for nursing mothers and a microwave for bottle fed babies.

1

1

a reflection pool. A non denominational chapel.

10

1

70

1

1

80

1

1

80

90

1

1

70

1

1

Important to create a 'Bush Cemetery' for the 'Bush Capital'?

How important is developing a memorial park for the future to you?

Retain existing trees	A natural design that reflects the layout of the land	Other Environmentally friendly burial options - composting or shrouded burial.
------------------------------	--	--

1

1

1

1

80

1

1

90

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1

Inclusion of a human composting (NOR) system. We need to get on board and choose more natural processes for burials.

90

1

1

Absence of crematorium; preference for less polluting and more environmentally sound disposal facilities

1

1

Birds and bee freindly plants, a pond/ reflection pool or water course, various plants to reflect different world regions like the inhabitants of the cemetary.

1

70

1

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1

100

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100

1

1

The bush capital is know for
wonderful deciduous trees not
just native trees that can look
scrappy when not perfectly
maintained and manicured

1

1

100

1

1

90

1

1

Do not limit plantings to exclusively local natives which are often scraggly and unattractive, which prevent underplantings, are not nice to sit under and which do not provide shade in summer. There should be mixed plantings of exotics. Indirect you to the Memorial Garden in Waipukarau in New Zealand which is the most beautiful and restful place. My family's ashes are scattered here, and families can purchase benches and affix Plaques to them. We have a family bench with around 15 plaques on it.

1

1

100

I like native shrubs used to give a structured 'low box hedge' effect. Don't care whether natives, cultivated, low water, whatever is used but please create a beautiful GARDEN not bushland. If it looks just like the surrounding bush, why would one choose to spend time at the site and not walk in the real bushland. Canberra is not a 'bush' capital any more. That can't be used as an excuse for low-cost landscaping. Do it right; make it a beautiful and cultivated (like the people to be buried there) memorial park.

70

1

80

We are on the limestone plains, so remember that the natural landscape is plains not heavily treed. Consider fruit trees as part of the design.

1

1

60

1

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90

Recompose burial sites and options to be buried in compostable coffins so remains decompose and are converted into nutrients in the soil to grow native vegetation.

1

100

1 70

1 1 60
free burials for our First Nations
people

1 1 90

1 1 40

People from all cultures will be laid to rest there, so emphasizing ONE culture would seem insensitive. The layout and design of the landscaping should be sympathetic to the site, be sustainable and relatively low maintenance. The "local trees" are all relatively new growth vegetation, having sprung up haphazardly in the past 30 years, so those trees shouldn't be the final determinant in the layout, ie some could be removed and others planted if that results in a more workable layout.

1

1

1

1

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1

100

not native trees solely, needs to be a mix

1

60

80

1

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100

1

1

1

1

Retain existing trees at least until
planted trees reach maturity.

1

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Not locating it near a garbage
dump.

1

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1	1	native flowering shrub and ground cover species, not necessarily local (endemic) species. A single species of deciduous shade trees (big and long lived e.g. Plane Trees; Bands and avenues of colours - red callistemon; yellow wattles; purples hardenburgeria red and yellow - banksias etc etc	100
1		None of the terrible grasses that line northbourne avenue.	50
1	1		
1	1		100
1	1		
1	1		
1	1		80

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70

Use of a combination of native and non-native trees to create a forest park that celebrates the diversity of Canberra.
Interpretation of the past should not prevent design for the present and future.

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i'm not sure I fully understand this question. The design looks wonderful and the botanic garden type feeling is appealing. A space for people to gather and remember, and to be close to death without feeling uncomfortable. The green burial area I would expect to be natural - as in bush like, not structured and manicured. The traditional area may be more exotic, more manicured. The diversity of our community needs to be celebrated, which is a complex approach. Acknowledging the before, though the Ngunnawal people is important.

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1	1		
	1		40
1	1		100
	1		80
1	1		100

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some exotic trees should be incorporated to bring autumn colour and more natural ponds which are calming

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Not on top of a rubbish dump

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Encourage wildlife including
possum boxes, kangaroos, bird
boxes etc

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use a combination of existing and add canopy trees (native and imported), walking trail to visit grave sites but explore the plants and nature. Build dam/pond a base of hill to capture water for irrigation

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1	1	A lot of mature trees, like at Woden Cemetery. Don't have to be native.	10
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	1		80
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1	1		40
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1	1		70
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1	1		80
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Pretty sad that the cemetery is destined to be next to the tip. The place smells vile, the roads are appalling and aggressive truck drivers dominate the roads. There needs to be an upgrade to this road and controlled intersections installed - it's far too dangerous for a funeral procession.

1

100

Why does it need to be a bush cemetery?

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Non natives but a lovely garden
setting

60

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Small memorial hall (50 people)
Large memorial hall (200 people) with additional overflow space

Courtyard

Small function hall (50 people) and large function hall (200 people) that can be combined into one large space (250 people)

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Which of the different proposed facilities and amenities will suit your personal interment rit

Outdoor chapel	Outdoor amphitheatre	Crematorium with viewing room	Traditional burial areas – memorial, and lawn graves
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es and traditions?

Natural burial

**Memorial gardens for
ashes**

**First Nations People
burial area**

**Specific cultural and
religious burial areas**

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If you selected 'Specific cultural and religious burial areas' in the previous question, please provide more details.

How important is restoring the natural landscape and showcasing sustainability to you?

Other

Restore and enhance the natural waterways

Non-denominational natural and environmental burial options - no plastic, no coffins. Free burial for indigenous people. Potential for fast-composting

90

2

1

I'll not be interred in
this cemetery

Body Composting site Buddhist site and
covered space to
meditate. Maybe with a
piece bell style
bell/gong
The cemetery should be
based on natural burial,
that does not disturb
the existing
environment. Graves
can be marked through
GPS coordinates, and
access will be through
the bushland.

100

2

1

1

For different religious groups to be located together should they wish

100

5

Information on the way different cultures regard their dead, and the processes that surround death in different countries.

100

4

There are already areas designated in other cemeteries. If there is a cultural group that wishes it's people to be buried together, I feel it is suitable to have a place set for them, by submission.

80

1

5

100

1

Cater to all religious
denominations not just
christians

90

2

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That you don't have the
smells from the rubbish
tip that you get when
you drive past

40

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3

I want to be able to have a natural internment with no coffin or a wicker coffin and the ability to plant a tree over the top as a focus for family.

80

5

It is important to me to keep families together, whether the deceased wanted a natural burial or a headstone, etc. That is, natural burials should not be cast out to a different location. Please also allow no coffin but with headstone.

0	1
60	
100	3
	2
	3
80	3
100	4

	90	3
Be inclusive of all cultures and their burial traditions	100	3
I think we can skip the mausoleum space-it's unsustainable, environmentally toxic and not efficient use of space		

	100	3
--	-----	---

	100	2
--	-----	---

30

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My family should be allowed to bury me in accordance to the customs of my religion.

human composting	70	
	100	4
		5
		4

Represent the different burials of all cultures		4
Specific Islamic burial sites	80	2
		4
		2
	100	3
	20	1

we need to cater for all
our diverse nationalities
and beliefs

6

4

4

I am opposed to differentiation of any kind, we are all united in death, it is ridiculous to continue sectarian differences after death, this is the 21st century

100

2

living memorial trees (random locations) reflective water gardens (with headstones) chain of water gardens linked by natural looking streams. Selected themed locations reflecting Canberra's diversity (sponsored by willing Embassies)- a Chinese section would be awesome, as would be Indian, - not intending they are buried as cultures

70

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Diversity catering

90

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Natural burial.

5

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Small areas to cater for
burial rites in other
major religious
traditions.

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While it is important to
create a 'general'
cemetery for the whole
community, people of
some cultures and
religions benefit from a
dedicated space in
which they can observe
their own rites and
customs

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There will always be a need for this and we should look to sustainable materials for coffins etc

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Grave site burial
service.

100

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3

I've always wanted to
be planted underneath
a seedling tree,
preferably a eucalypt.

1

indoor chapel - this is
canberra its to cold to
be outdoors for 6
months of the year !

2

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catering for this.

4

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2

Indoor Christian/Catholic Chapel.	Specific areas for Christians/Catholics, where statues of Jesus, the Virgin Mary and Angels are allowed.	60	5
		0	2
			3
		60	1
			2
		100	3
		100	1
		80	1

Is there an option for an indoor chapel (considering the weather in Canberra?) Also, is it possible to be buried facing east?

	80	5
Different mainstream faiths and cultures should have access to burial facilities that coincide with their beliefs or traditions		

	40	4
		2

		3
	90	5
	70	5
Not sure exactly, but I want all Canberrans to feel welcome/a part of it	80	
		1
Memorial wall for cremated remains	80	1
	100	2

Why would you have a first nations people burial area? We're supposed to be one people not burry the whites in one corner and the coloured in another. Come on now this isn't the 1980s in South Africa.

How do you believe this could best be achieved?

Build drought tolerance by using native plants	Reduce the amount of lawn used in the burial areas	Incorporate water sensitive urban design (WSUD) across the site	Protect existing threatened local native vegetation and ecological communities that are on the site
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Please detail below any additional element/s you think would help in restoring the natural landscape and showcasing sustainability?

Maintaining wildlife corridors through the site

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The existing landscape is already sustainable, building a crematorium and cemetery will make it less sustainable.

3

4

See previous comment on
NOR. Also, grasslands
instead of irrigated lawns.
Pebble gardens. Water
catchment planning
including geed beds and
natural drainage systems

Absence of crematorium

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leading question here - why
not have a stunning tree
and garden setting that is
only part native, I'm
certainly concerned any
landscape solutions won't
fix the nearby rubbish tip
2 issue

6

2

As previously stated there should be mixed plantings of exotic deciduous trees as well for colour, so people have somewhere they can sit under (you can't sit under a native tree) and for shade in summer but sun in winter

4

For me, a memorial site is to remember those for whom it is the last resting place and my family is not indigenous, so please don't 'over-egg' the indigenous cultural history thing. Intended with the utmost of respect to all people and religions.

1

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Natural composting burials

2

Include advice from local First Nations people in the landscape design and cultural sensitivities and a commitment to more sustainable and environmentally friendly burial options

2

6

Wildlife corridors ?
Currently the ACT
government shoots the
Kangaroos on Isaac's ridge,
so the idea of a "wildlife
corridor" seems like a good
idea to allow the Kangaroos
to escape

Keep it small and have no
crematorium

1

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5

Reducing lawn actually increases urban heating, not sure why that's a choice. Clever water collection and recycled water should be considered. A well maintained park, cared for by good groundskeepers is key to a sustainable landscape.

5

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2

There are several dams on or near the site - capturing surface run-off (a-la the local golf courses) is feasible.

2

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Hiding the garbage dump

1

5

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protect nature every time,it
will then do what is
required to have a beautiful
and useful space

5

native (not endemic)
species and Large
deciduous trees (shade in
summer sun in winter)
Search for winter flowering
native shrubs massed
planting of seasonal
planting to define spaces

6

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the use of lawn areas
should be limited to
3 gathering areas only.

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Add permeable surfaces
wherever possible (e.g.
footpaths).

4

2

artificial lawn can be used
so lawn would not need to
be substantially reduced

3

Not all natives are drought
tolerant.... so mix it up with
deciduous shade
making/cooling areas

3

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1

Please note - eucalyptus trees are not very drought tolerant and drop branches and suffer from dieback when stressed

4

A kangaroo proof fence will be needed as protection from the thousands that currently live on the site. Incidentally these will need to be culled or moved to another location. The sheer number of them in the paddocks should not be overlooked.

Move it away from a rubbish dump. It would be horrible to think of people being buried and have rubbish blowing into the grounds. Pick a different site

1

That area is also known as a flood plain and at the moment there are hundreds of trees dying in that area. Also check chemicals from rubbish dump

2

2

4

look after it and not
overgrow like everything
else in canberra, it's so
unkept

2

There's a need for green,
high impact resistant lawn
near the places where
services are held. In that
country, all that is needed
for kangaroos is 'accessible
water'. (Trust me, I know -
biologist here!) Wombat
and kangaroo gates at the
fencelines.

1

building a water capture
pond/dam at the base of
the hill for irrigation will
contain costs, or source
water from the tip (treated)
for irrigation

5

6

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5

It is going to be very ugly if
you just leave it with the
current plants and trees

3

More trees.

1

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What about using grey/storm water? Green lawns have been proven to reduce the amount of urban heating (compared to dry lawns, bare/rock land and concrete), so not sure what you're talking about by suggesting to reduce lawns.

2

The juxtaposition between the landfill across the road and the sustainability bush cemetery will be interesting

3

3

Have information signs around to point out wildlife corridors, threatened native vegetation, natural waterways, other sustainable elements.

1

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2

This question has leading answers about natural settings instead of open 3 options.

6

All of these are of equal importance to me in keeping the site as natural as possible.

6

Do you have any general feedback you'd like to provide about the revised masterplan for the future Southern Memorial Park?

Belconnen

Hopefully it will be a positive space and benefit more than the grieving and the passed.

The cemetery project should be responsible for ensuring the adequate replacement of the horse paddocks activities area which will be made unusable by the development of Stage 1 of the cemetery. This should be completed before the existing infrastructure is impacted by the new development.

The Government must perform a similar research study to the Canberra National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health, on the emissions and air quality impact of crematoria. <https://ncceh.ca/documents/field-inquiry/crematoria-emissions-and-air-quality-impacts>. - the pollutants of most concern from crematoria emissions are PCDD/Fs, Hg and fine particulate matter (PM2.5).^{2,3,5-7} PCDD/Fs and Hg are known to be toxic to humans and can bioaccumulate in tissues.

The Government must provide more information and evidence on the design of the crematorium system, and whether it can safely operate so close to residential areas without causing health issues.

The Government must provide evidence from the existing crematoria that air quality has not been affected in those areas.

Do crematoria emit harmful pollutants of public health concern?

Types of emissions

Cremation is a combustion process whereby a casket and human remains (or animal remains in pet crematoria) are incinerated at a high temperature in a closed chamber. Cremation in Canada is normally fuelled by gas and will produce emissions associated with fossil fuel combustion as well as emissions related to the material being combusted.^{3,4} This can include:

Combustion gases: carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen oxides (NO_x),

Would like to see human composting and a not for profit funeral home available as options.

Should be truly green options - bodies in shrouds with no zippers or buttons, and shrouds available to all not just muslims.

In the spirit of reconciliation it should be free for indigenous people to be buried.

Whilst the plan includes space for a crematorium and burial plots, I think it is imperative that our nation's capital leads the way in more environmentally sustainable methods of burial. I am incredibly excited about the prospect of NOR human composting in Australia, as it makes so much sense to return our bodies to the earth. Please consider allocating some space for this eventuality, or investigating the possibility in the near future.

A crematorium, given the existing facilities in the ACT, appears unnecessary. Less polluting and more environmentally sound disposal methods should be adopted.

Community focus funeral services, to allow all to be included. I hear Tender Funerals would be good for this service. Cemeteries can be inclusive and nice places to visit, with birds and flowers and coloured leaves and running water. There is compost burials that could be included. There could be a low cost crematorium on site, to be available to the community, perhaps many funeral services could use it (if that is possible).

The current plan for SMP provides little on the crematorium other than there is one planned. Crematoria are emitters of toxic substances such as dioxins, mercury, and particulate matter that are known to cause health issues. The government must provide more information on how the proposed crematorium will be able to operate without causing health issues in the local community.

A crematorium is badly needed for servicing Canberra's southern communities.

Intersection of long gully road and mugga lane should be upgraded as part of this site. It is an extremely busy intersection at many times of the day and will only increase in traffic with the opening of the memorial park. Needs to be turned into a round about or signalised instead of remaining as a T intersection.

I'm flummoxed by the proposed location at the Tip and why alternative locations not near the rubbish tip were not priorities.

Accessibility to the community through public transport is critical to its successful noting that those participating in services undertaken at the site, are likely to have a higher average age, reflecting the friendship groups of the deceased, and less likely to be mobile in terms of driving and may have accessibility issues.

Incorporating as a natural environment and regeneration of the area is an attractive aspect of the plan. However, doing this in isolation without regeneration in the adjoining nature reserve and not dealing with issues, such as waste spillage along the roads and reserves that arise from the neighbouring waste management, would limit the pleasantness of the SMP in practice.

The timing of services and accessibility to SMP should be considered from two perspectives. Firstly, would people be interested in services at later times in the day and on weekends (this might differ between by season). Secondly, noting the location is away from households, the provision of appropriate security to the site, to avoid vandalism and undesirable behaviour arising at the site.

Make it possible to have a low cost funeral with natural burials. The current setup in Canberra is appalling because the cemetery is too far away for those of us in the south, and it is a private business so they scalp and prey on grieving families. We ended up just taking our baby's ashes and making a private memorial elsewhere because we couldn't afford the cost of the memorial garden

What is the term that a burial plot could be bought for? As people are living longer, a longer period is required for the living to be able to visit a loved one's burial site.

Include composting for human remains:

<https://www.seattletimes.com/life/recompose-the-first-human-compositing-funeral-home-in-the-u-s-is-now-open-for-business/>

Also consider a pet cemetery.

Permitting community-led funeral services, as well as different burial methods. It's really important that everyone can be farewelled in a manner that is respectful of them, their beliefs, and the financial well-being of their family & friends. Traditional caskets are prohibitively expensive, and having natural burial sites that encourage biodegradable burial coverings, that would allow people's bodies to decompose and return to the earth would be so amazing.

I would choose to be buried there if the burial was natural and sustainable and added to our landscape. This would be an awesome addition to my family culture because atm all I can see happening is me ending up as a useless pile of ashes in some urn, that will have to be dealt with. A sustainable nature focussed site would mean so much more. Even if my family doesn't visit at least plants and animals will.

Eco friendly burials!!

I would like to see a genuine commitment by the ACT Government to more sustainable and environmentally friendly body disposal options like body composting. [seattletimes.com/life/recompose-the-first-human-compositing-funeral-home-in-the-u-s-is-now-open-for-business]

I would also like a not-for-profit funeral home co-located in the park instead of those operated by multi-national corporations where the profit (from vulnerable people) goes offshore!

Wouldn't it be a great act of reconciliation if First Nations people didn't have to pay to be buried on their land!

I am very disappointed that there is nothing about human composting which is taking place now in some parts of the USA. As a progressive territory, we need to do all we can to promote a range of environmentally sensitive options while still catering for people who want traditional options. Human composting is one such option.

I don't think its a good site for a crematorium at all, too close to Woden residents when taking in to account the prevailing winds (East to West). A better site would be near the national arboretum towards the lower Molonglo nature reserve, closer to the western boundary of Canberra with less potential to affect residents while still providing excellent access.

Please do not put a crematorium in this location. Keep the cemetery small with traditional burial options only. Maintain bush and wildlife around the cemetery. Minimise roadworks and development at the site. Have wider consultation not just this website.

I'm not sure next to the rubbish tip is a good location. Need to look at alternative options.

I just want to emphasise the importance of access via public transport.

The site location should be moved - the smell from the tip is so overpowering at this location, I use the road regularly so I should know. How could anyone be able to bear the smell for the time it takes to lay someone to rest? Let's hope no one needs to be buried during the summer when the stink is unbearable.

A memorial park should be treated as such. It isn't an entertainment precinct or a picnic site or a horse trail - it's a place of reflection, grieving, solace. Nobody wants to listen to a concert while they're burying or mourning their loved ones. Sounds like the entertainment site is there to spin money, because the dead don't pay rates. It's shameful - move your outdoor performance spaces, your horse trails, picnic spots and bike paths and put them somewhere else. The people of Tuggeranong have waited far too long for this cemetery - stop ruining it.

Proposed traffic management is not good enough. Long gully drive is a single lane for most of the way and it's a key route for traffic heading out to home or work. Drivers around this area are also very aggressive. A funeral procession, particularly with a long motorcade - will take up a lot of room on this road. I've been in a funeral procession and have been subjected to very aggressive road rage - it's stressful and very upsetting. Please improve the roads as well if you really must locate the park next to the tip.

There is absolutely no information about how the cemetery will be secured. Vandalism and thefts have happened frequently to the graves of family and friends, including at Woden. I would like to see more

I am so pleased to know that natural burial options are being planned for the SMP and think there will be great community interest and demand for this option.

Also, it would be brilliant to see Canberra lead the way and have a human composting option available at the new SMP. This would appeal to those concerned about the environmental impact of traditional burial and cremation.

The Master Plan does not clearly identify the space available for Muslim Burial.

Rather than new entry why not put traffic lights at the existing intersection (extend Mugga Lane into the Cemetery), OR dedicated island forcing entering traffic to turn left entry and turn left exit at the planned new entrance.

How about dedicated zones for different ethnic religions e.g. Lutheran.

My primary concern is ease and variety of access

More green burials. Must include composting burials! It's Canberra, people want what is best for the environment. I think if all options are properly explained a very large percentage of people would pick composting

The SMP Master Plan is not clear on whether vertical burial will be allowed as part of the natural burial areas. Vertical burial minimises disturbance to vegetation and ground conditions and can be done with a large diameter post hole digger.

The location is almost disrespectful - being near the waste management areas of Canberra - I would suggest that a new location is proposed.

For the ACT Government to find a different location. The proximity to the Mugga Lane resource centre is highly inappropriate. Given the smell is often experienced in Farrer and Isaacs over summer, the public servants who provided a response to part B, 3.1 Mugga Lane Resources management centre concerns have not addressed these concerns adequately. I'd suggest they currently live on the north side of town and are unfamiliar with this area.

As someone who has lived in Canberra their whole life, the prospect of having somewhere on the southside for my interment is welcomed. However, this proposed site is not somewhere I will be interred given the proximity to the tip and the thoughts and feeling this evokes - let alone the smell that will inevitably waft over a persons final resting place.

It is a cemetery where people go to remember and reflect on the lives of loved ones. It should be a place of quiet reflection. It is not a playground nor entertainment facility where undue noise would impede the main focus of the venue.

This is a very bad idea. It is highly disrespectful to locate the cemetery adjacent to the Mugga Lane Resource Management Centre as proposed. As the garbage dump is visible from most parts of this area and it often smells of garbage, it is hard to believe that any families would want to hold funerals at this location or inter their loved ones there. Even if the garbage dump could be obscured and odours avoided, the area is widely associated with the disposal of garbage given that the dump has long been located there and is heavily used. Please do not go ahead with this proposal - surely a better location can be found which Canberrans would actually want to use.

This is a well thought out design, it provides a site that covers a diverse range of religious, and cultural beliefs, with an awareness of the natural setting.

With the population on the Southern area of Canberra growing, this Park will be a welcomed addition to the already existing facilities.

It has taken way too long for this project to move forward. Please do not get side tracked by further inquiries or stalling which has wasted so much time ... this project commenced in 2012 and we are not far off 2022 ... so 10 years is ridiculous. It is time that Canberra and those of us who don't reside on the north side of Canberra have access to burial and cremation services close to where we live.

The numbers being shown (for cremations, burials etc) seem to be way too low but we need to start somewhere. Having an option for a funeral up to around 50 people is wonderful. The 200 option may not be sufficient either. I note there is the ability to use courtyards which is good ... unless it is the middle of winter or raining.

The proposed parking for private motor vehicles is not sufficient either. Over the past 50 years my attendance at many ceremonies at Norwood Park (including one for my son) highlights just how poor parking is. Even going to visit family members whose ashes are interned in the gardens often finds me dropping elderly family close to where they need to be. They then wait for me to park elsewhere and return to help them navigate the path to get where they want to go. And ensuring pathways are well maintained in this new natural bushland setting will be critical ... Norwood Park at times is very difficult for vision impaired people or those who have balance issues.

This needs to be a space for locals, especially Tuggeranong people like myself, who want to be buried in the area where we grew up.

The park should be just that with the additional function of low impact disposal of human remains, done with simplicity and dignity, keeping the hooplah associated with commercial funerals to a minimum, better still to exclude them

I am a little (really) disappointed with the site selection. Proximity to the dump? Perhaps access from the west (Isaacs?) back of business to long gully

Wahlenbergia stricta?? possibly brachychiton? pg 36

reflecting on the planting theme suggested - bury the people according to the flowing season - that way when anniversaries come round it is a pleasure to the family/visitor

Make it happen asap

At the moment the plans look good but we also need to talk about cost of placing a love one in there

I think it would be more acceptable if the crematorium were built in stage one.

There has been no consultation with local residents of Macarthur and Fadden and the site is far too close to houses in Macarthur. Why wasn't a site chosen opposite the dump?

Many residents use that area for walking and seeing the kangaroos and birds and this will be destroyed. As most residents now live in North Canberra, why didn't you put it there?

The chosen site adjacent to the tip might upset the sensitivities of some people. Also, the periodic unpleasant odours emanating from the tip might be distressing during funeral services.

Would like to see natural burials include upright burial using shroud and without coffin or headstone (GPS coordinates in a public register?) a reasonable option supported by any required legislative changes to enable.

As mentioned earlier, create a park that also functions as a cemetery, not the other way around. This will breathe life into the park and make it a place where the lives of the dead are celebrated rather than mourned. Aim for a place where respectful laughter is encouraged.

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Would be great to have a not for profit funeral service based there.

1

I think the masterplan is exceptional. It is clear that the designers are taking into account worldwide trends toward creating cemeteries that are multi-use spaces. This will create deeper community engagement, whilst also avoiding the cemetery becoming a liability once it's full.

I am in the last stages of completing a thesis on the use of cemeteries as archives of social history, as well as community places. I would be happy to provide a copy once complete, if this would be useful.

Looks great but not so sure about having it opposite the 'tip'? What does that say about such an important area.

Great idea - I have always planned to have a natural burial.

'Build community' is one of your features. Consider a community led affordable and meaningful funeral service (ie Tender Funerals). This service is not-for-profit, ensures people experiencing financial hardship are able to have affordable funerals, it gives families the chance to do funerals their own way within the law, there is no discrimination with people of all cultures enabled to undertake their required attention to their deceased person.

An alternative to the big business model of current funeral services Tender would be a VERY welcome and appropriate service for ON SITE at the new memorial park which it appears aims to be 'natural' and so much fits the model of Tender Funerals. Worthy of strong consideration in my view.

I would like to see the ability to use memorial park for family and community led burials, creations and internment. To not be locked into the stoves of a funeral director in order to access internment plots. For the memorial park to allow the receipt of bodies for internment from the public (following appropriate legal requirements).

I've seen the images in an article on RiotACT and the proposal looks lovely, low in height and once the landscaping actually grows, I think it will be a lovely meditative place. Seems to also allow adequate breathing room away from the buildings for families, so that's a good thing.

It looks great.

I feel it would be beneficial and prudent to invite Tender Funerals (a not-for-profit community-led initiative currently trying to establish in Canberra) to be co-located at this facility, offering death literacy workshops and events, along with not-for-profit funeral services. I understand this is difficult with the current state of the funeral industry, but also feel that the Government has a responsibility to ensure that families are not going into debt and are able to make informed decisions for funerals. The Tender model looks like the best fit to meet this need. This is an important step in the grieving process, and I think Tender can help facilitate end of life information support, funeral preparations and death literacy in advance through community events, as well as hold community memorial services (like a day of the death festival) to support grief and remembrance.

This facility looks like it would wonderfully support such a facility. I would like the opportunity to engage in this, as I know that Tender has volunteer opportunities, which could include gardening, running workshops, helping the bereaved and maintaining the buildings. I like the sound of that, and it would have value to the memorial park.

Concerned about proximity to rubbish tip.

Concerned about fumes from crematorium as we already have to deal with smell from the rubbish tip.

I am very happy to see a cemetery like this be developed in Canberra. We have needed more diverse and non-traditional cemeteries for many years. I am concerned about the timeline, which seems very drawn out. I would like to see Stage 1 accommodate non-traditional burials, as there is a lack of support for them elsewhere in the ACT and they are needed sooner rather than later.

see all my comments in previous areas crematorium cafe and florist should be stage one and safe entry from road needs careful consideration

Please do not signalise the entry - a large roundabout would be better and accommodate funeral processions better and keep traffic flowing. Signals can stop a procession entering all at once. And the minimal traffic does not warrant the occasional stopping.
If need be - make the area a 70kmh zone.

Please fix the transport first. Widen gully road and put in bus routes. Then built a natural cemetery with a focus on bushland and wildlife. Minimal buildings

The park should be developed as a long term arboretum of native plants that could compliment the existing arboretum. It would enhance Canberra's reputation as the bush capital and become a destination for plant lovers as well as providing amenities for locals.

Overall, I think it is a very acceptable and thoughtful plan and despite what I have read about its closeness to the tip, I believe the time frames will alleviate the problems of smell and wind strewn rubbish. However I think we should look at plantings that will reduce maintenance and I do not believe that is always achieved by planting large eucalypts which are not responding well to global warming

1

This is a wonderful initiative and really love the "Bush Cemetery" design aspect. I would caution against recreational activities that are not sympathetic to a memorial space, its a place of reflection, not a place for things like mountain bike riding, power exercising or equestrian riding. That would be totally disrespectful.

As a nearby resident at Macarthur ... onto the site:

(a) I would be keen to learn more about how the crematorium is proposed to be powered. Previous proposals would have seen a jet power source with higher than acceptable noise levels and

(b) I would have expected that Macarthur residents would have been included in the stakeholder consultations given our very near proximity. This has not happened. Please don't overlook it going forward.

It all looks very good and well thought out. However, there are lots of kangaroos in the area. Has the effect of them invading the cemetery space been taken into account, e.g. will they eat or destroy all the lovely vegetation being planned? Or will many of the plants be the sort that kangaroos will avoid or dislike?

Move the site away from across the road from the rubbish dump. The smell and waste blowing in from the WMC is highly disrespectful to the memory of those who have died. Imagine being buried alongside the waste of Canberra. I can't believe this site is even being considered.

The arterial road needs to be widened and there needs to be noise reduction all around cemetery. No cycle and walking tracks it will be an unsafe area at night time. It also needs to be secure with fencing otherwise items will be stolen. Ensure only natives and encourage wildlife. Smell from the rubbish dump needs to be addressed also chemicals from the rubbish dump gets into the water table. Also blasting at the Quarry further up Mugga Lane needs to be investigated due to noise level and fright when they do it. Also the noise of the aeroplanes and emergency helicopters and their flight plan. It will be a long walk from any public transport to the SMP.

Having it right near the dump seems very disrespectful. Our friends and family deserve a better resting place than so close to a waste management facility. I question the level of serenity and peace available with the smells, sights and sounds of the dump so close by? I hope this is considered very carefully and if the site is guaranteed, the dump/waste management factor can be mitigated. (Who wants to say 'yeah we buried mum last month. She is at peace in the cemetery near the dump. Just make sure you visit her when the wind is blowing the other way'??)
I like the other ideas, just wary of the location.

I'd like to see an affordable memorial site which allows the integration of all peoples and cultural traditions. Any area of segregation I believe supports racism. Making concessions for different cultures or religious beliefs should be avoided.

I really am amazed at who comes up with these ideas as this is the weirdest place to put one. It's an industrial area and most of Canberra looks old, tired and dirty for a capital city. It's an embarrassment but if this is going to make a difference then good luck...because it won't match Canberra concrete jungle theme.

Looks pretty good! Well thought out and lots of aboriginal and environmental sensitivity. The 'view' (and sounds) of 'the tip' will need cooperation and collaboration over time. Lots of big noisy machinery operating there. Corkhills hiding themselves behind a grassed/treed sound-mound would be good. Having this are 'wetter' than the surrounding scrub would be good; green is more positive for grief than crunching dead grass/trees.

A fire management plan is needed; as planned (and I applaud) 'the cemetery will burn'. That it burns, no problem; that it could burn catastrophically - really could be.

The waving (sail-like) form of the roof will need above-ordinary wind/wild-wind pre-consideration; Cat 3 or Cat 4 specification?

(Future management) - Timing the lighting of the crematorium to night would be good, a recent funeral I attended at Norwood Park had mourners witness a big black cloud go up as they were comforting each other after the funeral. "There goes Daddy" Not good.

Vehicle Access into the park is important as the current road (long gully road) can be VERY busy, so a 4 way intersection with traffic lights corner long gully road and mugga lane will be required. Walk and cycle connection into MacArthur and Fadden will help with pedestrian flow. Security fencing a controlled after hours access to stop vandalism is important.

Concern about the location, only because next to the tip with it's traffic and ongoing odours problem especially with northerly and easterly winds. A couple of kilometres north of the tip or off the Monaro Highway near the model plane facility would be better.

I cannot believe that someone thought it was a good idea to put a cemetery next to a tip, and a solar farm! The stench of the tip travels for miles.

Who do you think is going to want to hang out in this place? There is nothing around it.

Worse, I am trying to grieve and a horse rider/bike rider comes flying past. After that, I will grab my latte and sit outside inhaling the fresh rubbish scent from next door.

Why can't you pick the other end of Mugga lane???

I want out of this town so badly. Not one brain cell located in the whole ACT gov. The last place I am going to be buried is next to the damn tip!

Please provide a separate area for Christians/Catholics so as to separate from other religions.

holding non-memorial events at the amphitheater will be a great way to bring the community in and engage with the space, if it starts accessible and open for everyone to use it will stay that way

I worry that it will be hard for people reliant on public transport to get there. Although it's supposedly in Tuggeranong - it's not really. It may be quite onerous for older residents to get there.

No

Heartbreaking to think that families will have to bury their loved ones next to a putrid dump - having driven to work along this road many times, I know how vile the smell can get. I can't imagine the distress it would cause families burying their loved ones.

There's also no detail in this plan about improving the roads and safety. The area is dominated by large trucks on such a narrow stretch of road. You've mentioned upgrades to one intersection, but that is not enough. In the least, the road needs to be duplicated both ways. I've had to do battle with aggressive drivers in heavy traffic during a funeral procession, it was very upsetting and stressful on an already difficult day.

There's mention of carparks, but this will not be enough on traditionally busy days (Mother's Day, Father's Day, holidays). Is there also on street parking like other cemeteries?

And such a disgrace that it would ever be considered appropriate to allow mountain bikes, horses, picnics and outdoor performances in a place of rest. This is a place where people will come to seek peace, comfort and solace and be with their lost loved ones. It's not an entertainment venue, nor does it need to be one. If you're looking for a community park - locate it somewhere else.

Yes, do not build the SMP it across the road from the tip, it is just not appropriate. The stakeholder plan and actions do not address the issue adequately. No amount of design-solutions, trees, mounds or green waste recycling will change this. A procession to bury your loved ones past an active landfill site is just not necessary.

With an abundance of space we have in the south, there are many alternative locations available in Tuggeranong and even Lanyon which would be far better.

The design theme and idea is nice, but location is important and shouldn't be ignored. We can do better for our city.

No graves or grave stones so it can fit lots of people in

I would like to know what year you expect the first people to be buried here.

Oh yes indeed. Who had the amazing thought of having a playground on the site? I'm sure mourners and people visiting the graves of others will surely want to hear the shriek of laughter from kids on the playground. Who do we pay to come up with idea like this?

More people should be encouraged to get cremated as space will be a premium for burials. We need to incorporate as many environmentally sustainable aspects as possible.

It's crazy to be next to the rubbish tip. Surely you couldn't pick a worse location. I can't believe it's got to this point.

I am VERY opposed to the proposed site being close to the tip. It shows lack of respect and lack of emotional intelligence to be even considering the area in my opinion. Only a committee could come up with such a heartless, thoughtless, ludicrous decision. My first thought when I heard it was on Mugga Lane was - oh, no they can't mean in the vicinity of the TIP!!!! With all the foul smells and rubbish that will inevitably blow across from there, they have GOT to be joking! Just imagine wandering through the beautifully designed landscape or visiting your deceased loved one with the stink of the tip in your nostrils. It would be a VERY brief visit, if at all.

The mockups look really good, if it ends up being half as pretty it will be a nice space. I think the most important aspect is to ensure its a nice place, protected from road noise for people to visit their loved ones.

In which region of Canberra do yo

Canberra City

Gungahlin

Inner North

Inner South

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u reside?

Molonglo Valley

Weston Creek

Woden Valley

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Which of the following best describes the age of those living in your household?

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51-60

61-70

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**If you would like to be
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Member Status

Member ID

Member Username

Member Email

Active

Active

Active

Active

Gender

Age Group

Where do you live?

Woman

55-64

Weston Creek/
Molonglo

Woman

45-54

Tuggeranong

Man

45-54

Inner North

Man

25-34

Gungahlin



ACT
Government



TRANSPORT CANBERRA AND
CITY SERVICES
DECEMBER 2021

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 PROJECT NEED

The ACT Government is building a new cemetery for the southside to meet the needs of our growing city.

Southern Memorial Park (SMP), located on Mugga Lane in Hume, is planned to be a world-leading memorial park located in a bushland park setting. The landscape approach celebrates lives lived, replacing the rigid monumentality of past cemeteries. It also plays a vital role in protecting the cultural heritage and enhancing the ecological values of the site.

A draft SMP Masterplan was prepared in 2012 with work commencing in December 2019 to review it. This required further cultural heritage, geotechnical, environmental, transport and other investigations to ensure the most current information was used for the revised design. In April 2021 the revised SMP Masterplan was finalised.

The revised Masterplan enables SMP to be delivered progressively to meet ongoing community needs in four stages over 100+ years. The staging allows for the site's current use of horse agistment activities to be accommodated for the next 50 years.

Consultation with government and targeted public stakeholder representatives including Canberra Memorial Parks (formerly Canberra Cemeteries), faith groups, funeral directors, Registered Aboriginal Organisations and ACT Equestrian Association was undertaken during the Masterplan development.

This report captures the feedback from the broader community consultation undertaken to inform the public of the Masterplan.

1.2 CONSULTATION APPROACH

Community feedback was sought between 14 April and 7 June 2021 to inform the public of the revised Masterplan, understand community expectations in relation to interment and to identify landscape and recreational features to enhance the function and character of the space. There were eight consultation activities. Six community pop-up sessions were held, two each in Tuggeranong, Woden and Weston Creek Town Centres. A dedicated YourSay page as well as an online survey were established to enable comment.

1.3 PROMOTION OF CONSULTATION OPPORTUNITIES

Multiple channels were used to promote consultation opportunities to the broader Canberra community. These channels are listed below.

- > ACT Government issued media release.
- > YourSay and City Services websites.
- > Emails sent to approximately 100 key stakeholders.
- > Social media posts.
- > Our Canberra electronic delivered mail (EDM) announcement to the Canberra community, and an article in the Tuggeranong hard copy edition of Our Canberra for May.

1.4 PARTICIPATION

In total, the YourSay website received 3,422 page views during the consultation period with 122 participating in the online survey. Social media posts received 8.8% engagement rate with 7,771 impressions. To ensure a diverse cross section of the community could provide feedback, two pop-up sessions in each of the following Town Centres were held: Tuggeranong, Woden and Weston Creek. Over 230 attendees were recorded across the six sessions in the three locations.

1.5 FEEDBACK THEMES

All responses received have been analysed and the key feedback themes are detailed in Section 6. The most common responses we heard are:

- > strong support for the development of Southern Memorial Park as the Bush Cemetery for the Bush Capital
- > it is important to achieve a balance between providing opportunities for community recreation and maintaining the reflective, peaceful qualities of a cemetery
- > restoring the natural landscape and showcasing sustainability is a high priority
- > as part of the high-quality experience, SMP should provide the following amenities and functions including:
 - choice of internment
 - supporting facilities
 - good access.

2. ABOUT THE PROJECT

The ACT Government proposes to develop Southern Memorial Park (SMP) as a major new memorial park on a greenfield site on Mugga Lane in Hume to meet projected demand, particularly for south Canberra where there is a gap in burial and crematorium services.

To progress the project, the SMP Masterplan prepared in 2012 has been reviewed and revised resulting in the SMP Masterplan 2021. This required undertaking further cultural heritage, geotechnical, environmental, transport investigations. Further consultation was also undertaken with government stakeholders, Canberra Memorial Parks (formerly Canberra Cemeteries), and targeted public stakeholder representatives including faith groups, funeral directors, Registered Aboriginal Organisations, Territory Agistment (the current grazing licensee) and the ACT Equestrian Association.

The SMP Masterplan 2021 is a guide that will be used to inform a strategic and staged approach for implementing the cemetery development. The design is flexible enough to accommodate changes that may be needed over the time the full project is delivered.

The Masterplan outlines the development of the SMP site and a burial strategy that fully considers the site constraints and provisioning of long-term interment. It proposes to deliver SMP in four stages with a memorial park life of approximately 100+ years. This allows for approximately 53,600 burials with interment in three broad categories: 'traditional' burials, 'natural' burials which is an emerging trend, and ashes memorialisation.

SMP has been designed to be welcoming and inclusive, allowing different faith and cultural groups to practice their specific rituals. There will be opportunity for designated burials areas dependent on demand. As SMP progresses, Canberra Memorial Parks will liaise separately with faith and cultural groups to allocate dedicated areas as required.

The staged development of SMP allows for the current horse agistment activities to continue using the site during Stage 1 (with minimal disruption) and Stage 2 (with moderate disruption) for approximately 50 years.

A Preliminary Sketch Plan (PSP) has been prepared for Stage 1 construction. The purpose of the PSP is to establish the minimum requirements for the civil works, utilities, water resources and facilities needed to make SMP operational.

During the development of the Masterplan, five guiding design principles were identified in collaboration with the ACT Public Cemeteries Authority Special Project Committee. These are:

- > developing a memorial park for the future
- > delivering a high-quality visitor experience
- > responsiveness to place: the site and its cultural history
- > restoring the natural landscape and showing casing sustainability
- > engaging with community.

3. WHY WE ENGAGED

Southern Memorial Park is critical social infrastructure with significance to the whole Canberra community. Engagement is necessary to determine whether the design meets the needs and expectations of the community it aims to serve.

During the preparation of the Masterplan, extensive stakeholder engagement was undertaken to develop the design. Multiple meetings and communications were held with government stakeholders, subject matter experts, and the Canberra Memorial Parks Special Project Committee. There was also engagement with targeted public stakeholders including representatives from faith groups, funeral directors, Registered Aboriginal Organisations, ACT Equestrian Association and Territory Agistment (the current grazing licensee).

The focus of this report is the broader public consultation undertaken to inform the community of the Masterplan and seek feedback to understand how the government can meet the five guiding design principles:

- > developing a memorial park for the future
- > delivering a high-quality visitor experience
- > responsiveness to place: the site and its cultural history
- > restoring the natural landscape and show casing sustainability
- > engaging with community.

4. HOW WE ENGAGED

To encourage participation from the whole Canberra community and specifically people in south Canberra, a range of communications were undertaken to promote the engagement activities before and during the engagement period.

On Wednesday 14 April 2021 – the first day of consultation – the ACT Government issued a media release, directly followed by the launch of the YourSay and City Services websites. Emails were sent to approximately 100 key stakeholders including the community councils of Tuggeranong, Woden, Weston Creek and the Inner South.

Social media announcements were made via ACT Government channels including Facebook as well as the Transport Canberra and City Services' Twitter account. Further announcements were made via the Our Canberra EDM on 15 April as well as in the Tuggeranong hard copy edition in May.

Throughout the consultation period we held six pop-up sessions in the town centres of Tuggeranong (6 and 15 May), Woden (8 and 20 May) and Weston Creek (22 May and 3). We also presented to the Tuggeranong Community Council at their June monthly meeting on Tuesday 1 June 2021.

4.1 TIMELINE OF ENGAGEMENT

The timeline for the engagement was as follows:



5. WHO WE HEARD FROM AND HOW?

5.1 HOW MANY RESPONSES

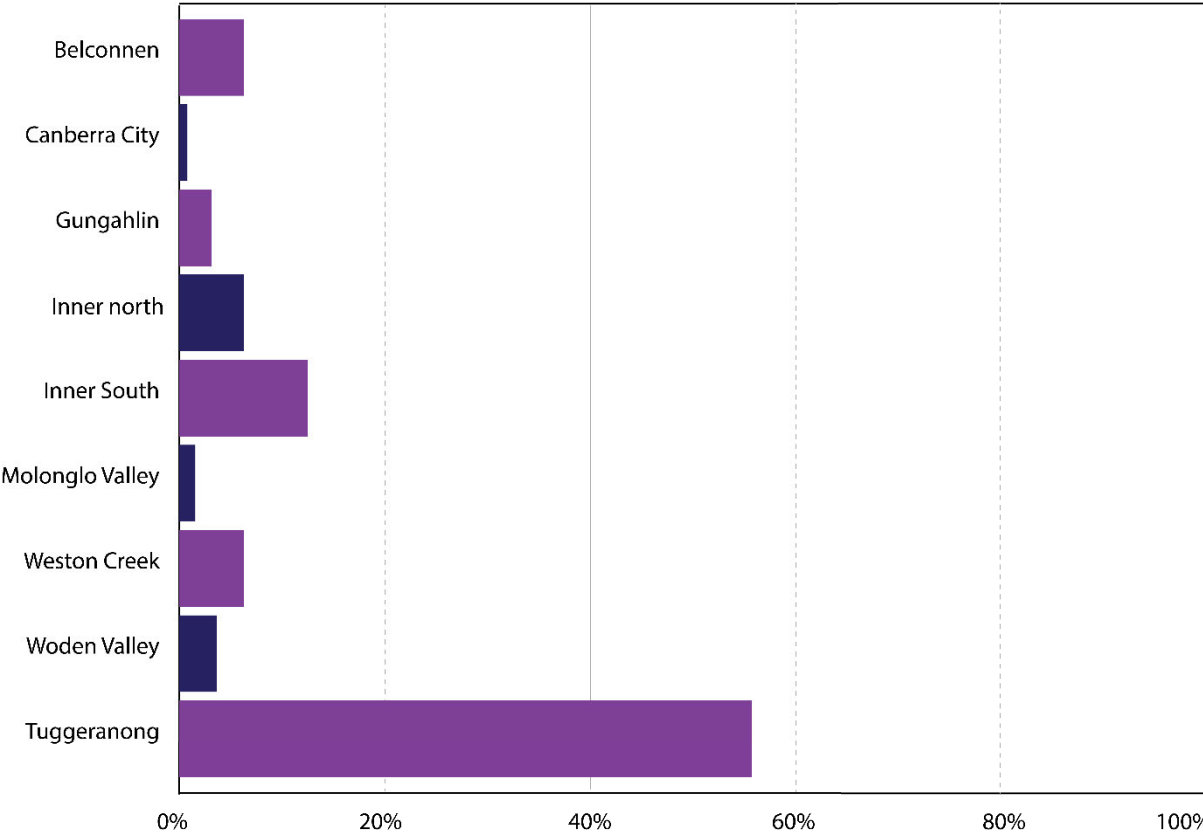
Feedback was gathered from all engagement activities. The response rates from each method are summarised below:

YourSay website	14 April until 7 June 2021	Views: 3,422
		Survey: 122
Written submissions	7 June 2021	Formal submission from the Weston Creek Community Council
	14 June 2021	Formal submission from the Tuggeranong Community Council.
Pop-up sessions	Thursday 6 May 2021 10 am – 1 pm	Tuggeranong Laneways 14 participants
	Saturday, 8 May 2021 10 am – 1 pm	Woden Square, Woden 15 Participants
	Saturday, 15 May 2021 10 am – 1 pm	Tuggeranong Laneways 30 participants
	Thursday, 20 May 2021 11 am – 1 pm	Woden Square, Woden 80 Participants
	Saturday, 22 May 2021 10 am – 1 pm	Coleman Court (Trenerry Square), Weston Creek 80 participants
	Thursday, 3 June 2021 11 am – 1 pm	Coleman Court (Trenerry Square), Weston Creek 23 participants
Presentations	Tuesday 1 June 2021	Tuggeranong Community Council.

SOUTHERN MEMORIAL PARK MASTERPLAN REVIEW

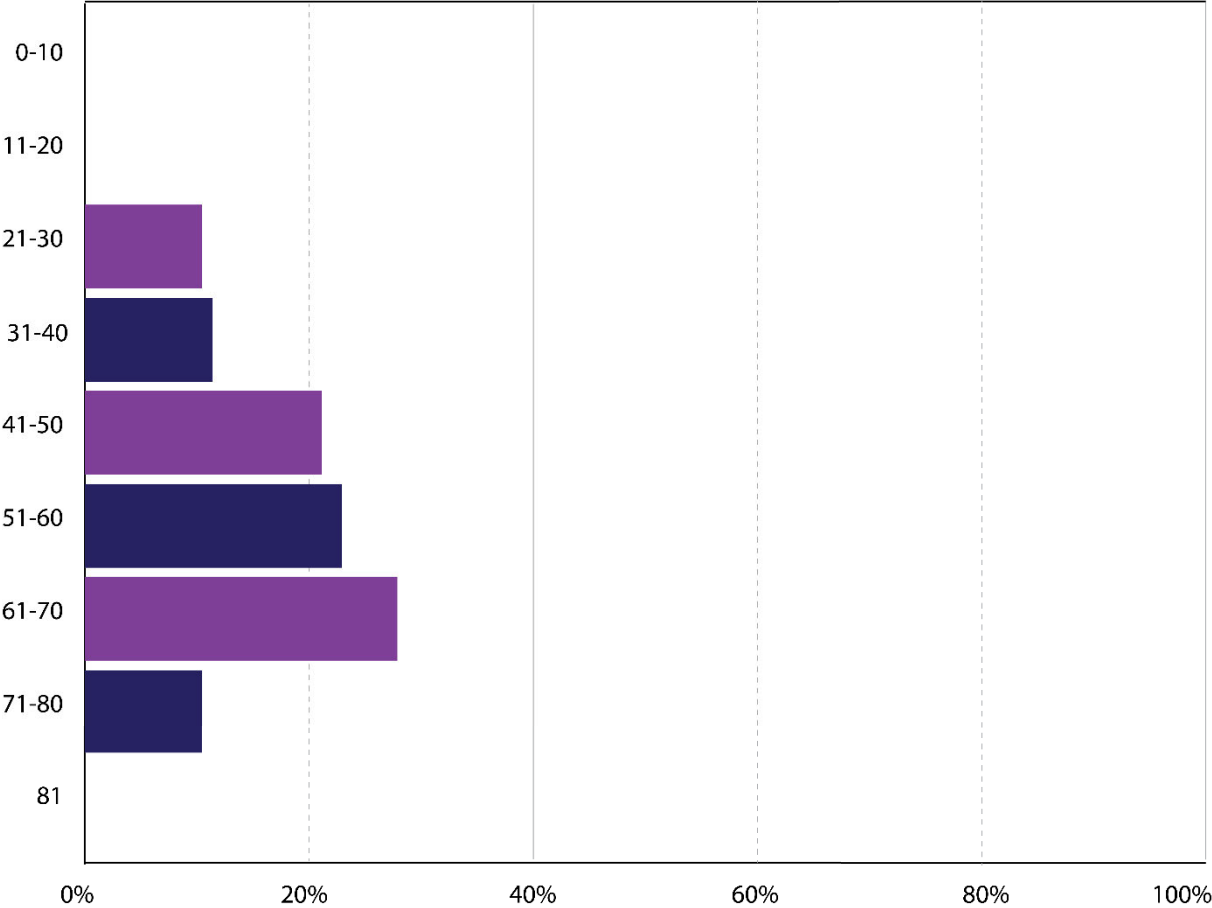
Demographics was collected from the online survey responses. The breakdown of location, household types and ages of survey respondents are detailed below.

Only 93 survey respondents provided location data. 92% of the respondents were from the south of Canberra, with the majority (57%) identifying as being from the Tuggeranong region.



SOUTHERN MEMORIAL PARK MASTERPLAN REVIEW

Only 119 respondents provided information about their age. Most of the participants who provided this information ranged between 51-70 years of age, accounting for 47% of the survey respondents. 21.85% of participants are between the ages of 41-50, 10.08% between 21-30, 9.24% between the ages of 71 -80. No one under 20 or above 81 provided a response.



6. WHAT WE HEARD

6.1 KEY INSIGHTS

Consistent themes were identified across the survey, emails, formal written responses from the Weston Creek and Tuggeranong Community Councils, and pop-up sessions.

The community support the development of Southern Memorial Park as the Bush Cemetery for the Bush Capital.

- A well-maintained landscape setting.
- A natural design that reflects the layout of the land.
- Using local native plants.
- Retaining existing trees.

It is important to achieve a balance between the provision of recreational amenities for the community and the reflective, peaceful quality of a cemetery.

Restoring the natural landscape and show casing sustainability is a high priority.

- Restoring and enhancing the natural waterways.
- Maintaining wildlife corridors.
- Protecting threatened ecological communities.
- Building drought tolerance using native plants.
- Incorporating water sensitive urban design principles.
- Reducing the amount of lawn used in the burial areas.

As part of the high-quality experience SMP should provide the following amenities and functions:

Choice of Internment

- Memorial gardens for ashes
- Natural burial
- Traditional burial
- Crematorium
- First Nation Peoples burial area
- Segregated cultural and religious burial areas

Supporting Facilities

- Small function hall
- Small memorial hall
- Courtyard
- Outdoor chapel
- Outdoor amphitheatre
- Large memorial hall
- Café and florist

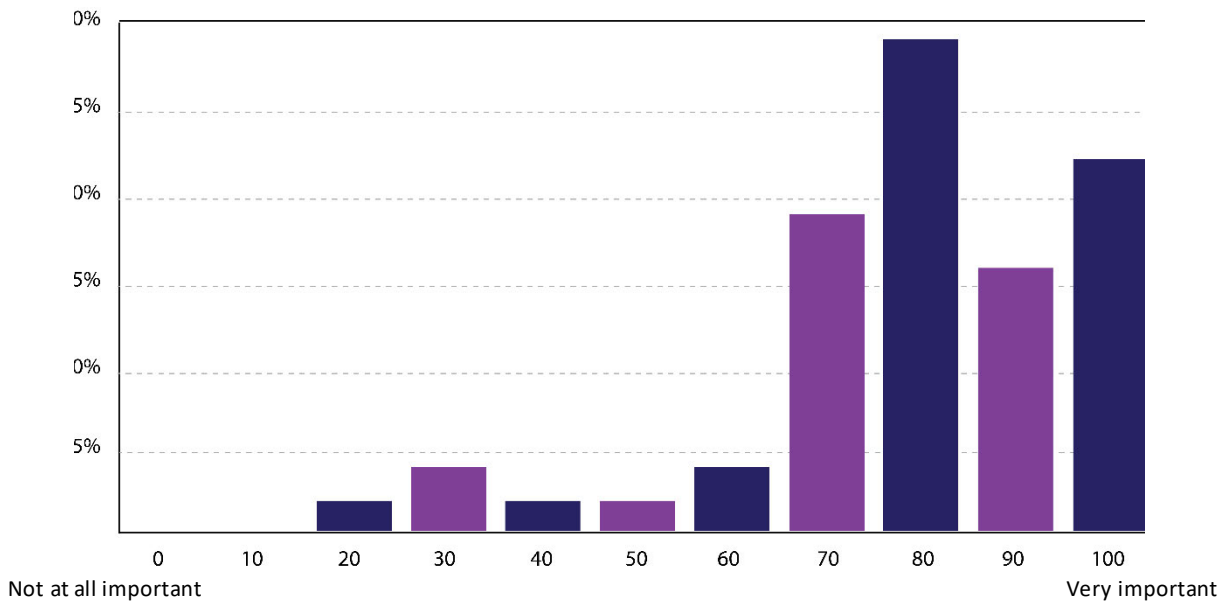
Good Access

- Ease of carparking
- Public transport
- Paths

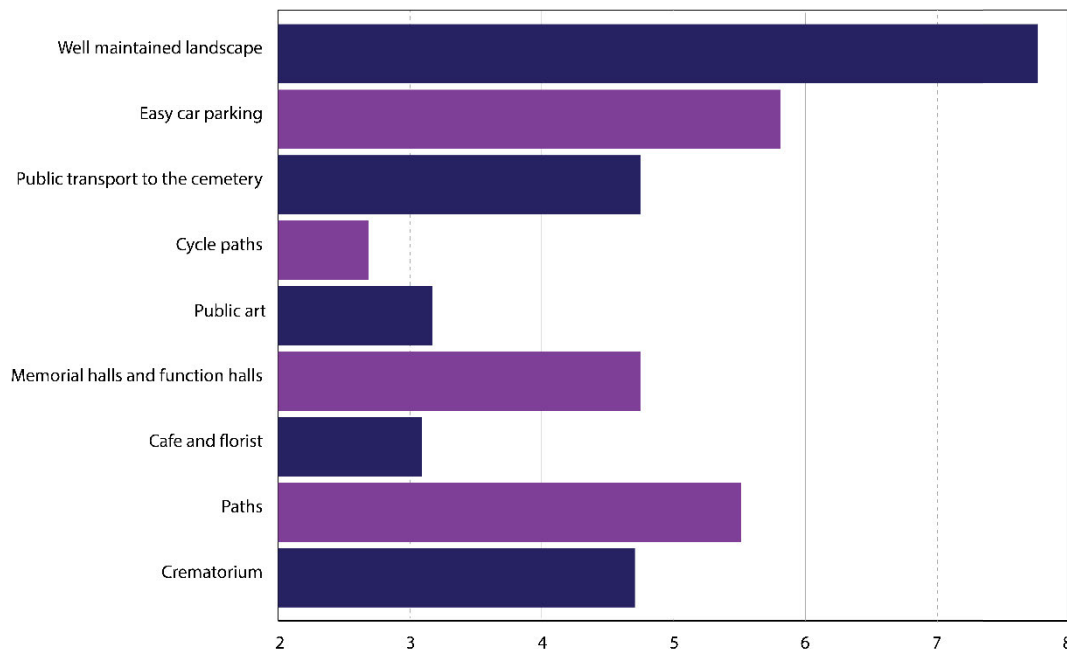
Within the survey, respondents were asked to rank their preferences for each of the guiding design principles.

Delivering a high-quality visitor experience

85% of respondents agreed a high-quality visitor experience is important.

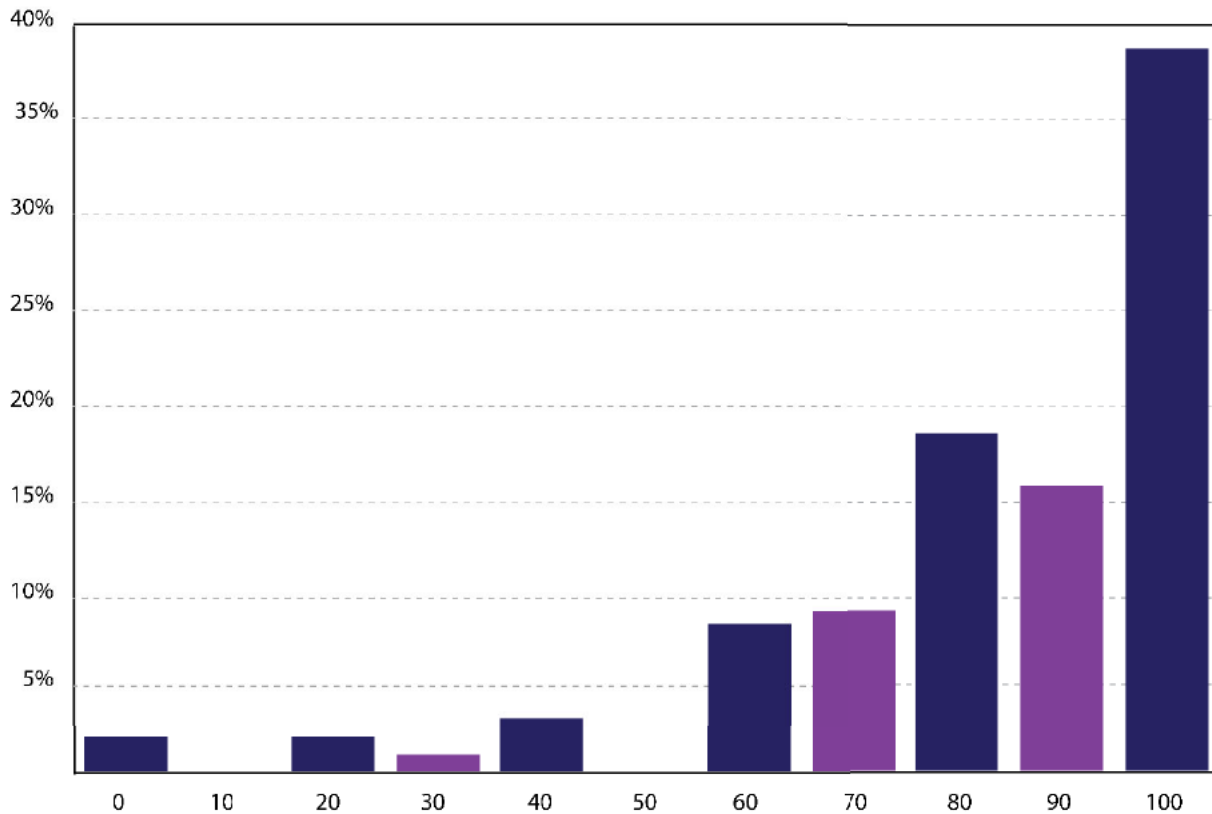


> Well maintained gardens, ease of parking, and paths ranked the highest in helping create a high-quality visitor experience.



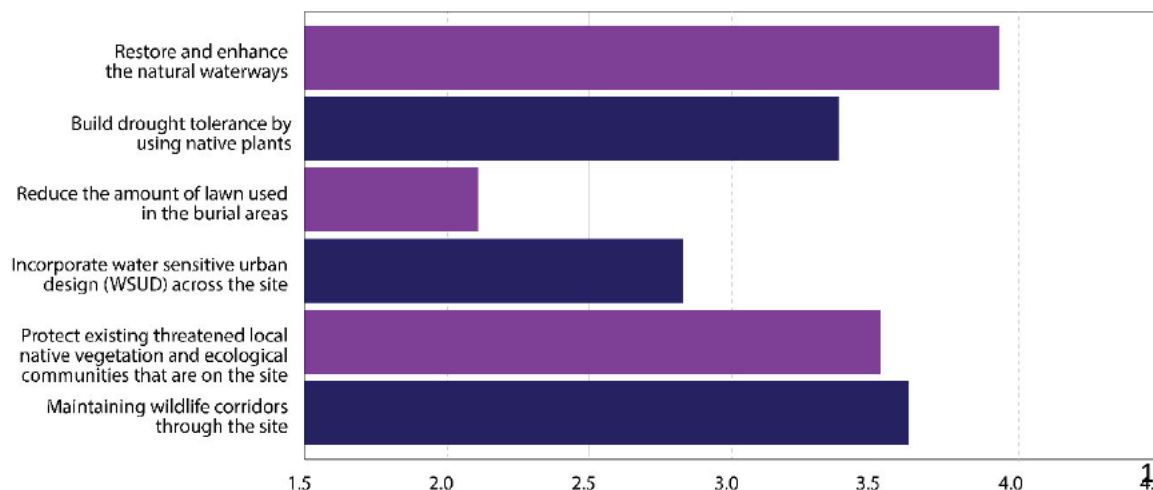
Restoring the natural landscape and showcasing sustainability

> Restoring the natural landscape and showcasing sustainability is considered **very important** by 40% of the respondents. A further 41.5% of respondents agreed this is **important**.



How this could be best achieved was ranked in the following order:

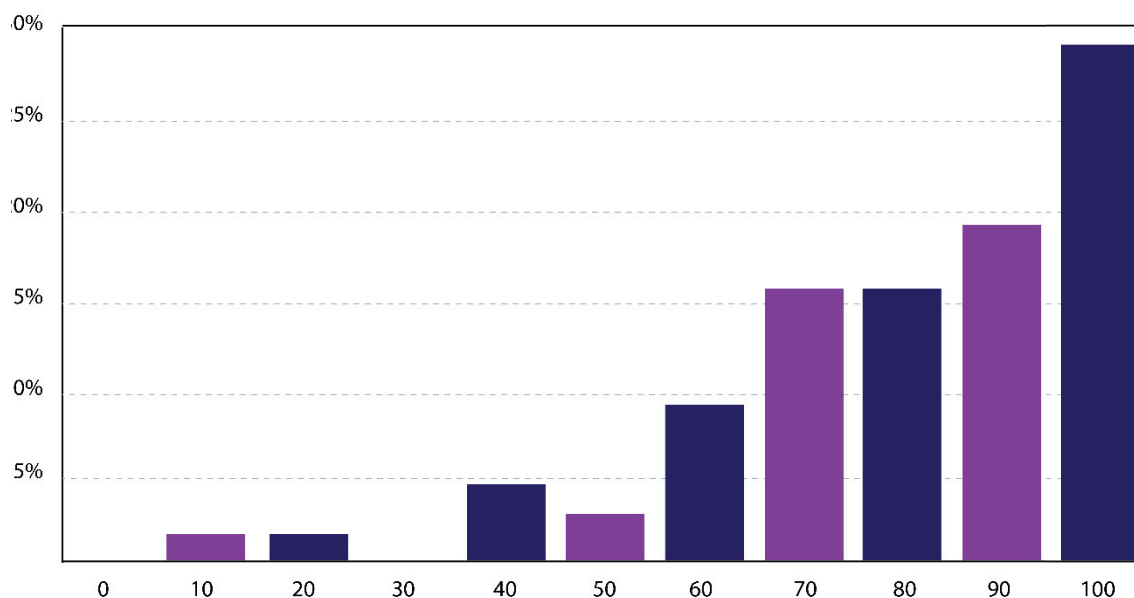
- restoring and enhancing the natural waterways
- maintaining wildlife corridors
- protecting threatened ecological communities
- building drought tolerance using native plants
- incorporating water sensitive urban design principles
- reducing the amount of lawn used in the burial areas.



Reducing the lawn area ranked low. This may be due to a lack of awareness of the high cost to purchase and import water to maintain large areas of irrigated lawn. While the proposed 'water sensitive urban design' approach enables treated water from the wetlands to be harvested and used to irrigate the park, thus reducing reliance on potable water, lawn areas will need to be minimised.

Developing a memorial park for the future

- > The community support the development of Southern Memorial Park for the future. 80% of respondents rated this as important to very important.



Within the survey, respondents were asked to identify their preferred choice of interment and amenities that would suit their personal interment rituals.

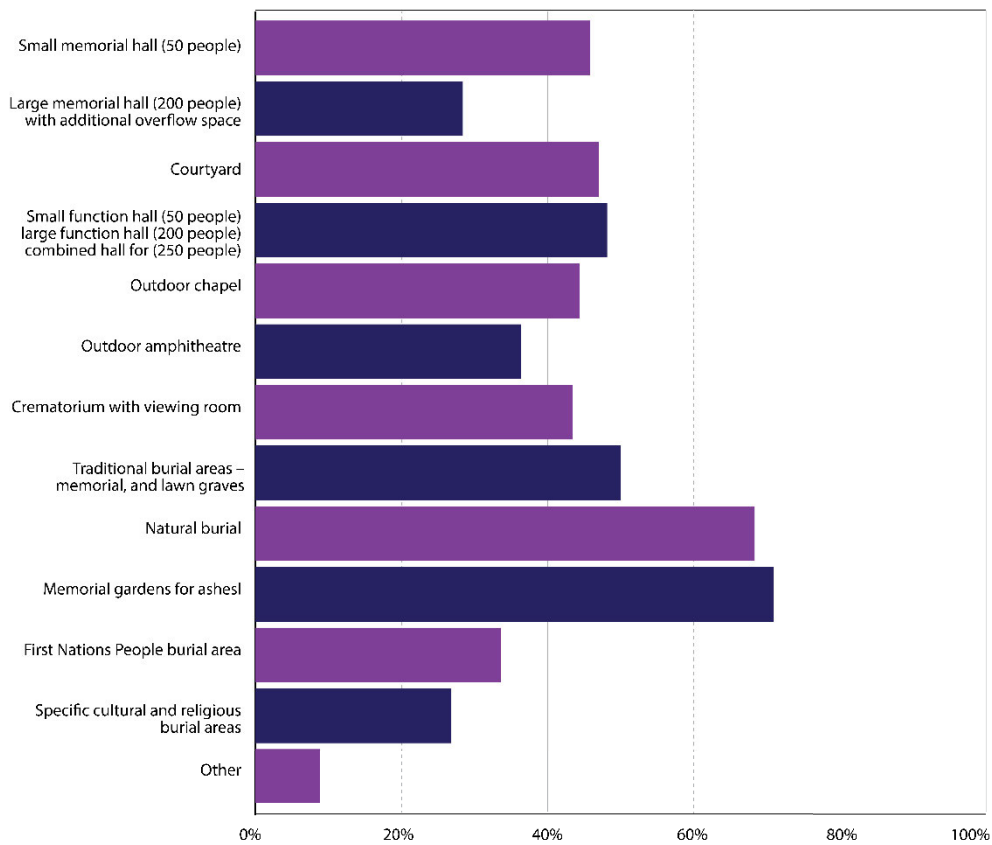
The preferred choice of interment was reported to be:

- memorial gardens for ashes
- natural burial
- traditional burial
- crematorium
- First Nation People burial area
- segregated cultural and religious burial areas.

The preferred amenities and facilities are:

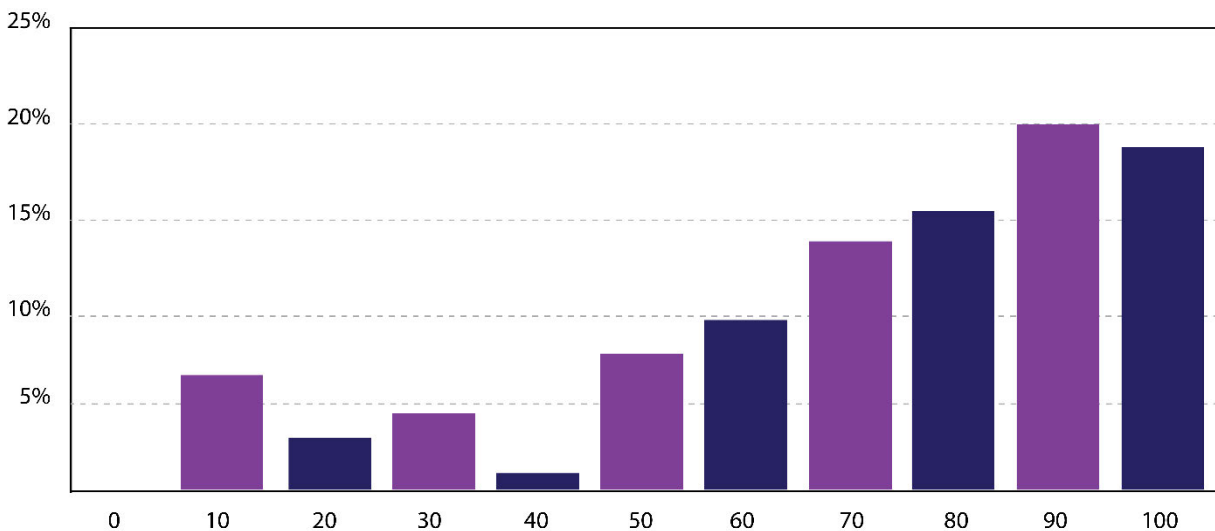
- small function hall
- small memorial hall
- courtyard
- outdoor chapel
- outdoor amphitheatre
- large memorial hall
- café and florist.

SOUTHERN MEMORIAL PARK MASTERPLAN REVIEW



Engaging with community

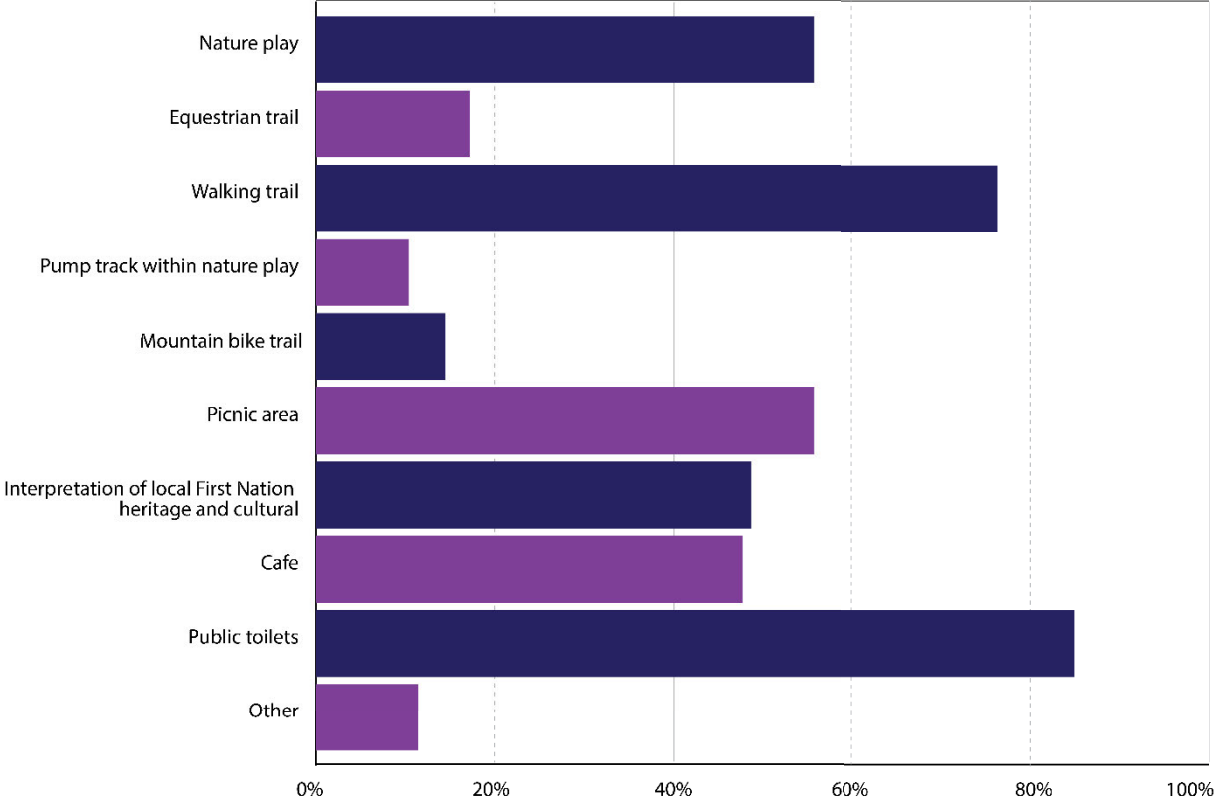
- > 67% of the respondents agreed Southern Memorial Park should provide recreational benefit and engage with the local community.



- > The most popular recreational activities and associated amenity infrastructure as part of the commitment to encourage the local community to use SMP were named as:
 - public toilet
 - walking trails
 - nature play

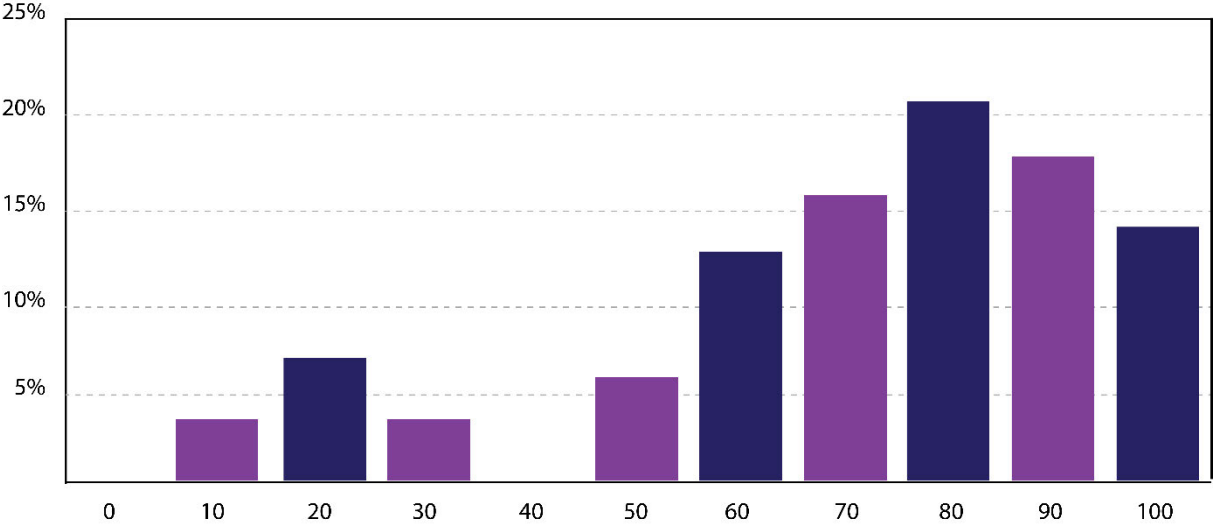
SOUTHERN MEMORIAL PARK MASTERPLAN REVIEW

- picnic area
- interpretation of local Aboriginal heritage and culture
- café
- mountain bike trails and pump tracks were less supported.



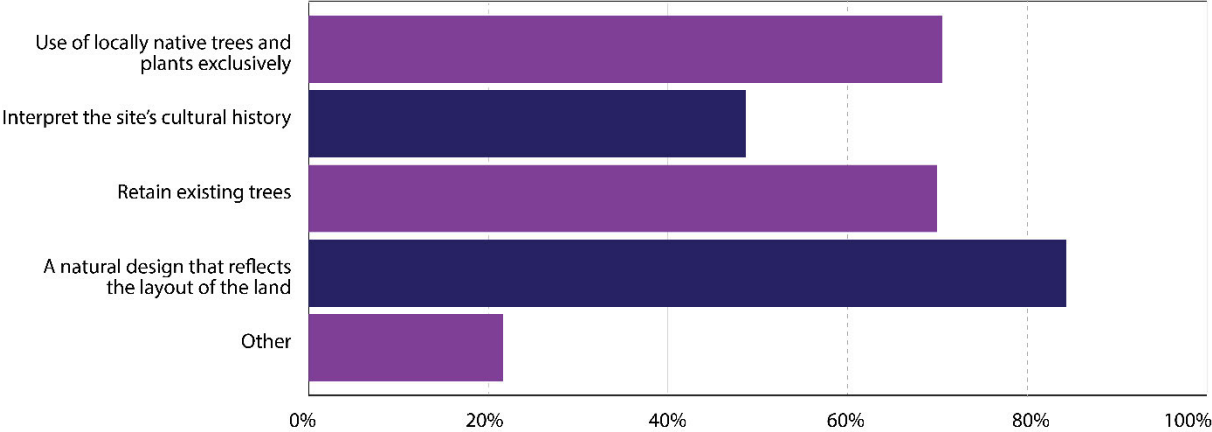
Responsiveness to place: the site and its cultural history

> Respondents agreed reflecting the existing natural site qualities and its cultural history is important (67%).

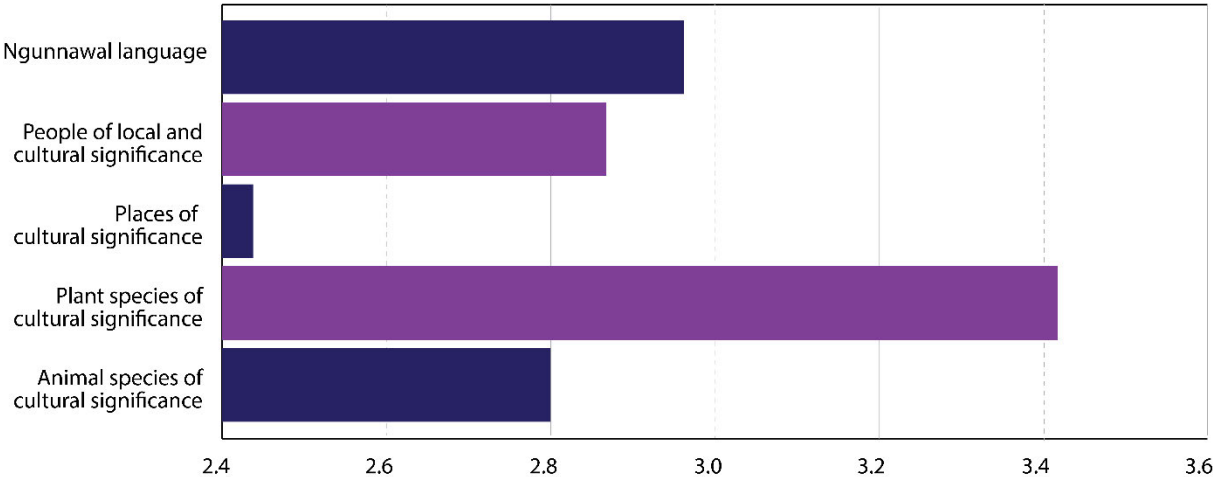


SOUTHERN MEMORIAL PARK MASTERPLAN REVIEW

- > A natural design that reflects the layout of the land, using local native plants and retaining existing trees was considered the most important characteristics of a bush cemetery for the bush capital.



- > Plant species of cultural significance was the most popular design theme for Southern Memorial Park.



6.3 ANALYSIS OF OPEN-ENDED QUESTIONS, EMAIL, POP-UP SESSIONS AND SUBMISSIONS

In addition to the responses to fixed choice questions outlined above, feedback was received through open ended questions in the survey, direct submissions, and pop-up sessions. Feedback was also received from both the Weston Creek and Tuggeranong Community Councils in the form of formal written submissions.

Approximately 320 respondents provided feedback through these avenues. In total there were over 540 pieces of feedback (data points). Percentages noted in this analysis are a percent of these data points.

The insights below represent the most common themes raised across all feedback channels.

Achieve a balance between recreational amenities and the reflective, peaceful quality of a cemetery.

9% of the responses support SMP including recreational amenities and the park having a community focus. This included comments such as:

- It should be a park that also functions as a cemetery/crematorium, not the other way around.
- Maintained gardens/ playground/ family gathering areas to encourage family groups to spend time.

7% of respondents preferred it to be more traditional with only peaceful and reflective spaces.

- It is a place of reflection, peace, beauty to be with nature.
- Nothing that distracts from its purpose or disrespects the people that are coming there to mourn their loved ones.

The PSP for Stage 1 proposes a balance of recreational activity areas and reflective spaces. Each burial area has its own native garden retreat space, or spaces, providing a setting for contemplation, rest, or small gatherings for celebration. Recreational activities are proposed further away from the burial areas or adjacent to central amenities.

Being responsive to the local ecology, natural systems and the climate is important.

17% of the respondents are concerned about the local environment with key themes in the written feedback focused on wildlife, the existing natural environment and use of recycled water.

- Keeping open the western and southwestern boundaries of the Southern Memorial Park to allow unimpeded wildlife access are a must to preserve the Southern Wildlife Corridor as a functional unit.
- Retain existing trees.
- Plantings at the proposed cemetery should preferentially be of a fire-retardant nature.
- Water catchment planning including reed beds and natural drainage systems.
- Clever water collection and recycled water should be considered.

Retaining natural vegetation, ecology and drainage systems are incorporated in the Masterplan. This includes retaining wildlife corridors, incorporating water sensitive urban design and water harvesting for use on the site. Stage 1 has less existing natural vegetation and a natural bush setting will be designed and established as part of the landscape infrastructure.

Different treatments are proposed for Stage 1 traditional burial areas to include some conventional lawn and others with gravels and meadow planting. Harvested water is proposed to irrigate the conventional lawn areas.

An environmental management plan to guide ongoing management and maintenance of SMP is proposed. This will identify land custodians, land managers and leaseholder respective responsibilities for vegetation, ecological areas, weed control, bushfire, fences, trails, and animals.

However over 40% of respondents believe there should be a mix of native and exotic plants to ensure there is good shade throughout as well as a mix of colour. There was strong support for large deciduous trees evident in the feedback.

There is opportunity to plant deciduous trees along the entry road to the central visitor facility and in some of the memorial gardens.

Site selection

Most people who provided comment were not concerned with the location and believed the perceived negative impacts of the nearby Mugga Lane Waste Management Centre could be overcome through careful design. However, 15% of respondents expressed their concern about the impacts of traffic noise and smell due to the proximity of Mugga Lane Resource Management Centre.

Cemeteries and crematoria require specific land zoning and their location carefully considered as they can never be moved. Various locations were investigated as part of the development of the 2012 draft Masterplan and the site off Long Gully Road and Mugga Lane was found to be most appropriate due to its size, zoning, access and proximity to existing facilities. This decision was supported by community consultation undertaken in 2009.

The SMP site is located well to the south of the current Mugga Lane Waste Management Centre and is buffered by a large, grassed south facing mound. More protection will be afforded by the significant landscaping proposed to screen the site.

Other opportunities to minimise possible impacts of odours, noise and traffic have also been considered in the Masterplan and for Stage 1 design. These will continue to be investigated and reflected in the next, more detailed stage of SMP design.

Support for amenities associated with the cemetery.

13% of responses focused on providing facilities and amenities. 30% of these responses are concerned with ensuring the paths are easy and safe for people to navigate and there is adequate accessible car parking.

Responses also requested additional amenities such as vase washing taps, protection from the elements, accessibility for those who are vision and mobility impaired, as well as providing wayfinding signage.

Details of facilities and amenities that enhance the visitor experience will be carefully planned in the next phase of design. Access will be designed to comply with the Australian Standards and Disability Discrimination Act to enable access for as many people as possible.

There is strong support for natural burials and a preference to see natural burials in Stage 1.

11% are supportive of natural burials. Feedback received made mention of more sustainable and environmentally friendly means of disposing of human bodies as well as more affordable and

aesthetic options. There was some uncertainty expressed as to why natural burials were not included in the first stage of the development.

While the Gungahlin Cemetery natural burial area is undersubscribed, it is clear this choice of interment is gaining support in the community. Community feedback has shown a preference for incorporating natural burials and the plans for SMP Stage 1 will be revised to reflect this. It is expected up to 120 natural burial plots will be provided in Stage 1 SMP with features to be developed after site specific investigations are undertaken to further inform the detailed design phase.

Provide for a diverse range of religious, and cultural beliefs, with an awareness of the natural setting.

9% of responses are about specific cultural and religious burial rituals and portions. There was support for SMP to cater for all cultures, beliefs, and burial traditions.

- Be inclusive of all cultures and their burial traditions.
- We need to cater for all our diverse nationalities and beliefs.
- With the population on the Southern area of Canberra growing, this Park will be a welcomed addition to the already existing facilities.

SMP has been designed to be welcoming and inclusive. The design is flexible enough to allow each faith group to practice their specific rituals. Faith groups will be able to apply for their designated areas. A burial area for First Nations People will also be considered.

Other areas of feedback

Support for the crematorium but concern about the impact to air quality from its operations (5%).

More detailed investigations into establishing a crematorium will be undertaken as Stage 2 SMP detailed design is developed. This includes for possible impacts on air quality and air dispersion. A quantitative air dispersion modelling for the crematorium will be prepared for the Development Application submission. The crematorium will also need Environmental Protection Authority approval and comply with regulated standards.

Upgrading Mugga Lane and Long Gully Road to make it safe (4%)

Safety of Mugga Lane users has been considered in designing the main vehicular entry into SMP. The SMP entry will be on Mugga Lane approximately 700 metres south-east of the congested Mugga Lane and Long Gully Road intersection. This entry will be signalised, with auxiliary slip lanes added to enable funeral traffic and SMP visitors to move safely out of fast traffic lanes and into SMP.

Specific technical and safety requirements will be further developed at detailed design for the SMP. The broader road network issues raised are complex and will require separate and dedicated investigation and resolution

Cost of funerals and burial is a community concern (4%)

These comments will be referred to Canberra Memorial Parks, the Authority responsible for cemetery operations.

People are worried about security (4%)

These comments will be referred to Canberra Memorial Parks, the Authority responsible for cemetery operations.

The rules of entry will be similar to Gungahlin Cemetery. All the vehicular entry points will be gated. An automated gate on the public entry road that will allow vehicle access from 7:30am to dusk every day. The site will be unfenced to maintain the existing wildlife corridors through the site. A combination of dense tree planting, swales and berms will deter vehicular access along the site boundary.

Access via Public Transport needs to be addressed (2%)

These comments will be referred to Transport Canberra.

Timing of delivery for SMP given population growth and lack of options for the southside (2%)

The proposed SMP development staging is based on current availability of space for natural and traditional burials in Gungahlin and Woden cemeteries, anticipated need, and time required for development and environmental approvals of future stages.

Sustainability options being considered for SMP in line with ACT Government targets (2%)

Opportunities for more innovation will be explored during the next phases of design.

Acknowledging First Nations People (2%)

Preliminary discussions were held with representative from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body (ATSIEB) and the Registered Aboriginal Organisations. These conversations will be continued in the development of the Masterplan and the next phases of design to ensure recognition of First Nations People's spiritual connection to the land and appropriate management of culturally significant heritage.

7. NEXT STEPS

Community feedback has been gathered through this engagement to inform future planning and management of Southern Memorial Park.

In considering this feedback, the ACT Government will reflect upon initiatives and improvements that can be made in Stage 1 whilst identifying initiatives that require longer term planning or a more significant investment of funds.

Southern Memorial Park - have your say!

The initial masterplan for the future Southern Memorial Park was prepared in 2012. We have now reviewed and updated the masterplan. The future site will be located on Mugga Lane in Hume. It will be a full-service cemetery that will meet the diverse needs of the entire ACT community.

Key features of the masterplan include a variety of burial and memorial areas; a main visitor facility with function rooms, a café, florist as well as housing the crematorium; and landscaping that is consistent with the native surroundings.

Before you fill out the survey, take a look at the masterplan as well as the other documents in the Document Library.



Next

Naming themes for the Southern Memorial Park

There are various areas of the memorial park that will need to be named, including roads, buildings, the function rooms and the gardens. We want you to tell us which of the below you feel most strongly about.

Please prioritise each of the below into the right column with the theme you feel strongest about at the top.

Ngunnawal language	
People of local and cultural significance	
Places of cultural significance	
Plant species of cultural significance	
Animal species of cultural significance	

Principle 1: High quality visitor experience

How important is a high-quality visitor experience to you?

Not at all important Very important

What elements will help create a high-quality visitor experience?

Please drag the below options into the right column in order of importance to you.

<p>Well maintained landscape</p> <p>Easy car parking</p> <p>Public transport to the cemetery</p> <p>Cycle paths</p> <p>Public art</p> <p>Memorial halls and function halls</p> <p>Cafe and florist</p> <p>Paths</p> <p>Crematorium</p>	
--	--

Please detail below any additional element/s you think would help create a high-quality visitor experience:

[Previous](#) [Next](#)

Principle 2: Engaging with community

How important is engaging with the community to you?

Not at all important Very important [Reset](#)

As part of a commitment to encourage the local community to use the Southern Memorial Park, which kind of recreational activities would you like to see incorporated?

Please select as many as you would like.

- Nature play
- Equestrian trail
- Walking trail
- Pump track within nature play
- Mountain bike trail
- Picnic area
- Interpretation of local First Nation heritage and cultural
- Café
- Public toilets
- Other (please specify)

[Previous](#) [Next](#)

Principle 3: Responsiveness to Place - the site and its cultural history

How important is reflecting the chosen site and its cultural history to you?

Not at all important Very important [Reset](#)

What elements are important to create a 'Bush Cemetery' for the 'Bush Capital'?

Please select as many as you would like.

- Use of locally native trees and plants exclusively
- Interpret the site's cultural history
- Retain existing trees
- A natural design that reflects the layout of the land
- Other (please specify)

[Previous](#) [Next](#)

Principle 4: Developing a memorial park for the future

How important is developing a memorial park for the future to you?

Not at all important  Very important [Reset](#)

Which of the different proposed facilities and amenities will suit your personal interment rites and traditions?

Please select as many as you would like.

- Small memorial hall (50 people)
- Large memorial hall (200 people) with additional overflow space
- Courtyard
- Small function hall (50 people) and large function hall (200 people) that can be combined into one large space (250 people)
- Outdoor chapel
- Outdoor amphitheatre
- Crematorium with viewing room
- Traditional burial areas – memorial, and lawn graves
- Natural burial
- Memorial gardens for ashes
- First Nations People burial area
- Specific cultural and religious burial areas
- Other (please specify)

If you selected 'Specific cultural and religious burial areas' in the previous question, please provide more details.

If you did not make this selection in the previous question, please skip this question.

[Previous](#) [Next](#)

Principle 5: Restoring the natural landscape and showcasing sustainability

How important is restoring the natural landscape and showcasing sustainability to you?

Not at all important Very important [Reset](#)

How do you believe this could best be achieved?

Please drag the below options into the right column from most achievable to least achievable.

<p>Restore and enhance the natural waterways</p> <p>Build drought tolerance by using native plants</p> <p>Reduce the amount of lawn used in the burial areas</p> <p>Incorporate water sensitive urban design (WSUD) across the site</p> <p>Protect existing threatened local native vegetation and ecological communities that are on the site</p> <p>Maintaining wildlife corridors through the site</p>	
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Please detail below any additional element/s you think would help in restoring the natural landscape and showcasing sustainability?

[Previous](#) [Next](#)

General feedback

Do you have any general feedback you'd like to provide about the revised masterplan for the future Southern Memorial Park?

[Previous](#) [Next](#)

Demographic information

Please tell us a little bit about yourself to help us in ensuring we are capturing feedback from a significant cross-section of the Canberra community.

In which region of Canberra do you reside?

What is your age?

- 0-10
- 11-20
- 21-30
- 31-40
- 41-50
- 51-60
- 61-70
- 71-80
- 81+

Which of the following best describes the age of those living in your household?

Please select as many as apply to your household.

- 0-10
- 11-20
- 21-30
- 31-40
- 41-50
- 51-60
- 61-70
- 71-80
- 81+

If you would like to be kept updated on this project, please provide your email.

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ACT
Government

TRANSPORT CANBERRA AND CITY SERVICES
DECEMBER 2021



SOUTHERN MEMORIAL PARK

REPORT ON WHAT WE HEARD

The ACT Government is building a new cemetery for the southside to meet the needs of our growing city.

We recognise as our city grows it also becomes more culturally diverse so we need to provide cemetery and crematoria services which all Canberrans can access. A draft masterplan was prepared in 2012 and in 2021 we completed work to revise and update the masterplan and prepare concept designs for the first stage of construction works.

Key features of the masterplan include:

- a bush cemetery for the bush capital
- a high quality and welcoming visitor experience
- flexibility to enable different faith and cultural groups to practice their specific rituals
- interment in three broad categories: 'traditional' lawn and monumental burials, 'natural' burials which is an emerging trend and a memorial garden for ashes
- botanical gardens with a focus on drought tolerant local native plants.

We want to create a public space that goes beyond its immediate objective and creates a space that families, friends and loved ones can gather, share memories and build community.

THE CONVERSATION

Online survey

A YourSay page went live on Wednesday 14 April 2021 containing the revised masterplan and the design for the first stage of works. An online YourSay survey was open during the consultation period from Wednesday 14 April until Monday 7 June 2021 for the local community to provide feedback on what elements should be prioritised in the design as well as how we should name the various spaces within the Southern Memorial Park.

Members of the local community also provided feedback via email.

Six pop-up sessions were held in Weston Creek, Woden and Tuggeranong

Members of the project team and Canberra Memorial Parks were in attendance to talk through the masterplan and designs for the first stage of works with the community and answer any questions they had. Two pop-up sessions were held in each region throughout May and June 2021.

We also presented to the Tuggeranong Community Council on Tuesday 1 June 2021.



WHO WE ENGAGED

Feedback was received from a range of stakeholders including local businesses, community groups and residents.

Around 100 key stakeholders were invited to provide feedback via a targeted email, including community councils and organisations in the surrounding regions. To ensure a diverse cross section of the community was able to provide feedback, pop-up sessions were held in Tuggeranong, Woden and Weston Creek, with over 230 attendees recorded across six sessions in three locations.

Around 56% of respondents were over the age of 50 with 56% also identifying as being from the Tuggeranong region*.

*Note: only 119 respondents provided information about their age and only 93 provided location data.

Key insights from the community

Naming Conventions

1. In ranking the options for naming conventions, 'plant species of cultural significance' was the preferred option.
2. There was also strong support for naming conventions to follow 'animal species of cultural significance.'

Visitor Experience

3. A well-maintained landscape was the primary consideration for respondents in creating a high-quality visitor experience.
4. Feedback displayed a strong preference for easy car parking to maintain a high-quality visitor experience.
5. There is strong support for quality paths to ensure ease of access across the Southern Memorial Park.

Recreational Facilities

6. The feedback highlights a consistent theme of **quality recreational facilities** to ensure the area is usable for a variety of recreational purposes.
7. Public toilets in Southern Memorial Park were ranked as the most desired facility.
8. Walking trails and picnic areas were ranked as the second and third most desired facilities.

Creating a 'bush cemetery'

9. There is strong support for a natural design which complements the layout of the land.
10. Feedback displayed a preference to use existing trees and use only locally native plants and trees.
11. Strong support also exists for the inclusion of memorial gardens for ashes and natural burials.

WHAT'S NEXT?

Feedback received will be used in future phases of design work for the Southern Memorial Park.

Updates will continue to be provided via the YourSay page. If you have any questions about this project or would like to be kept updated on its progress, please email communityengagement@act.gov.au.



Key Timings

30 March to 29 May 2009: Consultation undertaken by the ACT Cemeteries Authority on a proposed future southern cemetery. This process identified Mugga Lane as the preferred option.

2012: Draft Southern Memorial Park Masterplan released.

December 2019: Work starts to revise the 2012 Masterplan.

February to September 2020: Investigations carried out including cultural heritage and ecological assessments, geotechnical investigations and traffic studies.

September 2020 to March 2021: Engagement sessions held with faith groups and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander representatives.

14 April 2021: Revised Masterplan and stage one designs released for community consultation.

7 June 2021: Consultation closes.

October 2021: Funding is provided in the 2021-22 ACT Budget to progress detailed design for stage one.

December 2021: What We Heard report released to the community. [We are here]

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FEEDBACK

1,500+

We reached 1,541 people via YourSay

6

We held six pop-ups across Tuggeranong, Woden and Weston Creek

122

We received 122 completed surveys

11

We received 11 written submissions, including from two community councils.

100+

We sent emails to over 100 key stakeholders

7,000+

We reached 7,771 people on social media with an 8.8% engagement rate

230

We spoke to 230 individuals at our pop-ups

1

We presented to the Tuggeranong Community Council.