

COMMUNICATIONS

Community Consultation Report

Dog off-leash proposal – Kingsford

06 November 2023

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1. Summary

Randwick City Council is proposing to permit owners exercise their dogs off-leash at Kensington Rotary Reserve on the corner of Leonard Ave and Gardeners Road in Kingsford.

The following report outlines the consultation program undertaken to determine the level of community support for the proposal.

The Your Say Randwick webpage had 935 visits and 155 engagements: 137 survey responses and 18 submissions.

The survey findings indicate strong support for the proposal to permit dogs off-leash in the reserve, with 81% of respondents showing support. The majority of survey respondents do not currently use the reserve but indicated they would use it for exercising their dogs off-leash if the proposal is approved. Of the 94 survey takers who own a dog, 69% are in favour of allowing dogs off-leash in the reserve. There was also majority support for allowing dogs off-leash by non-dog owners.

Despite the substantial support for the proposal, some survey respondents expressed concerns about the proximity of the off-leash dog park to the busy Gardeners Road, insufficient fencing, and the reserve's limited size.

2. Community engagement strategy

2.1. Background

As stated in Randwick Council's *Open Space and Recreation Strategy*, Council promises to undertake an investigation on the introduction of fenced off-leash dog facilities and identify off-leash dog areas for suburbs with greater than 25% high density dwellings including South Coogee, Kensington and Kingsford and one beach location (limited hours).

Randwick City Council is proposing to permit owners exercise their dogs off-leash at Kensington Rotary Reserve on the corner of Leonard Ave and Gardeners Road in Kingsford.

At the 18 October 2022 Council meeting resolved that Council:

- a) *considers the proposal to create off-leash dog facilities at Kensington Rotary Reserve and Emily McCarthy Park, South Coogee following public consultation on these sites*
- b) *awaits the results of the report before proceeding further with this option*

With no designated off-leash parks in Kensington and Kingsford, Council has identified Kensington Rotary Reserve as a potential location for dogs to exercise off-leash. The park offers natural shade, seating, easy access, and is mostly enclosed.

2.2. Objectives

- Determine the level of community support to allow dogs to be exercised off-leash at Kensington Rotary Reserve, Kingsford
- Identify potential users of the off-leash park and how they would travel to access the park

2.3. Consultation period

The consultation was open for 4 weeks from 3 October to 31 October 2023.

The project was assessed as having a lower-level local area impact.

IAP2 Consultation level: Involve

We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.

2.4. Consultation activities

Community engagement activities undertaken:

- Dedicated consultation website to take a survey
- Flyer to all households surrounding the reserve
- Letter to the resident immediately adjacent to the reserve
- Posters on site
- Email to Your Say subscribers: 3 October 2023
- Randwick News (weekly email): Listed every week during consultation period
- Social media: Instagram 5 October 2023 and Facebook 23 October 2023
- Email to all Randwick City Precincts
- Digital display screens at Randwick City libraries, Des Renford Aquatic Centre and Customer Service Centre
- Listing on Randwick City Council's *Current Consultations* webpage
- Councillor notification

3. Consultation outcomes

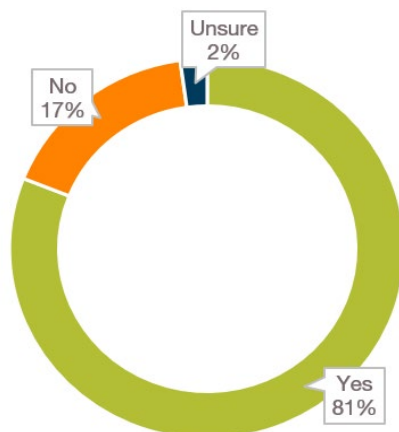
The consultation was open from 3 October 31 October 2023.

During this time, the consultation generated:

- 935 visits to the Your Say Randwick website
- 137 survey responses
- 18 submissions

3.1. Survey results

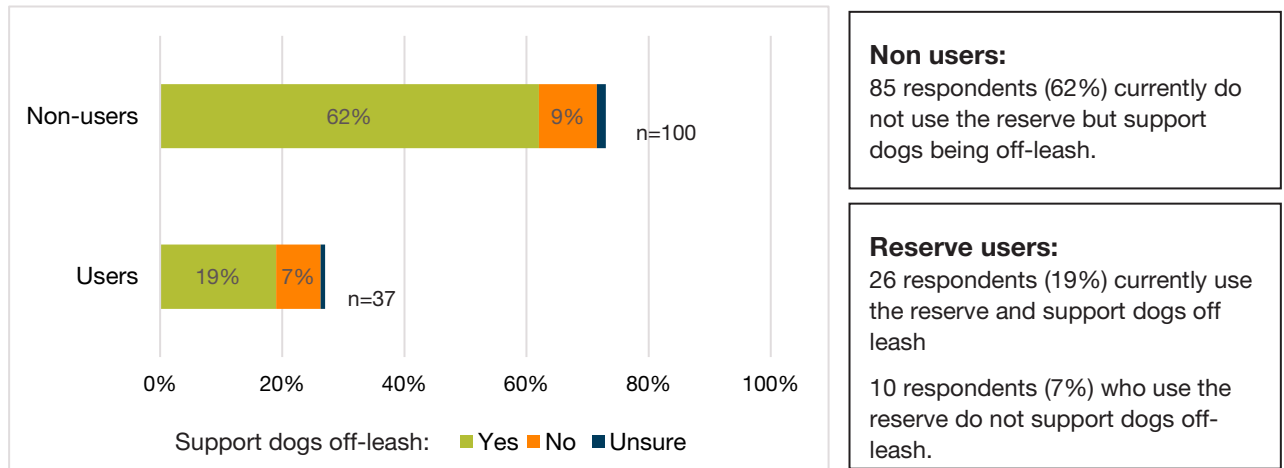
3.1.1. Overall attitudes to dogs off-leash at Kensington Rotary Reserve



111 (81%) out of 137 respondents support dogs off-leash at Kensington Rotary Reserve.

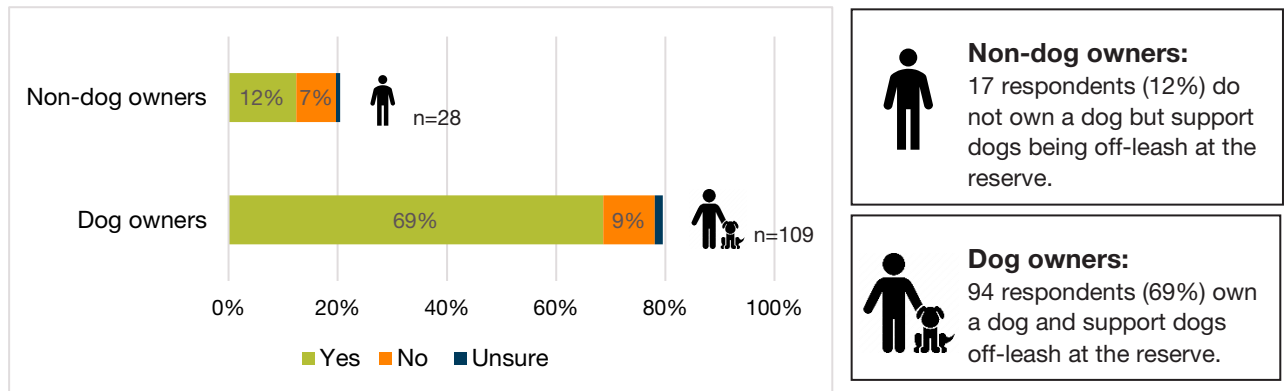
Graph 1: Data sourced from survey question "Do you support dogs off-leash?" (all respondents)

3.1.2. Attitudes of visitors and non-visitors to the reserve



Graph 2: Data sourced from survey questions “Do you support dogs off-leash?” and “Do you currently visit Kensington Rotary Reserve?”

3.1.3. Attitudes of dog owners and non-dog owners



Graph 3: Data sourced from survey questions “Do you support dogs off-leash?” and “Do you currently own a dog?”

1.1.1. Park usage

The 37 respondents who indicated they currently use Kensington Rotary Reserve were asked to describe how they use the reserve.



Graph 4: Data sourced from survey question “How do you use the reserve?” (n=37).

‘Other’ reasons stated: Picnics, walking, kids play (1 response each).

1.1.2. Off-leash park usage and access

The 109 respondents who indicated they own a dog were asked how likely they are to use Kensington Rotary Reserve if it becomes off-leash and how they would travel to the reserve.



70 (65%) dog owners would use the park
(n=108)



38 dog owners would walk to the park

38 dog owners would drive to the park
(n=76)

3.1.4. Comments

92 comments were received. The key themes from the comments include:

1. Safety concerns - safety of having an off-leash dog park in Kensington Rotary Reserve due to its proximity to a busy road (Gardeners Road)
2. Park size and enclosure - the park is too small to accommodate off-leash dogs effectively, and need proper fencing to ensure the safety of the dogs
3. Alternative locations – suggest other locations such as Kensington Oval
4. Fencing and separation - calls for separate areas within off-leash parks for different dog sizes and fully fenced areas to prevent dogs running onto the road
5. More off-leash parks - desire for more off-leash dog parks within Randwick City to meet the demands of dog owners in the area
6. Dog beach – requests for an off-leash dog beach during specific hours
7. Existing off-leash parks - need proper maintenance of existing off-leash parks
8. Responsible dog ownership - Concerns are responsible dog ownership and leash laws; safety of dogs and children
9. Lack of consultation - more input from dog owners to determine suitable locations for off-leash parks.

Those who support dogs off-leash in the reserve support of the idea of creating more off-leash dog areas in Randwick, particularly in the Kensington and Kingsford areas. They emphasise the need for fencing to prevent dogs running onto busy roads. Requests for more off-leash options in Randwick City.

Those who do not support dogs off-leash in the reserve are concerned about the park's small size, its proximity to a busy road, its potential impact on children and families, and the need for a fully enclosed area for off-leash dogs.

See Appendix A for all comments.

3.2. Submissions

18 submissions were received during the consultation period. Key themes from the submissions include:

- The location – suggestions that the location is not suitable due to the park's small size, proximity to a busy road, lack of proper fencing, potential for vegetation destruction, and the impact on nearby residents.
- Fencing - emphasise the importance of proper fencing for off-leash dog areas to ensure safety for dogs and park users.

- Suggestions for alternate locations: propose alternative locations for off-leash dog areas, including beaches, rock platforms, and unused parks, and time restrictions to accommodate other park users.
- Expansion of off-leash areas: some suggest expanding existing areas like Paine Reserve and creating new off-leash areas in parks and beaches; need to consider safety and suitability.

See Appendix A for all submissions.

3.3. Social Media



Facebook posts:

Date	Reach	Engagement rate*	Reactions
23 Oct 2023	14,196	9.95%	116 likes



Instagram:

Date	Reach	Engagement rate*	Likes
4 Oct 2023	3,672	3.79%	120

*Engagement rate refers to any action taken on the post (such as reactions, comments, shares, photo views or clicking on a link). Most social media marketing experts agree that a good engagement rate is between 1% and 5%.



Randwick City Council
 23 October at 14:19 · 🌐

We're looking at creating two more off-leash parks - one in South Coogee and one in Kingsford. We want you to have your say! Would you use these locations? Would you be happy with off-leash dogs in these areas? Have your say here: <https://www.yoursay.randwick.nsw.gov.au/>





83

68 comments · 6 shares



Laura Sanders

We need off leash dog BEACHES 🐕 🐕 ***

Like

Reply

1 w



31

[View all 4 replies](#)



Top fan

Lana Dyer

a decision on dogs allowed at yarra bay has been supposedly discussed for years by council but never an outcome , somewhere safe for owners and dogs can't be so hard,

Like

Reply

1 w



5

[View all 2 replies](#)



Jimmy Mac

How about western part of Yarra beach ***

Like

Reply

1 w



20



Kathryn Bennett

I've submitted the forms!
Definitely more off leash parks please.
And fully fenced that are designed for dogs to play. There are no fully fenced parks in Randwick.

Like

Reply

1 w



21

[View all 4 replies](#)



Klaus Savdie

its a poor location to park a car and access park. Dont agree with it ***

Like

Reply

1 w

Edited





Amanda Isenberg

Does that mean all the owners of dogs that are off leash in places they shouldn't be will start doing the right thing?

Like

Reply

1 w



7

[View 1 reply](#)



Amy Rutstein

Baker park which is already an off the leash park. Desperately needs the right fencing for the dogs.

Like

Reply

1 w



2



Top fan

Erich Violet

The Maroubra Beach area near the skateboard park would be a good, easy, start. Add fences and a proper 'training area' with basic obstacles. Harvey and Sandy happy to discuss.

Like

Reply

1 w



[View 1 reply](#)



Tonio Sergio

As much as I love dogs make sure the poo 🐕 gets picked up ***

Like

Reply

1 w





Amy Li

I vote for the lower half of the Coast Hospital Memorial Park. Can we vote on a proposed location, or are we just being told?
Who comes up with these proposed locations?
Are they just the undesirable available green spaces that aren't suitable to become yet another playground?

Like

Reply

1 w



Community Consultation Report

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 **Lana Dyer** Top fan
la perouse far nothern side of beach , some where for dogs to swim with owners or walk off leash plenty of area , huge long beach out of the way from public and dog haters . Some where safe for dogs and owners .

Like Reply 1 w 5

 **Peter Bishop**
Charge a fee to cover the cost of these dog parks, user pays. Rate payers shouldn't pick up the tab so people in apartments can own dogs. More parks for children Australia needs more children than it needs more dogs.

Like Reply 1 w 6

↳ View all 11 replies

 **Peter Bishop**
Come to think 😊 more dog parks would be okay as long as the council start to strictly policing the off leash dogs. The fines can go towards funding the parks. 🙌

Like Reply 1 w 2

 **Ben Smith**
I will send some forms in with my thoughts
But how about dog beaches? Between certain hours!
You can't tell me people leave the beaches clean
I read that bondi beach rangers are gona start fineing people because they dare to tread on their sacred beach,that is very poor form from the stuck up council

Like Reply 1 w 2

 **Judi Satumba**
In hospital with 14 gig bites as we speak. Off the lease can cause problems ...

Like Reply 1 w

↳ View all 9 replies

 **Therese Glasson Cubitt**
Fiona De Rosa is a professional consultant who has designed many dog area for public spaces.
<https://www.facebook.com/BalancingActAdelaide?mibextid=LQQJ4d>
If we are going to add more dog friendly areas do it right .
Her top 10 tips are simple and worth checking out .
Randwick Definitely need more off lead areas



Balancing Act Adelaide - pet friendly planning

Like Reply 1 w 5

 **Kim Eberhard**
Too hard to register in order to have a say. Have lived in Randwick city for 51 years; I'd like to vote yes for more off leash fog areas but you're making it too hard for me to do so.

Like Reply 1 d

 **Leya Paraggio**
Make Cromwell park an off leash and fence it. You can then have a direct path for all the lost people who try to exit the upper headland walk and join the lower one and have to ask for directions and still look lost.

Like Reply 1 w Edited 5

↳ View all 5 replies

 **Jay Tan**
All for dog parks but don't lock out the fishers from beaches please. ...

Like Reply 1 w



4. Communications material



Image: Flyer



Image: Poster

A. Submissions and comments

	Submission
1	Many thanks for looking after the needs of dog owners and calling for new off-leash parks. Of the two new proposals, the Kensington site is not suitable as it's too close to a very busy main road. It's a recipe for accidents with bad consequences for humans and dogs. In a separate matter, you should change Maroubra's designated dog park to Muraborrah. No one uses Broadarrow because it's not safe. At all times, it's best to think of the animals' safety first.
2	I don't have a dog although as a previous owner My opinion is NO! As a disabled 88 yr old my opinion is definitely NO off leash.
3	Consultation format: By separating the consultation into two different surveys (Emily McCarthy Park and Kensington Rotary Reserve) it feels like you are purposely being difficult and trying to make it harder for dog owners to provide comment on the same idea just different locations. That is on top of recently asking for feedback about taking away one of two off-leash dog parks in the Maroubra area, Broadarrow Reserve - to make into a car park over summer. I would like to know if plan to do any meaningful consultation with dog owners directly - you have a database of everyone who has registered a dog in the area, why not utilize this and ask their opinions on the location of off-leash dog parks and requirements of those parks. Format of off-leash dog parks: I find it madness that majority of the off-leash dog parks have no proper fencing - more for delineation rather than containment e.g. Broadarrow Reserve is boarded by a very busy road and is unsafe to have younger dogs off-leash there. Or you have them on the outskirts of sports fields saying dogs are not allowed on the playing fields - which is challenging with any age of dog, but also makes the areas surrounding the pitches unusable when sports are happening because you cannot have a dog off-leash and not expect it to want to play with the balls on the pitch! It just feels like dog parks are not thought through well enough, or not designed by people who own dogs, and as I said before it definitely does not feel like you have consulted with dog owners about what they want or where they really need them. I would love to see the comparison studies of total land area given over to off-leash dog parks in comparison to children's playgrounds. You would also look at family demographics of young children in the area verses number of dogs registered. I think you will find you are completely under catering to the dog owners in the LGA. I would love to see off-leash dog areas on rock platforms, beaches before 7am, parks that have good fencing and are not really used by people other than dog owners, e.g. Muraborah Reserve. Lack of facilities for Maroubra: Currently there are 14 listed off-leash dog parks in the Randwick LGA. If you live in the area from the corner of Avoca Street and Holmes Street, with a line drawn directly out to the coast (Edgecliff Avenue, South Coogee) and follow the coast all the way down to Pioneers Park and use Anzac Parade as the western boundary that is an area of 3.79km² - 10% of the total LGA area (36.34km²). You are asking all those dog owners to use 3 off-leash dog parks - Coral Sea Park, Broadarrow Reserve and Pioneers Park. Of which you are currently taking away Broadarrow Reserve for a car park!!! And the other two are areas that are around sports fields! I hope you are listening to your residents when they say 'if you take away one off-leash dog park please provide us with another in the near vicinity'. I would love to see Muraborah Reserve made into an off-leash dog park - it has good fencing, it is mainly used by people as a thorough-fair rather than any sports, and would be a perfect off-leash dog park. I have noticed your renewed vigor in putting up signs saying dogs are prohibited and have been

	Submission
	told that Rangers have been given express instructions to fine anyone with dogs off lead, and yet you do not seem to be doing anything proactive to support dog owners, well especially in the Maroubra area. I find Randwick LGA an increasingly frustrating place to live with all these no-go zones for dog owners and am disappointed with how little you engage with this subgroup of your community - you definitely make us feel like we are not important or not heard. I hope you take this feedback under serious consideration and I look forward to hearing some active strategies that will try to address my concerns.
4	Good idea
5	Having off leash parks is a good idea. However, the parks where dogs are supposed to be on leash should be patrolled at least once in a while during peak use times. e.g. Randwick Environment Park. The sign is so small - dog owners cannot be blamed for not knowing it is not an off-leash park.
6	If you bring in more off-leash Dog Parks in the council area, then please can you include signs which clearly ask dog owners that if their dog approaches other people and those people request they call their dog away from them, that they must immediately call their dog away from people who don't want the dog near them. I wish to stress, I am Not requesting they put their dog back on the leash. They may keep their dog off-leash. I only wish the areas include signs which state dogs must keep away from other park users who want to be left alone. I hope this is reasonable.
7	Re The Off Leash dog park.What we really need is an off leash beach area, this was mentioned about a year ago and havn't heard anything since. May I suggest either the far south end of Maroubra Beach,, or Gordons Bay. Both easily partitioned from general public, all it needs are a few signs, a rubbish bin and a poo bag dispenser.
8	Writing to support the Dog Off-leash proposal for Kensington and South Coogee. Could the council also please consider: - Paine reserve extending the existing fence on Rainbow street. No need to fully enclosed Paine. But extend to the playground and toilet block. - Dog beach section. Even for selected hours e.g. 6pm to 7am
9	I think Kensington Rotary Reserve Park is much much too small for Off Leash dogs. Dogs off leash need space to run freely & chase & run after balls etc. The park needs screen fences on Gardeners Rd especially & Leonard Ave. I live nearby & always have a dog but have seen over the years dogs going up the slope of this Rotary Park onto very busy Gardeners Rd. This is why locals do not use this park as it is too dangerous. Unless the park is FULLY fenced, I do not think it is suitable as off leash, also the area is much too small. Suggest section of Kensington Oval park turned into Off Leash
10	I am writing to express my concerns about the proposed off-leash dog area at Kensington Rotary Reserve. While I appreciate efforts to provide suitable spaces for our four-legged companions, I firmly believe that the current proposal is not only impractical but also poses significant challenges that may negatively impact both the community and the environment. My concerns regarding the proposed off-leash dog area at Kensington Rotary Reserve are as follows:

	Submission
	Inadequate Size: The proposed area appears to be too small to accommodate the needs of dog owners and their pets adequately. A larger space is essential to ensure that dogs can exercise and socialize without overcrowding issues. Proximity to Major Road: Placing an off-leash dog area next to a major road raises serious safety concerns for both dogs and their owners. The proximity to traffic poses a risk of accidents and may result in undesirable situations. Lack of Fencing: The absence of proper fencing in the reserve is a significant safety issue. A fenced area is crucial to prevent dogs from wandering onto the road or into other potentially dangerous areas. Vegetation Destruction: The destruction of the limited vegetation in the reserve will undoubtedly be detrimental to all who use the reserve, the natural environment should be a priority when considering locations for off-leash dog areas. Impact on Residents: Residents living directly next to the reserve may find the increased activity and noise from an off-leash dog area to be disruptive and unpleasant. It is essential to consider the well-being of all community members. Considering these concerns, I propose an outside area of Kensington Oval be explored as a more suitable location for an off-leash dog area. This larger space, if appropriately designated and managed, could provide a safer and more enjoyable environment for both dogs and their owners. Additionally, implementing time restrictions, if necessary, could address any potential conflicts with other uses of the oval. I urge the council to reconsider the proposed location at Kensington Rotary Reserve and actively involve the community in the decision-making process. The well-being of our community, the safety of our pets, and the preservation of our natural spaces are of utmost importance. I appreciate your attention to this matter and look forward to a thoughtful reconsideration of the proposed off-leash dog area location.
11	I would like to see these areas fenced so the dogs can play
12	I believe it is a great idea to use the Rotary Park as an off leash Dog park. I rarely see people in the park and it will be good to see the area put to good use. I often wonder why such an area was not provided within Kensington Park when it was revamped a few years ago. There are many dog lovers in this area so I hope this proposal proceeds
13	It is very important that we have more Off Leash Parks for dogs to be exercised and socialised however those on main roads, as this park is, unless fenced in can be dangerous to the animals health as they can run out on the road chasing a ball etc. I hope that these comments are helpful and taken into consideration. Carol
14	Hi I agree with the proposal, I would also like to see the Muraborah Reserve designated as an off leash park as it is much safer than the current off leash park in Maroubra.
15	I am writing to make my concerns felt about the proposed Off Dog Leash park at the Kensington Rotary Park, Kingsford. I live adjacent to the park and there are a number of points that I would like to make to show this is not a suitable park for off leash dogs. 1.The Size. The park measures approx 30 metres x 20 metres. Compare this to where most people are walking their dogs at Kensington Oval. The oval is approx 150 metres x 150 metres. How all these dogs will fit in a small area is beyond me. I witnessed a man bring his Great Danes to this park for about 3 weeks in the afternoons and the grass was churned up to such an extent that when we had a wet period the ground turned to mud. I don't think people will like to put their muddy dogs in their car. 2 Access. There is no parking near the park as there is at Kensington Oval, so if people want to drive to this park, good luck with getting a spot. You will notice a boom gate at the front of the

	Submission
	park, this is to allow access to Sydney Water to carry out any maintenance work to the storm water canal which runs on the Eastern side of the park. If you fence this park off, you will need to consider having a gate, big enough to get a truck in. They also need access 24/7 in case of emergencies. 3. Practicality. You will need to fence this park securely as there is a 6 lane road right next to the park. We had our dog in the park one day, it got spooked by something, and ran up the hill onto Gardeners Road and was hit and killed by a car. Imagine having 20 or 30 dogs in this small space with a major road 10 metres away. I am not against Off leash parks, but this one that happens to be near my home, is not suitable. I would be happy to meet any staff from your Council at the park and point these out first hand.
16	I would like to say that Kensington and Kingsford need an off leash dog park desperately as these 2 suburbs have an abundance of dogs. The proposed sight of Kensington Rotary park is a bit ridiculous as it's very small, next to gardeners Rd and is a known drug deal/using space. It's unsafe and undesirable. Most people don't let their children anywhere near it so I would not let my dog either. Kensington oval is perfect and all dogs are friendly who visit the park. It's only a handful of anti social and hermits who object to dogs being around. Everyone got pets during CoVid lockdown and now they have no where to play for people like myself who don't drive.
17	Just wanted to say it is always good to trial a dog park, but it would be nice to have a bin so dog owners could place their dog poo bags into the bin rather than along my fence which sits along the park border. So far 5 poo bags have been removed and put on my bin.
18	Please note we are strongly in favour of a dog off leash area. Thank you for pursuing this change.

	Comments
1	Great idea!
2	Can we have access to one of our beaches - early morning and late afternoon/evening?
3	The park is currently not fully closed in. It would have to become fenced to become useful for most dog owners. As it's right next to the busy Gardeners Road, there would be a high risk of dogs getting on the road and causing accidents otherwise.
4	We would only use an off-lead area if it was fully enclosed. I don't feel safe letting my dog off the lead if it is not enclosed.
5	So the park can be used by all rate payers, there should be certain days / times allocated for dogs to be off their handlers leash. Although rare, but certainly becoming more frequent, dog attacks should not be a concern for people on our streets or parks.
6	It would be good to have a dog park in Kenington, located in an area where people don't normally visit. Currently, dog owners use Kensington Park. Most dogs are relatively well-behaved but it is generally not great for other community members due to irresponsible owners who don't pick up dog poop and let their dogs run wild, aggressive dogs who want to lunge at passersby, and the general stress of having to constantly watch out for dogs while exercising.
7	Based on other parks in my area including off and on leash parks and worst dogs not permitted, it tends to be the case that dog owners lose control of their dogs. Dog owners let their dogs dig holes in parks, not every dog owner cleans after their dog (I constantly find dog faeces in parks). It becomes difficult to play or have children to share the park with. I love dogs and used to have 2 growing up but I find most dog owners In Sydney do not train their dogs well. I propose a park with an enclosed section for dogs where dogs can play and exercise off leash. Rangers need to visit these areas more often to ensure dog owners do not breach the relevant sections of the Companion Animals Act 1998.

	Comments
8	I grew up in WA which has numerous off lease dog beaches. Please consider making this a permanent option at Yarra Bay or Little Bay, La Perouse etc. Even if it is for set hours only early morning and late afternoon. It would be fantastic to have this as an option as opposed to more dog parks
9	Please increase off lead dog park areas, having fully fenced dog parks would also be a bonus, there is a great one called Sir Joseph Banks park, off lead dog area, we need something like this in Randwick. The dogs absolutely love it there, and as its fully fenced the dogs are safe as well as other users of the park not being disturbed.
10	Can the council consider putting in an area for small dogs off leash? Similar to New York, where you have fenced off areas for medium to large dogs and a designated area for smaller dog breeds.
11	For people with dogs who don't have transport, Kensington and Kingsford are woefully poorly served by off-leash dog areas.
12	This initiative feels like it is trying to introduce something to make council look good to distract from the fact that the council still hasn't installed lighting in any of Kingsford's back streets, removed virtually any of the graffiti or installed safety cameras. The council is prioritising dogs over humans when they know that many of the vulnerable folks don't feel safe walking around at night and the money that should be spent on safety is being spent on making dog parks.
13	Kensington oval would be better option as it is away from busy roads
14	Off leash dog parks are good social spaces for humans as well as dogs as long as people clean up any dog poo. I often walk my daughter's dog who lives in Kensington and I live in Kingsford (Both property owners)
15	The 2 proposed parks are small and don't service the huge number of dogs in the area. Dogs live to run. How are these 2 tiny parks going to solve that? What about beach access, facilities, dog wash and water play?
16	Other than your proposed Gardeners Road/Leonard Avenue Kingsford off-leash proposal, can you please consider a Kensington location too. I do not feel comfortable South of Kensington Oval towards Gardeners Rd if I were at a park by myself. There are many small parks in Kensington that could accommodate off leash companion dogs in Kensington.
17	Other parks in Kensington and Kingsford are unsuitable for offleash dogs, particularly Kensington oval. Kensington oval is heavily used for illegally offleash dogs. Randwick council administration of offleash dog restrictions in Kensington is very insufficient and ineffective, causing members of my family, people with disabilities and frail aged people to be unable to use local parks, particularly Kensington oval, due to offleash dogs overtaking the park. I request much more enforcement by Randwick Council of offleash dog restrictions in Kensington and Kingsford on a permanent ongoing basis.
18	We also need an off leash beach - e.g. Yarra which could be used during specific hours.
19	Seriously you have to be having a laugh. Have heard some good ideas from council this is not one of them. Area far too small for off leash not to mention a couple meters from an unfenced three lane extremely busy road. Vegetation inside the reserve will end being absolutely destroyed. This reserve is not the answer to Randwick councils abysmal record of providing an off leash area for dogs in the Kingsford Kensington area. Restricted times should be made available at a suitable area on the outside of Kensington oval's surrounds. The suggested Rotary Reserve is nowhere near adequate and is far too small as well as dangerous being next to a main arterial road with thousands of vehicles travelling along is an accident waiting to happen. Council should seriously can this proposal and look elsewhere.

	Comments
20	I just feel all dogs should be on a lead when outside their home.
21	Great incentive - hope there are more off-leash parks to come.
22	I would be supportive of the Reserve becoming leash-free so long as it does not become secondary to Kensington Oval that is currently not leash-free and used by dog owners. Council will need to police this matter so that two parks do not become leash-free areas for dogs, albeit one is not designated as leash-free. Council also needs to be more vigilant and issue infringement notices to those who continue to flout the rules applied to Kensington Oval.
23	Firstly, I think this consultation is wholly inadequate that you are consulting on two new proposed off-leash dog parks but separate them up into two questionnaires - are you purposely being difficult and trying to make it harder for dog owners to provide comment on the same idea just different locations? Secondly I think this park is so small it seems extremely tokenistic to create this into an off-leash dog park. I am not opposed to this new park, I just wish you would make more parks off-lease in other areas of the LGA. Below I have repeated what I have said in the other survey because I would like my opinion heard! Currently there are 14 listed off-leash dog parks in the Randwick LGA. If you live in the area from the corner of Avoca Street and Holmes Street, with a line drawn directly out to the coast (Edgecliff Avenue, South Coogee) and follow the coast all the way down to Pioneers Park and use Anzac Parade as the western boundary that is an area of 3.79km² - 10% of the total LGA area (36.34km²). You are asking all those dog owners to use 3 off-leash dog parks - Coral Sea Park, Broadarrow Reserve and Pioneers Park. Of which you are currently taking away Broadarrow Reserve for a car park!!! I hope you are listening to your residents when they say 'if you take away one off-leash dog park please provide us with another in the near vicinity, e.g. Muraborah Reserve. I would like to know if you actually do any meaningful consultation with dog owners themselves - you have a database of everyone who has registered a dog in the area, why not utilize this and ask their opinions on the location of off-leash dog parks and requirements. I find it madness that majority of the off-leash dog parks have no proper fencing - more for delineation rather than containment e.g. Broadarrow Reserve is boarded by a very busy road and is unsafe to have younger dogs off-leash there. Or you have them on the outskirts of sports fields saying dogs are not allowed on the playing fields - which is challenging with any age of dog, but also makes the areas surrounding the pitches unusable when sports are happening because you cannot have a dog off-leash and not expect it to want to play with the balls on the pitch! It just feels like dog parks are not thought through well enough, or not designed by people who own dogs, and as I said before it definitely does not feel like you have consulted with dog owners about what they want or where they really need them. I would love to see the comparison studies of total land area given over to off-leash dog parks in comparison to children's playgrounds. You would also look at family demographics of young children in the area verses number of dogs registered. I think you will find you are completely under catering to the dog owners in the LGA. I would love to see off-leash dog areas on rock platforms, beaches before 7am, parks that have good fencing and are not really used by people other than dog owners. I find Randwick LGA an increasingly frustrating place to live with all these no-go zones for dog owners and am disappointed with how little you engage with this subgroup of your community.
24	Any dog park needs secure fencing so dogs can't run off outside the park.

	Comments
25	Residents need somewhere to exercise their dogs. No one uses this park so it's ideal
26	With dog parks only 400m (Astrolabe Park) and 500m away (Paine Reserve), it seems unnecessary to add another. If so, it should be a long, narrow, aesthetically enclosed section only, with lovely plantings at the edges, so people can enjoy this small park undisturbed if they don't want dogs racing and jumping on them.
27	We need a dog-friendly beach!
28	Before we cater even more for dog owners, can we have some effective education across the LGA generally about dogs off leash being illegal and dangerous - almost every mauled child's face is accompanied by the dumbest comment any dog owner can make - "It's the first time". No dog is exempt - even the miniature rat like impressions purchased during covid. There must be acknowledgement across the dog owning community about the obvious danger, even cuddly poodle whists, of dogs off leash anywhere, before further facilities are granted. And we don't need to hear the comment 'it's because there are not enough facilities' - even on the way to off leash parks, some owners feel it's ok to have them off leash.
29	Please make it fenced!!
30	I do walk past the Reserve now and then and have never seen any person there. Having said that, there maybe some people living very close to the reserve that do use it and/or would be disturbed by dogs barking, which is quite common when DOGS see/play with other dogs. Before a decision is made, the residents close to the reserve should be informed through letter drop with a chance to have their say. Further, if going ahead I suggest the hours should be restricted 7am-7pm, and perhaps from 8 am on Sundays. I live in Kingsford.
31	An off-leash beach within Randwick City Council would also be beneficial for dogs and their owners
32	As it borders Gardiner's road it will need to be fenced.
33	This is a terrible location for a dog park. It is TINY and not suitable as it's next to a busy road, not fully enclosed, is always full of rubbish and weeds, and is frankly dangerous as the fencing around the water duct has too many gaps to stop smaller dogs from running through, and it has only one entrance so if a dog feels threatened by another dog it could be difficult to exit the park safely with no other exits, which could lead to fights and injury of dogs and/or humans. I will not be bringing my dogs there and I am disgusted by this proposal, it is an insult to local dog owners who want a safe space to play with their dogs. I would prefer if you make Kensington park oval dog-friendly for designated times (early mornings & evenings) or designate another larger space with multiple possible entries/exits and safer grounds.
34	As Gardeners Road is so busy and the proximity of the water canal at the rear of the park, good fences would have to be a part of the off leash park. I support Randwick Council providing off leash areas for local dog owners.
35	It needs to be separated into small dogs and large dogs. Large dogs are quite territorial. Needs to be gated so the dogs don't run onto the road
36	I fully support making this park off-leash for dogs. Off-leash dog parks are important infrastructure and we don't have enough of them in Randwick City. This is a good choice of park to allow dogs to be off-leash. At first I was concerned about safety of the dogs near Gardeners Rd but I think with the slope of the land it's safe enough.
37	Please urgently consider more off leash areas in Randwick Council. It is currently a sore state of affairs with dog owners and their needs being neglected. In addition- how many businesses in Randwick Council are flourishing because of dog owners!

	Comments
	Turn your attention to Maroubra, Matraville and Malabar!! We need to breathe with our dogs off leash!
38	This is a fantastic idea!!!! Yay!!! Please make sure it's 100% fenced in as it's so close to the main road. It will keep everyone's dogs off the oval too lol
39	I think it's important to have an off leash dog park in the Kingsford/Kensington area
40	Should be fenced, risk of dogs running onto Gardener's road.
41	I would love to have a dog park within walking distance
42	My observations of the problems with off leash dog parks is 3 fold: 1. People who are scared of dogs at all times and who therefore make irrational responses. 2. Irresponsible owners who cannot or do not control their dogs. This includes a minority of thuggish men and women who see their dog as a weapon. Of course this is illegal but it is neither policed nor enforced. 3. Commercial dog walkers who rarely pick up the poo of the animals under their control and are frequently seen flouting the 4 dog/person ratio.
43	Randwick council area has many fewer off lead dog parks than other councils. We need many more.
44	Great idea, and I know my small cavoodle would love to meet other dogs while being free to roam leash-free. However this would only be possible if the area was fully fenced with no possibility for small dogs to sneak out.
45	We need fenced off walking areas, for elderly with dogs, disabled people with dogs and puppies learning how to play and come back to owners. Botany council has 4 fenced dog parks!
46	Whist additional dog parks are welcome, this does not address the fact that there are no designated dog beaches in the Randwick Council area, which is a disappointment given the long coastline. I recommend this is considered in addition to the two additional dog parks.
47	I go there early in the morning and have never seen anyone else there. However, the grass is so full of bindies that I can only use the park with my dog during the winter months. I went there recently and already it's already unusable as he gets bindies in his paws so refuses to walk on the grass there. It would be great if it became a legit dog park, as the park is very underutilized. I have never seen anyone else in that park in the last 3 years I have lived in Kensington! I live about 20 mins walk from the reserve. We normally walk to the reserve, play a bit, then walk home.
48	This is a completely unsuitable location for an off-leash dog park for two reasons in particular: 1) It is too small. There are far too many dog owners nearby for an area of this size to accommodate, and concentrating many dogs in a small area leads to more aggression and fights between dogs. 2) It is unsafe. The reserve is used by drug addicts from nearby social housing and paraphernalia such as needles have been seen lying on the ground there in the past which, needless to say, is a hazard to children and adults alike (in addition to the risk of abuse and physical harm from drug users). The best solution is to have timed off-leash access to Kensington Oval, this is available and works successfully at similar ovals in other council areas.
49	I'm planning to get a dog and this would be very helpful!
50	I use Snape park
51	More dog off leash areas are much needed in Randwick Municipality
52	I think an off-leash dog park would be great. I always see people using the oval in Kensington Park as an off-leash park so clearly there is a pretty big need for it.

	Comments
53	Small dogs of a maximum weight such as 15kg should only be allowed because of the modest size of the park and heavy use would not allow the grass to regenerate, especially since the park is shaded. Designating the park as an off leash area for small dogs would allow small dog breeds to play safely without the threat of being bullied or injured by larger dog breeds. Larger dogs can use Astrolabe Park which is across Gardeners Road.
54	We have a very nervous and timid Greyhound we take to this park. We take him because it is quiet and usually no other dogs so he can roam around on leash at his leisure
55	Kensington Rotary Reserve is an unsafe area for dogs! Balls will go into canal. Too small an area. Unsafe fencing as some dogs may escape onto Gardeners Rd. Area between lower part of Kensington oval and Barker street would be better if fenced as a Dog Park. Please don't waste our rates on Kensington Rotary Reserve option!! There is a large Dog off leash area at Astrolabe Park.
56	I think adding another off leash park is a step in the right direction. However Randwick Council has a LOT of work to do to support and serve its community. In comparison below is a list of the number of off leash parks pertaining to neighbouring council areas: City of Sydney (27km) 50 off leash parks Woollahra (12kms) 11 off leash parks Waverley (9.4kms) 9 off leash parks *average 1 off leash park per km In STARK contrast Randwick (36km) only 14 off leash parks. ONLY 14!!! How miserable. I am a Kensington resident and have a senior dog with mobility issues. Kensington Rotary is of no use to me or my elderly neighbours who also have older dogs. Myself and other community members have been asking Randwick Council to make Kokoda Park in Kensington off leash for some time now. We have corresponded with Phillipa Veitch and I spoke personally with Andrew Hay at the Kingsford meet up a few weeks ago about our current concerns. Kokoda Park is surrounded by pet friendly apartments. There are many elderly residents with senior dogs who need access to an offleash park at their doorstep not a car ride away. And if you don't own a car, then what? Whilst it is great that you are considering Kensington Rotary Reserve to be off leash. That area is surrounded more by houses with backyards and therefore those residents do not have such a need for an off leash park. People who live in apartments with their pets are the ones who need off leash parks. I have been told that Randwick Council considers Kokoda a children's park. Why can't it be both? There is a fenced off playground (just like Queens Park). Kids are in school from 9am to 3pm Monday to Friday and the park is empty. The park should serve all members of our community. It seems that City of Sydney is more in touch with the needs of their residents than Randwick Council.
57	My dog is big and that reserve is small so not big enough to throw a ball and give my dog a big run. We need something like Astrolabe or bring able to use Kensington oval.
58	This is a small reserve that is not conveniently located. It is near a very busy road and has a desolate feel. There are no amenities that would make this area desirable. Kensington oval is the obvious choice and should be consider suitable for off leash during certain hours ie 5-7pm.
59	It is not clear if the off-leash area would be fenced. I would only use it with my dog if it was. If possible, it would be great to have 2 separate areas (as seen at the Kirrawee Dog Park), so that smaller &/or less boisterous dogs could play in one area, and more energetic &/or larger dogs could play in the other. Thank you for considering my comments.

	Comments
60	I believe that the reserve is completely unsuitable as an off leash dog park. It is too small, too close to a main road, below road level confined by high banks and the canal. For the same reasons it is not suitable for use by children, it is not suitable for dog owners and families with their dogs. It is simply not good enough for either purpose. It has been under utilised for any decent purpose and converting it to a dog park will not remediate any of its obvious problems. Please act on the advice of the local dog owners on this issue and give us a dog park we can use.
61	Kensington Oval would be more Suitable as a venue for Off Leash Dog area. It is currently being used as one, whether Council Support this or not. I full support the use of Kensington Oval as a Off Leash Dog Area. (Provided it is not being use as a Training ground on the day.
62	The park is to small for dogs of the leash
63	The more off leash parks our area has, the better.
64	Kensington Rotary Reserve is too far for me to walk to. I live close to Kokoda Park and would like to see this made an off leash park. There are no off leash parks within walking distance for me and my small dog. There are many units in my area, and many more are under construction, including huge high rise buildings. There are and will be many dog owners in these apartments, with no access to a garden, (unlike the people living near Kensington Rotary Reserve). There are other elderly and disabled people like myself unable to walk to Centennial Park. I would ask that you make Kokoda Park an off leash park, even if it is in a specific time frame.
65	This is a family park that attracts young children. Unleashed dogs is inappropriate. Although I am a dog owner, there are open spaces in Centennial Park and a smaller unused park in Kensington that is more appropriate. I have seen dogs scare, chase and bark at children at this Oval and therefore, cannot in all good conscience advocate this as an unleashed dog space. It is wrong. An idea that should be redirected to an unused park without children's facilities.
66	Area is very small to share with off leash dogs. Its adjacent to a main road so dangerous. Parking is limited in Leonard Ave as it is.
67	The park is currently not a very nice space - it gets a lot of noise from Gardeners Road, it can flood at times, its often got rubbish there, and I have even seen a syringe there before (was it used by drug users?), and its generally just not very loved. This location would need investment in fencing and other things if its to be a positive place to spend time. A much better location would be at Kensington Park - consider making the main park available to responsible dog owners when it's not used for organised sport, or at particular hours of the day perhaps. Another option would be to fence off part of the outer (not playing field) park and make it available for off lease use.
68	More off leash areas are needed!! thank you. Please add water tap to any improvements if possible.
69	I support making all parks off leash before 8 am and after 6 pm.
70	This is an excellent idea and good place for a dog park.
71	I am EXTREMELY concerned about Broadarrow Reserve potential becoming a car park over summer period - if we lose that off-leash dog park, there will not be any practical off leash dog parks within the vicinity. Coral Sea Park is taken over by sport training / games during the year and there is not enough room for the dogs to run around. Pioneer Park is too far away to walk to for the residents of Maroubra, as is Nagle Park for eastern Maroubra residents. Further to the north, Coogee has 4 off lead dog parks - much too far and populated. We need more off lead dog parks in Maroubra. Hence, I propose Muraborah Reserve to become an off-leash dog park. It is perfect for dogs

	Comments
	being off leash. It is enclosed, plenty of space and it does not get used for any other activities - it is basically a thoroughfare for people getting to Maroubra Beach.
72	Make Kensington Oval offleash in summer and in winter after sports training finishes
73	Great idea. Thank you.
74	We have concerns about using the reserve for an off-leash dog area. The park is very small, and located next to busy Gardeners Road and a large stormwater channel. As a result, there are safety concerns for both dogs and young children who would be using this area. The park is also close to a large existing off-leash dog park at Astrolabe Park in Daceyville (Bayside Council) which is already used by residents with dogs in Kingsford. In short, we do not think that the establishment of an off-leash Park at this location would be an efficient use of council funds.
75	My only concern is that it's very close to an arterial road into randwick. I know it's on a lower elevation but you never know with dogs
76	It is dangerous for children and dogs to be off lead next to such a busy road. It is also too small. Too close to astrolabe. Pointless.
77	This park is a very poor choice for an off leash dog park. It is very small. It is next to a main road and is quite dark a lot of the time. Also a lot of large dogs tend to already use Astrolabe park and could potentially end up here also. If it is to have any chance of actually being used then it must be completely enclosed with an adequate fence so that dogs can not run out and onto Gardeners Rd to die. Seriously don't even bother unless it is completely enclosed. Why not use the North West corner of Kensington Park - no one uses this part of the park, it is much nicer, larger and more central to all the dog owners. Build an enclosure and make this corner useful.
78	We need more off leash dog parks in Randwick Council. One in Kensington is also much needed.
79	This park looks extremely small. I would not go with my dog on or off leash. Maroubra needs an adequately sized off-leash dog park that is not surrounded by busy roads / used as a car park in Summer.
80	Having previously been bitten by a local Dog - I have serious concerns as to the danger of having dogs off the leash - I would not feel safe visiting the park or it's surrounds
81	Need more parks that allow dogs
82	Brilliant idea!
83	Perhaps a size guide for dogs who use the off leash park could be implemented. Often big dogs take over and owners of small dogs are reluctant to share the space for safety concerns.
84	The reserve is very small. It would be great if Kensington Oval instead could have some regular off leash dog hours rather than fining people for using it that way which is what currently happens.
85	It would be great to revitalise the park and have more options to exercise dogs in the area. Fencing should be considered due to the small size of the park and busy road nearby for safety.
86	Is an absolutely tiny park, so completely useless as a dog park as the dogs can't give themselves enough personal space. Park is way too small even to throw a ball for the dog. What an insult to suggest this as a dog park. Make Kokoda Park in Kensington an off leash park!!! There are none in Kensington.
87	Let's find an unused, run down tiny park on a 6 lane major road and allow off leash dogs and NO fence and see what happens....seriously. There are no redeeming features at this location. It's beyond ridiculous to put dogs off lead there. It's noisy, access is poor, I did not even know that is part of the area. It would take me an hour plus to walk there at least, one way.

	Comments
	Isn't it about putting things where people can have easy access, not use the car, this forgotten park must be on the outskirts of the Randwick area. I have emailed several times for suggested fully fenced dog parks that can coexist within other park facilities, just call me, I can take you on a tour of places that are central to all, multi use already, good access, bright, safe and welcoming.... Heffron, Latham, Coral sea , Snape, Sth or North Maroubra parks...heaps....here's one I walk past nearly every day and the only thing ever using it are the Ibis....South Maroubra Village Green, such a valuable piece of green space goes begging...
88	We need more off leash dog parks in Randwick CC area especially beach areas.
89	I live on Leonard Avenue and this park is too small for dogs and too close to residential homes. Gardeners Rd is dangerous and off leash dogs have been hit and killed by cars here before. Nearby Astrolobe park is used every day by paid dog walkers who walk up to 8 dogs per person that are unleashed,. There is no need for this park to be dominated by unleashed dogs and owners how already do not collect their dog's mess. There are not enough bins and this park already is a haven for drug dealing and grafitti along the canal. As local residents we have collected and disposed of needles many times. The park needs attention from council but this is not a good idea.
90	We really need more off leash options in the south end of randwick LGA for better quality of life for dogs (especially big and rescue dogs) and their owners
91	This area may be a good one to consider a fully fenced area for dogs to run safely in. Considering it is on busy Gardeners Road and there is no such facility in the Randwick Municipality.
92	Can we have an official dog beach please? Even if it is only before 8am and after 5pm. Thanks.

