



## 2011 RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION INC.

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### **Committee**

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Kathleen Ng  
Senior Project Manager  
City Projects  
City of Sydney  
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Dear Ms Ng,

The 2011 Residents' Association (2011RA) is making a submission to the City of Sydney on the proposals for the upgrade of Fitzroy Gardens and Lawrence Hargrave Reserve.

The key points of our submission are:

- Of the three options for Fitzroy Gardens, we prefer Design Approach A over Design Approaches B and C
- Of the two options presented for Lawrence Hargrave Reserve, we prefer Design Approach A over Design Approach B
- We do not support the change in Fitzroy Gardens from a mixed paved/grassed area to a predominantly grassed area, nor moving the trees in Fitzroy Gardens
- We support the playground in Fitzroy Gardens being extended towards Macleay St, and for a children's playground to be established in Lawrence Hargrave Reserve
- We support Lawrence Hargrave Reserve being a multi-use area

### **Fitzroy Gardens**

We partially support the Emerging Design Principles, in particular the following principles:

- *enhance safety and comfort, day and night,*
- *improve access and circulation,*
- *increase the sense of space and sense of place, and*

- *emphasise and improve the garden aspects of the park.*

However, we are unsure about the remaining design principles:

- *emphasise and improve the green aspects of the park* – as greatly enlarging the grassy area changes the nature of the Gardens from its current combination paved / grassed area to emphasise more grass. This is a change in the nature of the Gardens the community support for which we are unsure of
- *reduce steps, walls and barriers* – we are unsure about this as these elements can help emphasise individual areas with their own character in the Gardens
- *reinforce El Alamein Fountain as a focal point* – while the El Alamein Fountain is a much loved element of the Gardens, it is unclear whether it needs to be further reinforced given its current prominence

All of the Design Approaches incorporate a great deal more grass than there currently is in Fitzroy Gardens. We are unclear about the reason for this and support Fitzroy Gardens retaining its existing mixed paved/grassed character.

We support the children's playground being extended – perhaps doubled in size.

It is unclear from the Plan for Design Approach A what happens to the convict wall in Fitzroy Gardens.

### **Lawrence Hargrave Reserve**

We support the Emerging Design Principles for Lawrence Hargrave Reserve.

Of the two options presented, we prefer Design Approach A as it supports a greater range of activities taking place than does Design Approach B. Establishing a basketball-style court on the greater part of the eastern part of the Reserve could alienate that part of the Reserve from other uses.

We agree that it would be beneficial to improve safety and perceptions of safety in the Reserve. One way to do this may be to improve sight lines from Elizabeth Bay Rd through the Reserve. Another way may be to activate the space more than it currently is.

Some residents support installing soccer and/or cricket nets to facilitate the activity of older children.

We support having picnic areas and children's play areas.

We are undecided about whether the area near Elizabeth Bay Rd should be ungrassed.

One matter that may be relevant is that the Reserve is a dog off-leash area and that this may interact with having a children's playground in the Reserve.

The upgrade of Fitzroy Gardens and Lawrence Hargrave Reserve should be informed by the experience of the upgrade of Beare Park, Elizabeth Bay. We understand that local residents of the area have noted a number of elements in the upgrade of Beare Park that could be improved upon.

Kind regards

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