Draft Master Plan Stakeholder and Community Engagement summary report

The Oxley Creek Transformation draft Master Plan was publicly released by Lord Mayor Graham Quirk on 26 April 2018. The announcement was followed by a four-week community engagement program, which included a range of face-to-face and online engagement activities. The engagement activities aimed to promote awareness of the draft Master Plan and to encourage residents to have their say on the ideas, strategies and projects proposed in the draft Master Plan.

Promotion of the draft Master Plan and associated engagement activities included a postcard mailout to 28,571 households across 20 suburbs within proximity to the Oxley Creek Transformation study area as well as advertisements in local newspapers, displays at libraries, and engagement with local primary schools through a colouring competition.

Oxley Creek Transformation also attended 17 face-to-face events, including:
- a key stakeholder drop-in session
- tree planting events
- presentations to schools, P&C Committees, environmental groups and neighbourhood watch groups
- Information Kiosks at local events and in areas of concentrated pedestrian movement, in the suburbs of Sherwood, Rocklea, Heathwood, Acacia Ridge, Corinda and Oxley.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>17 face-to-face engagement activities were held</th>
<th>354 online surveys received</th>
<th>57 written submissions received</th>
<th>8,308 web page views</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Over 110 customers visited us at our engagement events</td>
<td>28 representatives formed the Master Plan Reference Group</td>
<td>89.5% overall support for the draft Master Plan</td>
<td>1,259 draft Master Plan documents downloaded from the website</td>
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Online Surveys

The community was also invited to provide their feedback online via two surveys. The online surveys sought community feedback on targeted questions about the draft Master Plan.

A summary of the survey feedback included:

- positive support for the draft Master Plan, with 89.5% of respondents in overall agreement
• support and interest for the Strategic Ideas, in particular:
  o The Greenway
  o Oxley Creek Common Bird Sanctuary
  o Multipurpose Regional Sport Recreation and Event Centre
  o Archerfield Wetlands Parkland and Interpretive Centre
  o Nature-based Adventure Parkland
  o Strategic Corridor Restoration Plan
  o Oxley Creek Adventure Hub
• positive support for the six Priority Projects, which form the foundations of the Oxley Creek Transformation project, with 87% of respondents in agreement.
Key Feedback Themes

Community feedback received through the engagement program identified key themes which required further consideration in the final Master Plan:

- catering for people of all abilities
- conceptual mapping that was interpreted as impacting residential properties within the study corridor or within the boundaries of Strategic Ideas
- potential conflicts between pedestrians and cyclists on The Greenway
- potential impacts to habitat areas and fauna corridors through the provision of additional movement corridors for people
- community concern with horse trails in sensitive habitat areas
- concern that there might be additional layers of planning control
- ensuring there would be consultation with members of the local community on priority project outcomes as detailed investigation work commenced
- creating additional recreation opportunities within the corridor
- greater emphasis on acknowledging and considering flooding constraints when planning new infrastructure and improvements in the corridor.

Addressing Key Feedback

The key feedback themes represent the main areas of community interest and concern. These feedback themes were considered through the process of finalising the Master Plan.

Key Feedback Theme: Provision of facilities for people of all abilities

While the draft Master Plan mentioned all abilities use, the community commented that they would like to see more facilities and consideration for people of all abilities.

The Master Plan has been updated to reinforce the importance of acknowledging all abilities use in the design of new parkland infrastructure and the development of future community activities.

Key Feedback Theme: Public and active travel linkages

The Master Plan discusses public and active travel linkages between the creek corridor, Brisbane River and surrounding suburbs. River-based transport options at the mouth of Oxley Creek may also be investigated as possible future additions to Council’s River Access Network.
**Key Feedback Theme: Concern over changes to private properties within the study corridor or within the boundaries of Strategic Ideas as marked on the maps**

Some of the diagrammatic lines and circles used in the maps within the draft Master Plan unintentionally suggested impacts to private property, in particular, residential properties.

The study corridor boundary lines have now been removed from all maps in the updated Master Plan document and the diagrammatic lassos and lines that depict Strategic Idea boundaries and alignments have been reduced in size and realigned to avoid residential and private properties where suitable. Diagrams and maps have been reviewed and updated to depict the intentions for the project.

**Key Feedback Theme: Concern over possible pedestrian and cycle conflicts on The Greenway**

The Greenway walking and cycling trail was identified by the community as one of the most popular Strategic Ideas. However, there were concerns that the potential speed and number of recreational and commuter cyclists may result in conflicts with pedestrians.

The Greenway Priority Project content has been updated to highlight that further investigation and planning will take place to consider separated paths for pedestrians and cyclists, particularly in areas of potential high use.

**Key Feedback Theme: Concern over The Greenway corridor dividing fauna habitat areas**

Members of the community raised concerns about The Greenway’s alignment and potential impacts with pockets of vegetation that provide habitats for specific types of fauna.

The Master Plan has been updated to reinforce the need to identify opportunities to improve habitats as well as, where achievable, separate fauna and human movement corridors. Detailed planning for The Greenway will include environmental studies to help determine its placement.

**Key Feedback Theme: Role of the Master Plan as it relates to Council’s wider planning instruments**

Some feedback suggested the community expected that the Master Plan would increase development regulation through the corridor, while others viewed the Master Plan as an additional layer of planning control.

The Master Plan clarifies that [Brisbane City Plan 2014](#) directs land use and development in Brisbane and that the Master Plan outcomes and initiatives are guided by its framework of policies and provisions.
Key Feedback Theme: Provision of additional recreation opportunities within the corridor
Feedback suggested that outcomes, particularly relating to Priority Projects, could provide additional recreation opportunities for residents. In particular, feedback suggested further community outcomes within Oxley Creek Common, including play grounds and outdoor gyms, and, outdoor spaces for events, dance, visual arts and drama.

In addition, feedback received suggested greater opportunities for off-road cycling would be welcomed.

Where suitable, updates have been made to Priority Projects to reflect the community feedback.

Further recreation facilities will be considered during detailed planning of Priority Projects and Strategic Ideas.

Key Feedback Theme: Horses and horse riding
Community feedback suggested support for horse riding trails within the corridor, however, feedback was also received that suggested the proposal as problematic.

Support for horse riding stemmed from the idea that the open space corridor should be used for a greater number of recreation pursuits. Concerns about horse riding focussed on issues such as the spread of weeds from horse manure, path damage, provision of car and horse trailer parking and conflicts with pedestrians on high pedestrian trafficked routes. The primary focus of concerns related to areas of the corridor north of Ipswich Road.

The Master Plan now offers a balanced approach to horse riding with proposed locations for riding trails focused in the southern section of the corridor, with links to a possible future equestrian centre at Pallara, and connections to possible future horse trails in the Karawatha corridor forest reserves.

Key Feedback Theme: Future community engagement and consultation
Feedback questioned whether the consultation and engagement undertaken through the master planning process would be the last opportunity to provide feedback towards some of the future projects and outcomes identified within the document.

The Project Delivery and Next Steps sections of the Master Plan now reinforce Oxley Creek Transformation’s commitment to ensure the community and stakeholders are informed, consulted and continue to have the opportunity to provide feedback and local knowledge on a range of future projects.
Key Feedback Theme: Adverse impacts on residential areas
Feedback raised some concern that promoting the corridor as a high-quality recreation destination could impact residential streets, in particular, relating to increase traffic and parking availability.

In response to these concerns, Creek Gateway outcomes at locations such as Cliveden Avenue, Corinda, have been scaled-back. These end-of-street residential gateways are now only identified as neighbourhood walking/cycling connections into the creek corridor for local residents.

Future promotion of corridor recreational activities will focus on locations such as Archerfield Wetlands and Oxley Creek Common as the major gateways into the creek corridor. Adequate facilities, such as parking and toilets, will be provided at these locations.

Key Feedback Theme: Worsening flood impacts on private property
Concerns were raised that new infrastructure delivered may worsen the impacts of flooding on private properties within the corridor and the wider catchment.

Updates have been made to the Strategies within the Master Plan to reinforce acknowledgement and consideration of the existing flooding constraints in planning the location of new flood resilient infrastructure and improvements.

Key Feedback Theme: Damage to parkland infrastructure during flood events
Feedback suggested that further detail was required to acknowledge and plan for potential damage to new parkland infrastructure caused by inevitable flood events.

Several of the Strategies within the Master Plan have been revised to provide more detail on flood resilient design, flood preparedness and planning for recovery.

Key Feedback Theme: Provision of space within the corridor for community lease facilities
A number of submissions requested that Oxley Creek Transformation make space available within the corridor for community lease facilities.

The concept plan for Oxley Creek Common has been revised to include a community lease facility area. This facility is earmarked for land uses and activities that are complementary to the site and corridor values, e.g. research facility, educational space, urban farm, native plant nursery, etc.
Targeted Stakeholder Consultation

The development of the draft Master Plan was informed through collaboration with external consultants, community engagement with identified key stakeholder groups and use of past and current technical studies. Advice and feedback was also sought from experts within Brisbane City Council.

The targeted key stakeholder engagement took place between October 2017 and April 2018. Meetings were held with stakeholders from 28 organisations who have connections to the Oxley Creek corridor. Our focus was to understand these stakeholders’ views, issues, aspirations and valuable local knowledge.

Master Plan Reference Group

A Master Plan Reference Group was formed with representatives from the key stakeholder groups. Participants included representatives from local bush care groups, schools, sport and recreation bodies, history groups and key land owners. Three meetings were held with the Reference Group to present ideas and gain feedback. The Reference Group were instrumental in helping guide the development of the draft Master Plan.

The high levels of community support received for the draft Master Plan were in part due to the participation of the reference group who worked with Oxley Creek Transformation to develop meaningful and appropriate goals, strategies and actions.