

TRUGANINA COMMUNITY CENTRE

(Interim name)

Community Engagement Summary Report - July 2021



PROJECT BACKGROUND

OUR APPROACH

We are using a community-led approach developed by the Centre for Community Child Health that seeks to improve the environments and experiences of residents in the communities in which they are born, live, learn and grow. First developed in 2005 as a tool to improve outcomes for children in the early years through service redevelopment, our approach is informed by evidence and over 15 years of experience applying the approach in communities across Australia.

METHOD

While engagement with the residents of Elements estate started in early 2019 through the involvement of council staff in community and council led activities and events, engagement with the community centre project started in mid-2020.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, most of the initial feedback about the community centre was collected remotely via email and phone calls with over 20 residents participating in the exercise.

As Covid-19 restrictions were eased, council staff were able to convene a small group of 6 residents for a photo shoot where further conversations were held, and feedback obtained. This was followed with two in-person Community Tables at Gilbee Road Playground and Picnic Area on Tuesday 9th March 2021 and Saturday 13th March 2021.

The Community tables were informal conversations with residents to raise awareness of the Elements Community Centre project and hear from diverse community members about ways Council can support them to fully participate in shaping the project. Seventeen people participated in these conversations and registered for an online community forum.

The forum was held via zoom on Saturday 1st May and Thursday 6th May. The forum explored what residents loved about their neighbourhood, what could be improved in the estate and resident aspirations for the community centre. Twenty residents, council staff and the architect participated in the conversation.

Approximately 50 residents of Elements Estate have directly engaged with the project and over 800 residents have been informed about the project via the resident's Facebook page.

A number of community conversations have and will continue to take place to understand communities hopes, dreams and aspirations for the new community centre. These conversations will also influence the design of the centre.

Using the community development approach, the focus will be on:

- Engage & Build
- Learn
- Act
- Review & Reflect

A number of engagement activities are planned to talk through the vision for this centre including:

- Community tables
- Community forums – to date two have been conducted online
- Influencing the Concept Co-design community workshops – two are planned for mid July 2021
- Community workshops – August 2021 – 2022



SUMMARY OF FEEDBACK

What is the reason for coming to the forum?

THEME	RESPONSES
To ensure the centre reflects needs of families, older people & the community.	8
To be involved and share my opinions.	8
Connect with my community.	8
(11 responses, 16 codes, 3 key themes)	

The main reason for coming to the forum was to ensure the community centre will reflect the needs of the community.

What is great about living or working in Truganina?

THEME	SUBTHEME	RESPONSES
The People	Culture and Diversity	2
	Innovation and skill in the community	2
	Authentic, friendly, passionate people	4
	Community connections, shared interests & values	8
	Total	16
The spaces and services	Open Spaces	2
	Proximity to city	2
	Easy to travel locally and train is close	8
	Total	12

(27 responses, 30 codes, 8 key themes)

The people, open spaces and proximity to the city were the key things that are great about living or working in Truganina.

- 'I know more neighbors now so it's great. We all want to help each other. People are more willing to help out'
- 'Positive environment with great potential'

What could be better?

THEME	SUBTHEME	RESPONSES
A central community centre	Playgroups, library and community garden	3
	A versatile and multifunctional space	3
	A place of gathering, sharing and culture	4
	Total	10
More facilities	Public Transport - additional train station, accessible options and times	5
	More accessible GP and MCH services	2
	Supermarket	1
	Total	8
Open space upgrades	Versatile open spaces with healthy lifestyle options (parks, bike paths, outdoor gym)	7
	Safety in public spaces	1
	Total	8

(22 responses, 26 codes, 3 themes)

The strongest themes about what could be better in Truganina was a central community centre, more facilities and open space upgrades.

- 'To have our own community centre'
- 'We want to have the same services as other communities'
- 'More facilities - lots of empty land'

“This community centre will be a safe, warm and enticing place where local people of all ages and backgrounds gather, connect and engage in community. It partners with local people to reflect, nurture and help sustain who the local community is and the services, activities and spaces it needs.”



What residents at Elements are passionate about (12 responses, 5 key themes)

1. A connected and welcoming neighbourhood – 'Community spaces for people of all ages to play, connect and share'
2. Civic engagement - Actively building a connected and welcoming community - having a community voice heard - 'Using the strengths of the community to work on projects that foster a strong sense of belonging and social ties within Wyndham'
3. Celebration and education of diverse cultures in the area and Aboriginal heritage
4. Amenities closer to home and community spaces
5. Education - early years, local culture and environmental conservation – 'Acknowledgement of, education about and respect for Aboriginal heritage, history and custodianship of the land'

What residents like most about their community neighbourhood (8 responses, 3 key themes)

1. Outdoor nature spaces and parks – 'The greenery - It is important to give a sense of green, trees, and calm to the neighborhood. We love the green spaces and parks, they have been beautifully executed'
2. Community spirit – 'The diversity of families within Wyndham makes it a really friendly, vibrant and opens up opportunities to learn and make friends with people from other'
3. Cultural diversity – 'The diversity of families within Wyndham makes it a really friendly, vibrant and opens up opportunities to learn and make friends with people from other cultures'



How the community centre can support, enhance & celebrate the uniqueness of the community & neighbourhood

THEME	RESPONSES
Space for multipurpose activities - indoor and outdoor	6
An accessible welcoming space, committed to supporting anyone that walks through the door	5
A place & space for volunteering and genuine engagement	2
Collaborative governance structure	1

(12 responses, 14 codes, 4 key themes)

Feedback indicated the community centre could be a multipurpose space that includes a wide variety of social and leisure activities such as chess, craft room, music lessons and social clubs. And a focus on early years programs including a toy library, Mums/Dads groups and playgroups.

Next steps

- Feb – Sept 2021 design workshops with a focus on:
 - Getting to know each other
 - Working together
 - Hearing community story
 - Creating a vision and
 - Planning for the future
- Construction Jan 2022 – December 2023
- Operational Late 2023 / early 2024

Contact us

Questions or if you want to learn more about this project, please contact:

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