CITY OF BALLARAT

CITY OVAL MASTER PLAN PRECINCT PHASE ONE

Engagement Report

Proudly working with and for our community



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Executive Summary

The City Oval Precinct Master Plan project represents a significant opportunity to shape the future of one of Ballarat's most iconic community and sporting assets. With a history spanning over 125 years, City Oval is a central hub for football, netball, athletics, bowls, and community events, as well as cultural gatherings in the Intercultural Garden. The precinct's heritage value, combined with its role as a multi-use space, highlights the importance of a strategic, inclusive, and future-focused master plan.

Purpose and Engagement Approach

The purpose of the master plan is to provide a clear vision and framework for the precinct's development over the coming decade, ensuring it remains safe, accessible, and welcoming for all users while preserving its heritage character. Engagement is being delivered in two planned phases:

- Phase one (Completed): Focused on understanding current use, community aspirations, and priorities for improvement. Activities included stakeholder meetings, targeted sessions with cultural groups and advisory committees, letterbox drops, social media campaigns, and an online MySay platform. Over 150 individual survey responses, 15 group submissions, and multiple face-to-face sessions with community and key stakeholders informed this phase.
- Phase two (Upcoming): Will provide an opportunity for stakeholders and the broader community to review and comment on the draft master plan before finalisation.

Key Findings from Phase One

Community and stakeholder feedback highlighted several recurring themes:

- Accessibility and inclusivity: Improved paths, accessible toilets, and female-friendly change rooms.
- Sporting infrastructure: Upgrades to football and netball facilities, including a second netball court and modernised change rooms.
- Public amenities: Distributed toilets, seating, shade, and drinking water.
- Community activation: Spaces for markets, cultural events, and passive recreation.
- Safety and connectivity: Better lighting, traffic flow improvements, and safer pedestrian access.
- Heritage preservation: Maintaining and enhancing the grandstand and mature trees.
- Shared use: Multipurpose spaces such as Saxon House for clubs and community functions.

Next Steps

Using these insights, Council will:

1. Engage a contractor to design a draft master plan that reflects community priorities where possible and strategic objectives.
2. Conduct Phase Two engagement to seek feedback on the draft masterplan and ensure transparency.
3. Prepare and submit the final master plan for Council adoption later in 2026.

Conclusion

Phase One engagement has laid a strong foundation for a collaborative and inclusive planning process. The next stages will ensure that the master plan delivers a balanced approach preserving heritage, enhancing functionality, and creating a vibrant, safe, and welcoming precinct for sport, recreation, and community life. This project reflects Council's commitment to long-term planning and community partnership, ensuring the City Oval precinct continues to serve Ballarat for generations to come.



Introduction

City Oval is one of Ballarat's most significant sporting and community precincts, with a rich history dating back to the construction of its grandstand in 1898. Over the years, the reserve has evolved to accommodate a diverse range of activities, from football, netball, bowls and athletics to cultural events and gatherings in the Intercultural Garden. The site's heritage value, combined with its role as a hub for recreation and community connection, makes planning for its future critical.

The City Oval master plan engagement was initiated to shape a shared vision for the future of this important asset. The process aimed to ensure that upgrades and developments reflect community aspirations while preserving heritage values and aligning with Council's strategic objectives.

This report provides a transparent summary of the first phase of the engagement process, outlining how feedback was gathered, what themes emerged, and how community input will inform the draft master plan. It demonstrates Council's commitment to inclusive decision making and sets the foundation for a staged, practical approach to future improvements at the City Oval.

Engagement Process

The engagement process will be delivered in two phases and is designed to be inclusive, transparent, and accessible to a wide range of stakeholders and community. This report presents the outcomes of Phase One and will be used to inform the development of a draft master plan. The draft will then be shared with the community and stakeholders as part of Phase Two engagement. The project team undertook an internal evaluation of the engagement process to date, identifying opportunities for improvement and consideration in preparation for Phase Two.

Phase One: Vision and Priorities

The first phase focused on generating interest in the project and gathering insights into how people use City Oval precinct currently and what they value for its future.

Activities included:

Targeted meetings with site stakeholders

- Stakeholder meetings with tenant clubs:
  - Ballarat Football Netball League (BFNL)
  - City Oval Bowling Club (COBC)
  - Redan Football Netball Club (RFNC)
  - Greater Western Victoria Rebels (GWVR)
  - Ballarat Athletics Club (Ballarat Gift)
  - Ballarat Football Umpires Association (BFUA)
- Targeted meetings with Meals on Wheels and nearby schools Pleasant Street Primary School and Ballarat Clarendon College
- Internal directorate meetings with relevant business units from the City of Ballarat
  - Infrastructure and Environment
  - Operations
  - Property and Facilities
  - Infrastructure
  - Community Wellbeing
  - Recreation Services
  - Family, Child and Youth Services
  - Engaged Communities
  - Development and Growth
  - Open Space
  - Heritage
- Ballarat Kids' Think Tank
- Face-to-face drop-in sessions for residents and stakeholders.
- Targeted meetings with cultural groups, and advisory committees.
- Letterbox drops to surrounding residents.
- Promotional activities including signage at City Oval, social media posts, and direct emails to stakeholder groups.
- MySay online platform with detailed information about the master planning process and multiple methods to contribute including:
  - Individual submissions
  - Social mapping
  - Community group submissions
  - Advertising in person opportunities
  - Ability to contact project lead for further information

Face to face drop-in sessions

There were three face-to-face drop-in sessions where the community were encouraged to meet with officers to share their ideas and discuss the master planning process. These sessions were held across different locations and times to cater to different community needs.

Wednesday 26 November, 11:00am – 1:00pm at the Intercultural Garden (Corner Sturt and Pleasant Streets)

- Two attendees
- Conversations about improved access, parking and traffic flow, safer and upgraded amenities and infrastructure.

Thursday 27 November, 5:00pm - 7:00pm at City Oval Bowling Club (1406 Sturt Steet)

- 16 attendees – Redan FNC netballers who had been training next door
- Advised them to fill out the MySay page

Sunday 30 November, 11:00am – 1:00pm at SpringFest (City of Ballarat stall located in section L in the North Gardens)

- 76 post cards handed out.
- General conversation about the project and advised them to fill out the MySay page.

Targeted meetings with cultural groups, and advisory committees

A meeting was held with the Ballarat Regional Multicultural Council on 1 December 2025 at their monthly meeting. Knowing that many of the groups have used the Intercultural Garden or could use the Intercultural Garden it was important for us to engage with them directly. The scope of the project was presented at this meeting, and information was provided on how they could submit their feedback. Many filled out the group submission survey.

A meeting with the Intercultural advisory Committee was unable to go ahead as scheduled. The Committee's views remain important, particularly due to the inclusion of the Intercultural Garden within the precinct, and further opportunities for members to contribute will be offered again in Phase Two.

Letter Box Drop

Three letter box drops were completed to surrounding neighbours of the Precinct. The letterbox drops included both letters and postcards.

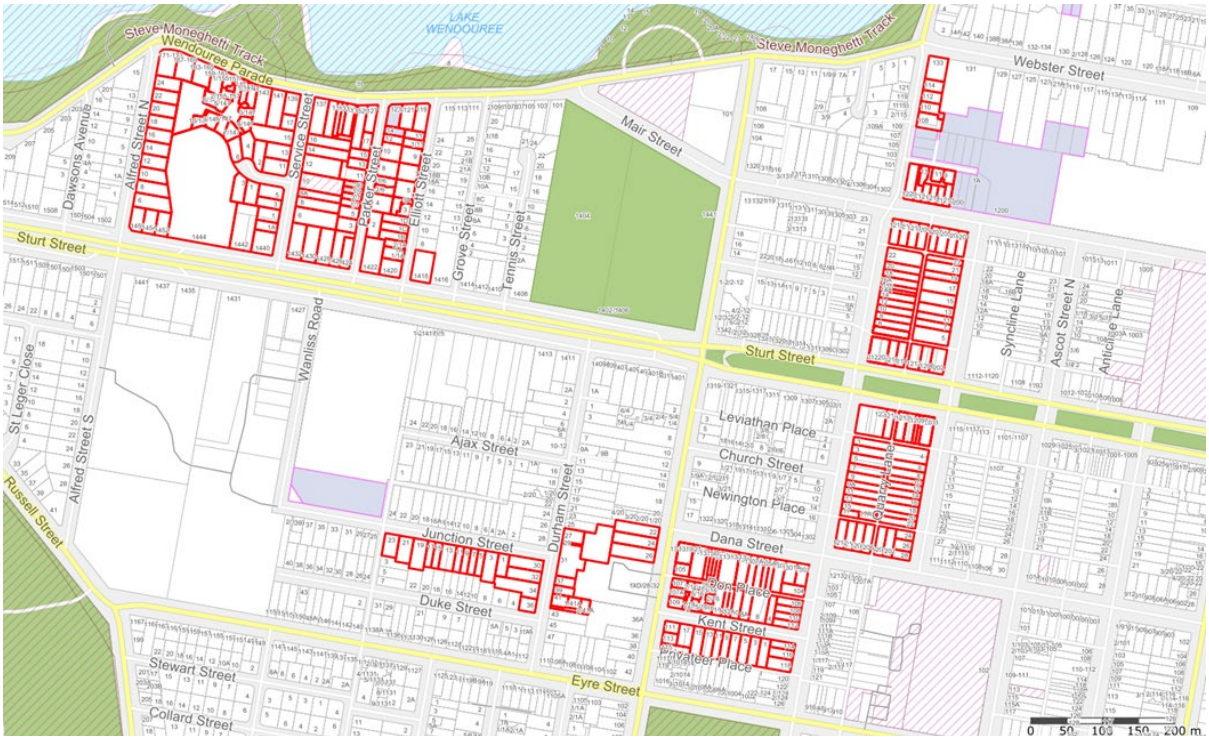
1. Letter to the residents delivered 19 November 2025 to houses and business that directly faced or backed onto the precinct. This provided nearby residents with an opportunity to reach out to the project team directly, to discuss any issues they may have wished to raise given their close proximity to the precinct and possible impacts on amenity.



2. Postcard Drop delivered 21 November 2025 to houses and business included in the original letterbox drop and averaging three to four streets away from the precinct.



3. Postcard Drop delivered on 2 December 2025 to houses approximately four to six streets away from precinct.



Promotional Activities

In addition to the postcards, there was a media release, and social media was utilised with sponsored targeted ads which directed community members to the MySay page.

Media Release Data

City of Ballarat Website: 67 Views

Facebook Media Release post: 8097 views and 57 clicks

Instagram Media Release Post: 1755 views

META AD Data (Paid Facebook and Instagram Ad)

Reach = 10,197

Clicks = 387

Local Media Reach

24 November 2025, - 3BA/Power FM News Bulletin

1 December 2025 - City of Ballarat CEO on 3BA Radio

8 December 2025 – Ballarat Times article

Reserve Corflutes

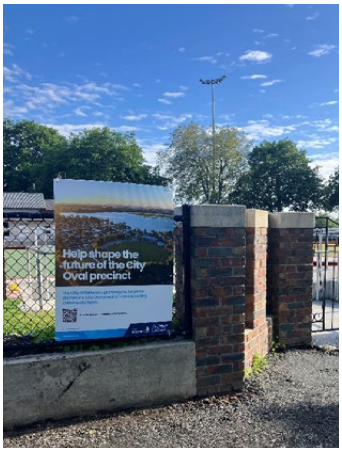
A0 size signs were installed at all entry points and key areas of the Reserve encouraging community participation in the consultation. These were located at:

- Mair Street Entrance
- Pleasant Street Entrance
- Intercultural Garden
- City Oval Bowling Club Entrance (Sturt Street)









Stakeholder Engagement

Stakeholder Findings

Individual sessions were held with all key internal and external stakeholders. Below is a summary of the findings from the meetings.

Tenant clubs

Tenant clubs and organisations identified the following key elements to be considered within the master plan.

Accessibility & Inclusivity

- Significant concerns about steep terrain and poor access for mobility-impaired users.
- Need for accessible paths, distributed public toilets to service all parts of the reserve including bowls, and female-friendly change rooms for netball and football umpires.

Sporting Infrastructure

- Second netball court is a high priority for multiple stakeholders.
- Upgrades to netball change rooms, umpire facilities, goal netting and two-storey coaches' boxes.
- Saxon House was identified as crucial central multi-use hub for league administration, clubs, events, and community functions and should be prioritised for shared use for football, netball, athletics, and umpires to optimise space and cost.

Heritage & Character

- Preservation of heritage and prioritising maintenance of heritage facilities.
- Beautification of fencing and landscaping to enhance aesthetics.

Traffic, Parking & Safety

- Congestion at entry/exit points; proposals for separate ingress/egress, turning circles, and pedestrian zones.
- Removal of vehicle access in front of grandstand and Saxon House for safety.
- Improved lighting for security and pedestrian safety.

Event Activation & Community Use

- Desire for markets, concerts, and social events to activate the reserve year-round.
- Passive recreation spaces (playgrounds, pump tracks, seating, shelters).
- Improved power supply for events (food vans, screens, audio sound systems).

Shared Use & Collaboration

- Strong support for shared clubrooms and multipurpose spaces for all clubs to use.
- Opportunities for summer activation (athletics, AFL Nines).
- Partnerships between clubs for co-location and cost-sharing.

Amenities & Comfort

- Additional and upgraded public toilets across the site.
- Tiered spectator seating, shaded areas, and water fountains.
- Greater reserve access from key surrounding areas such as Lake Wendouree through to Sturt Steet
- Waste management improvements and secure storage for equipment.

Internal Departments at City of Ballarat

Three sessions were held with multiple internal business groups with each session divided into directorate portfolios. Infrastructure and Environment (Property and Facilities, Operations and Infrastructure), Community Wellbeing (Recreation Services, Family, Youth & Children's Services and Engaged Communities) and Growth and Development (Open Space & Heritage).

The engagement across internal departments revealed several recurring and interconnected themes:

Access and Connectivity

- Improve traffic flow by upgrading entry/exit points and investigating alternative access routes to reduce congestion.
- Enhance pedestrian access by reducing fencing and improving crossings.
- Ensure safe and compliant pathways linking key areas (e.g., Intercultural Garden, Saxon House, public toilets).

Facility Rationalisation and Upgrades

- Consolidate outdated and non-compliant buildings
- Upgrade Saxon House as a central multi-use hub for clubs and community.
- Provide compliant change rooms for umpires and netball players.

Community Activation and Year-Round Use

- Shift the main usage of the precinct from solely organised sport to broader community participation and recreation.
- Introduce family friendly zones, shaded play areas, and passive recreation spaces.
- Increase summer activation through usage such as athletics, markets, and events.

Heritage and Environmental Stewardship

- Preserve heritage listed structures (grandstand, facades) and significant trees.
- Integrate heritage principles into design and storytelling.
- Green hardstand areas and create walking loops connected to Lake Wendouree.

Safety and Amenity

- Relocate and upgrade public toilets for accessibility and safety.
- Install security lighting for paths and car parks.
- Improve passive surveillance through design changes.

Parking and Circulation

- Address parking pressures with formalised internal parking and green buffers.
- Explore options like partial road closures to Mair Street to expand green space.

Tenancy and Storage

- Formalise tenancy agreements for all clubs and seasonal users.
- Provide adequate storage for all tenant clubs and facilitate access to shared social spaces.



Meals on Wheels

Meals on Wheels operates from a leased building within the City Oval precinct, which functions as a critical distribution hub for meals prepared in Campbellfield. The service supports approximately 350 clients and delivers over 300 meals daily, while also providing informal welfare checks and social support. Operations are supported by two staff and 12–15 volunteer drivers each day, many of whom are elderly.

The building currently accommodates administrative functions, volunteer coordination, a cool room, and undercover loading areas, with a one-way vehicle movement system in place. Safe and efficient access to and from the building is essential to daily operations.

Key themes discussed identified the following improvements:

- Protection and upgrade of essential building infrastructure, including cool room and undercover loading facilities.
- Improved vehicle access around the surrounding buildings, including investigation of alternative exit points to maintain one-way traffic flow.
- Safer turning areas and improved road surfaces around the precinct.
- Measures to minimise flooding in loading area, noise, and disruption that impact the use of the building.



Ballarat Kids' Think Tank

The Ballarat Kids' Think Tank supports the Civics & Citizenship curriculum, empowers students to actively participate in shaping their community, develop leadership skills and facilitate broader participation from their peers. In 2025 the Think Tank had sixteen Grade 4 - 6 students from Dana Street, Buninyong and Warrenheip Primary Schools.

The children and young people who participated in the City Oval Think Tank identified a strong desire for the oval to function as a fun, safe and welcoming place for everyday use, not just organised sport.

Key themes included:

- A clear desire for more play opportunities, including playgrounds for both younger and older children, and spaces to play, socialise and "hang out".
- Strong interest in active movement, with requests for walking paths, a running track, bike and scooter tracks, and places to ride safely away from traffic.
- A consistent call for more greenery, trees that provide shade and natural elements, including water features such as ponds.
- The importance of safety, including fencing in some areas, safer pathways and better separation between people, bikes and vehicles.
- Requests for improved amenities and infrastructure, including better parking, upgraded and modernised change rooms, and improved maintenance of facilities.
- Interest in food and activation, such as food trucks or small cafés, to make the oval a destination beyond sport and events.
- A strong view that the City Oval precinct should feel like a community space for everyone, supporting play, recreation, relaxation and social connection at all times.

Overall, children expressed a vision for the City Oval precinct as a greener, more playful, active and welcoming precinct, designed to support everyday use by families and young people.

Neighbouring Schools

Pleasant Street Primary School (PSPS) and Ballarat Clarendon College (BCC) both welcomed the opportunity to meet and discuss the City Oval Masterplan. In person meetings were offered to three other identified stakeholders who chose not to participate at this time. Although meetings were held separately, several consistent themes emerged and are outlined below.

Key themes included:

Access, Connectivity & Safety

- Both schools raised concerns about crossing major roads (Mair Street for PSPS; Sturt Street for BCC). Suggestions included safer pedestrian zones, crossings, and even pedestrian bridges.
- Interest in reducing congestion, exploring partial road closures, and creating safer drop-off/pick-up zones.
- Need for designated parking areas for parents and students without impacting surrounding neighbourhoods, suggested this could be within the City Oval precinct if there was better pedestrian access.

Shared Use & Community Activation

- Strong support for shared use of City Oval for school PE classes, after-school sports, and community events.
- Desire to remove physical barriers (e.g., fencing) and create inviting green spaces for passive recreation.
- Activation ideas include markets, concerts, Christmas carols, and community gatherings.

Facilities & Amenities

- Sports Infrastructure: Requests for multi-use courts (netball, futsal, basketball, pickleball), and permanent goal posts (Netball and Football)
- Family-Friendly Spaces: Playground for families attending weekend sports.
- Basic Amenities: Drinking fountains, public toilets, and improved change rooms.

Long-Term Vision & Innovation

- Ambitious ideas like driverless buses, pedestrian bridges, and connected loops linking major Ballarat assets (Lake Wendouree, Vic Park, City Oval).
- Repurposing underutilised spaces for civic or cultural uses (e.g., art museum).

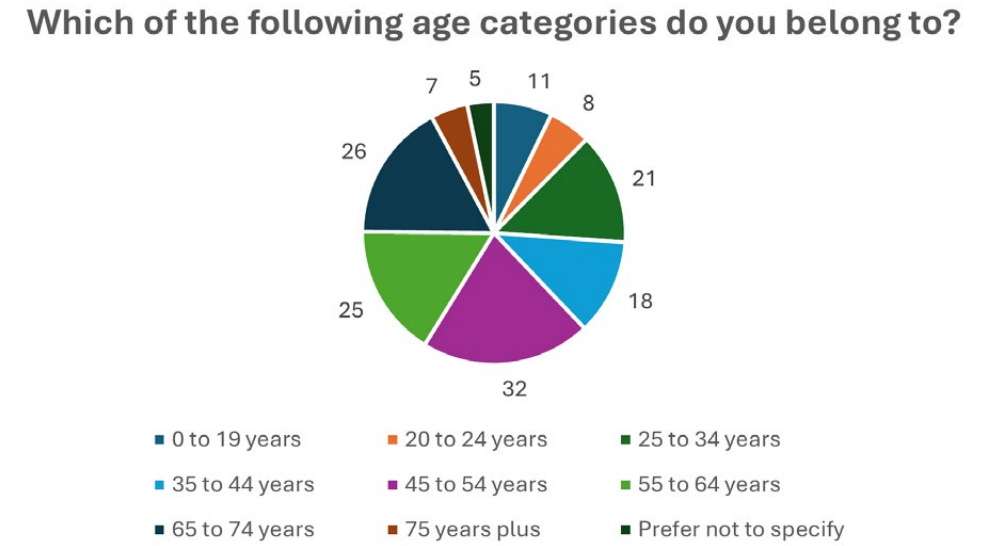
Community Survey

Broad engagement with the community involved the creation of a MySay page which was open for 25 days from November 18 to December 14, 2025. 153 community survey responses were received, along with 15 community group submissions and 8 Social Pinpoint submissions. All MySay engagement results are summarised below.

MySay Individual Community Survey Respondents

Of the 153 respondents, there were 78 males and 71 females, four non-binary or preferred not to specify a gender (grouped together to ensure de-identification).

There was a cross-section of age groups that completed the survey with most respondents aged between 45 and 54 years (20.92%)



Of the 153 responses, 6 respondents lived outside of Ballarat and majority of the respondents were located in the surrounding suburbs of City Oval.

Suburb	Number	Suburb	Number	Suburb	Number
Lake Wendouree	16	Outside of Ballarat	6	Canadian	2
Alfredton	14	Delacombe	5	Lake Gardens	2
Newington	14	Lucas	5	Miners Rest	2
Ballarat Central	13	Soldiers Hill	5	Mount Clear	2
Redan	9	Invermay	4	Cardigan	1
Ballarat	8	Invermay Park	4	Mount Helen	1
Wendouree	8	Sebastopol	4	Nerrina	1
Ballarat North	6	Buninyong	3	Warrenheip	1
Ballarat East	6	Mount Pleasant	3		
Brown Hill	6	Black Hill	2		

Survey Outcomes

The following sections summarise the survey responses to each question outlined within the community survey for the City Oval Precinct.

Section 1 – Routing Questions

Section one included a series of questions that provided routing for further questions to ensure respondents only had to answer questions relevant to their current and future use.

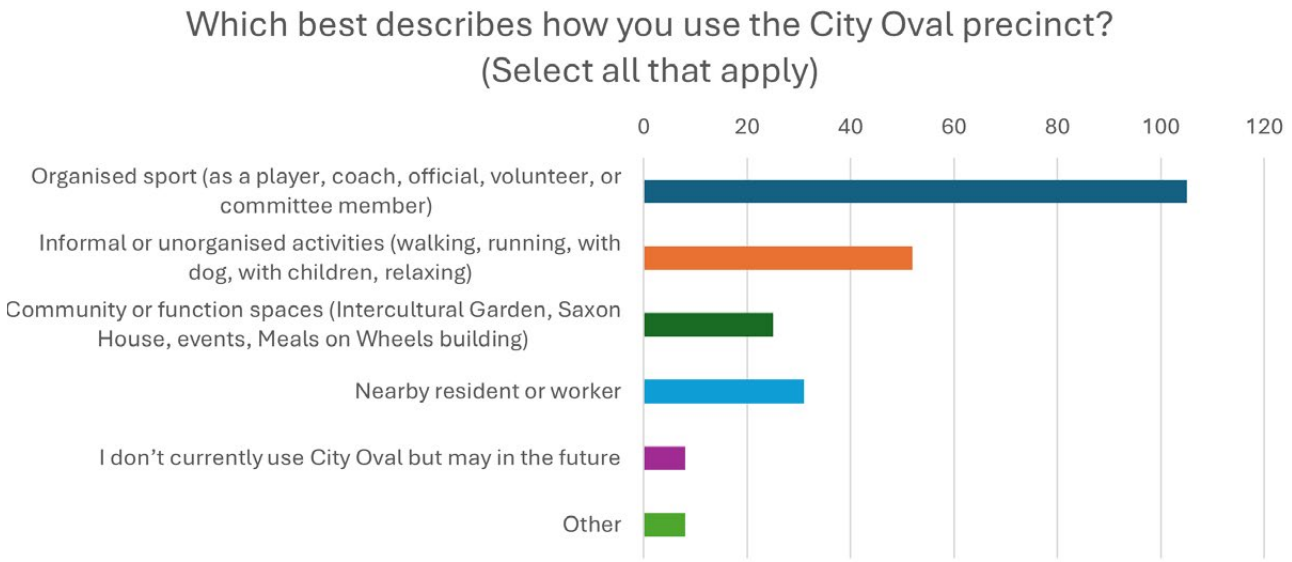
Question 1: Which best describes how you use the City Oval precinct? (Select all that apply)

153 / 153 Responses

Respondents could select multiple answers. Answers selected in the question determined question routing later in the survey.

Majority of respondents (105) attend the City Oval precinct for organised sport.

Of respondents that selected other it was in addition to other uses and listed additional use through Pleasant Street Primary School.



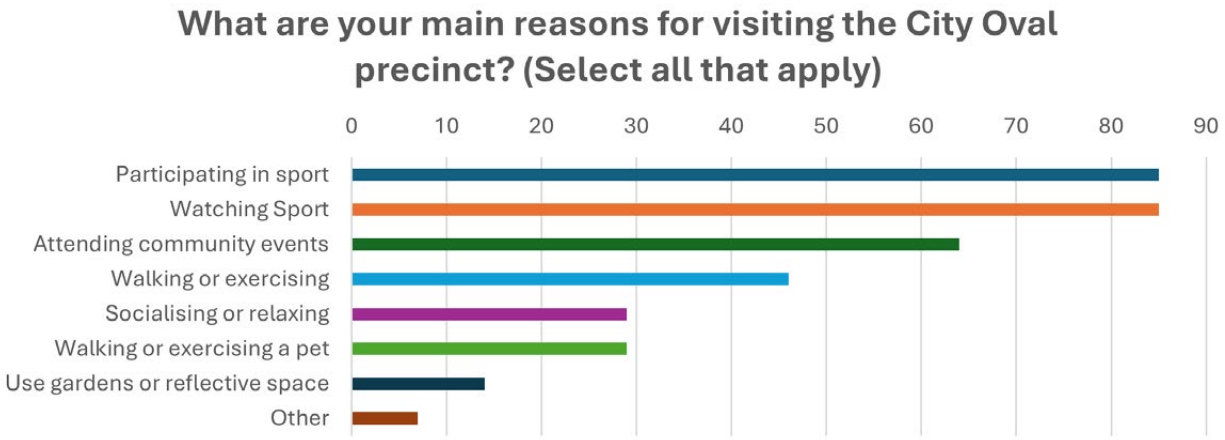
Question 2: What are your main reasons for visiting the City Oval precinct? (Select all that apply)

153 / 153 Responses

Respondents could select multiple answers. Answers selected in the question determined question routing later in the survey

Majority of respondents attend the City Oval precinct to participate in and watch sport both with 85 responses.

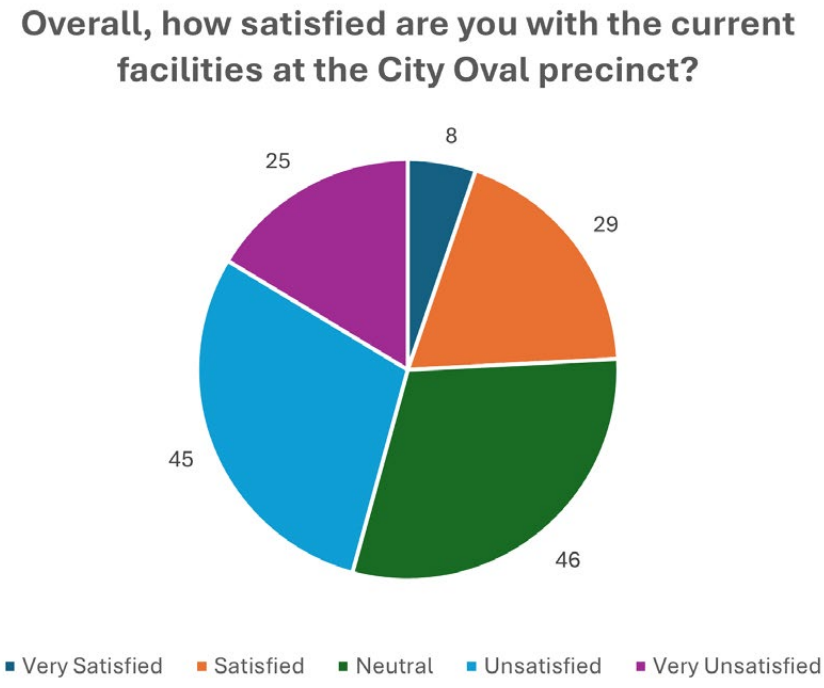
Of respondents that selected other it was noted they were occasional visitors for watching sport or having sport specific roles. Additionally, it was noted City Oval was used to travel through the area and for cultural activities.



Question 3: Overall, how satisfied are you with the current facilities at the City Oval precinct?

153 / 153 Responses

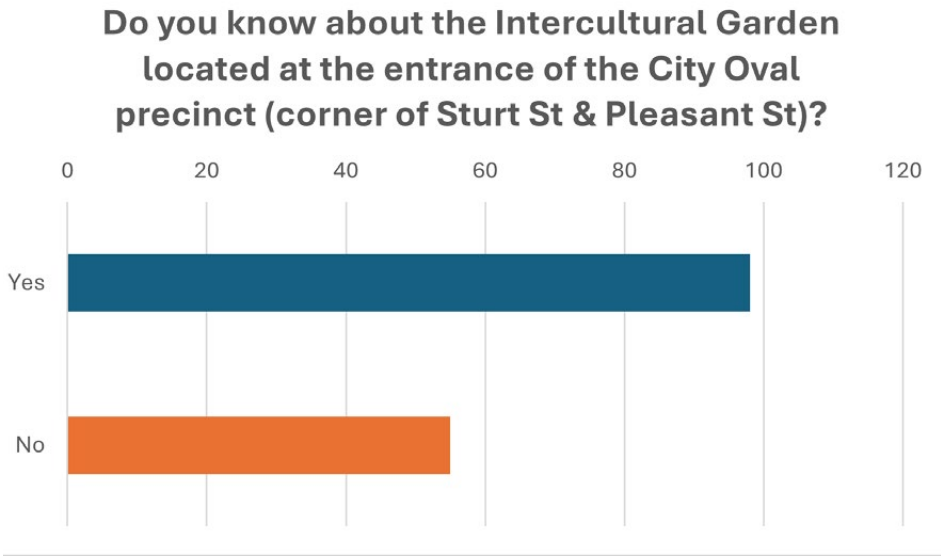
Among the 153 respondents, 70 reported being unsatisfied or very unsatisfied with the existing facilities.



Question 4: Do you know about the Intercultural Garden located at the entrance of the City Oval precinct (corner of Sturt Street & Pleasant Street)?

153 / 153 Responses

Awareness of the Intercultural garden was reported by 98 respondents (64%) out of 153.

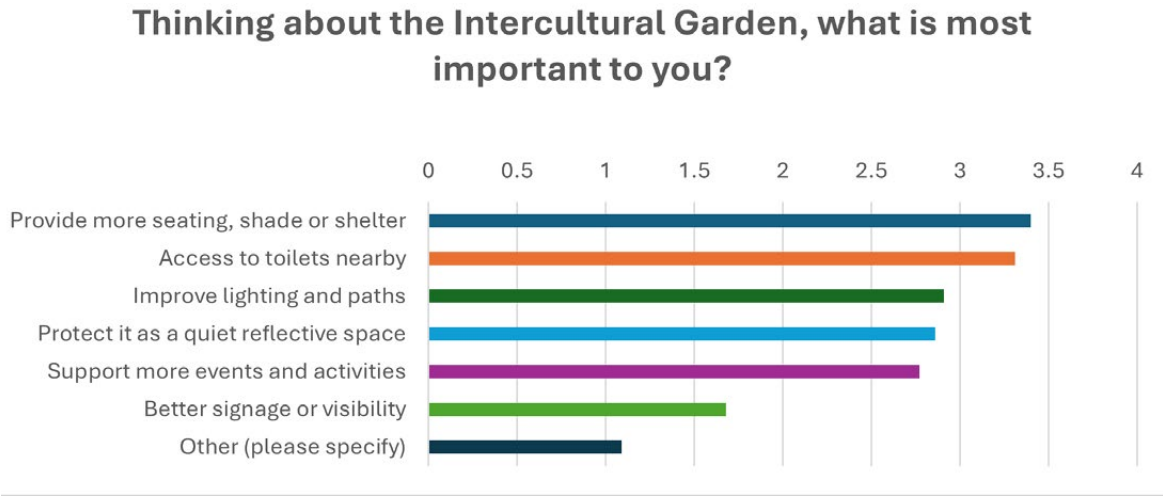


Question 5: Thinking about the Intercultural Garden, what is most important to you? (Rank as many as you like)

98 / 153 Responses

Only respondents who answered "Yes" to the previous question were required to complete this section. The 98 participants were asked to rank a series of options in order of priority. The final score reflects a weighted average, adjusted for response patterns (such as the number of selections or rankings for each option). This creates a single index for comparison, where a higher score represents greater overall importance.

The respondents indicated the most important aspect of the Intercultural Garder was providing seating, shade and shelter.



Section 2 – Organised Sport

Section two questions were only required by respondents who selected they visit the City Oval precinct for:

- Organised sport (as a player, coach, official, volunteer, or committee member)
- Participating in sport
- Watching Sport

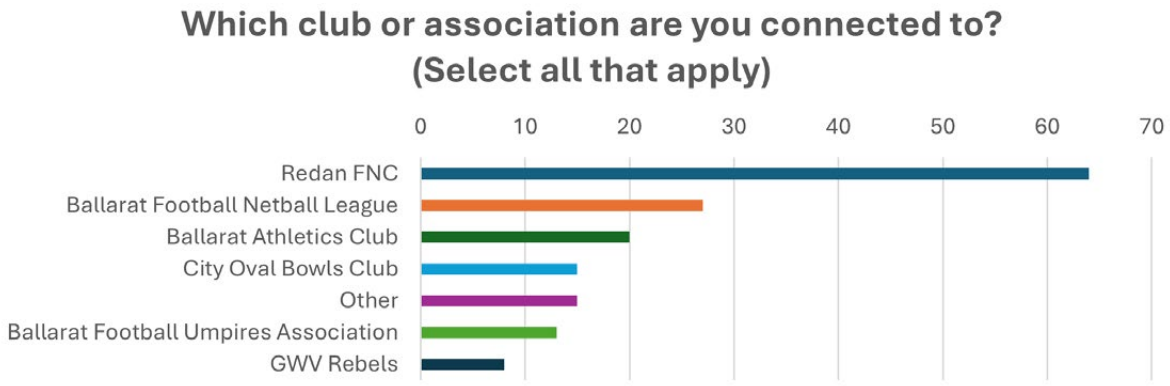
Of the 153 total responses, there were 120 responses to Section two questions.

Question 7: Which club or association are you connected to? (Select all that apply)

120 / 153 Responses

Respondents could select multiple clubs that they have an affiliation with. Redan FNC had the highest proportion of participation with 64 respondents.

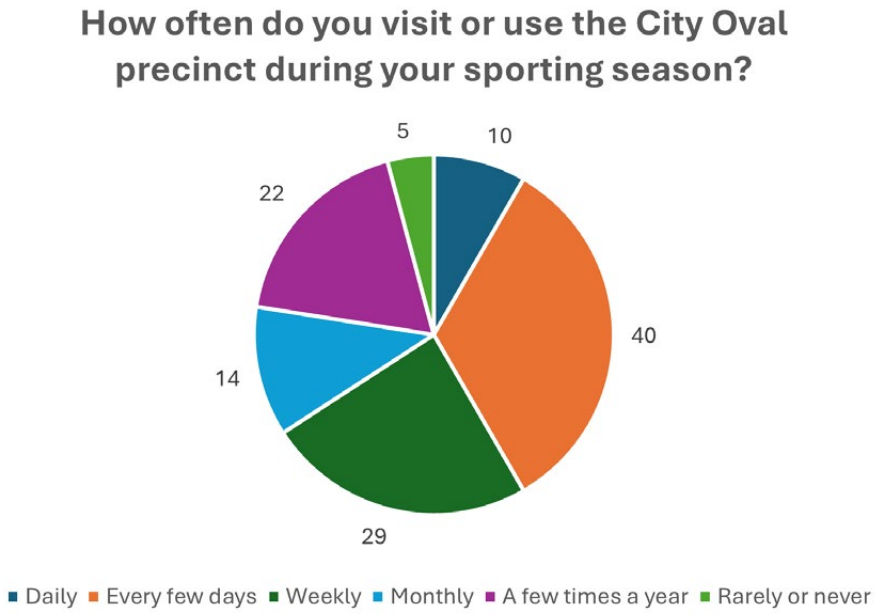
Of respondents that selected other, respondents listed opposition clubs, clubs within Ballarat Athletics Club, Ballarat Cricket Association and no direct connection.



Question 8: How often do you visit or use the City Oval precinct during your sporting season?

120 / 153 Responses

33% of respondents visit the City Oval precinct every few days during their sporting season.

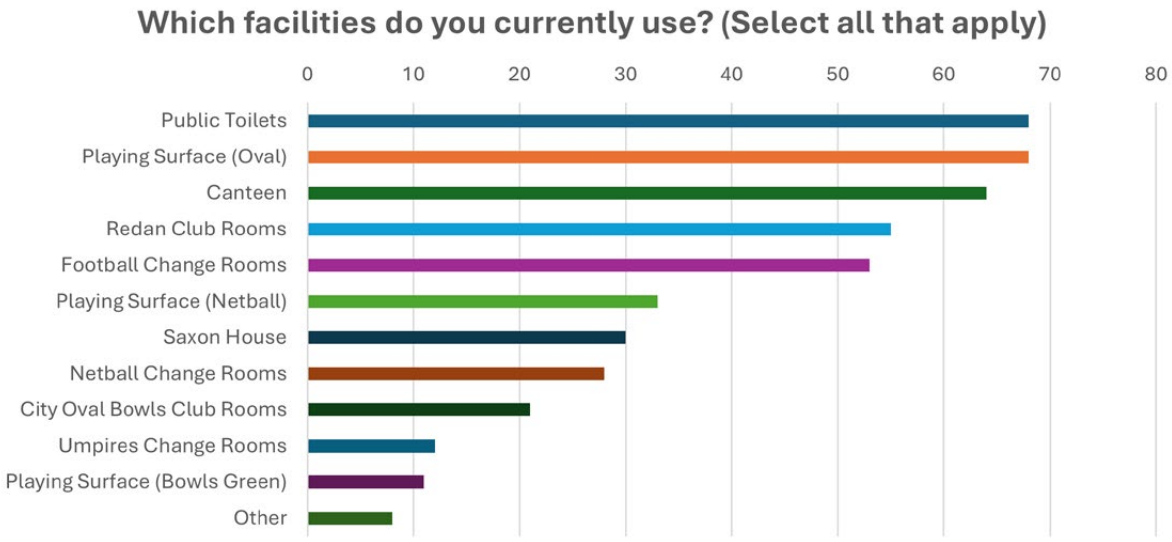


Question 9: Which facilities do you currently use? (Select all that apply)

120 / 153 Responses

From the 120 respondents who use the City Oval precinct, public toilets and the football oval ranked as the most utilised infrastructure, each noted by 68 participants.

Of respondents that selected other, respondents listed open spaces area or that they didn't use facilities when visiting.

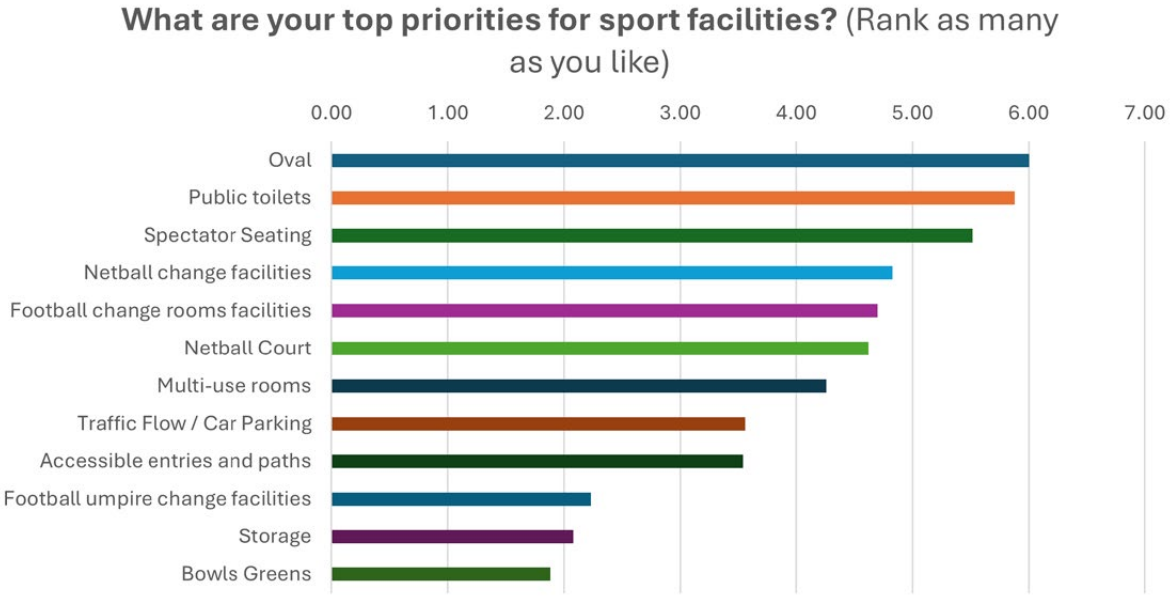


Question 10: What are your top priorities for sport facilities? (Rank as many as you like)

120 / 153 Responses

Based on responses the Oval and public toilets were ranked the top priorities for the precinct

The final ranking score combines the weighted average with adjustments for response patterns (such as how many people selected or ranked each option). This provides a single index for comparison, where a higher score indicates greater overall importance.



Section 3 – General Use

Section three questions were only required by respondents who selected they were:

- A nearby resident or worker
- Don't currently use the City Oval precinct but may in the future

OR

They visit the City Oval precinct for:

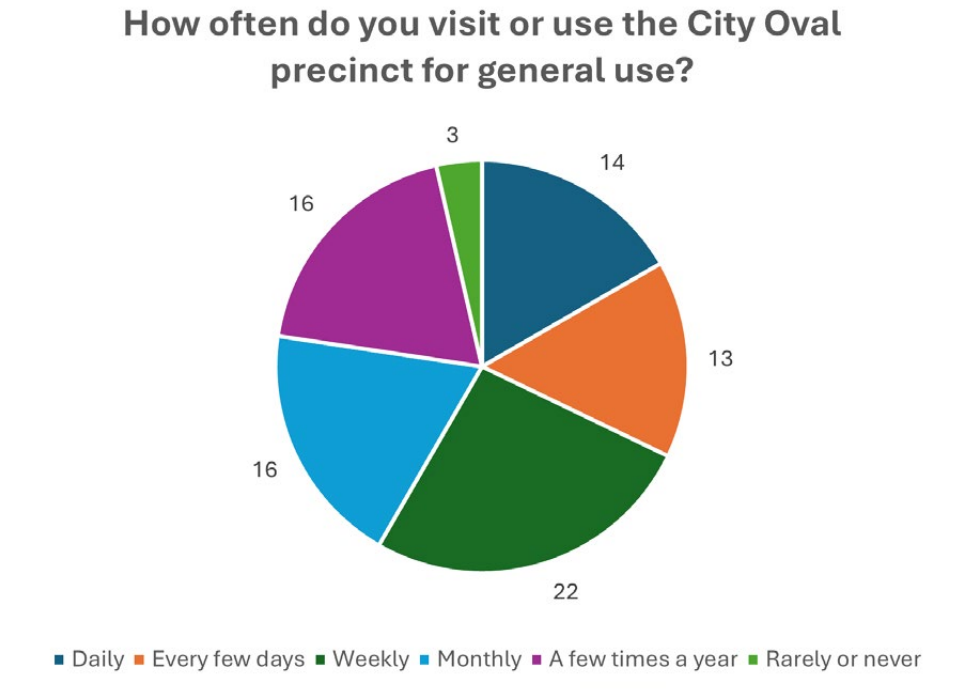
- Informal or unorganised activities (walking, running, with dog, with children, relaxing)
- Socialising or relaxing
- Use gardens or reflective space
- Walking or exercising
- Walking or exercising a pet

Of the 153 respondents, there were 84 respondents within this section

Question 11: How often do you visit or use the City Oval precinct for general use?

84 / 153 Responses

Among 84 responses, just over a quarter (26 percent)indicated they visit the City Oval precinct weekly for general, non-organised sport.

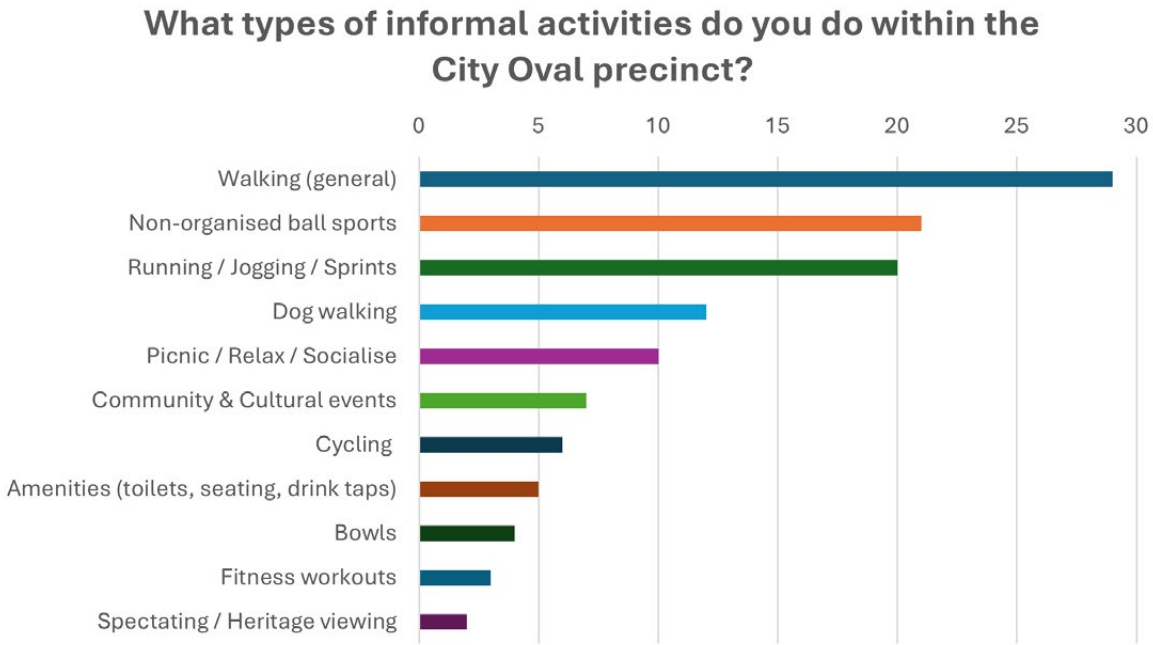


Question 12: What types of informal activities do you do within the City Oval precinct?

84 / 153 Responses

This question was a short answer response, and responses have been grouped and counted by theme.

29 respondents mentioned walking as an informal activity they do with in the precinct which was the highest ranked activity.

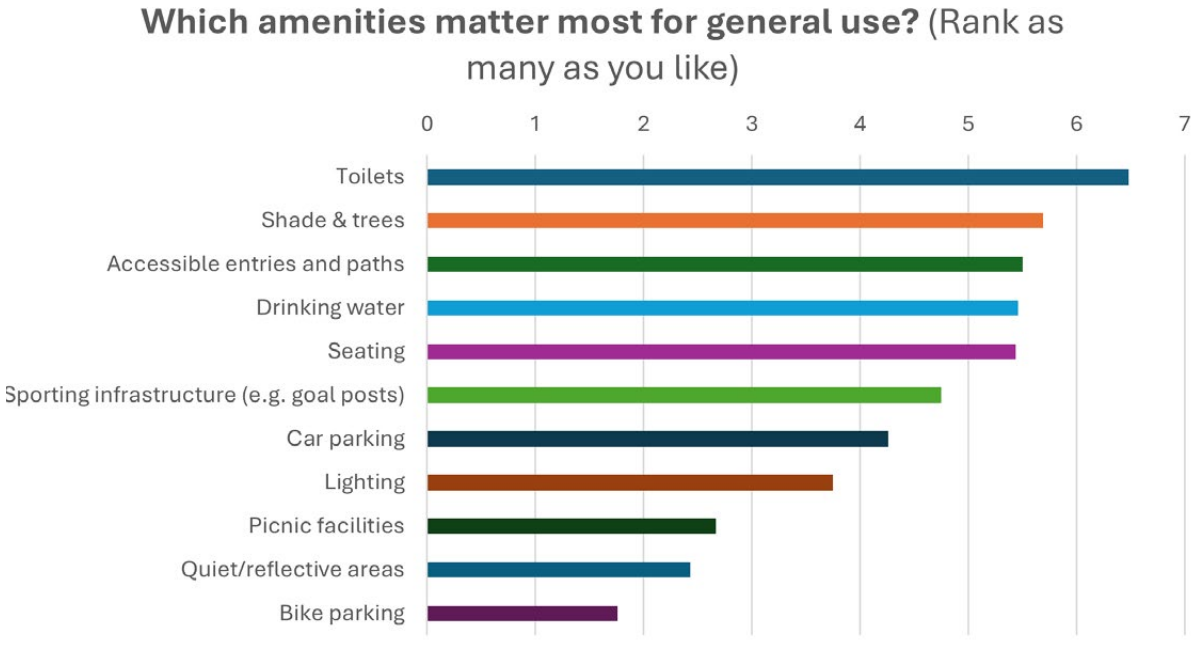


Question 13: Which amenities matter most for general use? (Rank as many as you like)

84 / 153 Responses

Of the 84 responses public toilets were the highest ranked priority by those that use the precinct for informal activities.

The final ranking score combines the weighted average with adjustments for response patterns (such as how many people selected or ranked each option). This provides a single index for comparison, where a higher score indicates greater overall importance.



Section 4 – Usage for Events and Functions

Section four questions were only required by respondents who selected they visit the City Oval precinct for:

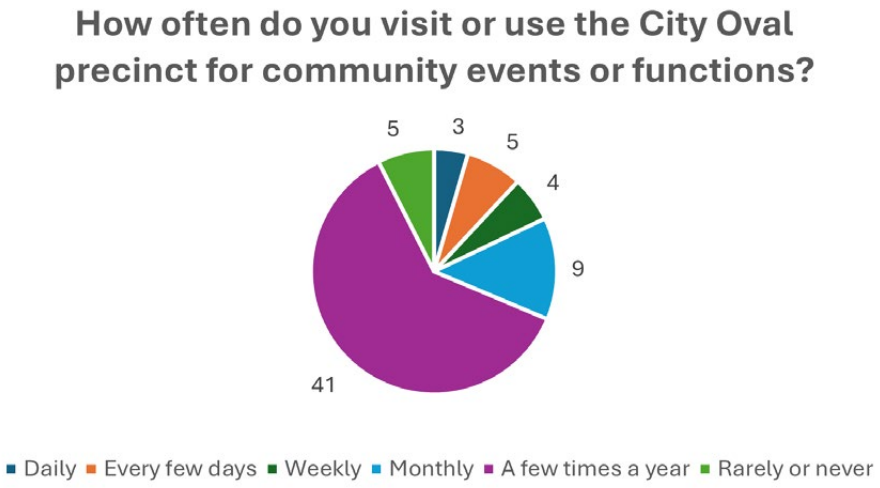
- Community or function spaces (Intercultural Garden, Saxon House, events, Meals on Wheels building)
- Attending community events

Of the 153 responses, 67 responses were recoded for Section four.

Question 14: How often do you visit or use the City Oval precinct for community events or functions

67 / 153 Responses

Of the 67 respondents, 61 percent use the City Oval precinct for community events a few times a year.

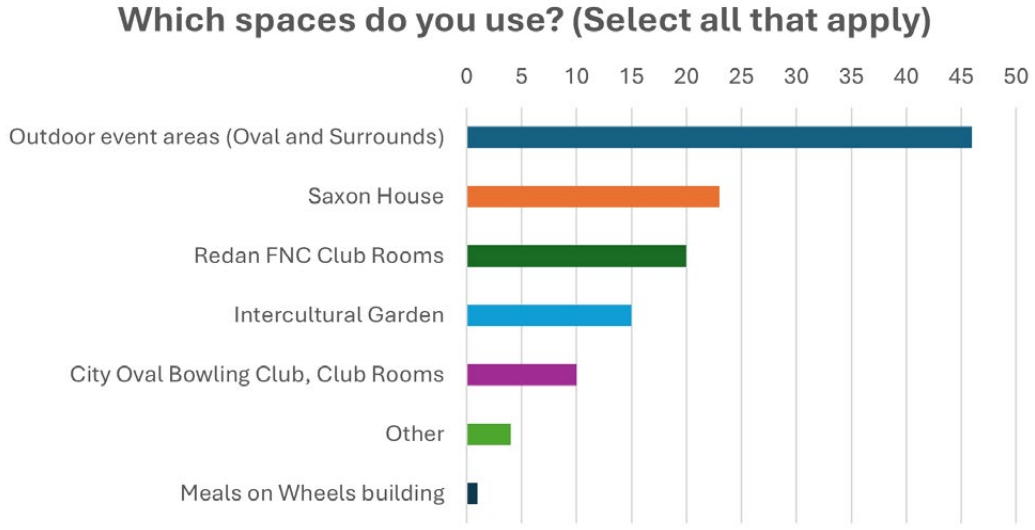


Question 15: Which spaces do you use? (Select all that apply)

67 / 153 Responses

From the 67 responses, the outdoor event space is the most commonly used area for community events.

Of respondents that selected other, respondents listed open spaces areas.

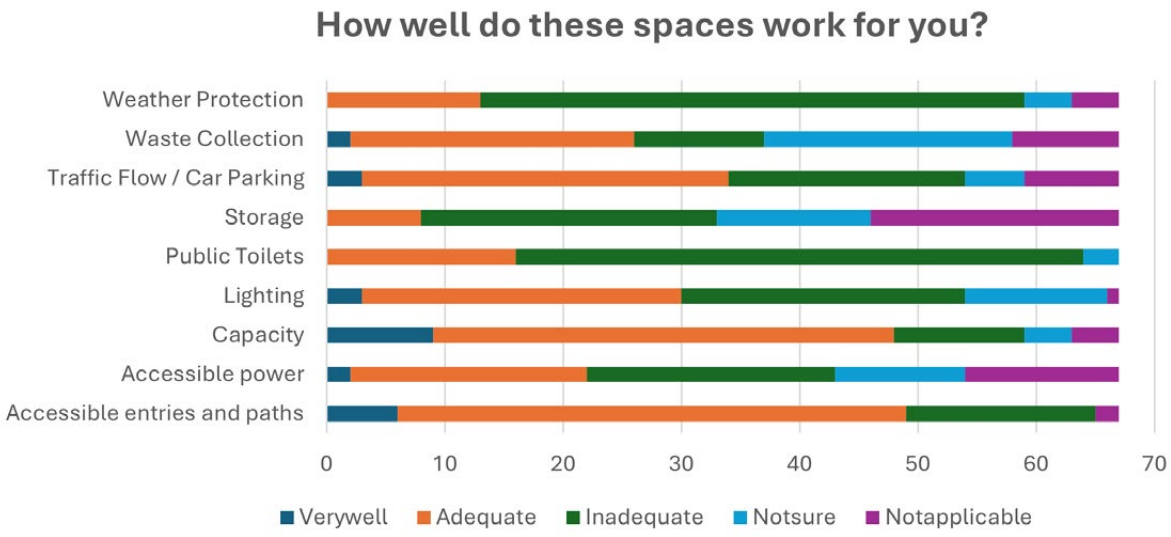


Question 16: How well do these spaces work for you?

67 / 153 Responses

67 respondents were asked to assess how the spaces work for the events they attend. Outlined is the most common answer for each area identified.

- Weather Protection: Inadequate
- Waste Collection: Adequate
- Traffic Flow / Car Parking: Adequate
- Storage: Inadequate
- Public Toilets: Inadequate
- Lighting: Adequate
- Capacity: Adequate
- Accessible Power: Inadequate
- Accessible Entries: Adequate

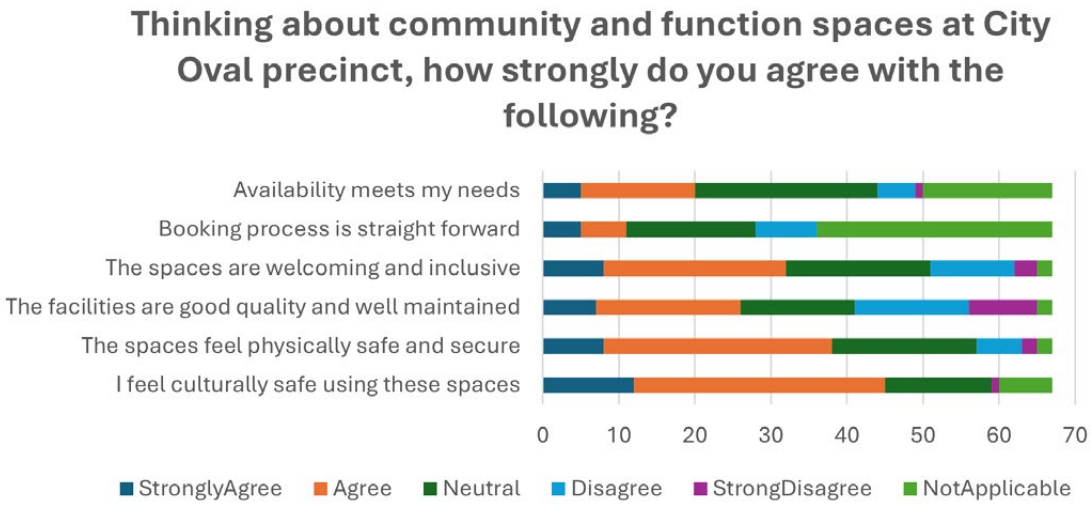


Question 17: Thinking about community and function spaces at City Oval precinct, how strongly do you agree with the following?

67 / 153 Responses

67 respondents were asked about the function spaces they use and how it works for them. Outlined is the most common answer for each area identified.

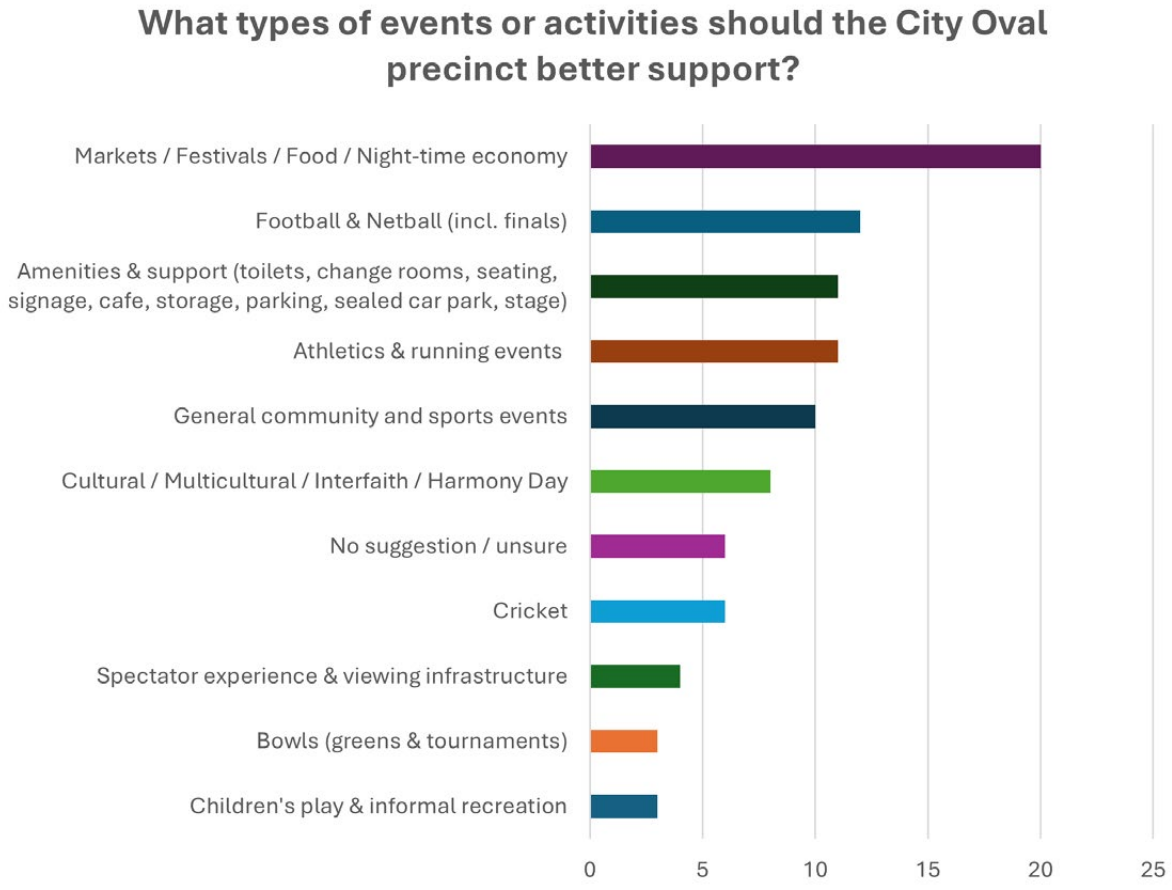
- Availability meets my needs: Neutral
- Booking process is straight forward: Not Applicable
- The spaces are welcoming and inclusive: Agree
- The facilities are good quality and well maintained: Agree
- The spaces feel physically safe and secure: Agree
- I feel culturally safe using these spaces: Agree



Question 18: What types of events or activities should the City Oval precinct better support

67 / 153 Responses

This question was a short answer response, and responses have been grouped and counted by theme. Markets / Festivals / Food / Nighttime economy was the most highly suggested idea that the City Oval precinct could support.



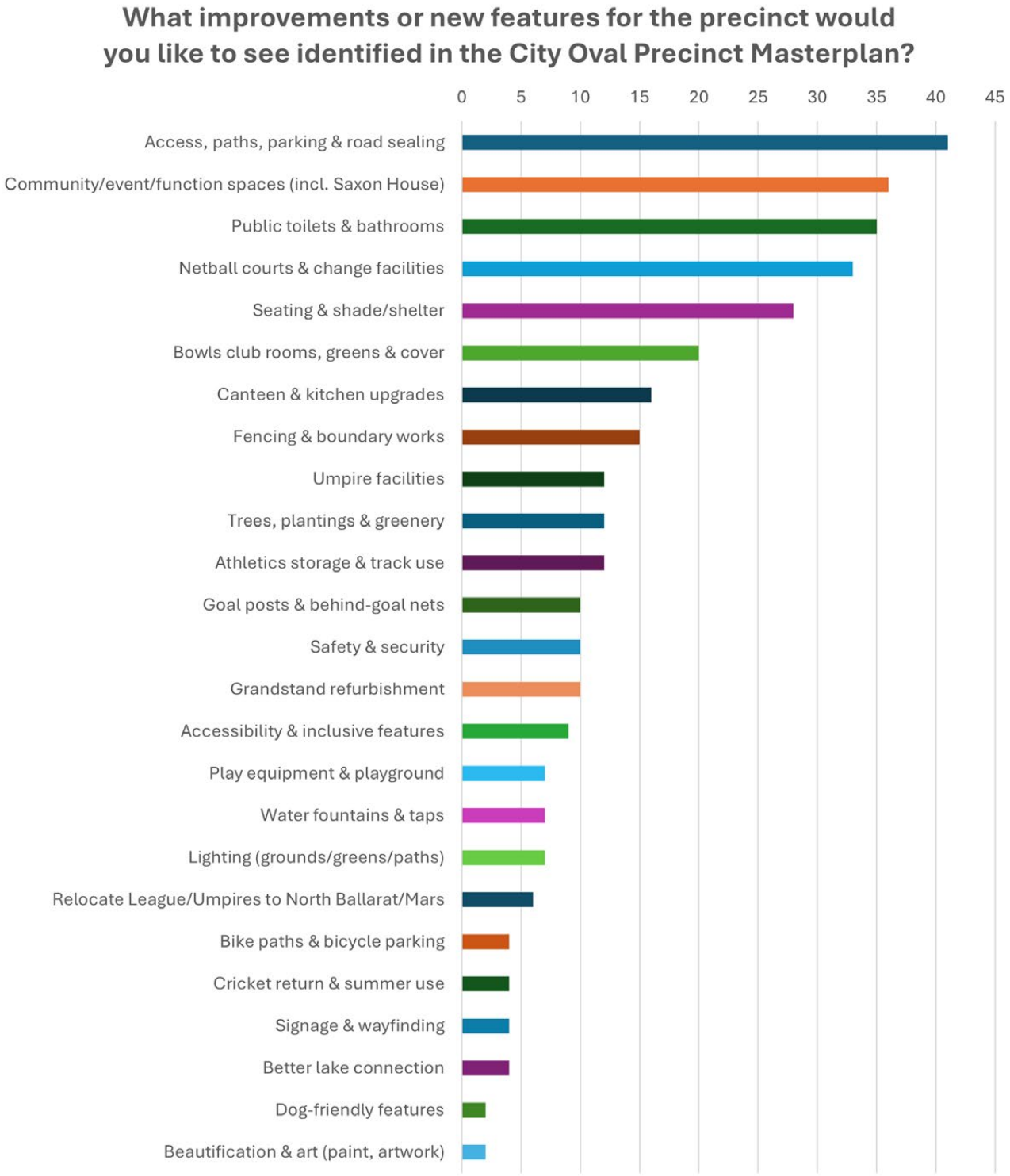
Section 5 – Demographic of Respondents

Section five returns to all 153 respondents and asks one short answer question below and demographic questions as already outlined at the beginning.

Question 19: What improvements or new features for the precinct would you like to see identified in the City Oval Precinct Masterplan?

153 / 153 Responses

This question was a short answer response, and responses have been grouped by theme.



1. Access, Paths, Parking & Road Sealing

Respondents emphasised the need for safer and more logical movement throughout the precinct. This includes creating dedicated pedestrian paths separate from vehicle routes, improving road surfaces to reduce dust and hazards, and redesigning parking areas for better flow and accessibility. There were also calls for clearer entry and exit points to reduce congestion and confusion, particularly near Pleasant Street.

2. Community/Event/Function Spaces

There is strong demand for spaces that support community gatherings and cultural activities. Suggestions include completing outdoor performance areas, adding BBQ and picnic facilities, and upgrading Saxon House into a modern, multi-purpose venue. Storage for clubs and event equipment was also highlighted, along with creating flexible spaces that can host markets, social events, and sporting functions.

3. Public Toilets & Bathrooms

Toilets were one of the most frequently mentioned needs. Respondents want more facilities distributed across the precinct, especially near high-use areas like the Intercultural Garden and netball courts. Upgrades should focus on safety, cleanliness, and accessibility, as current facilities are considered inadequate and poorly located.

4. Netball Courts & Change Facilities

Netball infrastructure is a major priority. Feedback included adding a second court to accommodate growing participation, improving change rooms to meet privacy and safety standards, and providing better seating and shelter for spectators. Enhanced fencing for wind protection and safer pathways between netball and other facilities were also requested.

5. Seating & Shade/Shelter

Spectator comfort is a recurring theme. People want more seating options around the oval and courts, including covered areas to protect from rain and sun. Terraced viewing spaces and shaded structures similar to other regional venues were suggested to improve the experience for families and supporters.

6. Bowls Club Rooms, Greens & Cover

The bowls club facilities were described as outdated and in need of significant investment. Priorities include modernising clubrooms, adding a roof over at least one green for year-round play, improving lighting, and sealing surrounding roads to prevent dust from damaging greens. Some respondents also raised concerns about tree roots and shade affecting turf quality.

7. Canteen & Kitchen Upgrades

The canteen is seen as too small and unsafe for current needs. Respondents want a larger, accessible, and modern facility with improved power supply to support events and catering. A commercial-grade kitchen was suggested to better serve community and sporting functions.

8. Fencing & Boundary Works

Feedback included replacing old, unattractive fencing with safer and more visually appealing options. Higher fences were requested around the netball court for wind protection, and some respondents suggested incorporating artwork or design features to improve aesthetics.

9. Umpire Facilities

Current umpire change rooms were described as inadequate for mixed gender allocations and need to be brought to modern standards. Respondents want fit-for-purpose facilities that meet league protocols, including proper showers and amenities.

10. Trees, Plantings & Greenery

There is interest in enhancing the precinct's natural environment with more trees and indigenous plantings. At the same time, concerns were raised about existing trees impacting bowling greens, suggesting a need for careful landscaping and maintenance.

11. Athletics Storage & Track Use

Athletics groups requested secure storage for equipment and a marked grass running track during summer months to maximise the use of the oval. There were also requests for space to display historical achievements and host training sessions.

12. Goal Posts & Behind-Goal Nets

Several respondents want year-round permanent goal posts for football and netball, along with netting behind goals to improve safety and reduce ball retrieval issues.

13. Safety & Security

Safety concerns focused on lighting for evening use, secure toilet locations, and general improvements to make the precinct feel safer for all users, including women and families.

14. Grandstand Refurbishment

The grandstand requires maintenance and modernisation. Suggestions included repainting, cleaning, adding terraced steps out the front, and upgrading kitchen and storage areas to make it more functional and appealing.

15. Accessibility & Inclusive Features

Respondents emphasised the need for accessible toilets, paths, and facilities, as well as inclusive features like sensory spaces for neurodiverse users and Braille signage for vision-impaired visitors.

16. Play Equipment & Playground

Adding play areas for children was suggested to make the precinct more family friendly. Ideas included swings, climbing frames, and spaces for younger visitors to enjoy while adults participate in sports.

17. Water Fountains & Taps

Requests included installing drink fountains between the netball court and football oval for players and spectators, as well as taps for dogs to make the precinct more pet friendly.

18. Lighting

Improved lighting was suggested for safety and to enable night matches and community events. This includes both sports grounds and pathways.

19. Relocation of League/Umpires

A smaller but notable group suggested relocating the Ballarat Football Netball League and umpire facilities to North Ballarat/Mars Stadium to leverage existing high-standard infrastructure.

20. Other Themes

- Bike Paths & Parking: Safer cycling routes and secure bike parking.
- Cricket Return: Reintroducing cricket during summer months to maximise the oval use.
- Signage & Wayfinding: Better signage and electronic boards to promote events.
- Lake Connection: Improved access to Lake Wendouree from the precinct.
- Dog-Friendly Features: Off-leash areas and amenities for dogs.
- Beautification & Art: Enhancing aesthetics through painting and public art.

MySay Community Group Survey Respondents

There was a total of 15 group submission of the community group survey with a summary of the groups and there make up:

Name of Group:	Type of group:	Number of members in your group
Ballarat Indian Association Inc.	Not-For-Profit Community Organisation	10
Ballarat Interfaith Network	Community - Interfaith	37 individual members; 5 faith organization members with associated congregation outreach
Ballarat Italian Assoc	Community / Cultural Group	130 Members
Ballarat Nepali Samaj Inc.	Community	500
Ballarat Regional Multicultural Council	Cultural Peak Body	30+ cultural and faith-based community organisations, associations and groups
Ballarat Rural Australian for Refugees	Charity	Committee - 10 Email List - 70
Chinese Australian Cultural Society Ballarat Inc.	Community & Cultural	1000+
City Oval Bowling Club	Sporting	150
Compassionate Ballarat	Community	Steering group comprises 8 volunteer members but our reach into the community is in the hundreds
FAABI (Filipino Australian Assoc of Ballarat Inc	Cultural	>350
Filipino Community Group	Cultural and Sporting	Various members cultural and sporting
Intercultural Ambassador Group	Cultural	15
Let's Talk Peace - Ballarat	Community - Educational	Six members with affiliations to larger community networks
Polish Ballarat and surrounding community	Community	20
Sri Lankan Australian Association of Ballarat Inc	Community Group	1000+

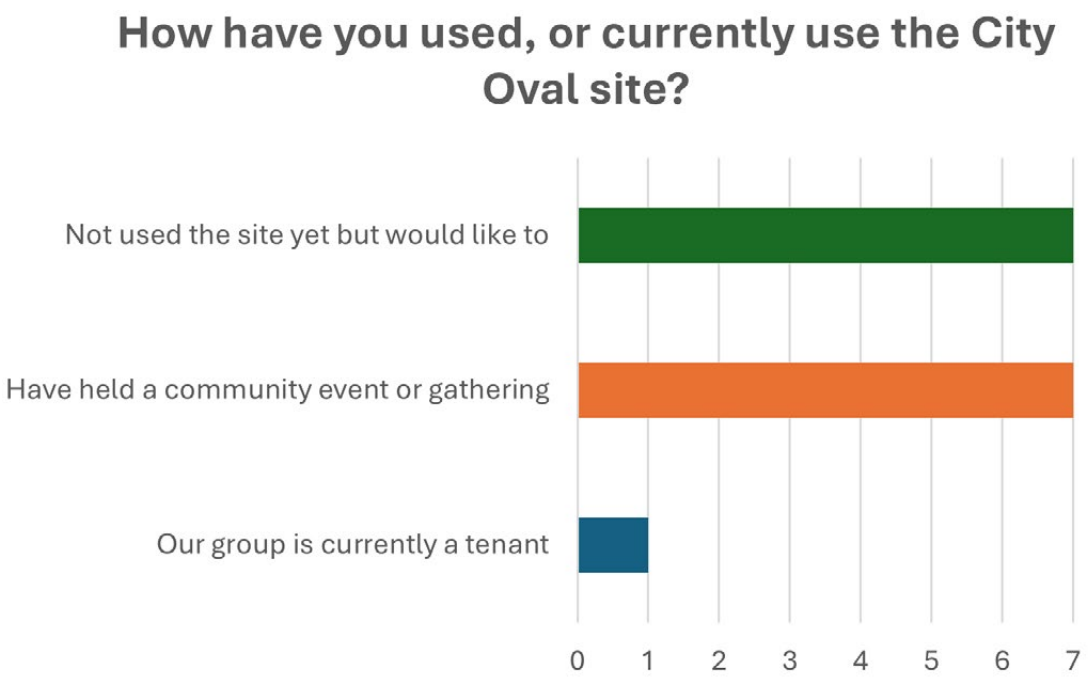
Group Survey Outcomes

The community group survey was in three sections, with respondents being routed to relevant sections based on answers in the first sections.

Section 1 – Routing Questions

Question 4: How have you used, or currently use the City Oval site?

15/15 responses



Section 2 – Users of the Precinct

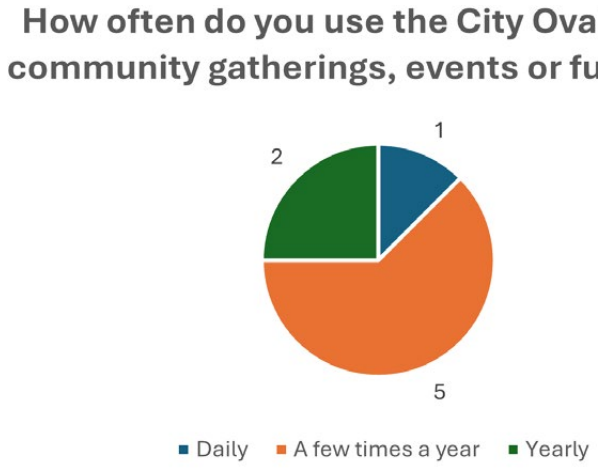
Section two questions were only asked to groups who are tenants or have held a community event or gathering within the City Oval Precinct.

In total 8 of the 15 respondents answered questions in Section two.

Question 5: How often do you use the City Oval site for community gatherings, events or functions?

8/15 responses

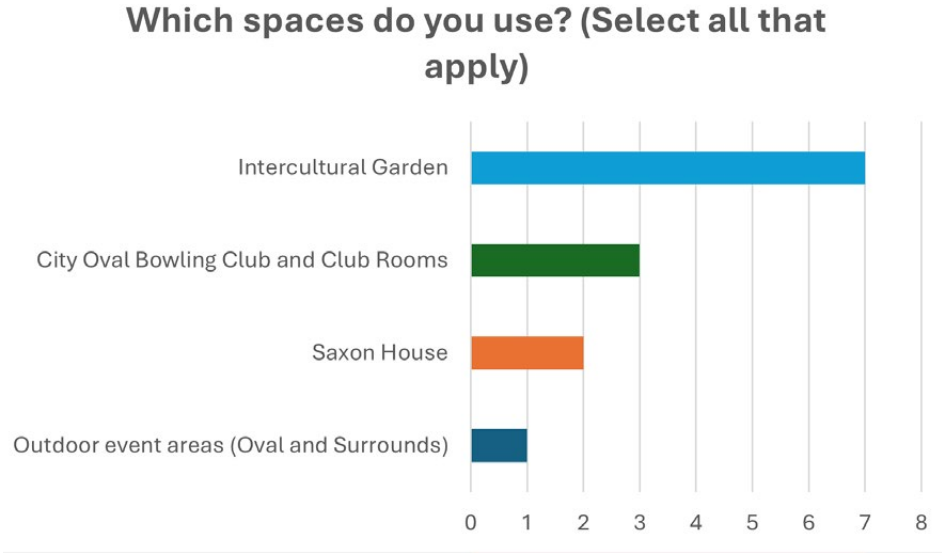
Majority of community gatherings for each group happen a few times a year or yearly. City Oval Bowling Club indicate that use the precinct daily.



Question 6: Which spaces do you use? (Select all that apply)

8/15 responses

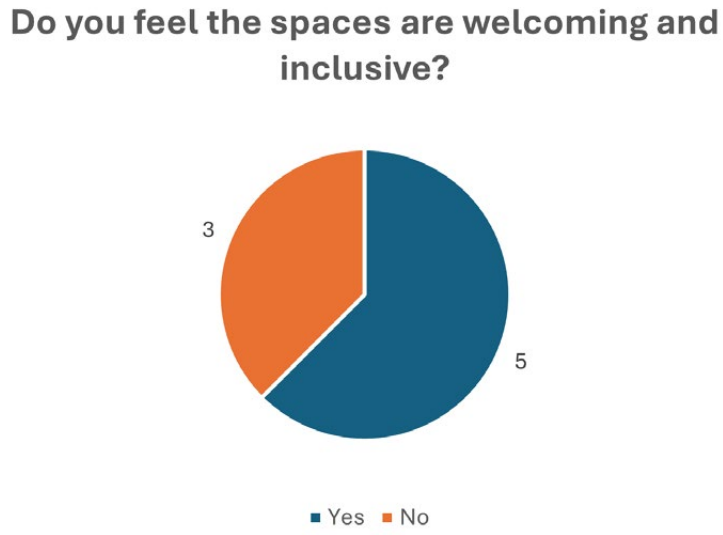
The survey indicated that the Intercultural Garden is used the most by community groups, whilst City Oval Bowling Club and Saxon House are also used. Redan FNC Club Rooms, Meals on Wheels Building and Other was not selected by any community group.



Question 7: Do you feel the spaces are welcoming and inclusive?

8/15 responses

Majority of user groups indicated they feel the spaces are welcoming and inclusive, however not all. Further details are included in the following questions.



Question 8: What works well, or has worked well, for your group when holding an event, gathering or function?

8/15 responses

This was a short answer response; all responses have been grouped and summarised into the following areas.

1. Facilities & Spaces

- Use of the oval for sports (football, cricket, athletics, inter-school sport) and events like the Beer Festival.
- Use of the Intercultural Garden for small gatherings.
- Saxon House is considered a good function centre.
- Having independent club rooms provides flexibility and ownership (i.e.: Bowls and Football)

2. Community & Inclusivity

- A strong sense of belonging “Everyone belongs.”
- Welcoming and inclusivity are valued but could be enhanced.

3. Location & Accessibility

- Venue is well-known, easy to find, and accessible.

4. Cultural & Symbolic Significance

- Events with cultural, traditional, or historical significance resonate well.
- Permission to fly the Ballarat Interfaith Flag during Harmony Week was a positive experience.

Question 9: What challenges or limitations do you face when using the space?

8/15 responses

This was a short answer response; all responses have been grouped and summarised into the following areas.

1. Toilets & Facilities

- No toilets at the Intercultural Garden.
- Existing toilets and facilities (grandstand, under grandstand) are dated, run down, and lack disabled access.

2. Amenities & Infrastructure

- Lack of clear signage for toilets.
- Limited or no access to power.
- Poor lighting for evening events.
- Only one flagpole available.
- Insufficient seating.
- No barbeque area or drinking water in the Intercultural Garden precinct.

3. Event Suitability

- Intercultural Garden precinct only suitable for short events (<1 hour) due to lack of toilets.
- Portable PA systems perform poorly in windy conditions.
- Rain and wind impact outdoor events.
- Enormous planning required for large events (safety, parking, accessibility).

4. Safety Concerns

- Precinct not safe for children due to proximity to busy Sturt and Pleasant Streets.
- Need for a safety fence and gate.

5. Accessibility

- No disabled toilets.
- Limited access for people with mobility needs.

Question 10: What improvements or new features for the precinct would you like to see within the Masterplan?

8/15 responses

This was a short answer response; all responses have been grouped and summarised into the following areas for suggestion of improvements or new features to be included.

1. Symbolic & Cultural Features

- Use the flagpole for cultural ceremonies.
- Create a symbolic icon of unity to represent diversity, harmony, and goodwill.

2. Essential Amenities

- Install public toilets that are accessible and close to the gardens
- Provide drinking water facilities.
- Add barbecue setup.
- Include a child-safe fence with lockable gate for safety.

3. Event Infrastructure

- Build a raised stage platform for performances.
- Add more seating and shaded areas.
- Provide protection from rain and wind (sheltered spaces).
- Improve lighting for evening events.
- Ensure reliable power access (fixed electrical points or outdoor outlets).

4. Accessibility & Safety

- Clear, accessible pathways and culturally inclusive signage.
- Controlled vehicle access for event setup.

5. Cultural Expression

- Incorporate public art and culturally significant planting.
- Designate areas for temporary stalls or cultural displays.

6. Club Facilities

- Consider a knockdown and rebuild of a modern bowling clubroom

Question 11: Is there anything else you would like to share related to the City Oval Masterplan site?

8/15 responses

This was a short answer response; all responses have been grouped and summarised into the following areas.

1. Symbolic & Cultural Enhancements

- Move flagpoles to within the Intercultural Garden.
- Add a Peace Pole to promote harmony and provide a meaningful reference for schools and community groups.
- Install a multi-faith monument to acknowledge Ballarat's growing multi-faith and multicultural identity.
- Suggested funding through grants, including community workshops for design input.
- Emphasis on creating a space that reflects unity, diversity, and goodwill.

2. Community Value

- Appreciation for the Intercultural Garden as a welcoming, inclusive, and peaceful space.
- Currently used for events like Harmony Week, Friendship Walk and vigils but limited by lack of amenities.
- With improvements (toilets, power), the Intercultural Garden could host more community events.

3. Practical Improvements

- Improved access to toilet facilities and power is essential for increased usage.
- Suggestion for fully indoor bowling green at the City Oval precinct to accommodate Ballarat's winter and serve as a regional hub.

4. Vision

- Desire for the Precinct to reflect a multicultural community lens and foster cultural and spiritual connections.

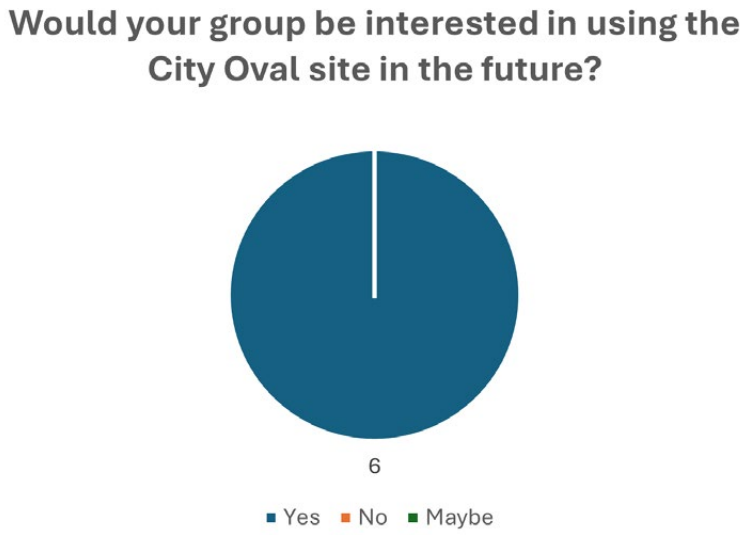
Section 3 – Future Users of the Precinct

Section three had seven responses and was for those who selected they had not used City Oval.

Question 12: Would your group be interested in using the City Oval site in the future?

7/15 responses

All respondents indicated that they would be interested in using the City Oval precinct in the future.



Question 13: What has stopped your group from using the City Oval site?

7/15 responses

This was a short answer response, with the following themes from all responses

- No toilets and lack of shelter during cold or rainy weather.
- Limited facilities and safety concerns.
- Uncertainty about community access and what types of events are allowed in the precinct.
- Lack of accessible parking, toilets, and power supply.

Question 14: What improvements or new features would encourage your group to use the City Oval site?

7/15 responses

This was a short answer response; all responses have been grouped and summarised into the following areas for suggestion of improvements or new features to be included.

1. Essential Amenities

- Access to toilets
- Shelter for protection during cold, rainy, or windy conditions.
- Power access for events and equipment.
- Additional seating throughout the space.

2. Cultural & Symbolic Features

- Installation of a Peace Pole or multiple Peace Poles (similar to Nara Peace Park in Canberra) to symbolize harmony and peace.
- Spaces for contemplation (e.g., seating in the round, benches facing nature).

- Consideration for intergenerational spaces where grandparents, parents, and children can interact.

3. Comfort & Safety Enhancements

- Hedges and dense planting along garden edges to reduce traffic noise, improve safety, and create a sense of enclosure.
- Design improvements to make the garden calmer and more welcoming for families.

4. Information & Accessibility

- Clear instructions on nearest toilets and baby changing facilities if on-site toilets cannot be built.
- Clarification on what types of events can be held at the City Oval precinct beyond sports, and pricing details for venue use.

Question 15: Is there anything else you would like to share related to the City Oval Precinct Masterplan?

7/15 responses

This was a short answer response; all responses have been grouped and summarised into the following areas.

1. Importance of Social Belonging

- Emphasis on creating spaces that foster social belonging, which helps reduce negative impacts of collective trauma.

2. Design & Experience

- Current garden feels sparse and disconnected.
- Suggestion to introduce distinct garden beds inspired by different cultures, creating an immersive experience.
- Frame the garden as a journey through world gardens to make it inviting, educational, and memorable.

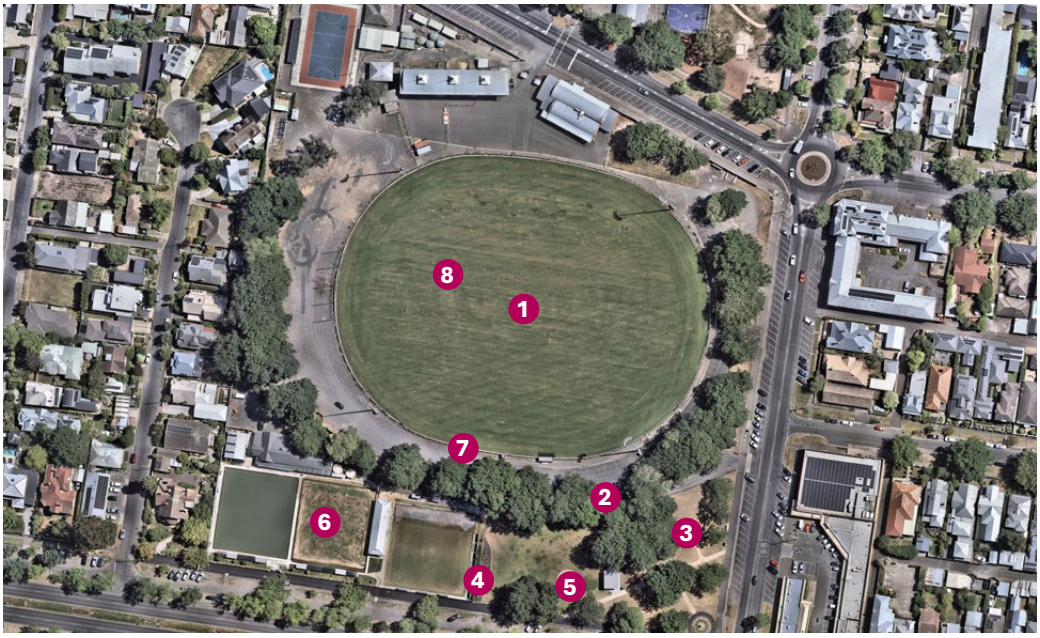
3. Basic Needs

- Make the Precinct usable for the community by providing essential amenities like power and toilets keeping the gate open along the walking path from the oval to the garden.
- Introduce clear directional signage for parking and other key amenities that support the Intercultural Garden.

MySay Social Pinpoint Respondents

The MySay page provided opportunity for community members to 'Drop a pin' on a map to tell us how they use the City Oval precinct and its elements. Respondents outlined what they loved about it and anything they thought would help deliver a better community and recreation space.

There were eight contributions to the Social Pinpoint



Responses included:

1. Cricket wicket. Oval is underutilised over summer and the surfaces at Vic Park are dangerous for cricket.
2. Walkers don't have safe separation from cars along the oak tree avenue. This should be blocked to cars as there is a major road around the oval. Entering from Pleasant St in a car is confusing as to which road to take (plus speeding is common).
3. I attended the first consultation and made BCC aware that there was a foot track along and outside the oval fence, hoping this would be developed. It was not. Hopefully this will be reconsidered.
4. More plantings of endemic species such as attractive grasses and ethnobotanical plants to support animals and insects as well as generating stories to tell of Country.
5. Simple fire pit for Wadawurrung to use when they regularly do Welcomes to Country smoking ceremony here. Could be an artistic version placed directly alongside the flagpole sand circle as suggested by KEAG Advisor Committee representative* at Intercultural Garden opening event.
6. Is a central and much needed location to add a dome/indoor green. Currently Ballarat is limited to 1x covered bowls green and as it has pokies within the venue is not the most family friendly location. Would allow for more participation in winter/inclement conditions as well- also a draw card for state events
7. Upgraded change benches with over head coaching boxes for player and team staff safety, no longer fit for purpose
8. Well, we are improving oval to accommodate cricket, blind cricket, Australian rules football and international rules football, with tuft cricket square, decks and sets of AFL type goal posts and goal nets, as well as cricket wickets and football fields, It's a new great idea for regional sports fans.

Other Submissions

In addition to the main submission channels, two further submissions were received. One through the Ageing Well Team via the Age Friendly Ballarat Survey, and one directly from a nearby resident and City Oval Bowling Club member.

The Age Friendly Ballarat submission raised concern about the lack of accessible facilities at the City Oval Bowling Club, particularly the absence of disabled toilets, noting the impact this has on participation for some community members.

The resident submission highlighted frustration with delayed upgrades to the bowls club, the need for accessible and modern facilities, and concerns about the precinct's use for noisy events that affect nearby residents. It also reflected a desire for more equitable support across different sports.

*names have been redacted

Next Steps

Using the insights gathered through Phase One of engagement, the next step is to appoint a suitably qualified consultant to prepare a draft master plan for the City Oval precinct. This draft will explore opportunities to incorporate identified community priorities, stakeholder feedback, and Council's strategic objectives, while also respecting heritage values and ensuring accessibility requirements are met.

Once the draft masterplan is prepared, Phase Two of the engagement will commence, providing the community and stakeholders with an opportunity to review the proposed recommendations, offer final feedback, and raise any remaining concerns. This phase will ensure transparency and demonstrate how community input has shaped the draft plan.

Following Phase Two engagement and refinement of the draft, a final master plan will be prepared and submitted to Council for consideration and adoption later in 2026.

Conclusion

Phase One engagement has provided a strong foundation for the future of the City Oval precinct, confirming its importance as a key sporting and community precinct. Feedback highlighted priorities such as improved accessibility, upgraded sporting facilities, enhanced public amenities, and activation opportunities for broader community use. These insights will guide the development of a draft master plan that balances heritage protection with modern functionality and inclusivity.

Council remains committed to an open and collaborative process. By continuing engagement through Phase Two and clearly demonstrating how feedback informs decisions, Council aims to deliver a master plan that supports a vibrant, safe, and welcoming precinct for all users now and into the future.

Appendix

Supporting Documents

MySay Community Survey

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Have Your Say - The City Oval Precinct Masterplan

Engagement with the community, user groups, and key stakeholders will be central to shaping a shared vision for the precinct's future. This process will explore opportunities to improve infrastructure, integrate passive open space design, support diverse community use and enhance public amenities such as safety, lighting, and accessibility.
The survey will be open from Tuesday November 18, 2025 - Sunday December 14, 2025

Section 1 - General Questions

Some answers in the section will lead to specific questions in the next section.

01. Which best describes how you use the City Oval precinct? (Select all that apply) Required

Select all that apply
☐ Organised sport (as a player, coach, official, volunteer, or committee member)
☐ Informal or unorganised activities (walking, running, with dog, with children, relaxing)
☐ Community or function spaces (Intercultural Garden, Saxon House, events, Meals on Wheels building)
☐ Nearby resident or worker
☐ I don't currently use City Oval but may in the future
☐ Other (please specify)

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02. What are your main reasons for visiting the City Oval precinct? (Select all that apply) Required

Select all that apply
☐ Attending community events
☐ Participating in sport
☐ Socialising or relaxing
☐ Use gardens or reflective space
☐ Walking or exercising a pet
☐ Walking or exercising
☐ Watching Sport
☐ Other

03. Overall, how satisfied are you with the current facilities at the City Oval precinct? Required

Select one answer only
◯ Very Satisfied
◯ Satisfied
◯ Neutral
◯ Unsatisfied
◯ Very Unsatisfied

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04.Do you know about the Intercultural Garden located at the entrance of the City Oval precinct (corner of Sturt St & Pleasant St)? Required



Select one answer only
◯ Yes
◯ No

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Only complete questions 5 and 6, if
- You answered Yes to question 4.

05. Thinking about the Intercultural Garden, what is most important to you?
Required

Rank as many as you like.

Select between 1 and 7 answers	
☐	Protect it as a quiet reflective space
☐	Support more events and activities
☐	Improve lighting and paths
☐	Provide more seating, shade or shelter
☐	Better signage or visibility
☐	Access to toilets nearby
☐	Other (please specify)

06. Provide details of other if selected

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Section 2 - Organised Sport

Answer these questions based upon you time spent at the City Oval precinct during organised sport.

Only complete this section if:

- You visit City Oval for:
  - Organised sport (as a player, coach, official, volunteer, or committee member)
  - Participating in sport
  - Watching Sport

07. Which club or association are you connected to? Required

Select all that apply
☐ Ballarat Athletics Club
☐ Ballarat Football Netball League
☐ Ballarat Football Umpires Association
☐ City Oval Bowls Club
☐ GWV Rebels
☐ Redan FNC
☐ Other

08. How often do you visit or use the City Oval precinct during your sporting season? Required

Select one answer only
◯ Daily
◯ Every few days
◯ Weekly
◯ Monthly
◯ A few times a year
◯ Rarely or never

09. Which facilities do you currently use? (Select all that apply) Required

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Select all that apply
☐ Canteen
☐ City Oval Bowls Club Rooms
☐ Football Change Rooms
☐ Netball Change Rooms
☐ Public Toilets
☐ Playing Surface (Bowls Green)
☐ Playing Surface (Netball)
☐ Playing Surface (Oval)
☐ Redan Club Rooms
☐ Saxon House
☐ Umpires Change Rooms
☐ Other

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10.What are your top priorities for sport facilities? Required

Rank as many as you like.

Select between 1 and 12 answers	
☐	Accessible entries and paths
☐	Bowls Greens
☐	Football change rooms facilities
☐	Football umpire change facilities
☐	Multi-use rooms
☐	Netball change facilities
☐	Netball Court
☐	Oval
☐	Public toilets
☐	Spectator Seating
☐	Storage
☐	Traffic Flow / Car Parking

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Section 3 - General Use

Answer these questions based upon you time spent at the City Oval precinct during periods of unorganised sport or general use.

Only complete this section if:

- You are:
  - A nearby resident or worker
  - Don't currently use City Oval but may in the future

OR

- You visit City Oval for:
  - Informal or unorganised activities (walking, running, with dog, with children, relaxing)
  - Socialising or relaxing
  - Use gardens or reflective space
  - Walking or exercising
  - Walking or exercising a pet

11. How often do you visit or use the City Oval precinct for general use?
Required

Select one answer only
◯ Daily
◯ Every few days
◯ Weekly
◯ Monthly
◯ A few times a year
◯ Rarely or never

12. What types of informal activities do you do within the City Oval precinct?
Required

E.g. Walking the dog, Kick the footy, have a picnic, enjoy a lunch break etc.

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13. Which amenities matter most for general use? Required

Rank as many as you like.

Select between 1 and 11 answers	
☐	Accessible entries and paths
☐	Bike parking
☐	Car parking
☐	Drinking water
☐	Lighting
☐	Picnic facilities
☐	Quiet/reflective areas
☐	Shade & trees
☐	Seating
☐	Sporting infrastructure (e.g. goal posts)
☐	Toilets

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Section 4 - Community and Function Space Users

Answer these questions based upon you time spent at the City Oval precinct for community event or functions.

Only complete this section if:

- You use City Oval for:
  - Community or function spaces (Intercultural Garden, Saxon House, events, Meals on Wheels building)
  - Attending community events

14. How often do you visit or use the City Oval precinct for community events or functions? Required

Select one answer only
◯ Daily
◯ Every few days
◯ Weekly
◯ Monthly
◯ A few times a year
◯ Rarely or never

15. Which spaces do you use? (Select all that apply) Required

Select all that apply
☐ City Oval Bowling Club, Club Rooms
☐ Intercultural Garden
☐ Meals on Wheels building
☐ Outdoor event areas (Oval and Surrounds)
☐ Redan FNC Club Rooms
☐ Saxon House
☐ Other

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16. How well do these spaces work for you? Required

Accessible entries and paths	Storage
◯ Very well	◯ Very well
◯ Adequate	◯ Adequate
◯ Inadequate	◯ Inadequate
◯ Not sure	◯ Not sure
◯ Not applicable	◯ Not applicable
Accessible power	**Traffic Flow / Car Parking**
◯ Very well	◯ Very well
◯ Adequate	◯ Adequate
◯ Inadequate	◯ Inadequate
◯ Not sure	◯ Not sure
◯ Not applicable	◯ Not applicable
Capacity	**Waste Collection**
◯ Very well	◯ Very well
◯ Adequate	◯ Adequate
◯ Inadequate	◯ Inadequate
◯ Not sure	◯ Not sure
◯ Not applicable	◯ Not applicable
Lighting	**Weather Protection**
◯ Very well	◯ Very well
◯ Adequate	◯ Adequate
◯ Inadequate	◯ Inadequate
◯ Not sure	◯ Not sure
◯ Not applicable	◯ Not applicable
Public Toilets	
◯ Very well	
◯ Adequate	
◯ Inadequate	
◯ Not sure	
◯ Not applicable	

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17. Thinking about community and function spaces at City Oval precinct, how strongly do you agree with the following? Required

I feel culturally safe using these spaces	Booking process is straight forward
◯ Strongly Agree	◯ Strongly Agree
◯ Agree	◯ Agree
◯ Neutral	◯ Neutral
◯ Disagree	◯ Disagree
◯ Strong Disagree	◯ Strong Disagree
◯ Not Applicable	◯ Not Applicable
The spaces feel physically safe and secure	**Availability meets my needs**
◯ Strongly Agree	◯ Strongly Agree
◯ Agree	◯ Agree
◯ Neutral	◯ Neutral
◯ Disagree	◯ Disagree
◯ Strong Disagree	◯ Strong Disagree
◯ Not Applicable	◯ Not Applicable

The facilities are good quality and well maintained
◯ Strongly Agree
◯ Agree
◯ Neutral
◯ Disagree
◯ Strong Disagree
◯ Not Applicable
The spaces are welcoming and inclusive
◯ Strongly Agree
◯ Agree
◯ Neutral
◯ Disagree
◯ Strong Disagree
◯ Not Applicable

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18. What types of events or activities should the City Oval precinct better support? Required

Section 5 - Summary

19. What improvements or new features for the precinct would you like to see identified in the City Oval Precinct Masterplan? Required

20. How do you identify? Required

Select one answer only
◯ Female
◯ Male
◯ Non-Binary
◯ Prefer not to specify

21. Which of the following age categories do you belong to? Required

Select one answer only	
◯ 15 to 19 years	◯ 55 to 64 years
◯ 20 to 24 years	◯ 65 to 74 years
◯ 25 to 34 years	◯ 75 years plus
◯ 35 to 44 years	◯ Prefer not to specify
◯ 45 to 54 years	

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22.Do you identify with any of the following groups? Required

Select all that apply
☐ LGBTQIA+
☐ First Nations
☐ Having a disability
☐ CALD (Culturally and Linguistically Diverse)
☐ Financial parameters (earn less than $650/week)
☐ None of the above
☐ Prefer not to say

23. In which suburb do you live? Required

Please return completed surveys to Chris Gardner, Coordinator Recreation Strategy and Planning, by 10:00 am on Monday, 15 December via one of the following channels:

- **In person:**
  The Phoenix Building
  25 Armstrong Street South, Ballarat
- **Postal address:**
  City of Ballarat
  Wadawurrung Country
  PO Box 655
  Ballarat VIC 3353
- **Email:**
  chrisgardner@ballarat.vic.gov.au

MySay Group Survey

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Have Your Say - The City Oval Precinct Masterplan - Group Submission Form

If you are a community or group leader and would like to submit ideas on behalf of your group, use this form to share feedback that reflects the views and needs of your members, ensuring their voices are included in shaping the future of the City Oval precinct.

Your input is vital to help us understand how City Oval site can best serve the entire community. The submission form will be open from Tuesday 18 November 2025 - Sunday 14 December 2025.

Introduction Questions

01. Name of Group: Required

02. Type of group: Required
E.g. Community, Sporting, Cultural, Charity etc.

03. Number of members in your group Required

04. How have you used, or currently use the City Oval site? Required

Select all that apply
☐ Our group is currently a tenant
☐ Have held a community event or gathering
☐ Not used the site yet but would like to

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Tenant or Past Users

Only complete these questions if you:

- Are currently a tenant of City Oval
- Have held a community event or gathering at City Oval

05. How often do you use the City Oval site for community gatherings, events or functions? Required

Select one answer only
◯ Daily
◯ Every few days
◯ Weekly
◯ Monthly
◯ A few times a year
◯ Yearly

06. Which spaces do you use? (Select all that apply) Required

Select all that apply
☐ City Oval Bowling Club and Club Rooms
☐ Intercultural Garden
☐ Meals on Wheels building
☐ Outdoor event areas (Oval and Surrounds)
☐ Redan FNC Club Rooms
☐ Saxon House
☐ Other

07. Do you feel the spaces are welcoming and inclusive? Required

Select one answer only
◯ Yes
◯ No
◯ Not Applicable

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08. What works well, or has worked well, for your group when holding an event, gathering or function?

09. What challenges or limitations do you face when using the space?
(E.g. facilities, accessibility, safety, parking)

10. What improvements or new features for the precinct would you like to see within the Masterplan?
(E.g. pathways, access to power, lighting, access to toilets, parking and traffic flow, shade or shelter, seating and resting places)

11. Is there anything else you would like to share related to the City Oval Masterplan site?

Future Users

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Only complete these questions if you:

- Have not used City Oval yet but would like to

12. Would your group be interested in using the City Oval site in the future? Required

Select one answer only
◯ Yes
◯ No
◯ Maybe

13. What has stopped your group from using the City Oval site? Required
(E.g. facilities, accessibility, safety, parking)

14. What improvements or new features would encourage your group to use the City Oval site?
(E.g. pathways, access to power, lighting, access to toilets, parking and traffic flow, shade or shelter, seating and resting places)

15. Is there anything else you would like to share related to the City Oval Precinct Masterplan?

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Please return completed surveys to Chris Gardner, Coordinator Recreation Strategy and Planning, by 10:00 am on Monday, 15 December via one of the following channels:

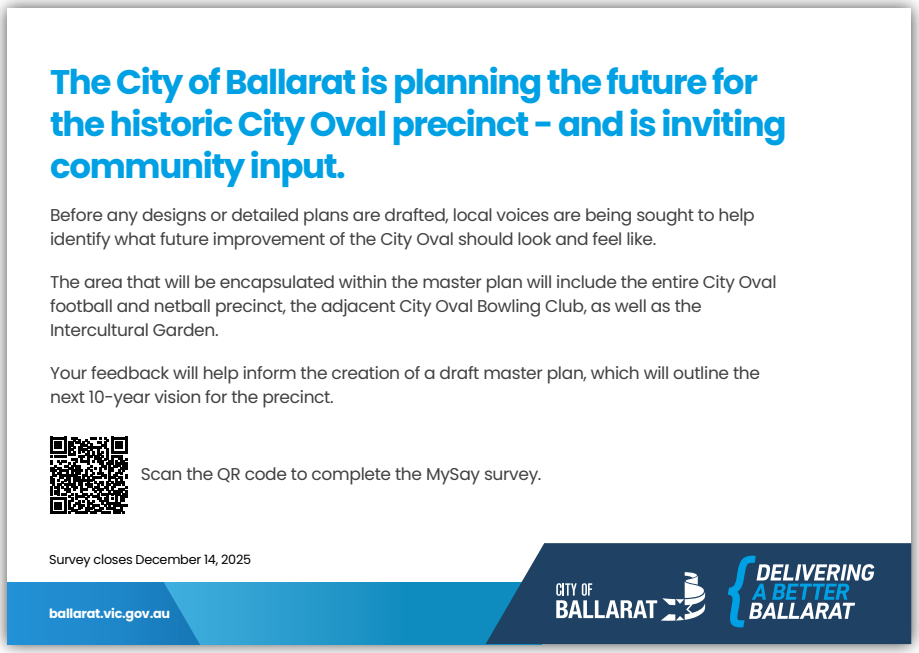
- **In person:**
  The Phoenix Building
  25 Armstrong Street South, Ballarat
- **Postal address:**
  City of Ballarat
  Wadawurrung Country
  PO Box 655
  Ballarat VIC 3353
- **Email:**
  chrisgardner@ballarat.vic.gov.au

Promotional Material - Reserve Signage



Promotional Material - Postcard





Promotional Material - Letter to the residents

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PO Box 655
Ballarat, Vic, 3353
AUSTRALIA

Telephone: 03 5320 5500
Facsimile: 03 5333 4061

Date: 19 November 2025
Your Ref: City Oval Masterplan
Enquiries: (03) 5320 5500

To the Resident

Dear Sir/Madam

RE: CITY OVAL MASTERPLAN

The City of Ballarat is developing a masterplan for the City Oval precinct, a much-loved community, sporting, and recreation space with a proud history spanning over 127 years. This project seeks to enhance the reserve's functionality, accessibility, and amenity for a wide range of users, while preserving its heritage significance and role as a key community and recreation precinct.

Engagement with the community, user groups, and key stakeholders will be central to shaping a shared vision for the reserve's future. As part of the City Oval Masterplan process, it is essential to understand the community and stakeholders' current use, aspirations, and priorities for the precinct.

This process will explore opportunities to improve infrastructure, integrate passive open space design, support diverse community use and enhance public amenity such as safety, public lighting, and accessibility.

A MySay page has been created (link below) which provides detailed information and an opportunity to provide feedback on how you use the reserve and what the future opportunities for the City Oval precinct are.

https://mysay.ballarat.vic.gov.au/city-oval-precinct-masterplan

We are committed to working with the community to shape this vision. Phase one consultation is open from Tuesday 18 November – Sunday 14 December.

Additionally, we have three drop-in sessions available to meet Council Officers who are working directly on this project:

- **Wednesday 26 November, 11:00am – 1:00pm** at the Intercultural Garden (Crn Sturt and Pleasant Streets) – *If there is adverse weather, the session will be held at the City Oval Bowling Club next door.*
- **Thursday 27 November, 5:00pm - 7:00pm** at City Oval Bowling Club (1406 Sturt Steet)
- **Sunday 30 November, 11:00am – 1:00pm** at SpringFest (City of Ballarat stall located in section L in the North Gardens)

Following the consultation period, the City of Ballarat will produce an engagement report summarising everything we have heard, and this will inform the development of the draft masterplan.

Should you have any queries, please contact me on (03) 5320 5500.

Yours sincerely,

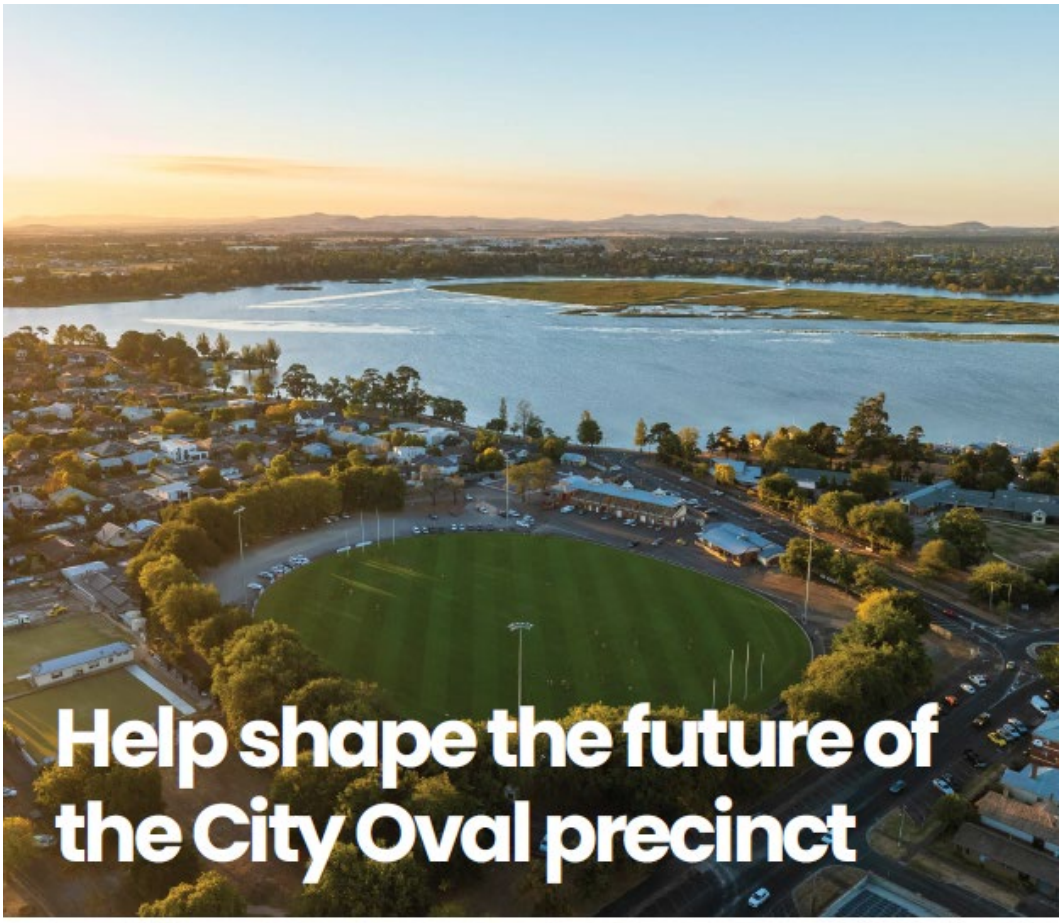
Chris Gardner

Chris Gardner

Coordinator Sport & Recreation Strategic Planning
chrisgardner@ballarat.vic.gov.au
(03) 5320 5500

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The City of Ballarat is planning the future for the historic City Oval precinct - and is inviting community input.

Before any designs or detailed plans are drafted, local voices are being sought to help identify what future improvement of the City Oval should look and feel like.

The area that will be encapsulated within the master plan will include the entire City Oval football and netball precinct, the adjacent City Oval Bowling Club, as well as the Intercultural Garden.

Your feedback will help inform the creation of a draft master plan, which will outline the next 10-year vision for the precinct.

Scan the QR code to complete the MySay survey.

Survey closes December 14, 2025

ballarat.vic.gov.au

CITY OF BALLARAT

DELIVERING A BETTER BALLARAT

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CITY OF BALLARAT

Customer Service
Monday to Friday, 8.30am–5pm

Phone
5320 5500

Email
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Postal Address
PO Box 655
Ballarat, VIC 3353

Website
ballarat.vic.gov.au

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