THE ZONE
WHAT WE HEARD

Background

The Zone project is an initiative from Better Places Place Guides.
Community feedback gathered during the Place Guide projects consistently revealed a significant gap in recreational opportunities for young people in Altona North.
This feedback highlighted the pressing need for more facilities and activities tailored to adolescents aged 12-17, aiming to provide them with engaging options while fostering connections with their peers and the wider community.
In response, The Zone project was conceived to create a dedicated space for young people within Brooklyn and Altona North. Preliminary assessments have identified Paisley Park as a suitable location for this initiative, due to its strategic proximity to schools and accessible public transportation networks.

Initial consultation

A scope-defining stage was conducted with a small local youth focus group to understand the project's scope better. Based on this input, three draft options were developed.
The public exhibition period ran from 16th July to the 23rd August 2024.
It included two youth focus group sessions, one on-site drop-in session held at Paisley Park, and an online consultation on Participate. The project received 84 online survey responses, 30 attendees at the online drop-in session and 700 visits to the project page.
View the full consultation report here.

Subsequent consultation

Based on the feedback received a final concept plan was prepared. Consultation on the final concept plan ran from 10th February to the 21st March 2025. This included an online survey on Participate.
We received 16 comments on the final concept plans. A summary of the responses is as follows:

- Concerns about the pump track being unnecessary, small, or unsafe and suggestions to make it more challenging for teenagers.
- Requests for a full basketball court, soccer nets, netball, tennis, and cricket facilities.
- Suggestions to include a multipurpose wall/rebound wall, down ball courts, and outdoor gym equipment for affordability and exercise.
- Emphasis on adding public toilets, drinking fountains, shaded areas, picnic tables, and BBQ facilities.
- Comments on the design being disappointing, with suggestions for improvement to better serve the community.
- Suggestions to incorporate elements for bushwalks, festivals, and other community events.
- Concerns about antisocial behaviour and the need for CCTV and lighting for safety.
- Requests for more trees and improved shading for comfort.
- Suggestions to rename the area to reflect its intended use.

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We also asked the community to rate what they thought of the concept plan.
One being very poor and five being very good. Below is a graph of the results.

1 What do you think of the concept plan?

Slider | Skipped: 2 | Answered: 14 (87.5%)

Average 3.00



Hide contribution data

1	2	3	4	5	Count	Average	Median	Min	Max
14.29% 2	21.43% 3	28.57% 4	21.43% 3	14.29% 2	14	3.00	3.00	1	5

Next steps

April 2025	Preparation of Detailed Design and Documentation Drawings
May 2025	Project Tendering Process
June - September 2025	Anticipated Construction Period (TBC)

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