



WHAT THE **COMMUNITY** TOLD US

on the proposed Sunshine Coast ecological park

Sunshine Coast Ecological Park – Stage 2 Engagement Summary

Thank you to everyone who contributed their thoughts and comments through the online and face to face engagement activities during Stage 2 between 25 August – 14 September 2022.

We had more than 500 interactions across a variety of activities including an interactive map, survey, five community pop-up events, information sessions and our Community Reference Group.

Your feedback on our draft concept design and emerging strategies was very positive and showed a genuine interest in and support for our vision **‘to create a place of cherished nature and ecological wonder for generations to discover and enjoy.’**

Highlights of the engagement results included:

- 86% of respondents indicated the park is a space they would be inspired to visit.
- 82% of respondents believed the park would be a valuable asset to the Sunshine Coast community.
- 79% of respondents agreed our strategies reflect what is important to them.

Your favourite park elements in the concept design were:

- Walking trails
- The wetland
- Loop path
- Forest lookout
- Treetop bridge

While the vast majority of feedback was positive and supportive of our proposed concept design, there were some areas the community wanted more clarity on:

Pedestrian connections to Mary Cairncross Scenic Reserve

Support for connections to Mary Cairncross Scenic Reserve varied between enthusiastic support to connect the two parks and ‘share the load’ while others felt that a connection/s could potentially have negative impacts on Mary Cairncross Scenic Reserve.

Feedback across multiple platforms indicated further investigation and consideration needs to be given to the connection/s proposed in the material.

Balance between recreation and conservation

The park aims to find a balance between humancentric recreational activities and a safe space for flora and fauna to thrive. Feedback suggested a desire for more conservational space, separate from human interaction.

What’s next?

We will refine the design and draft a masterplan which is intended to be presented to the community in early 2023 as the next stage in this project.



Key themes of Stage 2 engagement

Overarching		Traffic	Increased traffic considerations were raised, predominately by members of the local community, including safe entry and exit from the park
Recreation and Wellness		Walking based activity	Walking trails were well supported and identified as the highest priority from survey participants. Walking based activities such as the loop path and treetop walk received significant support.
		Types of 'recreation'	A range of different recreational activities were suggested for inclusion in the park. As our planning progresses, we will clarify what recreational activities are suitable for the park, in keeping with its ecological values.
Ecology and Restoration		Revegetation	Clearly identified areas of revegetation and separation from human centric elements of the park were requested.
		Wildlife connections and habitat protection	Advocacy for fauna connections throughout the ecological park and extended throughout known wildlife corridors in the hinterland was demonstrated. Local neighbours and community groups were passionate about local connections for both people and fauna.
Research, Education and Culture		Connection to Country	Community members shared their strong support for the influence of Traditional Owners in the park's design. This feedback was recorded across several engagement activities with suggestions for cultural activities, spaces and events.
		Education	Desire for the ecological park to be a place of learning and education. The community was interested to know more about these potential opportunities and how they could be incorporated into the design.

Some of your feedback, as said by you:

'The interaction between people and nature seems balanced and achieved through the draft concept.'

'Ensure a place that acknowledges and promotes the traditional owners of the land.'

'Great. Wetland and piccabeens would provide a nice contrast to regular rainforest and be entirely appropriate in a hinterland ecological park.'



www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au
07 5475 7272

