

**Maitland Garden Village Community Survey**  
Perseverance Park Redevelopment  
29 October 2013



**Context:**

We spoke to 14 members of the MGV community to ask them what they are looking for in the redevelopment of Perseverance Park. The surveyed group covered an age span of 10 to 81 years old. It included crèche teachers, primary school children, members of the Green Light Project and Residents Association, and other involved members of the community. We focused discussion on what they think should be the first priority of the redevelopment project. After speaking to only a few people, we began to see similarities in their responses.

**Community Concerns:**

Based on the responses noted above and the conversations had with community members, there are underlying concerns as to why the trends of fencing, benches and trees, and play structures were continuously brought to our attention.

Safety:

Many community members feel as though the park is not a safe place for children to go. The park is too open and in close proximity to a road. Some feel that there are not enough eyes on the park throughout the day. Children themselves said that they do not enjoy the park because they do not feel safe.

*Specific Findings:*

- Fencing
  - 8/14 stated fencing to be their first priority
  - 12/14 mentioned fencing during conversation

*Suggested Solutions:* fencing, security, speed bump on Perseverance Rd., crosswalk

### Shade:

Currently there is one tree that provides sufficient shade in Perseverance Park. However there is not a place to sit under the tree other than the ground. The older members of the community expressed that they would be more likely to use the park and to bring their grandchildren along if there was a shady place to sit. One person suggested on placing benches at different angles, as to be able to enjoy the beautiful view of Table Mountain.

### *Specific Findings:*

- Benches and trees
  - 3/14 stated benches and shade to be their first priority
  - 10/14 mentioned benches and shade during conversation

*Suggested Solutions:* trees similar to the ones along Perseverance Rd., benches at different angles, picnic tables, barbeque area

### Keeping Children Entertained:

Children easily can easily get bored. Currently there is one useable play structure in the park, the slide, which is unsafe and not recommended for use. Many community members have listed various structures that they believe would keep the children entertained. In addition, they mentioned the importance of leaving open space for children to play soccer and cricket.

### *Specific Findings:*

- Play Structures
  - 3/14 stated park equipment to be their first priority
  - 12/14 mentioned play structures during conversation

*Suggested Solutions:* play equipment, open space, chip stand, programs and activities

#### Play Equipment

- Swings
- Slide
- Jungle Gym
- Sand Box
- Basketball Net
- See-Saw
- Turn Table

### **Quotations**

“That is not a park suitable for children”.

- Village Tods Educare Centre staff member  
*reaction to the mention of Perseverance Park*

“For me, at that park, the fencing”.

- Village Tods Educare Centre staff member  
*when asked about first the first priority of the project*

“I don’t like it”.

- 10 year old child  
*when asked why she does not go to the park*