

Summary

Application - LEGACY20-2100054

Project Essential Details

Project Title Reibey's Green

Brief Project Description Reibey's Green will be the heart of Hunters Hill LGA, a place where services and open space connect, with a renewed focus on activity; a place for everyone, of all ages, attracting students from nearby schools, older residents from nearby seniors housing and residents generally from across Hunters Hill. Reibey's Green will be activated and in use across the day from early morning to evening.

Project Subject

Project Beneficiaries

Project Anticipated - Gender Inclusion

Project Anticipated - Gender Inclusion Measurement

Project Anticipated - Gender Inequality Outcomes **Will your project address gender inequality?**

Project Start Date 01/05/2021

Project End Date 31/12/2022

Total Amount Requested

Total Project Cost

Amount Requested Year 1

Amount Requested Year 2

Amount Requested Year 3

Long Project Description Hunter's Hill Council is proposing Reibey's Green as our submission for funding support. Reibey's Green will generate a cohesive mix of communal activity, and articulate the unique personality of the surrounding locality, in line with community feedback through the 2019 Local Strategic Planning Statement process.

1. Maintain the character of Hunters Hill and Figtree Park by improving the presentation and use of the area through regular public domain improvements and activities and services, like community gardens, playgrounds for children, maintaining parks and reserves and retaining the croquet club.
2. Maintain the 'sense of community' of Hunters Hill by improving its connectivity and access as it is divided by the overpass.
3. Maintain the character of Hunters Hill and manage growth by protecting heritage cottages on Gladesville Road, controlling overdevelopment of sites, addressing development impacts on community assets like Figtree Park

Reibey's Green is located within the boundary of Matthew Street, Gladesville Road and Ryde Road. This site has a mix use of green

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space, community service buildings, businesses, shops and limited parking.

The project looks to connect the two main roads that border the precinct, Gladesville and Ryde Rds, and connect the retail and service shops to the residents. Reibey's Green is a community driven sanctuary within the city. The site will become a destination that is collaborative, creative and activated, grounded with identity that meshes the old use and new function respectively. The Village Green will generate a cohesive mix of communal activity while articulating the unique personality of the surrounding locality.

The outcome of this project is to improve and activate Figtree Park, whilst continuing to provide quality accommodation for community service organisations that currently operate from rundown buildings. The park area is currently underutilised. Reibey's Green project will open the space up to community use and includes

- Ensuring that there is no net loss of public open space.
 - Substantial design and landscape work to invite the community to make place in the park.
- Creative and effective traffic management and parking provisions + incorporating behavioural change in the way people access and use the space
- Potential acquisition of property increasing the available green space by 454m²
- Reestablish Figtree Playground as a public art play sculpture
 - Provide spaces for entertainment including a stage and screen.
 - Provide place for community to meet and connect
 - Provision of space that can be used for passive and active recreation.

Reibey's Green is named in honour of Mary Reibey, who was an emancipist that went on to become one of the first successful businesswomen in Australia, and settled in Hunters Hill in 1836. Mary Reibey is immortalised for her commercial and community contributions on the \$20 note. The land for this project was once part of Mary Reibey's grants, and would be a relevant way to recognise the heritage of the area, a core value of the community.

Project Expanded Details

Project Rationale

Project Activities

Expected Outcomes

Measures of Success

In addition to the overall delivery of a project that is embraced by the community and recognised through satisfaction surveys annually, increased visitation and dwell time will be a metric used to measure success of Reibey's Green.

Council has been measuring visitation to the park and community buildings, and a summary is attached to this application. The

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current dwell time is around 2 minutes. We would hope to increase this to 15 mins+, in addition to the number of visitors to the site.

Council will use the Evaluation Tool for Public Space and Public Life throughout the design and delivery

Acquittal and Evaluation

Completed Activities

Project Changes

Actual Outcomes

Gender Lens Consideration - Actual Did you apply a gender lens to your work?

Project Inequality Results - Actual Did your project/program address gender inequality?

Gender Lens Result - Actual What percentage of this project/program's beneficiaries identified as women or girls?

Levels of Success

Lessons Learnt

Jurisdictions

Electorate Lane Cove

Legacy

Type of project Creation of new high-quality public and open spaces
Enhancement of existing public and open spaces

Type of public or open space Open spaces and parklands
Civic plazas, town squares and main street precincts

Legacy project community benefits Access to nature: by providing residents a place to experience nature - many of the closest located residents live in large aged care facilities surrounding the Gladesville Road end of the park, or live in the apartment blocks on Gladesville and Ryde roads. Having a place that is green, open and free to access is important to their health.

Connects community to local business: there are currently over 40 businesses trading from the streets surrounding Reibey's Green. The design intention of this project is to create a connection visually and physically from Gladesville road to Ryde road, and create a place the businesses can trade on. It is hoped that the success of this space will in future attract investment from businesses, both old and new, who see and value Reibey's Green.

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The current design is inward and does not invite people in, and provides no passive surveillance. This program will open the space up and create an invitation to participate and connect.

Enhances community: Council owns the properties located on Gladesville Road abutting Reibey's Green, except one. The service offering from these buildings are valued and established. Creating a place these services can better utilise for respite, for creative and for recreational uses of the members and the hundreds of volunteers who utilise the area will allow for opportunity to collaborate across groups, connect community members to new groups and opportunities and potentially increase the attraction to volunteering for organisations that run there, such as Meals on Wheels.

Increased walkability: Ryde and Gladesville Roads are busy and filled with cars. Students from local schools Joeyes and Villa Maria walk around the park rather than using the space currently. The design will create an avenue and invitation, and scope will develop a number of pause points that attract the students.

Legacy project community members

Reibey's Green is the heart of Hunters Hill LGA, surrounded by some of the busiest connecting roads in the area. The current space is underutilised because it is uninviting and for many, inaccessible, particularly from the Gladesville Road entry where you would need to navigate through a poorly designed car park.

A key design element of the project is to create a connection to the community through one of the council owned properties on Gladesville Road. This connection point will be accessible and allow for people to better utilise the space. There is public transport on both roads, and a Community Transport provision that operates from one of the buildings on Gladesville Road.

The project will look at the provision of safe travelling options for the services in the area, through the commissioning of a traffic management study.

Reibey's Green will incorporate the principles of Universal Design across all elements of the project, from consultation to delivery. The space will be designed to encourage and attract people to stay.

The design concept will consider all the elements of the landscape and provide safe and engaging solutions to ensure people can stay at Reibey Green such as.

Play:

The intention of the space is to encourage people of all ages and abilities, and to also be child friendly, so the reintroduction of an invitation to play will be incorporated .

Toilets: the first Changing Places public toilet in the LGA will be installed. The closest public toilets is over 1km from the precinct.

Seating: Places to stop and sit, alone or together, formally and informally, will make up a large part of the design.

Lighting: the area currently is not lit and does not invite people into the area. The design will include the installation of beautiful and sustainable lighting solutions.

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Legacy filling the gap

Reibey's Green will be the first green town centre in the LGA. The current open space offerings are focused on sport or individual recreation. This project will look to create a communal place where people of all ages and abilities can connect. The project increases the green space offered in the community through the potential acquisition of 2 Ryde Road, which would increase the footprint by 450sqm and provide safer and more inviting connections to the space for the community from the Ryde Road entry. Hunters Hill LGA has one of the highest social housing populations per capita in NSW; Reibey's Green will offer a place where all residents, including our most vulnerable are encouraged and invited to connect through the design of recreational experiences that have no cost.

Legacy district and regional communities

Reibey's Green is complimentary and supportive of the community's commitment to urban public spaces, merging centralised village green space, community service delivery, and a new urban village focus for the Hunter's Hill community.

It is intended to create space for cultural offerings, through the inclusion of stage/screen area. This area could be used for performances, speeches, community festival and events, markets and fairs, or other uses as permitted in the Plan of Management. There is currently not a cultural open space offering in the Hunters Hill LGA. The location of Figtree Park is ideal for this provision, as it is central, connected to public transport, and the community organisations and businesses. The closest similar offerings would be The Canopy at Lane Cove or Ryde Park which are both approximately 5kms from Reibey's Green. The location is the heart of Hunters Hill and the activation and programming of this project will reflect the significance of this, creating a high quality and much needed community meeting space that is accessible to all.

PP11 alignment

The current site is not an attractive or inviting open space and the community use supports this statement. The development of Reibey's Green as a green town centre aligns to the premiers priority - by increasing the quality, more of the residents in walking distance will use this space more, some for the first time. The space design will delight and invite people of all ages and abilities to connect, to belong or just to be. The space will also support the local economy, with more people being drawn to the area, more regularly. The intention in the design is to acquire 2 Ryde Rd as additional green space and a focal entry point to the site, increasing the green footprint for the precinct. For many of our residents particularly those residing in the apartments and multiple aged care facilities, this place will

PP12 Trees

Reibey's Green will commit to increasing the green canopy of the park by a minimum 10%. Currently, Figtree Park is predominately green open space with landscaped trees, shrubs and plantings with a series of small stone and shrub artforms and monumental artworks scattered throughout the landscape. The vegetation is in good condition with the exception of aged native trees. These trees will be interplanted and mature trees will be planted.

Provide a short summary on how the project support

The design will be informed by relevant NSW Government principles including Greener Places, Better Placed and Everyone

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Can Play, and will draw on the Public Spaces Charter that is currently in draft.

The recent Figtree Park Plan of Management process highlighted in the draft State Strategic Plan – A Vision for Crown Land 2020 the priorities to expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience and strengthen and support evolving community connections. The outcomes prioritise the use of Crown land for green and open space in urban areas; work with partners to realise green and open space outcomes; sustain the places where people come together; promote multi-use within community hubs; partner with the organisations that serve our communities; facilitate investment on Crown land.

This project supports Councils plans and strategies including:

- # Community Strategic Plan 2018-2028
- # Local Strategic Planning Statement
- # Draft Community Infrastructure Plan 2020
- # Hunter's Hill LEP 2012
- # Hunter's Hill DCP 2013.

The Draft Community Infrastructure Plan introduced the "Village Green Hub" concept for this precinct, and outlined Council's strategy to provide a Community and Civic Hub to integrate improved community services with great place-making and provide increased opportunities for connected neighbourhoods.

Legacy - community involvement

In September last year, Council began the consultation and engagement process for Figtree Park as part of Plan of Management requirements. Residents were asked to complete the "People and Places" Survey, using a questionnaire and Social Pinpoint. In addition, key stakeholders were invited to COVID Safe engagement workshops. There was 566 responses to the survey. This information was used to help develop the Draft POM for Figtree Park.

Once this project is given the green light, Council will develop a detailed engagement plan that is supported by the Community Engagement Strategy attached to this application. The plan will incorporate the principles of IAP2. Early and often engagement will be critical to the success of this project.

Legacy - Total grant request 475000

Legacy value for money

The size of the project is in line with the budget, setting a realistic delivery.

It provides Council with a once in a lifetime opportunity to create a legacy project - through the acquisition of land to increase green public open space, and the connection of two major roads for the community.

The budget allows for the addition of amenities such as a public accessible amenity, that will encourage and attract use and increase dwell time.

The impact of the project will be significant to the residents, broader community and the businesses, and allows Council to deliver on a number of committed strategic outcomes set in plans such as the Community Strategic Plan, the Community

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Infrastructure Plan and the Local Strategic Planning Statement, responding to the community needs and desires.

Council officers through the PCG will control the project delivery to ensure milestones are met and budget is on track.

Legacy Councils capacity to deliver this project

Council will create an internal project control group consisting of the Manager of Place and Projects, the Director of Service Delivery and Special Projects, the Finance Manager, the Parks Planner and the Manager of Asset Design. This team will meet weekly and utilise collaborative project management tools to maintain the program controls.

Council will engage external consultants to design the project using competitive tender.

Council has the recently finalised the draft plan of management process for Figtree Park which defines the permitted uses.

Grants General

Does your council have public liability insurance Yes