

Walter Mildenhall Park Community Voice Survey September 2023



Walter Mildenhall Park Community Voice Survey

About PublicVoice

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1 Introduction

This report synthesises feedback from a community-wide survey focusing on the redevelopment of Walter Mildenhall Park. The insights collected will assist in developing a draft design for the park, which will be shared with the community for further feedback later this year.

2 Key findings

Below are the key findings from the community engagement process.

Community feedback in a nutshell



The community feedback gathered paints a picture of a collective desire for a space that serves diverse interests and needs. From innovative playgrounds that spark creativity to gardens that foster community engagement and sports facilities that cater to various athletic interests to cultural spaces that celebrate local heritage, the envisioned park reflects a harmonious balance between recreation, relaxation, cultural expression, and community connection.

Safety, accessibility, and inclusivity are paramount themes woven into every park design aspect. Respondents emphasise thoughtful design considerations, practical amenities, and measures to ensure a welcoming and secure environment. The feedback also reveals what the community doesn't want, providing nuanced insights that guide the park's development away from potential pitfalls.

The community's voice rings clear: Walter Mildenhall Park is not just a place to play, exercise, or relax; it's a symbol of Naenae's identity, a space where people of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds can come together. It's a canvas for creativity, a stage for cultural expression, and a sanctuary for well-being. The key findings below delve into these themes, offering a comprehensive roadmap for turning this collective vision into a tangible reality.

"I think this is an opportunity to create where people can come to gather and enjoy a communal space. Creating a space where you can bring a picnic to enjoy some food and enjoy the outdoors would be great for Naenae. It will be great to have a space where people can skate I think it's important to create separation and have an area where you can sit and relax or wander through. Due to its location you don't just want it to act as a transitional space between the pool and town centre. It's important that it can also be a destination."

Type of activities



In response to the question "What types of activities would you like to do and see happening in Walter Mildenhall Park?", the survey results reveal a strong community desire for a multifaceted and inclusive space. Key themes identified include:

Play: The community is keen on creating an inclusive park with various play options. This includes traditional swings and slides and sensory play areas catering to children of different ages and abilities. The desire is to create a space that stimulates creativity and fun, encouraging children to explore and interact. Accessibility for disabled children and innovative equipment beyond standard pre-made structures are also emphasised.

Community: There is a strong emphasis on fostering family-friendly and culturally inclusive spaces. Community members value amenities like BBQ areas, picnic spots, and interactive elements that can bring people together for social gatherings. They also highlight the importance of representing the diverse cultures of Naenae, creating spaces that celebrate diversity and offer enjoyment for everyone, regardless of age or background.

Design considerations: Respondents stress the importance of a well-thought-out design, focusing on practical aspects like seating, shading, accessibility, and pet-friendly spaces. They want open spaces encouraging safety and visibility, with pathways catering to everyone, including those with disabilities. Using natural materials over concrete and focusing on well-maintained facilities is also mentioned, reflecting a desire for a welcoming and user-friendly environment.

Wheeled activities: There is a strong interest in spaces accommodating wheeled activities like skateboarding and biking. The community desires safe, inclusive areas catering to different ages and experience levels. Emphasising safety and accessibility, they envision areas like skate parks and pump tracks that provide opportunities for physical activity and skill development while being fun and engaging.

Gardens: The preference for gardens revolves around merging aesthetic appeal with community engagement. Respondents wish to see the inclusion of native plants, open grass areas, decorative gardens, and community gardening spaces. This reflects a connection to local flora and a desire to foster communal interaction, creating spaces where people can relax, enjoy nature, and participate in community gardening.

Leisure activities: The community envisions activities catering to relaxation and physical fitness. This includes walking trails for strolls, quiet spaces for reading or reflection, and exercise areas or equipment for those interested in fitness. The responses paint a picture of a park supporting mental relaxation and physical well-being, offering diverse options for different interests and needs.

Sports: There is solid support for facilities that cater to various traditional sports such as basketball, soccer, rugby, and tennis. Respondents expressed the need for specific areas for different activities, emphasising the importance of good lighting, seating, and water fountains.

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Suggestions, like adding a full-sized ice rink or volleyball nets, are also made, reflecting a desire for a multifunctional sports hub that caters to a wide range of athletic interests.

Arts: Community members desire spaces that foster creativity and cultural expression. They see the potential for mixed-use spaces that promote community engagement and creativity, with suggestions for outdoor stages, art installations, cultural and artistic displays, and live music performances, enhancing the vibrant cultural life of the community.

Security/Safety: Safety and security are paramount for the community. Respondents highlight the need for good lighting, CCTV surveillance, and design features that deter anti-social behaviour. They also mention the importance of fencing, especially in playgrounds, and the importance of well-lit areas for evening use. Overall, the community stresses the importance of creating a safe and secure space for families and individuals of all ages and abilities.

Respondents envision a versatile park that caters to various interests and needs, reflecting the community's aspiration for a vibrant, welcoming, and safe hub.

*Older kids/teenagers activities super important - skating/scootering already happening. 3 a side basketball, A good fort is popular with all ages! Good places to sit - *undercover* Quality playground -including 'free play' elements of some sort i.e. not all swings and slides*

Spaces for people of all ages to interact. To relax at tables and eat under trees, walk in gardens and cultured gaming spaces for adults. What is your Asian demographic (Tai chi area) Chess area, at tables for two. larger tables for bigger groups. Playground based on what is at Brooklyn Community Centre... They have mini tramps in the ground tunnels and climbing area on soft mats, all quite contained. We have to repopulate with plants and educate on creating a better future via our environment and flowers like Mitchell Park by Hutt Hospital, maybe think about how we could create a programme like Kew Gardens in the UK (Taking inspiration from) ...We have local groups via Timebank up at Wesley Rata and other Naenae groups doing cool stuff that could be a part with support.

Design



Community members were invited to share their design preferences for the park. Feedback indicates that respondents favour a balanced blend of planting and open spaces. Moreover, there is a pronounced preference for the park to be interactive and playable, highlighting the community's desire for a space that encourages engagement and enjoyment for all ages and abilities.

"We have a few big traditional open spaces in Naenae already (eg naenae park). Would be good to see something more modern, maybe with different activity zones if there's room."

What the community doesn't want



Community members expressed a range of concerns and preferences relating to various aspects of Walter Mildenhall Park's design:

- **Security/Safety:** Strong emphasis on good lighting, open spaces, and the absence of hidden areas. Respondents also want measures against anti-social behaviours like drinking, smoking, and loud music.
- **Design:** Preferences for shade, wheelchair accessibility, and natural materials are voiced, opposing concrete elements and inaccessible designs.
- **Recreation:** Mixed opinions on skate parks and bike parks, with some prioritising calm garden spaces and others highlighting the benefits for children of all ages.
- **Play:** Diverse feedback on equipment, with calls for innovation and concerns about water features. A common request is simple, traditional playground items like swings and slides.
- **Flora and fauna:** Varied opinions on the balance between play facilities and gardens, focusing on native plants and concerns about toxic elements.
- **Other considerations:** Topics include potential name changes, value-adding facilities, and caution against excessive spending on art at the expense of functional features.
- **Animals:** Some respondents oppose dogs in the park and are concerned about ducks in ponds due to potential health risks.

The community feedback paints a picture of a desire for a safe, inclusive, and multifaceted park that balances recreational activities with aesthetic considerations. The feedback reflects a nuanced understanding of the community's diverse needs and preferences, emphasising the importance of a thoughtful and collaborative design approach.

"Opposed to having walls or obstructions where you can't see right through the park, should be accessible and easily viewed so it is safe for all ages at most times"

"I would hate for the whole area to be turned into asphalt- walkways to park areas and some greenery . The paths should be accessible (ie not deep shingle - get proper advice on the best type of surface to use before contracting the job out). This will also help caregivers with prams as well as toddlers and bikes."

"Native plants. I don't care about bright flowers and looking pretty. Just lots of native plants and even plarks with corresponding information to educate kids or even adults that go through and explore."

Preferred time of park use



The survey results reveal a clear preference among respondents for using the park during the daytime and on weekends, with 71% (275 respondents) and 64% (247 respondents) indicating these times, respectively. These preferences likely reflect the typical leisure patterns of the community, with daytime and weekends being the most convenient and popular times for outdoor activities.

Night-time usage is considerably less popular, with only 17% (64 respondents) indicating a preference for visiting the park after dark. This may reflect concerns over safety or lack of lighting.

"I would use the park in the evenings and weekends. Some good lighted pathways would help make it a nice place to use in the evenings."

What's most important for the community?



Community members were asked to share their final thoughts or suggestions about the future of Walter Mildenhall Park, revealing what's most important in shaping the park's development. The collective aspiration emerged for an inclusive, multifaceted community space prioritising key aspects such as inclusivity, accessibility, safety, and diverse activities.

The following key themes, reflecting the community's vision and expectations, were identified:

- **Community:** Desire for a family-friendly, inclusive park that celebrates diversity and fosters interactivity.
- **Security/Safety:** Emphasis on creating a safe and secure environment through thoughtful design and monitoring.
- **Design considerations:** Importance of practical and aesthetic design elements that enhance accessibility and enjoyment.
- **Play:** Call for inclusive, accessible play areas catering to various ages and abilities.
- **Gardens:** Interest in accessible gardens featuring native flora and community gardening spaces.
- **Wheeled activities:** Desire facilities supporting wheeled activities for all skill levels.
- **Leisure activities:** Focus on relaxation and fitness opportunities, balancing physical well-being with mental relaxation.
- **Culture:** Commitment to representing local culture, including Māori heritage, through educational and interactive features.
- **Other considerations:** Excitement about new developments and a call for collaboration, unique features, and infrastructure improvements.
- **Sports:** There is a need for diverse sporting facilities and amenities that cater to various interests.
- **Arts:** Desire for spaces that foster creativity and community engagement through the arts.

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The feedback provides valuable insights into the community's priorities, painting a comprehensive picture of a desired park that is vibrant, welcoming, and responsive to the unique needs and values of Naenae. It emphasises a harmonious balance between elements, ensuring the park is a multifunctional hub for recreation, relaxation, cultural expression, and community connection.

"Put in elements that encourage creative play - boulders, logs, movable pieces, trees that will be climbable - rather than the prescribed play of traditional playgrounds. Include the history nature and culture of Naenae including the springs and water retention . Connect to existing elements like bowls, badminton, and library."

"That it be co-created with different parts of Naenae's community so everyone see themselves represented and has a bit of ownership/care of the park. Also I'd love good bilingual signage and connections (info board) to Ngaengae's history - natural social and economic. Need good areas of shade and good sight lines. would be good to have connected sub areas for different ages and activities"

3 Data analysis methodology

3.1 Thematic analysis

PublicVoice undertook the analysis of responses to open-ended survey questions and written feedback. Research analysts identified patterns of meaning, analysed, and interpreted these responses, extracting key themes. Each theme was then examined for frequency, with results presented in table format.

These frequency tables illustrate the number of times a particular theme was mentioned. The methodology underpinning PublicVoice's thematic analysis is based on the approach developed by Braun and Clarke in 2006.¹

3.2 Reporting

Tables illustrating the frequency of codes associated with each theme have been included to demonstrate the significance of each theme. For example, Table 1 provides a snapshot of how the thematic analysis has been reported, breaking down the frequency of codes for each identified theme. The frequency tables offer a quantifiable perspective on the community's priorities, reinforcing the qualitative findings. The higher the frequency, the more significance that theme or subtheme holds within the community's feedback. This combined qualitative and quantitative approach provides a comprehensive understanding of community needs and preferences.

Exclusion Criteria

Subthemes with a frequency of fewer than 5 have been excluded from the tables to focus on the most recurrent and significant themes.

Theme	Subtheme	Frequency
PLAY	Playground/kids park	148
	Swings	52
	Accessible play equipment	32
	Water playground, i.e. splash pad	30
	Slide	28
	Climbing equipment	17
	Flying foxes	13
	Obstacle course, i.e. adventure playground	12
	Sensory garden/play	8
	Trampoline	5

Table 1: Example of thematic analysis table

¹ Braun and V. Clarke (2006), 'Using thematic analysis in psychology'. *Qualitative Research in Psychology*, 3(2), 77-101.

4 Who we heard from

We received 386 fully completed surveys and 129 partial responses, representing a diverse cross-section of the Naenae community. Our outreach was thorough, engaging various community stakeholders to capture an inclusive array of perspectives.

Schools

We engaged with several educational institutions across different age groups:

- Naenae College
- Naenae Intermediate
- Naenae School
- St Bernadette's School
- Rata Street School

Interactions ranged from distributing surveys during parent-teacher meetings to facilitated discussion sessions with the school councils.

Early Childhood Centres

Two early childhood centres were actively involved in the consultation process:

- Naenae Play Centre
- Naenae Kindergarten

These centres helped us gather input from parents and caregivers, particularly concerning the needs and desires of younger children in the park.

Community Centres

- Naenae Clubhouse
- Pacific Health Services, Naenae

These centres provided a platform for discussing community health and well-being aspects and youth engagement.

Religious Institutions

- Oasis Church
- Sikh Temple
- St Davids Church

We reached out to faith communities to capture a broad cultural and spiritual perspective in the planning process.

Hillary Court

Most business owners visited. Particular engagement interaction with:

- Trade School Kitchen customers
- Te Puna Manawa patrons
- Coco Pop Up groups
- Kokiri Marae Naenae Hub
- Naenae Library groups
- Youth in Hillary Court

Our engagement in Hillary Court included pop-up sessions, focus group discussions, and one-on-one interviews with business owners and patrons, capturing the business community's insights.

Events

We also had a presence at multiple community events to interact directly with residents:

- Naenae Market (table at two consecutive markets)
- Meet local councillor event at Naenae Library (hosted by Andy)
- Wesley Rata Village Groups:
- Wheels and Canes meeting
- Aging Well Coffee group meeting
- Wesley Village guiding group meeting

These meetings provided valuable insights into the needs of the older demographic in the community, including accessibility and leisure activities.

This multi-pronged approach ensured that we heard from diverse community members, capturing a holistic view of what Naenae residents envision for Walter Mildenhall Park.

4.1 Age

Figure 1 and Table 2 detail the ages of community members participating in the engagement process. Note: this question was not mandatory, so the data only reflects those who chose to answer this question.

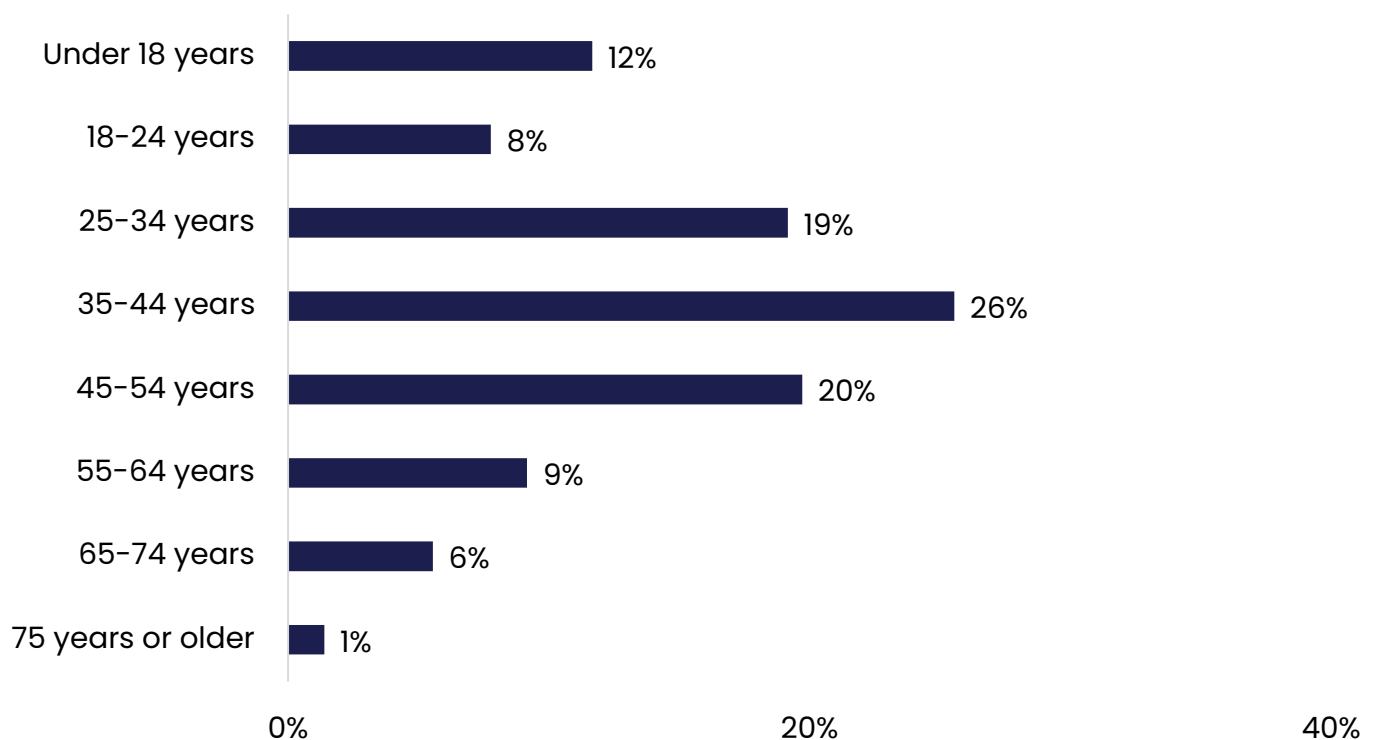


Figure 1: Age

Age group	%	n
Under 18 years	12%	42
18-24 years	8%	28
25-34 years	19%	69
35-44 years	26%	92
45-54 years	20%	71
55-64 years	9%	33
65-74 years	6%	20
75 years or older	1%	5

Table 2: Age

4.2 Ethnicity

Figure 2 and Table 3 detail the ethnicity of community members participating in the engagement process. Note: this question was not mandatory, so the data only reflects those who chose to answer this question.

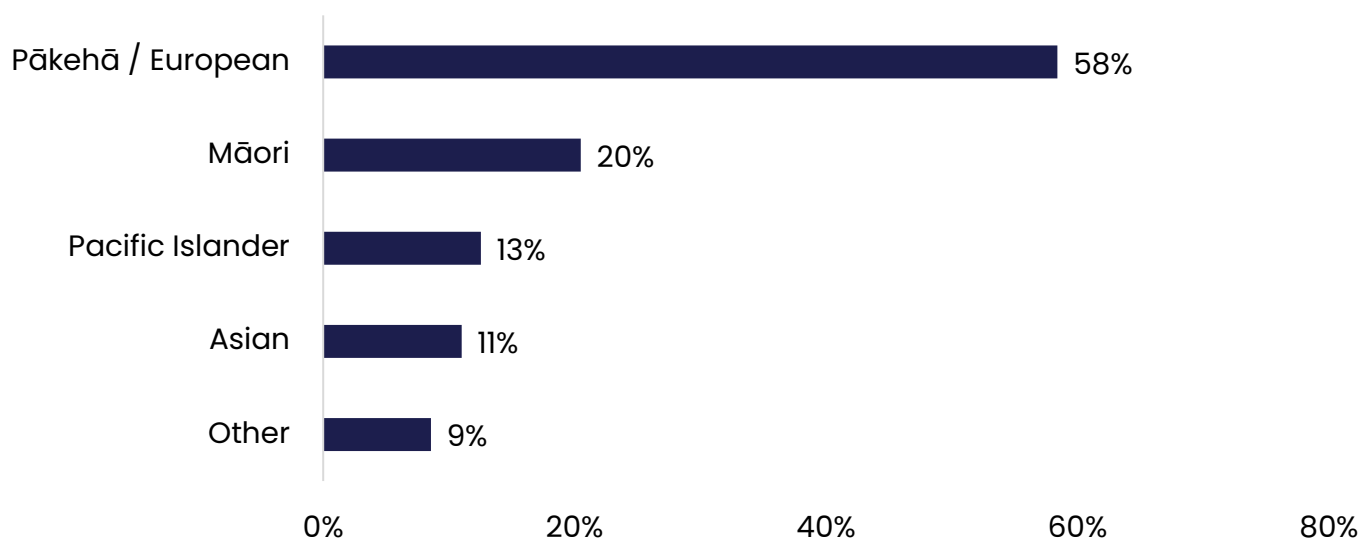


Figure 2: Ethnicity

Ethnicity	%	n
Pākehā / European	58%	191
Māori	20%	67
Pacific Islander	13%	41
Asian	11%	36
Other	9%	28

4.3 Iwi affiliation

Table 4 details the iwi affiliation of community members participating in the engagement process. Note: this question was not mandatory, so the data only reflects those who chose to answer this question.

Iwi Affiliation	n
Ngāti Porou	14
Ngāpuhi	8
Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairoa	7
Te Arawa	5
Tūhoe	4
Te Ātiawa	3
Tūwharetoa	2
Ngāti Ruanui	2
Ngāti Awa	2
Waitaha ki Te Arawa	1
Te Āti Haunui	1
Te Aitanga a Māhaki	1
Tainui	1
Puketapu	1
Ngāti Uepohatu	1
Ngāti Tarawhai	1
Ngāti Tama	1
Ngāti Raukawa	1
Ngāti Pikiao	1
Ngāti Kanohi	1
Ngāti Hine	1
Ngāti Apakura	1
Ngāti Apa	1
Ngāruahinerangi	1

Table 4: Iwi affiliation

4.4 Hapū affiliation

Table 5 details the hapū affiliation of community members participating in the engagement process. Note: this question was not mandatory, so the data only reflects those who chose to answer this question.

Hapū Affiliation	n
Tū Itoe	2
Hamua	1
Hauraki	1
Hinetapora	1
Ngāi Te Apatu	1

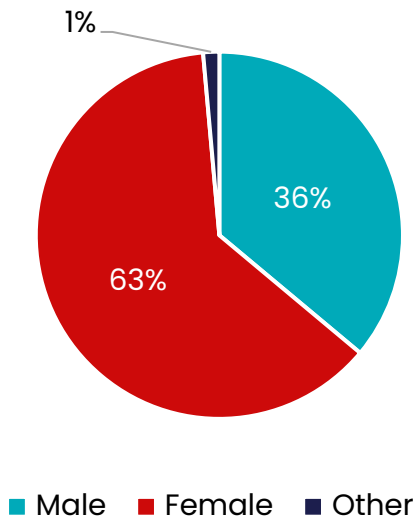
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Ngāi Tūranga	1
Ngāti Kau	1
Ngāti Pīkiao	1
Ngāti Pūkeko	1
Ngāti Rarawhati	1
Ngāti Raukawa	1
Ngāti Tūpaia	1
Ngāti Tu	1
Pikiahu Waewae	1
Rangiwewehi	1
Ngāti Pītiao	1
Rongomaiwahine	1
Te Mahurehure	1
Te Whānau a Hinerupe	1
Te Whānau a Putaanga	1
Tainui	1

Table 5: Hapū affiliation

4.5 Gender

Table 6 details the gender of community members participating in the engagement process. Note: this question was not mandatory, so the data only reflects those who chose to answer this question.

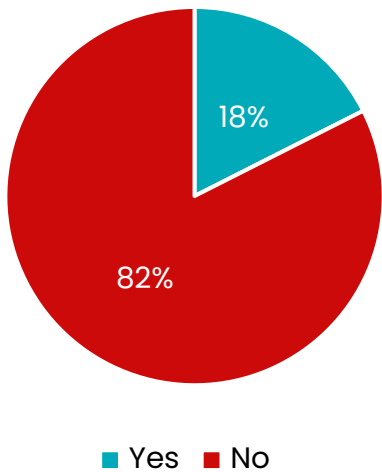


	%	n
Male	36%	127
Female	63%	220
Other	1%	5

Table 6: Gender

4.6 Do you identify as a person who experiences a disability?

Table 7 details the disability status of community members participating in the engagement process. Note: this question was not mandatory, so the data only reflects those who chose to answer this question.



	%	n
Yes	18%	63
No	82%	296

Table 7: Do you identify as a person who experiences a disability?

A word cloud of playground-related terms arranged in a heart shape. The words are in various shades of blue and green. The largest words are 'playground', 'kid', 'park', and 'play'. Other prominent words include 'picnic', 'space', 'swing', 'bike', 'seat', 'table', 'bench', 'basketball', 'good', 'court', 'family', 'dog', 'outdoor', 'place', 'track', 'safe', 'slide', 'tree', 'garden', 'skate', 'community', 'water', 'bbq', 'people', 'great', 'activity', 'age', 'child', 'may', 'maybe', 'court', 'family', 'dog', 'outdoor', 'place', 'track', 'safe', 'slide', 'tree', 'garden', 'skate', 'community', 'water', 'bbq', 'people', 'great', 'activity', 'age', 'child', 'may', 'maybe'. The words are of different sizes, with 'playground' being the largest and 'may' being the smallest. The overall shape is a heart, with the words filling the interior and some words extending to the edges.

Respondents envisage a versatile space catering to various interests and needs, encompassing everything from sports and leisure to arts and community engagement. By homing in on these vital areas, Walter Mildenhall Park has the potential to transform into a vibrant and welcoming hub for everyone in the community.

- Play
- Community
- Design considerations
- Wheeled activities
- Gardens
- Leisure activities
- Sports
- Arts

- Security/safety

Play: Respondents want a park with play areas that cater to all ages and abilities. The requested features included swings, slides, water playgrounds, trampolines, climbing equipment, and sensory play. Inclusive features for disabled children are also seen as important.

Community: Community responses emphasise creating safe, inclusive spaces with amenities such as community meeting spaces, food and beverage options, diverse cultural events, and areas suitable for family outings and picnics. Accessibility and a smoke-free environment are also prioritised.

Design considerations: The design of the park is crucial for respondents. They mention the need for seating areas, picnic tables, shelters, rubbish/recycling bins, water fountains, and access to toilets. Accessibility is a crucial feature, with suggestions for pathways, shaded areas, parking, and natural spaces. A focus on well-maintained facilities, lighting, and dog-friendly spaces is also mentioned.

Wheeled activities: Wheeled activities include bike riding, skateboarding, inline skating, scooter parks, pump tracks, and roller skating. Community responses highlight safety, accessibility, and inclusivity for children of different ages.

Gardens: The community desires gardens for their aesthetic and community value. Respondents emphasise native plants, trees, decorative gardens, and open grass areas. The inclusion of community gardens and seating and shade is also important.

Leisure activities: Leisure activities encompass a range of relaxing and physical activities, such as walking, reading, meditation, chess, tai chi, and running. Respondents also value exercise areas and equipment, fitness tracks, and inclusive playgrounds and equipment suitable for all ages.

Sports: Sports activities cover traditional sports like basketball, soccer, volleyball, rugby, tennis, netball, cricket, and more. Respondents want various sports facilities, including courts and specific areas for sports like mini-golf and go-carts. Engaging teenagers is emphasised.

Arts: Arts in the community include performances, music, stages, and cultural and artistic displays. Respondents desire an area that fosters community engagement, connection, and creativity in the arts. They also mention art installations, outdoor stages, and live music performances.

Security/Safety: Safety and security are paramount, with respondents highlighting the need for good lighting, CCTV surveillance, and visible areas to deter anti-social behaviour. Fenced playgrounds, especially for children with disabilities, well-lit areas for evening use, and general safety for all ages and abilities are mentioned.

Table 8 provides a detailed breakdown of activities and design considerations suggested by community members.

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Theme	Subtheme	Frequency
PLAY		345
	Playground/kids park	148
	Swings	52
	Accessible play equipment	32
	Water playground i.e. splash pad	30
	Slide	28
	Climbing equipment	17
	Flying foxes	13
	Obstacle course i.e. adventure playground	12
	Sensory garden/play	8
	Trampoline	5
COMMUNITY		250
	Family outings/picnics	97
	BBQ	36
	Safe space	27
	All ages	26
	Events	24
	Accessibility	22
	Community meeting space	13
	Food	5
DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS		197
	Seating areas	76
	Picnic tables	46
	Shaded areas	28
	Dog park	10
	Rubbish/recycling bins	10
	Water fountains	10

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Theme	Subtheme	Frequency
	Shelter	9
	Access to toilets	8
WHEELED ACTIVITIES		144
	Skate park	64
	Bike riding	44
	Scooter park	21
	Pump track	15
GARDENS		112
	Community garden i.e. vegetables, fruit, plants	38
	Trees	33
	Decorative Gardens	18
	Plants	10
	Native plants	8
	Open grass area	5
LEISURE ACTIVITIES		81
	Exercise area/equipment	41
	Walking	22
	Relaxing	13
	Tai chi area	5
SPORTS		62
	Basketball	34
	Soccer	10
	Frisbee	6
	Rugby	6
	Volleyball	6
ARTS		32
	Music	18

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Theme	Subtheme	Frequency
SECURITY/SAFETY	Cultural and Artistic Displays	14
		25
	Lighting	18
	Fenced off from road	7

Table 8: Park activities

"Skateboarding ramps and stuff for kids with bikes and scooters to go up and down on, a place for picnics in the summer - benches, shade is really important with high UV for those out in the middle of the day, water feature for fun and kids to play in, a park with swings, slides, sand pit perhaps."

Playground/kids park

"An awesome playground with spaces for both young and older kids. places to sit and picnic, water fountains, comfy seating for older residents, good lighting"

Family outings/picnics

5 Design

5.1 Thinking about how you would like the park to feel, what kind of design should we focus on?

Community members were invited to share their design preferences for the park, and the results are presented in Figure 3, which showcases the average ranking of all responses. The data indicates respondents favour a balanced blend of planting and open spaces. Moreover, there is a pronounced preference for the park to be interactive and playable, highlighting the community's desire for a space that encourages engagement and enjoyment for all ages and abilities.

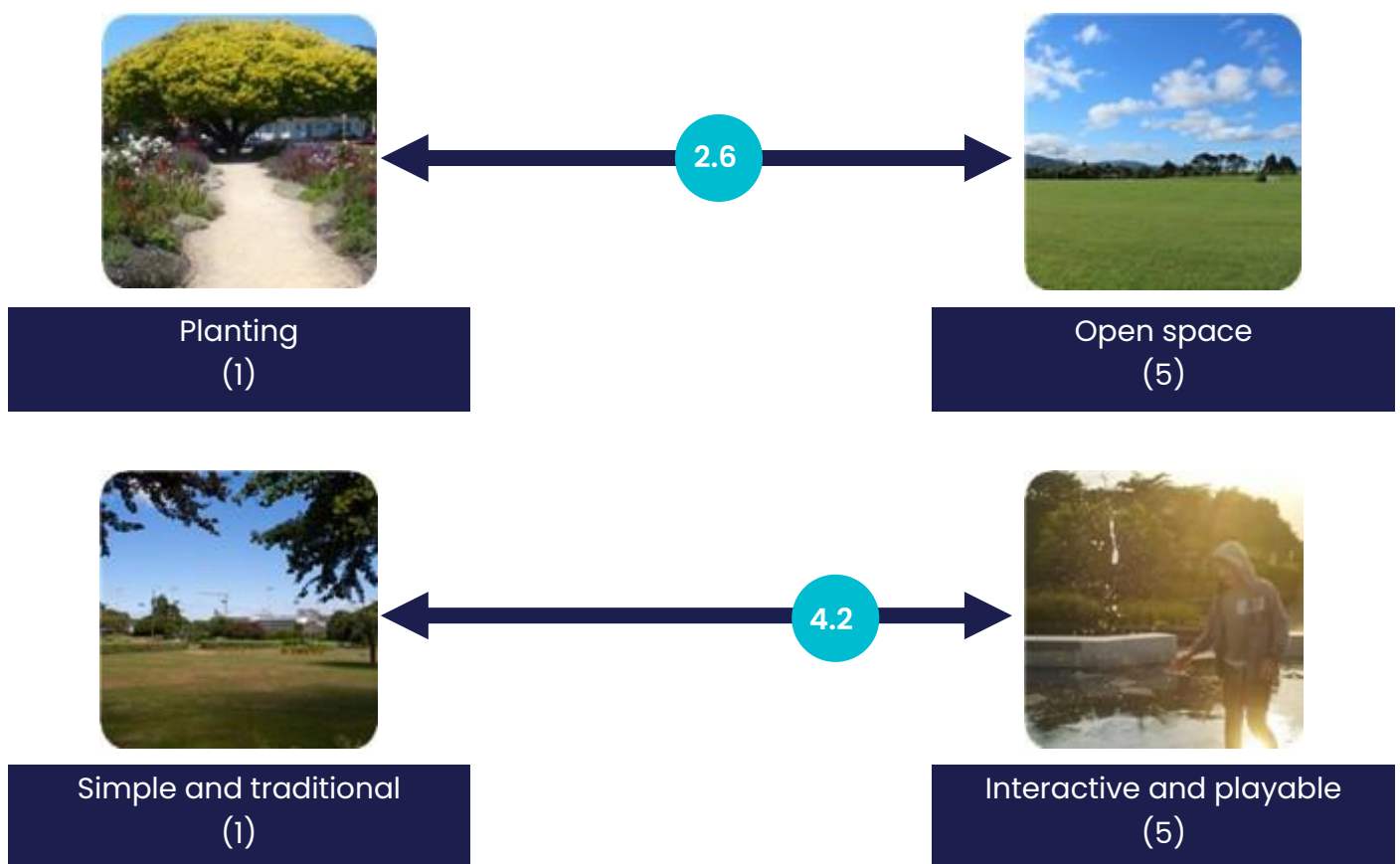


Figure 3: Design preferences

5.2 Is there anything you would strongly oppose being included in the park design? Please explain why.



Overview of community feedback

Below is an overview of community feedback in response to the question, "Is there anything you would strongly oppose being included in the park design? Please explain why." Outlined below are the key themes identified, each followed by a detailed description that encapsulates the community's vision and expectations:

- Security/safety
- Design
- Recreation
- Play
- Flora and fauna
- Other considerations
- Animals
- Activities

Security/safety: Respondents have concerns about safety and security in the park, emphasising the need for good lighting, open spaces with clear visibility, and the absence of hidden areas or obstructions. They also highlight the importance of having enough rubbish bins, clear signs, and discouraging activities such as drinking, smoking, and loud music that may contribute to anti-social behaviour and vandalism.

Design: Many respondents emphasise the need for shade, wheelchair accessibility, good lighting, and natural materials—some opposed concrete pathways and walls, underlining the importance of open spaces for safety and visibility. There are concerns about hidden areas and the necessity for inclusive features catering to people with disabilities.

Recreation: Some respondents preferred calm and peaceful garden spaces over skateboard or bike parks, citing the proximity of houses. Suggestions include the need for cycling tracks and the exclusion of motorbikes. Opinions on skate parks are mixed, with some perceiving them as noisy and unsafe for children on bikes, while others see benefits for children of all ages.

Play: The feedback on play equipment is diverse. While some individuals strongly opposed purchasing pre-made equipment, emphasising innovation over traditional options, others raised concerns about water features, particularly if they posed drowning risks or required excessive water usage. Respondents suggest distinguishing separate spaces for different age groups and avoiding adult fitness equipment, which is considered unnecessary. The most common request is simple playground equipment such as swings and slides.

Flora and Fauna: Opinions varied, with some highlighting the importance of play facilities and practical aspects, arguing that flower beds and extensive gardens might hinder children's play. Others advocate for including native plants and trees, voicing concerns about toxic plants for pets and the environmental impact of excessive grass. Preferences against non-native trees and plastic elements are also noted, emphasising practical features alongside floral gardens.

Other Considerations: Some respondents oppose naming the "Walter Mildenhall" park and suggested alternative names which better represent Naenae. Concerns are expressed about maintaining value-adding facilities, with caution against excessive spending on art installations that might compromise seating or planting.

Animals: Some feedback reflected disapproval of dogs in the park, emphasising the need for a safe environment for children without uncontrolled dogs. Additional comments expressed apprehension about the presence of ducks in a pond, emphasising that bird and duck excrement could pose health risks.

Table 9 provides a detailed breakdown of elements respondents want to avoid incorporating into the park.

Theme	Subtheme	Frequency
SECURITY/SAFETY		51
	No hidden/obscured/dark areas	21
	No alcohol consumption	9
	No smoking	8
	No anti social behaviour	7
	No littering	6
DESIGN		26

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Theme	Subtheme	Frequency
	No inaccessible designs	15
	No concrete	11
RECREATION		13
	No skate park	13
FLORA AND FAUNA		11
	No gardens	6
	No exotic plants	5
ANIMALS		9
	No dogs	9
PLAY		6
	No water play	6

Table 9: Is there anything you would strongly oppose being included in the park design?

"As long as everything is intentional and has a purpose then I think the park will be successful. I would just like to see it be multipurpose. I would want it to be an inviting area that welcomes you to walk through it no matter what time of day. It needs to be well lit at night."

No hidden/obscured/dark areas

"No smoking, vaping, drinking"

No smoking

"Lots of cemented or black topped area. Overly landscaped space people felt they couldn't touch or interact with. Fences or barriers preventing accessibility and movement through space."

No concrete

No skateboard or bike parks because we need a calm quiet garden space where people can relax and breathe now that houses are being built so close together.

No skate park

5.3 When would you use the park – daytime, night-time, or weekend?

The survey results reveal a clear preference among respondents for using the park during the daytime and on weekends, with 71% (275 respondents) and 64% (247 respondents) indicating these times, respectively. These preferences likely reflect the typical leisure patterns of the community, with daytime and weekends being the most convenient and popular times for outdoor activities.

Night-time usage is considerably less popular, with only 17% (64 respondents) indicating a preference for visiting the park after dark. This may reflect concerns over safety or lack of lighting.

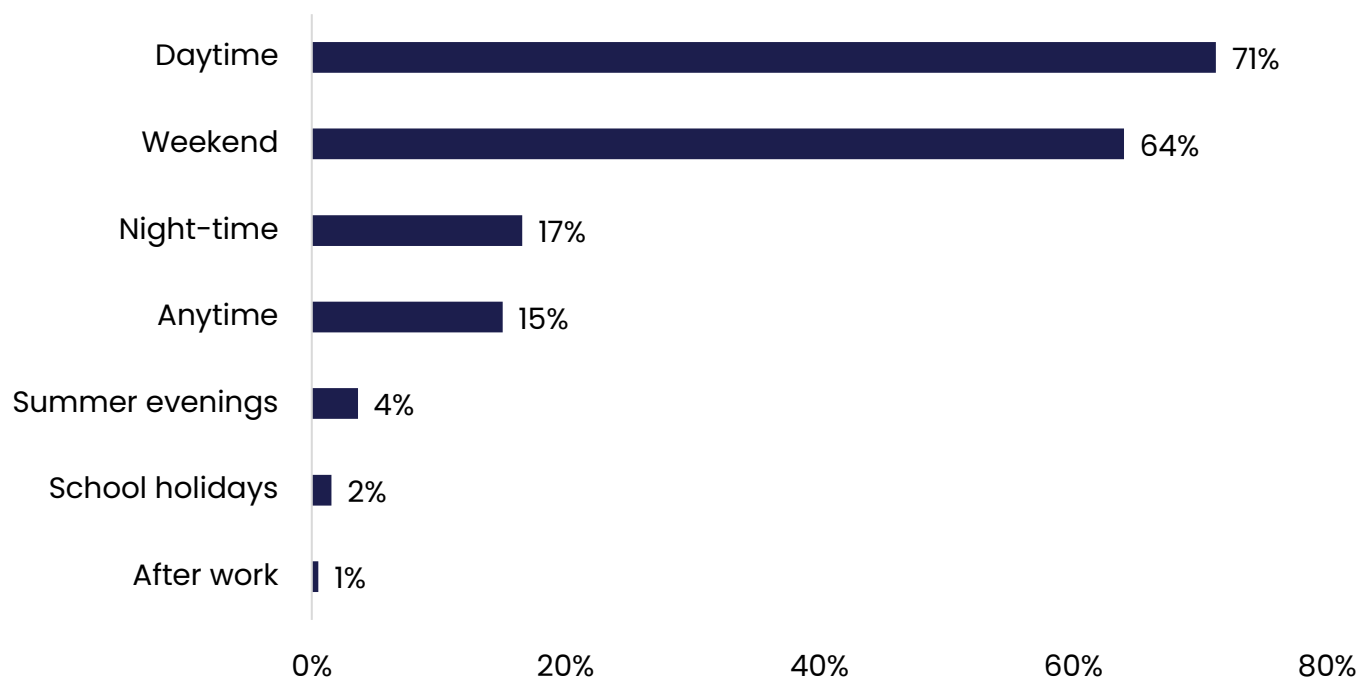


Figure 4: Park – preferred use time

Preferred Time	%	Frequency
Daytime	71%	275
Weekend	64%	247
Night-time	17%	64
Anytime	15%	58
Summer evenings	4%	14
School holidays	2%	6
After work	1%	2

Table 10: Park – preferred use time

5.4 If you could share one final thought or suggestion about the future of the park, what would it be?



Community members were asked If they could share one final thought or suggestion about the park's future; what would it be? The responses reveal a collective aspiration for a multifaceted community space prioritising inclusivity, accessibility, safety, and diverse activities.

Outlined below are the key themes identified, each followed by a detailed description that encapsulates the community's vision and expectations:

- Community
- Design considerations
- Security/safety
- Play
- Gardens
- Leisure activities
- Wheeled activities
- Other
- Culture
- Sports
- Arts

Community: Respondents emphasise the importance of creating a fun, safe, and inclusive community space in Naenae. They desire a family-friendly park that caters to all ages, with features like BBQ areas, picnic spots, and interactive elements. Cultural inclusiveness, friendliness, and interactivity are also highlighted. The community hopes for a park that brings people together, celebrates diversity, and provides enjoyment.

Security/Safety: Respondents emphasise the importance of safety and security in the park. They mention the need for good lighting, security cameras, visible spaces and accessible paths for

all individuals, including those with disabilities. The park should be a safe space for families, with features such as fencing to prevent accidents and an environment that deters vandalism.

Design considerations: Some respondents stress the need for seating areas, shaded spots, ease of parking, and simple modern designs. Multi-functionality, sustainable and interactive design, proper drainage, and connectivity to the town centre are also emphasised. Adding water fountains, toilets, and inspiration from other parks is suggested.

Play: Respondents emphasise the importance of inclusivity, accessibility, and safety for play. They also mention the need for different play areas for various age groups and abilities. The desire for water play, barbeque areas, bike tracks, and seating is also highlighted. Other suggestions include:

- Integrating nature elements.
- Creating a space for older kids.
- Providing facilities for disabled individuals.

The goal should be to create a safe, enjoyable, multifunctional space for families and the community.

Gardens: Respondents emphasise the need for accessible gardens. Native trees and plants are desired to encourage native bird life and connect to the seasons. Other important aspects include the desire for family-friendly and safe areas, low-maintenance plants, environmental connections, the inclusion of elements for creative play, and the integration of fruit trees and community gardening spaces.

Wheeled activities: Respondents desire a skate park area with features like a pump track suitable for all ages and experience levels. The emphasis is on creating safe, inclusive, and fun areas that cater to all ages and experience levels.

Leisure activities: Respondents desire a park that facilitates relaxation and provides opportunities for various leisurely pursuits. Among the activities highlighted are walking and exercise, emphasising the importance of creating a calm and relaxed space. Including exercise areas or equipment reflects a desire for fitness opportunities within the park's tranquil setting. Additionally, there is mention of the need for reading spaces, indicating an interest in quiet corners or seating areas where individuals can enjoy a book. Overall, these responses paint a picture of a park supporting physical well-being and mental relaxation, catering to those seeking a peaceful retreat within the community.

Culture: Respondents emphasise the importance of representing Māori culture and reflecting the multicultural community in Naenae. They suggest incorporating interactive and educational elements that showcase the history and culture of the area, as well as including bilingual signage.

Other: Respondents are excited and hopeful about the new park and swimming pool in Naenae. They emphasise the importance of involving children and representing the diverse cultures in the area. They also suggest including designs from design students and collaborating with local sports groups. A concern is prioritising the park over infrastructure improvements, and some want the park to be a vibrant and unique space with features like food trucks and coffee carts.

Sports: Respondents mention various aspects related to sports in their responses. Some important aspects include the need for separate areas for different activities in a park, such as

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basketball/netball courts, playgrounds, BBQ/picnic areas, and fenced dog parks, to cater to different people and families. The suggestion of adding attractions like a full-sized ice rink or volleyball nets is also mentioned, along with the importance of good lighting, seating, and water fountains in sports areas.

Arts: The incorporation of arts through performances, music, and stages is desired. Respondents see the potential for creative, mixed-use spaces that promote cultural expression and community engagement. A suggestion is to relocate the sound shell to reduce noise near the pool area.

Table 11 provides a detailed breakdown of the final thoughts/suggestions which community members provided.

Theme	Subtheme	Frequency
SECURITY/SAFETY		152
	Safe place	55
	Lighting	29
	Security cameras	19
	Cleanliness/maintenance	15
	No hidden/obscured places	12
	Fenced off from road	11
	Vandalism proof design	6
	Safety of kids	5
COMMUNITY		146
	All ages	36
	Family park	36
	Accessibility	32
	Picnic spots	12
	Inclusivity and diversity	11
	BBQ	7
	Community meeting space	7
	Food and beverage options	5
DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS		140
	Seating areas	29

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Theme	Subtheme	Frequency
	Design philosophy	17
	Connection to town centre	9
	Fun to do	9
	Rubbish/recycling bins	8
	Drainage	7
	Ease of parking	7
	Quality	7
	Shaded areas	7
	Water fountains	7
	Dog park	6
	Multi-functional	6
	Sheltered areas	6
	Inspiration from other parks	5
	Pathway	5
	Picnic tables	5
PLAY		54
	Accessible play equipment	14
	Playground	14
	Fun for children	13
	Water playground	13
GARDENS		46
	Trees	15
	Community garden i.e. vegetables, fruit	9
	Native plants	9
	Plants	8
	Garden	5
LEISURE ACTIVITIES		28

Theme	Subtheme	Frequency
	Relaxing	14
	Walking	9
	Exercise area/equipment	5
WHEELED ACTIVITIES		24
	Skate park	14
	Bike riding	10
OTHER		19
	Support development of park	12
	Further consultation needed	7
CULTURE		15
	Cultural stories/information	15

Table 11: If you could share one final thought or suggestion about the future of the park, what would it be?

This is an opportunity to attract non-Naenae families back in to support the area. It is near other facilities(pool, library) and it would be good if families felt comfortable, safe and happy using the park to spend the day in Naenae. E.g. Go library/pool, lunch from a nearby business then spend time in the park.

Family park

The park needs to be inclusive for all ages & abilities. Limiting it to a skate park rules out so much of the Naenae population. Having something that is interactive, that can include the senses, would be a game changer for Naenae & Lower Hutt as a whole.

All ages

Naenae needs more natural spaces that people can sit and relax. Naenae needs more connection to the environment than empty grass lawns that nobody uses except to walk passed. I understand the request to put a skate ramp in, that could be close to the existing basketball court. But Naenae is severely lacking in garden civic spaces that Naenae used to have everywhere. We can't keep turning every open space into a soulless jungle then complain when nobody wants to be there. It needs to be an inviting natural space.

Natural space

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"Whatever the final physical design the opportunity to tie in the whole re-invigoration of Naenae through the always accessible WMP, the exterior of the pool, the Hillary Court areas and the rail access tunnel exists through AR/VR and physical signage/legends. Please ensure that there is an integrated communications plan in place. WMP is names after someone but between the existing sign on the corner off Vogel and Naenae Road and the corner of Treadwell and Everest, is there any way that a visitor (or resident) could find out: who he was, why he's been honoured with this place-naming? bi-cultural signage across the Town centre"

Connection to town centre

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