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# Magill campus community engagement report

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORT

February 2026



**Renewal SA**



Government  
of South Australia

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# Magill campus community engagement report

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# Magill campus community engagement report

## Executive summary

This Engagement Report covers the community engagement process undertaken by Renewal SA for the Magill campus project during late 2024 to early 2025.

The state government's vision for the Magill campus is to create a high-quality, sustainable development that is integrated with the surrounding community that will respect the existing tree canopy and urban landscape and provide for a variety of housing options including affordable housing.

The engagement process provided community with the opportunity to view and provide feedback on the high-level vision, key attributes and opportunities for the Magill campus project at two community drop-in sessions on 9 and 12 November 2024 and, also online via community engagement platform Social Pinpoint until 10 February 2025. These methods attracted:

- approximately 140 local community members to the community drop-in sessions
- Six hundred and fifty Post-it notes contributed during the drop-in sessions
- more than 1,400 visits, by 900 people to the Magill campus online engagement site
- feedback from 210 participants via the online survey (444 responses to the 11 questions)
- over 900 submissions, mostly via email.

This Engagement Report consolidates feedback received from the various engagement methods with analysis identifying key themes and findings from community responses to each of the 11 questions asked by Renewal SA under the eight topic headings used in the engagement process: residential, movement, Murray House, open space current use, open space future use, existing tree canopy, Third Creek and ideas and comments.

## Engagement feedback

Overall, while there is some support for the idea of redeveloping the Magill campus, there is strong opposition to 'overdevelopment' and the overwhelming sentiment is one of caution and concern, particularly regarding the scale of the housing, the impact on traffic and local services and the loss of green space.

There is general consensus for sustainable development that preserves the area's green spaces – in particular the Third Creek biodiversity corridor, supports community needs and carefully considers the impact of increased housing and infrastructure services.

There is a clear preference for adaptive reuse of existing buildings, integration of community services, including aged care, and the creation of multifunctional spaces that support education, recreation – including a variety of sports and cultural engagement.

Concerns about traffic congestion, infrastructure strain and loss of biodiversity are widespread, with appeal for improved public transport, sustainable movement infrastructure and transparent planning processes. Murray House is seen as a cornerstone for community identity, with strong support for its preservation and transformation into a community hub.

Across all themes—residential, movement, open space and heritage—the community consistently requests thoughtful, inclusive planning that balances growth with long-term environmental and social wellbeing. Community feedback on the residential component highlights a desire for development that is environmentally sustainable, affordable and respectful of the local character. Key concerns include overdevelopment, high density and the impact on infrastructure and green spaces.

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## Residential

The local community favours low-rise, energy-efficient housing, community spaces and careful planning to preserve the area's charm. Transparency and community engagement are also viewed by community members as key to addressing concerns and ensuring the development benefits all.

Community members emphasised the need for the development to be sensitive to environmental concerns, maintain low density, prioritise community well-being and focus on preserving green spaces while accommodating sustainable, low-rise housing.

## Movement

Overall, the message from community members is to strike a balance between development and maintaining the area's liveability, safety and accessibility, with a strong emphasis on minimising traffic-related issues and promoting sustainable transport options.

Feedback highlighted a need for better traffic management, public transport solutions, adequate parking, safety measures and sensitive development that respects the area's environmental and community needs.

## Murray House

The central vision for Murray House by community members is to create a dynamic, inclusive space that serves both educational and social purposes while preserving its historical significance. There is a strong community desire for the building to be accessible, multifunctional, honouring its local context and providing value to the community and responding to its evolving needs.

Feedback focused on turning Murray House into a flexible community-centred venue that supports a range of activities, from arts and education to business and social services, while respecting heritage.

## Open space current use

Overall, community feedback emphasises a deep connection to the natural environment, with people valuing the open spaces for both recreational activities and their mental health benefits. While there's support for development, there is a clear desire to retain and protect the green spaces and biodiversity, ensuring that any development enhances, rather than diminishes, the current uses of the area.

Many users took the opportunity, while providing feedback on their current use of the open space, to express a strong preference for the inclusion of more sports facilities, community spaces and infrastructure that supports a balanced, healthy and connected community in its future use.

## Open space future use

Community members strongly express the desire to preserve and enhance the space for recreation, sports, community events and environmental preservation. There is a strong emphasis on maintaining open space, trees and ecological value, as well as supporting a variety of outdoor activities.

Some feedback details specific facility needs, including multi-purpose sports complexes, community hubs and more structured spaces for social interaction.

Overall, community members advocate for the space's role in mental wellbeing and community health, with some suggesting building a central community facility. Accessibility and parking are also mentioned.

Community members value the balance of nature and community infrastructure, with a strong focus on preserving the area's natural heritage while providing diverse, accessible spaces for recreational and social connection.

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## Existing tree canopy

The existing tree canopy is strongly valued by the community from an ecological perspective. Much of the feedback emphasised the view by a significant portion of the community that every tree in the area has significant ecological value and their loss could have long-lasting negative impacts on the local ecosystem. The removal of trees, particularly mature ones, is seen as an irreversible damage to both wildlife and the environment. The community advocates for creative, nature-positive development solutions that prioritise the preservation of the existing tree canopy.

The Magill campus is viewed as home to a remarkable variety of wildlife, from koalas and diverse bird species to reptiles, mammals and insects. This diverse ecosystem highlights the need for careful consideration in any future development plans to ensure the protection of these species and their habitats.

Community members feedback strongly advocated for the protection of trees, green spaces and wildlife habitats, highlighting their crucial role in cooling urban areas, supporting biodiversity and enhancing community well-being. The preservation of mature and significant trees is seen as essential for long-term ecological health, and many community members expressed that development plans should prioritise the retention of these assets, wherever possible.

## Third Creek

Third Creek is viewed as a vital community asset for both its natural beauty and its contributions to the well-being of the community. It is celebrated for its role in supporting mental and physical health, as well as its unique biodiversity. However, there is a clear desire for more sustainable management and protection to ensure that it remains a resource for future generations.

Overall, feedback focused on balancing recreational use with environmental conservation, ensuring that any improvements enhance the community's ability to access and appreciate the natural beauty of Third Creek while maintaining its ecological health and biodiversity.

Ideas by community members for improving recreational opportunities and amenities in the Third Creek Biodiversity Corridor focused on enhancing accessibility, promoting environmental education and encouraging sustainable use of the area. Community members' ideas include walking and cycling trails, interpretive signage and education, wildlife observation areas, sustainable picnic areas, water features, volunteer programs, sustainable lighting and facilities, interactive nature spaces for children, suggestions for access points and parking and for involving the community in planning.

## Ideas and comments

This was a general question where community members could add additional ideas or comments for topics not already raised. While many used the opportunity to re-iterate feedback given across the various topics identified by Renewal SA or to provide specific detail, others raised other topics.

Below is a summary of the key themes raised in the feedback across the engagement methods to this broad question:

### High-density housing

- **Opposition to high-rise residential buildings:** The majority of respondents, across all feedback methods, object to the construction of high-rise or multi-storey buildings, fearing it will ruin the character of the well-established suburb of Magill and exacerbate issues like traffic congestion, parking and waste management.

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- **Preference for lower-density development:** A significant portion of the feedback advocates for medium or low-density housing.

## Infrastructure and services

- **Traffic and congestion:** Many individuals are concerned that local roads (especially Magill Road) are already at capacity and that further development will worsen traffic flow, including the already strained intersection at St Bernards Road. Traffic management is a prominent issue, with some suggesting that the road network be redesigned to accommodate the expected increase in residents.
- **Public services and facilities:** There is widespread concern about the ability of local services to cope with an increased population. Complaints include overcrowded schools, insufficient recreational facilities (e.g. gyms, swimming pools, sports centres), and general underdevelopment of local infrastructure like shops, banks, parks and transport. There are specific calls for the construction of additional facilities to support the growing population, such as a multi-sport complex and improvements to existing recreational areas.
- **Educational facilities:** Many respondents highlight that local schools (especially Magill Primary) are already at capacity and additional housing would exacerbate this issue, making it harder for local children to secure places.

## Green spaces and heritage

- **Preserving natural areas:** There is a strong desire to protect the site's green spaces, with several respondents calling for the site to be retained as a conservation area or park, particularly the parts that support native wildlife. The potential removal of mature trees and natural features to accommodate new housing is a significant concern for many.
- **Historical preservation:** Murray House, a historical building on the campus, is highlighted by several individuals as an important landmark that should be preserved and integrated into any development plans. Respondents want to ensure the space around it is properly landscaped and maintained.

## Community and recreational facilities

- **Retention of existing facilities:** The campus currently houses several important community facilities like a gym, pool and open space, which are considered vital for the local population. Many respondents want these facilities retained or even expanded to meet the needs of the growing community.
- **Support for sports infrastructure:** There is a strong push for creating or improving sports facilities in the area, particularly for the Burnside Hockey Club, which has been without a permanent home for years and for the Saints Gym club. The need for multi-sport venues and pitches for soccer, hockey, futsal, netball and other sports is widely supported.

## Developer influence and planning transparency

- **Concern about developer-driven narratives:** Some feedback expresses scepticism about the motivations behind the proposed housing development, suggesting that it may be driven by developers' interests rather than the genuine needs of the community. There are calls for a more transparent and inclusive planning process that considers long-term outcomes and local concerns.

## Alternative ideas

# Magill campus community engagement report

- **Mixed-use development:** Some respondents suggest transforming the campus into a community hub that includes sports, arts and recreational facilities, integrated with residential housing including aged care and affordable housing. There is also support for a more balanced development that combines residential space with community amenities like shops, clinics and recreational spaces.
- **Affordable housing:** A few individuals suggest that a portion of the site should be allocated for affordable housing to address the local housing crisis, but this should be balanced with the needs of the existing community.

## Environment and sustainability

- **Sustainable development:** Many respondents called for the development to be sensitive to the environment, with a focus on sustainable building practices, retention of green spaces and low-impact development.
- **Impact on biodiversity:** There are concerns that the development will harm local wildlife and biodiversity, with suggestions to retain the site's green spaces and corridors to protect these ecosystems.

Feedback to this broad question reflected the general consensus by community members for sustainable development that preserves the area's green spaces, supports community needs and carefully considers the impact of increased housing and infrastructure services.

## Feedback on the engagement process

Overwhelmingly, positive feedback was received about the engagement process during the drop-in sessions. Many were glad of the opportunity to meet the project team members and its consultants in person and have in-depth discussions about their interests and concerns.

Feedback varied among the online participants with some finding the online tool easy to use and others not. A key criticism was the limited space for providing feedback – which was overcome by Renewal SA providing the opportunity for community members to submit their feedback via email, where there was no word limit.

Overall, many people took the opportunity to participate across one or more of the engagement methods to provide their feedback and ideas for the project.

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*Participants at Magill campus drop in session*

Renewal SA appreciates the thoughtful input and participation by the community during the engagement process. The feedback and insights provided will help refine the Magill Campus Structure Plan.

## Next steps

All feedback collected from this community engagement process has been provided to the project and design team for their consideration and will assist with the planning and design and help develop the Magill Campus Structure Plan. The team will identify future opportunities to engage with the community.

Following the first stage of engagement, Renewal SA and its urban design consultants will develop a structure plan for the site, taking into consideration stakeholder and community feedback and comments, state government objectives and the general opportunities and constraints of the site.

Feedback received which falls outside the scope of the project area has been noted and is being provided to the relevant stakeholders.

Renewal SA will continue to keep stakeholders and the community informed on project progress, including the next step of community engagement for the Magill Campus Draft Structure Plan.

Community members are encouraged to subscribe to be kept updated at  
<https://renewalsa.sa.gov.au/projects/magill#stakeholders-and-community>

# Magill campus community engagement report



## NOTE:

This report is a record of the feedback, thoughts and views received during the engagement process.

Renewal SA has not attempted to verify or 'fact check' any of the statements or views received and recorded in the Appendices.

The outcomes and conclusions described in this report are a high-level summary of the feedback received on particular topics and themes, not endorsement by Renewal SA or the government of any individual statement or view.

## Project site

The University of South Australia's Magill campus site (the project area) on Kaurna Country is located within an existing residential area that is serviced by St Bernards Road.

The project area (approximately 14.62 hectares) is surrounded by mostly low-density residential housing with some more recent medium-density infill.

The site features:

- University campus buildings (up to three storeys)
- existing heritage building (Murray House)
- Open space and facilities
- Watercourse (Third Creek) and mature trees
- Main access point – St Bernards Road

The site comprises two portions of land:

- West of St Bernards Road (main Magill campus approximately 11.26 hectares) with lease expiring in 2033.

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- East of St Bernards Road (comprising two parcels north and south of Edward Street approximately 3.36 hectares) with lease expiring in 2026.



The above image shows the parcels of land on either side of St Bernards Road. The yellow section highlights the nearby Magill Village area. This map was displayed at the drop-in sessions and in online materials.

# Magill campus community engagement report

## Report purpose

This report summarises the outcomes and feedback from the initial community engagement process for the Magill campus project. This engagement was designed to gather feedback from the local community on high-level vision, key attributes and opportunities for the Magill campus project and key elements including Murray House, Third Creek, existing tree canopy, movement, residential and open space and environment. The feedback received during this step of engagement will be used to help develop the Magill Campus Structure Plan.

This report consolidates feedback received from the various engagement methods, which included two community drop-in sessions, online feedback via Social Pinpoint, emails and any other written submissions.

The analysis focuses on identifying the key themes and findings from the community feedback collected during the community engagement to assist in developing the Magill Campus Structure Plan.

## Methodology

In preparing this engagement report the following methodology was adopted:

- Collation and summary of feedback and ideas received at the community drop-in sessions
- Collation of feedback provided online via Social Pinpoint survey questions
- Collation of conversations and comments made to staff at the drop in sessions
- Collation of written submissions
- Analysis and identification of key findings, themes and level of support for the Magill campus project
- Summary of the outcomes and recommendations for the next steps
- Analysis of how the engagement process met the engagement objectives.

## Project background

In July 2023, UniSA and The University of Adelaide announced plans to merge. As part of that arrangement, the state government purchased UniSA's Magill campus and Crown land occupation rights over part of its Mawson Lakes campus. Both land parcels are surplus to the university's future requirements.

Renewal SA started master planning in 2024, which will include the preparation of a structure plan and subsequent code amendment in consultation with the City of Campbelltown and the local community for the entire project area. This process will consider all planning aspects of the site including the open space, height, density and the integration with surrounds.

A staged approach is being taken, with the initial engagement focusing on the government's high-level vision, key attributes and opportunities for the site through drop-in sessions and online engagement.

While housing is planned as a key component of any future development to meet community needs, Renewal SA is mindful of community concerns, particularly regarding the local environment and the future of Murray House. Significant elements, such as Third Creek and the existing tree canopy, together with the community's desire for open space, will play a pivotal role in shaping the future of the site.

# Magill campus community engagement report

Feedback will help guide the structure planning process and the preparation of a structure plan for the site, ahead of further engagement planned in 2026.

This approach will ensure that the structure planning process thoughtfully balances the need for housing supply, whilst considering neighbouring community assets and plans for public open space and other amenities for the site.

Further details can be found on Renewal SA's website <https://renewalsa.sa.gov.au/projects/magill>

## Project timeline – key dates

Activity	Dates*
Community Engagement on high-level vision, key attributes and opportunities for the Magill campus project	November 2024 to February 2025
Community engagement report published	February 2026
Community engagement on Magill Campus Draft Structure Plan	2026
Community engagement report published	Following community engagement on the Magill Campus Draft Structure Plan

\*Note the above project timeline is indicative only and may be subject to change



Participants exploring display panels at Magill campus drop-in session

# Magill campus community engagement report

## Engagement

Renewal SA is committed to ensuring key stakeholders and the local community are engaged as part of the planning and design process for the Magill campus project.

### Engagement background

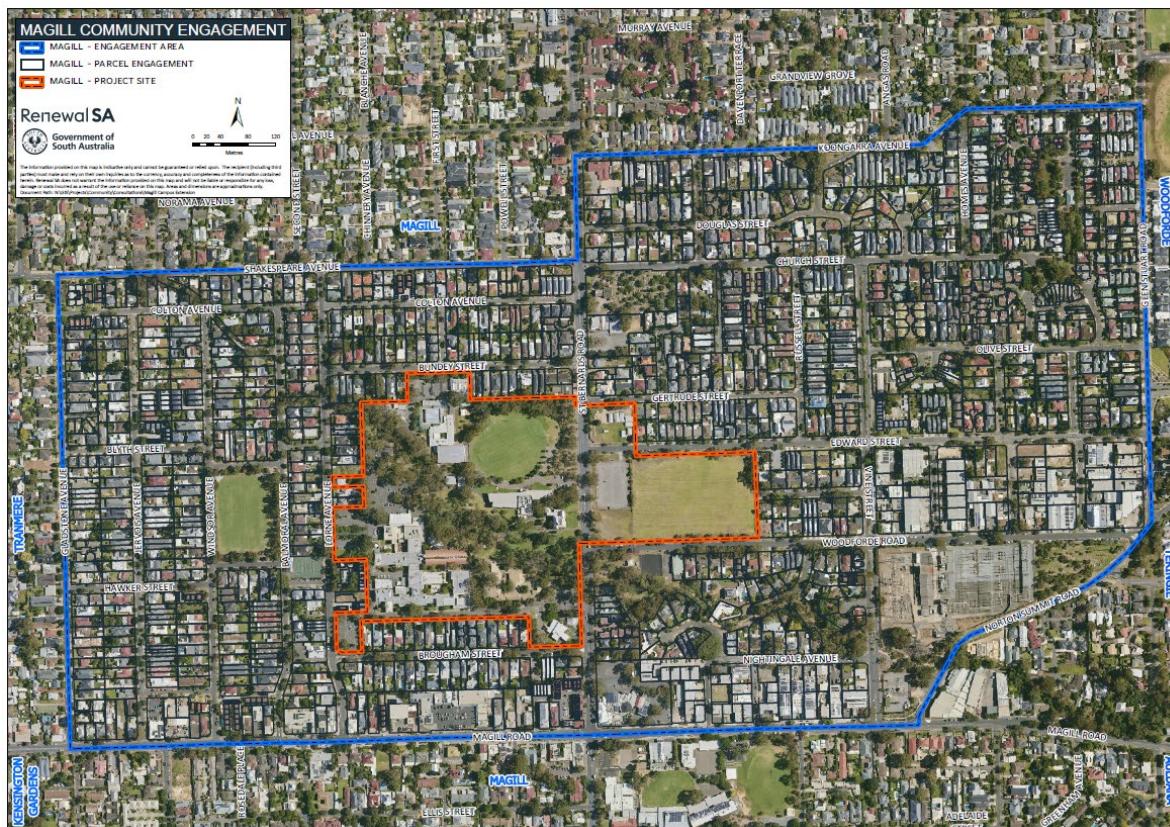
This was the first opportunity for the local community to be engaged for the Magill campus project by Renewal SA and its planning consultants.

Just prior to Renewal SA's engagement Emily Bourke MLC MP held a community forum onsite on 22 October 2024 to listen to community views on the proposed development and encouraged community feedback. This session was attended by Hon. Nick Champion MP, Minister for Housing and Urban Development, and Renewal SA's Chief Executive. While that session and the feedback received from it is not part of this report, the feedback is available in an appendix to this report.

Renewal SA developed an Engagement Plan to guide engagement activities and associated communications with the local community and key stakeholders as part of the master planning process.

An engagement area/zone (below) was defined in consultation with local MPs. The area comprises a mix of residential totalling approximately 1,500 properties neighbouring the project site.

All properties in the area received an invitation to participate in the engagement process and provide their feedback on the high-level vision, key attributes and opportunities for the Magill campus project.



Magill campus site engagement area map

# Magill campus community engagement report

## Key stakeholder engagement

Engagement with key stakeholders, including state and local government and service providers, started ahead of community engagement and is ongoing.

## Community engagement

The initial community engagement opportunity for the Magill campus project comprised two community drop-in sessions and online engagement over 13 weeks to:

- **Inform** community on high level vision, key attributes and opportunities for the site
- **Consult** to seek feedback on specific elements to help develop the Magill Campus Draft Structure Plan
- **Advise** timelines, next steps, how feedback received will be used and future engagement opportunities.

Community was made aware of the engagement opportunity by various means including:

- Media release – 23 August 2024, from the Premier's Office
- Letter to residents – approximately 1,000 delivered to homes and other properties neighbouring the project site October 2024
- Letterbox drop of invitation post-card to approximately 1,500 properties surrounding project area (extended engagement area)
- EDM to Renewal SA's Magill campus project subscriber database (approximately 77 recipients)
- Renewal SA website
- Printed copies of the invitation provided to City of Campbelltown for distribution through various council venues
- Printed copies to UniSA Magill campus and provided at the community forum hosted by Emily Bourke MLC MP (22 October 2024)
- Email and printed copies of invitation sent to state and Federal elected members and council
- Social media promotion
- Media release and letter to engagement area advising of engagement period extension December 2024.



*Participant providing feedback via Post-it note at drop-in session*

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The invitation post-card and EDM invited the local community to participate in the engagement activities for the Magill campus project, being community drop-in sessions on 9 and 12 November 2024 at Building A Student Lounge Cafeteria, UniSA Magill campus and/or online through engagement platform Social Pinpoint until 1 December 2024 and subsequently extended to 10 February 2025.

Online engagement for the Magill campus was available from 9 November 2024 – 10 February 2025 (<https://renewalsa.mysocialpinpoint.com/magill-campus-project-community-engagement#/>) where community members were able to:

- View the display panels that were available at the in-person community drop-in sessions
- View information about the project and frequently asked questions
- Provide feedback on high level vision, key attributes and opportunities for the site including Murray House, Third Creek, existing tree canopy, movement, residential, open space and environment and share other ideas or comments via optional survey questions.



*Participant discussions at Magill campus drop in session*

## Engagement objectives

The key objectives of engaging stakeholders and community include:

- gaining community understanding of the broader context of the project and input to specific outcomes
- establishing and maintaining open and positive relationships with key stakeholder groups through ongoing communication, information sharing and community input to key identified elements
- developing a better Magill Campus Structure Plan through community input to key identified local relevant elements
- ensuring an effective engagement process (i.e. one which meets the SA Planning Charter Engagement Principles)
- identifying and managing issues and mitigating risk.

# Magill campus community engagement report

## Engagement participation

Engagement on the Magill campus project took place from 9 November 2024 - 10 February 2025, attracting:

- approximately 140 local community members to the community drop-in sessions
- 650 Post-it notes contributed during the drop-in sessions
- more than 1,400 visits, by 900 people to the Magill campus project online engagement site
- feedback from 210 respondents via the online survey (444 responses to the 11 questions)
- over 900 submissions mostly via email from:
  - City of Campbelltown CEO and Mayor
  - City of Burnside CEO
  - Hon. Vincent Tarzia MP (Member for Hartley)
  - James Stevens MP (Member for Sturt)
  - Green Adelaide
  - Magill Matters community group
  - The Gums Landcare group
  - Adelaide and Hills Koala Rescue Inc
  - Community members supporting:
    - Saints Gym Club
    - Burnside Hockey Club
    - Magill Matters community group
    - Extension to engagement period

Community members had the opportunity to provide feedback by various means during the engagement period, including face-to-face at drop-in sessions, online through Social Pinpoint and submissions via email and in writing. Many provided feedback to Renewal SA across the various means during the engagement period.

Community feedback to Emily Bourke MLC MP following her community forum held in October 2024 was also provided to Renewal SA for its information. That feedback was consistent with the feedback received by Renewal SA across the various methods. In addition, community members emailed the Minister for Housing and Urban Development, Hon. Nick Champion MP, mainly requesting an extension to the engagement period, which his office shared with Renewal SA.

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Attendees to the two drop-in sessions were asked to provide an indication of where they were from by placing a sticky dot on an aerial map surrounding the project area.

The map, shown below, has dots representing the participants attending from both drop-in sessions.

The total number of attendees is higher than the total number of dots due to families and groups using one dot to represent all members residing at the same address.



Magill campus site engagement map (orange/red dots: participants)

# Engagement outcomes

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT



# Magill campus community engagement report

## Stakeholder engagement outcomes

While undertaking broad community engagement, Renewal SA also engaged with and received submissions from state and Federal elected members on behalf of their constituents and from local government – summarised below with the full submissions included in the appendices.

### City of Campbelltown

Renewal SA received feedback from both the Mayor of Campbelltown City Council and the Chief Executive Officer.

In summary, reflecting a resolution passed at a meeting of council, the following four priorities were noted:

- Maximisation of open space – on both the eastern and western sides of St Bernards Road
- Preservation of Murray House – and the surrounding open space, to protect the historical and cultural significance of the area
- Preservation of significant trees – if possible, to protect the environmental and aesthetic value of the area
- Acknowledgement by council that community feedback and concerns of residents is a very important element in the master planning process.

The Mayor, on behalf of the City's Reconciliation Advisory Committee, emphasised the immense cultural value of this site for Kaurna Peoples, including Third Creek, and requested four actions of Renewal SA – in summary that:

- the cultural heritage findings being undertaken as part of the master planning be shared with council and the Reconciliation Advisory Committee on completion
- due consideration be given to legislative requirements under Section 13 of the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988 (regarding consultation) and that the Committee would like to understand how these requirements are being met
- a Cultural Tree Audit be undertaken and any findings be publicly available
- Renewal SA attend a special briefing to the council's Reconciliation Advisory Committee to discuss cultural matters.

### State Member for Hartley

In summary, key points raised by the State Member for Hartley on behalf of his constituents included:

- a very high level of concern at the possibility of high-density housing
- additional pressure this may exert on the already congested local road network
- concern for the preservation of the site's natural environment
- amenity to the local residents for a variety of recreational activities, sports and occasions
- concern for protecting the heritage-listed Murray House.

### Federal Member for Sturt

In summary, key points raised by Federal Member for Sturt at that time, on behalf of his constituents included:

- the perceived desperate need of more recreational facilities to cater for ongoing growth of the many sporting clubs in the local area

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- community members' serious concerns that high-density housing could put further pressure on overburdened infrastructure and see vital open space lost for ever
- an alternative option for the east side of St Bernards Road – as a multi-code recreational precinct
- call for commitment to retaining the childcare centre, sporting and recreation facilities, the public space around the creek line and respecting the heritage status of Murray House
- retention of open space as a particular priority.

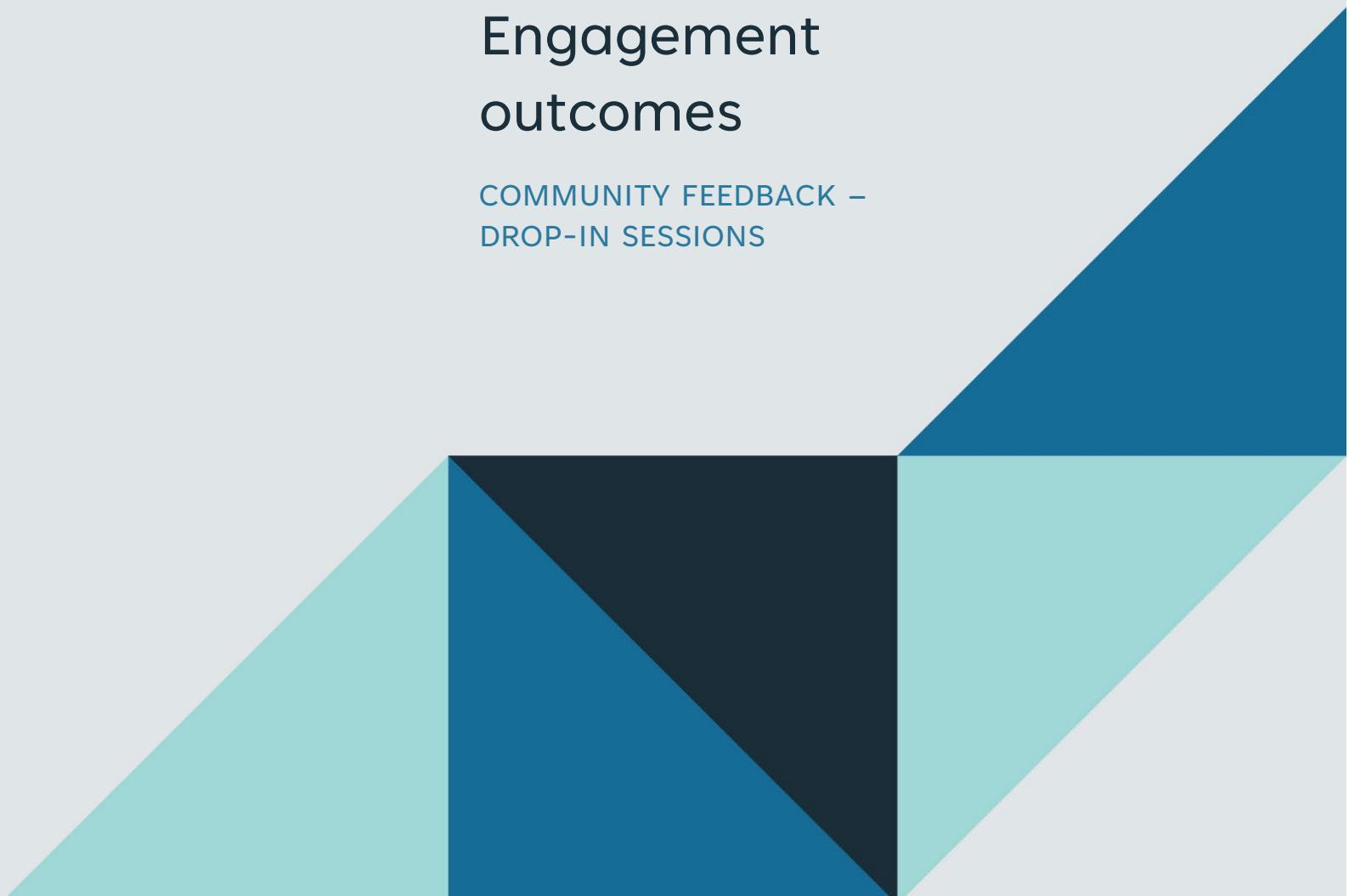
## City of Burnside

In summary, the City of Burnside provided feedback under nine key headings, as follows:

- Strategic linkages: encouraging Renewal SA to explore council's own strategic planning documents, its City Master Plan and Open Space Layer.
- Engagement approach: desire to be involved and consulted during all project phases as a key stakeholder.
- Residential opportunities: significant opportunity to showcase best practice, universal, sustainable design principles and management principles.
- Movement and linkages with Magill Village Precinct and surrounds: desire to see the Magill Village centre reinforced as a vibrant destination for the daily needs of the local community, with linkages maintained to Magill Road. Recommendation to reinforce existing pedestrian pathways that connect the site to the Magill Village, Lorne Avenue, St Bernards Road and surrounding areas.
- Traffic and parking: explore opportunities to consolidate and integrate car parking and implement road dieting and the slowing of vehicle traffic.
- Culture and heritage: in retaining Murray House, opportunity to further promote the unique history of this precinct through linking key attractions and historic buildings in the area (with the offer of council's heritage staff to provide information towards the planning).
- Open space, environment and Third Creek: emphasis on the retention of open space being critical, given the current lack of quality open space in the region. Opportunity to capitalise on the natural amenity, with careful regard to the requirements of existing vegetation and the natural function of Third Creek by seeking expert advice to ensure environmental health in the long term.
- Recreation, sporting, community facilities and public art: recommendation to maximise and enhance existing assets, particularly to support the emerging increase in residential population. Suggestion that public art could be integrated to potentially create additional synergy with the existing artistic community (citing council's nearby Pepper Street Arts Centre).
- Existing tree canopy: recommendation that every opportunity be explored to retain as many trees as possible, including those not currently protected. Call for an innovative and creative approach to the structure planning, rezoning and subdivision design processes to enable successful integration of existing vegetation with road layouts and subsequent land uses, where possible. Opportunity to provide quality open space for both existing and future residents, in addition to the existing facilities – with the suggestion of specific elements for consideration.

# Engagement outcomes

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK –  
DROP-IN SESSIONS



# Magill campus community engagement report

## Community engagement outcomes

This section of the report consolidates community feedback received from the various engagement methods, which included two community drop-in sessions, online feedback via Social Pinpoint and written submissions.

Each of these three methods is addressed in turn, with analysis focussed on identifying the key themes and findings from the community feedback though that method.

### Community drop-in sessions

The two, three-hour drop-in sessions were hosted in the Student Lounge Cafeteria, Building A, at the UniSA Magill campus, on Saturday 9 and Tuesday 12 November 2024. The sessions provided the community and other attendees the opportunity to:

- view the information panels and provide feedback on the Magill campus project
- meet and talk with Renewal SA project team members and consultants
- view and learn how feedback could be provided online anytime from 9 November - 1 December 2024 (subsequently extended to 10 February 2025).

A staffed, interactive demonstration of Social Pinpoint was available for community members wanting to provide comments online during the engagement period.

Those who attended, being mostly residents from the surrounding area, had conversations with the team staffing the sessions, were able to view information about the project and were encouraged to provide their feedback and views by writing comments on Post-it notes and placing them on the following themed display panels:

Themes	Question
Residential	<i>Please let us know your thoughts for residential</i>
Movement	<i>What ideas do you have for accessing and moving about the site?</i>
Murray House	<i>What do you think could be a new mix of uses for Murray House?</i>
Open space and environment	<i>How do you currently use the open space?</i>
	<i>How do you see yourself using the open space in the future?</i>
Existing tree canopy	<i>Is there an area of the canopy that has specific ecological value and why?</i>
	<i>What wildlife have you seen on the campus?</i>
Third Creek biodiversity corridor	<i>How do you currently use the Third Creek biodiversity corridor?</i>
	<i>What are your ideas for improving the recreational opportunities and amenity of the Third Creek biodiversity corridor?</i>
Ideas or comments	<i>Is there anything you wish to comment on that hasn't been addressed?</i>
	<i>What did you think of today's drop-in session?</i>

The display panels are available to view at <https://renewalsa.sa.gov.au/projects/magill#stakeholder-and-community-resources>

# Magill campus community engagement report

## Findings from the drop-in sessions – what did people have to say?

### Opportunities for the site

#### Residential: Please let us know your thoughts for residential 112 Post-it notes

Feedback received for residential can be summarised into the following key themes:

#### Housing design and community facilities

- Advocacy for innovative, sustainable designs that create visually interesting and varied buildings, avoiding monotonous styles.
- Emphasis on the creation of community spaces, including recreational areas, child play spaces, gyms, pools and shared green spaces.
- Affordable housing is as important but must be clearly defined and should focus on providing homes for low-income and social housing. Concerns about affordability include potential increases in property values and housing prices in the area.
- Desire for housing to be family-friendly and spacious enough for families to thrive, with options for social housing and multi-generational living.

#### Building height and density

- A strong preference for low-rise developments, with the majority of buildings no higher than 2-3 storeys. Some support for buildings up to 5 storeys if well-designed and strategically placed.
- Developments should not be too high or dense, such as apartment complexes or townhouses that could overwhelm the area.
- High-rise buildings should be positioned in areas that minimise their impact on surrounding properties, green spaces and views (e.g. behind existing buildings, away from streets).

#### Repurposing existing structures

- Preference for repurposing existing buildings and maintaining the historic significance of structures like Murray House.
- Desire to retain the footprint of current buildings (including car parks) to limit disruption to green spaces and surrounding areas.

#### Traffic and infrastructure concerns

- Traffic congestion is already an issue and must be carefully considered in any new development.
- Local infrastructure (roads, sewage, water, schools) is already under strain and may not support increased population density.
- Traffic management and road access should be prioritised, with minimal disruption to existing infrastructure.

#### Car parking and accessibility

- Ensure adequate parking for residents, with at least two car spaces per dwelling to account for limited on-street parking
- Consider public transport and pedestrians.

# Magill campus community engagement report

## Green space and environmental impact

- Protect and retain existing green spaces, trees and natural habitats (e.g. creek corridors, sports grounds) as much as possible
- Development should respect the tree canopy and not exceed its height, preserving sunlight and root systems of trees
- Incorporate native vegetation and ensure public access to green areas for recreation and community use
- The environmental impact on local wildlife and the broader ecosystem (e.g. koalas, bird habitats) should be considered in planning.

## Community and cultural sensitivity

- Consider the local community dynamics and respect the area's historical and cultural significance.
- Some respondents suggest incorporating a memorial feature or recognising the site's Indigenous heritage
- Ensure that the development respects the existing demographics and societal needs of the community.

## Conclusion

In summary, community feedback highlighted the view that the development should be sensitive to environmental concerns, maintain low density, prioritise community well-being, and focus on preserving green spaces while accommodating sustainable, low-rise housing.

## Movement: *What ideas do you have for accessing and moving about the site?*

72 Post-it notes

The main movement themes identified from the feedback are:

### Traffic congestion and road management

- Traffic on St Bernards Road, Magill Road and surrounding streets is considered to already be problematic, with heavy congestion, especially during peak hours.
- Solutions to issues are needed and suggestions include better traffic flow management, improved road design, new traffic lights (particularly at key intersections like Lorne Avenue and Magill Road), and wider roads to accommodate growing traffic.
- Concerns raised about the impact of development and how the addition of homes will further exacerbate the existing congestion, with predictions of hundreds of additional cars entering the area.

### Public transport and active transport

- Calls for public transport improvements such as more frequent bus services, as well as mass transport solutions like trams (suggested for Magill Road area).
- Desire for a focus on active transport with emphasis on increasing cycle paths, pedestrian pathways and connectivity for walking to key areas (e.g. schools, shops) to reduce dependency on cars.

# Magill campus community engagement report

- Suggestions for better mass transit options like a tram route linking key locations (e.g. Norwood, Magill).

## Parking solutions

- The potential influx of new residents and vehicles has raised concerns over parking availability, with suggestions for multi-level parking or communal parking structures to accommodate both residents and visitors.

## Safety considerations

- Traffic safety for pedestrians and children walking to school and pedestrians in high-traffic areas is a key issue, with calls for measures like pedestrian crossings, traffic calming (e.g. speed bumps) and slow zones.

## Other themes raised

The following three unrelated themes also were reflected in the feedback to this question.

- Protection of public spaces: Concerns about preserving trees and green spaces, with calls to ensure development does not encroach upon natural areas, such as near creeks or existing parks.
- Building design sensitivity: Concerns about high-density developments like multi-storey buildings and the desire for more aesthetically pleasing and context-sensitive designs, rather than utilitarian apartment blocks or "boxes".
- Integration with surroundings: Suggestions for better integration with the natural environment and surrounding infrastructure to ensure the development complements the existing community.

## Conclusion

The themes highlight a need for better traffic management, public transport solutions, adequate parking, safety measures and sensitive development that respects the area's environment and community needs.

### Murray House: What do you think could be a new mix of uses for Murray House?

53 Post-it notes

The suggested uses for Murray House focus on transforming it into a vibrant community hub with a variety of functions. Key ideas include:

- **Community hub:** A multifunctional space for local gatherings, events, and community services such as a café, meeting rooms and informal meeting spaces. It could host local clubs, social services and community groups.
- **Cultural and arts space:** Ideas include transforming it into an art gallery, studio, or community art space, offering a venue for both visual arts and performing arts, such as dance. It could also serve as a centre for lifelong learning, offering classes in areas like IT, languages, arts, crafts and mental health support.
- **Support for local businesses:** The building could provide subsidised office or craft facilities for startups and young businesses, potentially attracting business opportunities and creating a dynamic, entrepreneurial space.
- **Recreation and function facilities:** Some suggestions involve preserving the building for recreational purposes, like sports club rooms or function spaces, such as for weddings and conferences. Others

# Magill campus community engagement report

propose a community hall or theatre, keeping spaces like the existing lecture theatre for community use.

- **Green space and heritage preservation:** There is a strong emphasis on maintaining the surrounding green space, including lawns, trees and stone fences, to ensure the heritage character of Murray House is preserved.
- **Adaptation:** Some users suggested renovations like adding ramps, toilets and lifts for accessibility, with a careful balance to preserve the building's historical integrity.

## Conclusion

In short, the focus of feedback is on turning Murray House into a flexible, community-centred venue that supports a range of activities, from arts and education to business and social services, while respecting its heritage.



### Open space and environment: Q1 How do you currently use the open space?

54 Post-it notes

The following is a summary of the current use of the Magill campus open space.

#### Ecological and biodiversity value

- The UniSA Magill campus site supports significant biodiversity, including koalas, birds and other wildlife.
- The open space is used not only by humans but also by animals and birds, highlighting that the trees and natural habitats are ecologically important and highly valued, hence the strong community emphasis on preservation.
- The oval, while used for sports, also contributes to wildlife support.

#### Community and recreational use

- The open space and UniSA Magill campus site is seen as a vital community asset. The oval, gym, basketball courts and pool are central to recreational activities such as soccer, fitness and yoga.

# Magill campus community engagement report

- The open space is widely used for walking, running, cycling, and dog-walking, including off-lead areas.
- Families engage in bike riding, play, and school commutes, with the oval being especially important for kindergarten and school-aged children.
- Community events like the Adelaide Fringe and informal gatherings that enhance social cohesion.

## Mental health and well-being

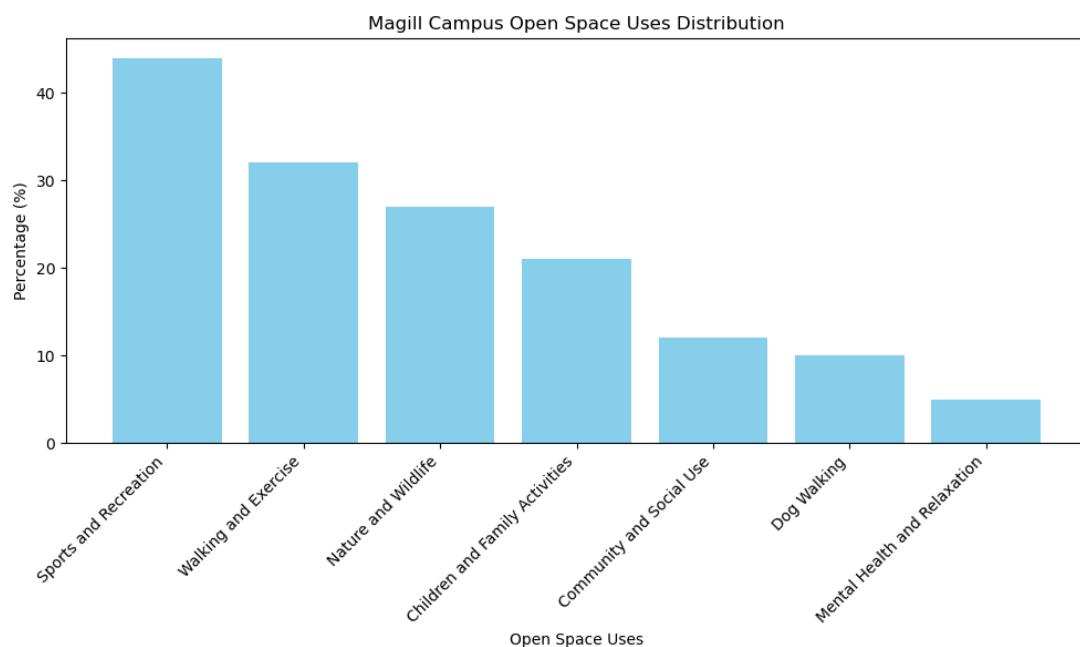
- The peaceful, green environment is seen as essential for mental health, relaxation and overall well-being.
- Activities such as meditation and study are supported by the tranquil setting.

## Environmental concerns and preservation

- There is strong concern about overdevelopment and its impact on open space and biodiversity.
- There are strong calls for environmental impact studies and a desire to protect the green space for future generations.

## Urbanisation and safety issues

- Concerns are raised about prioritising natural spaces over further urbanisation.
- The open areas are needed and accessed for physical activity, wildlife habitats and community connection is highlighted.
- Traffic safety, especially for children and families, is a major concern related to development.



**Open space and environment: Q2 How do you see yourself using the open space in the future?**  
**57 Post-it notes**

# Magill campus community engagement report

The community envisions a future for the open space that emphasises the preservation of natural elements, green spaces and a wide range of community-focused activities.

Key suggestions include:

- **Preserving nature:** Retain all existing trees, particularly the large river red gums and native plants, with careful consideration of their root systems. The area should maintain its natural beauty, providing habitats for wildlife and supporting mental health through green spaces.
- **Sports and recreation:** The development of sporting facilities, particularly soccer, cricket and hockey ovals, is essential. Suggestions include maintaining and expanding these facilities on both sides of St Bernards Road, integrating community spaces like clubhouses for local sports teams such as the Burnside Hockey Club and UniSA Football Club.
- **Community spaces:** The community desires a variety of communal spaces, including adventure playgrounds, community gardens and hubs for social and cultural events. Ideas include creating a "Third Creek trail," extending walking paths and providing spaces for festivals, performances and gatherings.
- **Cultural and heritage:** Emphasis on integrating Kaurna heritage and local history, such as the Murray family and the Magill Story, with connections to the Heritage Trail at Nightingale Reserve.
- **Green corridors and sustainability:** Protecting and enhancing the green corridors and creek areas is considered a priority. There are suggestions for creating a linear park, adding native plants as understory and improving cycling infrastructure to connect the community sustainably.
- **Mental health and well-being:** The space should continue to offer peaceful walking areas, promoting mental health, with additional nature play areas for children, including tree forts and nature-based play spaces.
- **Community integration:** A desire to improve the space for local schools, sports clubs and residents, ensuring there are accessible and safe spaces for walking, cycling, playing and socialising, while maintaining the natural environment.

## Conclusion

The community values the balance of nature and community infrastructure, with a strong focus on preserving the area's natural heritage while providing diverse, accessible spaces for recreation and social connection.

## Magill campus community engagement report



*Magill campus open space*

# Magill campus community engagement report

## Existing tree canopy: Q1 Is there an area of the canopy that has specific ecological value and why? 56 Post-it notes

The feedback focuses on the importance of preserving trees and green spaces due to their ecological, environmental and social benefits.

Key points include:

- **Ecological value of trees:** Trees, especially native species like the Bunya pine and river red gums, provide essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. Mature trees are particularly important for nesting, as they take decades to develop suitable conditions for birds. The preservation of the tree canopy is vital for wildlife corridors, supporting species such as koalas and maintaining biodiversity.
- **Environmental benefits:** Trees help cool the urban environment, reducing heat in summer. They mitigate air pollution, reduce carbon emissions and provide shelter from extreme weather conditions. The loss of tree canopy exacerbates urban heat island effects, contributing to higher temperatures and poor air quality in cities.
- **Social and health benefits:** Green spaces, including trees and native vegetation, contribute to mental health, well-being and community quality of life. They are valuable spaces for relaxation and recreation and help reduce stress in urban environments.
- **Concerns about development:** There is strong opposition to any development that leads to the removal of trees, particularly mature and historically significant ones. The potential environmental impact of development near creek lines and on areas with significant tree cover is a major concern. Feedback advocates for alternative planning that prioritises retaining existing trees, repurposing buildings and enhancing green space through creative urban design.
- **Call for protection:** Many responses emphasise the need for clear, strict guidelines to prevent the unnecessary removal of trees. There is a call for more tree planting, especially in areas where native species can thrive and support local fauna. Specific concern is raised about the impact of development on existing tree canopies, with a demand for a balanced approach that safeguards ecological integrity while accommodating development.

## Conclusion

The feedback strongly advocates for the protection of trees, green spaces and wildlife habitats, highlighting their crucial role in cooling urban areas, supporting biodiversity and enhancing community well-being. The preservation of mature and significant trees is seen as essential for long-term ecological health, and development plans should prioritise the retention of these assets wherever possible.

# Magill campus community engagement report

## Existing tree canopy: Q2 What wildlife have you seen on the campus?

33 Post-it notes

The site is home to a diverse range of wildlife, including various species of birds, marsupials and reptiles.

Common sightings include:

- **Koalas:** Frequently observed in the area, including in the swimming pool car park and along the Third Creek corridor.
- **Echidnas:** Spotted regularly in the area.
- **Birds:** A wide variety of bird species such as magpies, lorikeets, rainbow lorikeets, galahs, kookaburras, cockatoos, ducks and swans are seen in the area. Some birds, like galahs, breed in old trees, while others, like plovers, are breeding and producing young.
- **Possums:** Both ringtail and brushtail possums are frequently seen.
- **Lizards:** Including blue-tongue lizards and other species.
- **Other wildlife:** Including various insects, frogs and snakes.

### Conclusion

The site's biodiversity is viewed as being crucial to maintain and there is a strong call to preserve the existing trees, which are vital for both wildlife and environmental reasons.

Many advocated against tree removal, emphasising the importance of maintaining and expanding the tree canopy. This tree canopy is viewed as being crucial for supporting the local wildlife, providing shade, aiding in mental health, reducing heat and contributing to carbon dioxide removal.

Protecting the wildlife corridors, particularly for koalas, is also highlighted as a priority.

## Third Creek: Q1 How do you currently use the Third Creek biodiversity corridor?

33 Post-it notes

The Third Creek biodiversity corridor is currently used by local residents for various recreational, educational and wellness activities. These include:

- **Recreational use:** Many people walk, cycle and explore the creek with family and pets, enjoying the peaceful environment, trees and wildlife. It's a space for relaxation, family bonding and mental health walks.
- **Wildlife watching:** The creek serves as a corridor for native wildlife like echidnas, koalas, birds and insects. People appreciate the opportunity to observe these species in their natural habitat.
- **Education and exploration:** Some users engage in teaching and learning opportunities, especially for children. Parents and grandparents take their kids to explore the creek, watching the seasonal changes and local fauna.
- **Environmental appreciation:** The area is appreciated for its natural beauty and there's a strong desire to preserve the trees, wildlife and ecosystem. There is concern about the impact of development, such as a reduction in open space and potential water runoff.

# Magill campus community engagement report

- **Landcare and environmental stewardship:** There are efforts from groups like Gums Landcare to maintain the creek's ecological health, such as stabilising banks and removing invasive species. There's also interest in enhancing the area with more native planting and habitat boxes for wildlife.
- **Family and community connection:** People use the creek for family outings, where children can play and engage in outdoor activities. It's also a space for quiet reflection and connection with nature.

## Conclusion

The Third Creek biodiversity corridor is a cherished community resource that supports both the natural environment and the well-being of those who use it. There is a strong desire to preserve it and improve it through sustainable practices.

### Third Creek: Q2 What are your ideas for improving the recreational opportunities and amenity of the Third Creek biodiversity corridor?

38 Post-it notes

The feedback provided contains a variety of suggestions aimed at improving the recreational opportunities and amenities for the Third Creek biodiversity corridor, while maintaining its ecological integrity.

Key ideas include:

#### Nature play and interpretation

- Develop nature play areas similar to Mukanthi at Morialta and enhance interpretation of the local ecology, especially Indigenous perspectives and history.
- Ideas like tree climbing, seats and playgrounds for children were mentioned but it was suggested that they should be integrated sensitively to preserve the wild character.

#### Environmental preservation

- Focus on preserving and protecting the floodplain, existing trees and natural vegetation.
- There is a strong call to leave the creek in its natural state to support wildlife habitats, especially for small birds and to prevent erosion and soil degradation.
- Concerns about stormwater runoff and its impacts on flooding and pollution are raised, suggesting flood management strategies like sand or flood walls to protect trees and wildlife.

#### Connectivity and accessibility

- Develop more continuous walking and cycling trails along the creek, similar to other local trails (e.g. Fourth Creek Trail).
- Connecting The Gums Park with the Magill campus for safe walking and biking opportunities is encouraged, especially for families and children.
- A suggestion to develop a "Friends" group, like the one at Tranmere, to support the area's care and development.

#### Community and cultural engagement

- Emphasis on First Nations engagement to integrate traditional ecological knowledge and cultural significance.

# Magill campus community engagement report

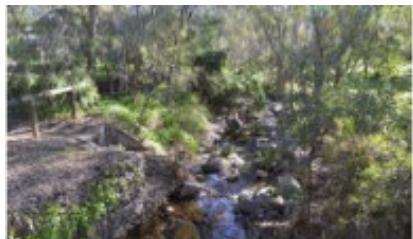
- There is also support for maintaining open, recreational spaces for the community, like dog parks, community gardens and outdoor gyms, but without disturbing the ecological balance.

## Precautionary measures and management

- Recommendations for careful urban planning, such as committing to using only existing building footprints and preserving green spaces.
- Developers should be held accountable for preserving significant trees and not risking further environmental degradation.

## Conclusion

There is a desire to balance human recreation with environmental preservation, ensuring the corridor remains a natural, vibrant space for both people and wildlife.



Magill campus – Third Creek

# Magill campus community engagement report

## Ideas and comments: Q1 Is there anything you wish to comment on that hasn't been addressed? 104 Post-it notes

The feedback largely reiterates the themes from the feedback received to other questions, with some further detail, while also raising other themes notably sustainable development.

Summary of the key feedback points:

### Development footprint

- Keep development limited to the existing building footprint, including car parks, to protect green spaces and trees.
- Build behind the tree line to maintain privacy and buffer zones for noise and light mitigation.

### Community and public spaces

- Preserve existing community facilities such as the oval, gym and pool, possibly refurbishing the pool with solar heating and a retractable roof.
- Ensure green open spaces remain, with consideration for nature play areas, playgrounds and water features for cooling and family activities.
- Maintain and enhance the library as a community resource.

### Housing and design

- Any new housing should be energy-efficient, well-insulated and environmentally sound.
- Support for affordable housing to address the housing crisis.
- High-density buildings should be restricted to areas along St Bernards Road, with a preference for low-rise, well-designed structures that are a maximum of 3-5 storeys.
- Avoid harsh, dark colours in building design. Suggestions included pastel tones.

### Traffic and infrastructure

- Concerns about increased traffic congestion, particularly along Magill Road and St Bernards Road. A traffic study is recommended.
- Ensure infrastructure and amenities (schools, doctors, public transport) can accommodate the population increase.

### Environmental considerations

- Protect and maintain the trees, creek and natural habitats.
- Any development should include ecological design with considerations for stormwater management and preserving the floodplain.

### Community amenities

- More facilities are needed for recreational sports like soccer, basketball, swimming and gymnastics.
- Consider spaces for social and community activities, such as a performing arts venue, community garden and wellness hub.
- Proposals to relocate the library, cultural centre, or sports facilities to the western side of the campus.

# Magill campus community engagement report

## Concerns and opposition

- Strong opposition to large-scale, high-density housing with specific reference made to the nearby Hamilton Hill project
- Requests for more extensive community engagement, citing concerns that current engagement is insufficient for such a long-term project.
- Emphasis on keeping the development in line with the local character, including preserving existing green spaces and community assets.

## Other suggestions

- Retain and improve community hubs like the gym and childcare centre.
- Proposals to involve the local council and YMCA in managing community facilities to ensure ongoing public use.
- Suggestions to repurpose existing buildings or repurpose areas for educational and community purposes.

## Conclusion

The general consensus is a preference for sustainable development that preserves the area's green spaces, supports community needs and carefully considers the impact of increased housing on infrastructure and services.

## Ideas and comments: Q2 What did you think of today's drop-in session?

15 Post-it notes

The feedback expresses appreciation for the opportunity to engage with caring and empathetic professionals. Several key points were raised:

- **Desire for more engagement:** There are repeated requests for increased engagement time and more opportunities for community involvement.
- **Hope for thoughtful consideration:** The respondents express hope that their suggestions will be thoughtfully considered in the decision-making process. While the chance to provide feedback is appreciated, there's scepticism about whether the input will be taken into account, particularly once plans are handed over to developers.
- **Concerns about changes:** There is disappointment regarding the destruction of existing environments and concerns about future developments prioritising profit over the community, with fears that community engagement may not lead to real changes.

## Conclusion

Overall, the feedback highlights appreciation for the opportunity to give feedback, a desire for meaningful engagement and concern over the potential negative impact of development on the community and environment.

## Magill campus community engagement report

All feedback received from the community drop-in sessions and the online engagement is available in the separate Appendices document at <https://renewalsa.sa.gov.au/projects/magill#stakeholder-and-community-resources>

# Engagement outcomes

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK –  
ONLINE ENGAGEMENT



# Magill campus community engagement report

## Online engagement through Social Pinpoint

Renewal SA used Social Pinpoint, a widely used and successful online engagement tool, to collect community feedback on the Magill campus project.

Social Pinpoint has been used extensively for public engagement by many councils and government agencies in Australia and globally.

Social Pinpoint is an online engagement tool to collect community feedback and ideas. Its features include interactive maps, discussion walls, surveys and informative pages. It can also enable online discussion through posted comments. Social Pinpoint is available 24/7, can be translated into over 100 languages and is accessible from both desktop and mobile devices.

To complement the Magill campus project community engagement drop-in sessions and extend the opportunity to provide feedback, all the content on display at the drop-in sessions was available (mirrored) online for 13 weeks (until 10 February 2025) using Social Pinpoint.

For the Magill campus project online community engagement, an interactive map was created at <https://renewalsa.mysocialpinpoint.com/magill-campus-project-community-engagement#/>, providing a central point to access information, enabling community members to:

- View the drop-in session display panels
- View the project's frequently asked questions and information
- Provide feedback and share other ideas or comments via 11 optional survey questions.

All feedback received on Social Pinpoint and from the drop-in sessions is available in the Appendices documents that are available separately at <https://renewalsa.sa.gov.au/projects/magill#stakeholder-and-community-resources>

## Online engagement participation

Engagement Summary					
1476	900	5:47	210	-	444
Total Visits	Unique Users	Avg Time (min)	Unique Stakeholders	Comments	Survey Responses
1476	900	5:47	210	-	444

Four hundred and forty-four online survey responses were submitted by 210 people providing responses to the 11 questions on the following themed questions.

Theme	Survey responses received
Open space and environment (2 questions)	120
Any other feedback (2 questions)	97
Residential	71
Existing tree canopy (2 questions)	58
Movement	40
Third Creek biodiversity corridor (2 questions)	33
Murray House	27

## Magill campus community engagement report

**Word clouds** are visual illustrations of the most commonly used words (more than 4 characters) in response to a topic or question. The largest, boldest words are the most repeated words.

Word clouds were generated from the feedback received to each of the optional survey questions asked via the Magill campus online engagement and are included in the following section.

## Findings from the online engagement survey responses – what did people have to say?

## Opportunities for the site

## Residential: Please let us know your thoughts for residential 71 comments



The feedback reveals a strong desire by community members for any development to be low rise, environmentally sustainable and respectful of the local character.

Key themes and feedback given:

## Building height, density and local character

- There is widespread opposition to high-density developments and multi-storey buildings, with many advocating for development that preserves the suburban character of the area.
- Suggestions include:
  - Many prefer 2–3 storey buildings (or 4–5 storeys at most) to maintain the area's character and avoid overcrowding.
  - There is a preference for a mix of single and double-storey dwellings rather than high-rise apartments, which are seen as intrusive to the area's ambience, sunlight and privacy.

## Affordable housing and housing options

- Strong support expressed for affordable housing, with calls for a significant portion of the development to be dedicated to affordable units (e.g. 20-30% affordable), particularly to address the local housing shortage.
- Suggestions include:
  - Some suggested including 15% public housing (SA Housing Trust) to promote a socially inclusive development.

# Magill campus community engagement report

- Housing should cater to different demographics, including options for seniors and families, and there is concern over ensuring the housing remains affordable for low-income and vulnerable.
- There is also a preference for owner-occupiers over investors to ensure community stability.

## Sustainability and eco-friendly design

- Strong support for sustainable, environmentally responsible housing. There is a push for energy-efficient designs, such as solar power and 7.5 to 8-star energy ratings, as well as water-sensitive urban design.
- Suggestions include:
  - The development should incorporate climate-friendly, low-rise buildings instead of high-rises, as they are seen as better for sustainability and energy conservation.
  - Concerns are raised about sound insulation and noise reduction, particularly in areas near busy roads.

## Opposition to overdevelopment

- There is a segment of the community that strongly opposes the proposed development, fearing it will ruin the area's charm, create congestion and negatively impact the environment.
- Suggestions include:
  - Some suggest repurposing existing university buildings for community purposes instead of developing new housing on the land.

## Protection of green space and environmental concerns

- Emphasise the importance of preserving green spaces, mature trees and natural habitats. There is strong support for ensuring that development respects the natural environment, avoids the loss of open spaces and minimises ecological impact.
- Suggestions include:
  - Development should retain existing green spaces and focus on repurposing existing buildings instead of demolishing them.
  - Some suggest preserving natural habitats along creek lines and using sustainable design practices to minimise environmental damage.

## Infrastructure and services

- There is concern about the strain on local infrastructure, including roads, utilities and schools. Community has concerns that overdevelopment could worsen traffic congestion and parking shortages.
- Suggestions include:
  - Some suggest that the area should be designed to be pedestrian-friendly, reducing car dependence.
  - There are calls to preserve existing community amenities (e.g. parks, swimming pool and sports facilities) and improve infrastructure to accommodate increased demand.

## Impact on local character and liveability

# Magill campus community engagement report

- There is a widespread concern that increased density could harm the local character and liveability of the area, and that the development could lead to congestion, loss of suburban charm and reduced quality of life.
- Suggestions include:
  - The development should be modest and restrained to avoid transforming the area into a high-density housing zone.
  - A sensitive, well-planned approach is desired to maintain the area's leafy, suburban appeal.

## Community and public space

- Emphasis on the need for community connection and space. There is a call for designs that foster social interaction, such as communal spaces, parks and shared facilities.
- Suggestions include:
  - Development should include community hubs, sporting facilities, cafes and art spaces to encourage social interaction.
  - Public gardens or piazzas that encourage community gatherings are also suggested.

## Community engagement and transparency

- Many community members are calling for more transparency in the planning and development process. They want clear information about the scale, design and timelines for the development.
- Suggestions include:
  - Community engagement is seen as critical to ensure that the development aligns with community needs and values.
  - A transparent process will help build trust and ensure that the development addresses community's concerns effectively.

## Conclusion

The feedback highlights a desire for development that is environmentally sustainable, affordable and respectful of the local character. Key concerns include overdevelopment, high density and the impact on infrastructure and green spaces. Community favours low-rise, energy-efficient housing, community spaces and careful planning to preserve the area's charm. Transparency and community engagement are also key to addressing concerns and ensuring the development benefits all.

Feedback received online was consistent with feedback provided at the drop-in sessions, which focused on housing design and community facilities, building height and density being low density/sustainable low-rise affordable housing, retaining the current footprint/repurposing the existing structures.

# Magill campus community engagement report

Movement: *What ideas do you have for accessing and moving about the site?*

40 comments



The feedback emphasises significant concerns regarding the impact of new development on local traffic, safety, accessibility and infrastructure.

The main points included:

## Traffic and congestion

- **Increased traffic:** Community members shared their view that the area is already experiencing traffic congestion, especially during peak hours, due to the high volume of cars on roads like Magill Road, St Bernards Road and other local streets. With the proposed development, there is concern that traffic will worsen, making it increasingly dangerous for motorists, cyclists and pedestrians.
- **Intersection issues:** The intersection of Magill Road and St Bernards Road is identified as particularly problematic, with long queues during peak hours. The increased traffic from new development could exacerbate these issues, especially for school drop-offs and pickups.
- **Cut-through traffic:** Local roads such as Edward Street, Brougham Street, Lorne Avenue and Bundey Street are used as shortcuts, and this is expected to intensify with more residents. There's a request to limit non-residential traffic and better manage local traffic flow.

## Pedestrian and cycling access

- **Safety concerns:** There is a strong emphasis on ensuring that pedestrians, especially the elderly and children, can move freely and safely throughout the area. Safe, well-designed walking paths and bicycle lanes are considered crucial.
- **Public transport:** Public transport is seen as an essential solution to mitigate traffic. Suggestions include improving the existing bus routes, adding a tram service through the eastern suburbs and creating a bike lane that avoids major roads like Magill Road.
- **Connections:** Many respondents highlight the need for good pedestrian and cycling connections, particularly to local amenities such as Magill Village, schools and parks. There's a push for better integration of walking and cycling routes throughout the area, including a bikeway extending from the Hamilton Hill development to Firle Shops.

# Magill campus community engagement report

- **Active travel focus:** The development should prioritise walking, cycling and public transport over car use. Suggestions include lowering speed limits and promoting active travel routes.

## Community facilities and open space

- **Gym and recreational facilities:** The local gym, sports clubs and youth programs are highly valued, with calls to either retain the existing gym or build a new one. Access to the gym and the oval is important, particularly for parents dropping off children to sports activities.
- **Public access to open spaces:** The community wants to retain access to areas like Third Creek, Murray House and the oval. The site is considered a valuable community space and any new development should respect this.
- **Green spaces:** Preserving green spaces, such as shaded walking areas, is considered essential. Some feedback calls for maintaining or enhancing tree cover, particularly on the eastern side of St Bernards Road, near the kindergarten and playground.

## Infrastructure and planning

- **Vehicular access:** Concerns are raised about excessive car access. It's suggested that vehicle access should be restricted, with entry points to be limited to Lorne Avenue. This would help avoid congestion around the Magill Road/St Bernards Road intersection.
- **Public transport infrastructure:** There's a desire for better public transport facilities, including a potential tram service and improvements to bus routes, to alleviate the pressure on local roads.
- **Bikeway and walkway planning:** Suggestions were made to include dedicated bike and walking lanes along Third Creek and other key corridors, to ensure safe travel for cyclists and pedestrians, especially children and families.

## Miscellaneous

- **Impact of development:** There are strong concerns about the impact of development on the local community, particularly regarding the strain on infrastructure, traffic and parking. The idea of adding over hundreds of new homes to the site is seen as unsustainable, with worries about inadequate infrastructure to support the additional residents.
- **Environmental impact:** Some feedback mentions that any significant changes to the area, such as building bridges or altering existing access points, could impact the environment and biodiversity, particularly near the creek. These should be avoided or minimised.

## Overall priorities

- **Safety first:** Prioritising pedestrian and cyclist safety, especially for children, elderly people and families, is a top concern.
- **Traffic management:** Addressing the worsening traffic congestion, particularly at key intersections, and limiting non-local traffic to protect residential streets is crucial.
- **Public transport and active travel:** Focusing on public transport improvements, creating safe walking and cycling routes and minimising car dependence is highly recommended.
- **Community space:** Ensuring the retention of public spaces and recreational facilities is important for maintaining the community's quality of life.

# Magill campus community engagement report

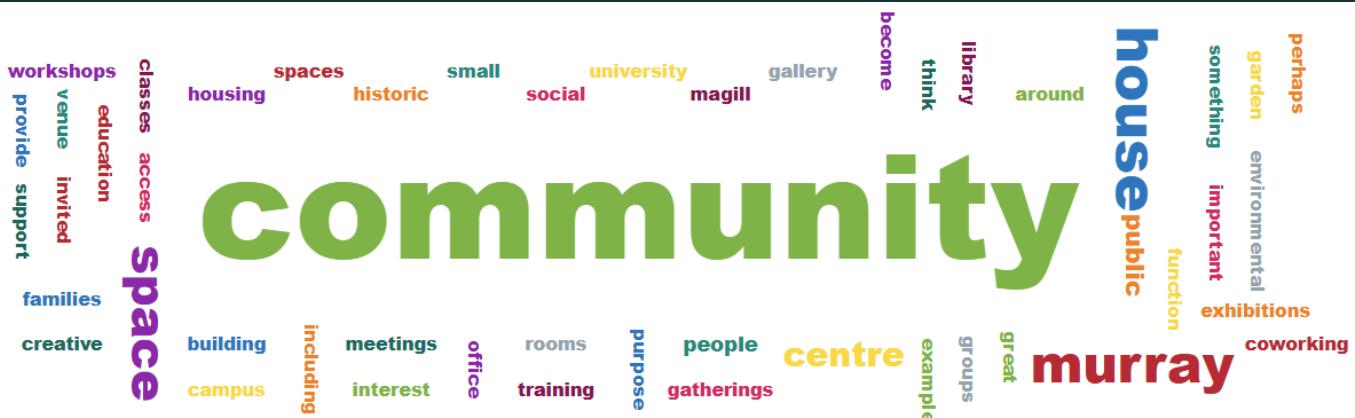
## Conclusion

The overall message is to strike a balance between development and maintaining the area's liveability, safety and accessibility, with a strong emphasis on minimising traffic-related issues and promoting sustainable transport options.

This feedback regarding movement around the site was also consistent with drop-in session feedback which focussed on improving traffic management, public and active transport, safety and parking.

### **Murray House: What do you think could be a new mix of uses for Murray House?**

Many thanks  
**28 comments**



The suggestions for the future use of Murray House highlight a desire to preserve its historic value while transforming it into a mixed-use, flexible, vibrant and accessible community space.

### Key themes and proposed uses:

- **Community hub and function centre:** Many suggestions propose turning Murray House into a multi-functional community hub, possibly with a focus on education, social services and activities for marginalised or underrepresented groups. This includes spaces for fitness classes, community meetings, workshops, social clubs and events for diverse groups like the elderly, disabled and migrant families.
- **Preserving historic and educational purpose:** There is a strong call to maintain the building's original educational purpose. Some ideas include turning it into a community learning centre, providing both registered and non-registered training programs, and housing educational institutions like a high school, primary school, or community library. Several also suggest keeping a connection to its bequeathed educational role, possibly through partnerships with the University of Adelaide.
- **Café and art spaces:** Many ideas centre on integrating a café into the facility, which could serve as a social space for the community, as well as offering employment opportunities for those facing barriers to work. Additionally, a community art gallery, exhibitions and performance spaces are frequently mentioned, aligning with the desire to create a vibrant cultural space.
- **Co-working and small business support:** Some propose incorporating co-working spaces, particularly for startups or small businesses. Shared office spaces and creative tenancies could be included, alongside potential for partnerships with local organisations or educational institutions.

# Magill campus community engagement report

- Heritage preservation and environmental considerations:** There's an emphasis on preserving the building's internal architecture and heritage, while also introducing environmental or sustainability features, such as a community garden. This would reflect the values of the community and help connect the building to its surrounding environment.
- Public access and inclusivity:** Many suggestions focus on improving public access and ensuring the space is open to a wide range of community members. This includes public events, historic house tours and a welcoming environment for all, with a special focus on affordability and accessibility for the local community.
- Accommodation and event venue:** Some ideas propose using the building as a heritage-style accommodation for visitors or as a wedding and convention venue, potentially paired with outdoor spaces like a café or garden.

## Conclusion

Overall, the central vision for Murray House is to create a dynamic, inclusive space that serves both educational and social purposes while preserving its historical significance. There is a strong community desire for the building to be accessible, multifunctional, and rooted in the local context, providing value to the community and responding to its evolving needs.

This feedback aligns with drop in session feedback regarding turning Murray House into a community centred venue, supporting a range of activities from arts and education to business and social services, while respecting its heritage.

### Open space and environment: Q1 How do you currently use the open space? 111 comments



The feedback provided highlights a range of positive uses and strong community attachment to the open spaces on the campus, with a particular emphasis on natural areas, recreational activities and the preservation of green spaces.

# Magill campus community engagement report

Summary of the key themes:

## Recreational use of open space

- Many users regularly walk or cycle through the campus grounds, often with pets or children. These activities serve various purposes, including exercise, relaxation and mental health benefits.
- The open spaces, particularly the ovals, are used for sports, with soccer being the most mentioned activity. There's a strong community connection through local clubs, such as the UniSA Football Club and families are grateful for the proximity of these facilities.
- People often engage in activities like picnics, nature play and informal games with children or pets. This includes activities like walking with babies in prams, dog walking, or simply spending time in the green spaces for relaxation or family gatherings.

## Importance for mental health

- Many individuals highlight the mental health benefits of spending time in these green spaces. Walking through areas filled with trees, wildlife and nature, as well as engaging in calm activities like birdwatching or meditation, is often described as a means of managing stress and improving well-being.

## Environmental and wildlife appreciation

- The natural environment, particularly the trees, wildlife (including koalas and possums), and the creek, are highly valued by the community. Many expressed concerns about the impact of development on these aspects and emphasise the importance of preserving these habitats.
- There's also a focus on the broader ecological value, with calls to protect and respect the biodiversity.

## Concerns about development

- A number of people have expressed concerns about potential overdevelopment and the loss of green spaces, particularly in the form of dense housing. The fear is that development could lead to a reduction in open spaces, compromising community well-being and wildlife habitats.
- Specific suggestions include integrating residential areas to the south of the creek and preserving the north side for open spaces and recreational facilities. Others want to see sporting infrastructure like multi-sport fields or facilities like playgrounds and BBQ areas added to cater to both active recreation and social gatherings.

## Underutilisation and improvement suggestions

- Some areas, particularly the open space on the eastern side of St Bernard's Road, are perceived as underused. There are suggestions for better management and improvement of these spaces, including better sports facilities, clearer pathways, or natural park designs.
- There's a desire for the space to be developed in a way that caters to various community needs, particularly sports, recreation and nature preservation.

## Community cohesion

- Many users appreciate the sense of community that these open spaces foster. The parks and natural spaces serve as places to meet, chat with neighbours and provide a safe, peaceful environment, especially for older community members.
- Several comments emphasise the importance of preserving these spaces for future generations, suggesting that open space plays a vital role in keeping the community connected and healthy.

# Magill campus community engagement report

## Future use and development

- There's a general consensus on the importance of ensuring that any development respects the current balance of nature and community needs. Some people suggest that mixed-use spaces, including areas for both community sports and natural conservation, should be prioritised. In particular, the importance of maintaining some green, low-density areas alongside any new development is highlighted.

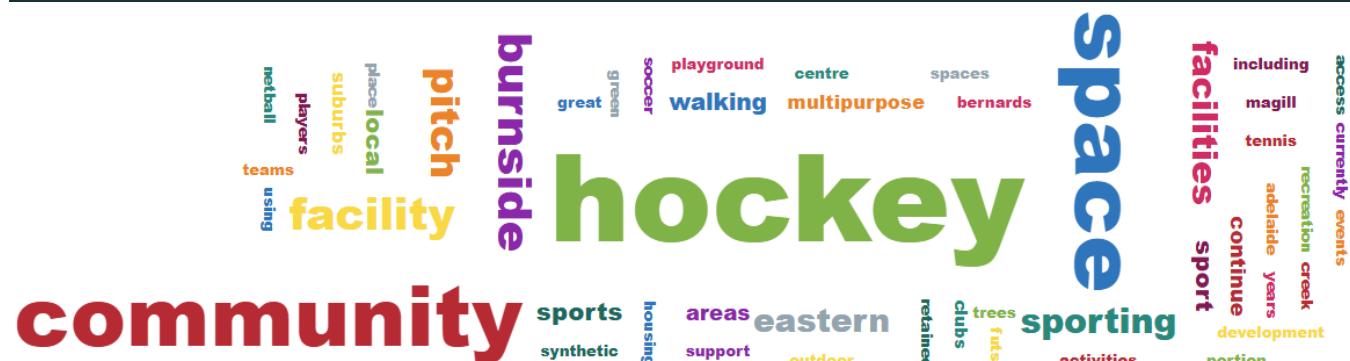
## Conclusion

Overall, across both feedback methods (online and the drop-in sessions), the comments emphasise a deep connection to the natural environment, with people valuing the open spaces for both recreational activities and their mental health benefits.

While there's support for development, there's a clear desire to retain and protect the green spaces and biodiversity, ensuring that any development enhances, rather than diminishes, the current uses of the area.

Many express a strong preference for the inclusion of more sports facilities, community spaces and infrastructure that supports a balanced, healthy and connected community.

**Open space and environment: Q2 How do you see yourself using the open space in the future?**  
120 comments



The feedback provided reflects a strong community interest in maintaining and enhancing the open space for recreational, social and environmental purposes.

This question received the largest volume of feedback, the brief summary of which is that participants see themselves using the space in a variety of ways that promote community engagement, physical activities and environmental sustainability.

Key anticipated uses include:

- Engaging in picnics and sporting activities, as well as providing a safe space for learning to ride bikes.
- Daily walks through the open spaces, enjoying the ecological benefits such as air filtration, noise reduction, and water management.
- Hosting community physical activities like tai chi, ball games and cycling.

# Magill campus community engagement report

- Utilising a refurbished swimming pool for recreation.
- Walking, learning about the environment, history and indigenous use of the site.
- Creating a community garden and increasing tree coverage to attract visitors for physical and mental wellbeing.
- Implementing a fully fenced dog park for off-leash play and an orienteering course.
- Building a wetlands complex similar to Kensington Gardens Reserve for water filtration and wildlife habitat.
- Developing a hockey pitch and shared-use sporting facility to provide access to sports, youth development opportunities and social connections.

These uses highlight the community's desire for a multifunctional open space that benefits physical health, mental wellbeing and social cohesion.

A more detailed analysis of the feedback is provided below.

## Recreation and play

- Emphasis on preserving the space for outdoor activities like walking, cycling, picnicking and play, with a particular focus on maintaining the creek and tree canopy. Suggestions include nature playgrounds to enhance the experience for children and families.
- Strong support of the continuation of walking, cycling and picnicking, but with an added interest in upgrading amenities like seating, playgrounds and shelters, and adding nature play areas and dog parks. The focus is on making the space more user-friendly and ecologically rich.
- Overall respondents stressed the importance of keeping the space active for families and outdoor activities, with the second response leaning more towards additional amenities and ecological enhancements.

## Sports facilities

- Responses highlight the need for retaining and developing sports facilities, especially for soccer, hockey and community sports, with a specific request from the Burnside Hockey Club for a synthetic hockey pitch and multi-purpose pitches.
- Many respondents recommend the creation of a dedicated multi-purpose sports facility, with an emphasis on the Burnside Hockey Club's needs for a synthetic pitch, and also calls for facilities for soccer, futsal, tennis and netball. The eastern side of the land is preferred for these developments.
- Overall, respondents support sports development, with suggestions about specific types of facilities and locations, and emphasis on multi-use sports infrastructure broadly.

## Mental and physical wellbeing

- The green space is widely recognised as vital for promoting mental health and physical activity, with an emphasis on preserving the open space, trees and natural environment to support this.
- The emphasis on preserving green space and increasing native plantings also highlights an indirect concern for mental and physical wellbeing by maintaining a healthy, natural environment.
- Overall, responses align on the importance of natural elements for mental and physical health, with many respondents explicitly tying the green space's role to these benefits.

## Community spaces and events

# Magill campus community engagement report

- There is strong support for the creation of community hubs, BBQ areas and spaces for small events like food trucks or markets. Some suggestions include outdoor pools, gyms and spaces for remote work.
- There is also strong support for a community centre that could host local events, fitness classes and social gatherings. The addition of a café or small business is also proposed to complement the community experience.
- Overall, responses highlight the need for spaces that foster community interaction and events through a centralised community centre or a broader range of event spaces and facilities.

## Environment and wildlife

- The preservation of the green canopy, native plants, and wildlife habitats is emphasised as a key concern, with a call for at least 50% of the area to remain as open space, similar to Lochiel Park.
- Community members stress the need to maintain natural elements such as trees and wildlife habitats, with a suggestion to enhance biodiversity through native plantings and bird-watching areas.
- Responses strongly advocate for preserving the natural environment, with both a specific focus on the amount of open space and biodiversity and ecological enhancement.

## Parking and accessibility

- A key concern by many is the need for adequate parking to support the recreational and sporting uses while ensuring the space is accessible for all.

## Conclusion

Community members express a strong desire to preserve and enhance the space for recreation, sports, community events and environmental preservation. There is a strong emphasis on maintaining open space, trees and ecological value, as well as supporting a variety of outdoor activities.

Some feedback details specific facility needs, including multi-purpose sports complexes, community hubs and more structured spaces for social interaction.

Overall, community members advocate for the space's role in mental wellbeing and community health, with some suggesting building a central community facility. Accessibility and parking are also mentioned.

This is consistent with feedback provided at the drop-in sessions, which valued the balance of nature and community infrastructure, with accessible spaces for recreation and social connection.

# Magill campus community engagement report

**Existing tree canopy: Q1 Is there an area of the canopy that has specific ecological value and why?**  
**57 comments**



The existing tree canopy is strongly valued by community members from an ecological perspective and its preservation is viewed as crucial.

The main themes and points included:

## Ecological importance of the canopy and trees

- **Habitat and biodiversity:** All trees, especially mature gum trees, play a vital role in supporting local wildlife, including smaller animals like possums, koalas and other native species, including birds. The trees offer important habitats such as nesting sites and shelter, which are irreplaceable for generations. For example, some dead trees with hollows provide nesting spots for galahs, rosellas, cockatoos and possums.
- **Cooling and shade:** The tree canopy offers critical cooling, reducing the urban heat island effect and mitigating higher temperatures in summer. With climate change exacerbating heat stress, retaining and expanding tree cover is seen as essential for the health and wellbeing of both humans and animals.
- **Carbon sequestration (storage):** Mature trees store carbon, improve air quality and reduce pollution levels. They are an essential part of the ecosystem's ability to absorb carbon dioxide and release oxygen, thus contributing to climate regulation.
- **Ecological corridor:** The trees along the creek line provide a vital link between different natural reserves, such as the nearby Gums Reserve, offering a safe route for wildlife to move between habitats. Fragmenting this canopy could disrupt these corridors and cause significant harm to biodiversity.

## Concerns over tree removal

- **Impact on wildlife:** Removing trees, particularly mature ones that have taken decades or centuries to grow, could have devastating impacts on local wildlife. Once these trees are gone, it is argued that the ecosystem cannot be restored for at least a century. Specific wildlife, like koalas, have been seen in the area and rely on the gum trees for shelter.
- **Irreplaceability of large trees:** Larger, older trees, which provide essential services (shade, carbon storage and habitat), cannot be replaced quickly. The hollows that form in mature trees take over 50 years to develop, making them irreplaceable within a human lifespan.

# Magill campus community engagement report

- **Environmental impact of development:** The removal of trees to make way for housing developments is seen as environmentally harmful, especially when it results in the destruction of habitats and further loss of green space. Community members expressed that developments should be designed in a way that minimises disruption to existing trees, using the footprint of current buildings and car parks instead.

## Preservation and development

- **Alternative development strategies:** Many suggest that houses should be built around existing trees, preserving as much of the canopy as possible. Urban planning and architectural creativity should aim to minimise the footprint of new developments, ensuring that green spaces and existing trees are maintained.
- **Concerns over prioritising profit over ecology:** The sentiment that economic interests are being prioritised over environmental and ecological concerns is prevalent. Many feel that the push for development disregards the long-term environmental value of the trees.
- **Community value of trees:** The mature trees are not only ecologically significant but also enhance the aesthetic beauty and mental well-being of the community. Many appreciate the trees for their visual appeal, shade and contribution to the area's character, making it unique and enjoyable for both humans and wildlife.

## Calls for action

- **Retain all canopy:** There is a strong call to preserve all of the tree canopy and associated vegetation, as even smaller trees and shrubs have ecological value. Replacing any removed trees should involve planting a significantly larger number of native trees to maintain the environmental balance.
- **Need for expert consultation:** Many suggest engaging independent, accredited ecologists to assess the ecological value of the vegetation rather than relying solely on public opinion. It is suggested that the Native Vegetation Branch at the Department of Environment and Water could offer guidance in protecting these vital areas.

## Conclusion

In summary, the message across the feedback received (online and drop-in sessions) emphasises that every tree in the area has significant ecological value and its loss could have long-lasting negative impacts on the local ecosystem. The removal of trees, particularly mature ones, is seen as an irreversible damage to both wildlife and the environment. Instead of sacrificing these trees for housing, the community advocates for creative, nature-positive development solutions that prioritise the preservation of the existing tree canopy.

## Magill campus community engagement report

## Existing tree canopy: Q2 What wildlife have you seen on the campus?

54 comments

The wildlife observed on the Magill campus, reflects a rich and diverse ecosystem. The observations span across several species of mammals, birds, reptiles and insects, contributing to a vibrant natural environment.

#### Summary of the key wildlife species reported:

## Mammals

- Koalas: Frequently seen, with many sightings of koalas using mature trees for feeding and as a corridor between nearby wooded areas. There are also mentions of koalas with young.
- Possums: Brush-tailed and ring-tailed possums are commonly spotted.
- Echidnas: Occasionally observed, highlighting the variety of mammals.
- Grey-headed Flying foxes: Noted in some observations, adding to the diversity of mammal sightings.

## Birds

- Parrots: Various species of parrots have been seen, including:
  - Rainbow lorikeets
  - Eastern and crimson rosellas
  - Musk lorikeets
- Cockatoos: Both sulphur-crested cockatoos and galahs are regularly observed.
- Kookaburras: a common sight.
- Magpies: Both murray magpies and other types of magpies are frequently spotted.
- Other birds:
  - Corellas, noisy miners, new holland honeyeaters, tawny frogmouths, ibis and plovers.
  - Several mentions of ducks (wood ducks and pacific ducks).
  - Collared sparrowhawk, swallows and other smaller birds.

# Magill campus community engagement report

- Masked lapwings, who breed annually on the campus.

## Reptiles

- Lizards: Blue-tongue lizards, blue banded bees, geckos and other small lizard species are common.
- Snakes: Multiple reports of snake sightings, particularly in the warmer months.

## Insects

- Various insects are frequently observed, including native bees, beetles, dragonflies, butterflies, and mantises.

## Amphibians

- Frogs: Mentioned as being heard.

## Other notable observations

- Bats: Fruit bats have been spotted.
- Occasional kangaroos: Though less frequent, a few individuals have reported seeing kangaroos.
- Sheep: One report mentions a lost sheep spotted on the campus.

## Environmental importance

The campus hosts a diverse and well-established ecosystem that is heavily reliant on the mature native vegetation, particularly the large trees. Many species, especially koalas, rely on these trees for shelter, food and as migration corridors. Concerns have been raised regarding the potential impacts of development on this habitat, emphasising the importance of conducting accredited environmental surveys before any development plans proceed.

## Conclusion

In summary, across the feedback received (online and the drop-in sessions) the community views the Magill campus as home to a remarkable variety of wildlife, from iconic koalas and diverse bird species to reptiles, mammals and insects. This diverse ecosystem highlights the need for careful consideration in any future development plans to ensure the protection of these species and their habitats.

# Magill campus community engagement report

Third Creek: Q1 How do you currently use the third Creek biodiversity corridor?

33 comments



The feedback on the Third Creek biodiversity corridor highlights its importance as a green space for a variety of activities, with strong emphasis on mental health, physical health, wildlife conservation and community enjoyment.

The following is a summary of the key themes:

## Connection to nature

- Many people use the corridor as a retreat into nature for relaxation, contemplation and enjoyment of the peace and beauty it offers. Activities such as walking, bird watching, sitting, reading and nature play are frequently mentioned.
- The area is described as a sanctuary, offering escape from the busy, noisy surrounding environment.

## Wildlife and biodiversity

- The creek corridor is highly valued for its role in supporting local wildlife, such as koalas, echidnas, possums, birds and other species. The biodiversity of the corridor is considered a vital resource for preserving the ecosystem of the Adelaide plains.
- There are concerns about the impact of development and stormwater management, with some worried that increased hardscaping and runoff could exacerbate flood risks and threaten the creek's environmental value.

## Mental and physical health

- The corridor is a popular destination for walking, running, cycling and dog walking. It's particularly noted for its positive impact on mental health, providing a peaceful and calming environment.
- Many users cite its role in improving physical health through regular exercise, as well as its importance for socialising and family bonding.

# Magill campus community engagement report

## Family-friendly space

- Families, including children, enjoy the creek for activities such as playing, picnicking and nature exploration. It's recognised as a valuable space for outdoor education and play, helping children develop a connection to the natural world.
- Parents often mention using the area for quiet moments with children, like watching water flow or playing games along the creek.

## Accessibility and potential for improvement

- While the corridor is used frequently by locals, there is some feedback suggesting that the space could be better managed to fully use its potential.
- There's a general sense that, despite its current value, more green spaces and improved management are needed as the local housing density increases.

## Environmental concerns and preservation

- The creek and its surrounding area are recognised as crucial for maintaining biodiversity, with several users calling for its protection from overdevelopment. People express concern that the introduction of housing close to the creek could negatively affect both the environment and flood risk.

## Conclusion

Across the feedback received (online and the drop-in sessions), Third Creek is viewed as a vital and cherished community asset for both its natural beauty and its contributions to the well-being of the community. It is celebrated for its role in supporting mental and physical health, as well as its unique biodiversity. However, there is a clear desire for more sustainable management and protection to ensure that it remains a resource for future generations.

Third Creek: Q2 What are your ideas for improving the recreational opportunities and amenity of the Third Creek biodiversity corridor?

33 comments

The suggestions for improving the Third Creek biodiversity corridor reflect a strong desire to enhance its recreational and environmental value while preserving its natural beauty and protecting its biodiversity.

# Magill campus community engagement report

Key ideas and themes included:

## Accessibility and amenities

- **Seating and relaxation:** Providing seating areas for people, particularly older individuals, to enjoy the scenery, especially when the creek is flowing after heavy rain, is a common theme.
- **Walking and cycling paths:** Suggestions include creating walking and cycling paths to improve accessibility while ensuring they are kept to a small scale, potentially inspired by Lochiel Park. These paths should be designed to minimise disruption to the natural environment.
- **Public toilets:** Some propose adding basic amenities like public toilets with nappy change facilities, possibly near the creek's more accessible areas.

## Biodiversity and environmental protection

- **Protecting and enhancing biodiversity:** Many emphasise the importance of preserving the biodiversity of the corridor, through actions like planting native species, providing bird baths and installing bird boxes. Efforts to improve erosion control, prevent pollution and maintain the creek's vegetation are viewed as crucial.
- **Revegetation and habitat restoration:** There's a strong call for revegetating the area with indigenous plants, which would help restore natural habitats for native animals and birds. Some suggestions include removing invasive species like the *Ailanthus altissima* (Tree of Heaven) and increasing habitat shelters for wildlife.
- **Water management:** Several ideas focus on enhancing water capture, preventing runoff and possibly creating a wetland. These efforts would help manage the creek's flow and create a healthier environment for both wildlife and the community.

## Space and corridor integrity

- **Widening the corridor:** Many suggest increasing the width of the biodiversity corridor to ensure it remains a viable habitat for wildlife and a pleasant natural space for people. This could involve removing buildings that are too close to the creek, ensuring the creek's surroundings remain open and spacious.
- **Linking to other green spaces:** Some propose extending the corridor and creating connections between Third Creek and other areas, like the Magill Village or the Nightingale Reserve, to foster a larger network of green spaces and wildlife corridors.
- **Sensitive development:** The community is cautious about overdevelopment. The priority is to maintain the creek's character as an open, natural space, with development kept at a minimal level and carefully managed to avoid damaging the ecosystem.

## Community engagement and education

- **Educational partnerships:** Collaborating with local schools was suggested, especially secondary schools focused on water and environmental studies, could help raise awareness about the importance of the creek and its biodiversity.
- **Cultural connections:** Some suggestions highlight the importance of working with the local Kaurna community to design a site restoration that respects the original landscape and cultural values.

# Magill campus community engagement report

## **Preservation of existing natural features**

- **Minimise human impact:** The general sentiment is to limit human intervention to low-impact activities like walking and cycling, avoiding intrusive developments or significant changes that could harm the natural habitat.
- **Non-overcrowding:** Avoiding overcrowding, pollution and excessive development near the creek is crucial to maintaining its integrity. Keeping the creek line and its surrounding open space free from excessive human interference will help towards preserving both the flora and fauna.

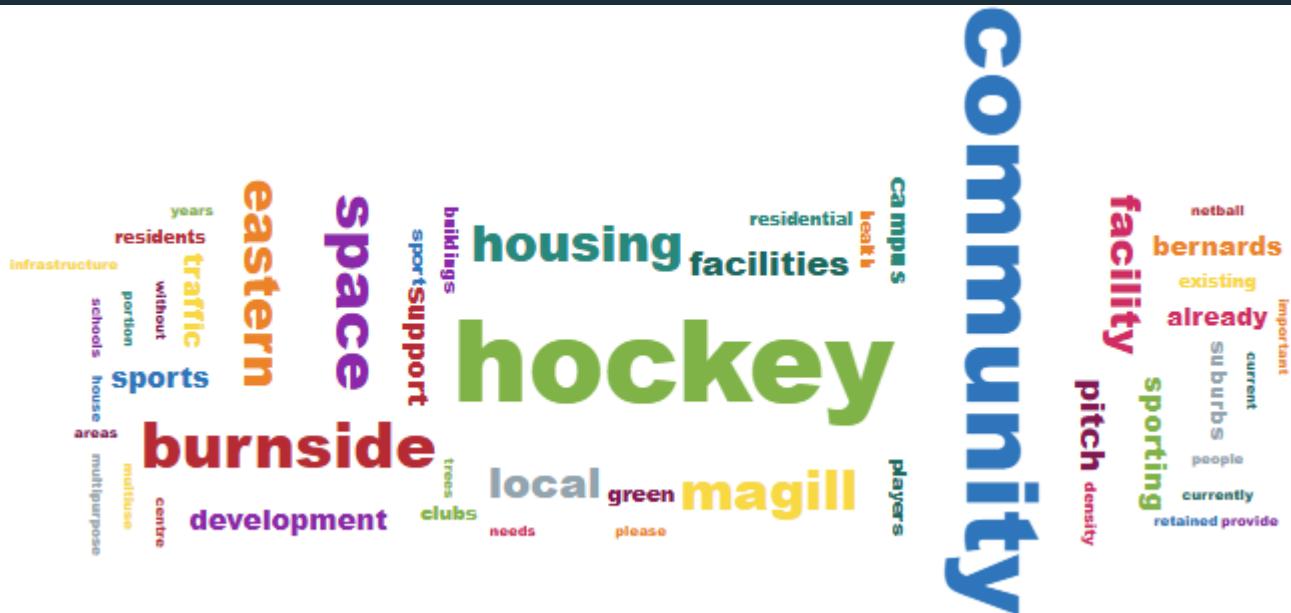
## Maintenance and long-term sustainability

- **Ongoing care:** There is strong support for ongoing maintenance of the creek and its surroundings, including monitoring water quality, protecting vegetation and ensuring long-term sustainability of the biodiversity corridor.

## Conclusion

Overall, feedback received (online and drop-in sessions) was aligned and focussed on balancing recreational use with environmental conservation, ensuring that any improvements enhance the community's ability to access and appreciate the natural beauty of Third Creek while maintaining its ecological health and biodiversity.

## Ideas and comments: Q1 Is there anything you wish to comment on that hasn't been addressed? 48 comments



The feedback provided reflects a broad range of concerns and opposition to the proposed redevelopment of the UniSA Magill campus site, particularly the introduction of high-density residential housing.

#### Summary of the key themes raised in the feedback:

## Objection to high-density housing

- **Opposition to residential buildings over two storeys:** Many respondents object to the construction of high-rise or multi-storey buildings, fearing it will ruin the character of the well-established suburb of Magill and exacerbate issues like traffic congestion, parking and waste management.

# Magill campus community engagement report

- **Preference for lower-density development:** A significant portion of the feedback advocates for medium or low-density housing instead of high-density development. The concern is that high-density housing will negatively impact the area's character and quality of life.

## Infrastructure and services

- **Traffic and congestion:** Many individuals are concerned that local roads (especially Magill Road) are already at capacity and that further development will worsen traffic flow, including the already strained intersection at St Bernards Road. Traffic management is a prominent issue, with some suggesting that the road network be redesigned to accommodate the expected increase in residents.
- **Public services and facilities:** There is widespread concern about the ability of local services to cope with an increased population. Complaints include overcrowded schools, insufficient recreational facilities (e.g., gyms, swimming pools, sports centres) and general underdevelopment of local infrastructure like shops, banks, parks and transport. There are specific calls for the construction of additional facilities to support the growing population, such as a multi-sport complex and improvements to existing recreational areas.
- **Educational facilities:** Many respondents highlight that local schools (especially Magill Primary) are already at capacity and additional housing would exacerbate this issue, making it harder for local children to secure places.

## Preservation of green spaces and heritage

- **Preserving natural areas:** There is a strong desire to protect the site's green spaces, with several respondents calling for the site to be retained as a conservation area or park, particularly the parts that support native wildlife. The potential removal of mature trees and natural features to accommodate new housing is a significant concern for many.
- **Historical preservation:** Murray House, a historical building on the campus, is highlighted by several individuals as an important landmark that should be preserved and integrated into any development plans. Respondents want to ensure the space around it is properly landscaped and maintained.

## Community and recreational facilities

- **Retention of existing facilities:** The campus currently houses several important community facilities like a gym, pool and open space, which are considered vital for the local population. Many respondents want these facilities retained or even expanded to meet the needs of the growing community.
- **Support for sports infrastructure:** There is a strong push for creating or improving sports facilities in the area, particularly for the Burnside Hockey Club, which has been without a permanent home for years. The need for multi-sport venues and pitches for hockey, soccer/football, futsal, netball and other sports is widely supported.

## Concerns about developer influence and planning transparency

- **Developer-driven narratives:** Some feedback expresses scepticism about the motivations behind the proposed housing development, suggesting that it may be driven by developers' interests rather than the genuine needs of the community. There are calls for a more transparent and inclusive planning process that considers long-term outcomes and local concerns.

## Alternative ideas

# Magill campus community engagement report

- **Mixed-use development:** Some respondents suggest transforming the campus into a community hub that includes sports, arts and recreational facilities, rather than focusing solely on housing. There is also support for a more balanced development that combines residential space with community amenities like shops, clinics and recreational spaces.
- **Affordable housing:** A few individuals suggest that a portion of the site should be allocated for affordable housing to address the local housing crisis, but this should be balanced with the needs of the existing community.

## Environmental and sustainability concerns

- **Sustainable development:** Several respondents call for the development to be sensitive to the environment, with a focus on sustainable building practices, retention of green spaces and low-impact development.
- **Impact on biodiversity:** There are concerns that the development will harm local wildlife and biodiversity, with suggestions to retain the site's green spaces and corridors to protect these ecosystems.

## Key Recommendations:

In responding to this broad question, some community members took the opportunity to reiterate their feedback actions across a variety of topics, with suggested actions including the following:

- **Traffic management:** Address the significant traffic concerns by improving local infrastructure, possibly reversing some of the changes made to Magill Road and creating better traffic management systems.
- **Recreational facilities:** Retain and expand existing sports and recreational amenities to meet the needs of the growing population, including suggestions for a multi-sport complex and facilities for local clubs like Burnside Hockey.
- **Affordable housing and green space:** Consider integrating affordable housing into the plan, while ensuring that at least 50% of the site remains green space for the community's benefit.
- **Public services:** Improve local schools, particularly to accommodate the potential influx of student, and invest in essential services like shops and healthcare facilities.
- **Heritage preservation:** Ensure that key historical and natural features of the site, such as Murray House and mature trees, are preserved in the development.

## Conclusion

In summary, across both online and drop-in sessions, while there is some support for the idea of redeveloping the Magill campus, general consensus is a preference for a sustainable development and the overwhelming sentiment is one of caution and concern, particularly regarding the scale of the housing, the impact on traffic and local services and the loss of green space.

There is strong desire for any development to include recreational facilities, amenities and spaces for the community.

# Magill campus community engagement report

Ideas and comments: Q2 To help us improve the online engagement experience for future projects, please tell us how you found using Social Pinpoint to provide your feedback today  
33 comments



The feedback highlights various concerns and praises regarding the online tool used for providing feedback. Some people also took the opportunity to provide feedback on the engagement process overall, both negative and positive.

Key themes include:

## User experience issues

- The tool is not user-friendly, especially for those who are not tech-savvy, with navigation difficulties, especially on mobile devices.
- The site and feedback submission process are often hard to locate and navigate.
- The 500-character limit for feedback is too restrictive, with many users expressing frustration at not being able to fully convey their thoughts.

## Engagement concerns

- There is a belief that the community engagement has been insufficient and not transparent, with many requesting more in-person engagement and an extension of the feedback period [*The engagement period was subsequently extended*].
- Concerns that the public is not being adequately informed about plans perceived to be already in place.
- Calls for information to be provided in different languages, such as Chinese and Hindi, to cater to a wider audience.

## Feedback limitations

- Many users feel the feedback tool doesn't allow for detailed or thorough responses, with some suggesting the option to review and edit comments would improve the process.
- The engagement is viewed as hurried, with some commenting that the online format doesn't work for older demographics in particular.

## Magill campus community engagement report

### Positive comments

- Some users found the tool helpful and easy to use after initial learning.
- A few users expressed gratitude for the opportunity to provide feedback, with hopes that it would contribute to a beneficial project for the community.

### Conclusion

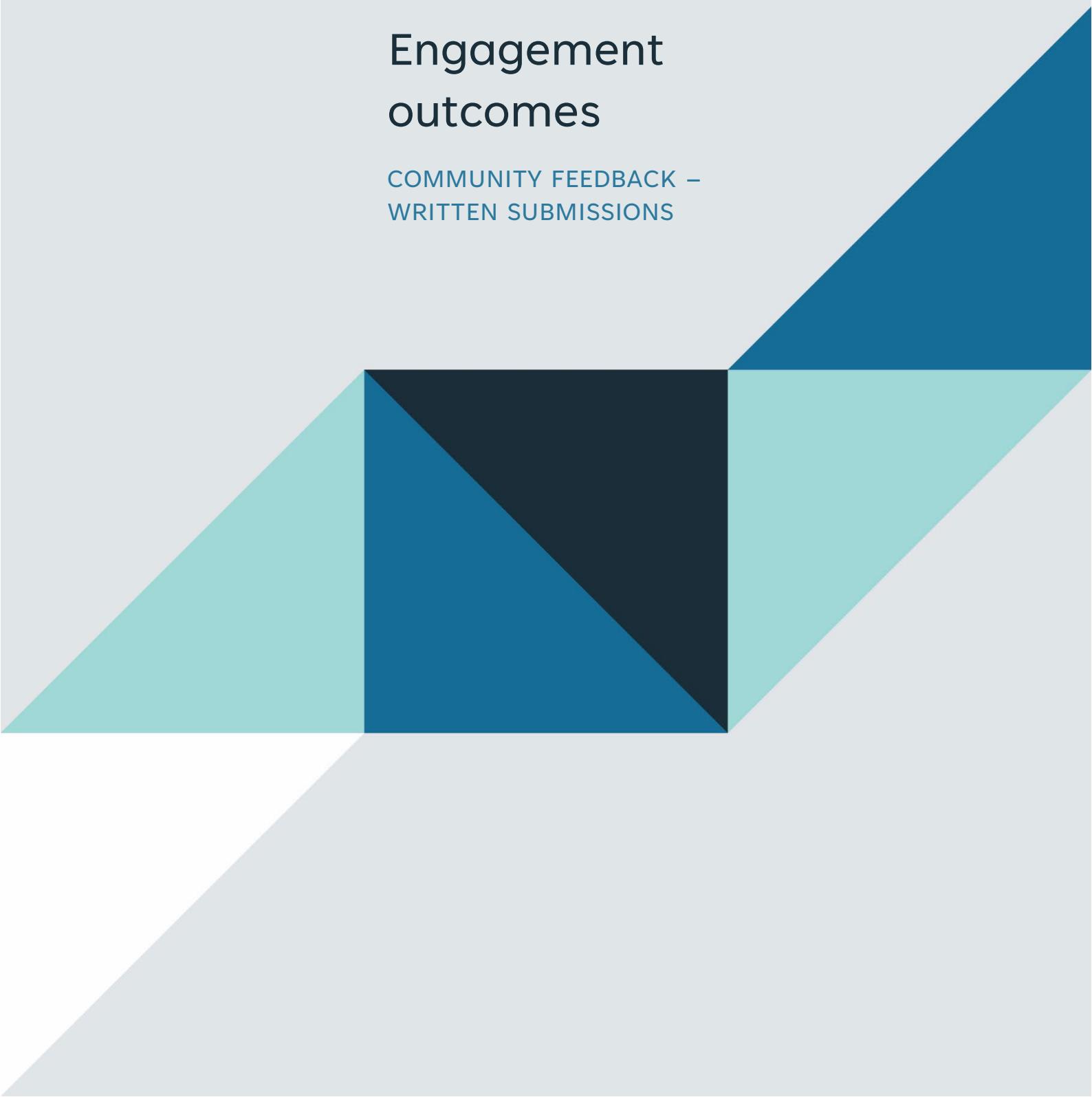
Overall, while some people appreciated the online engagement tool, many found it limiting, difficult to use and inadequate for thorough community input.

Upon hearing this feedback from users, Renewal SA provided the opportunity for community members to submit their feedback via email, where there was no word limit.

People also called for broader outreach, extended timelines and more transparent engagement. The engagement period was subsequently extended from four weeks a total period of 13 weeks.

# Engagement outcomes

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK –  
WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS



# Magill campus community engagement report

## Written submissions

Over 900 submissions were received, mostly via email, including submissions from:

- City of Campbelltown CEO and Mayor
- City of Burnside CEO
- Hon. Vincent Tarzia MP (Member for Hartley)
- James Stevens MP (Federal Member for Sturt)
- Green Adelaide
- Magill Matters community group
- The Gums Landcare group - specialist focus on Third Creek and The Gums Reserve
- Adelaide and Hills Koala Rescue Inc.- specialist focus on habitat
- Community supporting:
  - Saints Gym Club request for a venue onsite
  - Burnside Hockey Club request for a portion of land
  - Engagement extension
  - Magill Matters community group

The submissions from councils and elected members across government have been covered under stakeholder engagement outcomes.

Community feedback to Emily Bourke MLC MP following her community forum held in October 2024 was also provided to Renewal SA for its information. That feedback was consistent with the feedback received by Renewal SA across the various methods. In addition, community members emailed the Minister for Housing and Urban Development, Hon. Nick Champion MP mainly requesting an extension to the engagement period and which his office shared with Renewal SA.

Full written submissions/s along with all feedback from the drop-in sessions and online engagement is available in the Appendices document located at

<https://renewalsa.sa.gov.au/projects/magill#stakeholder-and-community-resources>

### Magill Matters community group

During the engagement period, local community group Magill Matters provided a submission (refer Appendices for full document) which it distributed widely to community members who also submitted the document. The summary of Magill Matters initial submission, with over 650 copies submitted, is below.

- **Opposition to high-density residential development:** Strong opposition to the proposed development of medium to high-density dwellings due to concerns about loss of open/green space, negative impacts on local character and the community's quality of life.
- **Preservation of open spaces and biodiversity:** Advocacy for the preservation of existing green spaces, especially the Third Creek biodiversity corridor and mature trees, highlighting their ecological, environmental and community value. Emphasis on maintaining biodiversity and wildlife habitats, particularly for koalas.
- **Adaptive reuse of existing buildings:** Support for repurposing existing buildings, like Murray House, for community-oriented purposes (e.g. cultural displays, education, vocational training, environmental education and community events). Suggestions for an integrated hub for education, recreation and cultural activities.
- **Environmental sustainability:** Focus on sustainable development that minimises environmental impact, such as preserving the creek, mature trees and natural habitats. Calls for an Environmental Impact Study (EIS) to assess the impacts of proposed development.

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- **Community hub and infrastructure:** Suggestions for an integrated community hub that includes aged care services, sports facilities and recreational areas. Support for repurposing buildings for a multi-use community centre, including an aged care training and residential facility, while maintaining the site's ecological values.
- **Recreational and educational opportunities:** Suggestions for enhancing the site's recreational potential, including upgrading sports facilities, creating walking/cycling paths, developing an Indigenous garden and increasing access to nature for educational purposes.
- **Movement and accessibility:** Recommendations for improved pedestrian and cyclist pathways, ensuring accessibility, and managing traffic flow to reduce congestion and preserve the site's peaceful, community-oriented atmosphere.
- **Support for sustainable housing solutions:** Alternative proposals for balanced, sustainable housing solutions that prioritise environmental conservation and community needs, including integrating aged care with educational and recreational facilities.

Whilst submitting the Magill Matters submission, some community members took the opportunity to add their additional feedback – either within the submission document itself or their covering email. While reiterating and supporting the Magill Matters submission the following additional points were made:

- Reference to specific government statements and assurances about preserving significant environmental and cultural elements enhancing open space and tree canopy and concerns about tree loss.
- Highlighting the perceived dissonance between the government's stated principles regarding green space and its actions concerning the UniSA Magill campus.
- Specific example – the Girardini dell Bruno in Siena Italy – as a model for preserving green space while accommodating housing.
- Importance of planting more native trees and creating a community garden.
- Importance of preserving the legacy of women commemorated by buildings and facilities on the site.
- Proposing the idea of building a local village to support raising local children.
- Potential new uses for Murray House including historical and cultural displays/museum, education and vocational training, adult and continued education and an environmental education centre.
- Additional suggestions for linking Murray House with the recent development of 'Magill Village' and nearby Penfolds, as well as specific historical figures associated with the Murray family.
- Additional details regarding the nearby Hamilton Hill development and its impact on Magill's resources, as well as specific statistics about tree canopy coverage and public park land in Adelaide.
- Additional concerns about the heat island effect and the need for visionary government action to mitigate environmental impacts.
- An Environmental Impact Study (EIS), noting the excessive cutting down of trees in the Campbelltown area.
- Suggestion to establish a wetlands area similar to Kensington Park, to promote environmental sustainability and ecological retention.

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- Creation of an Eco Centre modelled after Griffith University and a retention pond/wetland to support flood mitigation, biodiversity and climate resilience.
- Inclusion of a public-private aged care and training facility, integrated with community health, education and recreation services.
- Proposal of a more holistic East-West site alignment, including a sports hub, aged care village, and community café/restaurant.
- Emphasis on prioritising the environment, over planning and housing mismanagement.
- Establishing a sporting hub while also upgrading the existing swimming pool.

## Other community submissions

Key points and issues raised in 24 submissions received from a wide range of community members and stakeholders (including Green Adelaide, The Gums Landcare Group and Adelaide and Hills Koala Rescue Inc) regarding the proposed redevelopment of the UniSA Magill campus site are:

### Environmental protection and biodiversity

- **Third Creek:** Universally recognised as a critical ecological corridor. Concerns include erosion, stormwater runoff and flood risk due to urban infill. Proposals include retention ponds, wetlands and rewilding to mitigate impacts.
- **Tree canopy:** Strong emphasis on preserving mature trees (some over 200 years old) for biodiversity, climate resilience and community well-being.
- **Wildlife:** Koalas, echidnas and other native species are at risk and relocation is not viable due to legal and ecological constraints.
- **Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) and Biodiversity Sensitive Urban Design (BSUD)** are widely supported as essential frameworks for sustainable development.

### Heritage and cultural significance

- **Murray House:** Broad support for its preservation and adaptive reuse as a community hub, museum, or cultural venue. Suggestions include heritage tours, creative spaces and event hosting.
- **Memorial facilities:** Concerns about the potential demolition of buildings honoring Marie Mune, Lillian de Lissa and Amy Gillett, who contributed significantly to social work, early childhood education and sport.

### Open space and recreation

- **Green space deficit:** highlighted that Magill has less than 6% open space—well below the recommended 12.5%. The community strongly advocates for retaining and enhancing open space for community use.
- **Recreational facilities:** Strong support for preserving ovals, gymnasiums, pools and other community-use facilities. Proposals include creating a multi-purpose sports and cultural hub.
- **Alternative development zones:** Many submissions recommend focusing residential development on the eastern side of the campus (already zoned residential) and preserving the western side for community and environmental use.

# Magill campus community engagement report

## Urban design and housing

- **Density and design:** Widespread opposition to high-density housing on the western side. Preference for low-rise, human-scale development (4–5 storeys maximum) with heritage-sensitive architecture.
- **Adaptive reuse:** Strong support for repurposing existing buildings for social and affordable housing, education and community services to reduce environmental impact.
- **Amenities:** Suggestions include integrating small-scale retail (e.g. IGA), aged care and community gardens. Support for limited, well-placed affordable housing (e.g. along St Bernards Road, or near Gertrude/Edwards Streets). Preference for housing that supports downsizing for older residents.

## Traffic and infrastructure

- **Congestion:** St Bernard's Road and surrounding streets are already congested. Increased housing would exacerbate this.
- **Infrastructure strain:** Concerns about impacts on schools, public transport and local services.
- **Recommendations:** Direct vehicle access to major roads, improve traffic flow and include parking solutions like stackable carparks.

## Community engagement and planning integrity

- **Consultation process:** Requests to extend the feedback period and delay the master plan release. Concerns about whether community input will meaningfully influence outcomes.
- **Master plan strength:** Calls for a robust, enforceable plan with legal protections against deviation. Emphasis on transparency and accountability in decision-making.

## Climate and sustainability

- **Climate resilience:** Need for rainwater harvesting, permeable surfaces and green infrastructure to address urban heat and water scarcity.
- **Heat island mitigation:** Retain tree canopy and open space to reduce urban heat. Avoid overdevelopment that exacerbates climate impacts.

## Alternative development models

- **Community-led vision:** Proposals for multifunctional community hubs, eco-centres and educational precincts. Inspiration drawn from international models like Giardini del Bruco (Italy) and local examples like Hazelwood Park.
- **Zoning recommendations:** Retain western side as Community Facilities Zone. Focus residential development on the eastern side with minimal ecological impact.

This comprehensive feedback reflects a deeply engaged community advocating for a balanced, sustainable, and inclusive approach to redevelopment—one that honours the site's heritage, protects its environment and meets long-term community needs.

## Community emails

Key points and issues raised in 49 emails received from community members providing their feedback on the proposed redevelopment of the UniSA Magill campus site are:

### Strong opposition to overdevelopment

# Magill campus community engagement report

- **High-density housing:** Widespread concern about the proposed medium to high-density dwellings. Residents fear it will:
  - Overwhelm local infrastructure (roads, schools, sewage, stormwater).
  - Destroy the character of Magill, known for its open space and low-density living.
  - Replicate negative outcomes seen in nearby developments like Hamilton Hill and Glenside - being referenced as examples.

## Environmental and ecological protection

- **Third Creek:** A recurring theme is the need to preserve and restore Third Creek as a natural corridor. Concerns include:
  - Increased stormwater runoff and erosion.
  - Loss of biodiversity and habitat for koalas, echidnas, birds and fungi.
- **Tree canopy:** Strong advocacy for preserving all mature trees, not just regulated ones, due to their ecological, aesthetic and climate-mitigating value.
- **Wildlife:** Repeated sightings of koalas, kangaroos and native birds underscore the site's ecological importance.

## Preservation of green and open space

- **Community use:** The campus is widely used for walking, dog exercise, children's play and informal recreation.
- **Facilities at risk:** Residents want to retain the oval, gymnasium, swimming pool and theatre for community use.
- **Alternative vision:** Many propose transforming the site into a community hub with:
  - Nature play areas, wetlands and walking trails.
  - Sports facilities (e.g., hockey, soccer, gymnastics).
  - Cultural and educational spaces.

## Traffic and infrastructure concerns

- **Congestion:** St Bernard's Road, Magill Road and surrounding streets are already congested. Additional housing would worsen traffic and parking issues.
- **Public transport:** Current services are seen as inadequate. Residents call for better planning before increasing population density.
- **Sewerage and stormwater:** Aging infrastructure is already under strain. Increased runoff from new development could damage Third Creek and downstream areas.

## Heritage and community identity

- **Murray House:** Broad support for preserving and repurposing it as a community venue, museum, or café.
- **Historical legacy:** The site is seen as a bequest to the community for educational and recreational use—not for private housing development.

## Community engagement and trust

- **Consultation process:** Many felt the consultation was rushed, poorly timed and lacked transparency.
- **Requests:**

# Magill campus community engagement report

- Extend the consultation period.
- Provide more detailed plans and opportunities for meaningful input.
- Ensure community feedback is genuinely incorporated into the master plan.

## Alternative proposals and suggestions

- **Zoning:** Strong opposition to rezoning the western side of the campus. Many support keeping it as a Community Facility Zone.
- **Development focus:** If housing is necessary, it should be limited to the eastern side, already zoned residential.
- **Innovative ideas:**
  - Stackable car parking to reduce land use.
  - Community gardens, aged care and health services.
  - Educational wetlands and eco-tourism features.

## Equity and social commentary

- **Housing affordability:** Some support for affordable housing, but not at the cost of green space.
- **Critique of government motives:** Several submissions question whether the development is driven by profit rather than community benefit.

This feedback reflects a deeply engaged and passionate community advocating for a balanced, sustainable and inclusive approach to redevelopment—one that honours the site's heritage, protects its environment and meets long-term community needs.

## The Saints Gym Club

Seventy-four submissions were received from community members specifically supporting the development of a dedicated gymnastics facility for Saints Gym Club at the UniSA Magill campus site. The feedback, summarised below, highlights the urgent need for a permanent facility to accommodate the club's needs.

## Overwhelming community support

- Strong and consistent support for a dedicated gymnastics facility at the UniSA Magill campus site.
- Submissions came from a wide range of stakeholders: parents, gymnasts, coaches, committee members and local residents.

## Urgent need for a permanent facility

- Saints Gym Club currently operates out of a shared school gym with limited access and no long-term security.
- The club will lose access to its current venue by December 2025, creating an urgent need for relocation.

## High demand and growth constraints

- Over 400 active members and more than 400 on the waiting list.
- Long wait times (up to 2 years) are common, limiting access for many families in the eastern suburbs.

# Magill campus community engagement report

## Broad program offerings and expansion potential

- Current programs include recreational and competitive gymnastics, tumbling and aerobics.
- A permanent facility would allow expansion into:
  - Kindergym for preschoolers
  - Fit for Life programs for older adults
  - School holiday and after-school programs
  - Adult gymnastics and fitness classes.

## Youth employment and leadership development

- The club employs over 45 young people in coaching and support roles.
- Provides leadership, mentoring and career development opportunities for local youth.

## Community and social impact

- The club fosters inclusion, confidence, resilience and mental well-being.
- Acts as a safe, supportive space for children and teens, especially those facing challenges like bullying or social isolation.
- Builds strong community ties and lifelong friendships.

## Strategic fit for the Magill site

- The eastern suburbs lack a dedicated gymnastics facility.
- The proposed facility would address a regional infrastructure gap and serve as a multi-generational community hub.
- Aligns with broader goals of promoting health, well-being and social cohesion.

## Economic and environmental considerations

- Supports local employment and economic activity.
- Reduces travel for families currently commuting long distances to access gymnastics.
- Advocates for a balanced development approach that includes green space and community infrastructure.

## Burnside Hockey Club

Thirty-six submissions were received from community members specifically supporting the Burnside Hockey Club's need for a permanent home. The feedback, summarised below, highlights the urgent need for a multi-purpose a multipurpose sporting facility at the UniSA Magill campus to support the club and the broader community. The feedback emphasises the importance of providing a dedicated home for the Burnside Hockey Club, fostering community engagement, promoting health and well-being and preserving green spaces.

## Strong community support for a multipurpose sporting facility

- Widespread endorsement for allocating part of the Magill campus site for a multipurpose sporting facility on the eastern side of St Bernards Road.

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- Proposed uses include hockey, netball, tennis, futsal and a soccer/cricket oval.
- Many submissions reference the Glenunga Hub as a successful model for a combined sports and community centre.

## Urgent need for a home ground for Burnside Hockey Club (BHC)

- BHC has 21 teams (9 senior, 12 junior) and 300+ players, but no dedicated pitch or clubhouse.
- The lack of a home base is contributing to player attrition, especially among late teens and early twenties.
- Current training and matches are scattered across Gepps Cross, Prince Alfred College and other distant venues.

## Health, wellbeing and social inclusion

- Submissions emphasise the role of sport in promoting physical and mental health, especially for youth and young adults.
- A dedicated facility would foster community connection, belonging and intergenerational engagement.

## Environmental and planning considerations

- Strong support for preserving and enhancing green space, particularly along Third Creek.
- Many oppose dense housing development, advocating for minimal residential impact to retain the area's natural beauty.
- The proposal is seen as a way to balance urban growth with sustainable community infrastructure.

## Broader community and educational benefits

- The facility would benefit local schools (e.g., Pembroke, Glenunga High, Loreto, Magill Primary) that lack access to hockey pitches.
- Potential to serve multiple sports and community groups, including scouts, guides and local residents.

## Legacy and long-term vision

- Seen as a once-in-a-generation opportunity to create a lasting community asset.
- Several submissions reference BHC's 75-year history and its role in developing elite athletes and fostering inclusive values.
- The project is framed as a legacy investment in youth, sport and community wellbeing.

# Magill campus community engagement report

## Engagement evaluation

Engagement outcomes are outlined in the Engagement Plan that was developed by Renewal SA. In preparing this report the outcomes were discussed, and activities were assessed as to whether the objectives were met.

Engagement outcomes	Feedback
Consult with local community members on the high-level vision, key attributes and opportunities for the Magill campus project.	<p>Feedback was received through the engagement process indicating local community members were interested in the project and wanted to understand more.</p> <p>The methodology provided a variety of opportunities for feedback – in person, online (13 weeks) and in writing, mostly via email.</p>
Seek and capture community feedback on key elements including Murray House, Third Creek, existing tree canopy, movement, residential, open space and environment, other ideas and people's experience with the engagement.	<p>Most participants took the opportunity to explore ideas and have their questions answered with the team members during the drop-in sessions.</p> <p>It is acknowledged that Renewal SA may not be able to accommodate all views outlined in this report. The engagement process has enabled the full spectrum of views to be captured and reported on.</p>
Enable community members to meet with project team members and consultants.	<p>The drop-in sessions provided the community with access to meet and discuss the high-level vision, key attributes and opportunities for the site with the Renewal SA project team members and consultants.</p> <p>The sessions were scheduled at times when community were likely to be available – late in the day/early evening and around the middle of the day on a Saturday.</p>
Manage queries and concerns.	<p>Each item of feedback – written Post it notes or online responses to survey questions was recorded.</p> <p>Feedback from the engagement (concerns, issues and ideas) will be used to help develop the Magill Campus Structure Plan.</p>

Overwhelmingly, positive feedback was received about the engagement process during the community drop-in sessions, with community members saying that they appreciated the opportunity to have face-to-face conversations with Renewal SA's staff and consultants about their interest and concerns. They also appreciated that they could continue to provide feedback by other methods, although many felt that the engagement period was too short.

Engagement feedback from online participants was mixed while some appreciated the tool, a number found it limiting, difficult to use and inadequate for thorough community input, suggestions made have been noted for incorporation into online engagement for future projects.

# Magill campus community engagement report

## Conclusions and recommendations

Overall – across all community feedback analysed to date – while there is some support for the idea of redeveloping the Magill campus, there is strong opposition to ‘overdevelopment’ and the overwhelming sentiment is one of caution and concern, particularly regarding the scale of the housing, the impact on traffic and local services and the loss of green space.

There is general consensus for sustainable development that preserves the area’s green spaces – in particular the Third Creek biodiversity corridor, supports community needs and carefully considers the impact of increased housing and infrastructure services.

There is a clear preference for adaptive reuse of existing buildings, integration of community services, including aged care, and the creation of multifunctional spaces that support education, recreation – including a variety of sports and cultural engagement.

Concerns about traffic congestion, infrastructure strain and loss of biodiversity are widespread, with calls for improved public transport, sustainable movement infrastructure and transparent planning processes. Murray House is seen as a cornerstone for community identity, with strong support for its preservation and transformation into a community hub.

Across all themes—residential, movement, open space and heritage—the community consistently calls for thoughtful, inclusive planning that balances growth with long-term environmental and social wellbeing.

In developing and refining the Magill Campus Structure Plan, it is recommended that Renewal SA and its consultants take note of community local knowledge, concerns and ideas together with key stakeholder feedback and re-engage all parties on the draft structure plan as it develops.

## Next steps

All feedback collected from this community engagement process has been provided to the project and design team for their consideration and will assist with the planning and design and help develop the Magill Campus Structure Plan. The team will identify future opportunities to engage with the community.

Following the first stage of engagement, Renewal SA and its urban design consultants will develop a structure plan for the site, taking into consideration stakeholder and community feedback and comments, state government objectives and the general opportunities and constraints of the site.

Feedback received which falls outside the scope of the project area has been noted and is being provided to the relevant stakeholders.

Renewal SA will continue to keep stakeholders and the community informed on project progress, including the next step of community engagement for the Magill Campus Draft Structure Plan.

Community members are encouraged to subscribe to be kept updated at  
<https://renewalsa.sa.gov.au/projects/magill#stakeholders-and-community>

# Magill campus community engagement report

## APPENDICES

The following appendices are all contained within a separate document located at <https://renewalsa.sa.gov.au/projects/magill#stakeholder-and-community-resources>

- Invitation
- Engagement map
- Media Release
- Full community responses from drop in sessions
- Full responses to the online survey questions
- Full written submissions
- Online engagement (Social Pinpoint)
- Drop in session display panels.

Separate appendices contain:

- Feedback received by the Minister for Housing and Urban Development, Hon. Nick Champion MP
- Feedback provided to Emily Bourke MLC MP, in response to her engagement forum held in October 2024, which preceded the engagement by Renewal SA