

Burwood, Strathfield and Homebush Planned Precinct Consultation Update



Community Consultation Update – introduction

Burwood, Strathfield and Homebush have been identified by the Department of Planning and Environment as a precinct with potential to meet the demands of a growing community through a coordinated approach to planning. These thriving multicultural hubs are already experiencing population growth, offering transport links to Western Sydney and the CBD, access to an international sports and entertainment precinct and space for new homes and infrastructure.

The Burwood, Strathfield and Homebush Precinct will benefit from a coordinated approach, ensuring infrastructure and open space are delivered in time to meet growing demand. Leveraging the existing features of the Precinct to diversify the local economy will provide new, local employment opportunities, services and enhance amenity, allowing people to live close to where they work and play.

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What community consultation has taken place around the Burwood, Strathfield and Homebush precinct?

The Burwood, Strathfield and Homebush Precinct is in the initial stages of investigation. The Department of Planning and Environment is keen to engage with the local community to identify opportunities for new jobs, community facilities, homes and schools within the precinct.

During the early stages of investigation, the community has had opportunities to provide feedback including:



Community drop-in session, June 24, 2017:

The Department held an informal drop-in session to discuss the planning process and canvass community feedback on the announcement of the Precinct. Around 150 people attended this session.



PlaceScore:

The Department also commissioned a PlaceScore survey, which invited participants to share the values and attributes of their community that should be maintained and which they would like to see improved. PlaceScore representatives were also available at the community drop-in session to offer attendees the opportunity to complete the survey, which attracted over 100 responses.

A project working group is being established with City of Canada Bay, Burwood and Strathfield Councils, and relevant State Government agencies to lead and progress planning. With input from the project working group, the community and other relevant stakeholders, the Department will begin developing a draft Precinct Plan.

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What strengths and opportunities for improvement did the communities of Burwood, Strathfield and Homebush identify?

Results from the PlaceScore survey showed the community values safety and connectivity when moving through the neighbourhood, access to local businesses and services that provide for daily needs, and availability of quality open space. However, not all of the attributes that are highly valued are considered to be currently meeting the community's expectations.

Participants expressed a view that connectivity and transport in these areas perform well, while they would like to see improvements to the condition and maintenance of open space, and more options for recreational activities and entertainment. The community would like to see the Burwood, Strathfield and Homebush Precinct become a vibrant destination celebrating cultural diversity that can be enjoyed by local residents and visitors alike.

WHAT DO PEOPLE VALUE IN THE BURWOOD, STRATHFIELD AND HOMEBUSH PRECINCT?

RANK	OVERALL (N=41)	%	RANK	OVERALL (N=41)	%
#1	Access and safety of walking, cycling and/or public transport (signage, paths, lighting etc.)	63%	#6	Access to neighbourhood amenities (cafes, shops, health and wellness services etc.)	46%
#1	Local businesses that provide for daily needs (grocery stores, pharmacy, banks etc.)	63%	#6	Protection of the natural environment	46%
#3	General condition of public open space (street trees, footpaths, parks etc.)	56%	#8	Sustainable urban design (water sensitive design, transport-oriented design, sustainable building design, density etc.)	44%
#4	Elements of natural environment (natural features, views, vegetation, topography, water, wildlife etc.)	54%	#9	Access to shared community and commercial assets (library, bike/car share, sport facilities/gyms etc.)	41%
#5	Walking/jogging/bike paths that connect housing to communal amenity (shops, parks etc.)	51%	#9	Amount of public space (footpaths, verges, parks etc.)	41%

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Other facts about the Burwood, Strathfield and Homebush community that emerged from the PlaceScore survey include:

- **Females value access and safety and locally-owned businesses**

64% of females (all age groups) surveyed placed the highest value on access and safety of walking, cycling and public transport such as signage, paths and lighting. 59% of women indicated value in local businesses that provide for daily needs including grocery stores, pharmacies and banks. 59% also value protection of the natural environment.

- **Men value views on locally-owned businesses and access and safety**

68% of men (all age groups) surveyed placed the highest value on access to local businesses that provide for daily needs such as grocery stores, pharmacies and banks. 63% of males placed priority on the access and safety of walking, cycling and public transport including signage, paths and lighting.

58% of males value elements of the natural environment such as views,

vegetation, topography, water and the wildlife.

- **Residents are vitally concerned with local businesses and connectivity**

63% of people aged between 25-44 years placed their highest value on local businesses that provide for daily needs. 45-64 year olds placed their highest value in the access and safety of walking, cycling and public transport.

- **The community wants to improve local culture**

Participants expressed the importance of improving local culture and making the Precinct a more vibrant destination for entertainment, recreation and social activities. Some suggestions included community events and festivals, more shops and night time activities.

What happens next?

The Department will establish a project working group with City of Canada Bay, Burwood and Strathfield Councils, as well as relevant State Government agencies to lead planning for the precinct. The draft Precinct Plan will be informed by specialist studies and input from the community and stakeholders.

Where can I find out more?

To find out more you can:

- go online to planning.nsw.gov.au/burwoodstrathfieldhomebush