

A photograph of a playground at Farringdon Avenue. The playground features a large wooden climbing structure with slides and a separate swing set with two swings. The ground is covered in grass and fallen leaves. In the background, there are large trees and a clear blue sky.

Farringdon Avenue Playground Refresh Insights Report

26 August – 16 September 2025



**Hamilton
City Council**
Te kaunihera o Kīrikiriroa

Background

- This refresh is a part of our ongoing playground renewals programme; this programme means we look after the play spaces we have, so they will be in a good condition for the community to enjoy for years to come.
- The aim of this consultation was to hear what the community would like to see at Farringdon Avenue Reserve playground. We want to make sure their voice is factored into the playground design, within our renewal guidelines.
- We sought out community views via a survey; this was available for all Hamiltonians but included targeted tactics aimed at Farringdon Avenue Reserve locals.
 - Targeted tactics: letter drops to local residents, geotargeted social media advertising, signage installed at Farringdon Ave Reserve, Antenno notice to Rototuna residents, information drop-in session held at the park.
 - Widespread tactics: survey hosted on Council website, hardcopies made available in libraries and the reception of the Council Municipal building.
- This survey was live from 26 August to 16 September 2025. We received 49 responses in total.

Background

Census Facts - Rototuna North

- Farrington Avenue Reserve sits in Rototuna North, a suburb home to 2,920 Hamiltonians – including 609 families*
- Over half of Rototuna North families have at least one dependent child under the age of 18
 - 52.2% couples with children and 12.8% single parents
- Rototuna North residents generally tend to be older than other Hamiltonians
 - 19.9% of Rototuna North residents are 65 and older, compared to 12.5% of all Hamiltonians

	Total population size	U15 years	15-29 years	30-64 years	65+
Hamilton City	189,700 (100%)	39,647 (20.9%)	44,390 (23.4%)	81,950 (43.2%)	23,713 (12.5%)
Rototuna North	2,920 (100%)	702 (24.2%)	511 (17.5%)	1,121 (38.4%)	581 (19.9%)

Learn more about Rototuna North population makeup [here](#) (population stats).

*A family is defined by Census as a couple with or without child(ren), or one parent and their child(ren) whose usual residence is in the same household

Processing feedback

- Any emails or hardcopies were entered into our online survey tool
- Duplicate responses were combined when name and email matched
- Any attachments were manually checked
- Counts and percentages were calculated using Microsoft Excel

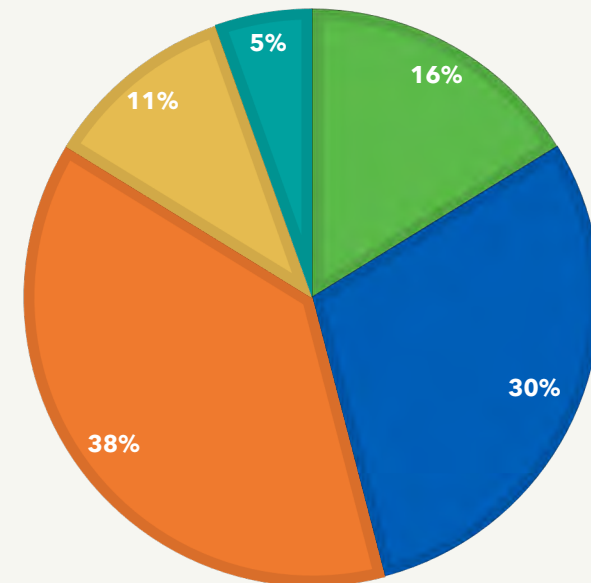


Who did we hear from?

- Most respondents (92%, n = 43) live nearby to Farringdon Avenue Reserve
- About half of respondents (51%, n = 25) visit Farringdon Avenue Reserve at least weekly

HOW OFTEN DO YOU VISIT FARRINGDON AVENUE RESERVE?

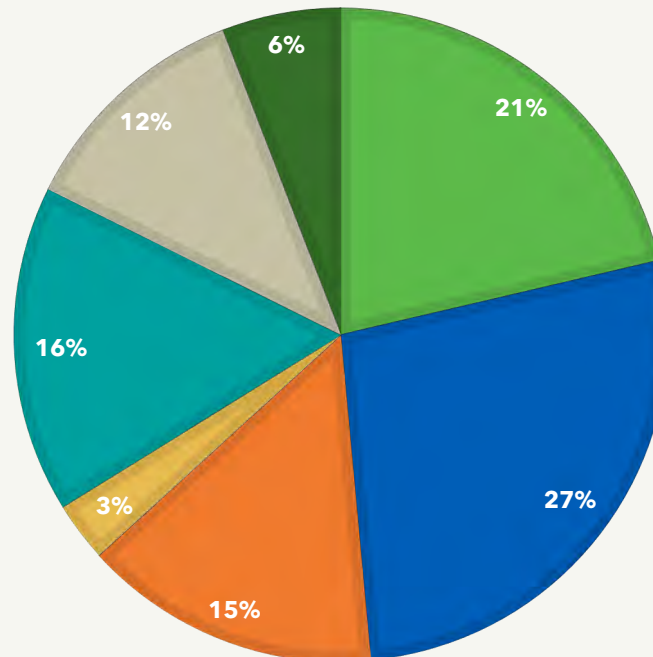
■ Daily ■ Weekly ■ Monthly ■ Less often ■ Never



Who did we hear from?

“Who in your household uses Farringdon Avenue Reserve playground?”

- Children less than 5 years old
- Children 11 - 16 years old
- Caregivers/adults with children
- None - no one in my house uses Farringdon Avenue Reserve playground
- Children 5 - 10 years old
- Children older than 16 years old
- Adults without children



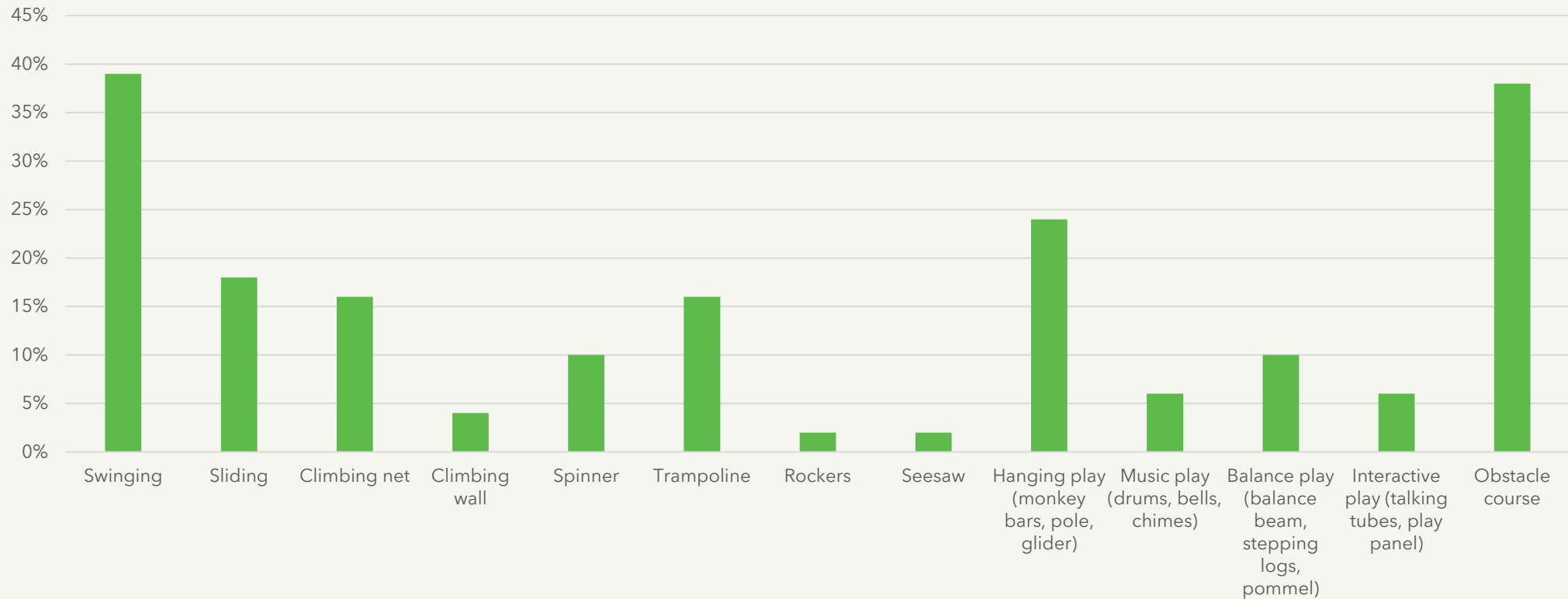
Who did we hear from?

Does anyone in your household who uses a playground have a disability or special needs?

- Four respondents indicated someone in their household who uses a playground has a disability or special needs.
- We asked these respondent to share some of the difficulties experienced, or may be experienced in accessing or using the park or play elements
- Their disability-specific feedback was:
 - *"Limited mobility - can walk, but need equipment that a child with limited mobility can access."*
 - *"No fence so child runs away because the don't know the dangers"*
 - *"Not enough swings"*
 - *"As a 78yr old with bad knee and sciatica, I would appreciate seating. It is difficult for me to stand for any length of time."*

Preferred play equipment

“What play activities would you most like to see included at Farringdon Avenue Reserve?”



Preferred play equipment

By answer to “Who in your household uses Farringdon Park playground?”



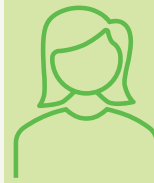
Children less than 5 years old:
Swinging, Sliding



Children 5 - 10 years old:
Obstacle Course



Children 11 - 16 years old*:
Obstacle Course, Swinging



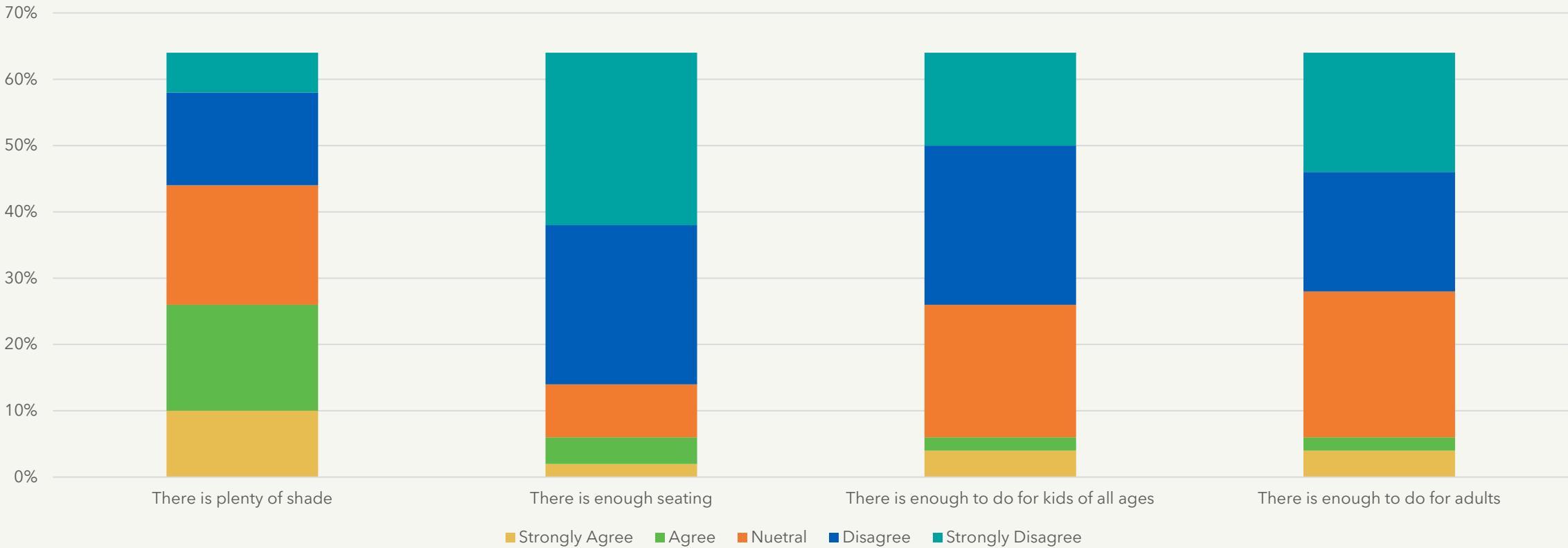
Children older than 16 years old*:
Swinging, Spinner, Hanging Play,
Balance Play, Obstacle Course,
Exercise equipment



Adults:
Obstacle Course, Swinging

Views of current park

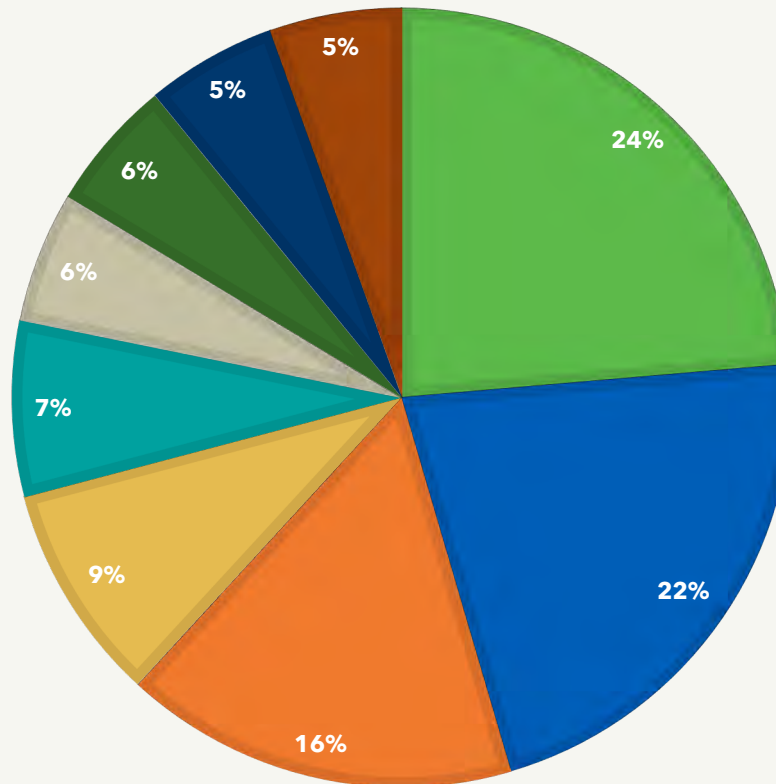
“How much do you agree with the following statements about Farringdon Avenue Reserve?”



Other comments

What people want to see in the park

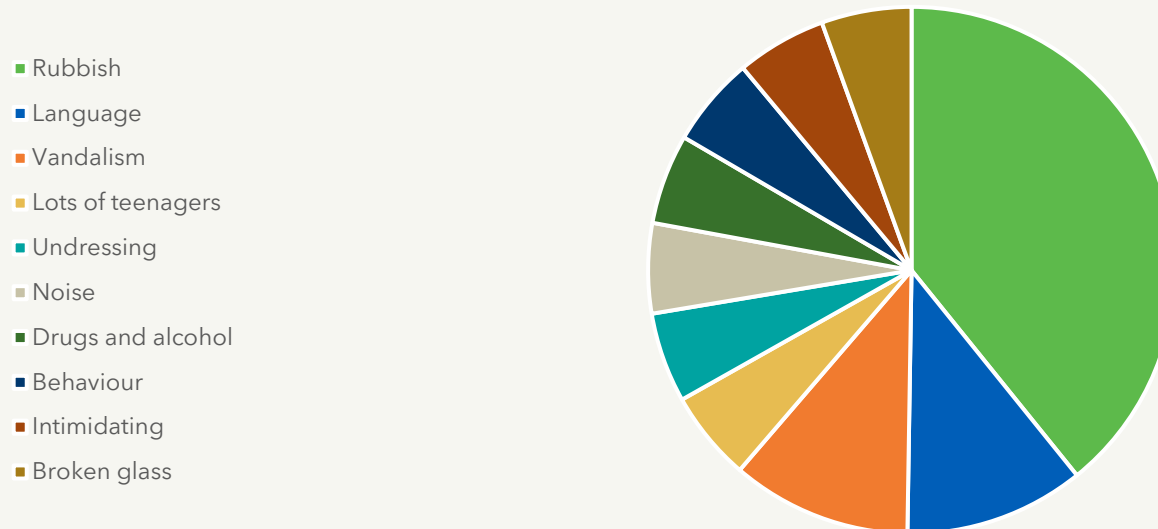
■ Rubbish bins ■ Seats ■ Teenage management ■ Hoops/Football ■ No bark ■ Bike/Scooter track ■ Path ■ U5 equipment ■ Shade/Shelter



Teenage behaviour barrier

- 16% of respondents have concerns about teenage behavior at Farringdon Ave Reserve playground. They have indicated that many who use the playground are teenagers after school and that behaviour of these teenagers limits the ability for others to use the playground especially young children as it is felt they create an unsafe environment.
- Those that had children over the age of 11 in the household who used the playground stated they would like a path, exercise equipment, seating, rubbish bins and an exercise area including football goals.

Reported teenage behaviour



Commentary

"Do you have any other comments about the playground renewal?"



Rubbish bins

"A rubbish bin would best serve this playground. Is a thoroughfare for school kids everyday. ..."



Seats

"....more seating and a fenced dog area...."



Hoops/Football

"Need a football goal for footballers to train there."



Teenage behaviour

"There is a huge problem with high school kids hanging around in the park, small kids can't play there because the older kids are intimidating, using foul language and even drinking alcohol in the afternoons when we want to take our kids there. These behaviour needs addressing as no amount of fancy equipment will be useful if we cant access the park with our kids. Kids were even dressing and undressing there, not sure wat their intention was but certainly not a park where I can take my young children.."

Feedback from community meetings

Information drop-in session hosted at Farringdon Avenue

- Nine groups attended (including nearby residents, several dog owners, families with children)
- Attendees provided some general verbal feedback. The themes from these comments were:
 - The facility is well used by the community
 - Used by lots of teenagers on their way home from school
 - Open space used for touch and other sports
 - Lots of those who use the space are dog owners
 - Desire for more seating

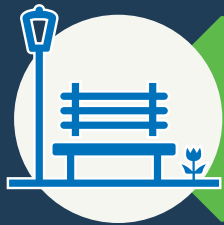
Summary of key findings



Mostly heard from locals with young kids under the age of 10



Most desired play equipment pieces:
Swinging, and obstacle course



Rubbish bins and seating was the most desired in open text



The community has concerns about teenage behaviour at the playground

Engagement

Tactics + results

Engagement tactics



Love to play?

Have your say!

Farringdon Avenue Reserve playground refresh

Visit hamilton.govt.nz/haveyoursay by 16 September 2025



Love to play?

Have your say!

We will soon be refreshing the playground at **Farringdon Avenue Reserve** in Rototuna and would love to hear what you want included.

Have your say by 16 September 2025:

- online at hamilton.govt.nz/haveyoursay
- at your local library or the Council building on Anglesea Street
- at our drop-in session at Farringdon Avenue Reserve playground on **Saturday 30 August, 10.30am-11.30am**

07 838 6699
info@hcc.govt.nz
HamiltonCityCouncil
hamilton.govt.nz/haveyoursay

Or scan me!



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Te Kaunihera o Kiriwhiri

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We will soon be refreshing this playground and would love to hear what you'd want included.



Scan the QR code or visit hamilton.govt.nz/haveyoursay by 16 September 2025.

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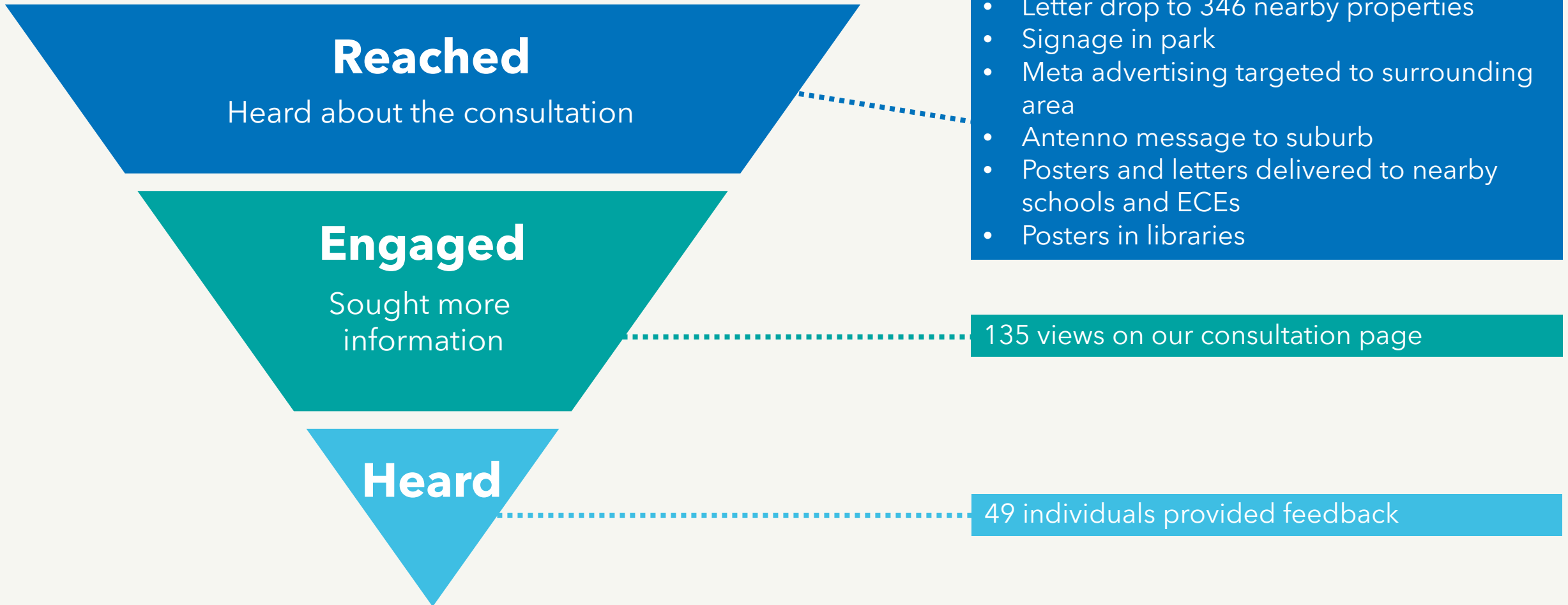
We will soon be refreshing the playgrounds at **Brymer Glen Reserve** in Grandview Heights, **Farringdon Avenue Reserve** in Rototuna and **Chelmsford Park** in Silverdale, and want to hear what you want included.

Have your say online at hamilton.govt.nz/haveyoursay by 16 September 2025



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Engagement results



What's next?

Council will consider this feedback when designing a refreshed playground for Farringdon Avenue Reserve, within our renewal guidelines.

The final playground design is expected to be confirmed in early 2026, with construction from mid 2026.