

Planning for Walka's Future

Engagement snapshot

Connecting with you

During September and October, we reconnected with the community to hear their vision and ideas for enhanced uses and the site's future.

Your feedback will now help inform the Master Plan and Plan of Management for the remediation, restoration, and revitalisation of Walka Water Works.



What we did

Community involvement:

We listened to over **600** people

2 pop up activities

9 targeted neighbourhood interviews

548 Contributions to our online survey

101 contributions to our online map

7 posts online including Facebook and LinkedIn

over **1,036** letters to residents

3 newsletters

1 Community Liaison Group meeting



What we heard

77% of respondents

were Maitland residents

Top 5 areas for improvements

- 1 Restored pumphouse
- 2 Adding amenities
- 3 Enhancing trails
- 4 Recreational improvements
- 5 Environmental improvements

Top priority areas for activities or events

- 1 Local community and family events
- 2 Return of weddings and functions



392 survey respondents identified a desire for a café/restaurant at the site

What we have confirmed:



The community values:

- ✓ A shared desire to maintain and interpret the heritage aspects of the site, particularly the pumphouse and miniature railway.
- ✓ Preference for the site being an accessible recreational space, focused on family-friendly amenities and walking trails.
- ✓ The return of small-scale events, such as weddings, birthday gatherings, etc, was stronger in the survey responses.
- ✓ The community is united to protect the site's natural environment, particularly by removing invasive species and enhancing wildlife habitat.
- ✓ Opposition to over-commercialisation: There is consistent opposition to large-scale accommodation or more significant concert events, with a preference for small-scale developments that complement the site's recreational and environmental values.

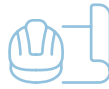
Where to from here:



Step 1 Planning



Step 2 DA Approvals



Step 3 Remediation



Step 4 Revitalisation



Step 5 Ongoing Maintenance

- Finalise the supporting studies
- Use all contributions to inform and draft the Plan of Management and Master Plan
- Plan of Management will go on public exhibition in the first half of 2025.

