

Ringwood Lake Park

Landscape Masterplan



Masterplan Report
to the Maroondah City Council

by
EDAW (Aust.) Pty. Ltd.

July 1999

Acknowledgements

This Masterplan has evolved with the significant help of the following people : -

Steering Committee

Martin Bartlett – community nominee

Eva Buchanan - community nominee

Cr. Joe Cossari (Chairperson & Mayor 23 March 1998 - 22 March 1999)

– Councillor for the Loughman's Hill Ward

Steve Goble – Manager City Parks

Cr. Nick Kirmos – Councillor for the Clocktower Ward

Cr. Marj Munro – Councillor for the Mullum Ward

Cr. Maureen Naylor (Chairperson & Mayor 22 March 1999 - present)

– Councillor for the Yarrunga Ward

Liz Sanzaro – community nominee

Lynette While – Service Contract Co-ordinator

Bill Wilkins - community nominee

Lydia Wilson – Director City Services

EDAW team

Peter Haack – Project Manager

Andrew Irvine – Landscape Architect

Nick Mann – Project Landscape Planner & Designer

Mark Shurey – Landscape Designer

Executive Summary

This Masterplan Report outlines the vision and direction for the future of development and management at Ringwood Lake Park, and articulates the process used to develop this vision.

Maroondah City Council commissioned EDAW (Aust.) Pty Ltd to undertake the Ringwood Lake Park Master Plan in October 1998. The Masterplan was commissioned in response to: -

- a perceived increase in the use of Ringwood Lake Park;
- an increasing need to replace and upgrade existing infrastructure,
- an understanding of access difficulties to the Park; and
- a requirement to rehabilitate a large area of land in the east of the Park degraded through lake dredging works.

The objectives of this Master Plan were to: -

- provide a clear vision for the Park that defines future expenditure and development;
- provide a plan that balances current and future user needs with the requirements to conserve the natural environment;
- provide a plan that balances user needs with any proposed developments within the Park;
- define opportunities for improving recreation, leisure and enjoyment of the Park;
- consider the appropriateness of commercial developments within the Park;
- acknowledge the significance of cultural elements within the site
- improve access to the Park; and
- address current issues within the Park.

Site assessment and extensive community consultation were undertaken in order to fulfil these objectives. The consultation consisted of: -

- **Steering Committee liaison** – the Steering Committee played a key role in the preparation of the Masterplan by directing it through all stages and it reviewed, discussed and determined all information prior to public display.
- **First Community Questionnaire** - in order to determine the current use, community perceptions of problems at the Park and future community expectations of the Park on site interviews were undertaken and questionnaires distributed. 784 responses were gathered during this process.
- **Display of the Draft Master Plan and Second Community Questionnaire** - to ascertain the level of community support for the Draft Masterplan an intensive consultation process was undertaken. This process comprised public displays of the Draft Master Plan and a questionnaire designed to evaluate community opinion the plan. 384 questionnaires were returned through this process.

As a result of this consultation and on site investigation the following vision statement for the Park was determined: -

Ringwood Lake Park is to provide a natural area for passive recreation that provides improved experiences of the existing and proposed natural and water values within the Park. The Park should cater primarily for families with children but offer experiences that can be enjoyed by a wide range of user groups. The Park should be easily and safely accessible to all users.

In order to achieve this vision, and in response to the trends expressed through community consultation, the following significant recommendations were made: -

- Improve the natural environment within the Park and increase the experiences of the natural environment through establishing boardwalks and nature trails.
- Improve parking and access within and to the Park through establishing a new carpark along the boundary of Daiseys Hotel and establishing a pedestrian bridge over the Maroondah Highway.
- Develop new picnic facilities, open lawn area, playground and toilet adjacent to the existing poppet head.
- Improve and upgrade existing infrastructure, including: -
 - Replacing the existing bridge;
 - Replacing the existing soundshell with a rotunda structure;
 - Improving signage and existing playground, toilet and picnic facilities;
- Define opportunities for a future restaurant (subject to Council and feasibility approval) and mobile vendor access; and
- Develop style guidelines for the Park.

Through these recommendations Ringwood Lake Park will continue to be one of the most significant open spaces in the Maroondah municipality, and will provide a place for relaxation, recreation and enjoyment for the residents of Maroondah and beyond well into the future.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS	2
1.0 INTRODUCTION	4
1.1 BACKGROUND	5
1.2 DESIGN BRIEF	5
1.3 MASTERPLAN OBJECTIVES.....	5
2.0 METHODOLOGY	6
3.0 SITE ANALYSIS.....	7
3.1 REGIONAL CONTEXT	7
3.2 CHARACTER AND USE.....	8
3.3 ACCESS AND CIRCULATION : -	9
3.4 SPATIAL AND VISUAL	10
3.5 VEGETATION	11
4.0 ISSUES & OPPORTUNITIES	12
4.1 PARKING.....	12
4.2 COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITIES.....	12
4.3 UTILISATION	13
4.4 HISTORICAL MINING FACILITIES	13
4.5 ACCESS TO COMMERCIAL EATERIES	14
4.6 AGEING INFRASTRUCTURE	14

5.0	COMMUNITY CONSULTATION	15
5.1	FIRST COMMUNITY QUESTIONNAIRE.....	15
5.2	SECOND COMMUNITY QUESTIONNAIRE.....	24
6.0	MASTERPLAN RECOMMENDATIONS.....	34
6.1	RATIONALE & VISION.....	34
6.2	NATURAL ENVIRONMENT.....	34
6.3	PARKING & ACCESS.....	35
6.4	DEVELOP NEW USER NODE.....	36
6.5	IMPROVE & UPGRADE EXISTING FACILITIES.....	37
6.6	FRONTAGES & BOUNDARIES	40
6.7	DISCRETIONARY USES	41
6.8	DEVELOPMENT OF BUILT FORM AND STYLE	41
6.9	MAINTENANCE	42
7	COSTS & STAGING RECOMMENDATIONS.....	44
	REFERENCES	47
	APPENDIX ONE – DATA FROM FIRST QUESTIONNAIRE	48
	APPENDIX TWO – DATA FROM SECOND QUESTIONNAIRE ..	49

1.0 Introduction

Ringwood Lake Park is one of the most popular recreation areas in the City of Maroondah. The Park is a well-known destination for many families throughout the municipality, providing an area for picnicking, play and passive relaxation in an informal and peaceful setting. The Park's most distinctive feature is the large lake that fronts Maroondah Highway. The Lake is surrounded by densely vegetated natural areas and sweeping areas of lawn that contain large exotic trees.

The 8.5 Hectare park is located on the south side of Maroondah Highway and is bound by the Lilydale Railway Line, Mount Dandenong Road and commercial and residential properties.

EDAW (Aust.) Pty. Ltd. was engaged by the Maroondah City Council in September 1998 to undertake a Masterplan for the Ringwood Lake Park.

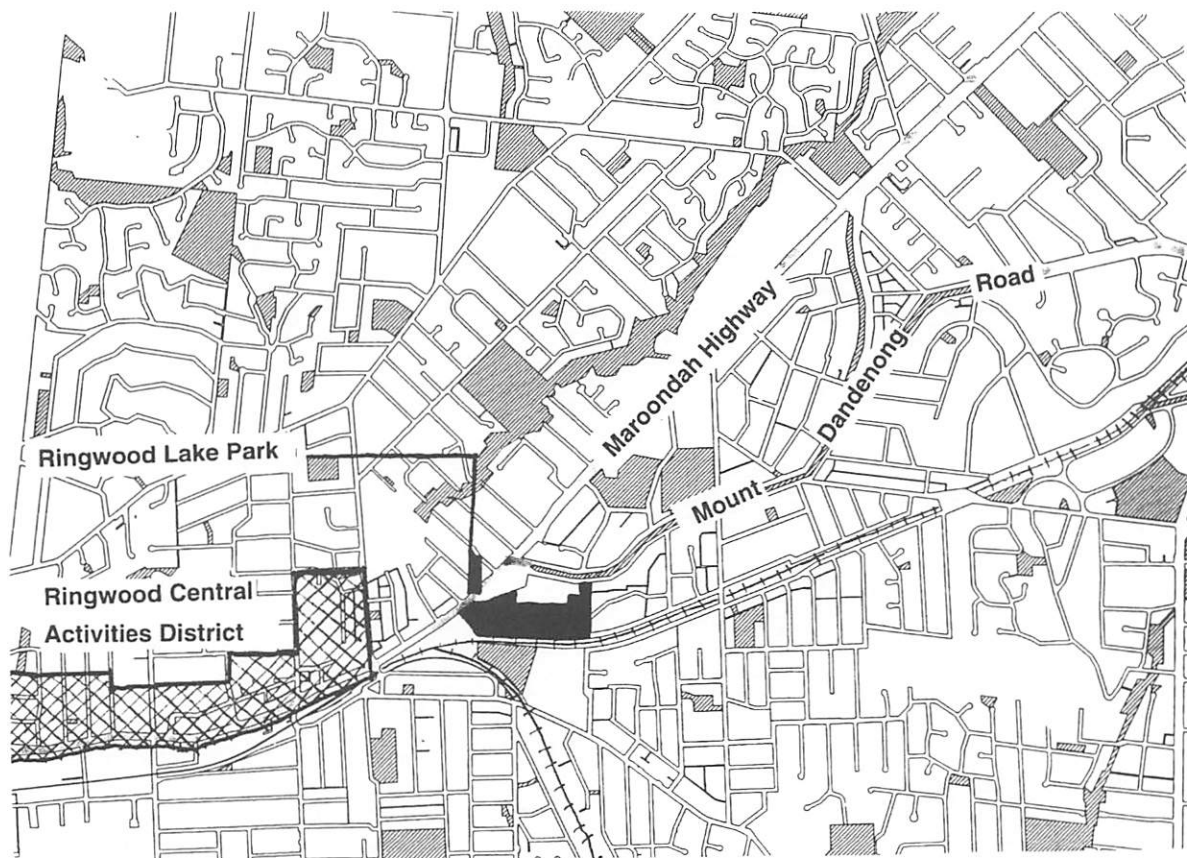


Figure One – Locality Plan

1.1 Background

The Masterplan was commissioned by the Maroondah City Council in response to the following: -

- a perceived increase in the use of Ringwood Lake Park;
- an increasing need to replace and upgrade existing infrastructure,
- an understanding of access difficulties to the Park; and
- a requirement to rehabilitate a large area of land in the east of the Park degraded through lake dredging works.

1.2 Design Brief

The design brief, written by the Maroondah City Council in consultation with EDAW, defined a series of tasks and processes required for the preparation of the Masterplan.

The brief defined that the purpose of the Masterplan is to provide: -

- a working document defining the objectives for the Ringwood Lake Park.
- a reference to determine the direction of any proposed works at the Park.
- a planning document to assist budgeting for improvements to the Lake.

The brief required that the Masterplan undertake significant community consultation through: -

- liaison with a Steering Committee (which had a role to guide and review the Master Plan)
- the distribution of questionnaires, draft documents for review and on -site interviews with the wider community.

1.3 Masterplan Objectives

The Ringwood Lake Masterplan has been commissioned by the Maroondah City Council in order to provide a clear direction and broad vision for the Park in the future. To this end the objectives of the Masterplan are to: -

- provide a clear vision for the Park that defines future expenditure and development;
- provide a plan that balances current and future user needs with the requirements to conserve the natural environment;
- provide a plan that balances user needs with any proposed developments within the Park;
- define opportunities for improving recreation, leisure and enjoyment of the Park;
- consider the appropriateness of commercial developments within the Park;
- acknowledge the significance of cultural elements within the site
- improve access to the Park; and
- address current issues within the Park.

This report should be read in conjunction with the Ringwood Lake Management Strategy (Water Ecoscience, June, 1997). The aim of this strategy is to improve the water, sediment and biological quality of the Lake through improving water flow, reducing the inflow of nutrients, improving the quality of water entering the lake, removing sediment and introducing a seasonal water level regime.

2.0 Methodology

The methodology employed for this masterplan sought to provide an open consultation process that enabled significant community input and Steering Committee direction into the Masterplan. The methodology was designed to enable an early understanding of existing uses, user requirements, community and current site issues.

Throughout the Masterplan process significant community consultation occurred through: -

- **Steering Committee liaison** – The Steering Committee comprised 4 Councillors, 4 community representatives and 3 Council Officers. Seven meetings were held through the Masterplan process. The Steering Committee played a key role in the preparation of the Masterplan by directing it through all stages and reviewed, discussed and determined all information prior to public display.
- **Community questionnaires** – 2 rounds of community questionnaires were undertaken to inform and involve the community in the Masterplan process (refer section 5). These questionnaires were distributed at the Park and at display areas throughout the municipality, via the Maroondah Mail and to a number of schools near the site.

The Masterplan evolved through the following staged methodology: -

1. Site analysis and issues assessment.
2. User survey.
3. Development of opportunities and needs plan.
4. Development of the Draft Masterplan.
5. Public display of the Draft Masterplan and associated community consultation.
6. Development of the Final Masterplan.

The Masterplan process occurred over a period of twelve months from June 1998 to June 1999.

3.0 Site Analysis

3.1 Regional Context

Ringwood Lake was analysed to determine its role in a regional open space context. This analysis revealed that: -

- Ringwood Lake Park is heavily utilised partially because of its prominent location on Maroondah Highway, its proximity to the Ringwood Central Activities Area and to the residential areas of Ringwood and Ringwood East.
- Ringwood Lake is linked to the Dandenong Creek Open Space Network (which runs through Wantirna, Scoresby and Knox) via a bicycle trail located along the Belgrave Railway Line.
- Maroondah Highway creates a strong barrier between Ringwood Lake Park and food outlets on the northern side of the road.
- Maroondah Highway creates a barrier between Ringwood Lake Park and other open space areas within the City of Maroondah (e.g. Mullum Mullum Creek Reserve).

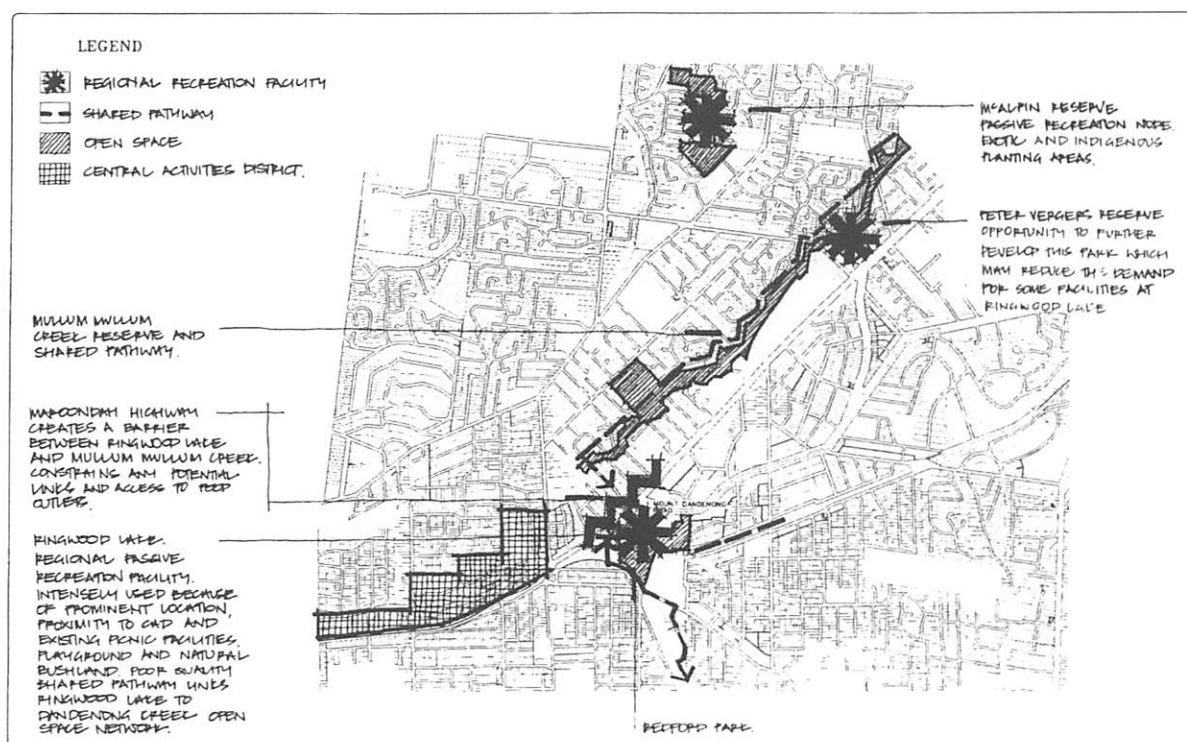


Figure Two – Regional Context Analysis Plan

3.2 Character and Use

There is a dichotomy of use and character within Ringwood Lake Park. This dichotomy is contained in two distinct areas: -

- the open lawn area to the west of the Park has a formal parkland character with an urban address to the Lake. This area contains a mixture of native and exotic vegetation in open sweeping lawns. This area accommodates most of the existing picnic facilities, the toilets, playground and timber decking on the shores of the Lake and is the primary activity node within the Park, being intensely used for picnics, play and feeding the ducks. Fishing is also popular around the western perimeter of the Lake.
- the eastern and northern ends of the Park have a natural bushland and natural water course character. This area is dominated by native and indigenous vegetation. This area of the Park contains walking tracks and a small activity node at the north eastern corner, near the miner's cottage and poppet head. This area accommodates passive and low intensity use (walking, nature observation etc...). The carpark in this area is poorly utilised and the silt stockpile associated with dredging works reduces the usable open space available.

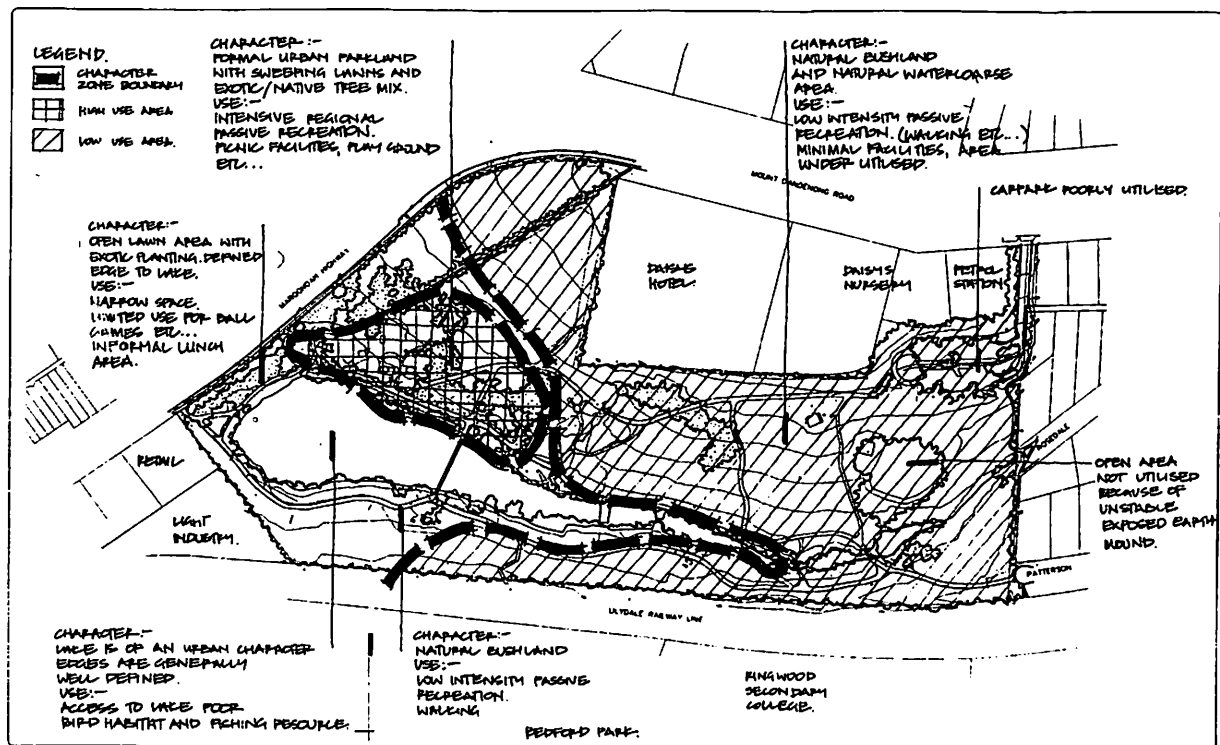


Figure Three – Character & Use Analysis Plan

3.3 Access and Circulation : -

Access difficulties to Ringwood Lake Park was defined in the brief as an important issue to address through the Masterplan. An analysis of access and circulation at Ringwood Lake Park revealed that: -

- Patrons experience difficulties in parking when visiting Ringwood Lake Park because of limited parking spaces and time restrictions on Maroondah Highway and poor signage and knowledge of the carpark located at the eastern end of the Park. Parking on Maroondah Highway is dangerous because of constant passing traffic moving at high speeds close to parked vehicles.
- Many Ringwood Lake Park users park in the Daiseys Hotel carpark and access the Park via a stepped pathway. This pathway does not accommodate pram access.
- Paths within the Park are generally well formed. The lack of directional signage makes circulation in the Park difficult for users not already familiar with the pathway system.
- Picnic and playground facilities are serviced well by existing pathways (existing paths provide direct access to these facilities from Maroondah Highway and Daiseys carpark).
- The bridge across the Lake is in a poor state of repair and needs to be upgraded.

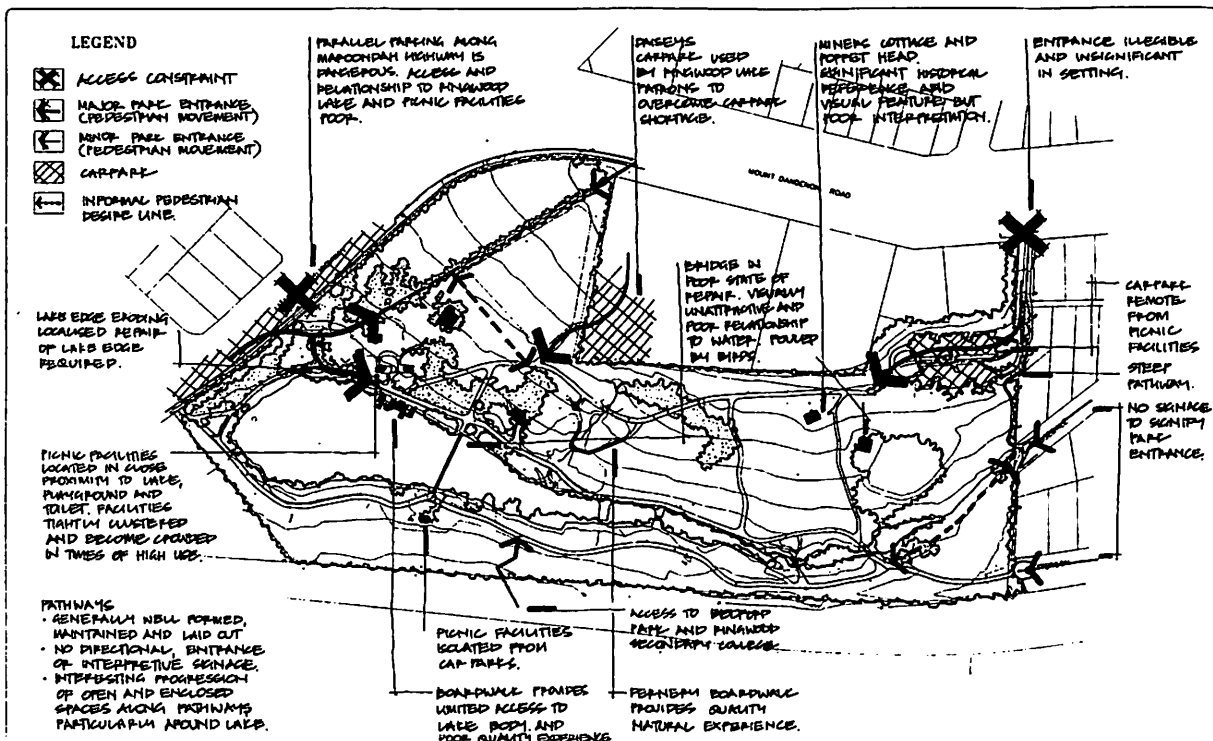


Figure Four – Access and Circulation Analysis Drawing

3.4 Spatial and Visual

A spatial and visual analysis of the Park revealed that: -

- traffic along the Maroondah Highway is clearly audible and visible from the western area of the Park and impinges on the Park's peaceful setting.
- the Park, and particularly the poplars at the western edge of the Lake, provide a strong visual node for travellers along the Maroondah Highway.
- the Lake is the dominant visual element within the Park. There is a strong visual connection between the Lake and open lawn areas in the west of the Park.
- there is no spatial or visual connection between the east and west areas of the Park because of the dense native vegetation that encloses the eastern edge of the main open lawn area.
- the bare earth mound located at the far eastern end of the Park (silt stockpiled temporarily from dredging the Lake) is highly obtrusive and is occupying a large open area that could be better utilised.
- noise from the train line, and noise (amplified phone) and odours from Daisy's Nursery disrupt the peaceful setting of the eastern end of the Park.

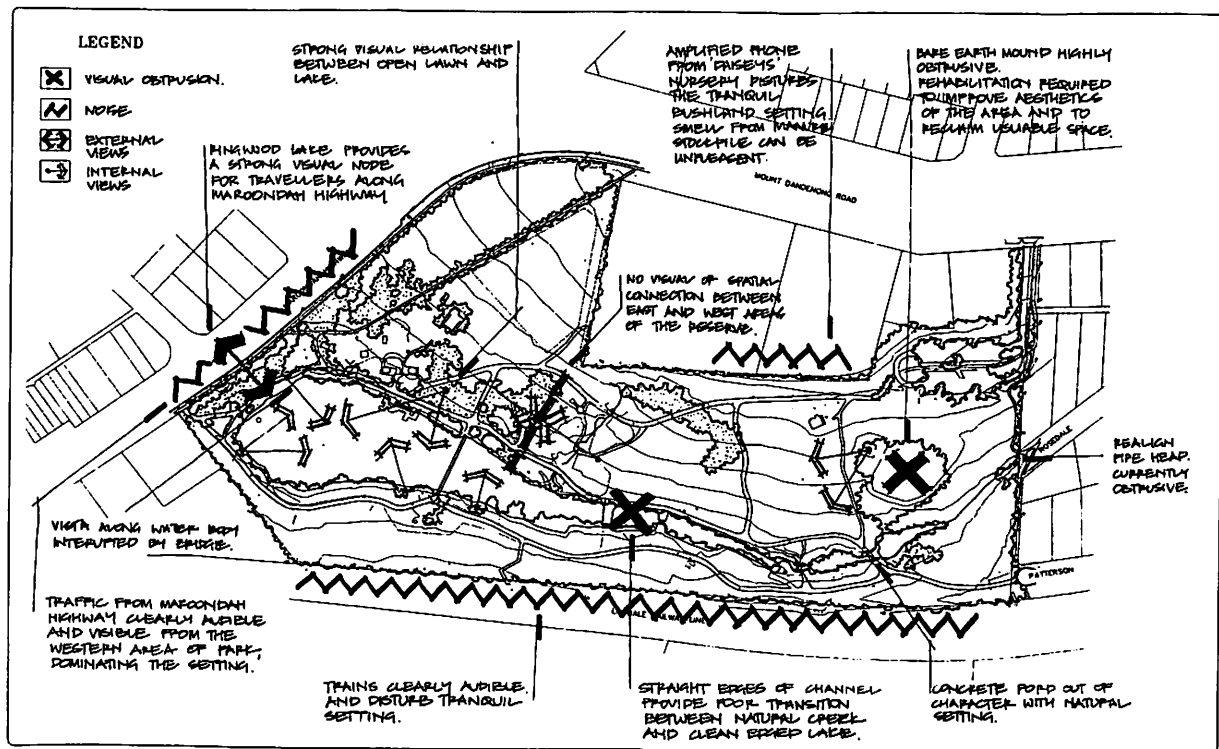


Figure Five – Spatial and Visual Analysis Drawing

4.0 Issues & Opportunities

4.1 *Parking*

Many users of Ringwood Lake Park travel to the Park by car. Current parking opportunities are inadequate because: -

- There are limited carparking spaces and time restrictions on Maroondah Highway. High speed passing traffic also makes this parking option dangerous, and this creates an uncomfortable beginning to individuals' experience of Ringwood Lake Park.
- The carpark in the east of the site is not utilised due to a lack of signage and the distance between this carpark and the picnic facilities.

To enable safe and easy access to Ringwood Lake Park, and to cater for increases in parking demands in the future due to increased patronage of the park, it is necessary for the Masterplan to investigate additional parking options. There are three primary options: -

- Locate an additional carpark within the Park boundary
 - In the northern area of the site near the corner of Mount Dandenong Road and Maroondah Highway (this area is currently occupied by bushland).
 - Along the edge of Daiseys carpark (this area supports a Cupressus hedge, bushland and a clearing for a service road).
- Locate an additional carpark on land adjacent to the Park ie: -
 - Within the Clive Peters site on the south side of the Park's Maroondah Highway frontage
 - In Bedford Park
 - At the end of Patterson Street and within the Lilydale Railway Easement
- Develop an arrangement to share Daiseys Hotel carpark (this option would require changes to current planning regulations).

After discussion with the Steering Committee and further investigations on site, the preferred option was locating a new carpark along the edge of Daiseys Hotel. The option of sharing Daiseys' carpark was considered but could not be pursued due to planning restrictions.

4.2 *Commercial Opportunities*

The brief required the Masterplan to consider opportunities to develop commercial opportunities within the Park to improve community recreation, leisure and enjoyment. A number of opportunities were identified including: -

- Kiosk
- Lakeside Restaurant
- Craft shop and Tourist Information Centre
- Commercial animal sanctuary
- Nursery.

These options were considered in light of the existing peaceful character of the reserve and available space.

Following direction from the Steering Committee, the Draft Masterplan explored the options of a kiosk and restaurant. These options were tested in both community consultation questionnaires (refer page 16 –23 First Questionnaire and page 24 – 30 Second Questionnaire).

Following the assessment of these questionnaire results the Steering Committee directed that a possible future small scale restaurant could be developed in the western corner of the Park and possible adjacent site. This development would be subject to Council approval, feasibility analysis and design guidelines.

4.3 *Utilisation*

Current visitation in the Park is heavily concentrated in the picnic and playground area in the west of the Park. This concentration causes: -

- Pressure on infrastructure
- Over crowding
- Under utilisation of the eastern end of the Park, including the historical features of the miner's hut and poppet head and the carpark.

To reduce this pressure and overcrowding, another picnic node is proposed in the eastern end of the Park, with improvements to the area around the miner's hut and poppet head. These measures will increase utilisation of this area of the Park without compromising the peaceful and natural character of the site.

4.4 *Historical Mining Facilities*

A miner's hut and poppet head (tower assembled over a mineshaft) was erected in Ringwood Lake Park to reference the mining history of the immediate area. (A mine was located on the hill to the north of the Park where the Municipal Offices currently stand). The issues concerning these facilities are: -

- Lack of use and interpretation (the miners hut is opened every third Sunday).
- Maintenance of these facilities is high due to vandalism.
- The facilities are secluded, creating security concerns.
- Staffing (and perceptions of ownership) of the hut.

The options available to the council are: -

- Remove the miners hut and poppet head
- Improve interpretation facilities (audio and visual) in order to provide historical information.
- Provide associated facilities (ie picnic tables and playground) to encourage the use of the area.

Improvements and provision of associated facilities were preferred by the Steering Committee. This will increase the diversity of experiences within the Park at a minimal cost to the Council. An opportunity exists to integrate these elements into the second picnic node and create a strong mining theme throughout this node.

4.5 *Access to commercial eateries*

Maroondah Highway creates a barrier between the Park and eating outlets and the Mullum Mullum Creek open space network located to the north. The Masterplan needs to address this barrier by: -

- accepting the poor connections to the northern side of the highway, and using the Park's isolation from these outlets as a positive element for the Park.
- establishing a connection through an overpass, underpass or pedestrian lights.

Both overpass and underpass options are expensive and would require considerable funding from Vic Roads. The pedestrian light option is likely to cause traffic flow problems due to its proximity to the Mount Dandenong Road intersection. The Steering Committee believed the pedestrian bridge option would be the safest solution and directed the Masterplan to recommend this.

4.6 *Ageing Infrastructure*

Some infrastructure within the Park is in a poor state of repair due to its age and the pressure of constant and high user levels. The Masterplan needs to develop a strategy for the replacement or upgrade of the following facilities: -

- the bridge over the Lake (deteriorating infrastructure)
- the sound shell (currently unsightly and poorly utilised)
- the timber decking (deteriorating infrastructure)
- toilets (unsightly and not of appropriate standard/image for the Park)
- picnic facilities (which do not presently provide sufficient cover over tables and chairs)

An opportunity exists through upgrading this infrastructure to develop a unified approach to the design and theme of the elements throughout the Park (including furniture and signage) to provide a strong character and sense of place. Preliminary character outlines for these elements are included in section 6.8 of this document. The Masterplan recommends that a Style Manual be developed for Ringwood Lake Park to build on these outlines and further define the character / form of these elements.

5.0 Community Consultation

5.1 *First Community Questionnaire*

In order to determine the current use, community perceptions of problems at the Park and future community expectations of the Park an extensive consultation process was undertaken through on site interviews and the distribution of questionnaires.

The first community consultation round comprised: -

- 3 signs at the Park with questionnaires available in a box (all questionnaires were stapled to a reply paid envelope);
- questionnaires at each of the libraries and service centres (with a box to deposit the completed questionnaire);
- 2 advertisements in both local newspapers;
- press releases;
- questionnaires delivered to two local schools for young peoples input;
- interviews on site using the questionnaire;
- information tent and questionnaires at the Ringwood Lake Park Family Day;
- delivery of 900 letters to residential and commercial premises in the local surrounding area (with a reply paid return envelope); and
- letters with questionnaires to community groups.

784 responses were gathered during the initial community consultation process. These responses comprised: -

- 261 from schools
- 247 from Family Fun Day
- 169 from the community (through letters sent out to surrounding residents and the return of questionnaires left at the Park)
- 63 from libraries
- 36 from interviews
- 8 from community groups.

The questionnaire follows overleaf.

5.1.1. Questionnaire # 1**Maroondah City Council****RINGWOOD LAKE PARK – COMMUNITY QUESTIONNAIRE**

The Maroondah City Council is preparing a Masterplan for the Ringwood Lake Park. The purpose of the Masterplan is to guide future development of the Ringwood Lake Park whilst also recognising current use and the need to replace ageing infrastructure.

Public consultation is integral to the preparation of the Masterplan and will include questionnaires, displays, workshops and meetings of community representatives.

This questionnaire aims to gauge public use of the Park and public opinion of how to improve the Park.

Please tick the response most appropriate to your household.

1. How often do you use the Ringwood Lake Park?

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| ☐ Daily | ☐ More than once a week | ☐ Fortnightly |
| ☐ Weekly | ☐ Monthly | ☐ Special events only |
| ☐ Other Please state _____ | | |

2. What do you use the park for?

- | | | |
|--|--|----------------------------------|
| ☐ Feeding the ducks | ☐ Ballgames | ☐ Walking |
| ☐ Fishing | ☐ Playground | ☐ Running |
| ☐ Picnics and BBQ's | ☐ Concerts in Bandstand | |
| ☐ Relaxing in a natural setting | | |
| ☐ Other _____ | | |

3. What do you like about the park? (Please state)

**4. Do you think there are any problems or do you have any concerns with the park?
How could it be improved? (Please state)**

**5. Which of the following existing park features do you believe need to be improved?
(Please circle Y for Yes / N for No)**

Y/N Information Signs	Y/N Bridge over the lake	Y/N Toilets
Y/N Playground	Y/N Planting around the lake	Y/N Miners cottage area
Y/N Bandstand	Y/N Timber platform at the lake edge	Y/N Ponds/creeks near the
Y/N Picnic and BBQ	Y/N Walking paths	Poppet Head Tower
Y/N Other (Please state) _____		

6. Would you like any of the following in the park or lake environment?

Y/N Picnic shelters and additional picnic and BBQ facilities	Y/N Craft shop with tourist Information
Y/N Second large playground	Y/N Local art – sculpture Installations
Y/N Nature trails and boardwalks with information signs	Y/N Small scale kiosk
Y/N Environmental education Facilities	Y/N Small Lakeside Restaurant
Y/N Upgraded timber decking at the lake Edge	Y/N Improved access to water Edge
Y/N Improved public access for disabled, infirm and young families	Y/N More open sunny lawns areas
Y/N Ornamental garden beds with native vegetation	Y/N Protected areas for bird habitat
Y/N Bush Planting	Y/N Additional car park within the park boundary
Y/N Scented native garden beds	Other (Please state) _____

8. What are the ages of people within your household who use Ringwood Lake Park?

☐ 0-5yrs	☐ 6 -12yrs	☐ 13-18yrs
☐ 19-25yrs	☐ 26-40yrs	☐ 41-60yrs
☐ 61+yrs		

9. What suburb do you live in? _____

10. Is there anything you would like to add?

(Please feel free to write on the back of the pages if this is not sufficient space).

Are you interested in joining a Friends of the Lake Group? Y/N

If you would like to be kept informed about the Masterplan consultations, please include your name and address.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND INTEREST.

5.1.2. Results from Questionnaire # 1

The % figures for questions 1, 2, 3, 4 and 8 below represent the number of responses for that box divided by the total number of responses for the question. For example, 45 users responded that they visited the Park daily. This figure was divided over the total number of responses for this question (810), to determine the percentage figure (6%).

The % figure for questions 5 and 6 represent, for each item, the number of 'yes' responses minus the number of 'no' responses, divided by the total number of responses for that item. For example 464 users believed that the existing toilet needed to be improved, while 128 users believed that the existing toilets did not require improvement. The net response for this question was determined by summing the 'yes' and 'no' responses (ie $464 - 128 = 336$). This figure was divided by the total number of responses for this item (ie $464 + 128 = 592$), giving a percentage figure of 56.7%.

Two tables have been provided for each question below, one for the total responses and the other for the total responses excluding the school groups. The separate tables have been provided as the school group had a high representation within the overall survey group and therefore had the potential to bias the results.

Refer to Appendix 1 for raw data results of Questionnaire 1.

The survey results revealed that:

1. Park users visit the Park : -

Total park users

28%	During special events
20%	Monthly
19%	Other
11%	Weekly
8%	Fortnightly
8%	More than once a week
6%	Daily

Totals excluding schools

23%	Monthly
19%	During special events
17%	Other
15%	Weekly
10%	Fortnightly
10%	More than once a week
6%	Daily

2. Key activities that occur within the Park are: -

Total park users

19%	Picnics and BBQ's
18%	Feeding the Ducks
16%	Walking
15%	Relaxing in natural setting
15%	Playground
6%	Other
4%	Bandstand
3%	Ball games
2%	Fishing
2%	Running

Totals excluding schools

19%	Walking
18%	Relaxing in natural setting
17%	Feeding the Ducks
16%	Picnics and BBQ's
15%	Playground
5%	Bandstand
4%	Other
2%	Ball games
2%	Fishing
1%	Running

3. Users of the Park most like: -

22.0%	Playground	2.8%	Bush
19.0%	Natural	2.4%	Everything
11.0%	Lake / Water	1.7%	Walking Dog
10.0%	Cycling	1.5%	Tower
9.0%	Ducks	1.2%	Non commercial
5.0%	Peaceful	1.0%	Bridge
4.0%	Location	0.7%	Birds
3.4%	Clean	0.7%	Wildlife
3.1%	Family	0.5%	Fishing

4. The perceived problems of the Park are:-

23.0%	Lake	6.0%	Bridge
15.0%	Toilets	5.0%	Fish
13.5%	BBQ's	3.9%	Kiosk
12.0%	Car parking	2.5%	Ducks
9.5%	Playground	1.0%	Cycling
8.0%	Litter	1.0%	Dogs

Of these problems the Steering Committee sought clarification on the Lake, Playground and Car park responses. This clarification was provided by further assessing the comments of the questionnaire. This assessment revealed the following:

Lake (23.0% of the total number of responses to question 4)

74 responses related to the Lake. Of these responses:-

- 51 (69%) related to poor water quality (words such as smelly, brown, polluted, litter and rubbish were used to describe the Lake);
- 12 (16%) expressed a desire for fencing around the Lake and/or timber decking and/or expressed concerns regarding poor safety around the Lake;
- 1 (1%) related to poor access into the Lake; and
- 10 (14%) responses were ambiguous.

Playground (9.5 % of the total number of responses to question 4)

31 responses related to the playground. Of these responses:-

- 8 (26%) expressed a desire for a bigger playground and/or more play equipment;
- 4 (13%) expressed a desire for better play equipment;
- 4 (13%) expressed a desire for fencing around the playground;
- 3 (10%) expressed a desire for the playground to cater for older children;
- 2 (6%) expressed a desire for the playground to cater for toddlers;
- 2 (6%) expressed a desire to improve the playground;
- 1 (3%) related to concerns regarding the proximity of the playground to the Park exit onto Maroondah Highway;
- 1 (3%) expressed the desire for more shaded seating areas around the playground; and
- the remaining 6 (20%) responses were ambiguous.

Car park (12.0% of the total number of responses to question 4)

38 responses related to the car park. Of these responses:-

- 15 (39%) expressed a desire for more parking;

- 7 (19%) expressed the need for safer parking (4 responses specifically referred to the dangers of parking on Maroondah Highway);
- 4 (10%) related to poor access to/from existing carparks;
- 1 (3%) related to the need for more directional signage for parking;
- 1 (3%) expressed a need for disabled parking; and
- 10 (26%) were ambiguous.

5. Existing facilities that most needed to be improved were:

- A maximum of 592 responses were received for each category of this question. The percentages in the table represent the net positive/negative response to the individual questions relating to each item.
- The questionnaire results revealed that the community believed that the Toilets; Picnic and barbecue facilities; Ponds and Creek; and Planting around the Lake needed to be improved.

56.7%	Toilets	-11.2%	Bridge over Lake
13.2%	Picnic and BBQ facilities	-11.5%	Playground
10.0%	Ponds and creeks on eastern end	-12.9%	Bandstand
8.2%	Planting around Lake	-14.6%	Walking paths
-4.4%	Information signs	-25.9%	Miners cottage area
-7.5%	Timber platform		

6. Potential improvements to the Park from the supplied list: -

- A maximum of 646 responses were received for each category of this question. The percentages in the table represent the net positive/negative response to the individual questions about these items.
- The positive items in this table, are those items that are most desired in the Park the toilets being the item from the responses that need to be improved most.

64.4%	Protected areas for bird habitats	18.0%	Ornamental garden beds
64.4%	Picnic shelters, BBQ facilities	16.5%	Environmental education facilities
59.3%	Improved public access for disabled etc	13.9%	Improve access to water
57.0%	Nature trails, boardwalks interpretation	1.6%	Local art sculpture installations
44.6%	Bush planting	0.5%	More open sunny lawns
36.6%	Scented trails	0.5%	Additional car parking
31.3%	Small scale kiosk	-0.9%	Small lake side restaurant
23.4%	Second large playground	-9.6%	Craft shop with tourist information
19.3%	Upgrade timber decking		

These responses can be classed in the following categories

Generally strong support (50% or above) for: -

- protected areas for bird habitat
- picnic shelters and additional picnic and barbecue facilities
- improved access for the disabled, infirm and young families

- nature trails and boardwalks with information signs

Moderate support (15% to 49%) for: -

- additional bush planting
- scented native garden beds
- a small scale kiosk
- second large playground
- upgraded timber decking
- ornamental garden beds
- environmental education facilities

Reaction against (negative %): -

- small lakeside restaurant
- a craft shop

8. The ages of park users :

- The age distributions of users below correlates strongly with on-site observations that suggest the primary users are families with young children, ie 32% of visitors are 0-12 years of age and would be expected to be accompanied by adults.

23%	26-40yrs
17%	6-12yrs
17%	41-60yrs
15%	0-5
14%	13-18yrs
7%	19-25yrs
7%	61+

9. The respondents live in the following suburbs:

- In total 700 responses were received for this question, the results tabulated below represent the percentage composition of these responses
- The results in the table indicate that the primary user catchment is from within the Maroondah municipality. The top 9 suburbs comprising 85.8 % of total users are from Maroondah (marked with an (M) in the table below)

27.4%	Ringwood East (M)	1%	Lilydale
25.7%	Ringwood (M)	0.8%	Wantirna
12.3%	Heathmont (M)	0.7%	Croydon Nth
7.4%	Croydon (M)	0.7%	Kilsyth Sth
3.7%	Bayswater Nth (M)	0.7%	Mitcham
3.0%	Croydon Sth	0.6%	Nunawading
2.6%	Ringwood Nth (M)	0.6%	Vermont
2.0%	Kilsyth (M)	0.4%	Blackburn
1.7%	Warranwood (M)	0.3%	Box Hill
1.7%	Montrose	0.3%	Caulfield
1.6%	Boronia	0.3%	Chirnside Park
1.6%	Mooroolbark	0.3%	Warrandyte
1.2%	Croydon Hills (M)	0.3%	Kalorama
1.0%	Bayswater (M)		

10. Additional comments by respondents:

- 243 respondents completed this question. 25 % of these responses were analysed to determine trends. This assessment is tabulated below.

23 (38%)	Keep non commercial
11 (18%)	Want a Kiosk/canteen
9 (16%)	Provide Flying-fox
5 (8%)	Provide Water slides
4 (6%)	Provide Seats
4 (6%)	Provide BBQ,s
3 (5%)	Improve paths
2 (3%)	Half-pipe

The % figures listed above are percentages of the 25% of responses analysed.

Of the number of respondents who completed the final part of the questionnaire:

- 107 are interested in joining a Friends of the Lake Group
- 324 are not interested in joining a Friends of the Lake Group
- 189 would like to be kept informed about the Masterplan consultations.

5.1.3. Findings of Questionnaire # 1

An analysis of the survey results suggested that the Masterplan should recommend: -

- Preserving existing uses within the Park.
- Developing the Park as a naturally styled, passive recreation area catering for families with children and picnickers.
- Additional natural environment experiences through providing nature trails and boardwalks, increasing bush planting, developing sensory trails through native garden beds and providing protected habitat areas. Environmental education facilities could be implemented to complement these initiatives.
- Additional picnic and barbecue facilities.
- Investigating the need to improve existing toilet facilities
- That the Ringwood Lake Management Strategy be fully implemented to maintain a high water quality in the Lake.

Results relating to question 9 suggest that Ringwood Lake Park is not ostensibly a regional park but caters mainly for local and municipal use.

Observations made during site visits and discussions through on site interviews revealed that there is a need for the Masterplan to investigate improving access between Daiseys' car park and Ringwood Lake Park.

A letter received during the consultation process supported a number of discussions held with respondents during on site interviews regarding the need for safety fencing around at least part of the playground to stop children running towards both the Lake and Maroondah Highway. The Masterplan should investigate this issue.

On-site observations, local site knowledge and consultation responses suggest that the Masterplan should recommend additional parking within the Park boundary and improving directional and interpretive signage.

The results of this questionnaire were reviewed and discussed with the Steering Committee. The Draft Masterplan was developed under the direction of the Steering Committee to reflect the results of this questionnaire and other issues observed during site analysis. The Draft Masterplan was released for public display with a second questionnaire which is discussed in the following section.

5.2 *Second Community Questionnaire*

To ascertain the level of community support for the Draft Masterplan an intensive consultation process was undertaken through a range of avenues throughout the City of Maroondah. Public displays of the Draft Masterplan (which included an existing conditions plan, an image panel and a Masterplan panel (refer to pages 31 - 33)) were located at:-

- Ringwood Lake Park.
- Eastland (at the entrance of K-Mart).
- Municipal Offices.
- Regional Libraries.
- All Council Service Centres.

Over 140 letters were distributed to surrounding residents, traders and individuals who requested to be kept informed after the first questionnaire.

The Draft Masterplan and the questionnaire was also printed in a double page spread in the Maroondah Mail on 16th February 1999.

Questionnaires with reply paid envelopes were distributed with the Draft Masterplan at the display locations and in letters to the community.

A total of 384 questionnaires were returned as outlined below:-

- 153 from the Maroondah Mail display.
- 77 from the displays located at the municipal offices, regional libraries, service centres and at the Park
- 58 from the display at Eastland
- 93 from residents who requested on the previous questionnaire to be kept informed.
- 3 from traders located on Maroondah Highway.

5.2.1 Questionnaire # 2

RINGWOOD LAKE PARK – DRAFT MASTERPLAN

COMMUNITY QUESTIONNAIRE



Please return the completed questionnaire to Lynette While at Maroondah City Council in the reply paid envelope attached by Friday 5th March 1999.

The Maroondah City Council has prepared a Draft Masterplan for the Ringwood Lake Park. The purpose of this Plan is to guide future enhancement and changes to the Park whilst also recognising current use and the need to replace ageing infrastructure.

The Draft Masterplan outlines enhancements and future changes for the Park. This plan responds to extensive community consultation undertaken between October and December 1998 and guidance from a Community Steering Committee.

The community consultation undertaken to date has indicated support for the following aspects: -

- Preserving existing uses (picnicking, child play, walking, relaxing in a natural setting and feeding the ducks) within the Park.
- Developing the Park as a naturally styled, passive recreation area catering for families with children and picnickers.
- Additional natural environment experiences through provision of nature trails and boardwalks, increasing bush planting, developing sensory trails through native garden beds and providing protected habitat areas.
- Additional car parking for visitors to access the Park easily and safely.
- Providing fencing around part of the existing playground.
- Additional picnic and barbecue facilities.
- Improving existing toilet facilities
- The Ringwood Lake Management Strategy be implemented fully to maintain high water quality in the Lake.

The following questionnaire aims to evaluate community opinion of the proposals contained in the Draft Masterplan on display. The Final Masterplan will reflect the opinions expressed in response to this questionnaire.

After looking at the Draft Masterplan on display, please tick the most appropriate response for each question below and feel free to write additional comments. The numbers on the plan (coloured purple on the display plan) correspond to question numbers on this questionnaire and define the location or item relevant to each question.

The Draft Masterplan is on display at the Ringwood Lake Park, Ringwood and Croydon libraries, Council Offices and Service Centres and at EASTLAND. The plan will be on display from Monday 8th of February to Sunday 7th March for all locations except EASTLAND which will commence display on Monday 15th February to Sunday 7th March, all dates are inclusive.

1. Do you agree with the proposed carpark located along the north boundary of the Park?

☐ Agree ☐ Disagree ☐ Don't mind

Additional Comments _____

2. Do you agree with establishing a lawn area and picnic facilities near the miner's hut and poppet head tower?

☐ Agree ☐ Disagree ☐ Don't mind

Additional Comments _____

3. Do you agree with establishing a playground near the miner's hut and poppet head tower?

☐ Agree ☐ Disagree ☐ Don't mind

Additional Comments _____

4. Do you agree with establishing toilet facilities near the miner's hut and poppet head to cater for the likely increase in use of this area?

☐ Agree ☐ Disagree ☐ Don't mind

Additional Comments _____

5. Do you agree with the location of the new bridge as shown on the plan?

☐ Agree ☐ Disagree ☐ Don't mind

Additional Comments _____

6. Do you agree with establishing a boardwalk along the southern edge of the lake?

☐ Agree ☐ Disagree ☐ Don't mind

Additional Comments _____

7. Do you agree with establishing a nature trail through the northern bush area?

☐ Agree ☐ Disagree ☐ Don't mind

Additional Comments _____

8. The existing sound shell needs to be modified. Do you agree with the recommendation to replace this sound shell with a gazebo type structure?

☐ Agree ☐ Disagree ☐ Don't mind

Additional Comments _____

9. Do you agree with the proposed location for a kiosk within the Park if there is sufficient demand for it in the future?

☐ Agree ☐ Disagree ☐ Don't mind

Additional Comments _____

10. Would you agree with a future small scale restaurant being located in the western corner of the Park and possible adjacent site. This would be subject to Council and feasibility approval, and appropriate design standards?

☐ Agree ☐ Disagree ☐ Don't mind

Additional Comments _____

11. Does this plan adequately address your proposed future use of the Park?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Additional Comments _____

12. Please write any other comments that you have on the Draft Masterplan in the space below.

If you would like to be kept informed about the Masterplan, or if you are interested in becoming a volunteer for a Ringwood Lake Park Friends Group, please write your name and address below.

5.2.2 Results from Questionnaire #2

Refer to Appendix Number 2 for raw data results of Questionnaire Number Two.

Question 1.

Strong to moderate support for the proposed carpark from all groups. Those that disagreed had concerns about: -

- the proposed tree removal
- the extent of parking (ie some respondents felt that ample parking exists already and therefore a new carpark is not warranted).
- safety issues

Question 2.

Very strong support for establishing a lawn area and picnic facilities near the miner's hut and poppet head area.

Question 3.

Strong to moderate support for establishing a playground near the miner's hut and poppet head.

The most common comment expressed by those that disagreed with the recommendation was that "the second playground was not needed as the existing playground is sufficient".

Question 4.

Strong support from all survey groups for establishing a second toilet near the miner's hut and poppet head.

Question 5.

Moderate to strong support was expressed for the location of the new bridge.

No "additional comments" were written that were relevant to the proposed location of the new bridge.

The most common additional comments that were expressed included: -

- a new bridge was not required as the existing bridge was good.(21)
- respondents liked the existing bridge (7).

These comments indicate that there was no knowledge that the existing bridge needs to be replaced due to its poor state of repair.

Question 6.

There was strong support from all survey groups for the recommendation to establish a boardwalk on the southern edge of the Lake.

Question 7.

There was strong support from all survey groups for the recommendation to establish a nature trail through the northern path area.

Question 8.

There was moderate to strong support for the recommendation to replace the sound shell with a gazebo type structure.

Those who disagreed with the recommendation commented that:-

- the existing sound shell should be renovated, not replaced. (13)
- a gazebo type structure would not be suitable to accommodate existing uses. (10)

Five individuals commented that the gazebo must be designed to ensure that it is appropriate to the existing bushland setting.

Question 9.

There was negative or low support for the proposed location of a kiosk.

Most additional comments concerned disagreement with a proposed kiosk, rather than with the location of the kiosk, stating: -

- keep the Park non-commercial (47)
- a kiosk is not necessary (41)
- concerns regarding an increase in litter if a kiosk was established (30)

There were 26 additional comments that were supportive of the kiosk and 11 comments that qualified their support by articulating that any kiosk established within the Park should be designed so that it fits into the bushland setting.

Question 10.

Most respondents disagreed with establishing a small scale restaurant within the Park boundary (Total agree 138, Total disagree 198). Additional comments for this question were: -

- keep the Park non-commercial (52)
- no need for a restaurant as there are currently adequate restaurants in the area (31)
- Park is too small to accommodate a restaurant within its boundary (14)
- that the pedestrian bridge over Maroondah Highway proposed in the Masterplan would provide adequate access to existing food outlets.

There were 23 comments that reinforced individual's support for the restaurant.

Question 11.

There was strong agreement from all survey groups that the Masterplan adequately accommodated for their proposed future use of the Park.

The main comment of those that believed the Masterplan did not adequately accommodate for their future proposed use of the Park expressed concerns regarding the negative impact on the Park of commercial development.

Question 12.

Other comments on the draft Masterplan related to:-

- supporting the Masterplan (26)
- reinforcing the point that no commercial development is wanted (15)
- expressing a desire for more native planting (12)
- expressing the current high quality of the Park and a desire not to change it (10)
- the need to focus on water quality and weed management as the issue for the Park (9)
- expressing a desire for more barbecues and picnic facilities (8)
- a desire to retain the poplars along the Maroondah Highway frontage (6)

5.2.3 Findings of the Questionnaire #2

There was clear community support for the Masterplan with the exception of the proposed restaurant and kiosk elements.

The results of this questionnaire were reviewed and discussed with the Steering Committee. The Steering Committee directed that the Draft Masterplan be revised to reflect results of the questionnaire and comments made by respondents. The revisions were: -

- removal of the kiosk
- retention of the poplars along the Maroondah Highway frontage (with the recommendation to replace the poplars when they become unsound due to old age with autumn colouring trees of equal spectacle).

DRAFT MASTER PLAN

IMPROVE EXISTING TOILET FACILITIES.

PROVIDE ADDITIONAL PICNIC AND BARBECUE FACILITIES

ALTER PARKING RESTRICTIONS FROM 1 HOUR TO 4 HOUR LIMIT.

EXTEND EXISTING PLAYGROUND FENCING BY APPROXIMATELY 10M.

ESTABLISH LOW NATIVE PLANTINGS ALONG THE FENCE LINE

ESTABLISH CLEAN TRUNKED EUCALYPTS IN THE OPEN LAWN AREA. LOCATE THE TREES TO ENABLE CLEAR VIEWS FROM MAROONDAH HIGHWAY TO THE LAKE. UNDERTAKE LONG-TERM PROGRESSIVE REMOVAL OF EXISTING POPLARS.

RELOCATE THE PARK ENTRANCE TO SEPARATE PEDESTRIAN ACCESS TO MAROONDAH HIGHWAY FROM THE PLAYGROUND.

ESTABLISH A PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE (SUBJECT TO RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY APPROVAL).

POSSIBLE LOCATION FOR A FUTURE SMALL SCALE RESTAURANT IN CORNER OF PARK AND POSSIBLE ADJACENT SITE. THIS WOULD BE SUBJECT TO COUNCIL AND FEASIBILITY APPROVAL AND DESIGN GUIDELINES

ESTABLISH TIMBER DECKING OVER EXPOSED CONCRETE PIPE.

INCREASE PLANTING DENSITIES TO SCREEN ADJACENT LAND USE.

MAINTAIN OPEN EXPANSIVE VIEWS TO THE LAKE.

CONSTRUCT A NEW BRIDGE WITH A SIMPLE ARCHITECTURAL STYLE USING MODERN TIMBER AND STEEL MATERIALS.

ESTABLISH NEW TIMBER DECKING AND INCORPORATE WITH THE NEW BRIDGE.

ESTABLISH A BOARDWALK THROUGH ENHANCED HABITAT PLANTINGS. UPGRADE EXISTING HABITAT FENCE.

POTENTIAL LOCATION FOR A SMALL KIOSK.

REMOVE SOUND SHELL AND REPLACE WITH A GAZEBO STRUCTURE. SELECTIVELY REMOVE AND REPLACE VEGETATION TO PROVIDE CLEAR VIEWS TO THE LAKE.

NEW PATHWAY TO ACCOMMODATE MAINTENANCE VEHICLE AND CARAVAN VENDOR ACCESS.

INSTALL A BOOM GATE TO RESTRICT VEHICLE ACCESS AFTER DARK

MOUNT DANDENONG ROAD

ESTABLISH A NEW CARPARK WITH A ONE WAY ENTRANCE / EXIT ARRANGEMENT TO ACCOMMODATE APPROXIMATELY 100 SPACES.

DAISEYS HOTEL

INSTALL AN ACCESS RAMP TO DAISEYS HOTEL

REMOVE EXISTING PINE TREES AND ESTABLISH NATIVE VEGETATION ON THE EMBANKMENT.

ESTABLISH A HISTORICAL GARDEN AROUND THE MINER'S COTTAGE. INCREASE INTERPRETATION THROUGH SIGNAGE AND AUDIO FACILITIES.

DEVELOP A PLAYGROUND WITH A MINING THEME. ESTABLISH A NEW PATHWAY TO THE POPPET HEAD.

INSTALL A BOOM GATE TO RESTRICT VEHICLE ACCESS AFTER DARK

STABILISE EMBANKMENT AND IMPROVE NATIVE PLANTING IN ORDER TO SCREEN DAISY'S NURSERY.

LEGEND

- EXISTING NATIVE TREES
- PROPOSED NATIVE TREES
- EXISTING DECIDUOUS TREES
- LAWN AREAS
- NATIVE SHRUB PLANTING
- PROPOSED PICNIC SHELTERS
- EXISTING PICNIC SHELTERS
- BUILDINGS
- ASPHALT PATH
- GRAVEL PATH
- CARPARK
- BOARDWALK
- 1 REFERENCE NUMBER FOR QUESTIONNAIRE

ESTABLISH A NEW TOILET, AND PICNIC AND BARBECUE FACILITIES.

RESHAPE EARTH MOUND TO ACHIEVE A GENTLE SLOPE BETWEEN THE CARPARK AND THE CREEK. CREATING AN OPEN LAWN AREA WITH ISOLATED EUCALYPT TREES.

CREATE NEW PATHWAY

0 10 25 50m
nts



RINGWOOD LAKE PARK

EXISTING CONDITIONS & OPPORTUNITIES PLAN



EXISTING PLAYGROUND HEAVILY USED. RETAIN IN CURRENT FORM BUT PROVIDE A GREATER SEPARATION TO MAROONDAH HIGHWAY AND THE LAKE.



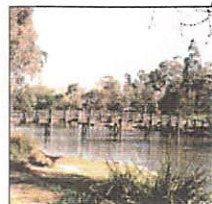
PARKING ON MAROONDAH HIGHWAY IS UNSAFE. PROVIDE ADDITIONAL PARKING THAT ENABLES SAFE AND EASY ACCESS TO THE PARK.



THE LAKE IS ONE OF THE MAIN FEATURES OF THE PARK. ENSURE THAT A HIGH WATER QUALITY IS MAINTAINED AND RETAIN OPEN VIEWS TO THE LAKE FROM WITHIN THE PARK.



TIMBER DECKING HEAVILY USED BUT REQUIRES UPGRADING. AN OPPORTUNITY EXISTS TO ESTABLISH A NEW DECKING THAT IS JOINED TO THE BRIDGE.



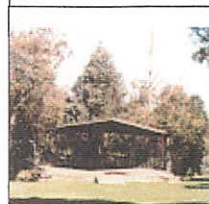
EXISTING TIMBER BRIDGE IS IN A POOR STATE OF REPAIR AND NEEDS TO BE REPLACED.



INCREASE INTERPRETATION OF HISTORICAL MINING FACILITIES TO ENHANCE PARK USERS EXPERIENCE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE SITE.



CYPRESS TREES ARE BECOMING UNSOUND DUE TO OLD AGE. AN OPPORTUNITY EXISTS TO REMOVE THE CYPRESS TREES AND ESTABLISH A CAR PARK IN THIS AREA.



EXISTING SOUND SHELL IS UNSIGHTLY AND IS USED INFREQUENTLY. REPLACE WITH A STRUCTURE THAT ACCOMMODATES A WIDER RANGE OF USES.



ENTRANCE, DIRECTIONAL AND INTERPRETATIVE SIGNAGE THROUGHOUT THE PARK IS POOR AND REQUIRES A SIGNIFICANT UPGRADE.

LEGEND

- NATIVE TREES
- DECIDUOUS TREES
- NATIVE SHRUB PLANTINGS
- LAWN AREAS
- PICNIC SHELTERS
- BUILDINGS
- ASPHALT PATH
- GRAVEL PATH
- BOARDWALK
- EARTH MOUND
- CARPARK
- PINE TREES



EARTH MOUND CURRENTLY OCCUPIES VALUABLE OPEN SPACE AND REQUIRES REHABILITATION. AN OPPORTUNITY EXISTS TO DEVELOP AN OPEN LAWN AND ADDITIONAL PICNIC FACILITIES IN THIS AREA.



0 10 25 50m
nts



EDAW

RINGWOOD LAKE PARK



INCREASE THE INTERPRETATION AND EXPERIENCES OF EXISTING BUSHLAND AREAS.



REPLACE THE SOUND SHELL WITH A GAZEBO STRUCTURE WHICH HAS CLEAR VIEWS OF THE LAKE.



CARPARK SURROUNDED BY NATIVE PLANTING TO BLEND INTO THE EXISTING LANDSCAPE.



LOW NATIVE PLANTING PROPOSED AROUND THE CARPARK.



ESTABLISH NATURE TRAILS THROUGH EXISTING BUSHLAND AREAS.



OPEN LAWN AREA, GENTLY SLOPING DOWN TO THE WATERS EDGE.



PROVIDE ADDITIONAL PICNIC FACILITIES THROUGHOUT THE PARK.



ENHANCE PLANTING ALONG THE SOUTH EDGE OF THE LAKE TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL BIRD HABITAT.



BOARDWALK ON THE LAKE EDGE ENABLES EXPERIENCES OF BIRD HABITAT AREAS.



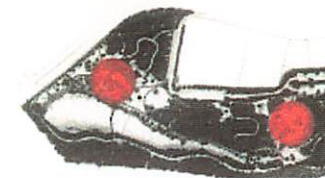
SEATING IN OPEN LAWN AREAS AND UNDER TREES.



PROTECT DUCKS AND ENCOURAGE A WIDER VARIETY OF WILDLIFE WITHIN THE LAKE.



PICNIC AREAS



THIS MASTER PLAN DEFINES TWO MAIN USER NODES THAT SUPPORT PICNIC, PLAYGROUND AND TOILET FACILITIES. THESE NODES WILL BE THE FOCUS FOR PICNIC AND PLAY WITHIN THE PARK. EACH NODE WILL HAVE A DISTINCT CHARACTER AND OFFER DIFFERENT EXPERIENCES.

NATURE EXPERIENCES



THIS MASTERPLAN DEVELOPS A NUMBER OF NATURE TRAILS AND BOARDWALKS TO ENABLE USERS TO EXPERIENCE AND BETTER UNDERSTAND THE NAURAL ENVIRONMENT OF RINGWOOD LAKE PARK.

ACCESS



THIS MASTER PLAN ADDRESSES THE CURRENT ACCESS AND PARKING DIFFICULTIES THAT RELATE TO THE PARK BY DEVELOPING A CARPARK ALONG THE NORTHERN BOUNDARY OF THE SITE. THIS CARPARK WILL ENABLE SAFE AND EASY ACCESS TO MANY AREAS OF THE PARK.

6.0 Masterplan Recommendations

6.1 *Rationale & Vision*

The over-riding rationale for the Masterplan was to respond to community consultation and to ensure any development enhanced the existing natural values and amenity of the site.

The vision for Ringwood Lake Park is to create a natural area for passive recreation that provides improved experiences of the existing and proposed natural and water values within the Park. The Park should cater primarily for families with children but offer experiences that can be enjoyed by a wide range of user groups. The Park should be easily and safely accessible to all users.

6.2 *Natural Environment*

In response to a clear community desire for additional natural values, and in keeping with the existing character of the Park, a number of improvements to the natural environment and experiences of the natural environment have been proposed in the Masterplan. These improvements relate to habitat planting, nature trails and water structures.

6.2.1. Planting

The Masterplan proposes the establishment of indigenous planting to provide additional habitat and reinforce a natural character in the following locations: -

- Remove the fence around the large stand of bushland to the north of the site. Extend planting to soften the distinctly straight southern edge of the stand. Remove the existing straight path and reinstate vegetation along its alignment.
- Establish areas of indigenous planting around the carpark.
- Increase terrestrial planting densities along the northern edge of the Lake.
- Construct new protective fencing around the habitat on the southern edge of the Lake. Ensure that new fencing is less obtrusive than present fencing and includes timber uprights to fit with the character outlines of the Park. Maintain existing planting through spot spraying and plant replacement.
- Establish large areas of emergent habitat vegetation (ie reeds and rushes located within or on the shores of water bodies) along the southern shore of the Lake.

All planting should be indigenous (local provenance).

6.2.2. Water structures

The Masterplan recommends constructing a number of built structures at the waters edge to increase opportunities to experience the Lake. These structures include: -

- A boardwalk on the southern edge of the Lake that enables individuals to observe the surrounding habitat. The boardwalk should be of a timber construction and should support a number of interpretative signs. The boardwalk should be integrated with the bridge structure.

- Replace the existing large timber decking with a new decking on the north and south edges of the lake attached to the new bridge structure. Continue this decking to the large set of steps that enable access from the pathway and bridge. Develop a ramp adjacent to the steps to facilitate access for mobility impaired people. Do not construct a fence around the timber decking.
- Develop a small decking over the concrete pipe outlet located on the south-western shore of the Lake to provide a fishing platform and to cover the obtrusive structure.
- Develop a more subtle cover and cage structure over the existing Lake outlet. Establish emergent vegetation to screen this structure. This structure should be designed to ensure that ducklings can not swim into the outlet.

All built structures should conform to the outlines in section 6.8 of the Masterplan Report.



Example of a Nature Trail and Boardwalk to be proposed at Ringwood Lake

6.2.3. Nature Trails

Develop two meandering nature trails (in the northern stand of bushland and in the area of vegetation directly south of Daiseys carpark). The nature trails should have a series of interpretative signs that reference the bushland environment. Locate seats along these trails to provide tranquil refuge areas.

The paths should be 2m wide and be constructed of the granitic sand material currently used throughout the Park.

The paths should be sited to minimize the impacts on existing vegetation and should avoid sensitive orchid areas.

6.3 *Parking & Access*

6.3.1 New Carpark

Establish a new carpark that accommodates approximately 100 spaces along the boundary of Daiseys Hotel to provide easy and safe access to a wide area of the Park.

The entrance to the carpark will be from Mount Dandenong Road. The carpark turning lane will be incorporated with the current turning lane associated with the entrance to Daiseys Restaurant. The carpark will be configured as a one way loop road, with the exit into the existing eastern carpark.

A "drop off" area will be located at the elbow of the loop road. This will consist of a paved verge that could accommodate at least two vehicles at any one time. Maintenance and vendor access will be through this verge.

Boom gates placed at both ends of the loop road will be closed after dark to restrict vehicle access.

The development of this carpark will require the removal of existing cypress trees to create space and to address safety issues relating to falling limbs. These trees are beginning to become unstable due to old age.

Indigenous planting and sensitive siting should be employed to integrate the carpark into the landscape and minimise vegetation disturbance.

Negotiate with Daiseys Hotel to utilise the north western corner of their existing carpark for the entrance to the Ringwood Lake Car Park.

6.3.2. Existing Parking Restrictions

Extend parking restrictions along Maroondah Highway from a 1 hour limit to a 4 hour limit every day of the week.

6.3.3. Pedestrian Bridge over Maroondah Highway

The Masterplan recommends that a pedestrian bridge be located over the Maroondah Highway to provide safe access to existing eateries and the Gardiners Creek bicycle trail.

The character of this bridge should have similar elements to the bridge established over the Lake. An opportunity exists to develop the bridge as a gateway element to the Ringwood Shopping Centre and Ringwood Lake Park. The bridge will be subject to responsible authority approval and funding.

6.4 *Develop New User Node*

The Masterplan recommends developing a second “user node” to reduce overcrowding and pressure on existing picnic facilities concentrated in the western side of the Park and to offer Park users an alternative picnicking and play experience.

The area where the exposed earth mound exists is considered to be the most suitable location for this node.

This node will comprise the following elements: -

6.4.1. Picnic facilities

Locate the new picnic facilities on the perimeter of the proposed open lawn area.

Picnic facilities should carry an historical mining theme through using materials similar to those in the miners’ hut and poppet head (eg chunky timber (rough sawn hardwood) frames and uprights supporting corrugated iron roofs and solid timber furniture).

6.4.2 Open Lawn area

Reshape the exposed earth mound to create a broad level area that slopes gently to the creek edge (this area could be used for informal ball games).

Establish lawn by placing topsoil on the exposed earth and clay capping if required. Plant eucalypts sparsely on the lawn to create shade and to break the expanse of the open area.

Replant any areas disturbed through reshaping works with similar indigenous vegetation.

Undertake minor clearing at the toe of the slope to create an open aspect to the creek.

6.4.3. Toilet Facility

Locate a toilet block facility to service this user node between the existing carpark and the open lawn area. The architectural character of the facility should reflect the historical mining theme of this area. Materials such as corrugated iron, timber panelling and a solid timber frame (these elements could be combined with more modern and durable materials) should be considered. Ensure that adequate lighting exists (inside and out) and open planting is established around the toilet block to maintain open and clear spaces for safe and secure access.

6.4.4. Playground

Establish a custom built playground at the base of the poppet head. Develop the playground with a strong historical mining theme that incorporates and relates to the poppet head and to the slope on which it is located (the playground could be developed as a tailing works area, with play facilities borrowing the forms of historical mining equipment or stockpiles and could include an informal water chute or similar to the creek).

6.4.5 Mining Hut and Poppet Head

Establish an audio interpretative facility within the miners hut and develop historical gardens immediately adjacent to the hut that reflect its period. The gardens should include flower and vegetable beds. All plants used in this garden should be non-invasive and should not compromise surrounding bushland.

Provide lighting (including uplights) to both the poppet head and miners hut.

6.5 *Improve & Upgrade Existing Facilities*

A number of existing facilities have aged and require refurbishment or total replacement. To ensure that existing and future users are adequately accommodated, works to the following infrastructure are recommended.

6.5.1. Bridge

The existing bridge structure is deteriorating and requires replacement.

A number of opportunities exist with the development of a new bridge: -

- 1) use the bridge to provide increased experiences of the water through
 - (a) aligning part of the bridge just above the water level,

- (b) develop timber decking structures at each landing to extend the opportunities for water experiences (the bridge becomes an extension of the timber decking structures)
 - (c) develop a timber decking structure as a component of the bridge in the centre of the Lake.
- 2) develop the bridge as an element that becomes a distinct component of the image and character of Ringwood Lake Park

The new bridge should be of a simple architectural style and appropriate to the bushland character of the Park. It should be constructed of timber and steel materials and aligned as shown on the Masterplan.

6.5.2 Soundshell

Replace the existing soundshell with a gazebo type structure (refer figure below).

The gazebo structure should fit with the built form outlines outlined in section 6.8 of the report in order to fit with the natural environment.

The gazebo must provide shelter, be one of the focal areas for weddings and must still be able to accommodate small concerts.

Plant low to medium shrubs and clear existing middle canopy vegetation behind the gazebo to enable views from the open lawn area to the Lake and creek.

Develop a wide staircase in front of the existing concrete base to create a level transition between the open expanse of lawn and the stage. Clad the concrete base (eg with tiles or timber decking) to provide interest and break the large expanse of the concrete form.



Example of the type of Gazebo structure proposed at Ringwood Lake



Existing Sound Shell

6.5.3. Signage

There is currently a severe shortage of signs within the Park. Three types of signage are required: -

- 1) Directional Signage – locate these signs at all park pedestrian entrances to orientate the individual arriving into the Park and to inform the user of park regulations and hours.
- 2) Interpretative Signage & Audio Facilities – locate these signs at historical mining facilities, on nature trails, boardwalks and on timber platforms to provide historical and

natural (including fish ecology) interpretation. Locate an audio facility in the miners' hut.

- 3) Entry Signage – improve the placement of the existing entry sign on Mount Dandenong Road (by removing it from the clutter of the signage associated with the petrol station) and place a new sign at the new carpark entry. Establish a large Ringwood Lake sign on fencing or a low stone or timber wall on the corner of Mount Dandenong Road and Maroondah Highway. Ensure that this fence / wall adheres to the style outlines established in the Masterplan and any future style outlines that are developed.
- 4) Locate shared pathway signs along the main cyclist routes in order to minimize conflict between pedestrians and cyclists.

The provision of lighting should be investigated with reference to council policy on lighting of parks throughout Maroondah.

6.5.4. Playground

The existing playground supports high levels of use and generally functions well. There are however safety concerns relating to the proximity of the playground and easy access to both the Maroondah Highway and the Lake. The Masterplan recommends that the existing fence be replaced with a fence of similar height that provides a better safety barrier to control access to the Lake and Highway. This barrier could be integrated with play equipment and or become a community art installation.

The fence should also be extended approximately 10m to create a barrier to the Maroondah Highway exit / entrance.

To further control access between the playground and Maroondah Highway, the Masterplan recommends that the existing entrance / exit be moved south.

6.5.5. Toilet

Existing toilet facilities should be improved through internal renovation and improving the buildings exterior appearance to meet the built structure outlines (refer to Section 6.8 of this document)

The facades of the toilet block could be decorated with community art. Improvements should be consistent with the bush character and should include interior and exterior lighting.

6.5.6 Pathways

Establish new pathways in the following locations: -

- Adjacent to the gazebo structure (2m wide asphalt to match existing).
- On the eastern side of the gently sloping lawn area (2m wide asphalt to match existing).
- From the eastern carpark to the existing ford (2m wide path, top section asphalt, bottom section grave).
- From the northern most entrance on the Maroondah Highway to the toilet block (2m wide asphalt to match existing).

6.5.7. Picnic Facilities

Develop additional picnic shelters in the existing picnic area to relieve pressure on current facilities. All these new picnic facilities must accommodate tables and chairs. Three additional barbecues should be located at the existing picnic area.

The picnic shelters should be constructed in a style that meets the built form outlines outlined in section 6.8. The style of the picnic shelters in the second user node should reflect the historical mining theme and will therefore be different to those shelters located through the remainder of the site (similar materials should however be used to maintain a level of consistency).

Existing structures should be replaced as required with the new style.

6.5.8. Seating

Seats and benches should be placed beside pathways throughout the site. The seating in the second user node should reflect the historical mining theme. Seats should otherwise be of the one style and made to match the character of the built form outlines.

6.6 Frontages & Boundaries

6.6.1. Maroondah Highway

A number of recommendations are made in the Masterplan in order to provide a stronger buffer between the Maroondah Highway and the Park. These are: -

- Relocate the Park entrance south to separate access to the highway and the playground. Replace park entry sign to match the character defined in the built structure outlines and section 6.5.3..
- Establish low indigenous grass and shrub planting along the fence line in a garden bed approximately 1.5m wide.
- Establish a new entrance near the northern end of the fence.
- Establish clean-trunked eucalypts in the open lawn area between the Highway and Lake. Maintain filtered views from Maroondah Highway to the Lake. Replace the poplars as they become unsound due to old age with autumn colouring trees of equal spectacle. Control poplar suckers. Any vegetation that replaces the poplars should achieve similar densities to that which the poplars currently provide.

6.6.2. Daisy's Nursery

Investigate methods with Daisy's nursery to reduce odours and the noise of the amplified phone impacting on the serenity of the Ringwood Lake Park environment.

The free-standing wall on Daisy's nursery is visually obtrusive. It could be screened by planting and camouflaged by painting.

Check the location of existing fences in line with title boundaries.

6.7 Discretionary Uses

6.7.1. Restaurant

A possible location for a future small scale restaurant could be the south west corner of the Park and possible adjacent site.

Any proposal for a restaurant would be subject to the granting of a planning permit and a building permit for the proposal. A planning permit would be required as the Ringwood Lake is reserved for Public Open Space. Under Clause 152-1 of the Local Section of the Maroondah Planning Scheme a permit is required for any use which is not consistent with the use for which the land is reserved. As the land is reserved for public open space, a restaurant is considered not to be consistent with this reservation, and as such a permit is required. Additionally, under the Draft new format Maroondah Planning Scheme, the land is to be located within a Public Park and Recreation Zone. As such, a permit would also be required for a restaurant on this land under Clause 36.02-1 of the Draft Maroondah Planning Scheme. It is anticipated that this scheme will be approved by the Minister for Planning around August or September.

Any planning application would have to be accompanied by the relevant documentation, including full site plans, floor plans and elevations. Additionally, information regarding the number of seats and provision of carparking will have to be addressed. Further information may be required following a preliminary assessment of the application following lodgement. Such an application would be formally advertised in accordance with Council's policy regarding advertising of planning applications on Council land. Any building application would have to also be accompanied by the relevant documentation required for such an application.

6.7.2. Mobile Vendors

Mobile vendors should be allowed to operate within the Park during special events or the high use season. Vendors should enter the Park from the drop off area of the new carpark and set up on the main pathway leading from the carpark to the timber decking on the Lake edge. Vendors should be prohibited from setting up within 40 metres from the Lake edge. A maximum of four vendors should be operating on the site at any at the one time. Vendors should exit via the Maroondah Highway entrance to avoid turning on the sloping open lawn areas.

6.8 Development of Built Form and Style

A Style Manual should be developed that defines the form, character and finishes of all built elements within the Park e.g. new signage, timber decking, boardwalks, site furniture, new and upgraded toilet facilities and picnic shelters. The Style Manual should respond to the natural bushland character of the site and endeavour to use solid timber (sourced from plantations) as the preliminary construction material and to utilize simplicity of design and materials. Ideally furniture should be of a commercial range to facilitate ease of replacement and to minimise costs and all furniture and signage should be durable and vandal tolerant.

6.9 Maintenance

The following management measures should be pursued or increased throughout the Park (and are in addition to normal maintenance): -

- Control the spread of and remove the phragmites weed from throughout the Lake.
- Monitor die back levels of the eucalypts on site and manage appropriately.
- Focus maintenance on habitat vegetation and replacement of vegetation. Ensure fencing is maintained. Negotiate with relevant authorities to increase their maintenance of the rail reserve.
- Monitor and control weed invasion from the railway easement.
- Undertake weed management throughout the bushland areas utilizing an integrated approach with hand weeding, spot spraying, mulching, and planting.
- Maintain the water quality of the Lake through the measures outlined in the Ringwood Lake Water Management Strategy.

MASTER PLAN

IMPROVE EXISTING TOILET FACILITIES.

PROVIDE ADDITIONAL PICNIC AND BARBECUE FACILITIES

ALTER PARKING RESTRICTIONS FROM 1 HOUR TO 4 HOUR LIMIT.

REPLACE EXISTING PLAYGROUND FENCING AND EXTEND BY APPROXIMATELY 10M.

ESTABLISH LOW NATIVE PLANTINGS ALONG THE FENCE LINE

RELOCATE THE PARK ENTRANCE TO SEPARATE PEDESTRIAN ACCESS TO MAROONDAH HIGHWAY FROM THE PLAYGROUND.

ESTABLISH CLEAN TRUNKED EUCALYPTS IN THE OPEN LAWN AREA. MAINTAIN FILTERED VIEWS FROM MAROONDAH HIGHWAY. REPLACE POPLARS AS THEY BECOME UNSOUND DUE TO OLD AGE WITH AUTUMN COLOURING TREES OF EQUAL SPEC-TACLE..

ESTABLISH A PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE (SUBJECT TO RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY APPROVAL).

POSSIBLE LOCATION FOR A FUTURE SMALL SCALE RESTAURANT IN CORNER OF PARK AND POSSIBLE ADJACENT SITE. THIS WOULD BE SUBJECT TO COUNCIL AND FEASIBILITY APPROVAL AND DESIGN GUIDELINES

ESTABLISH TIMBER DECKING OVER EXPOSED CONCRETE PIPE.

INCREASE PLANTING DENSITIES TO SCREEN ADJACENT LAND USE.

REMOVE SOUND SHELL AND REPLACE WITH A GAZEBO STRUCTURE. SELECTIVELY REMOVE AND REPLACE VEGETATION TO PROVIDE CLEAR VIEWS TO THE LAKE.

NEW PATHWAY TO ACCOMMODATE MAINTENANCE VEHICLE AND CARAVAN VENDOR ACCESS.

INSTALL A BOOM GATE TO RESTRICT VEHICLE ACCESS AFTER DARK

ESTABLISH A NEW CARPARK WITH A ONE WAY ENTRANCE / EXIT ARRANGEMENT TO ACCOMMODATE APPROXIMATELY 100 SPACES.

DAISEYS HOTEL

INSTALL AN ACCESS RAMP TO DAISEYS HOTEL

REMOVE EXISTING PINE TREES AND ESTABLISH NATIVE VEGETATION ON THE EMBANKMENT.

ESTABLISH A HISTORICAL GARDEN AROUND THE MINER'S COTTAGE. INCREASE INTERPRETATION THROUGH SIGNAGE AND AUDIO FACILITIES.

DEVELOP A PLAYGROUND WITH A MINING THEME. ESTABLISH A NEW PATHWAY TO THE POPPET HEAD.

INSTALL A BOOM GATE TO RESTRICT VEHICLE ACCESS AFTER DARK

STABILISE EMBANKMENT AND IMPROVE NATIVE PLANTING IN ORDER TO SCREEN DAISY'S NURSERY.

LEGEND

- EXISTING NATIVE TREES
- PROPOSED NATIVE TREES
- EXISTING DECIDUOUS TREES
- LAWN AREAS
- NATIVE SHRUB PLANTING
- PROPOSED PICNIC SHELTERS
- EXISTING PICNIC SHELTERS
- BUILDINGS
- ASPHALT PATH
- GRAVEL PATH
- CARPARK
- BOARDWALK

ESTABLISH A NEW TOILET, AND PICNIC AND BARBECUE FACILITIES.

RESHAPE EARTH MOUND TO ACHIEVE A GENTLE SLOPE BETWEEN THE CARPARK AND THE CREEK. CREATING AN OPEN LAWN AREA WITH ISOLATED EUCALYPT TREES.

CREATE NEW PATHWAY

MAINTAIN OPEN EXPANSIVE VIEWS TO THE LAKE.

CONSTRUCT A NEW BRIDGE WITH A SIMPLE ARCHITECTURAL STYLE USING MODERN TIMBER AND STEEL MATERIALS.

ESTABLISH NEW TIMBER DECKING AND INCORPORATE WITH THE NEW BRIDGE.

ESTABLISH A BOARDWALK THROUGH ENHANCED HABITAT PLANTINGS. UPGRADE EXISTING HABITAT FENCE.

DEVELOP A NATURE TRAIL THROUGH THE EXISTING BUSH.

INSTALL A TIMBER BRIDGE AND RETAIN THE CONCRETE CROSSING TO PROVIDE MAINTENANCE VEHICLE ACCESS.



0 10 25 50m
nts

RINGWOOD LAKE PARK

7 Costs & Staging Recommendations

Due to the high costs of developments within this Masterplan, and the limited financial resources of the council, the recommendations contained within this document must be implemented progressively.

The Masterplan has been broken into nine stages.

Stage One

Incorporates bridge, decking and boardwalks as a package, addressing concerns with existing structures.

Recommendation	Cost
Install new bridge (incl. demolition of old bridge)	\$ 182,610.00
Install timber decking (incl. Demolition of old decking)	\$ 41,515.00
Develop new boardwalks along the southern edge of the lake and a timber decking over the exposed concrete pipe.	\$36,500.00
Establish an historical garden around the miners cottage, increase interpretation though signage and an audio facility.	\$5,000.00
Develop a style guidelines manual	\$8,000.00
Undertake detailed flora study of significant areas	\$5,000.00
Total	\$278,625.00

Stage Two

Stage two addresses key planting and safety issues within the Park, establishes signage and increases interpretation and environmental education opportunities.

Recommendation	Cost
Establish habitat planting around the boardwalk and habitat areas.	\$19,870.00
Install directional and entrance signage throughout the Park & alter parking signs outside Maroondah Highway	\$ 12,000.00
Replace existing playground fencing and extend by approximately 10 metres.	\$ 7,000.00
Install seating	\$6,000.00
Develop nature trails and new gravel paths	\$20,000.00
Develop interpretative signage associated with the nature trails	\$9,600.00
Reshape and grass silt mound near the Poppet Head	\$42,000.00
Establish clean trunked eucalypts in the open lawn area	\$2,000.00
Relocate the Maroondah Highway pedestrian entrance to separate from the playground	\$1,500.00
Establish low native planting along the Maroondah Highway fence line	\$15,750.00
Total	\$135,720.00

Stage Three

This stage improves the Lake edge and existing toilet facilities and improves movement and access around the Park.

Recommendation	Cost
Refurbish existing toilet block	\$80,000.00
Planting and rockwork around the Lake edge and creek	\$ 12,000.00
Install new asphalt paths (incl. removal of old paths)	\$ 10,200.00
Total	\$102,200.00

Stage Four

This stage develops the basic facilities of the second user node.

Recommendation	Cost
Develop new picnic shelters for the second user node	\$55,000.00
Develop new asphalt pathway	\$3,700.00
Develop new playground	\$ 83,000.00
Develop interpretative signage associated with the second user node	\$3,000.00
Total	\$144,700.00

Stage Five

Once the structure of the Park has been established to meet the vision of the Masterplan, the new carpark should be developed to enable easy access for an increased number of users to a wide area within the Park.

Recommendation	Cost
Removal of Pine Trees	\$ 86,800.00
Install new carpark (incl. Site clearing and boom gates)	\$116,380.00
Total	\$203,180.00

Stage Six

This stage develops large areas of native planting around the car park and finalises the second user node by establishing a toilet block.

Recommendation	Cost
Establish indigenous vegetation around the carpark	\$ 67,900.00
Develop new toilet block in the second user node	\$110,000.00
Total	\$177,900.00

Stage Seven

This stage seeks to improve facilities to cater for higher levels of use.

Recommendation	Cost
Establish new picnic facilities near existing picnic area	\$66,000.00
Total	\$66,000.00

Stage Eight

This stage implements the remainder of the infrastructure required to achieve the Masterplan vision.

Recommendation	Cost
Install timber bridge near the existing ford which should be maintained for maintenance vehicle access.	\$6,000.00
Remove soundshell and develop gazebo structure	\$62,800.00
Total	\$68,800.00

Total Masterplan Cost

Stage	Cost
Stage One	\$278,700.00
Stage Two	\$135,720.00
Stage Three	\$102,200.00
Stage Four	\$144,700.00
Stage Five	\$203,180.00
Stage Six	\$177,900.00
Stage Seven	\$66,000.00
Stage Eight	\$68,800.00
Contingency (10 %)	\$117,600.00
Total	\$1,294,800.00

References

Lorimer, G.S. (March 1997), *Sites of Biological Significance in Maroondah Volume 2*, Report prepared for the Maroondah City Council

Integrated Planning Team (Strategy and Contracts) Maroondah City Council (Feb 1997), *Maroondah City Council, Open Space Strategy*, Report prepared for the Maroondah City Council

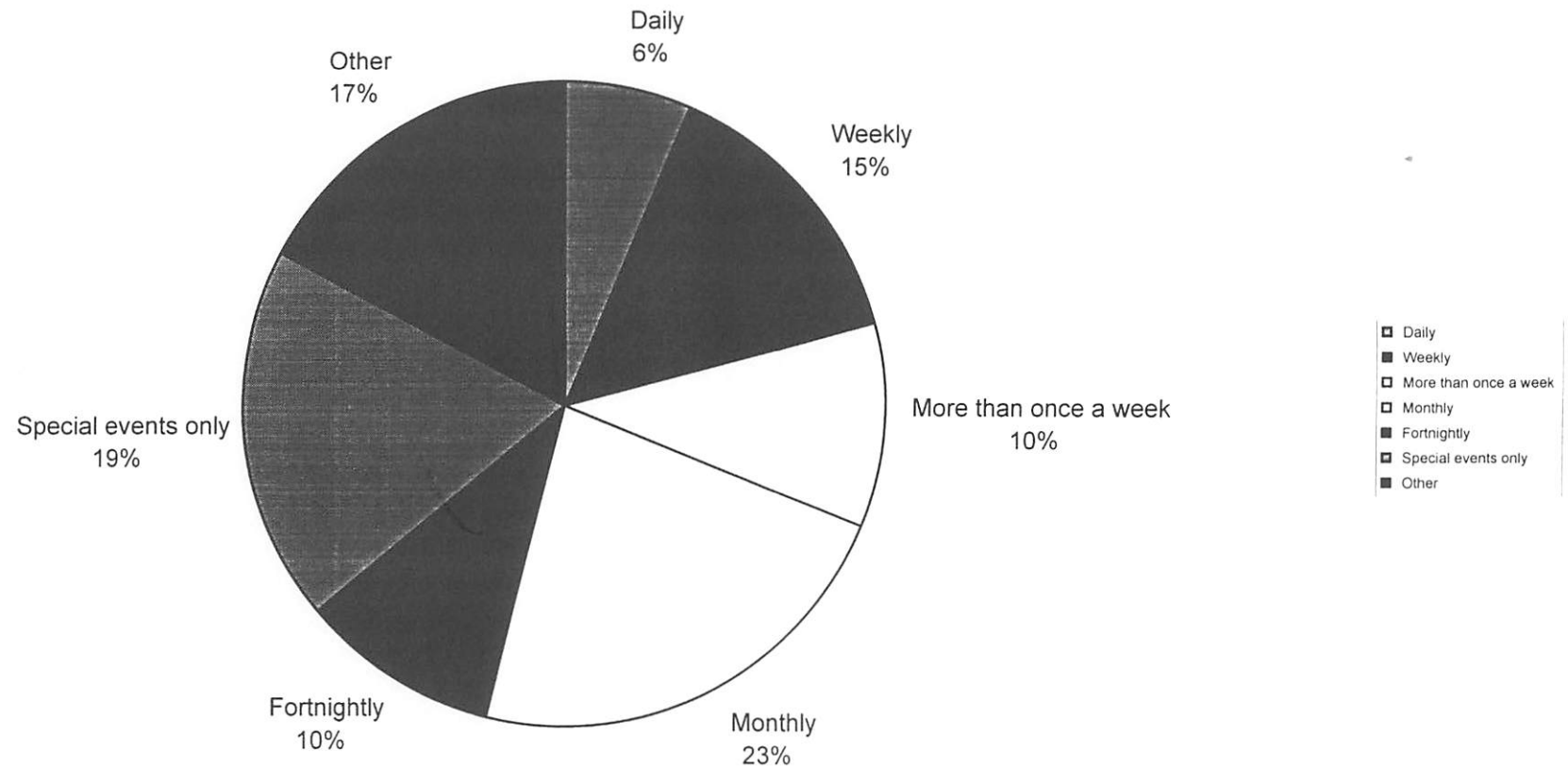
Sandercock, Moore, Hedger & Cameron (June 1997), *Ringwood Lake Management Strategy*, Report prepared by Water Eco-science for the City of Maroondah. WES Report No. 137/97.

Strategic Australia Pty Ltd (Oct 1997), *Leisure and Cultural Strategy for the Maroondah City Council*, Report prepared for the Maroondah City Council.

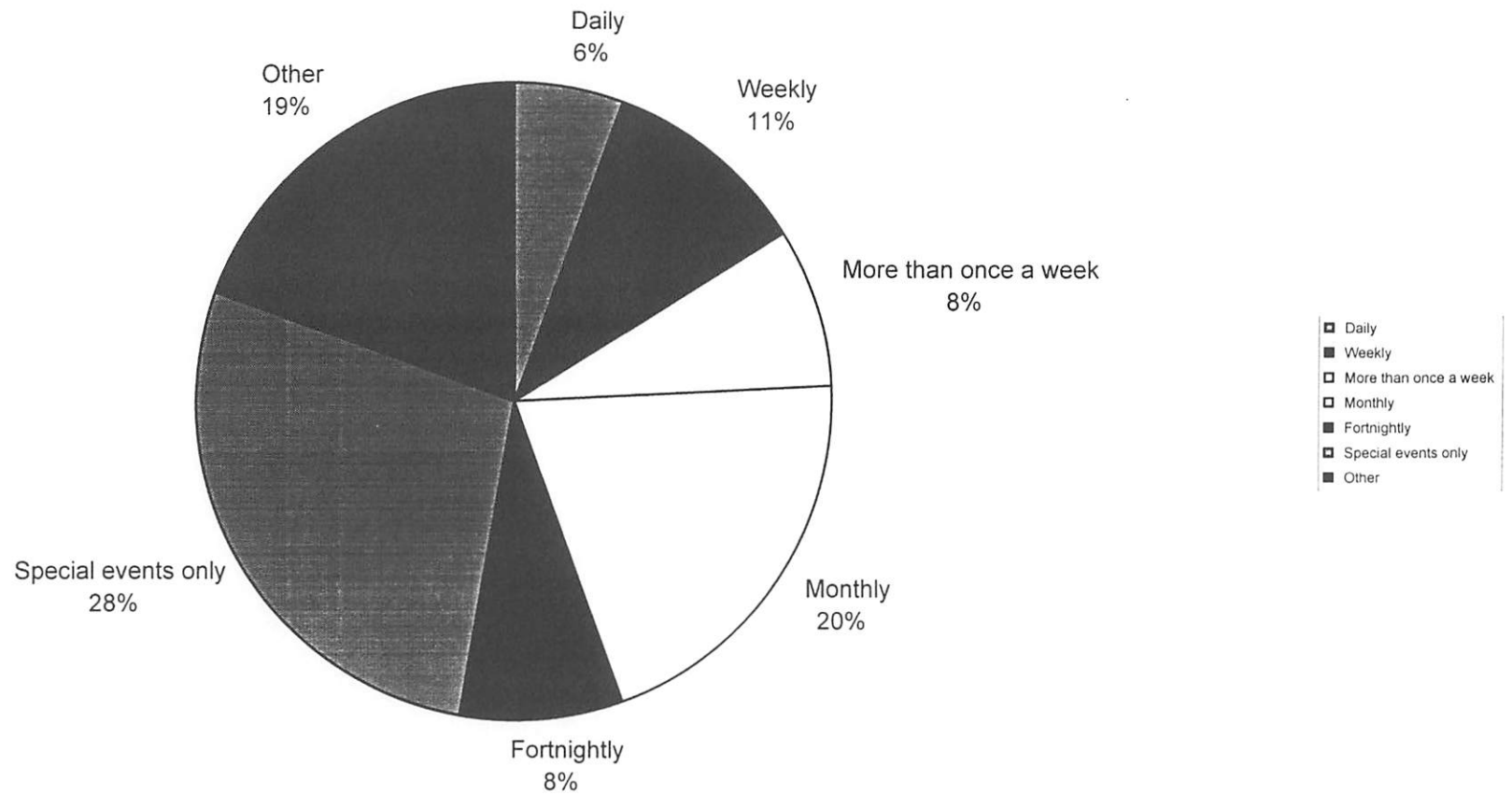
Appendix One – Data from First Questionnaire

Appendix Two – Data from Second Questionnaire

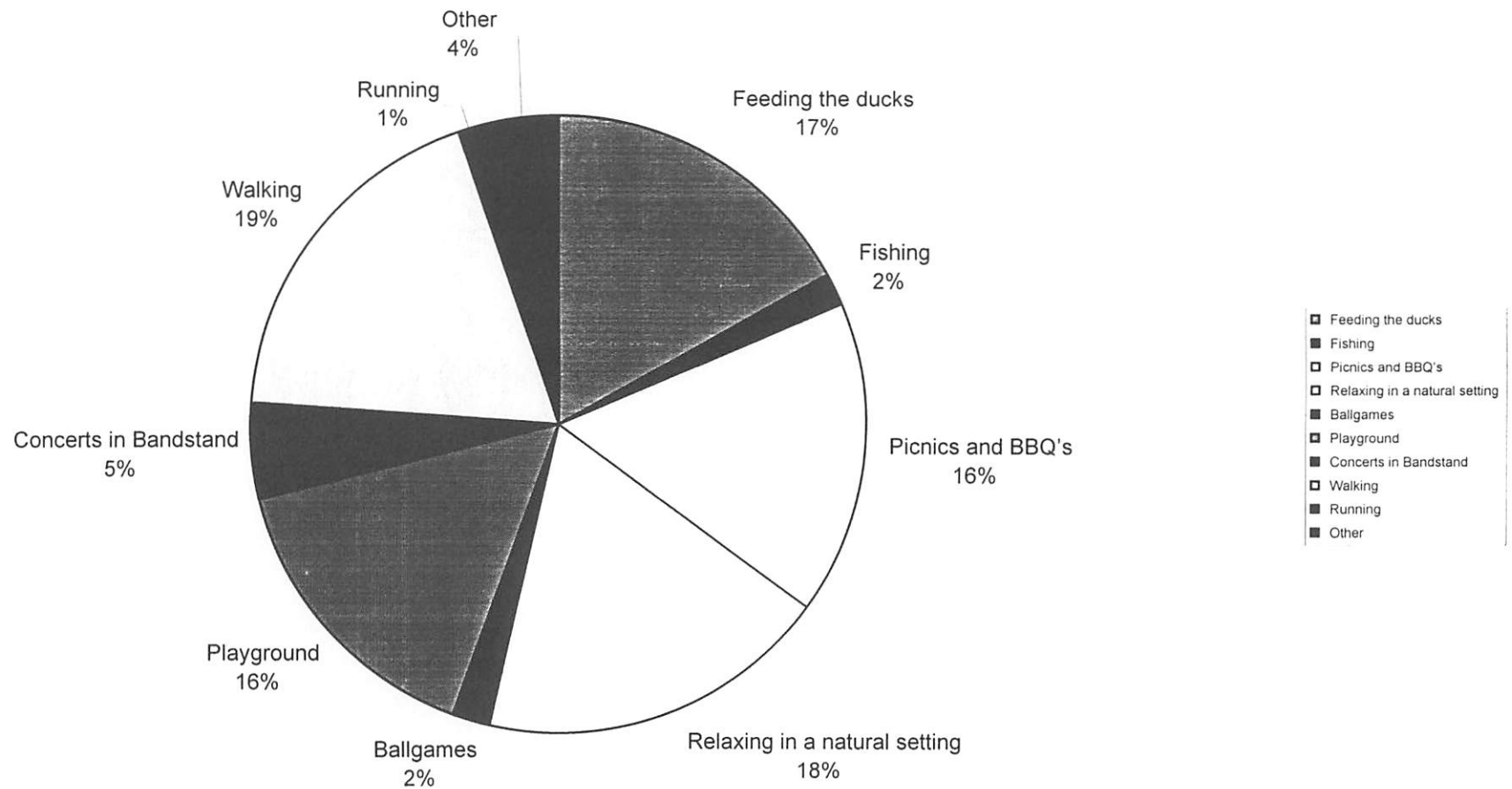
(TOTALS excluding Schools)
Q1. How often do you use the Ringwood Lake Park?



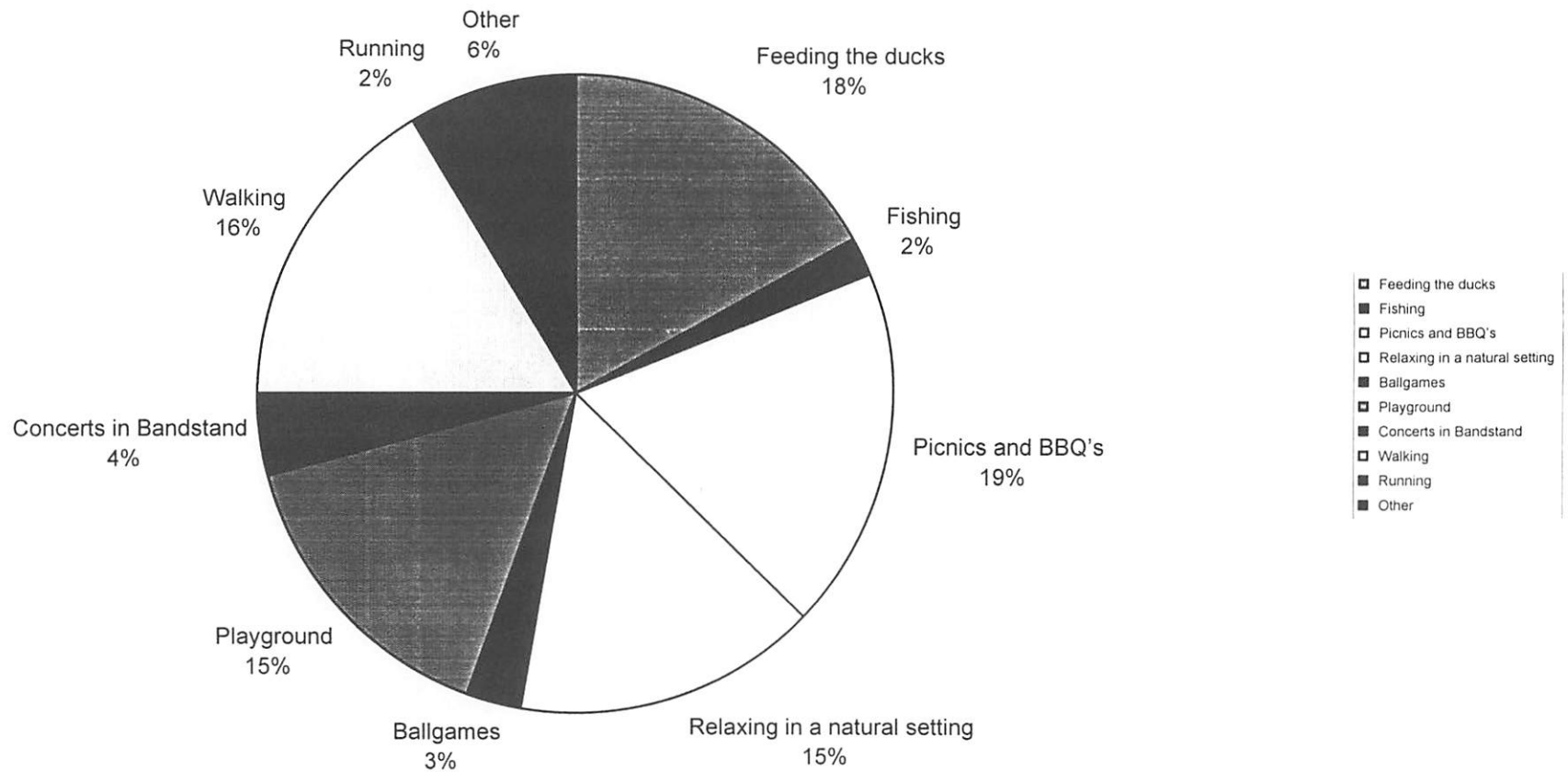
(TOTALS)
Q1. How often do you use the Ringwood Lake Park?



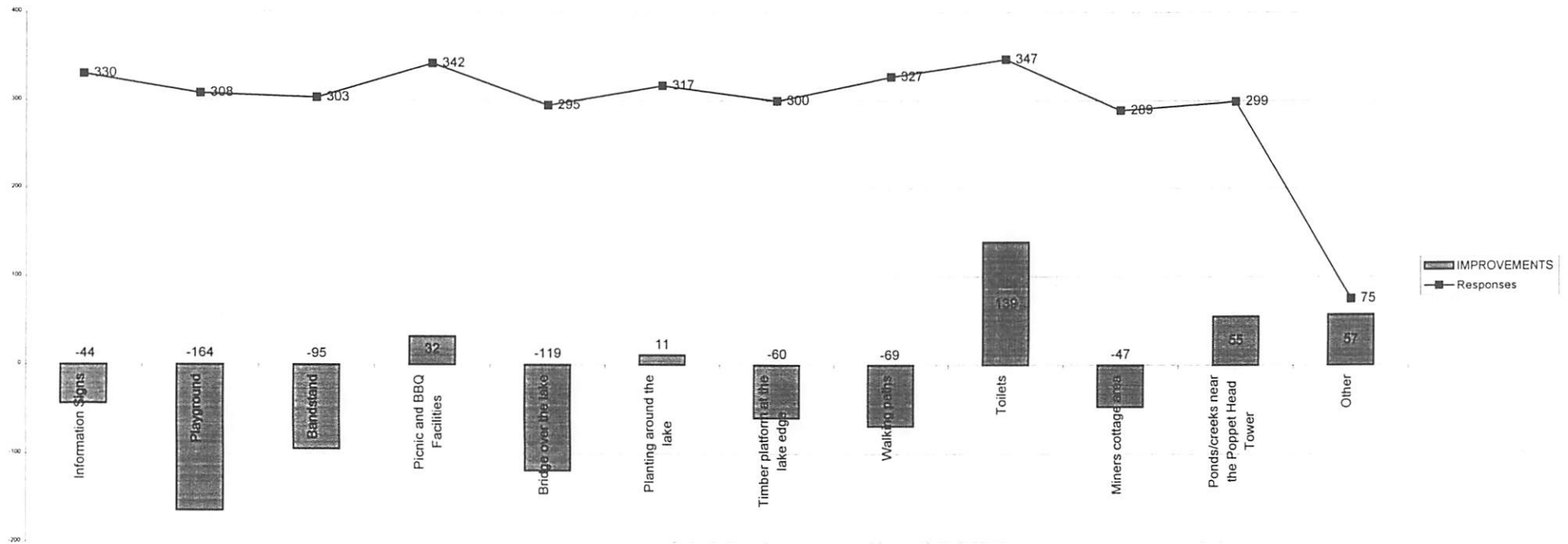
(TOTALS excluding schools)
Q2. What do you use the park for?



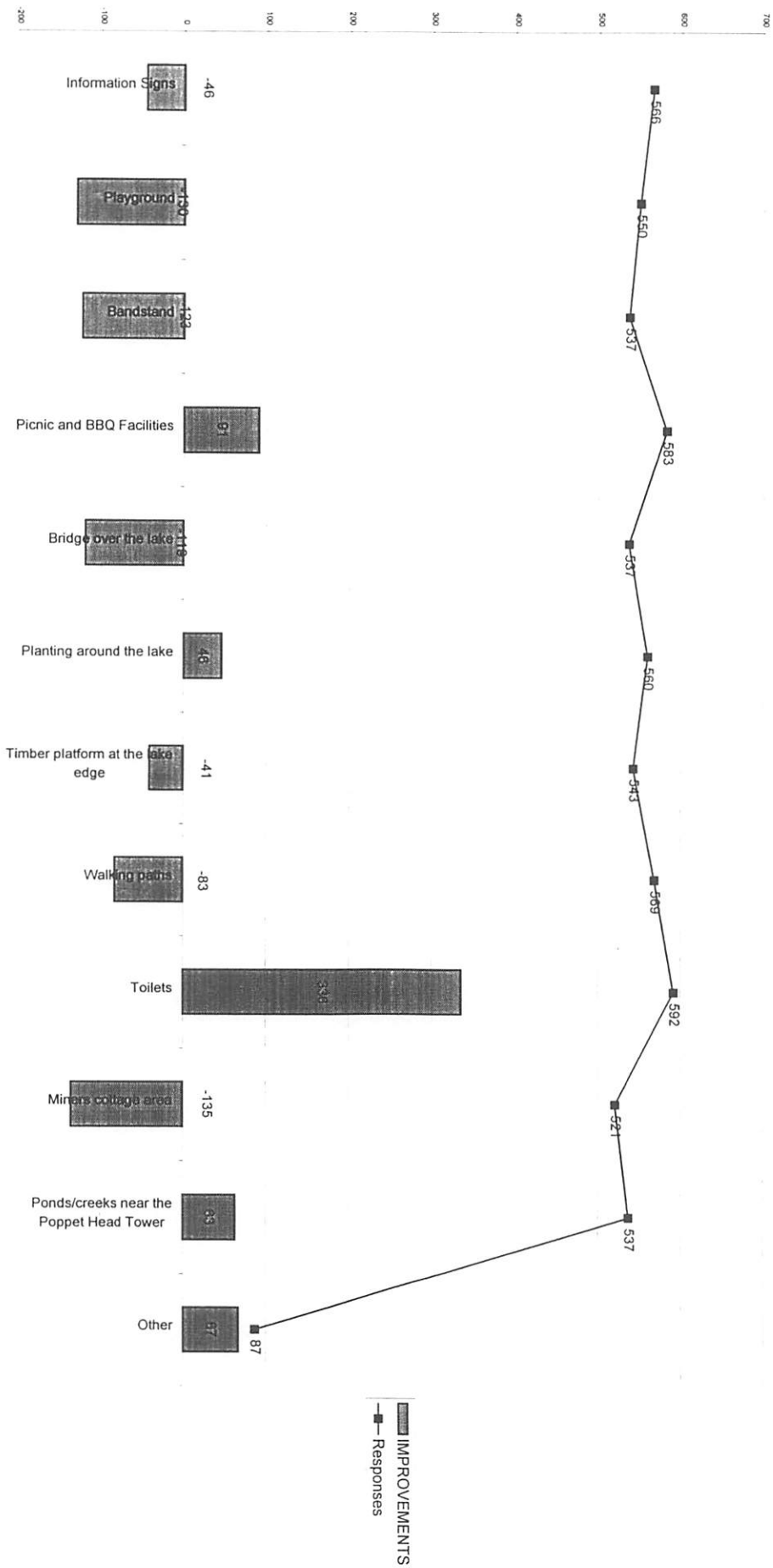
(TOTALS)
Q2. What do you use the park for?



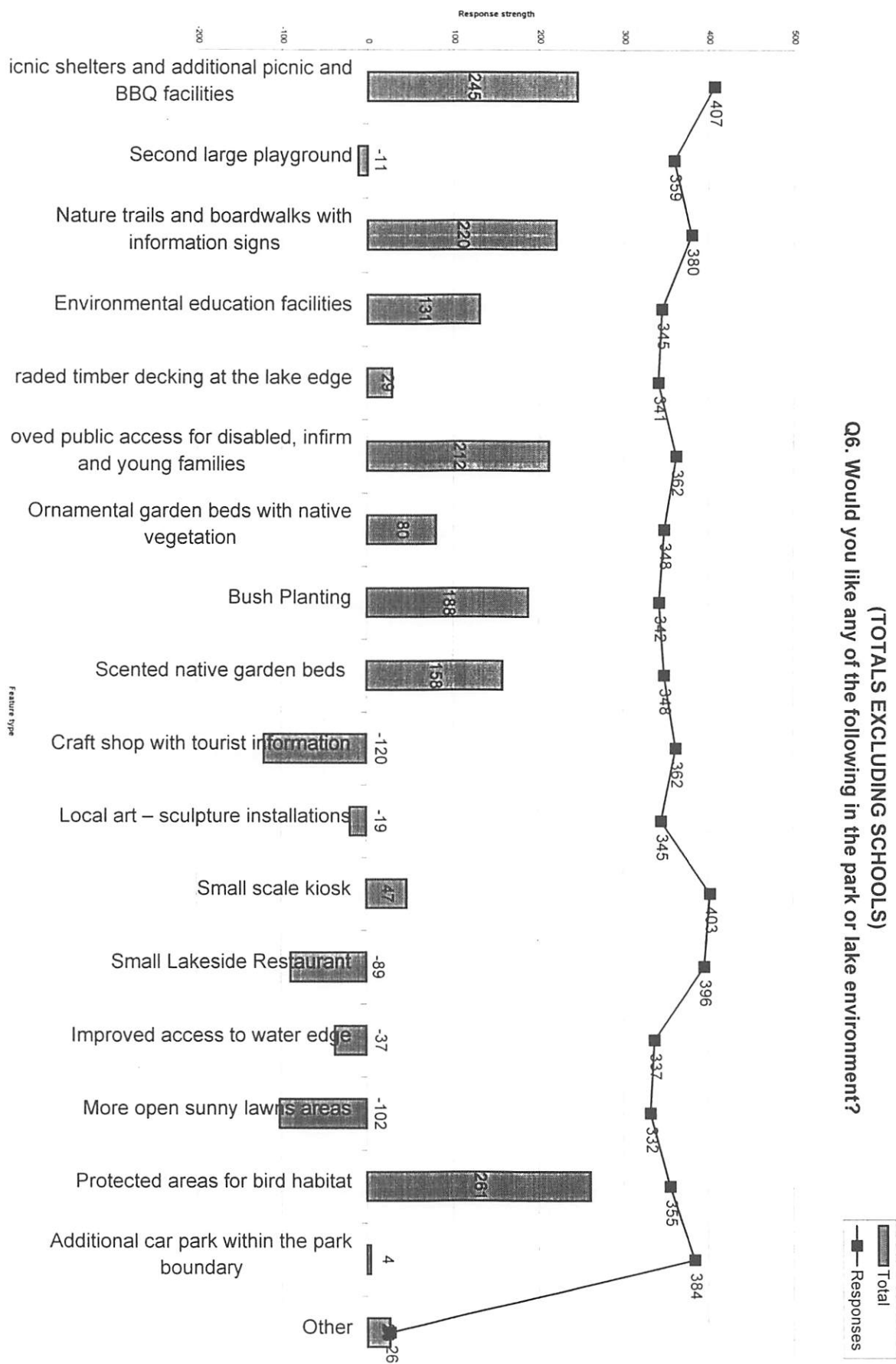
(TOTALS EXCLUDING SCHOOLS)
Q5. Which of the following existing park features do you believe need to be improved?



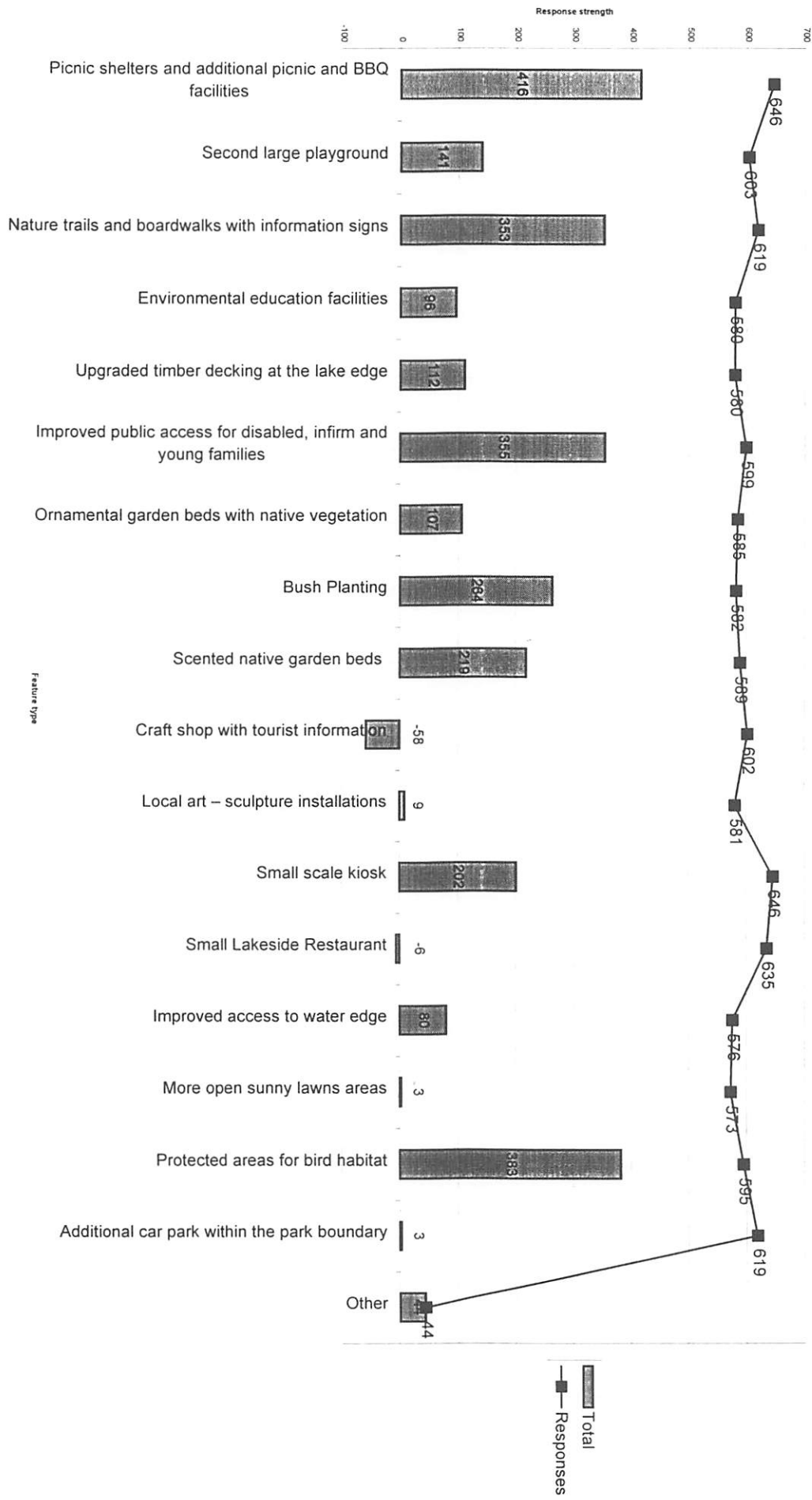
Q5. Which of the following existing park features do you believe need to be improved?
(TOTALS)



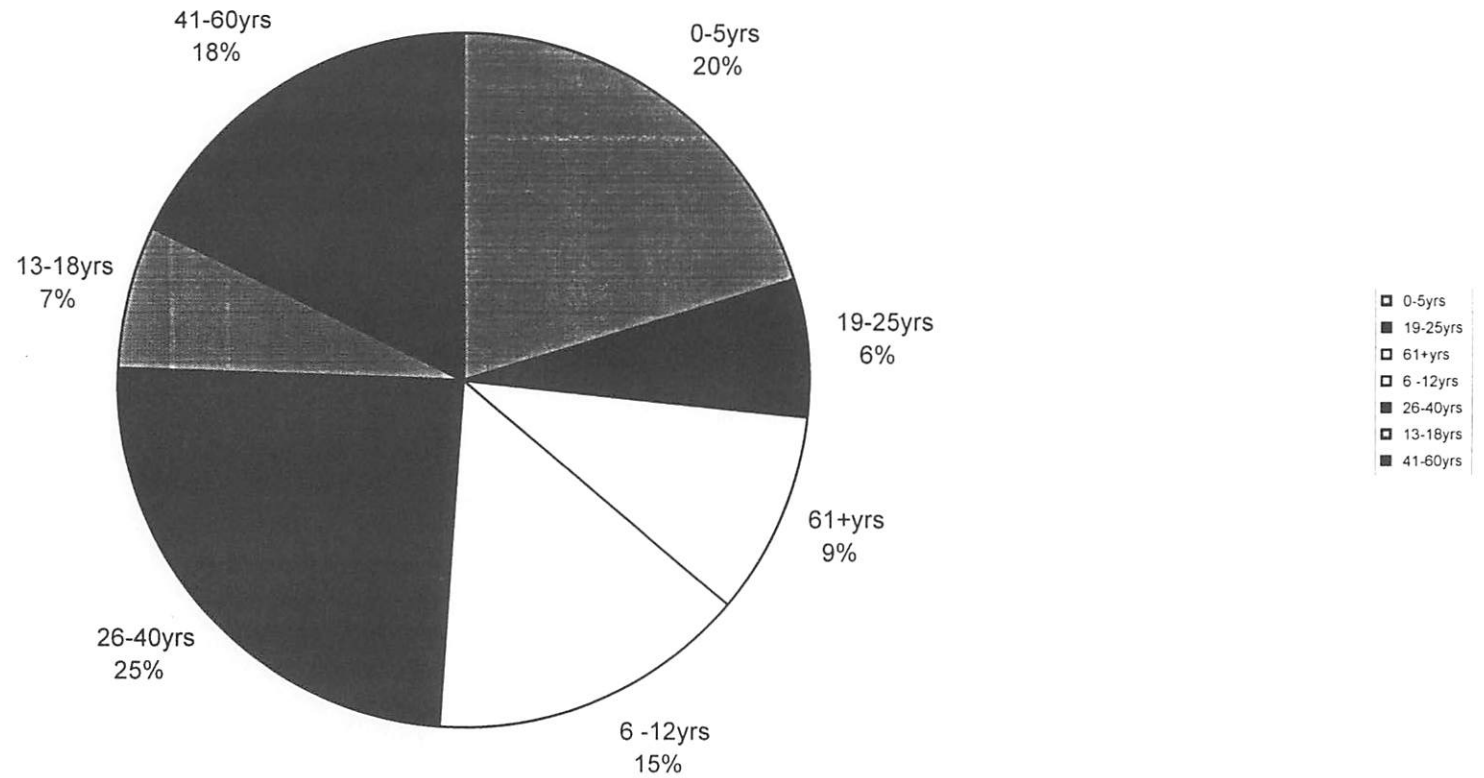
(TOTALS EXCLUDING SCHOOLS)
Q6. Would you like any of the following in the park or lake environment?



(TOTALS)
Q6. Would you like any of the following in the park or lake environment?

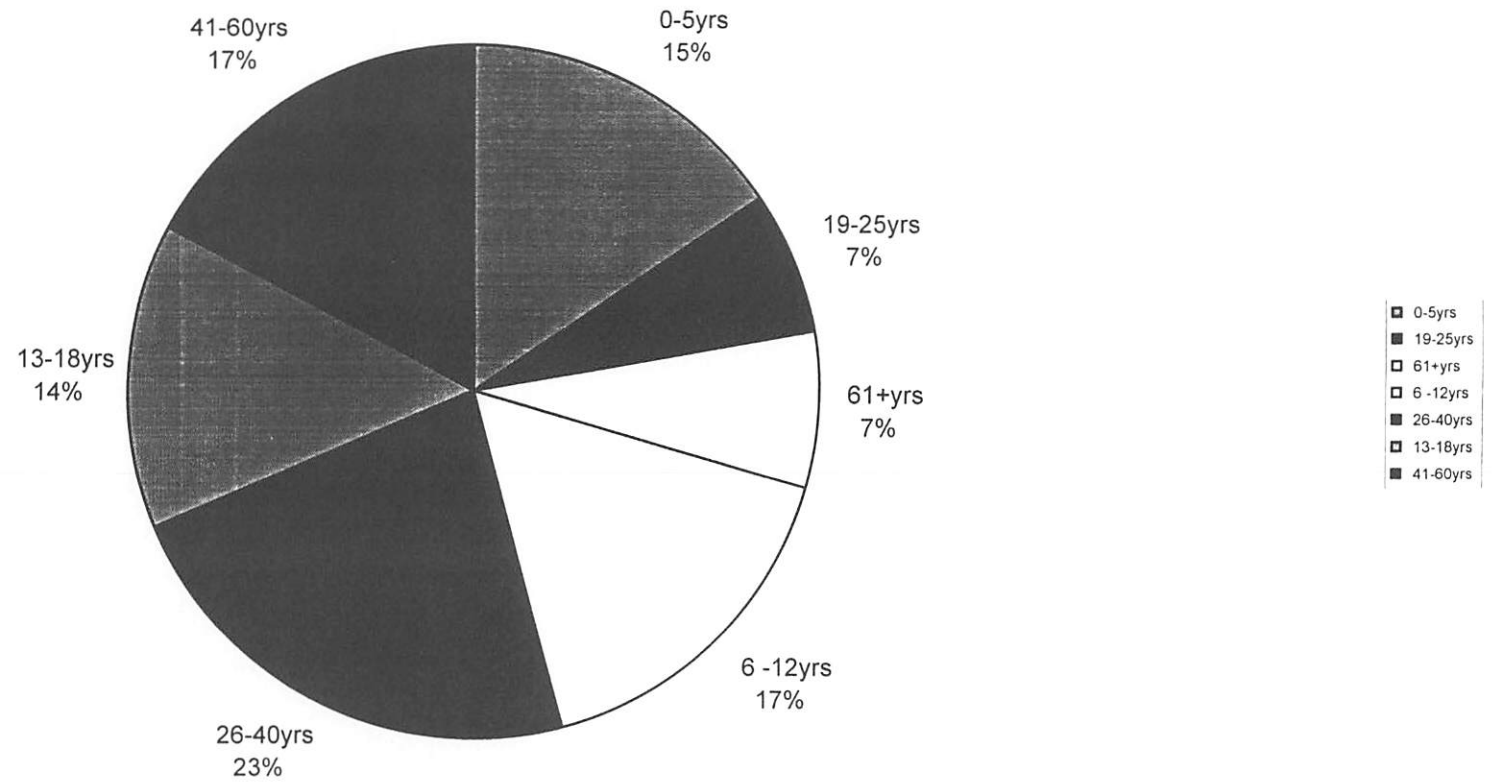


(TOTALS excluding schools)
Q8. What are the ages of people within in your household who use Ringwood Lake Park?



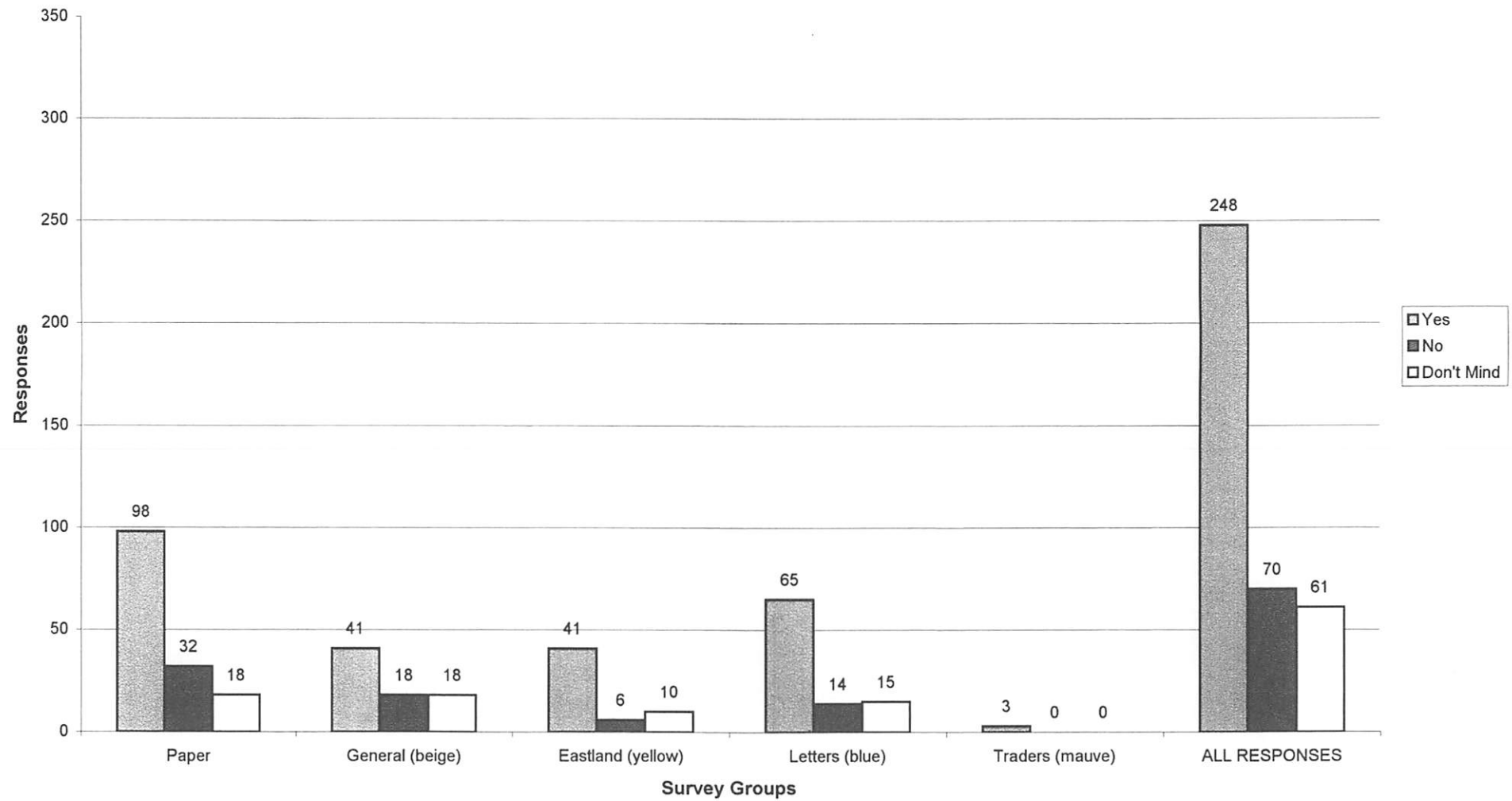
(TOTALS)

Q8. What are the ages of people within in your household who use Ringwood Lake Park?



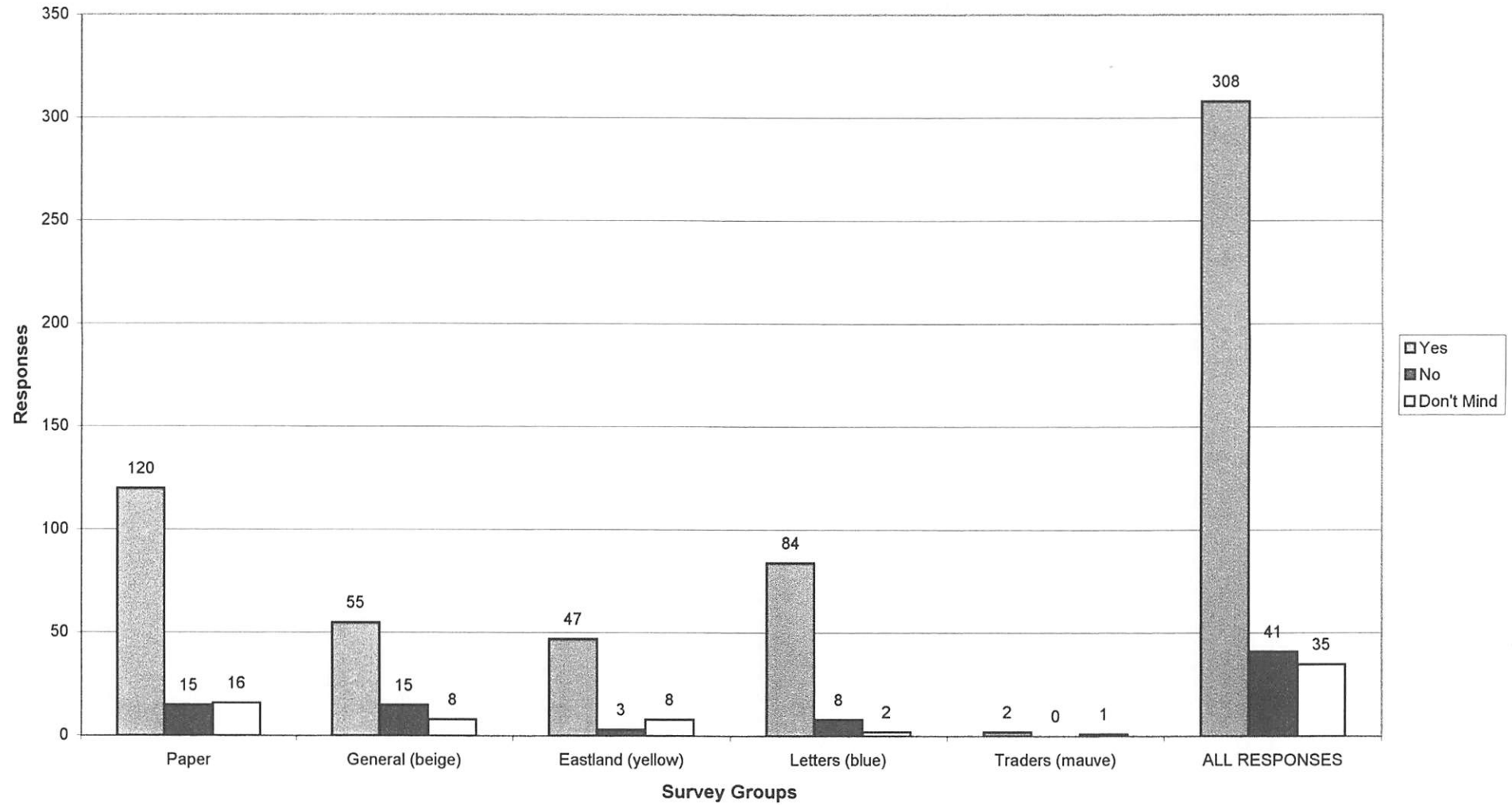
DATA

Question 1 - Do you agree with the proposed carpark located along the north boundary of the park?



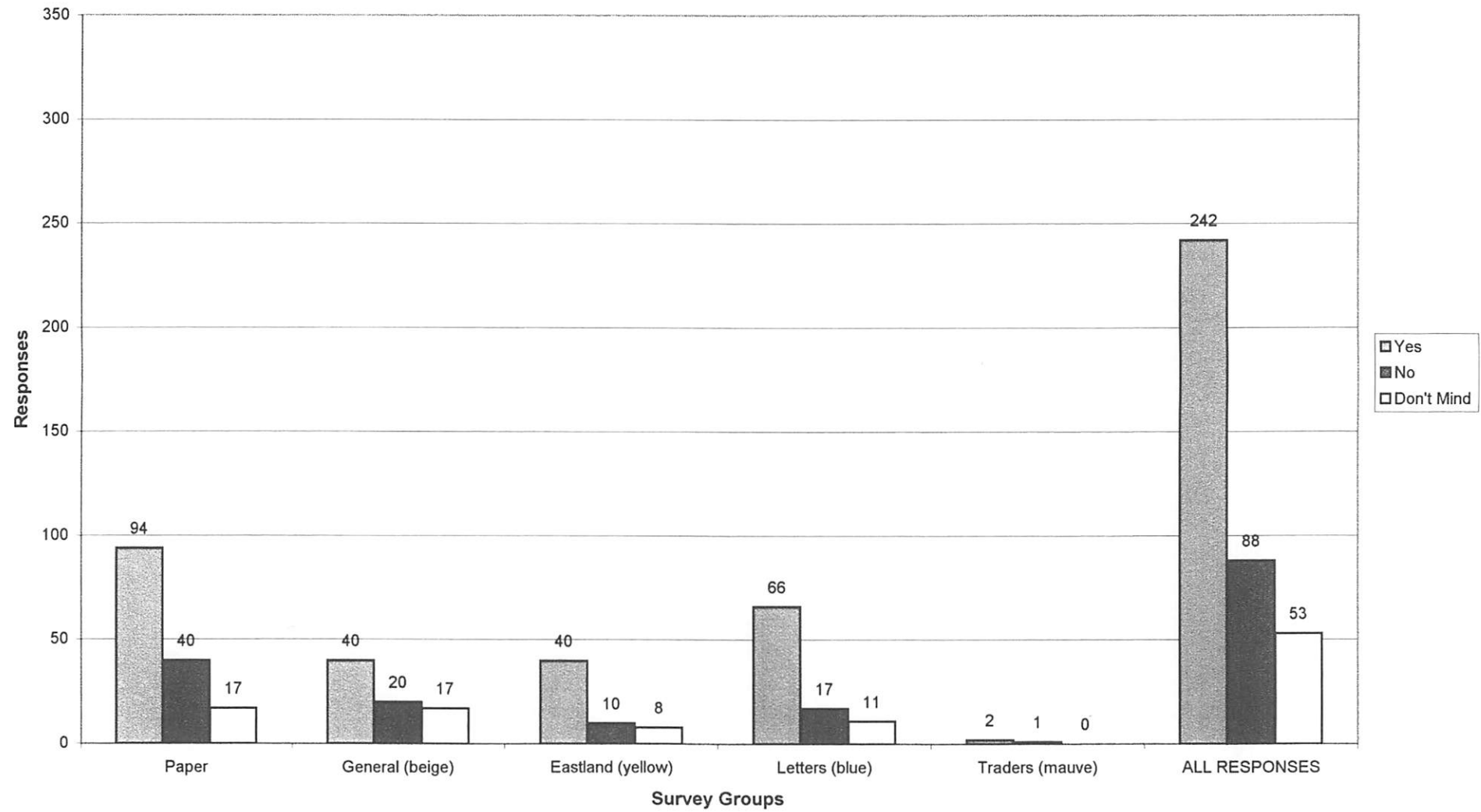
DATA

Question 2 - Do you agree with establishing a lawn area and picnic facilities near the miner's hut and poppet head?



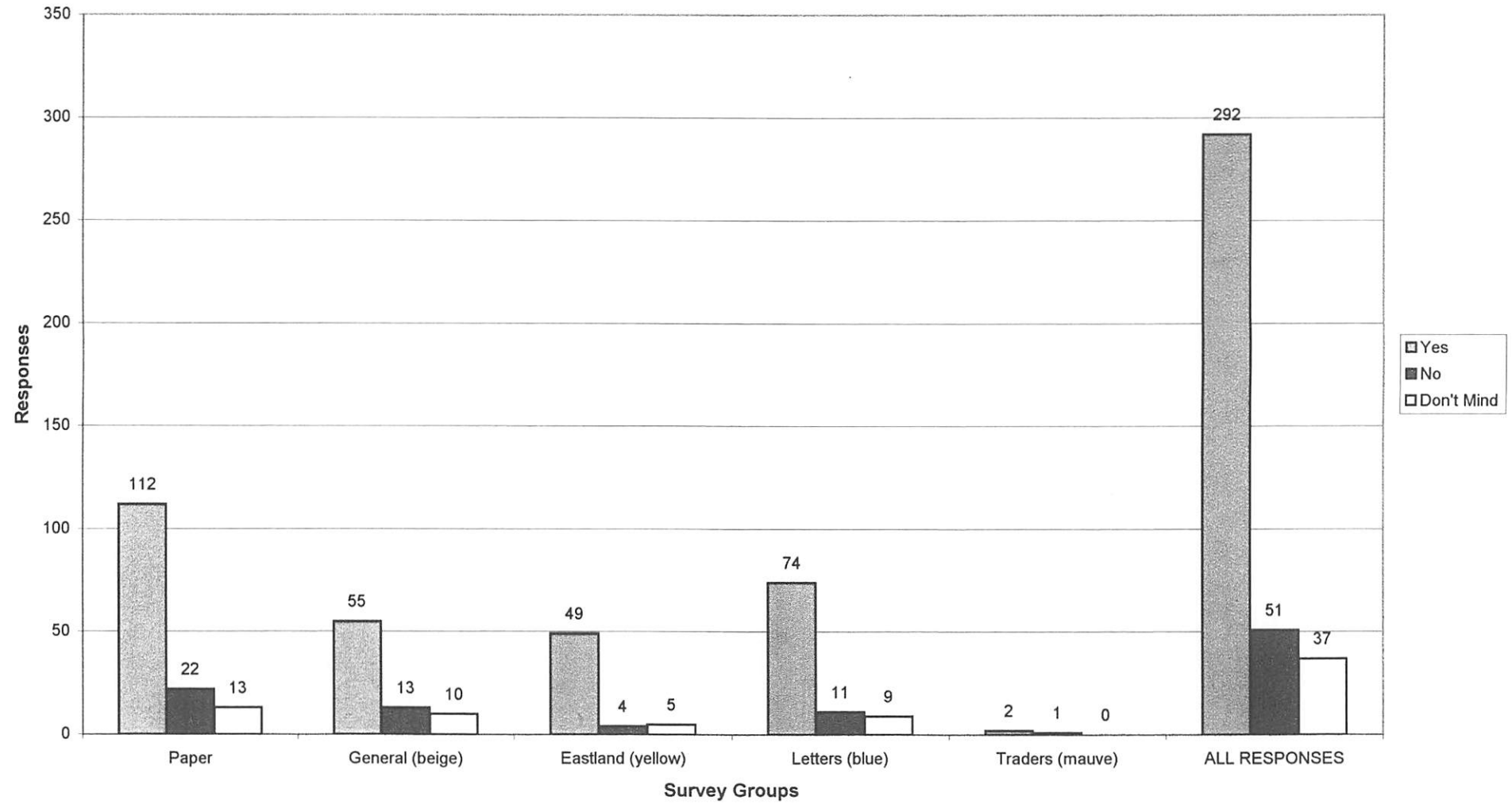
DATA

Question 3 - Do you agree with establishing a playground near the miner's hut and poppet head?



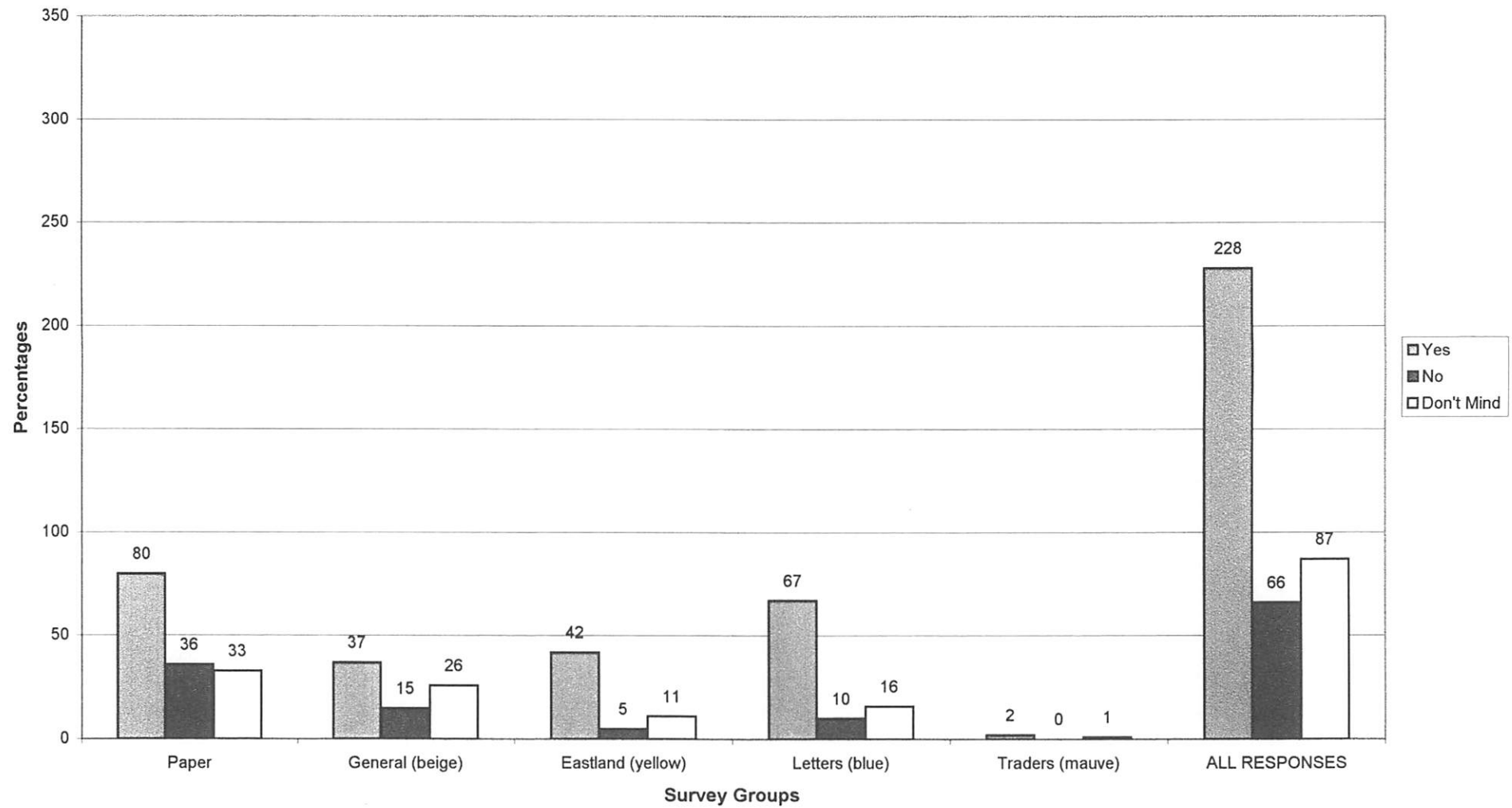
DATA

Question 4 - Do you agree with establishing toilet facilities near the miner's hut and poppet head?

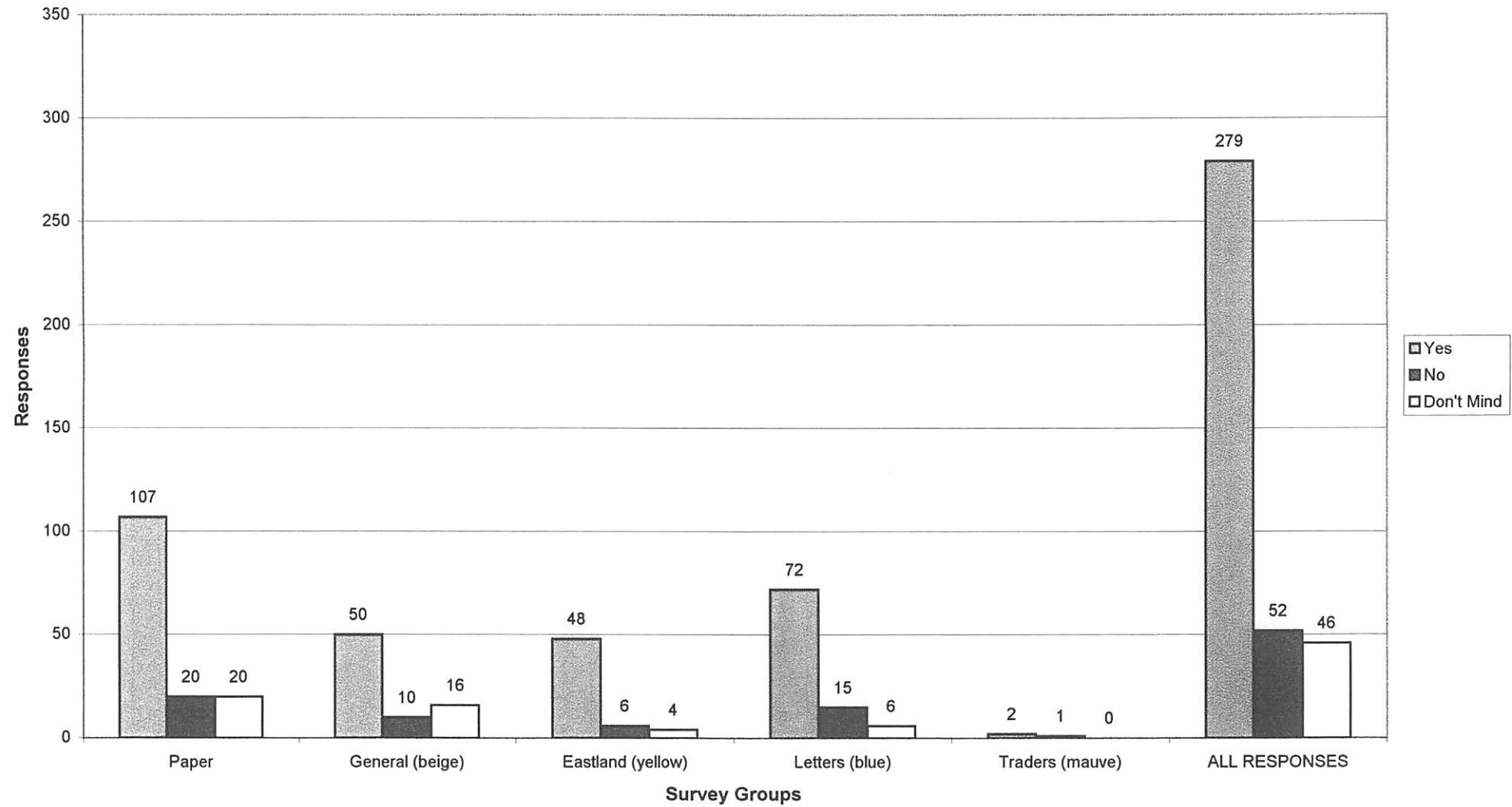


DATA

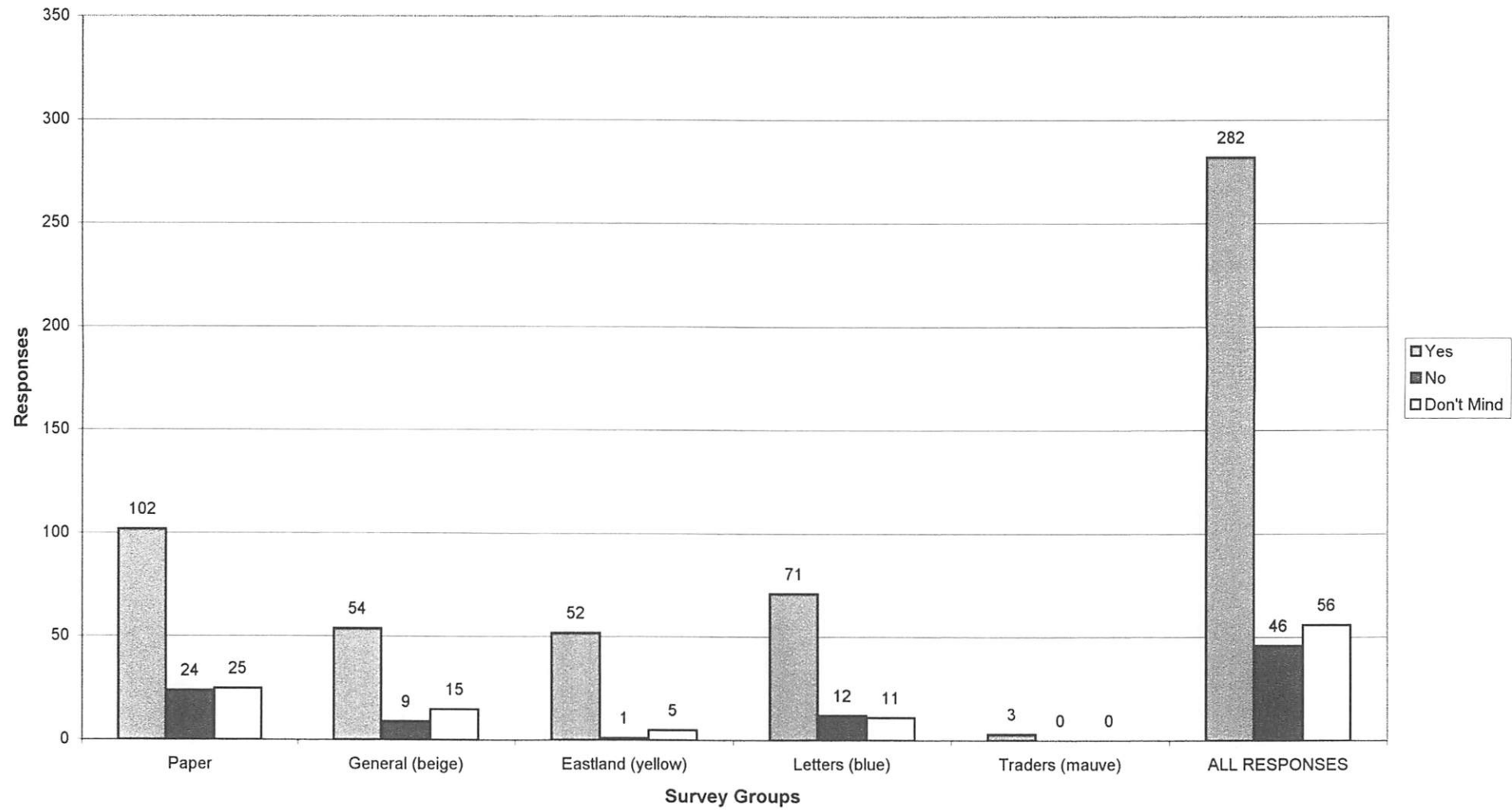
Question 5 - Do you agree with the location of the new bridge as shown on plan?



DATA
Question 6 - Do you agree with establishing a boardwalk along the southern edge of the lake?

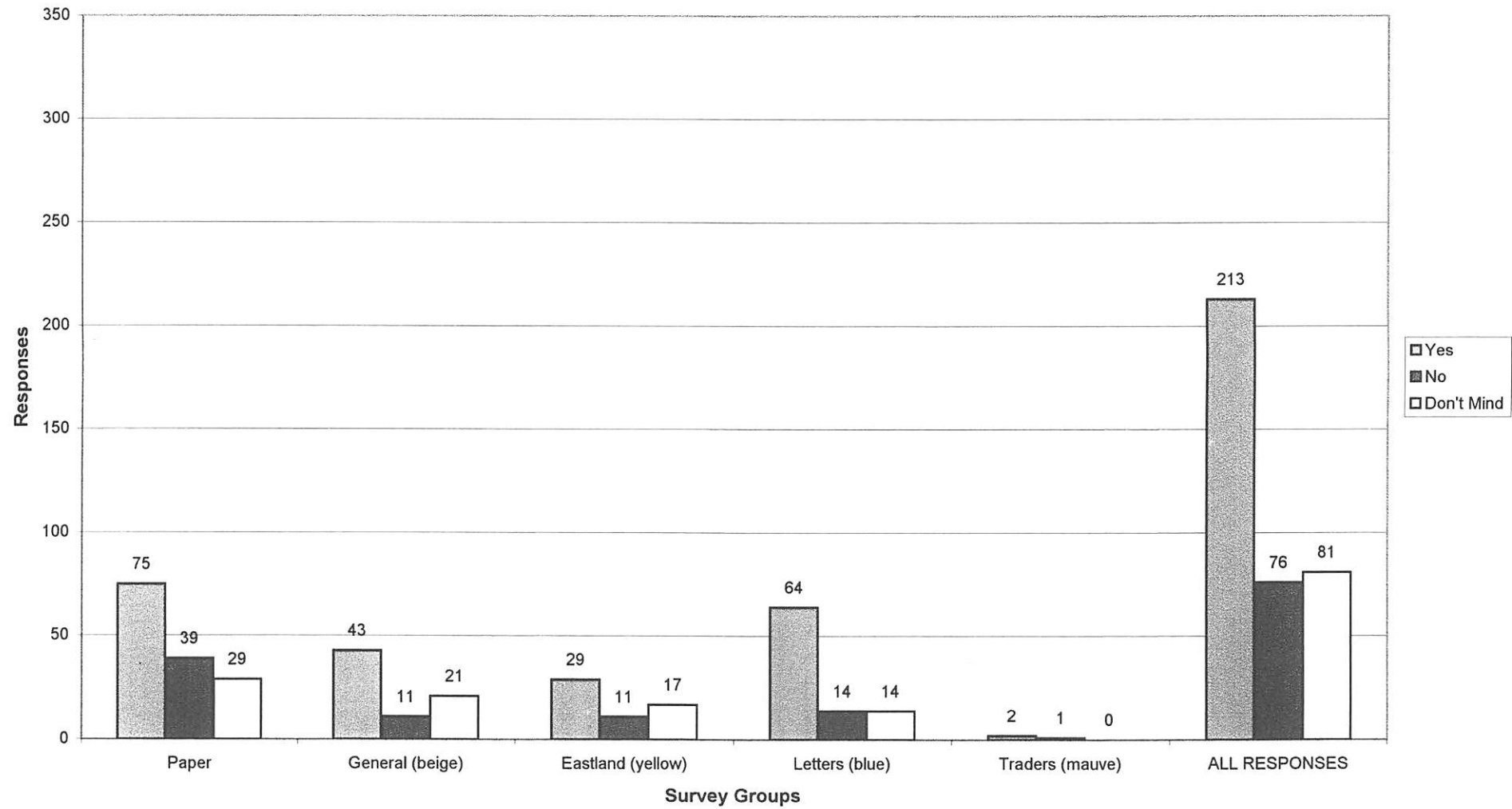


DATA
Question 7 - Do you agree with establishing a nature trail through the northern bush area?



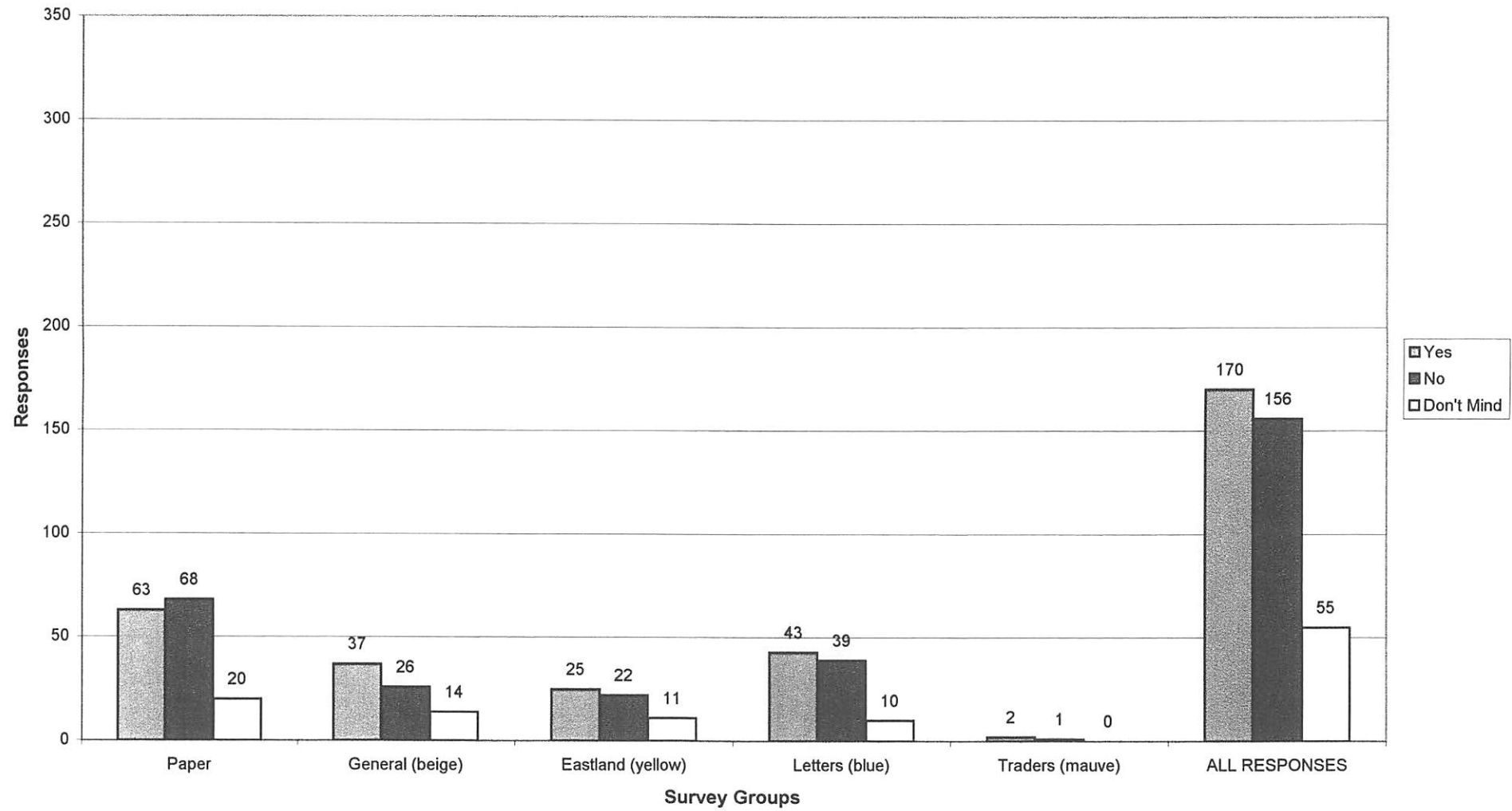
DATA

Question 8 - Do you agree with the recommendation to replace this sound shell with a gazebo type structure?



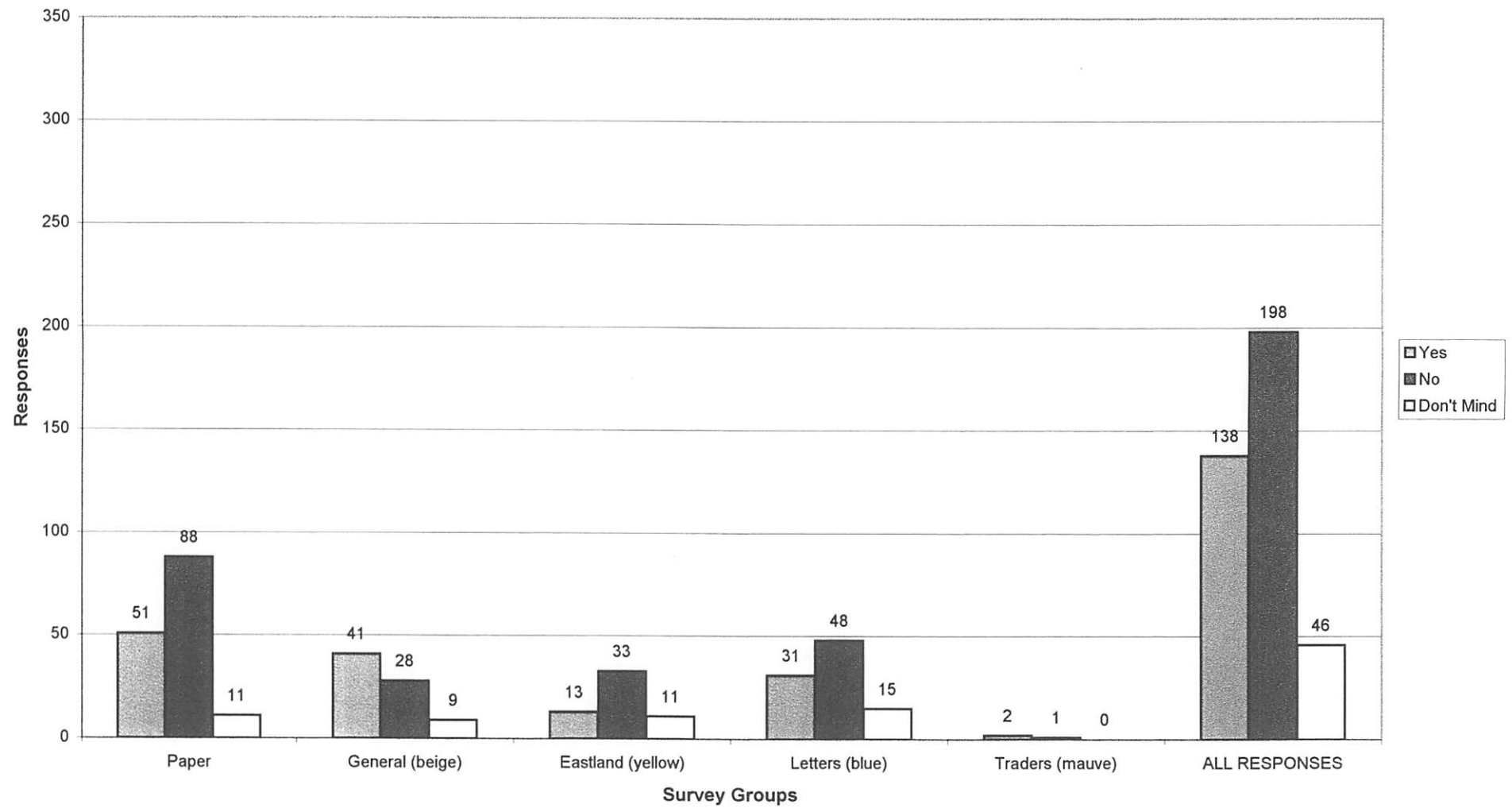
DATA

Question 9 - Do you agree with the proposed location for a kiosk within the park if there is sufficient demand for it in the future?



DATA

Question 10 - Would you agree with a future small scale restaurant being located in the western corner of the park and possible adjacent site?



DATA

Question 11 - Does this plan adequately address your proposed future use of the park?

