

OLC Co-Design Team Meeting #2

Friday 10th December 2021

The second OLC Co-Design Team meeting was attended by 12 of the 20 members. The meeting was a two-hour face-to-face discussion chaired by Cr Peter Dimarelos.

The purpose of this second meeting was:

- to refine the working theories of who the facility was being designed and what it should offer
- offer the team an opportunity to respond to Council's proposal to remove aquatics from the facility
- propose functions that should be considered in the new facility.

The working theories

Who we are designing a new facility for?

We're reimagining a facility for a strong community who are proud to be local and appreciate the rough edges; with diverse backgrounds, experiences and needs; for our past generations, long standing residents, for the newly settled from lands near and far and for generations to come; and for every age group. We are reimagining for those that are thriving, the surviving and those that need to be nourished and supported. We're reimagining for those who use OLC, those who don't want to lose it and those that don't know they need it; for people with aspirations to live a local, sustainable and connect lives; who seek opportunities to learn, share, connect, heal, and belong.

What does the new facility need to offer?

The reimagined facility needs to protect and retain the elements that underpin the social fabric of this community; the Olympics heritage, the diversity, and our First Nations people. The gym, the aquatics, the court space and a place to meet are important elements to retain. The reimagined facility will be an affordable place to be; that comforts, heals, protects and connects people. It will retain the concept of small, local and connected whilst making space for large and loud. It will be a space welcomes people for a little or a long time, for extended hours over the week; for active and passive recreation; to explore diverse interests and cultural pursuits; to socialize and support and to learn and grow together. The reimagined facility will promote partnerships with local services and will welcome people from all walks of life. It will become the Village hub; "green", actively connected, flexible, adaptable, culturally appropriate and intergenerational.

OLYMPIC LEISURE CENTRE CO-DESIGN TEAM

MEETING #2
10 DEC 2021



Discussion summary

Council's Aquatics proposal

Co-design team members were provided with a summary of comments gathered through Shaping Banyule, social media and pop up consultation related to the aquatics. Cr Dimarelos invited co-design team to respond to Council's proposal to remove the aquatics elements from the OLC facility. The co-design team unanimously stated that aquatics should be retained for long term community benefit. Whilst the co-design team did not agree on the specific attributes of the aquatic elements, there was a strong indication that the ability to participate in swimming lessons was important for all ages and warm water/hydrotherapy is valued.

Other functions

Co-design team members were provided with non-aquatics related comments from consultations through Shaping Banyule, social media, pop-up consultations and engagement with primary school aged children. The members were tasked with grouping comments to identify possible functions of the new facility.

Functions emerged through conversation, from adaptable, safe, culturally appropriate community spaces; active and passive outdoor spaces; creative and learning spaces; and spaces that welcomes people who have specific support needs, including people experiencing homelessness.

Architects presentation

Architecture Associates shared a visual presentation on community spaces to spark further ideas on functions. They spoke about diverse uses, adaptable spaces and understanding and complementing the ecology of the area.

Architects brief

The members discussed the priorities in the context of what else was currently available and Council's role in supporting the community. The co-design team members asked Architecture Associates to come up with spatial concepts to demonstrate how the site might support:

- Aquatic elements
- Adaptable community spaces
- Adaptable indoor sports space
- Indoor/outdoor connections
- Outdoor gathering spaces
- Consideration of parking

Further the community asked the architects to:

- Showcase sustainability
- Retain the historical connection to the 1956 Olympics
- Design for the inclusivity of all community members

The co-design team proposed that the facility does not need to support:

- Places for animals
- Kindergarten space
- Civic scale library space

Next steps

- January 2022 activities to test ideas on activities that can be accommodated in the new OLC
- Online Consultations are scheduled for Wednesday 15th December
- Next OLC Co-design team meeting to be held late January/ Early February. The next step of the process is to consider the feedback from community and review the concepts developed by Architecture Associates.

OLC Co-Design Meeting 3- 11th February 2022