

# Draft Submission

in response to the Draft Consultation and Engagement Framework for Greater Sydney Parklands and establishment of a Community Trustee Board for Fernhill Estate

## INTRODUCTION

Penrith City Council welcomes to the opportunity to provide feedback on the Draft Consultation and Engagement Framework for Greater Sydney Parklands and establishment of a new Community Trustee Board for Fernhill Estate.

In summary, this submission:

- Supports the guiding principles for engagement outlined in the Draft Consultation and Engagement Framework.
- Supports the initiative to establish a Community Trustee Board for each park, including Fernhill Estate, to increase community input and consultation in a way that was previously only legislated for Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust.
- **TBA – Formally nominates a community representative for the Fernhill Community Trustee Board (NOTE - THIS IS TO BE RESOLVED BY COUNCIL AT THE 31 OCTOBER 2022 ORDINARY MEETING).**

The following specific comments are provided for consideration.

### Support for the Draft Consultation and Engagement Framework

Council values positive and transparent engagement and is therefore supportive of the guiding principles for engagement outlined in the Draft Consultation and Engagement Framework.

The Draft Framework is also supported as it recognises the uniqueness of each of the five iconic parklands in Greater Sydney Parkland's portfolio to their local communities, and seeks to facilitate genuine community engagement and proactively collaborate with Sydney's communities, local governments, state government agencies, industry and others to realise the potential of these significant open-space assets.

### Support for the establishment of a Community Trustee Board for Fernhill Estate

Council welcomes the initiative to establish a new Community Trustee Board for Fernhill Estate, to elevate community input and consultation for this iconic Western Sydney Parkland in line with existing arrangements for Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust in Sydney's East.

In particular, Council is pleased to be able to nominate a representative to the new Fernhill Board, to provide local advice on park stewardship, use and activities, environmental, heritage and cultural issues, plans of management, new leases and sustainable funding options. This was something that Council specifically requested in its previous submission on the Draft Greater Sydney Parklands Trust Bill 2021.

### **Nomination of a Council representative to the Fernhill Board**

Council has considered the role of Community Trustee Boards and criteria for membership in accordance with the terms of the Greater Sydney Parklands Trust Act 2022. Council is pleased to formally nominate ### as the local community representative for the Fernhill Estate Community Trustee Board.

### has knowledge of the history of Fernhill Estate and the range of activities likely to be carried out in the future parkland. In their capacity as ### they are aware of other community stakeholders with an ongoing interest regarding the future of Fernhill Estate and have demonstrated respect for the views of the community and their desire to protect, restore, utilise and capitalise on the opportunities presented by the public use of Fernhill Estate. ### is considered to be well suited to represent both the community and Council which shares the basis of the community's desires in this regard.

The completed/signed formal *Community trustee board – Member nomination form* is attached.

### **Non-member Council observer**

It is noted that the Terms of Reference for the Community Trustee Boards allow for non-member attendees to be present on the recommendation of the GSPT Board.

To this end, in addition to the above-nominated Councillor representative, Council seeks approval for a staff member to attend Board meetings as an observer. It is understood that this person will not be eligible to propose motions or vote on recommendations.

### **NEXT STEPS**

Council looks forward to receiving an update on the outcome of the nomination process and ultimately the establishment of the Community Trustee Board for Fernhill Estate.

Council also looks forward to continuing to work closely with Greater Sydney Parklands as the various proposals related to community use of the site, such as the Draft Landscape Masterplan and Mulgoa Road Strategic Concept Plan, are refined and progressed.