
Expression of Interest

**Carss Bush Park Playspace Upgrade
(Identified)**



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Acknowledgement of Country

Georges River Council acknowledges the Bidjigal people of the Eora Nation, who are the traditional inhabitants and custodians of all land, water, and sky in the Georges River area. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present, and emerging.

Accessibility

If you are an applicant with a disability and you require this information in a format that is accessible to you, you can contact Hurstville Museum & Gallery between 10.00am and 4.00pm Monday – Friday.

Telephone: (02) 9330 6444 Email: museumgallery@georgesriver.nsw.gov.au

Applicants are welcome to contact the Public Arts Officer to guide them through the process of applying to ensure that all applicants have a good understanding of the EOI and an equitable opportunity in applying.

Please contact Marsha Canning, Acting Public Arts Officer, for further information, on (02) 9330 6444 or museumgallery@georgesriver.nsw.gov.au

Overview

Carss Bush Park is regionally significant open space located in the southern portion of the Georges River local government area. Council has completed the detailed design for sections of the playspace that require upgrading and is in the process of engaging a contractor to complete the works.

The upgrade will expand the existing playspace to meet the regional significance of Carss Bush Park. This involved the investigation of existing site conditions and play infrastructure, the development of a design that meets community expectation, and incorporated community feedback, and opportunities to improve the overall play experience. Construction will be between April and August 2024 and will improve site drainage, site connections and the installation of new play elements and supporting infrastructure.

Artists are encouraged to review the following documents prior to applying:

- Georges River Council Community Strategic Plan:
https://www.georgesriver.nsw.gov.au/StGeorge/media/Documents/Council/Plans%20and%20Documents/GRC-CSP-2018-2028_ONLINE-v2.pdf
- Create Georges River (Cultural Strategy):
https://www.georgesriver.nsw.gov.au/StGeorge/media/Documents/Council/Publications/Cultural-Strategy_ONLINE.pdf
- Georges River Council Public Art Policy:
<https://www.georgesriver.nsw.gov.au/StGeorge/media/Documents/Council/Governance/Codes%20and%20Policies/Pol-072-01-Public-Art-Policy-April-2020.PDF>



- Open Space, Recreation and Community Facilities Strategy:
<https://www.georgesriver.nsw.gov.au/StGeorge/media/Documents/Council/Publications/Open-Space-Recreation-and-Community-Facilities-Strategy.pdf>

Project Scope

Georges River Council is seeking submissions from emerging, mid-career or established Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists/collectives to submit a design that can be carved into sandstone features that surround the Carss Bush Park Playspace. The sandstone featured in this space is a combination of imported sandstone, and sandstone from the site. This opportunity includes concept development, design, and installation. It is open to all artists, as well as stonemasons. A stonemason can be engaged to deliver the successful design if the selected artist does not have the experience or skills to install the artwork.

The theme of the playspace is endemic fauna and/or flora of the Carss Park/Southern Sydney area. It is envisaged that the selected artwork would also relate to the environment and locality of Carss Bush Park Playspace, as well as highlight the unique identity and story of our local area, boost awareness of the rich cultural history of the Georges River area and contribute to our understanding and appreciation of local cultural significance.

It is preferable that the dimension of the sandstone logs/features overall are retained. The design will be engraved/carved into the stone. Therefore, the intricacy of the design and its ability to be carved into sandstone should be considered. If an artist's work includes a songline, Georges River Council requires the artist to notify Council of this and provide confirmation of appropriate permission/s to use this in the artist's work. Whether historical, cultural, the local flora and fauna, and/or themes of children, learning, or knowledge.

The successful artist will retain copyright of the original artwork. The successful artist is to grant Georges River Council a royalty free and non-exclusive licence to display the design, for as long as it is installed on the site, including promotion of the playspace across Georges River Council's social media and website channels.

Respondents may choose to submit a design that has been created specifically in response to this EOI or submit a design from their existing portfolio that meets the scope and criteria for this project.

It is expected that there would be 5 designs provided. For basic level of carvings this can be up to 200 x 300mm, and for moderate level of carvings up to 300 x 700mm in size. The final artworks are to be provided as a high-resolution jpg or pdf file which can then be enlarged to 1:1 scale for install by midnight, Sunday 16 June 2024.

Bidjigal artists are encouraged to apply, however this EOI is open to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists.



Artwork Site Location and Specifications

Carss Bush Park Playspace is located in Carss Bush Park, Carss Park on the Georges River, NSW (Figure 1).

The sandstone logs will already be in-situ, please note that some of these are functional and are to be used as seating, so designs will preferably be applied on the sides or pieces that are not functional.

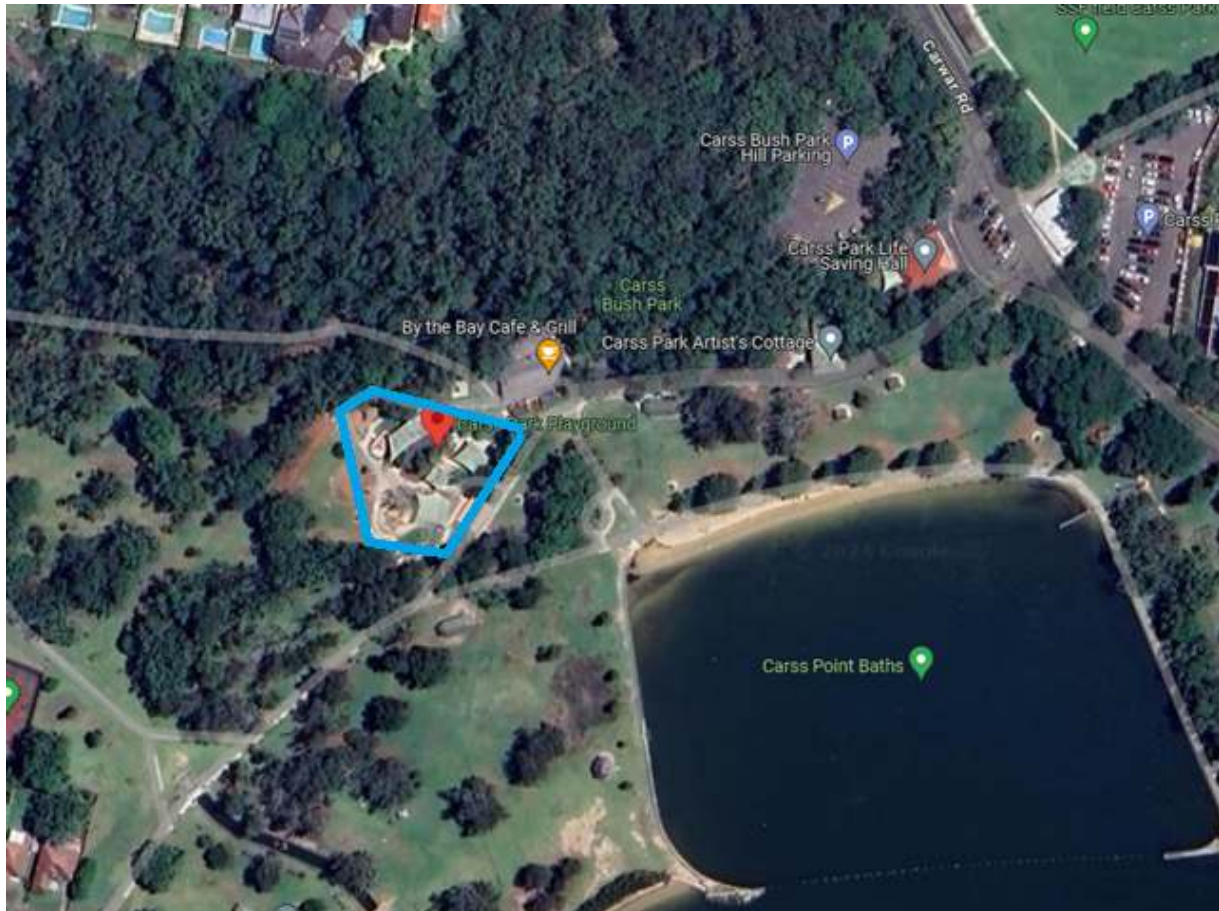


FIGURE 1: Location of Carss Bush Park Playspace

Typical sandstone log sizes will be 1m x 500 x 500mm and 2m x 500 x 500mm, as well as several medium size boulders. Note: the maximum height of a sandstone log from a finished surface level is 600mm. See following images for examples of finished product.



Example Image: 1



Example Image: 2

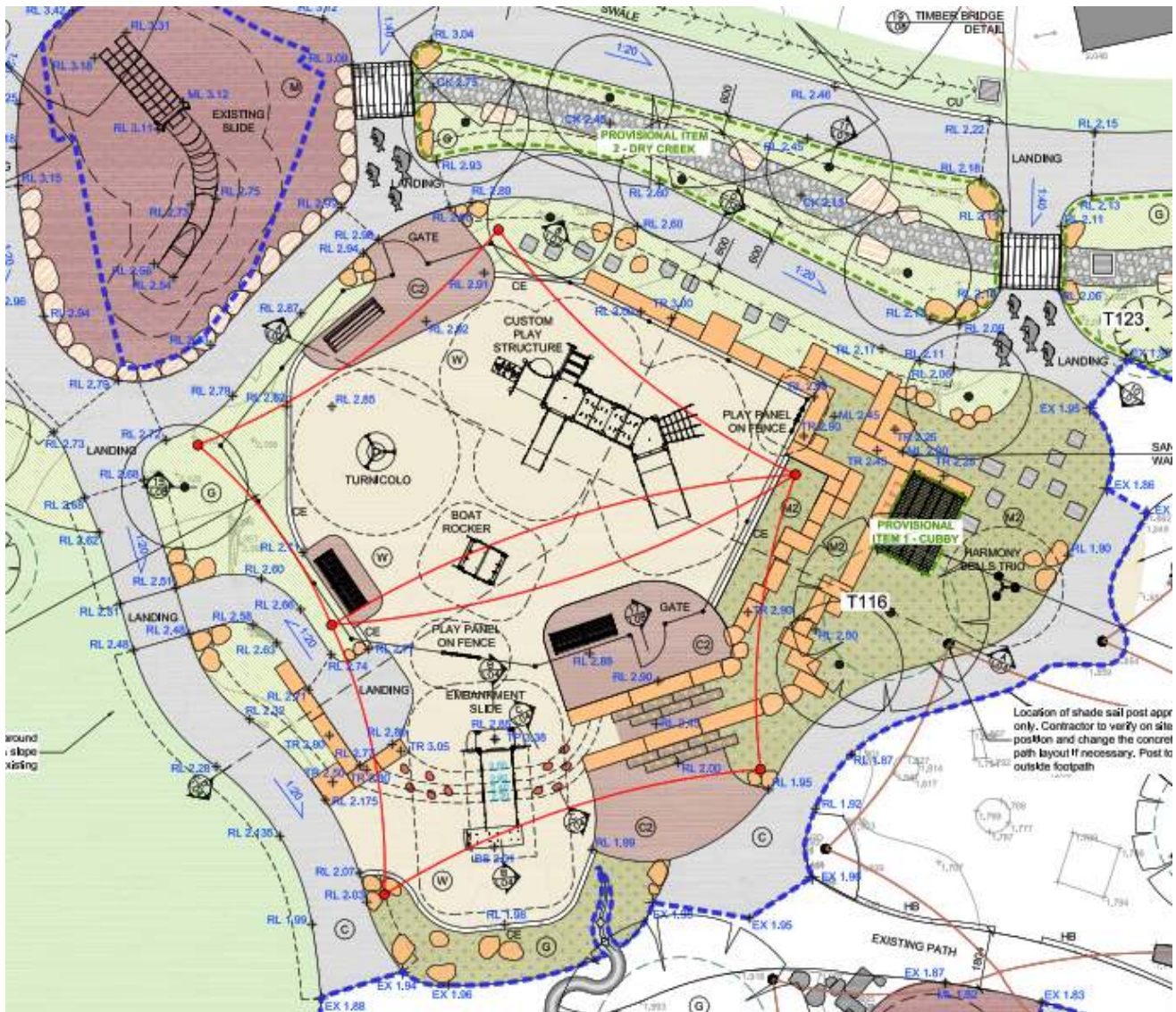


Figure 2: Site map of Proposed Carss Bush Park Playspace. *Note: orange blocks denote the location of proposed sandstone logs*



Figure 3: Above perspective are indicative of completed sandstone logs installation within the play space.

Project Schedule

Expressions of Interest close	Midnight, Sunday 7 April 2024
Shortlisted candidate/s notified	COB, Friday 12 April 2024
Site visit with Georges River Council staff, and consultation with Traditional Custodians	Week of 15 April 2024
Shortlisted design/s concept due	Midnight, Sunday 5 May 2024
Successful artist/s notified by	COB, Friday 17 May 2024
Design to be received by	Midnight, Sunday 16 June 2024
Design to be installed by (if artist has stonemasonry skills)	COB, Friday 30 August 2024

Budget

Artists are requested to submit a detailed budget with their Expression of Interest for the creation of their work. The entire budget for the project must include artist fees (including but not limited to: concept development, materials, and design) and installation of the work (if applicable).

The shortlisted artist/s will be required to consult with Traditional Custodians to develop their concept.

A concept design fee of \$1000 will be paid to all shortlisted artists asked to further develop their initial proposal.

The project has a design fee of \$4,500 and installation budget of \$15,000. If the selected artist/s does not possess stonemasonry skills, Council will employ a contractor to carry out the installation of the work, and the artist would be awarded a total of \$5,500.

Application and Selection Process

Stage 1

Artists/teams of Artists are invited to submit an Expression of Interest via [Smartygrants](#). Artists/Artist teams should include the following information in their application/s:

- (Optional) Do you identify as:
 - a person from a culturally or linguistically diverse background
 - a person with accessibility needs
 - a person with disability
 - a person who is d/Deaf
 - LGBTQIA+
- Artist statement (max 200 words)
- Design proposal (max 400 words, reference selection criteria)
- Detailed budget and indicative timeframe for completion of the project
- CV (max 2 x A4 pages per artist)
- Up to 5 images of relevant previous work (submitted as PDF or PowerPoint file, up to 5MB)
- Please note: No detailed concept drawings are required at this stage.

Artists/Artist teams who submit an EOI for this project will be kept on file for a period of up to 24 months and may be considered for future opportunities that may arise.

Stage 2

From the received Expression of Interest applications, up to two Artists/Artist teams will be shortlisted to develop a proposed concept design. Shortlisted artists will be required to attend a site visit with Georges River Council staff, and to consult with Traditional Custodians.

Stage 3

The final artworks are to be provided as a high-resolution jpg or pdf file which can then be enlarged to 1:1 scale for install.

Selection criteria

Expressions of Interest in Stage 1 and concept designs in Stage 2 will be assessed against the following criteria that has been shaped by the Georges River Public Art Policy:

- Bidjigal artist or an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander artist who has close ties with the Georges River Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and/or willing to work in collaboration with Georges River Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples
- Presents creative, original, and innovative ideas
- Appropriateness to the context of the project brief
- Technical feasibility and ability to successfully realise the proposal/work

Insurance and risk management

Successful Artists/Artist teams that will also be installing are required to hold current Public Liability Insurance of \$20,000,000. Any additional insurance and risk management requirements will be discussed with the successful applicant. Successful artists would need to conduct/supply a Risk Assessment of the proposed artwork in the context of the playground, if installing the works. Please take into consideration risks in terms of entering a work site, achieving timelines, and budget.

Successful Artists will be required to:

- Liaise with Community & Culture staff as required through development of the project(s).
- Provide all requested information and complete all tasks/ projects in a timely manner, in accordance with any timelines or deliverable dates associated with the EOI and commission, if successful.

