

JULY 2024

Taronga Zoo Sky Safari

Appendix D
EIS Report
Community Engagement
Summary Table

PREPARED BY



PREPARED FOR



For the Wild



TARONGA SKY SAFARI SSD-468-7958

ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY TABLE

Stakeholder	Consultation Undertaken	
Community Stakeholders		
Mosman Parks and Bushland Association	Meetings were held during each round of consultation on 10 October 2022, 22 May 2023 and 24 May 2024 with members of both the Parks and Bushland Association and Headland Preservation Group.	
Mosman Headland Preservation Group		
Mosman Environment Group	Meetings were held during each round of consultation on 5 December 2022, 9 May 2023 and 24 May 2024.	
Key Agencies		
Mosman Council <i>Consultation has involved meetings with both Council staff and the Mosman Councillors</i>	<i>Height and Changes to Route</i> Meeting attendees were interested in the overall height of the Sky Safari, particularly given the route would overlap itself. There were concerns impacts associated with the increase of height may have on the tree canopy and visual amenity. <i>Capacity</i> Meeting attendees were interested in the total number of gondolas, and how this compares to the existing number. <i>Community concerns</i> Meeting attendees shared that members of the community were concerned that the Zoo was becoming more like a 'theme park'. Community concerns shared at the meeting also included visual impacts and impacts on existing traffic and parking conditions. <i>Heritage</i> Meeting attendees noted the importance of the heritage gates at the Zoo entrance and sought confirmation that a Heritage Assessment would be included, along with a traffic consultant, during the planning process.	15 November 2022
	<i>Design feedback</i> Attendees noted there had been a significant improvement in the route, with the route no longer	18 April 2023

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	<p>overlapping. The initial design had been considered overwhelming due to its height and scale.</p> <p><i>Height and visual impact</i></p> <p>Attendees raised concerns about the height of the pylons. It was noted the highest points would be in the middle of the zoo, reducing visual impact from the water.</p> <p><i>Ticketing</i></p> <p>Questions were raised about the main entry gate and ticketing options. It was noted this is an ongoing discussion.</p> <p><i>Preserve the costal walk</i></p> <p>Changes at the bottom entrance towards the water were also discussed, ensuring that the coastal walk would continue uninterrupted. Some attendees expressed concern about the carving up of public land and the impact on bushland and the harbour. All works remain within the Zoo boundary.</p> <p><i>Capacity and accessibility</i></p> <p>Attendees noted accessibility improvements have been a key consideration. The new design proposes increasing capacity with 42 cabins, each accommodating 10 people, including prams and wheelchairs. The circuit is expected to take 20 minutes, with adjustments for faster or slower speeds as needed. (note: the number of cabins has further been reduced since this meeting)</p> <p><i>Operational hours and noise</i></p> <p>Attendees were concerned about noise levels for neighbours. It was noted that the new cable cars are quieter, and a noise study would be conducted to assess impacts.</p> <p><i>Storage and use of cable cars</i></p> <p>Attendees were interested to understand the storage of the gondolas when not in use. Gondolas will be housed at night in the top station, ensuring they are not visible. The cable will remain in place. The experience could include cable car rides only, like current practices where people visit the Zoo for various reasons beyond animal viewing.</p>

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	<p><i>Tree impact</i></p> <p>Attendees concerns about the number of trees to be cut down were noted. It was recognised that the number of trees being lost was less than the first design. It was noted there has been an arborist report and efforts to minimise tree damage.</p>	
	<p>Overall, Mosman Council were supportive of the replacement of existing infrastructure on site and appreciated the evolution of the design to reflect community and local feedback.</p> <p>The height of the pylons and associated visual impact of the proposed development was discussed and it was noted that a full Visual Impact Assessment will be prepared as part of the SSDA and Council would be notified on public exhibition dates.</p> <p>It was also acknowledged that TCSA are investigating ways to improve public transport usage for Taronga visitors and will be implementing a new Green Travel Plan.</p>	11 June 2024
Transport for NSW – Ferry Wharf Upgrade Program	At the time of meeting, upgrades were occurring to the Taronga Ferry Wharf. Discussions focused on plans for people accessing the Zoo via the ferry wharf while the previous infrastructure is decommissioned and during construction of the new infrastructure.	6 October 2022
Transport for NSW – Place and Precincts (North)	The initial discussions focused on modal shift and ways to improve public transport usage. The importance of effective wayfinding, communication and coordination with wharf upgrades was also noted.	10 October 2022
	As part of recent discussions with TfNSW, it was agreed that consultation with TfNSW will continue to manage construction impacts associated with the Lower Station and adjoining ferry wharf.	11 June 2024
National Parks and Wildlife Service	<p>Meeting attendees supported project objectives to reduce queue times from the ferries and move more people, more efficiently across the site.</p> <p>Meeting attendees encouraged the project team to explore ways to offset the electricity consumption of the Sky Safari, suggesting contemporary solar as an option. It was noted offsetting electricity consumption is a key</p>	9 September 2022

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	<p>objective key objective of TCSA's existing sustainability principles which is being considered across the site.</p> <p>Meeting attendees noted that the height of the Sky Safari Upgrade may have visual impacts and be negatively received by community stakeholders and Zoo visitors. Visual impacts from the National Park were noted as of interest.</p>	
Sydney Harbour Federation Trust	<p>Meeting attendees were interested to know whether the Sky Safari Upgrade related to targets to reduce car use for accessing the Zoo, and whether such targets have been set. It was noted a traffic assessment and Green Travel Plan would be required as part of the SSDA.</p> <p>Meeting attendees asked how the Sky Safari Upgrade may alter how people experience seeing animals at the Zoo. (Note: this meeting was held when the route was to be expanded).</p> <p>Meeting attendees highlighted that the Sky Safari upgrade would have some visual impacts and potentially some heritage impacts, noting that how the Zoo interfaces and relates with Sydney Harbour is important. Since this meeting, work has been undertaken to ensure the route does not impact on local heritage items within the site.</p> <p>Meeting attendees noted that it is important to clearly communicate the construction impacts, as well as the period of time between decommissioning the existing Sky Safari and commissioning the upgrade.</p> <p>Communication with volunteers was also raised as an important consideration, noting that Harbour Trust volunteers and Zoo volunteers are often the same people.</p>	30 September 2022
Government Architect	<p>The SEARs require consultation with the GANSW through the NSW State Design Review Panel (SDRP) process. In response, the proponent engaged with the SDRP three times.</p> <p>The reduced scope and footprint for the cable car route presented in SDRP 3 was supported by the SDRP.</p> <p>The consideration of alternative design options and implementation of SDRP recommendations has resulted in design improvements and refinements to ensure the built form responds to the site's unique qualities. A</p>	<p>SDRP 1: 29 March 2023</p> <p>SDRP 2: 19 July 2023</p> <p>SDRP 3: 2 May 2024</p>

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	<p>detailed response to comments from the GANSW and SDRP is provided within the Architectural Design Report prepared by Studio SC.</p> <p>It is anticipated an additional SDRP meeting will be undertaken post-lodgement of the SSDA Package.</p>	