

Project Bulletin Fact Sheet

May 2018

Balwyn Community Centre Redevelopment: Completion of Design Phase

Site: 408-418 Whitehorse Road, Surrey Hills, 3127



Project overview:

The Balwyn Community Centre was established in 1978 and is widely used for community programs, recreation and occasional childcare.

The site is being upgraded in line with community feedback to ensure it meets the needs of Boroondara's growing population now and in the future. The Balwyn Maternal and Child Health Centre, based at 1 Cherry Road, Balwyn, will be relocated to the Balwyn Community Centre and expanded to a two-nurse unit as part of the redevelopment.

The redeveloped Centre will benefit the health and wellbeing of the local community by providing maternal and child health services, recreational activities and learning programs. It will be a convenient one-stop 'hub' for all ages in a beautiful parkland setting.

What's been happening?

In October 2016, Croxon Ramsay Architects were appointed to provide architectural design and consultancy services for this project.

Extensive community engagement and user group consultation was undertaken to reach a concept design for the redevelopment.

Consultation included face-to-face meetings and a survey of centre users, staff, tutors and local residents. We received a total of 144 responses from adults, young people and children. Overall, there was support and excitement about the plan.

In October 2017, the final concept plan was presented to the community for feedback. The concept plan reflected findings from community consultation, demographic research, and Council's strategic objectives.

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Community feedback was positive, and it was approved by Council on 26 March 2018. We are now working on the detailed design.

Visit our website to view the concept plans: <https://www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/about-council/projects-and-major-works/balwyn-community-centre-site-upgrade>

What's next?

The design of the centre will be finalised by June 2018. Construction works will commence in September 2018 and are expected to take 12 months.

Balwyn Community Centre will be temporarily relocated during construction to the former Balwyn Leisure Centre site at **230 Balwyn Rd, Balwyn North**. Activities and programs will continue at this location throughout construction, and ample car parking is available on site. Further information will be provided ahead of relocation.

Access to the community garden will be maintained during the redevelopment, via a 1.5m wide walkway from Como Avenue. Further information will be provided closer to construction.

Balwyn Maternal and Child Health Centre will continue to provide services for young families from its current location at 1 Cherry Road, Balwyn, until the new facility is completed. For appointments, phone 9278 4606.

Project timelines

- June 2018 — Detailed design and documentation completed
- August 2018 — Tender process completed
- September 2018 — Temporary relocation of Balwyn Community Centre services to the former Balwyn Leisure Centre
- September 2018 until August 2019 — Site upgrade works at Balwyn Community Centre
- September 2019 — Completion of the redevelopment

Funding

The cost of redeveloping the Balwyn Community Centre will be \$7.8m.

Keep informed:

- Sign up for project updates: www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/balwyn-community-centre-upgrade
- Contact – Kate McClure, Planner Community Strengthening, 9278 4573 or Kate.McClure@boroondara.vic.gov.au