Community Participation

In 2013 the community was invited to help develop a design brief for how they wanted the future park to look and function. In 2014 the community was invited to prioritise elements for inclusion in a public space based on four designs put forward by companies as part of the Rosenthal Avenue Design Ideas Competition. This information formed the basis for the brief to the designers and builders to deliver the vision determined by the community. These included:

• Providing green and shady space in the Village
• Attractive to all ages, including safe play areas for kids
• Large events space

The jewel in the crown is a public open space which will include a park, performance space and BBQ facilities.

Trees in the Park

The park now under construction will feature a wide range of native tree species chosen specifically to reflect the bushland character of Lane Cove. On completion, there will be more trees than the previous Rosenthal Avenue Car Park.

It is interesting to note that many of the trees in the previous car park were not endemic to Lane Cove, and would no longer be planted by Council. The redevelopment of the car park provides an opportunity to rectify this situation, and to re-establish the native and endemic planting that is the signature of Lane Cove.

The new trees for the park have already been purchased and will be managed in the interim by a specialist nursery to ensure they will grow healthier, stronger, and larger over the two growing seasons during construction, thereby maximising the amenity they provide when the park opens.

Some of the previous car park trees have been selected to be repurposed as play equipment within Lane Cove parks, providing for a continuing and enduring legacy of those trees within the community. In addition a special seed harvesting programme was implemented from some of the endemic tree species in the previous car park. These will be used to grow new trees in Council’s Community Nursery so that the DNA of the place is preserved in the plant community of Lane Cove.