

**Submission  
No 8**

## **REVIEW OF THE GREATER SYDNEY PARKLANDS TRUST ACT 2022**

**Name:** Mr Gareth Collins

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It is important to maintain the character and special qualities of Callan park but this should be done at the same time as making it more useable and accessible for the Sydney and local community, and support their interests.

For example relatively small but beneficial changes could include:

Optimising and repairing the special built fabric for use as start ups for repair shops, music studios, rehearsal spaces, cafes, arts and crafts shops, bike repair and hire, horticultural shops and other similiar uses.

Removing dilapidation.

Formulating leases to encourage start ups and create a centre for excellence for arts and crafts.

Creating and improving desire lines, paths and filling missing links for walking and cycle access around the park particularly parallel to Balmain Rd and from Balmain road down to the Bay Run to better access buses, and active transport.

Optimise the existing car parks by better connecting them to the park with paths and cycleways and planting shade trees.

Improve the park wayfinding system so people can better explore and understand the area.

Encouraging long term annual musical events concerts and festivals (eg the Inner West jazz festival is packed into the tiny Gladstone park)

Allowing one special restaurant or cafe similiar to the kiosk at Nielsen Park or the restaurant at Centennial Park.

Callan park like any global city park needs to be managed by a professional organisation with a long term vision and strategy. It is good that GSP is serving this purpose.

To make it a more citywide 'Greater Sydney' park it is suggested that GSP thinks of Callan Park as part of an Iron Cove Bay Parklands embracing the bay, the islands, the Bay Run, King George's Park, Hawthorne Canal Reserve, Timbrell Park, Brett Park, and Callan Park. These may be under different administrative control but in the public's mind all part of a vast continuous open space resource, managed by their government and of which they are very proud of.