

3.3 Dorothy Laver Reserve West - Consultation Feedback

Abstract

Council has undertaken public consultation on a proposal to install a synthetic sports surface at Dorothy Laver Reserve West (DLRW). The purpose of this report is to table submissions received and provide an opportunity to hear verbal feedback, noting that the matter will then be reported to the Council meeting on 10 December 2018 for a decision on whether to proceed with the concept.

Council's Sport and Recreation Strategy 2016 (S&RS) identified sports experiencing high growth in demand that will require additional access to facilities in the future. Soccer is one of the priority sports for addressing the high growth in demand within the municipality and growth in soccer has continued at significant rates since the S&RS was developed. This growth has been driven particularly by increases in junior and female participation.

There are two primary ways to provide adequate assets to respond to the significant demand increases in soccer. One is to add additional assets (through land purchases), and the other is to change existing assets so they can accommodate greater use. Practically, land of the size required to accommodate a sporting field is rarely if ever available in Boroondara and, if it were, the land would cost tens of millions of dollars to acquire. A strategy of increasing utilisation is therefore seen as the most effective solution to this municipal wide problem of demand for sport outstripping the current supply of sport facilities. It is for this reason Council is looking to synthetic playing surfaces as one solution to the challenges presented by increasing sport participation.

Officers undertook an assessment of all sports grounds within the municipality to determine an appropriate location for a synthetic sports surface. All Council managed sports fields were assessed and scored against a set of criteria to determine their suitability for construction of a synthetic surface. These criteria included physical constraints, heritage, character, impact of residents, impact on park users, and potential for increased use.

Dorothy Laver Reserve West was identified as a preferred location and community consultation was undertaken.

Formal consultation commenced on 22 June 2018. This involved:

- A letter and information sheet delivered to 393 homes within a 500m radius of DLRW
- Posters displayed around DLRW to inform park users of the proposal
- 'Have Your Say' survey on Boroondara's website
- A community information sessions on 26 June and 18 July 2018
- Direct engagement meetings with committee members from impacted clubs.

Community consultation closed 24 July, with sporting clubs provided additional time to submit a club proposal. Club submissions were received in the ensuing period, with the final club submission received on 25 October 2018.

Officers flag there were issues with the early part of the consultation as information regarding the DLRW site was inadvertently made known to external parties prior to formal consultation being undertaken. This caused significant angst and concern for stakeholders including the Camberwell Lacrosse Club (CLC) who are the current

winter tenant at DLRW, and Ashburton United Junior Football Club (AUJFC) who is a pre-season user of the ground, and it was not the level of robustness that we would have liked.

In recognition of this, officers responded initially through the CEO and other officers meeting with the lacrosse club to acknowledge the issue and provide assurance regarding the consultation process moving forward. From there officers met with the CLC a further four times to hear their concerns and talk about issues and options. Officers also extended the offer to meet with all impacted clubs and the AUJFC took up this offer.

Community feedback is described in the report and its attachments.

The principle underpinning the officers' approach in assessing and considering feedback has been to apply an evidence based analysis of best fit between assets and the users of those assets. Officers are seeking an outcome that provides a fair level of access to all clubs, while improving the overall capacity of the City's sporting assets to address growing sport participation.

For transparency, officers flag their preliminary view regarding the proposal having reviewed written submissions and other consultation feedback. The officer recommendation to Council on 10 December 2018 will be finalised once verbal submissions have been heard at this meeting, and may be amended following this final step in hearing community feedback.

Officers' preliminary view is to recommend proceeding with a synthetic surface at DLRW, which will result in:

- CLC being relocated and consolidating its use to Eric Raven Reserve (ERR), with future growth needs being accommodated through provision of an overflow ground
- Officers working with CLC on their future growth and ongoing viability
- Glen Iris Cricket Club (GICC) being relocated from DLRW to other suitable grounds, details of which are being worked through with GICC representatives and Cricket Victoria (CV)
- A number of pre-season tenants being relocated to other locations (including the AUJFC).

This preliminary officer view is tabled, noting the proposal will generate capacity for an additional 104 hours of sport per week, responding to the City-wide challenge faced by Council with demand for sport exceeding the capacity of its sports field assets. It is officers' view that the needs of all clubs impacted by this proposal can be fairly accommodated, and that all clubs can continue to enjoy sporting opportunities in Boroondara.

Confidential information is contained in **Attachment 8** as circulated in the confidential section of the agenda attachments, in accordance with Section 89(2) of the Local Government Act 1989, as the information includes personal affairs.

If discussion of the confidential information in the attachments to this report is required in order for Council to make a decision, this item will be deferred to the confidential section of the agenda.

Officers' recommendation

That the Services Special Committee resolve to:

1. Receive and note submissions received through the community engagement and consultation process for the proposal to install a synthetic surface at Dorothy Laver Reserve West.
2. Note this matter will come before Council for a decision on whether to proceed, amend or abandon the proposal, at a Council meeting to be held on 10 December 2018.

**Responsible director: Bruce Dobson
Environment & Infrastructure**

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to table written submissions received, and hear verbal submissions, regarding the proposal to install a synthetic surface at Dorothy Laver Reserve West (the DLRW proposal). This matter will then come before Council for a decision on whether to proceed, amend or abandon the proposal, at a Council meeting to be held on 10 December 2018.

2. Policy implications and relevance to community plan and council plan

The Boroondara Community Plan received over 11,500 responses across the two stages of consultation. 800 residents (11%) indicated in the Boroondara Community Plan feedback that sporting facilities (including clubs) were highly valued by the community. Over a quarter of these respondents (28%) directly requested that resources be put into maintaining, developing, and providing access to sporting facilities and infrastructure in the community.

The Boroondara Open Space Strategy (BOSS) technical report and Council's Sport and Recreation Strategy 2016 (S&RS) both identify the need for Council to respond to increased demand for active sport, and flag synthetic playing surfaces as a solution for investigation.

3. Background

The background section of the report will provide the history and context of this project and will cover the topics of:

- a. The need for a synthetic sport surface
- b. The site selection methodology for a synthetic sport surface
- c. The proposed location for a synthetic sport surface

The need for a synthetic sports surface

The Sport and Recreation Strategy 2016 (S&RS) identified sports experiencing high growth in demand that will require additional access to facilities in the future. From a field sports perspective, Soccer is one of the priority sports for addressing the high growth in demand within the municipality and growth in soccer has continued at significant rates since the S&RS was developed.

Further detailed quantitative assessment of the growth of soccer shows (source: Football Federation Victoria):

- 21% growth in registered players from 2014 - 2016
- 19% growth in 2016 in Miniroos girls (aged under 11)
- 10% growth in junior girls (aged 12 to 17)

Particular infrastructure and other challenges for soccer include:

- Providing a sufficient number of sporting fields to meet demand
- Demand for soccer extending beyond the traditional winter season, putting pressure on the traditional summer sports
- Compliance with particular Football Federation Victoria (FFV) standards
- Accommodating requested weekday usage by schools
- Demand for non-club based and unstructured sport.

There are two primary ways to provide adequate assets to respond to demand increases in soccer. One is to add additional assets, and the other is to change existing assets so they can accommodate greater use. Practically, land of the size required to accommodate a sporting field is rarely if ever available in Boroondara and, if it were, the land would cost tens of millions of dollars to acquire. Provision of synthetic soccer fields is considered one solution to the growth in soccer, as a turf field generally has a capacity of approximately 25 to 30 hours per week, compared to the greater capacity of a synthetic field, which can accommodate 75 hours of use per week.

The Site Selection for a Synthetic Sport Surface

All Council managed sports fields were assessed against the criteria summarised below to determine their suitability for construction of a synthetic surface:

- Physical constraints, such as whether the ground is too small for soccer
- Heritage, which looks at whether a synthetic sporting field fits within the heritage character of a park
- Character, which looks specifically at the proposal for a synthetic sports field in the context of the Boroondara Open Space Strategy (BOSS)
- Impact on residents, which assesses known pain points such as traffic and parking, light spill, and noise.
- Impact on park users, which looks at impacts on other park users, considering things like whether a park is dog off leash, and how much ancillary open space remains for passive open space purposes.
- Potential increased use, which looks at increased sporting participation that would be gained.

The proposed location for a synthetic sport surface

The strategic assessment identified Dorothy Laver Reserve West (DLRW), Glen Iris, as the best location for the proposed installation of a synthetic surface.

The plan below depicts the concept that was the subject of community consultation. The proposed synthetic surface is shown on DLRW. Note the configurations shown on Dorothy Laver Reserve East are line marking options only and not part of the synthetic proposal.



This proposal has the following impacts on sport usage:

- It provides increased opportunities for soccer participation across a range of age groups
- It displaces lacrosse, which would need to be accommodated elsewhere
- It decreases the amount of cricket that can be played at this site, requiring this need to be accommodated elsewhere
- It has limitations regarding non soccer preseason use

The proposal that underwent community consultation included the following benefits:

- A soccer venue that accommodates the full age spectrum of juniors through to seniors, across both genders
- Provision of a soccer focused venue 12 months of the year, meeting a significant unmet demand
- Boroondara only has 4 soccer fields (two at HA Smith, and two at Willsmere) that don't have a cricket wicket on the field of play. This will provide a 5th location
- Approximately 2,800m² of land currently used for active sporting purposes (currently mown and maintained as part of the active field of play) being converted to passive open space.

4. Outline of key issues/options

The key issues and options section of the report will cover the topics of:

1. Community Engagement and the Communication Process
 - a. The consultation process
 - b. Summary of resident and community feedback (survey results)
 - c. Summary of feedback via other channels
 - d. Sporting club feedback
 - e. Lacrosse Engagement
 - f. Cricket Engagement
 - g. Australian Rules Football Engagement
 - h. Soccer Engagement

2. Project Planning and Due Diligence
 - a. Cultural Heritage
 - b. Flood Risk
 - c. Site constraints
 - d. Environment and Heath
 - e. Traffic and Parking
3. Officer Conclusion
 - a. Ground Capacity and Utilisation
 - b. Club Growth
 - c. Training Needs
 - d. Officers Preliminary View

Community Engagement and Communication Process

The Consultation Process

Formal consultation commenced on 22 June 2018. This initially involved:

- A letter and information sheet delivered to 393 homes within a 500m radius of DLRW
- Posters displayed around DLRW to inform park users of the proposal.
- 'Have Your Say' survey on Boroondara's website
- A community drop in session was held in the DLRW club rooms on Tuesday 26 June 2018.

Officers flag there were issues with the early part of the consultation as information regarding the DLRW site was inadvertently made known to a soccer club prior to formal consultation being undertaken. This caused significant angst and concern for stakeholders including CLC who are the current winter tenant at DLRW, and AUJFC who is a pre-season user of the ground, and it was not the level of robustness that we would have liked.

In recognition of this, officers responded initially through the CEO and other officers meeting with CLC to acknowledge the issue and provide assurance regarding the consultation process moving forward. From there officers met with CLC a further four times to hear their concerns and talk about issues and options. Officers also extended the offer to meet with all impacted clubs, and the AUJFC took up this offer.

All seasonal sporting user groups were contacted by phone on the consultation commencement date, and a letter and Information sheet was distributed to them that day.

Pre-season and casual user groups who had used DLRW within the previous 12 months were contacted within a few days of consultation commencement and provided with the consultation details.

The primary means of seeking feedback was through an online survey and there was significant engagement through this method from residents, park users and sporting clubs. All consultation material provided to these groups, including posters displayed around DLRW, contained links to this survey.

Early in the consultation process it became clear that there was a level of angst and concern about a range of issues. In response to this the consultation period was extended to 24 July 2018, and a further community information

session was held on 18 July. Officers also commenced a series of direct engagement meetings with committee members from impacted clubs, and provided extended deadlines for clubs to make club submissions. Club submissions were received in the ensuing period, with the final club submission received on 25 October 2018.

This Services Special Committee meeting provides the opportunity for submitters to present their views on the proposal, which will conclude consultation on this matter. Council will then make a final decision on whether to proceed, amend or abandon the proposal at its meeting on 10 December 2018.

Summary of resident and community feedback (survey results)

There were 1093 surveys completed through the 'Have You Say' webpage. The table below provides a high level summary of comments agreeing with the proposal, disagrees, unclear / unsure.

Agree Comments	Disagree Comments	Unsure Comments
333	701	66

The majority of respondents who disagreed with the DLRW proposal were from a sporting club/group using the reserve (408 comments), followed by "my family participates in junior sport at this reserve" (327 comments). Review of these comments and attendance at community forums suggest these views were predominantly from individuals associated with the Camberwell Lacrosse Club.

Most of the 'agree' comments were from a sporting club/group using the reserve (223 comments), followed by "my family participates in junior sport at this reserve" (151 comments). Review of these comments and attendance at community forums suggest these views were predominantly from individuals associated with key Boroondara soccer clubs.

The key themes in the 'agree' responses were:

- The installation of the synthetic grass (185 comments)
- Increases female sport participation (39 comments)
- Increase the use of the reserve (49 comments) and
- Generally 'agree' (80 comments).

The key themes which emerged from the 'disagree' responses were:

- Loss of lacrosse pitch at the reserve (291 comments)
- Against the installation of synthetic grass (201 comments)
- This proposal only supports soccer participants (155 comments)
- Impact on the environment (125 comments).
- Impact on traffic and parking (97)
- Impact on dog walking (56)
- Against consultation process (53)
- Impact on flooding (38)
- Personal health concerns (10)
- Non-specific disagreement (132)

A copy of the Dorothy Laver Reserve West Consultation on-line survey report is provided in **Attachment 1**. A copy of all the on-line survey verbatim comments is provided in **Attachment 7**.

Summary of feedback via other channels

82 letters and emails were received from residents and members of sporting clubs with additional feedback relating to the DLRW proposal. The majority of these comments (62) were from people who disagreed with the proposal.

The key themes which emerged from the 'disagree' responses were:

- Increased impact on traffic and parking (23 comments);
- Loss of lacrosse pitch at the reserve (21 comments); and
- Negative impact of existing sporting clubs (18 comments).

There were also nine submissions that 'agreed' with the proposal and 11 submissions that were unsure or required more information to form a view.

A copy of the feedback provided via other channels for Council consideration is provided in confidential **Attachment 8**. In accordance with the Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014, this information has not been disclosed in the public domain because it would involve the unreasonable disclosure of information relating to the personal affairs of the writers.

Sporting Club Feedback

Key sporting group stakeholders have included:

- Camberwell Lacrosse Club - seasonal tenant DLRW
- Glen Iris Cricket Club - seasonal tenant DLRW
- Ashburton United Soccer Club - pre-season user DLRW
- Alamein Football Club - pre-season user DLRW
- Ashburton United Junior Football Club - preseason user DLRW
- Riversdale Soccer Club - large interested soccer club
- Cricket Victoria (CV)
- Football Federation Victoria (FFV)
- Lacrosse Victoria (LV)

Both St Kevin's College and Camberwell Grammar School who previously held a small number of cricket matches at DLRW, together with Ultimate Frisbee who held training from October to December were approached to provide feedback in line with existing user groups club submissions, however, no feedback was received.

The clubs' feedback on the proposal is detailed below. In having conversations about the proposal, there were the two options of proceeding or not proceeding, but also a range of hybrid options that arose. In order to minimise a growing number of hybrid options, officers tabled two hybrid options with clubs to assist discussion. These are referenced in some of the submissions. The options were described as:

Option A – abandon the proposal

Option B – hybrid option with CLC using DLRW synthetic and ERR

Option C – hybrid option with CLC using DLRW synthetic and DLE

Option D – proceed with the proposal

Lacrosse Engagement

Five meetings were held with CLC's committee together with numerous calls and emails.

The CLC provided feedback about the proposal itself, but also their views on the process and other matters which are summarised below.

Issue raised by CLC	Officer comment
No consultation with existing stakeholders in the development of the proposal	The purpose of this consultation was to engage with stakeholders on a concept, rather than at an earlier stage.
Soccer received advance information	As flagged earlier in this report, this was inadvertent and it is acknowledge that this caused issues in the early part of the consultation
Consultation was excessively rushed	Officers typically run an information session early in a consultation process, which then provides ample time for further sessions to be provided as required. Consultation was extended in response to community feedback with the CLC provided 4 months to make a submission.
Minimal public notice given	Officers consider letter dropping residents within a 500m radius, putting notices up in the park, advertising on Council's website and engaging with the clubs is appropriate public notice. The volume of interest and submissions do not suggest there was any lack of awareness in the community about this consultation.
No transparency of the decision to select DLRW	Officers have provided the selection criteria used to propose this location.
Break the tenancy with CLC	Council will not take action outside of what is documented in the club's seasonal licence agreement.
Goal posts have further shifted	Discussions with CLC committee have been genuine and transparent. Officers remain committed to working with the club around their ongoing viability and growth. There were discussions with the club on a range of matters that do not specifically relate to the proposal, which can continue beyond this process.

The CLC do not support the proposal, which would see them relocated to ERR. The CLC are seeking that Council:

- Abandon the proposal and retain DLRW as turf
- Establish DLRW as the home of lacrosse, being an effective base for men's, women's and junior lacrosse as sought by CLC since 1983 including the existing issues of lighting, safety fencing, pavilion, car parking capacity and cricket pitches addressed. The club indicate this would consolidate its use to DLRW and free up ERR for re-assignment to other users; and
- Find an alternate location for the synthetic surface that aligns to Council strategy and meets the broader communities needs

A copy of the club's submission is provided in **Attachment 2**.

Below is a summary of the CLC's key reasons for its view on the proposal, with officer commentary provided on each point. As CLC's final submission was only received on 25 October 2018, officers have covered CLC's submission to the fullest extent possible, given the timeframes in preparing this report.

Issue raised by CLC	Officer comment
<p><u>Training</u>: CLC indicated ERR doesn't meet its training needs as its four team training layout will not fit on ERR with appropriate goal placement and sufficient safety barriers. CLC indicate ERR will only fit a 3 team layout and a second ground would be required for the fourth team to train, as opposed to the four team layout they can currently fit at DLRW.</p>	<p>Officers have inspected DLRW and observed CLC training, have measured lighting lux levels at DLRW, and mapped spatial capacity at both ERR and DLRW. Officers consider that a four team training configuration can fit at Eric Raven Reserve (Refer Officer Analysis Section). Officers undertook a lighting assessment of DLRW. Part of the area CLC has advised is used for training is lit to less than 14 lux, which is unsuitable for training. The effectively lit area of DLRW is approximately 9,000m² and based on a shorter elongation than the club's proposed training layout. This DLRW lit area is smaller than ERR area which is greater than 11,000m² (which is also about to have new lights installed).</p>
<p><u>Matches</u>: ERR doesn't meet CLC match requirements. CLC indicated it required two grounds to facilitate matches.</p>	<p>Officers reviewed CLC's existing teams and LV fixturing requirements and ascertained that all existing team matches can fit on the one ground with use of a home and away format. This format is consistent with other Boroondara clubs.</p>
<p><u>Warm Up</u>: CLC indicated ERR doesn't provide a sufficient space for a pre-game warm up, while the preceding match is still underway.</p>	<p>Officers acknowledge this would be the case, but advise this is an issue most sporting clubs face in Boroondara, with there being a limited number of grounds relative to club demand.</p>
<p><u>Club Growth</u>: CLC indicated that one ground was not sufficient to meet their club growth projections.</p> <p>CLC currently have 12 teams. They reference different growth projections in their submission:</p> <p>Page 14 - Three additional teams Page 26 - Two additional teams Page 27 - One additional team Page 33 - Two additional teams</p> <p>Reading the submission as a whole, it suggests four additional teams in 2019, being boys U11, U13, senior mens, and girls U15. This interpretation is consistent with a document provided to officers by the CLC committee during</p>	<p>Officers reviewed CLC's growth history, looking at both team and membership numbers.</p> <p>LV annual report data from 2012 to 2017 indicates a decline in male memberships, and an increase in female memberships, and an overall decrease in club membership as the key trends.</p> <p>Current registered players based on the LV 2017 annual report (of 88 men, 41 women, being 129 total) are lower overall than those reported to Council in the clubs 1983 submission which cite membership numbers at 113 men, 28 women, totalling 140 members all up.</p>

Issue raised by CLC	Officer comment
<p>consultation which projected their growth needs to be:</p> <p>2019 - four additional teams (16 teams) 2020 - one further team (17 teams) 2021- three further teams (20 teams)</p>	<p>The data does not indicate the club is on an upward growth trend, but that it has been in a relatively steady state of membership and team numbers for many decades.</p> <p>Officers believe that annual fluctuations in club numbers can be accommodated, either at ERR or through provision of an overflow ground (as is the case with other clubs in the City).</p> <p>In terms of game day capacity, LV mandate four match start times on each of Saturday and Sunday. Factoring in home and away featuring, this provides capacity for 16 teams. CLC advise that two under 11 teams can play in one time slot, providing overall capacity of 18 teams.</p> <p>CLC currently have 12 teams. It is noted that the junior boy's time slots are at capacity, and growth in these areas may require provision of an overflow ground. It is noted that there is capacity across all women's time slots, and senior men's time slots. It is also noted that LV Competition Rules provide no restriction on mixed gender under 11 teams, providing CLC options in how they address growth for this age group.</p> <p>Should CLC team numbers grow as flagged in the club submission, girls and senior men's growth can be accommodated at ERR; an overflow ground will be needed for boys U13; and either an overflow ground will be needed for boys U11 or the club could field a mixed gender team on Sunday. All of these scenarios can be accommodated by Council.</p>
<p><u>Cricket Wicket:</u> CLC indicated the turf wicket at ERR caused injury issues for players in the form of 'skating' falls when hard and dry.</p>	<p>The Lacrosse Victoria Strategic Facilities Plan 2016 notes that the most common summer co-tenant is with cricket, and does not flag any risk issues associated with a cricket co-tenancy arrangements.</p>
<p><u>Ball Runoff:</u> CLC indicated that lacrosse balls are thrown very hard and ball runoff is inadequate at ERR due to the size of the ground and DLRW is required because the parents of CLC</p>	<p>Officers note that ERR is currently used for senior matches, and this issue has not previously been flagged by the club. It is also noted that should there be a</p>

Issue raised by CLC	Officer comment
players can walk from DLRW(S) to DLRW(N) to collect balls that are thrown beyond the single field.	risk issue, Council can take steps to mitigate this through targeting fencing.
<u>Inadequate lighting:</u> CLC indicated there is currently no lighting at ERR so they can't train there. Further, proposed lighting at ERR with lux levels of 100 are regarded too low for their game days as they require 200 lux due to ball speed of up to 150kmph. CLC provided feedback about the proposed lights at ERR, which Council officers were able to accommodate.	Officers reviewed the lux levels at DLRW and the average was lit to 60 lux on the south ground. ERR is to be lit to 100 lux which is adequate for training requirements. Council does not provide lighting to match standard. CLC provided a list of other locations which officers reviewed and there was a significant variation between lux levels across those grounds. There was no official lux guide provided by the club or Lacrosse Victoria.
<u>Ground too small:</u> CLC indicated that ERR was too small for matches, training, and would not fit the international ground size standard of 110m x 60m (plus run off) and this was their minimum ground size requirement	<p>While 110m x 60m is the international standard, community level lacrosse is commonly played on a 100m x 55m field.</p> <p>It is common across sporting codes to have a recommended size, and a minimum size, and many clubs of different codes within Boroondara do not play on the recommended, or international standard, playing fields.</p> <p>Camberwell Lacrosse club have typically played on 100m x 55m fields at both DLRW and ERR.</p>
<u>Catchment of members:</u> CLC has indicated that their catchment of members is from the area surrounding DLRW and that relocating would compromise their membership base. They indicated that the catchment zone is necessary to support existing players and relationships with schools.	ERR is located within 500m of DLRW within the club's catchment of members. It is also a ground currently used by CLC and familiar to members as the ground used by the club backdating to 1928.
<u>Wear and tear:</u> CLC believe that training and playing at ERR would lead to the deterioration of the ground. They prefer a separate ground to train to the ground they play so that wear and tear and ground condition is managed.	Reviewing CLC's information about match and training needs, it requires an allocation of 24 hours of field usage per week, with actual hours being less than that due to the fixturing of home and away games. This comprises 9 hours for training, and 15 hours for matches. 24 hours of use per week is within the range of hours that can comfortably be accommodated on a turf playing field.
<u>Special events:</u> CLC has indicated that it requires two grounds a few times a year when it runs special events and has all teams play home matches at the same time. CLC indicated it requires a minimum of two senior fields	Council has a number of options available for provision of grounds for special events. Options include combinations of DLRW Synthetic (with temporary line markings), ERR, and DLRE.

Issue raised by CLC	Officer comment
<p>for game days within proximity of each other and at least one being grass. CLC indicated fields must not be impeded by cricket pitches. CLC indicated that it desires 8 small fields (U11 specification) in proximity to support primary school and LV carnivals.</p>	
<p><u>Safety:</u> CLC indicated that ERR is not safe as a training space nor for the Lacrosse Victoria match program. CLC indicated a ball travels at a speed up to 150kmph. CLC indicated that 35-40m of high fencing or space buffers would be required around the goals, at angles to the goals and at each end of the playing field to protect spectators, passers-by, parked cars and houses. CLC indicated these measures are met if a single field is placed centrally across the two fields at DLRW. CLC indicated when both grounds are marked for lacrosse at DLRW, environmental factors are in place to avoid safety concerns save for the north west corner near the bike path and they restrict the use to junior games where possible or display safety signage.</p>	<p>The Lacrosse Victoria Strategic Facilities Plan 2016 indicates playing field fencing and perimeter / site fencing is optional.</p> <p>CLC currently play its senior mens competition at ERR without the measures it says it needs and has done so for many years. Additional junior games at ERR would not require heightened risk mitigation measures.</p>
<p><u>Storage:</u> CLC indicated there would not be enough storage room if they were at ERR on a consolidated basis. CLC indicated they required space for 6 goals at a training venue, 4 goals for game day, line marking equipment, team benches, official's tables and chairs, portable gazebo, spare playing / safety gear, equipment for schools and other programs.</p>	<p>Officers would ensure the provision of adequate facilities to meet CLC's requirements and would provide additional storage if required to ensure CLC was no worse off.</p>
<p><u>Fencing:</u> CLC indicated that high fencing is required because they currently lose balls in the creek and wetlands at both ERR and DLRW and this causes significant financial loss to the club. CLC also expressed a need for ball-stop netting.</p>	<p>The risk flagged by CLC of balls leaving the field of play raises a concern about the appropriateness of DLRW for lacrosse given a shared path runs along the north eastern side of the field, and for ball to be lost in the creek, it would need to pass over the bike path.</p> <p>Generally Council would not provide fencing to minimise the impost of having to retrieve balls from beyond the field of play, unless a specific risk exists which cannot be mitigated.</p>
<p><u>Ground Configuration:</u> CLC indicate that ERR is an oval and there is little</p>	<p>ERR is a larger ground than DLRW(S). The oval dimension provide additional</p>

Issue raised by CLC	Officer comment
scope to move the pitch laterally or lengthways to lessen ball safety risks and reduce over wear	training and warm up opportunities at the sides and ends which are unable to be provided at DLRW due to its more rectangular shape.
<u>Social Room:</u> CLC indicated that they required a social room with a capacity to hold 50+ people and desire a function room with the capacity to host 60-100 people.	The social rooms at ERR are 78m ² which is adequate for the club's needs.
<u>Canteen:</u> CLC indicated they require a canteen with a kitchen and BBQ facility, fridge and freezer.	The facilities provided to CLC will be consistent with those provided to clubs at other grounds.
<u>Training change rooms:</u> CLC indicated it requires two change rooms per senior ground - one men's and one women's. CLC require room size to fit 30 players including an area for team discussion and video review (in the room or adjacent). CLC also indicated they require an officials change room.	CLC's request is for a greater level of provision to what they currently have, and what Lacrosse Victoria Strategic Facilities Plan 2016 recommends. As a single ground, ERR has three change room facilities (above recommendation). Whilst they provide separation between male and female players, they are not fully female friendly from a showering perspective, so officers will convert those change rooms to unisex facilities to provide benefits to lacrosse and cricket.
<u>Parking:</u> CLC indicated that they require parking and access for teams and changeover (approximately 60 spaces) within reasonable proximity	Officers consider there to be an appropriate number of car spaces at ERR to meet CLC's needs.
<u>Practice Wall:</u> CLC indicated they desire a 3m high practice wall adjacent to their training facility	There is a 13m wide practice wall at ERR, being part of the multi-purpose cricket training net / lacrosse practice area, constructed by Council in 2015
<u>Pre-Season:</u> CLC indicated it desires training fields to be available during pre-season (Jan to April) on venues where its goals are equipment are stored. CLC indicated it also desires one field to support school programs, quickstick, skills program as well as representative team training	Council allocates winter and summer tenancies before consideration is given to any pre-season request. All pre-season requests for use in February and March are in high demand. All clubs are advised that they may not be allocated their home ground, but officers do their best to find suitable arrangements. Clubs do not have access to facilities over this period, only to the ground.
<u>Indoor Facility:</u> CLC indicated it desires an indoor facility throughout the year with two courts of basketball size.	This request is beyond the current CLC needs. Any request for indoor use of basketball stadiums should be made on a casual basis directly with relevant basketball stadiums.
<u>Box Lacrosse Area:</u> CLC desires an area to establish a box lacrosse pitch (55m x 25m) with artificial turf and fencing	At this stage, Council is not planning to build a Box Lacrosse Area, however, Council supports the desire of CLC to grow its sport and officers will continue

Issue raised by CLC	Officer comment
	to work in partnership with CLC to explore this opportunity further.
<u>Pavilion:</u> CLC indicates that if the proposal is abandoned it would require pavilion improvements at DLRW including change rooms, canteen and an enlarged social area. These improvements revisit the club's 1983 development request.	If the proposal is abandoned, officers believe that the existing facilities at DLRW adequately support CLC's needs.
<u>Long Term Tenancy:</u> CLC indicate that they require a long term tenancy agreement	A two year seasonal licence will be provided which is consistent with other clubs within the municipality
<u>Three Grounds:</u> As well as DLRW (north and south grounds), CLC requires DLRE as overflow for casual bookings on an ad hoc needs basis	Officers view is that CLC require one ground with a second ground as an overflow requirement. Based on current need, there is no requirement for a third ground.
<u>The 1983 proposal:</u> CLC would prefer the proposal it submitted in 1983 which was not supported back then. CLC are seeking to redesign DLRW on this basis and release ERR to other sports.	<p>Officers believe the relocation of Lacrosse to ERR and the redevelopment of DLRW as a synthetic soccer facility provides a superior community outcome. Deficiencies with the 1983 plan include:</p> <p>The close fields are too small for both training and match day needs, measuring 95m x 50m.</p> <p>The proposal converts the whole of DLRW to active sport, removing all passive parkland use.</p> <p>The proposal requires the removal of the bike path and the bridge over the creek.</p>
<u>Renovation of turf pitch at ERR:</u> CLC are seeking the turf pitch at ERR be renovated	Officers are currently in the process of renovating the turf wicket at ERR on a like for like basis. Officers are not proposing any field reconstruction within the next 5 years.
<u>Flow of Juniors:</u> CLC indicated it requires more grounds because they don't advertise for juniors as they don't have grounds to accommodate them and other clubs take on more players and demand more grounds and they want to do this too because they are a minority sport and junior growth is important for them	CLC have enjoyed the benefit of multiple grounds with ample opportunity to fixture additional junior boys teams. CLC's argument that they have not recruited because they did not have the ground space has not been the impediment to their recruitment of juniors as they have had the ground space to facilitate this program across ERR and DLRW, which they have historically been allocated.
<u>Side by side ground:</u> CLC indicate it needs a side by side ground or ground within close proximity as it is a minority	Officers have reviewed the current needs of CLC and are of the view that only one ground is required to support

Issue raised by CLC	Officer comment
sport and having split grounds would impact their socialisation	the clubs training and match requirements.
<u>Spiritual home</u> : CLC indicated that DLRW is the club's spiritual home and they do not want to relocate from this ground.	Council acknowledges the club's view. CLC have historical connections to both ERR, where it has had a presence since 1928, and DLRW, where it has had a presence since 1985.
<u>Traffic</u> : CLC indicated there are traffic difficulties exiting the ground.	Officers will be undertake a traffic assessment and consider all recommendations. There are a similar number of off street parking spaces at ERR as there are at DLRW.
<u>Line marking</u> : The game has different line markings for men and women and CLC would require this	Visual historical views indicate CLC has only line marked one field with one set of line markings over past years, and this is consistent with the club's submission on how they use the ground.
<u>Worse Off</u> : The club indicated under the abandon option that they will be worse off as they will only have access to DLRW. They club indicate they currently have access to DLRW and ERR which is required for their match fixture and training requirements and therefore this abandon option places the club in a 'worse off' position.	The amended proposal relocates cricket from DLRW, thereby enabling two fields of play at DLRW as opposed to one which has been the historical arrangement. Under the abandon scenario, the club are still better off as it provides one pitch with a further overflow pitch for future growth.
<u>Elite Focus</u> : The club indicate that building an elite facility conflicts with the needs of local community based clubs	Council is not building elite facility. The proposal is for a field which accommodates WNPL plus additional uses through a range of measures. Officers have advice from FFV that there are options to temporary line mark. Council may also apply to the NPL Competitions Department for exemption from line markings requirement, to enable permanent line markings. Officers will pursue these further lines of enquiry with clubs, FFV and NPL Competitions Department if Council endorses the proposal to proceed.

Cricket Engagement

Two meetings were held with the Glen Iris Cricket Club (GICC) committee representatives together with numerous phone conversations and emails. One meeting was also held with Cricket Victoria (CV) representatives. GICC is satisfied with the proposal subject to approval of its requested future relocation grounds and subsequent allocations commencing summer season 2019/20. GICC have requested relocation from DLRW (N) to Burke Road South and from DLRW(S) to Howard Dawson. Without these requested relocation grounds and allocations, GICC strongly opposes the proposal. A copy of the GICC submission is provided in **Attachment 3**.

CV are taking a strategic view and offered to work with Council to maximise overall cricket opportunities across the city, understanding that facilities are limited. CV understood that the proposal involved loss of cricket grounds and support it subject to suitable relocation options for the club.

Below is a summary of the GICC's reasons for its view on the proposal, with officer commentary provided on each point:

Issue raised by GICC	Officer comment
<u>Loss of grounds:</u> The proposal means a loss of two cricket grounds at DLRW.	Officers acknowledge the loss of two cricket grounds, but note the DLRW grounds were undersized and did not meet the minimum requirements for the age of cricket played on them.
<u>Club Catchment:</u> GICC has indicated that being located in the Glen Iris area is important as it is their primary catchment zone.	Officers have explored opportunities with GICC for suitable alternate ground locations within the Glen Iris area.
<u>Name:</u> GICC indicated that their club name and origin loses meaning if it is relocated outside of Glen Iris and this will impact their existing and future membership.	Officers have explored opportunities with GICC for suitable alternate ground locations within the Glen Iris area. Officers note that DLRW is in Ashburton.
<u>Relocation:</u> GICC has indicated it would like to relocate its use from DLRW(N) to Burke Road South and from DLRW(S) to Howard Dawson.	Officers will work with GICC and Cricket Victoria to find suitable grounds within the Glen Iris area.
<u>Location of grounds:</u> GICC indicate it has three grounds within walking distance for games - DLRW, ERR and DLRE. GICC indicated this was important for parents of children playing across different age groups, in avoiding long car trips between multiple locations and a strategic advantage they hold for their juniors	Officers will work with GICC and Cricket Victoria to find suitable grounds within the Glen Iris area to address these concerns.
<u>Growth of girls:</u> GICC indicated their growth of girls has and will increase into the future and they will require more grounds	Officers will work with GICC and Cricket Victoria to find suitable grounds to support their current needs and future program, particularly with the growth of girls.
<u>Storage Space:</u> GICC is concerned that their storage space at ERR may be impacted if lacrosse consolidate their use at ERR.	Officers will review storage options at ERR to ensure that both clubs needs are understood and accommodated.
<u>Pre-Season Training:</u> GICC indicated it uses ERR seven days a week from October to March and have previously had access to the nets at ERR outside these times for pre-season training. GICC is concerned about its access to the nets at ERR for pre-season training if lacrosse are using the ground.	Given lacrosse only train three days a week it is possible that pre-season training may still be an option for the club at ERR, however, officers will work with GICC to find suitable pre-season opportunities with nets at one of their grounds if ERR is unavailable.
<u>Burke Road South:</u> GICC has queried the storage security and space. The	Officers relocated a senior cricket club away from this ground in the past as the

Issue raised by GICC	Officer comment
club also queried whether balls would run into the billabong and if there are any local resident concerns (referring to the past). GICC also asked if the pavilion renewal can be brought forward.	ground was too small to accommodate seniors and this caused safety concerns for nearby residents. A junior hub is a good use of Burke Road South based on acceptable ground sizing, so residents won't be impacted by flying balls like with senior games. Mitigation measures can be considered for the billabong, including fencing. Burke Road South is programmed for redevelopment in 20/21, so there will be a new pavilion / clubroom. Until then, officers will ensure that facilities are adequate for GICC needs, including sufficient safe space for storage.
<u>Winter Tenancy Finals:</u> GICC are concerned about preparation of the cricket turf wicket for summer if lacrosse are successful in hosting finals during September at ERR.	Winter tenancy agreements conclude on 31 August 2018. Winter clubs do not have an automatic right to use their home ground for finals. Requests must be made by clubs if they want access to grounds for finals and those requests will only be approved on turf grounds where there is sufficient time for the preparation of the cricket wicket for summer tenants. Where requests cannot be accommodated on home grounds, officers work with winter clubs to find suitable replacements.

Australian Rules Football Engagement

The Ashburton United Junior Football Club (AUJFC) are a preseason tenant. In the past four years, the club has predominantly enjoyed pre-season training one night per week at DLRW in February to March, with a further night held elsewhere in the municipality.

One meeting was held with the AUJFC together with numerous calls and emails. The club do not support the proposal.

AUJFC requests that DLRW remain grass and they have pre-season use in February to March on Monday nights at DLRW and Tuesday nights at Hartwell (east and west).

If the synthetic proposal proceeds, AUJFC has requested the following pre-season allocations from 19/20:

Preference	Location	Night	Location	Night
Option 1	Ferndale Park	Monday	Hartwell Sports Ground (East and West)	Tuesday
Option 2	Warner Reserve	Monday	Hartwell Sports Ground (East and West)	Tuesday
Option 3	Nettleton Park	Monday	Hartwell Sports Ground (East and West)	Tuesday

A copy of the AUJFC's submission is provided in **Attachment 4**.

AUJFC's preseasons allocation history is:

Year	Location	Night	Location	Night
2018	Markham	Monday	DLRW	Wednesday
2017	DLRW	Monday	DLRE	Wednesday
2016	DLRW	Monday	DLRW	Wednesday
2015	DLRE	Tuesday	DLRW	Wednesday

Ground size for past and proposed locations are indicated below:

Ground	Maximum Area
Hartwell Sports Ground West	10,720 m ²
Hartwell Sports Ground East	14,223 m ²
Hartwell Sports Ground E&W	24,934 m ²
Ferndale Park	12,431 m ²
Warner Reserve	14,107 m ²
Nettleton Park	12,475 m ²
Dorothy Laver Reserve West (north and south grounds combined)	19,882 m ²
Markham Reserve	10,664 m ²
Dorothy Laver Reserve East	9,850 m ²

Below is a summary of the AUJFC's reasons for its view on the proposal, with officer commentary provided on each point:

Issue raised by AUJFC	Officer comment
<u>Pre-Season Access:</u> AUJFC indicated it requires two nights of pre-season training.	This has historically been provided to AUJFC, and will continue to be provided.
<u>Pre-Season Logistics:</u> AUJFC do not want to be split over multiple grounds as they have 700 players with siblings in different teams creating challenges for parents if their allocation is spread	AUJFC currently splits preseason over two grounds. Officers have worked with AUJFC to improve this situation. A list of locations with current pre-season availability that meet AUJFC's needs has been provided by officers and AUJFC has submitted a preference order. Officers will endeavour to provide AUJFC with their highest preferred option having regard to summer tenant requirements
<u>Pre-Season Home Ground Use:</u> AUJFC requested access to its home ground (Burwood Reserve) for pre-season use. AUJFC suggested the turf table be roped off to prevent damage and children wear rubber role shoes.	Officers are unable to provide access to Burwood Reserve as the west ground is fully utilised by cricket and the east ground contains a turf table. Grounds with turf tables are not offered for pre-season use due to potential impact to the turf table during current cricket season. Roped off areas cannot prevent balls and players from entering the turf table.
<u>Pre-Season Ground Size:</u> AUJFC indicate they have 700 players and	Officers have provided a list of available pre-season training opportunities to

Issue raised by AUJFC	Officer comment
require one night pre-season training on a large (or double) ground in order to provide a safe pre-season training experience AUJFC indicate past arrangements at Markham Reserve were unacceptable as the ground was too small. AUJFC said that rectangle grounds are not suitable.	AUJFC, noting that this can change with alterations to summer tenancy allocations. Officers believe the grounds requested by AUJFC place it in a better position than their use of DLRW.
<u>Club Movement Ripple Effect:</u> AUJFC indicate that reallocation of clubs to different grounds will cause a ripple effect and changes to summer tenancies will impact pre-season opportunities	Officers try to accommodate winter club pre-season requests where possible, however, this can only be done once summer tenancies have been confirmed. As club teams and allocations alter from year to year, it does impact the opportunities that are available for pre-season use.
<u>Capacity:</u> AUJFC believes the proposal will not release capacity at other grounds because increasing female sport participation will not lead to a decline in ground needs elsewhere.	The demands on other grounds are related predominantly to the increase of female sport and juniors. Officers are unable to state which grounds will be released as this will only be determined once the use arrangement for DLRW has been confirmed. A process for this will occur if Council elects to endorse the synthetic proposal.
<u>Future Growth:</u> AUJFC feel the soccer focus of the proposal will increase opportunities for soccer and not provide opportunities elsewhere when other sporting codes are at capacity. AUJFC indicated that overall AFL female growth is 40% year on year since 2014 and 100% from 2016 to 2017. AUJFC indicated it had 4 dedicated girls teams with a predicted 1-2 more girls teams in 2019. AUJFC indicated it caps its numbers at 700 as it has no room for future growth and it needs more access to grounds.	Officers understand the club is near capacity at Burwood Reserve and is working with the club to understand and support the club's future growth aspirations. Opportunities to expand have been provided at Ferndale Park. AUJFC have also access Nettleton Park and Watson Reserve for the provision of auskick, together with pre-season opportunities at DLRW and Markham. Officers will continue to work with AUJFC on their needs and growth opportunities.
<u>Ground allocations:</u> AUJFC believe there is an unfair ground allocation when comparing AFL to soccer clubs.	The proposal is not a sport versus sport judgment. This proposal addresses a specific issue regarding soccer. Growth in AFL is acknowledged and will need to be met via other separate projects.
<u>Masterplans for AFL:</u> AUJFC want to know where the masterplans are for additional AFL grounds	Through the Sports Field Planning Framework, officers will review all sites with the view to better utilising grounds and increasing opportunities to align with sporting demands
<u>Line Markings:</u> AUJFC indicated that opportunities at DLRW are restricted with minimal line markings. AUJFC feels the northern field is allocated exclusively for elite sporting use	Council is not proposing an elite facility. Since the advertised proposal, Council has gained support from the FFV to consider multiple line marking for soccer

Issue raised by AUJFC	Officer comment
	<p>fields where WNPL senior women's soccer is played.</p> <p>Officers will review line markings to provide maximum community benefit. There are multiple uses that can be accommodated on the northern field with the provision of permanent or temporary line markings.</p>
<p><u>UV Heat from Synthetic:</u> AUJFC indicated that it is a health and safety risk to play on synthetic when the heat gets over 24 degrees. AUJFC claimed that the heat radiates and the clubs players would get burns.</p>	<p>Officers have reviewed reports which indicate that synthetic can be constructed to reduce heat and it is safe for play. The proposed synthetic would be constructed accordingly.</p>
<p><u>Safety:</u> AUJFC indicated it did not want to play on synthetic as they required a softer surface as their players hit the ground often and would get injured on synthetic</p>	<p>Officers will ensure pre-season opportunities (where available) are on natural grass grounds.</p>
<p><u>Lighting:</u> AUJFC requested to increase their lighting lux levels at Burwood Reserve to enable twilight matches to be played on Friday nights at 5pm and increase two more teams and provide a safer environment for young girl's training in winter.</p>	<p>The training lights at Burwood Reserve are not yet due for renewal. Council does not provide sports lighting for competition.</p>

Soccer Engagement

One meeting was held with a soccer focused group, comprising key soccer groups in the southern part of the municipality (Ashburton United Soccer Club (AUSC), Alamein Football Club (AFC) and Riversdale Soccer Club(RSC)) together with a representative from Football Federation Victoria. Further phone calls and emails followed.

The soccer focused group indicated there are 3,146 players in Boroondara soccer clubs and nearly 250 teams (including other leagues such as Churches and Veterans). They indicated soccer in Boroondara is 50% more popular than state-wide by player participation. Four clubs in Boroondara account for approximately 80% of players. ASUC and RSC form two of Boroondara's largest four soccer clubs.

In Boroondara, female participation is around 20%, well above State average with 95% playing for the three largest Boroondara soccer clubs. Over 40% (more than 1,300) play miniroos (U7-U11) and this number is expected to grow. 90% of those miniroos players are associated with the 3 largest Boroondara soccer clubs.

The soccer focused group indicated that training requirements are not being met in terms of full size pitch requirements and that 1,030 Boroondara residents play for clubs outside of Boroondara. This accounts for 39% of the total Boroondara registered players.

This soccer focused group supports the intent of the proposal, with a preference for two full size senior pitches with markings for junior and miniroos on the southern field and options for markings on the northern field. A copy of the group's submission is provided in **Attachment 5**.

Below is a summary of the club's reasons for this view, with officer commentary provided on each point

Issue raised by the soccer group	Officer comment
<u>Growth of females</u> : The clubs indicate the proposal will provide a high quality facility with high demand use to support girls. The clubs indicate that female participation within Boroondara is around 20% (well above the state average) with 95% of those players playing for the three largest Boroondara clubs. They indicate that the Women's Football Cup is in France next year and the high standing of the Australian Women's Football Team will inspire more girls to play juniors through to NPL standard in Boroondara.	Officers agree with the growth projections provided. The proposal provides opportunities to support this request.
<u>Summer Access - Pre and Post Season Training</u> : The clubs indicate that school term one is the soccer peak period as teams commence pre-season training in preparation for winter season. Clubs also want to train after the conclusion of the winter season and have a short break off for Christmas and New Year. With the mix of summer and winter tenancies, this is not always available to be accommodated. The new synthetic surface would allow for this.	Officers agree the installation of a synthetic surface would provide a year round facility which would enable greater opportunities for pre and post season training.
<u>Summer Access - Competitions</u> : The clubs want a year round facility to enable them to run summer competitions or 5/7 a side adult competitions.	The proposal provides opportunities to support this request.
<u>Summer Access - NPL</u> : The clubs indicate that summer access would support NPL competition, which commences in February. There are limited places that NPL can access due to existing summer tenancies. The clubs indicate that 65 Boroondara residents play in WNPL leagues within other municipalities and having a home venue where NPL is played would make it more attractive for players to play in their own municipality	The proposal provides opportunities to support this request.
<u>Summer Access - Reduce Wear and Tear</u> : The clubs indicate that summer access on this synthetic will take the	Officers agree a synthetic facility will increase opportunities to train and

Issue raised by the soccer group	Officer comment
pressure off wear and tear of other grounds that have previously been over used over summer. Through over use in summer, those grounds are in a less than idea condition coming into winter, increasing safety concerns.	relieve ground pressures of some overused grounds.
<u>Consolidated Soccer Centre:</u> The clubs indicate that ASUC has been split across 7 grounds, and its sister club AFC have been allocated at grounds a distance from Ashburton. This is logistically difficult for the club, players and parents. A soccer centre is welcome to consolidate the use of these clubs who would like to predominantly use the synthetic at DLRW and yield up some other grounds to Council. They indicate this consolidation will help build community within their club.	Officers understand the difficulties of logistics associated with clubs spread across numerous grounds. Officers will work with ASUC/AFC for their future aspirations for a home ground. DLRW is proposed as shared use and this will be determined in consultation with a soccer focused group.
<u>Safer Surface:</u> The clubs want a surface that can meet heavy usage particularly in winter for training and games thereby avoiding ground closures and rescheduling of matches. The summer access would reduce wear and tear on other grounds meaning those grounds would be in a better condition for winter use. This would provide better safety at both the synthetic ground and other natural turf grounds used over winter.	The proposal provides opportunities to support this request.
<u>Cricket Wicket:</u> The clubs prefer not to have a cricket wicket on the ground as this co-location limits training (including pre and post season) and match capacity over the summer period, impacts summer competitions and winter ground condition.	The proposal provides opportunities to support this request.
<u>Ground Capacity for Training:</u> The clubs indicated they are beyond their ground capacity and are training up to 7 teams at a time on the one ground with a mix of juniors and seniors. They indicated this could be around 90 players and creates safety concerns. They also indicated this didn't enable their teams to properly train and play practice matches as they didn't have enough grounds to facilitate this as those 7 teams were crammed onto the one field to train.	Officers acknowledge the growth of soccer within the municipality. The proposal provides opportunities to support this request.
<u>Matches:</u> The clubs indicated that their fixtures are full and they are pushed for grounds to provide match opportunities. ASUC has indicated that they have lost	Officers acknowledge the growth of soccer within the municipality. The proposal provides opportunities to support this request.

Issue raised by the soccer group	Officer comment
<p>one whole ground that they used outside Boroondara (Batesford Reserve - City of Monash) and this will put further pressure on their program and they will not have enough grounds to allocate matches for their upcoming winter season in Boroondara, so the need for a synthetic surface where they can run multiple matches without compromised conditions.</p>	
<p><u>Line Markings and Pitch Configuration:</u> The clubs have indicated they support line markings to DLRW(S) to accommodate miniroos and small sided football training and matches allowing hundreds of girls and boys to use the centre for training and weekend games. The clubs support multiple line markings to the south as opposed to the three junior/miniroos pitches proposed, to maximise flexibility and use of this ground. This would include markings for a senior pitch to the south. The clubs support the option for line marking of DLRW(N), however, they differ on their perspective of permanent or temporary line markings. ASUC and AFC prefer temporary line markings and RSC prefer permanent line markings.</p>	<p>Officers have advice from FFV that there are options to temporary line mark with the use of paint which washes off the synthetic surface. Council may also apply to the NPL Competitions Department for exemption from line markings, to enable permanent line markings. Officers will pursue these further lines of enquiry with clubs, FFV and NPL Competitions Department if Council endorses the proposal to proceed.</p>
<p><u>Lighting:</u> The clubs ask for lighting to 100 lux standard for training as most training is practice game based. The clubs would also like the option to run twilight games.</p>	<p>Officers indicate that 100 lux is the supported lux levels for training lights within the municipality. LED training lights are proposed for DLRW.</p>
<p><u>Pavilion and other Facilities:</u> The clubs indicate that as the facility will allow for approximately 75 hours per week, with multiple games and training squads using the venue at any one time, so they would need four change rooms with two shower facilities as well as a good sized kitchen, canteen and indoor space for spectators, functions, meetings, fundraising. The clubs indicate that separate facilities would be required for men and women. They indicate a referees room with shower and toilet would also be required. The clubs indicate that to meet these standards the pavilion would need to be doubled alongside the current pavilion and this is not envisaged in the proposal. They anticipate the cost of this upgrade to be \$1.5M.</p>	<p>The pavilion at DLRW has recently been upgraded to include four change rooms with a kitchen and indoor social space. If Council endorses the proposal to proceed, officers will work with a soccer focused group to understand their full needs and desires and will plan for any changes in the longer term through a future works program.</p>

Issue raised by the soccer group	Officer comment
<u>Storage:</u> The clubs indicated that storage space would be required to house moveable goals of various sizes to cater for the flexible use of the grounds. Appropriate gates would need to be included so that goals could be moved in and out of storage.	Officers will review storage options at DLRW to ensure that clubs needs are understood and accommodated.
<u>Fencing:</u> ASUC and AFC indicate that appropriate fencing would be required to the northern pitch for NPL standard. They indicate that if the full synthetic is fenced, then the northern pitch would only have three sides, so a moveable fence will need to be located on game days between the north and south grounds.	Fencing will be considered as part of detailed design should Council endorse the proposal to proceed with a synthetic surface at DLRW.
<u>Parking:</u> The clubs are requesting additional parking, on the Stonnington side adjacent to the tennis court. The clubs are requesting this area be sealed for additional parking.	Should Council decide on the concept at DLRW, detailed work on traffic and parking will take place as part of the detailed planning and design process.
<u>Lacrosse move to ERR:</u> The clubs are requesting that lacrosse move their use to ERR and for Council to apportion grounds on a needs and use basis	The relocation of lacrosse to ERR is proposed
<u>Lacrosse play junior games at DLRE:</u> The clubs have requested that, should lacrosse require additional space than ERR, they be allocated space at DLRE	This can be considered.
<u>Grants and Funding:</u> The clubs want to work in partnership with Council and State Government to seek funding for better facilities. ASUC would be willing to consider investing in the new centre and facilities including pavilion redevelopment.	Officers will discuss all opportunities with a soccer focused group should Council endorse the proposal to proceed.
<u>Extended Access:</u> ASUC is requesting access to 10:30pm one night per week to enable more family time and for matches from 8:30pm to 10:30pm which occurs on some hockey fields. They indicate this would also encourage senior players to train junior players and female coaches are in high demand for junior girls.	Any variation to the 9pm proposed lighting finish time for training will need to be considered in consultation with the community.
<u>Access During Construction:</u> ASUC and AFC are requesting access to Highfield to use that ground in lieu of DLRW for training over summer when the proposal is under construction, and also for its summer program.	Council allocates winter and summer tenancies before consideration is given to any pre-season request. All pre-season requests for use over summer are in high demand. All clubs are advised that they may not be allocated their home ground, but officers do their best to find suitable arrangements.

Issue raised by the soccer group	Officer comment
	Clubs do not have access to facilities over this period, only to the ground.

Project Planning and Due Diligence

Early planning has been undertaken before bringing the proposal to Council.

The key themes include:

- Cultural Heritage
- Flood Risk
- Site constraints
- Environment and Health
- Traffic and Parking

The early planning has been undertaken in the context of seeking a direction from Council on the concept of locating a synthetic field at DLRW. Should Council decide on the concept further detailed review on a range of elements will be undertaken as part of the detailed planning and design process.

Cultural Heritage

DLRW is located in an area of cultural heritage sensitivity due to its proximity to the creek. Therefore any proposal on the site will trigger a requirement for a Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP) pursuant to the Aboriginal Heritage Regulations 2007. A CHMP will ensure that any works undertaken will have regard to the sensitivity of the area, noting the area has previously been disturbed through construction of a sports field and also installation of Melbourne Water's drainage system.

Flood Risk

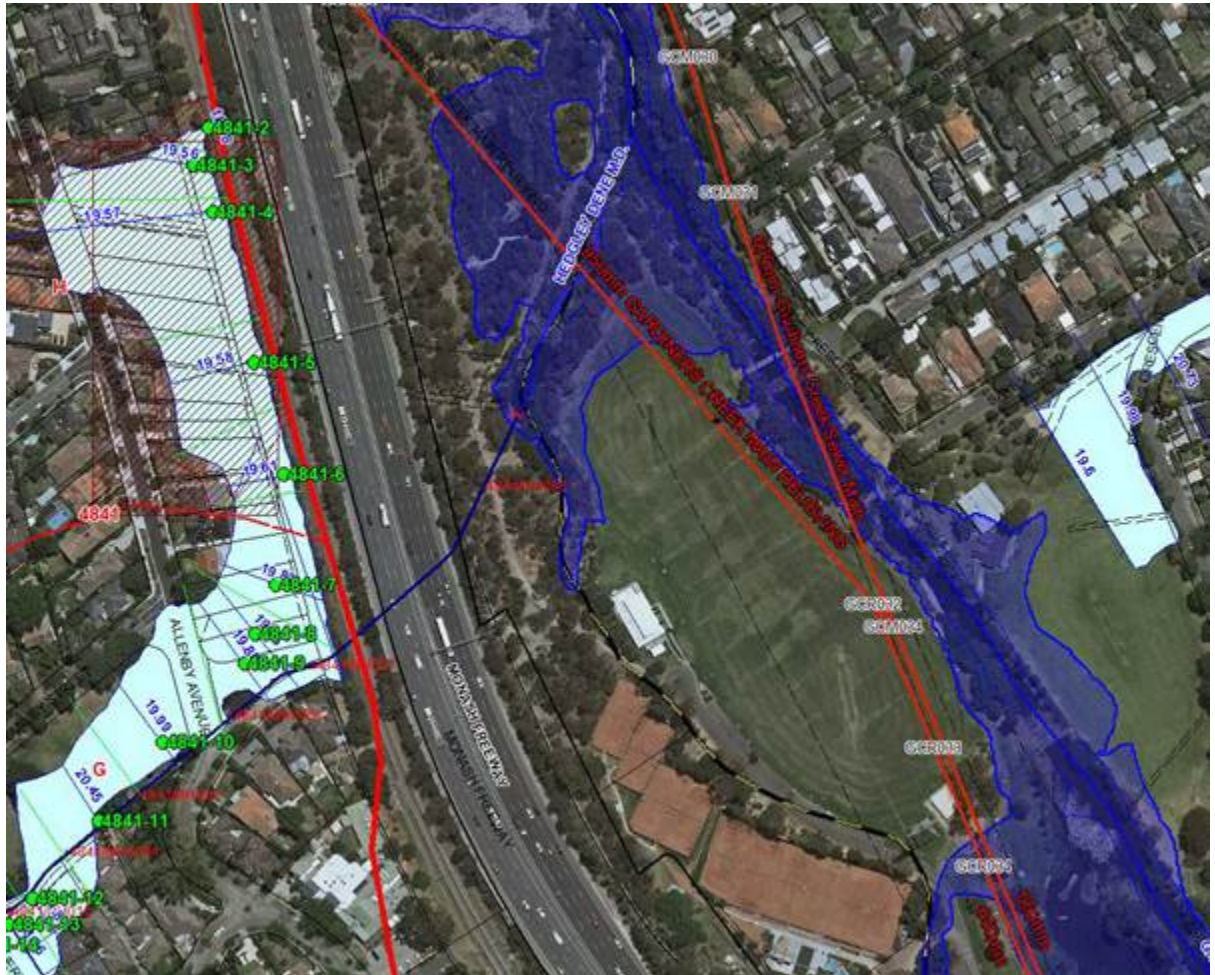
The site is impacted by a Land Subject to Inundation Overlay (LSIO) in the Planning Scheme. Accordingly, the proposal will be referred to Melbourne Water (MW) through the planning permit application process.

MW's early advice has indicated that whilst much of DLRW is subject to a LSIO, MW's 1 in 100 flood area covers a very small portion of the site. The diagram below depicts MW's 1 in 100 flood model shaded blue:

Site Constraints

Advice from MW also indicated that they have a number of pits in the area. These are subsurface pits, not visible at ground level. Three pits are located in the current field of play and two pits are located within the proposed synthetic playing field. Locations are shown below.

The red lines indicated the sewer line and pit location references are marked with text. While MW has no record of these pits being used, they are strategically located pits that they will be required to maintain.



GCR032 is a large rectangular pit (3.2m x 2m) and is located at the sewer junction of Gardiners Creek Main Relieving Sewer and the short relieving sewer connector to the main Gardiners Creek Sewer. GCR034 is a round manhole (1,200 diameter). It is at the sewer junction of the 600mm diameter Gardiners Creek Main Sewer and the short 600mm reliever sewer connected to the Gardiners Creek Relieving Sewer, approximately 10m from the existing light tower.

MW's early advice is that Council is unable to construct a synthetic surface over pits GCR032 and GCR034 or within five meters of the pits as it requires unfettered access to these pits at any given time. Having regard to this advice, in conjunction with feedback received from cricket and soccer during consultation about the cricket synthetic overlay, officers are proposing to amend the concept, removing the cricket oval and consolidating the southern half of the proposal to a senior sized field with junior line markings. Representatives from the Glen Iris Cricket Club have been engaged and

verbally support this change subject to officers endorsing their requested relocation options.

Environment and Health

Feedback received through the consultation process indicated the following key areas of concern:

- Environmental concerns about the carbon impact of converting grass to synthetic
- Environmental impact of leaching from the infill or migration of rubber infill into adjoining creek
- Concerns about impacts on local biodiversity
- Concerns about health impacts on users of the synthetic surface

In undertaking further due diligence around environmental and health concerns, officers sought further specialist advice in this area which indicated:

- There is no known or identified risks to the environment from rain washing through the synthetic.
- The effect of rubber used in contemporary synthetic surfaces has a negligible effect on human health. Health risk concerns can further be mitigated through ensuring tender documents apply the European Standard for heavy metal use.

Council has multiple policy objectives it will be cognisant of in progressing investigations and design should this project proceed. These include a range of environmental policies and strategies. The appropriate further environmental investigations will be undertaken during the detailed design phase of the project as part of the planning permit application.

Traffic and Parking

Early advice from Council's Coordinator Transport Management has indicated that traffic volumes and parking demands will change associated with the change of use. There is a current awareness of existing challenges associated with the reserve in peak periods.

Officers are very aware of the need to ensure traffic impacts are appropriately managed. Should Council decide on the concept at DLRW, detailed work on traffic and parking will take place as part of the detailed planning and design process.

There are various measures available to assist with traffic and parking concerns. These include mitigation measures offered to adjacent streets through restrictions to regulate availability and visitor amenity, and scheduling to minimise overlap of games which would impact traffic activity between matches. This will be influenced by the detailed planned use and scheduling of the field which has not yet been determined. This will also be an important element of the planning permit application for the synthetic development.

Officer Conclusion

This section of the report provides a summary analysis regarding the proposal. It touches on some key points, building upon the point by point discussion of issues in the earlier part of this report and focusses on CLC, the current winter tenant at DLRW. Comments relating to other club stakeholders are included in the earlier tables. It is structured as follows:

1. Ground capacity and utilisation
2. Club Growth
3. Training needs
4. Officers' Preliminary View

Ground capacity and utilisation

CLC currently use 2 pavilions and the space of 3 soccer fields, which they currently use to fulfil an allocation requirement of 24 hours of field use per week, with actual hours being less than that due to the fixturing of home and away games.

CLC's weekly utilisation of DLRW and ERR equates to an average of 8 hours per field per week. The ideal utilisation for a turf field is around 25 to 30 hours per week. The current allocations are therefore an extreme underutilisation of sports field assets in the context of the challenge faced in the City with demand for sport exceeding sport field asset capacity.

The table below illustrates the winter season weekly hours used at DLRW and ERR (current use), and outlines what the weekly hours of use would be should Council endorse the proposal to proceed.

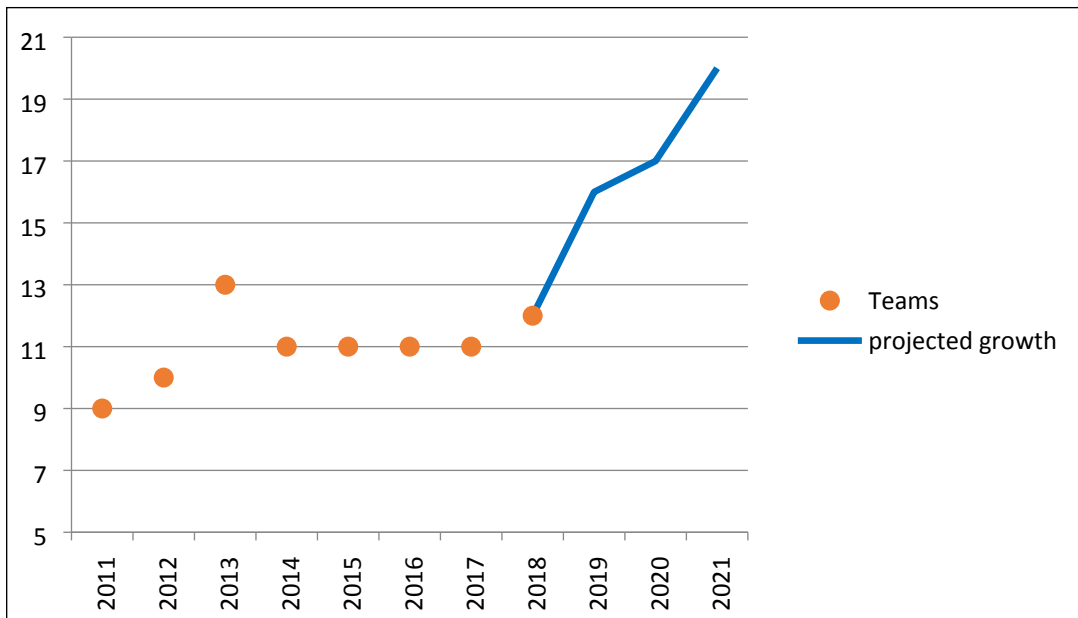
	Hours per week	Additional weekly hours
Current use	24	nil
Proceed	128	104

Club Growth

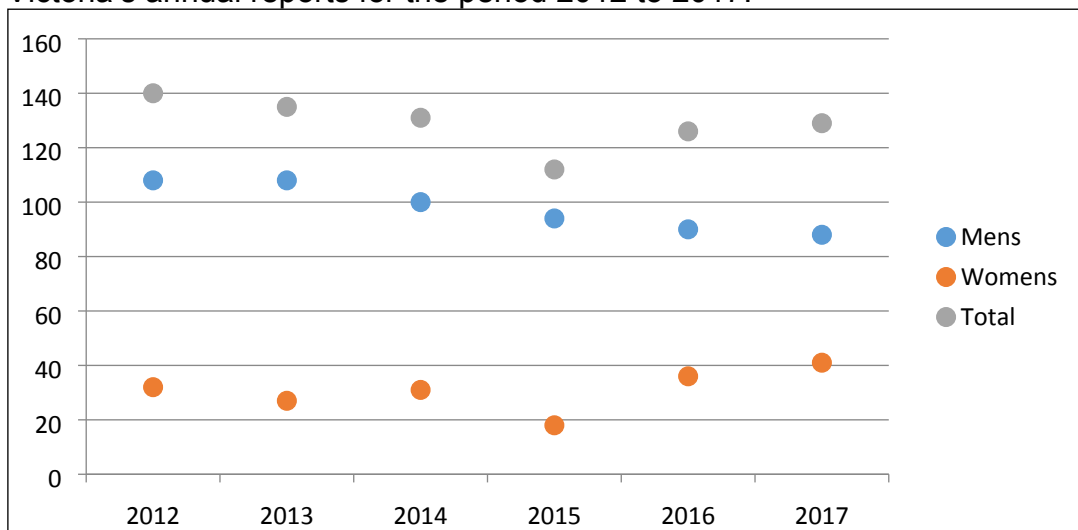
Camberwell Lacrosse Club have provided the following advice regarding their growth trend for the period 2015 to 2018:

	Male	Female
Junior	15%	100%
Senior	21%	130%
Overall	17%	110%

The chart below represents the CLC's projected growth for their historical team numbers and projected growth up to the year 2021 as advised in CLCs submission and advised to officers during the consultation process:



The table below shows registered players for CLC as reported in Lacrosse Victoria’s annual reports for the period 2012 to 2017:



The Lacrosse Victoria’s annual reported membership data for CLC shows a steady decline in male memberships, and an increase in female memberships. The data does not indicate the club is on an upward growth trend but that it has been in a relatively steady state of membership and team numbers. Given this, it is difficult to understand how the clubs’ state of growth expectations would be achieved, particularly for men’s teams. It would not be unreasonable to expect that female growth will continue to occur, and officers note that the proposal will accommodate this growth.

Officers note the sport of lacrosse is in general decline, with Lacrosse Victoria reporting a steady decline in memberships since 2005. Officers propose to work with both the club and Lacrosse Victoria to explore and implement a sustainable growth strategy to ensure this decline does not become critical.

Training needs

The CLC has provided a description of their training needs at DLRW, and argued this is prohibitive at ERR. The area they have stated they require is shown in the rectangle below. Part of the club's desired training area is lit to 60lux. The northern section beyond the light poles (highlighted) is not lit to levels visible for play. The full extent of the lit area available for training is approximately 9,000m² with a more rounded layout to align with the ground dimensions.



The same area has been overlaid at ERR and is shown below. ERR will be lit to 100 lux over the entire oval. The full extent of the area available for training will be approximately 11,500m²



The visible training area at DLRW fits within the ERR field. ERR will have superior visibility and a greater overall footprint beyond the CLC's training rectangle.

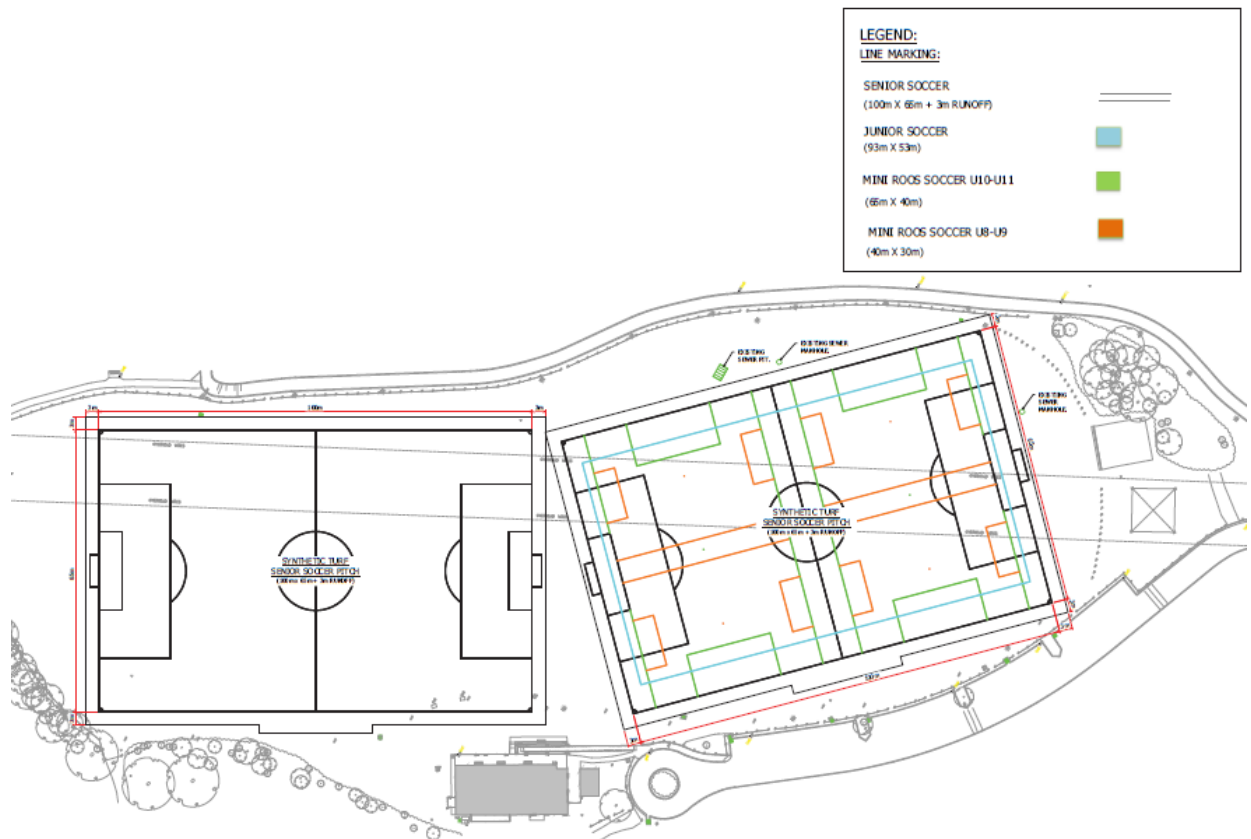
Officers' Preliminary View

The principle underpinning the officers' approach in assessing and considering feedback has been to apply an evidence based analysis of best fit between assets and the users of those assets. Officers are seeking an outcome that provides a fair level of access to all clubs, while improving the overall capacity of the City's sporting assets to address growing sport participation.

Officers' preliminary view, subject to considering matters raised in the verbal presentation of submissions, is to recommend proceeding with an amended proposal for a synthetic surface at DLRW, which will result in:

- CLC being relocated and consolidating its use to Eric Raven Reserve (ERR), with future growth needs being accommodated through provision of an overflow ground
- Officers working with CLC on their future growth and ongoing viability
- Glen Iris Cricket Club (GICC) being relocated from DLRW to other suitable grounds, details of which are being worked through with GICC representatives and Cricket Victoria (CV)
- A number of pre-season tenants being relocated to other locations (including the AUJFC).

This option is depicted below. Under the amended proposal, the synthetic surface is configured differently from the proposal subject to consultation, and takes up less area overall, due to the removal of the cricket overlay as discussed earlier in this report. The Southern field has been adjusted to include provision of junior and miniroos soccer within a senior soccer field.



A larger depiction of this amended proposal is included as **Attachment 6**.

Officers consider that the proposal addresses the challenge of the growing demand for sport in the City, not being able to be met by the Council's sporting infrastructure, noting that the proposal will generate an additional 104 hours of sport per week can be provided. Officers also believe that this option presents a solution that balances the diversity of needs across a range of stakeholders, providing the best outcome for the City.

5. Consultation/communication

Through the DLRW community engagement and consultation process, council officers consulted numerous user groups through face to face and telephone meetings, email correspondence and community drop-in sessions. These groups included residents, sporting clubs, schools, casual user groups, people involved in environmental groups and local members of parliament.

Internal stakeholders were also consulted through the establishment of a project working group to consider broader feedback and provide expertise across environment, traffic, property, communication and engagement, and project management issues.

Full details of the community engagement and consultation process, including sporting club engagement and consultation is located in Item 4 - outline of key issues / options and in the attachments to this report.

6. Financial and resource implications

Council initially allocated \$4,500,000 for the construction of a synthetic surface with \$2,000,000 budgeted in 2018/19 and \$2,500,000 foreshadowed in 2019/20.

Given the significant interest and response from the community. During the early phase of consultation, the project budget was amended in the September Amended Budget. The 2018/19 September Amended Budget now provides for \$100,000 for consultation and design. The remaining \$1,900,000 will be deferred to the 2019/20 financial year to provide a combined foreshadowed amount of \$4,400,000 for delivery of the proposed synthetic surface in future years.

7. Governance issues

The implications of this report have been assessed in accordance with the requirements of the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities.

The officers responsible for this report have no direct or indirect interests requiring disclosure.

8. Social and environmental issues

This proposal contributes to the health and wellbeing of the City, through the provision of sporting opportunities. A number of environmental considerations exist with this project and submitters have raised concerns with different environmental aspects. Initial work on these matters is summarised in section 4 of this report. Should the proposal proceed there will be a Cultural Heritage Management Plan and further appropriate environmental assessments prepared as part of the detailed planning and design process.

9. Conclusion

After the presentation of submissions to Councillors at the Special Services Committee meeting on 12 November 2018, the matter will be reported to Council for a decision on whether to proceed, amend or abandon the proposal on 10 December 2018.

Manager: Andrew Mackinnon, Group Manager Parks & Infrastructure

Report officer: Rebecca Carland, Senior Coordinator Open Space



Dorothy Laver Reserve West Consultation on-line survey report

October 2018

Introduction

1.1 Background

The Boroondara Open Space Strategy (BOSS) technical report and Council's Sport and Recreation Strategy 2016 (S&RS) both identify the need for Council to respond to increased demand for active sport, and have flagged synthetic playing surfaces as an option for investigation. The S&RS highlights soccer is a sport that is increasing in participation, which is reflected in the increasing number of seasonal allocation requests Boroondara receives from its soccer clubs. When compared with other municipalities, Boroondara boasts the second highest participation rate in soccer across Victoria, and ranks highest for female participation. In the development of the S&RS, it was decided that further consideration should be given to the assessment of all possible sports ground locations, to ascertain a suitable location to construct a synthetic surface.

Officers undertook an assessment of all sports grounds within the municipality to determine an appropriate location for a synthetic sports surface. All Council managed sports fields were assessed and scored against a set of criteria to determine their suitability for construction of a synthetic surface. These criteria included physical constraints, heritage, character, impact of residents, impact on park users, and potential for increased use. Dorothy Laver Reserve West was identified as the most suitable from all of Boroondara's sport and recreations reserves.

1.2 Project costs and time frames

The project is funded through the 2018-19 capital works budget and foreshadowed in the 2019-20 capital works budget. The total project cost is estimated at \$4.5m. Construction is proposed to be commenced in early to mid-2019 and be completed in 2020.

1.3 Scope of the improvement works

The multi-field synthetic surface at Dorothy Laver Reserve West that underwent community consultation will provide:

- 1 x senior soccer field
- 1 x junior soccer field
- 2 x under 6/7 miniroos soccer fields
- 1 x junior cricket field (overlaid across the soccer fields)

The six existing sports ground lights will be replaced with LED lights and relocated to within the vicinity of the yellow circles below. A perimeter fence will also be installed around the synthetic facility. In addition to this project, further enhancement is being considered at Dorothy Laver Reserve East to reorientate the cricket pitch and provide line marking for two under 8/9 miniroos soccer fields, as pictured below. This will be a separate project.

This scope of works is what was presented to the community for consultation.



1.4 Methodology

When analysing the qualitative data from open-ended questions, attention was given to the variety of responses, as well as giving a ranking of popularity of responses (through counting comments of a similar theme).

1.5 Engagement activities

Have Your Say Boroondara

A *Have Your Say* Boroondara page was set up for stakeholders to participate in a survey. The survey asked respondents to provide their feedback about the Dorothy Laver Reserve West project from Friday 22 June 2018 until Tuesday 24 July 2018.

Engagement Activity

An information letter was sent to 393 homes within a 500m radius of the ovals. The letter provided information on the Dorothy Laver Reserve West Redevelopment Project and a link to the *Have your Say* survey. Posters were also put up around Dorothy Laver Reserve West's ovals to inform park users of the project and encourage them to fill out the *Have your Say* survey. Other engagement activities were undertaken, however, this report specifically focuses on the results and outcomes of the *Have Your Say* survey.

Executive Summary

This report presents a summary of the outcomes of the consultation survey. The accompanying CB&D report provides officer analysis and commentary regarding the survey and other consultation activities.

Dorothy Laver Reserve West Redevelopment survey – Boroondara Have Your Say

Of the 1093 completed surveys:

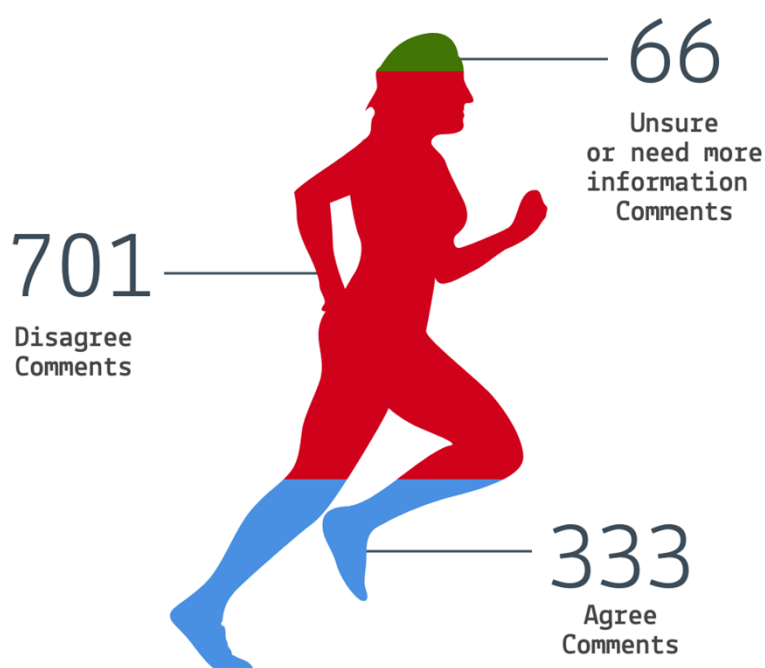
- The majority of comments (701) said they disagree with the redevelopment for Dorothy Laver Reserve West and (333) comments agreed with the proposal.
- The majority of respondents who disagreed with the proposal were from a sporting group/club using the reserve (408 comments), followed by “*my family participates in junior sport at this reserve*” (327 comments).

- Most of the agree comments were from a sporting group/club using the reserve (223 comments), followed by “*my family participates in junior sport at this reserve*” (151 comments).
- The key themes emerging from the agree responses are; ‘the installation of synthetic grass’ (185 comments), ‘increase female sports participation’ (39 comments), ‘increase the use of the reserve’ (49 comments) and ‘generally agree’ (80 comments).
- The top four key themes emerging from the disagree responses are; ‘loss of lacrosse pitch at the reserve’ (291 comments), ‘against the installation of synthetic grass’ (201 comments), ‘this proposal only supports soccer participants’ (155 comments) and ‘against synthetic turf due to the impact on environment’ (125 comments).

Infographic Survey Summary

Overall, 1093 responses were received on the *Have your Say* survey. The following infographic provides a high level summary:

Agree/Disagree with the Dorothy Laver Reserve West Project:



Survey Report, October 2018

Why do you agree with the proposal

1# 183 comments



Installation of Synthetic grass

2# 48 comments



Increase the use of the reserve

3# 39 comments



Increase female sports participation

Why do you disagree with the proposal

1# 291 comments



Loss of Lacrosse pitch at the reserve

2# 201 comments



Against the installation of Synthetic grass

3# 155 comments



This proposal only supports soccer participants

Dorothy Laver Reserve West Redevelopment Survey 2018

2.1 Dorothy Laver Reserve West survey summary of overall results

Key demographics	Number	%
I am answering this from the perspective of...		
I live in direct visual vicinity of the park	88	8%
I live within walking distance from the park	275	25%
I'm a member of a sporting group using the reserve	673	62%
I / my family participates in junior sport at this reserve	511	47%
Casual walker	227	21%
Dog walker	183	17%
General park usage (eg. BBQ, playground etc.)	212	19%
School group	12	1%
Suburb		
Ashburton	82	13%
Balwyn	3	0%
Balwyn North	0	0%
Camberwell	55	9%
Canterbury	12	2%
Deepdene	0	0%
Glen Iris	156	25%
Hawthorn	3	0%
Hawthorn East	4	1%
Kew	8	1%
Kew East	1	0%
Surrey Hills	11	2%
Other Outside Boroondara	294	47%

Please note: the question answered from this perspective will not equal 100%, due to respondents being able to choose more than one option.

Please note: Balwyn and Kew East have 0% because of rounding.

2.2 Agree/Disagree with the Dorothy Laver Reserve West Project - Part 1

Respondents were asked to provide their feedback about the Dorothy Laver Reserve West project. The majority of respondents who commented *disagree* with the redevelopment, (701 comments) (333 comments) *agree* and (66 comments) were *unsure or need more information* to form a view (see figure 3). (n=1100 comments).

Please note: the total number of comments (1100) will not equal the total amount of respondents (1093), due to some respondents both agreeing and disagreeing with parts of the redevelopment.

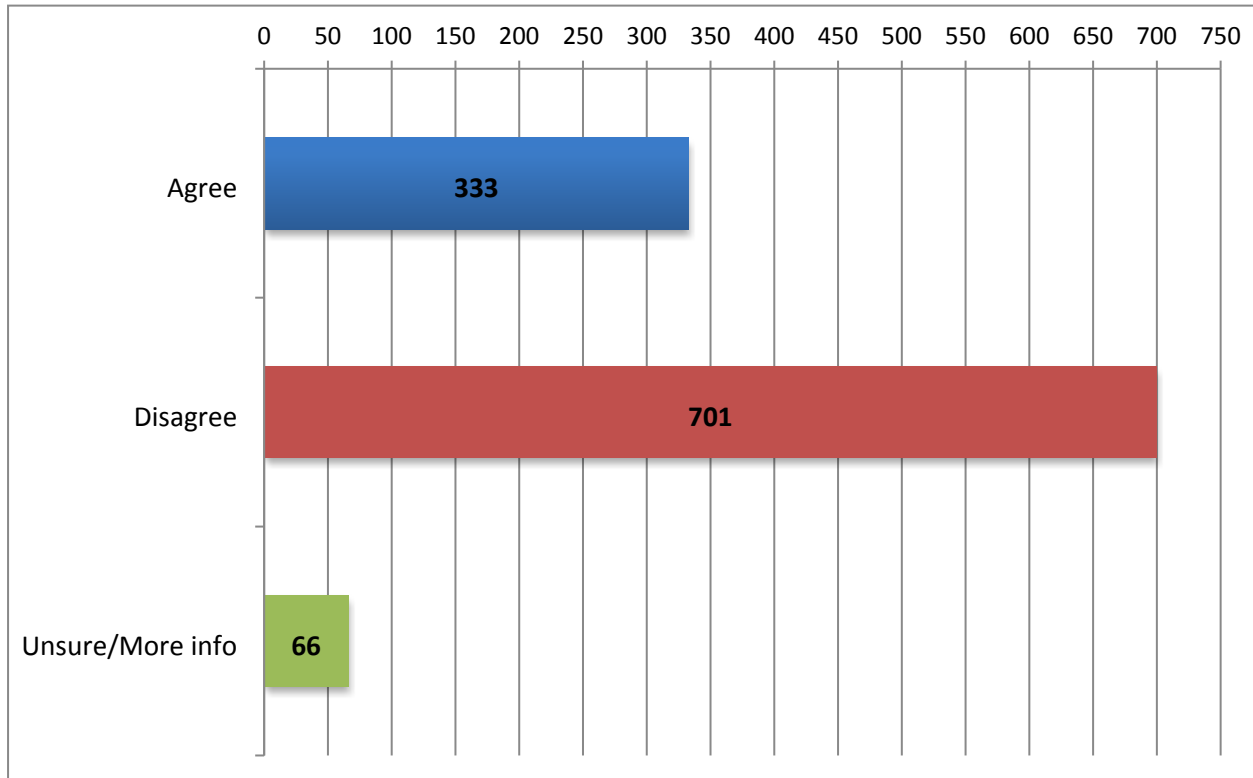


Figure 3: Agree/Disagree with the Dorothy Laver Reserve West Project.

Number of comments: 1100

Source: Parks and Infrastructure 2018

2.3 Agree/Disagree with the Dorothy Laver Reserve West Project - Part 2

The majority of respondents who disagreed with the proposal were from a *sporting group/club using the reserve* (408 comments), followed by *my family participates in junior sport at this reserve* (327 comments) and *I live within walking distance from the park* (211 comments) (see figure 4). Most agree comments were from a *sporting group using the reserve* (223 comments), followed by *my family participates in junior sport at this reserve* (151 comments). (n=1100 comments).

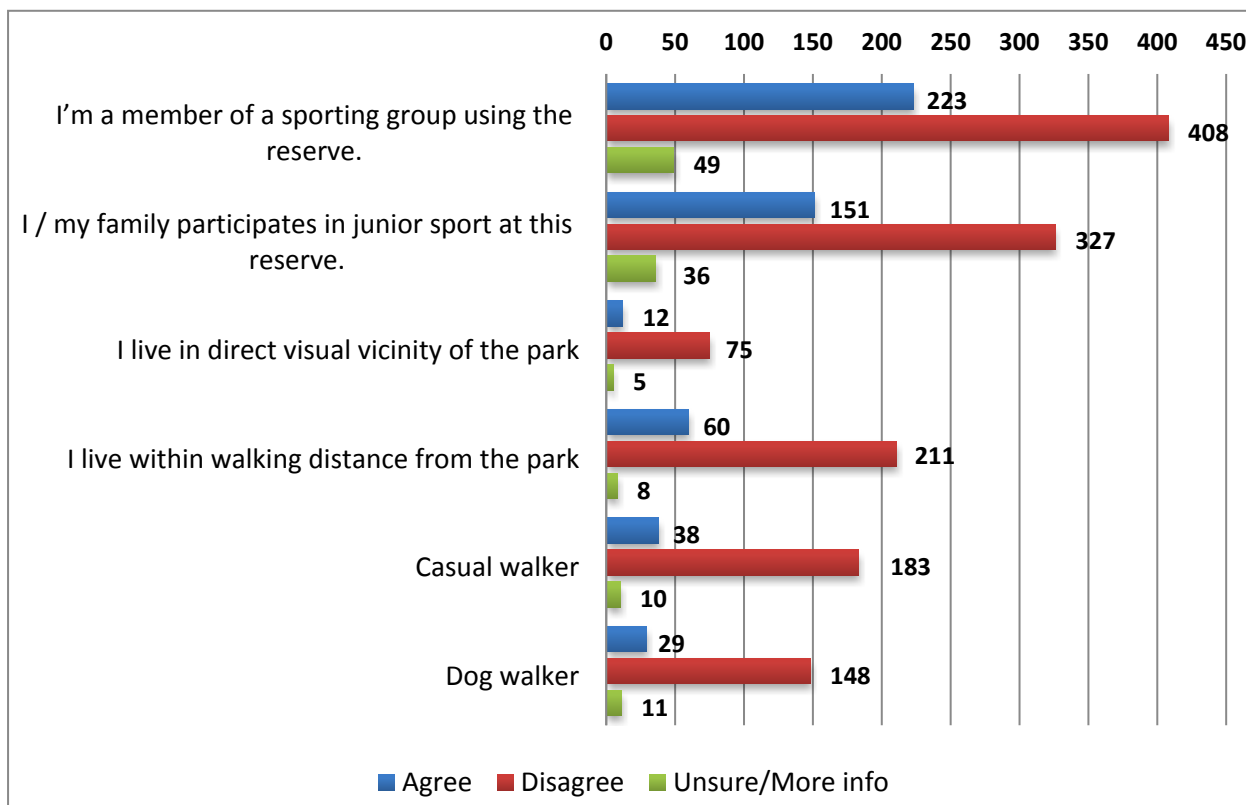


Figure 4: Crosstab Agree/Disagree with the Dorothy Laver Reserve West Project with I am answering this from the perspective of.
 Number of comments: 1100
 Source: Parks and Infrastructure 2018

2.4 Agree comments - Part 1

Responses of the agree comments have been reviewed and categorised according to themes. The key themes emerged from the responses are; *the installation of synthetic grass* (185 comments), *increase female sports participation* (39 comments), *increase the use of the reserve* (49 comments) and *generally agree* (80 comments) (see figure 5). (n= 353 comments).

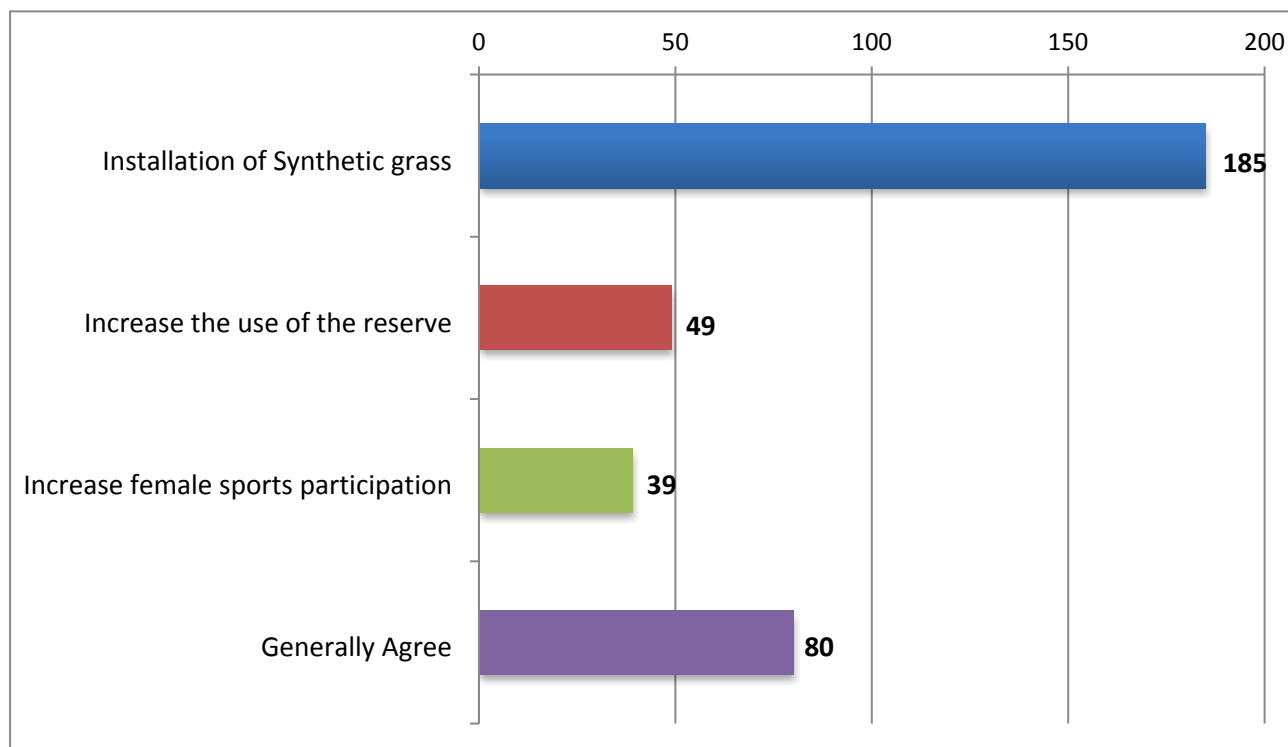


Figure 5: Agree themes.
 Number of comments: 353
 Source: Parks and Infrastructure 2018

2.5 Agree comments part 2

Three themes were identified as demonstrated in the indicative comments below.

Theme 1

Installation of Synthetic grass

185/353 comments said:

“As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve.”

“With large numbers of clubs and teams utilising these facilities year round, installing a synthetic surface is essential.”

Theme 2

Increase the use of the reserve

49/353 comments said:

“This is an excellent idea and will provide increased access to quality sports and recreational facilities to all members of the community.”

“As part of a sporting club, this development would allow different clubs to be able to use the ground facilities all year round without the issue of ground wear and tear during summer and winter.”

Theme 3

Increase female sports participation

39/353 comments said:

“Fantastic to have a dedicated quality football facility to supports the many boys and girls that play.”

“This is great for female sports participation. There are not enough facilities as it is.”

2.6 Disagree comments part 1

Responses of the *disagree* comments have been reviewed and categorised according to themes. The top key themes emerged from the responses are; *loss of lacrosse pitch at the reserve* (291 comments), *against the installation of synthetic grass* (201 comments), *this proposal only supports soccer participants* (155 comments) and *against synthetic turf due to the impact on environment* (125 comments) (see figure 6). (n= 1158 comments)

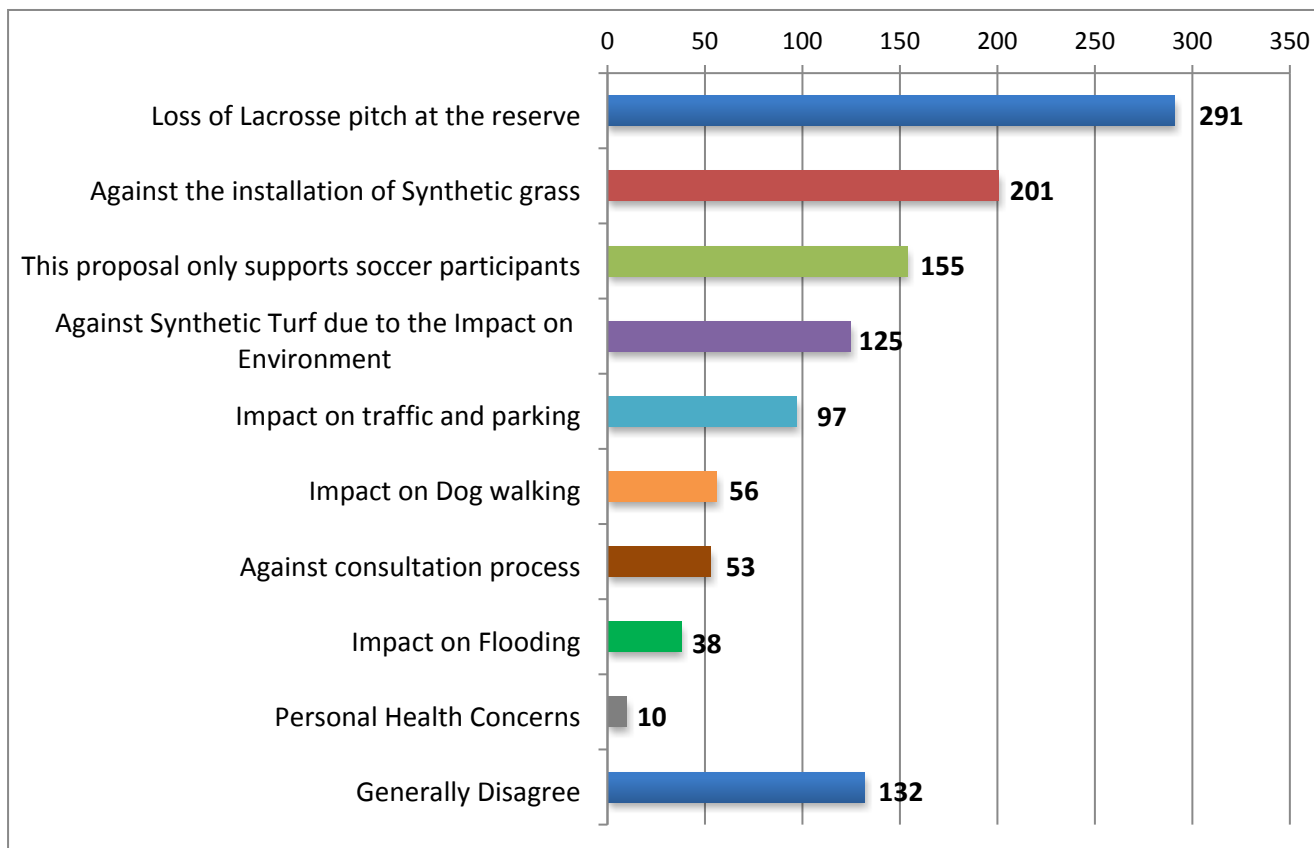


Figure 6: Disagree themes.

Number of comments: 1158

Source: Parks and Infrastructure 2018

2.7 Disagree comments part 2

The top four themes that were identified are demonstrated in the indicative comments below.

Theme 1

Loss of Lacrosse pitch at the reserve participants.

291/1158 comments said:

"Camberwell Lacrosse Club is an important part of our sport in Victoria, and for them to have their facility taken from them would be a great shame".

"I believe that the fields should stay as lacrosse fields as the sport is only just developing and by moving the sport elsewhere is making the already difficult task of developing the sport much more difficult".

Theme 2

Against the installation of Synthetic grass.

201/1158 comments said:

"Replacing such a large area of grass within a beautiful parkland area with artificial turf is quite frankly, an appalling idea."

"Replacing the grass with synthetic turf not only limits the number of viable sports which can be played but reduces the ecology of the reserve, increasing significantly to our footprint".

Theme 3

This proposal only supports soccer participants.

155/1158 comments said:

"No sorry, this is a terrible idea. No one is for this proposal apart from the soccer clubs who already have so much space it's ridiculous".

"How does this "benefit the community" when it only serves soccer which has excessive funding already".

Theme 4

Against Synthetic Turf due to the Impact on Environment.

125/1158 comments said:

"Environmental and health impacts of artificial turf reviews attest that tire rubber crumb contains a range of organic contaminants and heavy metals that can volatilize into the air and/or leach into the percolating rainwater, thereby posing a potential risk to the environment and human health".

"Loss of natural turf, to be replaced by plastic turf is a huge environmental cost".



Response to Boroondara Council
proposal to redevelop
Dorothy Laver Reserve West

October 2018



Introduction

This document constitutes Camberwell Lacrosse Club's submission to Boroondara Council in response to the Council's proposal to redevelop Dorothy Laver Reserve West. It has been put together after careful assessment of the Council proposal, discussion with Council Officers about alternatives for our club and consultation with our members.

Camberwell Lacrosse Club wishes to state at the outset that we commend the Council on investing in better sporting facilities and support initiatives promoting the growth of local community sport and sporting clubs. We also note that our club, as the long-term major winter tenant at Dorothy Laver Reserve West, will be the community organization most affected by its redevelopment.

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Authorised by Ross Melville, President Camberwell Lacrosse Club.

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Camberwell Lacrosse Club Submission

Executive Summary

Boroondara Council proposes to redevelop Dorothy Laver Reserve West as a “year-round soccer focused facility”, spending \$4.5m to replace an open grassed space with a fenced synthetic playing surface. The objective is to cater for the growth of soccer, increase soccer opportunities for women and girls and build Boroondara’s first Women’s National Premier League (WNPL) senior soccer field.

The proposal does not mention or address the needs of Camberwell Lacrosse Club, the long-term existing tenant. Council Officers indicated that the Club’s operations would be moved to Eric Raven Reserve, which is currently used by lacrosse in conjunction with Dorothy Laver Reserve West.

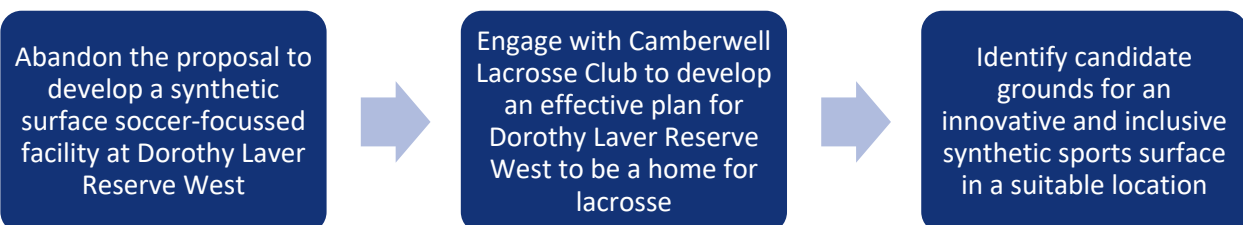
Following careful analysis of the proposal and consultation with our members, Camberwell Lacrosse Club has reached the position that it strongly opposes the proposed redevelopment of Dorothy Laver Reserve West for the following reasons:

<p>Planning Process</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholders not engaged in planning Poor consultation – late and minimal Reason for selecting DLRW not transparent 	<p>Location</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not central to need Sports & Recreation Strategy recommends other locations Suits only one soccer club 	<p>Site</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geographically limited Limited parking and small pavilion Floodplain Significant environmental issues 	<p>Diversity</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ignores Community Plan for multipurpose facility Soccer will have >70% of grounds in Solway Sports with comparable needs lose out
<p>Lacrosse Operations</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Club cannot fit safely on Eric Raven Reserve Ground surface won’t cope with excess use 7-fold increase in use impacts residents 	<p>Lacrosse Growth</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No ability to sustain existing growth Gender equality at risk: currently 33% female with female numbers increasing 	<p>Elite Focus</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WNPL precludes sharing with other sports Ground can’t meet WNPL facility standards Prioritises elite sport over community sport 	<p>Community Impact</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Synthetic reduces passive use, impacting joggers, dogwalkers and recreational users Detrimental to residents

Despite the outrage following the initial proposal and abrupt consultation process, the Club consulted with Council in good faith, with options tabled including sharing the proposed synthetic surface or relocating elsewhere. While the Club was carefully assessing these options, the relocation options were withdrawn without any notice or explanation and the sharing options redefined to reduce the Club to a single ground with overflow usage elsewhere.

“No club will be worse off” ❌ All four Council proposed options reduce Camberwell Lacrosse Club to a single tenancy and will result in us being significantly worse off.

We ask that council consider retaining Dorothy Laver Reserve West as a fully grassed surface for lacrosse with existing issues relating to lighting, safety fencing, pavilion, car-parking capacity and cricket pitches addressed. This would house the entire Club program and Eric Raven Reserve would be freed up for re-assignment to other users. We request that Boroondara Council:





Our role in the community

Camberwell Lacrosse Club has a rich and proud tradition in Boroondara, stretching for over ninety years. It has made significant contributions to the sport of lacrosse, both nationally and internationally, with many Camberwell players, coaches and officials representing the state of Victoria and Australia (see Appendix 1). However, the Club's greatest and proudest achievements have always been associated with its grassroots community activities, offering a challenging and rewarding experience to girls and boys who make the choice to play lacrosse.

Camberwell Lacrosse Club has been, and remains, a grassroots community club. It has long been an integral part of the community fabric as evidenced by:

- focus on an **active junior program for local girls and boys** as the foundation for the adult ranks, with 95% coming from local schools in the Solway, Lynden and Gardiner council wards;
- long-term history of equal opportunity with well-established opportunities for both genders and a **female participation ratio of 33%** that exceeds other local sporting codes;
- making lacrosse accessible by **keeping participation fees low**, offering discounts to families with multiple participating children and maintaining a "scholarship" program to alleviate costs for families that do not have the financial resources to participate;
- staying true to the character of a non-profit community organization by **not paying players, coaches or administrators**;
- providing an **inclusive environment** which welcomes players of all backgrounds and includes opportunities for those with disabilities;
- regular testimonials the Club receives from grateful families, attesting to the impact lacrosse and the Club have had on their child's development (See Appendix 4).

The Club is run on a "belonging and nurturing" basis rather than a "transactional" basis - a true community club.



Figure 1 – Juniors training at Dorothy Laver Reserve West



Our history at Dorothy Laver Reserve West

Camberwell Lacrosse Club has been a long-time tenant of Dorothy Laver Reserve West. In a 1983 Council submission, the Club proposed that the paddock-like fields be redeveloped into a sporting ground for lacrosse¹. The Club was instrumental in the design of Dorothy Laver Reserve West and it was the Club's fundraising efforts that allowed the Council to install the flood-lighting still used today. Dorothy Laver Reserve West has since been actively used by the Club and the community for 35 years.

Dorothy Laver Reserve West is our functional and spiritual home and we cannot function at Eric Raven Reserve alone, as planned by Council. Contrary to recent statements made by Council, Camberwell Lacrosse Club has never instigated or sought re-development of facilities at Eric Raven Reserve.

The late, Councillor Dorothy Laver held carefully considered views about the importance of local sporting clubs and the role of local sport. She supported the need to maintain diversity and ensure that "minor" sports were heard and given the opportunity to thrive. Accordingly, she was an enthusiastic supporter of the Camberwell Lacrosse Club. We do not wish to see her legacy, which exists in the naming of the two adjacent reserves, diminished or sullied by the changes that are now proposed.



Figure 2 - Councillor Dorothy Laver with Camberwell Lacrosse players Doug Fox and Bob Jackson

From the Annual Report of the Camberwell Lacrosse Club, November 1984....

"Camberwell Council has responded to the Club's proposal for the development of the Dorothy Laver Reserve. Plans have been finalised for a \$250,000 building project which will include four changing rooms, kitchen, storeroom, referees' room and social room. It is expected that all planning permits will be approved before Christmas and the building will be complete in July 1985. The club would then have three playing fields together at the one location – a great boost after the fragmentation we have put up with for many years.

Some special fund-raising is proposed to assist in providing specialist practice facilities when the new pavilion becomes available. Club members and supporters are asked to give their utmost support.

A special vote of thanks is given to South Ward Councillor, Dorothy Laver who has been a staunch supporter of the pavilion/grounds development project. Councillor Laver retired from Council during the year but, no doubt, will show a continuing interest in the project and our club. We wish her health and happiness in retirement".

¹ Camberwell Lacrosse Club and Hal Cutting Architect, *Camberwell Lacrosse Centre proposal*, Feb 1983 (see appendix 4)



Our Response to Council's Proposal

The council proposes to redevelop Dorothy Laver Reserve West as a synthetic surface, with one senior soccer field suitable for WNPL, one junior soccer field, two under 6-7 Mini Roos soccer fields and one cricket field (overlaid across the soccer fields). The lighting will be upgraded to LED lights, a cricket pitch removed, and a perimeter fence installed. The proposal's main objective is to cater for the growth of soccer and it aims to provide a year-round, soccer focused facility that accommodates the full age spectrum of juniors through to seniors, increased opportunities for women and girls and Boroondara's first Women's National Premier League (WNPL) senior soccer field.²

The existing proposal does not mention the long-term existing tenant, Camberwell Lacrosse Club. Post-consultation, Council Officers indicated all the club's operations would be moved to Eric Raven Reserve which is currently used in conjunction with Dorothy Laver Reserve West. The current Council plans to install lighting at Eric Raven Reserve were not sought by the Club.

Camberwell Lacrosse Club has carefully analysed the proposal and listened to its members and the local community in reaching its position. Our club strongly opposes the proposal for Dorothy Laver Reserve West for the reasons below.

1. **Planning Process** – proposal based on flawed and conflicted process
2. **Location** – peripheral location not suited to user-intensive facility, not central to the need and not aligned with Council Strategy
3. **Site** – not appropriate for the proposed development
4. **Diversity** – soccer-specific development detrimental to other sports and not aligned with multipurpose strategy of the Boroondara Community Plan
5. **Lacrosse Operations Disadvantage** – cannot fit safely at Eric Raven Reserve
6. **Lacrosse Growth** – current lacrosse growth will be constrained
7. **Elite Focus** – investment in WNPL facility to exclusion of other sports is inappropriate
8. **Community Impact** – detrimental impact to resident amenity and casual use

More details are included in the following pages.

Note: During Community Consultation, some amendments to the project were communicated but were never incorporated in the proposal material, apart from a Frequently Asked Questions sheet. This included statements regarding building the ground to Women's National Premier League specification but the ground not being for elite (WNPL) use. Camberwell Lacrosse is responding to the information that has been published that specifically identifies creating a WNPL ground as a community benefit.

² Boroondara Council, *Dorothy Laver Reserve West Community Consultation webpage* (www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/about-council/have-your-say/all-consultations/dorothy-laver-reserve-west-community-consultation)



Concern 1: Planning Process

The proposal has been based on a conflicted and flawed planning and consultation process

It appears that a purpose-driven outcome has taken precedence over proper consultation, communication and holistic assessment. The lack of impact research prior to releasing this major development proposal comes across as putting the cart before the horse.

The initial planning and consultation process has failed to meet the standards of communication and transparency which the community expects. Camberwell Lacrosse Club was grateful to receive an apology from the CEO in relation to this but the subsequent failure to release information on the Council's planning discussions, including who participated and what their contributions were, leaves our club, and other clubs, unknowing and disadvantaged.

Our concerns include the following.

- There was **no consultation with existing stakeholders** in the development of the proposal. It was sprung on existing tenants at time of publication, whereas soccer groups were involved in its development (e.g. FFV reviewed and approved the ground specification³).
- It was apparent that **soccer received advance information** about the decision, ahead of the initial public announcement or advice to lacrosse and other affected users.
- The initial **consultation was excessively rushed**. Only two business days' notice was given to the only Information Session planned, and this was scheduled on a Tuesday at 2pm, a generally inconvenient time for those working.
- There was **minimal public notice given** with only residences within 500m being letterboxed and nothing published in Boroondara Bulletin or other media channels.
- There has been **no transparency of the decision** to select Dorothy Laver Reserve West. Key information is deemed confidential and Council has not published the ranking of the grounds. The evaluation criteria was deficient in not pursuing a clear prior understanding of the nature, circumstances, needs and impact on existing users.
- Council would be required to **break the tenancy lease contract** which Camberwell Lacrosse Club holds if works are to commence early in 2019.
- The **goal-posts have been further shifted** in subsequent consultation with our club.

Arising from the turmoil that Camberwell Lacrosse Club has been thrown into by the project announcement, the club also wishes to voice its concerns regarding the unseen communications and representations which appear to lie behind this major decision. The Council's strategic plans and minutes are available for all to read, but the local paid lobbyists social media claims of success in winning soccer playing space creates concern among other community clubs.

Community clubs which are run on a voluntary basis need to be able to rely on their own Council and Councillors to act equitably in allocating resources. Such clubs do not have professional advocates and can be disadvantaged by being less visible and less inclined to make demands or requests on Council, but this does not make them less deserving.

³ As stated by Council Officers at Community Consultation Meeting, 26th June 2018



Concern 2: Location

The location is not central to where the need exists, and Council strategy is to invest in other precincts

The peripheral location of Dorothy Laver Reserve is not geographically efficient

High-intensity, user-focused facilities are best placed at central locations within their catchment area. This improves convenience for users, reduces the quantity and distances of vehicle trips and limits traffic congestion along main roadway arteries and points of convergence. Dorothy Laver Reserve is located at the extreme peripheral southern border of Boroondara, rather than in a central location. Locating a \$4.5m sports facility designed for intensive use at a peripheral location is not a convenient or geographically efficient solution for Boroondara residents and is not good planning.

The location is inconsistent with the Sport and Recreation Strategy

It does not make sense to build a major additional soccer facility in the South East precinct when this area already has the best supply of soccer fields in Boroondara, with 1 ground for every 139 participants⁴. The Boroondara Sport and Recreation Strategy identifies that the real need for soccer facilities is in the South West precinct (Hawthorn), where there is only 1 ground for every 624 soccer participants⁴, five times worse off than the South East. The Strategy also identifies a need for AFL facility investment in the Central and North West precinct.

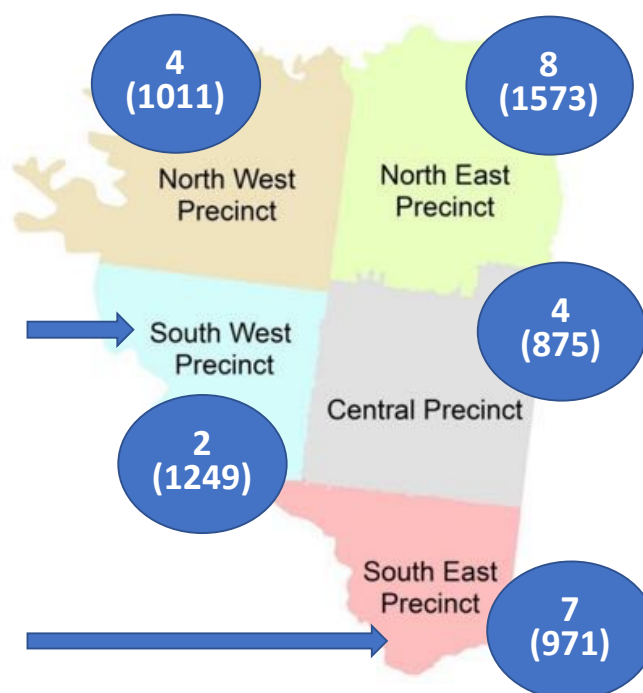
Given Council’s own analysis and published strategy, it is hard to understand why such a large amount is planned to be spent in the wrong location.

Current soccer pitches and players

“consideration should be given to increasing the capacity of existing sports grounds, particularly in the South West precinct for soccer and Central precincts for Australian Rules Football”

Boroondara Council
Sports & Recreation Strategy

Proposal for 2 soccer pitches at Dorothy Laver Reserve West for \$4.5m to increase pitches to 9 in the precinct



Source of Data: Boroondara Council Participation Analysis⁴

⁴ Boroondara Council, *Sport and Recreation Strategy Foundation Paper 3 Participation Analysis Summary*, June 2017



Concern 3: Site

The site of Dorothy Laver Reserve West is not appropriate for the proposed development

Limited parking and traffic congestion

Access to Dorothy Laver Reserve West is a key issue. The proposal envisages a total of 4 separate soccer pitches at Dorothy Laver Reserve West. When fully occupied, in excess of 100 car parks will be needed for participants/parents alone, not including provision for spectators and transition between games. Overflow car-parking in local streets will occur, together with traffic congestion and safety issues at the single entry/exit point on Dunlop Street and undesirable flow patterns across significantly increased hours of usage. These problems already are difficult for lacrosse and co-located East Malvern Tennis Club, especially at times when the adjacent Auskick and junior AFL programs are operating. The problems are exacerbated by Football Federation of Victoria requirements for Women's National Premier League teams which specify a minimum of 100 car parks within 250 metres of the main field⁵.

Site is geographically constrained

The site is geographically constrained by close proximity to Gardiner's Creek on one side, the Stonnington border on the other two and a narrow, single point of entry from Dunlop Street. There is limited capacity to create the space necessary in future to provide for this increased usage or to add the infrastructure necessary for the stated WNPL objective.

Site is a floodplain

A synthetic surface at this location introduces un-researched and unnecessary risks to the Gardiner's Creek floodplain and protected wetlands. The site is fraught with a flooding history which is less than compatible with the associated environmental concerns or the financial risks of insurances and replacement costs should the synthetic surface be damaged or destroyed. The existing grassed surface is far more compatible with the geography of this site.



Figure 3 – Dorothy Laver Reserve West after 2011 flood: fence destroyed and tree stump swept onto middle of ground

⁵ Football Federation Victoria, 2018 Rules of Competition NPL Women and Girls, Schedule 3 Item 3.4



Concern 4: Diversity and Inclusiveness

The soccer-specific nature of the proposal compromises diversity and inclusiveness

“Multipurpose facilities” vs “soccer focussed facility”

The Boroondara Council has provided clear guidance in its strategic planning documents and plans that it wishes to invest in facilities that can address the needs of a variety of sports. In contrast to Council intent, the proposal states that it will provide “a year-round soccer focused facility”⁶.

Boroondara Community Plan (2017-27)

*Strategy 1.1: Plan, maintain and renew **multipurpose** facilities and sports precincts to meet broad, intergenerational needs of the community now and into the future.*⁷

Sport and Recreation Strategy Action Plan

*Undertake a review to determine locations in the municipality to install a **multipurpose, synthetic sports field** in Council or non-Council owned facilities.*⁸

The proposal also states the facility will be “Boroondara’s first Women’s National Premier League (WNPL) senior soccer field”. This means the ground surface must meet very specific requirements defined by FFV that include “no extraneous markings may be present on the pitch”⁹. As a result, other sports that require any sort of line-marking will be precluded from using the WNPL field. Removing other sports from this location in favour of soccer is inequitable. Reducing sporting diversity in this way is not in the community’s best interests.

Soccer is monopolising Solway Ward

Within the Solway Ward, there are currently 7 playing reserves with active winter tenancies. The proposal adds two grounds at Dorothy Laver Reserve West and additional grounds are earmarked at Dorothy Laver Reserve East (per the proposal) and Markham Victory Reserve (per master plan). The end result will be one soccer club occupying nearly 80% of active sports playing areas in Solway ward. A monopoly on participation in sport within the ward is not a pattern that fits with Council’s diversity and inclusiveness principles and it fails to stand up to any measure of fairness or equity.

Venue	Current Tenant	Proposed Tenant	Playing Fields
Ferndale Park	AFL	AFL	1
Eric Raven Reserve	Lacrosse	Lacrosse	1
Dorothy Laver East		Soccer (future)	1
Dorothy Laver West	Lacrosse	Soccer	2
Watson Reserve	Soccer 75%/AFL 25%	Soccer 75%/AFL 25%	1
Markham Reserve	Soccer	Soccer	1
Markham East		Soccer (future)	1
Ashburton Park	Soccer	Soccer	1
Warner Reserve	Soccer	Soccer	1

Table 1: Current and Proposed Winter Playing Tenancies at Solway Ward Sports Venues¹⁰

⁶ Boroondara Council, Dorothy Laver Reserve West Community Consultation webpage

⁷ Boroondara Council, *Boroondara Community Plan 2017-27*, pg 14

⁸ Boroondara Council, *Action Plan – Sport and Recreation Strategy*, Theme 3 (Equitable access for all) -item 3.2, pg7

⁹ Football Federation Victoria, *2018 Rules of Competition NPL Women and Girls*, Schedule 3 Item 1.11

¹⁰ Boroondara Council, *Sports Ground and Sports Facilities* (via www.boroondara.vic.gov.au), extracted August 2018



There is no planned “freeing up” of other grounds

Council’s Frequently Asked Questions document prepared as an outcome of the Community Consultation Process states:

“The proposed transfer of soccer participation to this ground will also have the flow on effect of freeing up other opportunities elsewhere in the municipality, providing additional benefits to other sporting groups.”

The proposal and subsequent interactions have not resulted in any grounds that have been identified in the Solway Wards or the South East precinct that will be freed up by soccer. The options proposed only free up a ground because Camberwell Lacrosse Club is being reduced from two grounds to one.

Soccer is no worse off than other sports

Despite claims from local soccer clubs, soccer in southern Boroondara is currently no worse off than other sports, and in a better position than some. Careful analysis of 2018 fixtures shows soccer had 1.4 grounds per 100 home game timeslots in 2018, similar to other sports. This is not an imbalance that requires specific soccer-targeted investment.

Assigning 2 additional grounds to soccer at Dorothy Laver and one at the newly renovated Highfield North, whilst reducing the Lacrosse Club tenancy to a single tenancy, will result in significant inequity. An assessment of fixtures has identified that soccer will end up with almost double the level of resources of lacrosse and AFL¹¹. Even if soccer were to double its player base, it would still be in a better position than both Lacrosse and AFL. The result is that sporting diversity suffers as other sports’ footprint is reduced, and their ability to grow is stifled.

2019 Soccer 1.7 grounds/100 games

In 2018, soccer required grounds for 866 individual timeslots¹² through southern Boroondara. With Highfield North and DLRW added and Batesford removed, this will result in a rate of 1.7 grounds/100 games. If soccer grows by 100%, it will still be better off than lacrosse.

2019 Lacrosse 0.8 grounds/100 games

In 2019 Camberwell Lacrosse will have at least 14 teams playing on average 8.5 home games. It will be difficult to fit 119 expected games into a single ground at a rate of 0.8 grounds/100 games.

2019 Ashy Redbacks (AFL) 0.9 grounds/100 games

In 2018, 211 games (excluding Auskick) were played over a total of 2 grounds at 3 venues. Compared to soccer, this is 25% of the games fitted into 14% of the grounds used.

Grounds in southern Boroondara

	2018	Future
<u>Soccer</u>		
Ashburton	1	1
Batesford	0.5	0
(in Monash LGA, used by AUSC)		
DLRW	0	2
Frog Hollow	1	1
Hartwell	2	2
HA Smith	2	2
Highfield	1	2
HowardDawson	1	1
Markham	1	1
Tooronga	1	1
Warner	1	1
Watson’s Park	<u>0.75</u>	<u>0.75</u>
	12.25	14.75
<u>Camberwell Lacrosse</u>		
DLRW	1	0
ERR	<u>0.5</u>	<u>1</u>
	1.5	1.0

¹¹ Based on analysis of identified individual time slots per ground from FFV, Over45’s, and VCFA 2018 fixtures

¹² Adjusted for MiniRoos games that share grounds (e.g. 4 concurrent games can be played at Warner)



Concern 5: Lacrosse Operations Disadvantaged

Camberwell Lacrosse Club will be unable to sustain existing operations at Eric Raven Reserve

The operations and future viability of the lacrosse club will be compromised and put at risk by both the initial Council proposal and all subsequent options identified by Council.

Of particular concern, is an apparent ongoing determination to reduce Camberwell Lacrosse Club to a single playing field. This is not workable and flies in the face of Council assurances that our club will not be disadvantaged.

Our club accepts that Council needs to solve its synthetic surface and soccer issues, but the solution should not be through an un-researched and unfair dislocation of the long-serving lacrosse club.

Lacrosse needs are currently met at two fields

At Council's request the club documented its facility needs as follows:

- Two grassed playing fields which are unencumbered by covered or synthetic cricket pitches
- Sufficient space under lacrosse-specification floodlighting to conduct safe mid-week training for all teams
- Perimeter fencing where needed, to ensure safety for spectators, traffic and parked cars
- Pavilion with male and female changing areas and kitchen/canteen/social facilities and space to cater for 60 plus people
- Adequate off-street car-parking space adjacent to, or in proximity to, the pavilion and fields
- Equipment storage facilities with close and safe access to the playing fields
- Rebound practice wall suitable for lacrosse

These facility needs are currently met by the combination use of Dorothy Laver Reserve West and Eric Raven Reserve. The split location is not ideal but is manageable given the reasonably close proximity of the two grounds. The effective "home" is Dorothy Laver Reserve West where all team training is conducted and the majority of junior and women's matches are played. Eric Raven Reserve is used less heavily and carries all senior male and older-age group junior male matches. This two-field arrangement enables the club to meet its match fixture and team training obligations and to responsibly distribute the wear on the playing surfaces in a manner that will keep both fields in safe, playable condition. It also acknowledges that sporting clubs need to know in advance that they have the room and flexibility needed to plan for and accommodate both emerging future growth and the year-to-year variability in demand and player retention which comes and goes in all sporting clubs.

Council has assumed lacrosse can be reduced to one ground

Following the public announcement of the proposal, Council Officers admitted that they had little or no knowledge of how lacrosse was played, or of its specific space and safety needs. Our club finds it incomprehensible that the proposed development could be recommended without even this fundamental impact research.

Without knowledge of, or regard to the range of factors which affect the operations of our club, Council officers used current year match fixtures as a basis for deciding that Camberwell Lacrosse Club can be fully housed on a single field at Eric Raven Reserve if floodlighting is added to the area.



Camberwell Lacrosse Club will not fit on Eric Raven Reserve

In fact, the lacrosse match program of the club cannot be accommodated at Eric Raven Reserve. Also, team-training cannot be safely conducted on the space available without a costly re-arrangement involving additional mid-week training nights, loss of experienced junior coaches and increased nuisance to local residents. No flexibility or provision is made for future expansion.

The important issue of playing surface quality and related safety is being under-estimated and ignored by Council's plan which would result in a more than 300% increase in wear on the Eric Raven Reserve. Maintenance costs, player injury risks and liability issues can be expected to rise for both the club and for Council.

Lacrosse uses a small, hard ball which can travel at speeds up to 150kph, especially during shots on goal. The attendant safety risks from balls increases with age of participants and by gender and needs to be accommodated by buffer zones or screen fencing at the playing spaces. Eric Raven Reserve does not cater for these. More detailed information on these capacity, safety and club management issues is provided in Appendix 3.



Figure 4: Scheduling dilemma: 3 concurrent home games on 28 July 2018 (2 x U11 and U13)

Alternatives should be considered

By contrast, Dorothy Laver Reserve West has approximately 20,000 square metres of grassed playing space if the cricket pitches were removed. This is more than double the usable space at Eric Raven Reserve and could, without major Council expense, provide the two high-quality, safe playing fields and the single location for lacrosse which the club has sought since 1983.

This solution would retain the open grassed space of Dorothy Laver Reserve West and totally free up Eric Raven Reserve for re-assignment to other users. It should be explored as the trigger which would enable Council to locate the proposed synthetic surface to a more optimal location.



Concern 6: Lacrosse growth

The growth of lacrosse currently being experienced will be stifled by lack of facilities

Constraining Camberwell Lacrosse Club to a single field at Eric Raven Reserve will disadvantage the Club and constrain and cap its future growth. This runs counter to the Council’s own stated desire to promote sport in Boroondara. Based on current registrations and new players signed up for our 2019 indoor pre-season, the Club is expecting additional teams in 2019 of Under 13 boys, Under 15 girls and senior men, making availability of two playing fields essential.

Camberwell Lacrosse Club records its disappointment in Council’s singular focus on the growth of soccer. In the proposal paper Council indicates that soccer growth is increasing: 2014-2016 growth was at approximately 20% and junior girl’s growth increased by 10% in 2016. While this deserves support, Council has failed to investigate or recognise lacrosse in a similar manner. Camberwell Lacrosse Club growth rates in the 2015-2018 period are as follows:

Camberwell Lacrosse Club Growth

	Males	Females
Junior	15%	100%
Senior	21%	130%
Overall	17%	110%

Table 2: 2015-2018 club growth



Comparative Gender Equality

	Males	Females
Lacrosse ¹³	68%	32%
AFL	70%	30%
Soccer ¹⁴	81%	19%

Table 3: Gender comparison local region

The overall lacrosse growth rate triples that of soccer¹⁵ yet merited no consideration in the needs assessment that Council has communicated. Worse than that, the proposal seeks to reduce the number of fields available to Camberwell Lacrosse Club, constraining growth and risking a decline in participation that would be detrimental to our club.

Despite the focus on the growth of soccer, there have been no quantifiable projections provided of soccer participation growth which would result from the proposal’s implementation. More importantly, no consideration is given to the potential for the development to cause a decline in lacrosse participation.

¹³ Lacrosse Victoria, 2017 Annual Report, pp 23-24

¹⁴ Football Federation Victoria, *State Football Facilities Strategy to 2026*, pg 52

¹⁵ Based on 27% change in registered players in 7 years from 2009 to 2016 for North Eastern Metro region equates to 3.5%p.a.: Football Federation Victoria, *State Football Facilities Strategy to 2026*, pg 52



Concern 7: Elite focus

Investment in elite sport at the expense of community clubs is not an appropriate use of ratepayer funds

Council has stated that it does not intend to build an elite soccer facility but will build a ground to accommodate the needs of senior Women’s National Premier League (WNPL) games¹⁶. We believe that building for an elite competition such as WNPL conflicts with the needs of local community-based clubs.

WNPL is elite

- It is the highest tier of soccer in Victoria, with only 10 WNPL clubs in the state, providing a “talented player pathway” to professional soccer
- Each club is limited to approximately 100 players selected in annual trials
- Selection of players under FFV requirements can come from a broad geographical area beyond Boroondara, including from Melbourne, interstate and overseas
- Clubs are required to operate independently of community clubs
- Alamein FC describe themselves as “a club in Victoria’s Elite competition for women”¹⁷
- Alamein head coach Sinisa Cohadzic published an article stating: “we redeveloped the old WPL into the new NPLW because we wanted to progress to a more semi-professional set-up”¹⁸

The influx of 100 elite players into an area selected by AUSC and FFV has created a false local demand. Our community-based club believes that it is highly inappropriate that it faces being displaced from Dorothy Laver Reserve to make way for a fledgling club comprised of elite players with many recruited from regional areas outside of Boroondara.

Dorothy Laver Reserve will not meet WNPL standards

If Council wishes to accommodate WNPL, there are very specific facility standards required by Football Federation Victoria¹⁹. These are not addressed in the proposal and would introduce immediate or future un-notified nuisance or risks for the amenity of local residents.

Women’s Premier League Facility Requirements 2018

Mandatory	Desired
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No extraneous line markings on pitch ○ Two covered team benches with seating for 9 ○ Fully functional scoreboard ○ Fully functional public address system audible to all parts of the venue ○ Media and operations viewing area under cover ○ Venue access 3 nights per week for 8 months of year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Synthetic surface to hold FIFA 2 star rating ○ Covered roof players race from dressing room to pitch, min height of 2.2m ○ Undercover seating/viewing area for 500 spectators ○ Spectator amenities fully enclosed with 1.8m perimeter fence

¹⁶ Boroondara Council, *Dorothy Laver Reserve West Proposal Frequently Asked Questions* August 2018

¹⁷ Alamein Football Club Website, www.alameinfc.com.au/images/Documents/2018-sponsorship-packages.pdf (extracted Aug 2018)

¹⁸ Sinisa Cohadzic, *My concerns with women’s football in Victoria*, The Corner Flag, Oct 18 2016

¹⁹ Football Federation Victoria, *2018 Rules of Competition NPL Women and Girls*, Schedule 3



Further investment would be required for WNPL

The investment of \$4.5m in Dorothy Laver Reserve covers only the installation of the playing surface and some fencing and lighting adjustments. For many of the other standards, Dorothy Laver Reserve West is significantly inadequate, particularly parking and building size. As a result, **WNPL games will not be viable on an ongoing basis at Dorothy Laver Reserve West.**

FFV were consulted in the planning phase but it appears their advice to Council on what constitutes a WNPL standard ground may have been incomplete and the publicly published WNPL requirements have either been overlooked or ignored. This poses many questions:

- Will Alamein FC seek further ratepayer funds to redevelop the Dorothy Laver Reserve West pavilion and other facilities?
- Will Alamein FC seek a further ground that will be WNPL compliant after the redevelopment is complete?
- Or will WNPL be played at the regional venue identified in the FFV 2018 Facilities Strategy²⁰, St. Kevin's Tooronga Sports Complex, removing the demand for an additional facility but resulting in the ground being turned over to soccer?

WNPL rules preclude other sports

Council has stated that the facility will be a “multi-purpose” venue but the fact remains that Premier League clubs are structured to require a senior team underpinned by four elite junior teams. The training and match requirements of these five teams will necessarily occupy a large portion of available times at the facility, reducing the opportunity for other users.

There are also specific ground surface requirements that will exclude sports: a WNPL ground can only be marked for soccer (WNPL-compliant pitches cannot have extraneous markings)²¹.

We find it inappropriate that an external agency can dictate field marking and team usage requirements to Council that will cause the synthetic playing surface to be restricted in availability and/or restricted to soccer-only use.

²⁰ Football Federation Victoria, *State Football Facilities Strategy to 2026*, pg 17

²¹ Football Federation Victoria, *2018 Rules of Competition NPL Women and Girls*, Schedule 3, Item 1.11, Pg 62



Concern 8: Community Impact

The proposal fails to anticipate the detrimental community impacts of a radically re-arranged provision for local sports

Camberwell Lacrosse has been mindful and respectful over many years of the impact which sporting gatherings can have on the lifestyle and amenities of local residents.

Having been a long-term tenant at both Dorothy Laver Reserve West and Eric Raven Reserve, the Club is well aware of inconveniences in local streets resulting from car-parking overflows and driving delays caused by traffic congestion. These will be substantially increased in both amount and frequency at both Dorothy Laver Reserve West and Eric Raven Reserve if the proposed re-development proceeds.

Amenity issues are not the only concerns raised with our club by local residents and passive users. The reserve is heavily used for walking and exercising dogs and by families who engage in casual family games with their children. According to Penn State’s Centre for Sports Surface Research, “generally, synthetic turf is 20° to 30°C hotter than natural grass”. Numerous example reports exist where surface temperatures close to or above 90°C were measured, including 95°C reported in Toronto, Canada with the strips of the coach’s shoe soles melting²². This is likely to result in heat stress for humans and burns to the paws of dogs. This is contrary to Council’s claim that dog-walkers will not be disadvantaged.



Blazing heat burning shoe soles on Toronto's turf fields



Researcher found one artificial field had a surface temperature of 95 C

Errol Nazareth · CBC News · Posted: Aug 10, 2016 5:00 AM ET | Last Updated: August 10, 2016

...

John Hyland, a technical director with the North Toronto Soccer League, said this summer has been "unreal," and there's no way the athletes can play on an artificial pitch before the sun starts going down.

"We're just not able to use it during the day, because it's just too hot," he said. "We started using everything after 6 o'clock in the hope that it's cooled down a bit."

Hyland said that last one week one player's shoe came apart "but he had to keep going because he didn't have another pair of shoes with him." He added that his players have resorted to keeping their water bottles off the field "because it's too hot, the water gets warm and they don't want to drink it."

...

²² Nazareth Errol. Blazing Heat Burning Shoe Soles on Toronto’s Turf Fields—Toronto—CBC News. 2016. Available online: <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/summer-heat-turf-1.3714351> (accessed on 1 October 2018).



Evaluation of subsequent Council alternatives

Subsequent to the initial proposal, Council Officers met with Camberwell Lacrosse Club to review a number of options for shared use or a complete relocation in the event that the synthetic surface project proceeds at Dorothy Laver Reserve West. The Club inspected and assessed each of these options as requested by Council. During the consultation process, Council suddenly shifted the goalposts by removing all of the relocation options and re-writing the four remaining options in ways that have worsened the prospects for lacrosse. The ABANDON option now is a project amending, rather than abandoning statement. Our observations are summarised below and recorded in Appendix 2.

It is concerning to us that each of the now remaining Council options reduces the Club to a single ground with an additional “overflow” ground, despite the details of teams and numbers that have been provided. This will result in the Club being worse off than it is currently, with 170 players squeezed on a single ground. In comparison, soccer currently has local usage of around 80 registered players per ground²³ and FFV is targeting to reduce this further. To achieve any sort of equity, lacrosse requires at least two tenanted grounds.

Proposals which detach or dislocate the lacrosse club from the catchment area which has produced 95% of its junior players over the past fifty years ring alarm bells for the future of the club.

Options presented

Option	Ranking	Assessment
A. DLRW lacrosse =abandon	1	Preferred option but requires change: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include both DLRW grounds in a seasonal tenancy, rather than just 1 • Address consequential parking, fencing, lighting and pavilion issues
B. ERR & DLRW(s) overflow = amend	2	Only workable if further changes made. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must include commitment to support fixturing of lacrosse at DLRW(s) as priority, not “as booked” • Requires amendment to provide commitment to support training scheduling at DLRW(s) to support overflow training • Require a facility sharing agreement at DLRW due to facility limitations (parking, change rooms, kitchen)
C. DLRW(S) & DLRE overflow = amend	X	Not suitable <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This option provides Camberwell Lacrosse Club with no home and no tenancy. There would be no club rooms • Significant risk with senior lacrosse being played on a surface in close proximity to a shared path and a car park
D. ERR & DLRE overflow = adopt	X	Not suitable <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does not fit club training requirements due to shape of ground; Does not have training capacity for teams planned for 2019 (see Appendix 3) • Represents significant overuse of ERR • Requires cricket pitch removal, fencing and storage at DLRE.

ERR = Eric Raven Reserve; DLRE = Dorothy Laver Reserve East (a.k.a. Saxby); DLRW = Dorothy Laver Reserve West
DLRW(S) = Dorothy Laver Reserve West South ground (closest to Dunlop St.)

Options Withdrawn

Willison Reserve, Willison Bowls, Frog Hollow, Highfield Park, Nettleton Reserve, Hays Paddock and Stradbroke Park were all presented as possible options by Council Officers in discussions. After Camberwell Lacrosse Club had undertaken a review of these, these options were removed.

²³ North East Metro region currently has 6382 registered players on 80 pitches, for 2026 FFV is targeting 103 pitches for 6,771 players: Football Federation Victoria, *State Football Facilities Strategy to 2026*, pg 52



The way forward

Camberwell Lacrosse Club acknowledges that a synthetic sports surface may be a boost to sport in Boroondara. We contend, however, that Council should not settle for a sub-optimal solution when spending \$4.5m. With this level of budget support Council has an opportunity to be visionary and to maximize its capital investment.

Council Needs an Innovative, Efficient and Inclusive Solution

For efficiency, a facility design is needed that will service a wide variety of users, including schools, sports and pinnacle events. Key criteria include:

- Multi-sport, multi-user surface with supporting infrastructure for use that ranges from beginner juniors to elite competition.
- Flexible facility management model which can respond to club tenancies, school bookings and pinnacle spectator fixtures and events for diverse user groups at both day and night time.
- Location which has “centrality”, is “environment friendly” and has suitable space, site and location attributes to house the necessary infrastructure, including car-parking. Dorothy Laver Reserve does not meet the requirements.

Camberwell Lacrosse Club would be prepared to hire such a facility to host special events such as night-time State and Premier League lacrosse matches; Lacrosse Victoria competition finals; Interstate and Australian Championship events and special community clinics/starter programs.

Dorothy Laver Reserve West

Camberwell Lacrosse Club does not endorse the plan to re-develop Dorothy Laver Reserve West as a synthetic surface, soccer-focused facility. The above-mentioned considerations, environmental sensitivities and flood management issues suggest that the topography and geography are simply not suitable for the project at this location.

Camberwell Lacrosse Club strongly supports the alternative option that was initially raised by Council, to retain Dorothy Laver Reserve West as a fully grassed sporting venue for lacrosse with cricket pitch removal, perimeter fencing and upgrades to pavilion, lighting and car-parking. The Council is referred to the submission which Camberwell Lacrosse Club made to Council in 1983 for the proper development of a home which meets the needs of lacrosse at Dorothy Laver Reserve West (see Appendix 5).



Conclusion

We ask that Council:

- Abandon the proposal to develop a synthetic surface soccer-focused facility at Dorothy Laver Reserve West
- Retain DLRW as a fully grassed venue and ask Council Officers to engage with Camberwell Lacrosse Club to develop a proposal for an effective home for lacrosse at Dorothy Laver Reserve West
- Ask Council Officers to identify candidate grounds for an innovative and inclusive multipurpose synthetic sports surface in a suitable location consistent with the Sport and Recreation Strategy

Appendices



Appendix 1 – Letter from Australian Lacrosse Association



To Whom It May Concern

Dear Sir/Madam,

The Australian Lacrosse Association (ALA) fully supports Camberwell Lacrosse Club in their bid to retain Dorothy Laver Reserve as their home ground. Camberwell Lacrosse Club has a rich and proud tradition and has made numerous contributions to the sport of Lacrosse both nationally and internationally. We call on Boroondara Council to ensure the club's continued prosperity.

Lacrosse is one of the fastest growing sports in the world. Forty-six (46) countries took part in the men's World Championship, which recently concluded in Israel, up from twenty-one (21) countries a decade ago. Lacrosse is now well on track to becoming a fully-fledged Olympic sport, hopefully, as soon as 2024. In Australia it is played in all states and growth has been the ALA #1 priority, with a specific focus on introducing the sport, country-wide, to primary schools through the launch of our 'Quick Stix' program in 2017. This has been accomplished through the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) and its Sporting Schools Program and has seen participation rates increase by 30% over the last 18 months. ALA anticipates that in 2019 Quick Stix will also be introduced to secondary schools across Australia through the ASC Sporting Schools program.

On the international stage Australia is one of the four (4) original countries to compete at the International level and is very proud to have been a part of the formation of the both the then separate men's and women's international organisations, and to consistently be playing significant roles within the current Federation of International Lacrosse.

Australia is the leading lacrosse nation outside of North America and has consistently punched above its weight in world events which are held every four (4) years for open-age men and women/U19 men and women:

- The national senior men's team has never finished lower than 4th in the Lacrosse World Championship events and has competed four times for a gold medal in the 13 world events held to date;
- The Under 19 men's team is currently ranked 4th in the world having competed for gold twice and have also bronze medalled twice in the eight world events held to date;
- The national senior women's team has held the world #1 title twice, silver medalled four times and bronze medalled three times in the 10 world events held to date, is currently ranked 4th in the Lacrosse World Cup;
- The national Under 19 women's team is currently ranked 4th in the Lacrosse World Championship, and has held the world champion #1 title once and been runner up four times in the 6 world events held to date.

The Camberwell Lacrosse Club has produced many international players. Most notably Doug Fox OAM, who captained Australia in 1974 and most recently Sean Aaron who has just represented Australia in the 2018 Lacrosse World Championship in Israel, following in Doug's footsteps as goal-keeper. The club's Director of Women's Development, Meredith Carre, is the assistant coach of the national women's team and a gold winning national team player. Jan Jackson, a club Life Member has served as the Chair of the International Women's Rules Committee in the International Federation of Lacrosse.

Principal Sponsor





Following the FIL Women's World Cup in 2021, both senior Men's and Women's national teams will compete in the World Games in Birmingham, Alabama USA. The World Games is the precursor to inclusion in the Olympic Games, where both Australian teams will have legitimate opportunity to medal.

Despite consistent world class achievements on the world stage, outpacing almost all other sports, Lacrosse remains a grassroots sport in Australia. The Australian Sports Commission has allocated in 2017-18 just \$100,000 for Lacrosse, against \$2.6m for soccer. Players who represent Australia pay 100% of all costs out of their own pockets. Clubs like Camberwell Lacrosse Club are at the heart of Lacrosse in Australia, at a national and international level, but most importantly at the community level, offering a challenging and rewarding experience to boys and girls who do not wish to play a 'major' sport. It is essential for the club to retain two grounds to support its growth at the grassroots level, where it has consistently had one of the most successful junior recruiting programs in the nation. Some of these juniors will likely stand on an Olympic medal podium in the not too distant future, because Boroondara Council chose to support Camberwell Lacrosse Club.

Should you wish to have further information or to discuss this matter please contact either –

Mike Slattery, ALA President

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Vivienne Parker-White, ALA Vice-President

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ALA looks forward to a positive outcome for the Camberwell Lacrosse Club and the retention of their home at the Dorothy Laver Reserve-West.

Yours sincerely,

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27 July 2018

AUSTRALIAN LACROSSE ASSOCIATION LIMITED ACN 124 440 124

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Appendix 2 – Evaluation of Council-provided Options



Camberwell Lacrosse Club Requirements

Camberwell Lacrosse Club identified its requirements for ongoing operation so that it could fairly compare any of the options tabled. The criticality of each requirement was also rated, with those that were mandatory for the club to continue given precedence. These were provided to Council to assist them in identifying options that were suitable for the ongoing viability of the Club.

Requirement	Description	Criticality
Community location	Grounds are within the junior club member catchment zone so we can continue to support existing players and existing relationships with schools.	Mandatory
Gameday fields	Minimum of 2 fields that support full size lacrosse pitch. One to FIL specification, one to LV hybrid specification. Fields not impeded by cricket pitches (e.g. synthetic pitch in grass field). Fields in reasonable proximity of each other. Prefer at least one turf that can withstand expected load and usage.	Mandatory
Training fields	Room for training up to 6 teams concurrently with approx. 30x55m space, adequate buffer zone between each (15m) and safe orientation of goals. Ability to use ground space without impacting gameday field (e.g. no excessive wear of crease or fan). Capacity based on 7 junior teams training 1 early evening (5:30-7:00), 3 junior teams training 2 early evenings and 4 senior teams training 2 evenings (7-8:30).	Mandatory
Training lighting	Lighting to support training field requirements (including appropriate strength, spread and hours)	Mandatory
Equipment storage	Space for the following: 6 goals at training venue, 4 goals for each gameday ground (cater for U11). Line marking equipment, team benches, official's tables and chairs, portable gazebo, spare playing/safety gear. Equipment for schools and other programs, including entry at any time	Mandatory
Club social rooms	Space for post-match catch up and social occasions. Capacity 50+. Co-located with grounds	Mandatory
Gameday warmup	Sufficient space for two teams to warmup prior to game in area adjacent to field	Critical
Gameday change rooms	Two change rooms and officials change room required for grounds used by senior teams for games	Critical
Canteen	Canteen with kitchen and BBQ facility. Fridge and freezer mandatory (lockable).	Critical
Training change rooms	Two change rooms required for grounds used by senior teams for training (one men, one women). Rooms of sufficient size to fit 30 players. Include area for team discussion and video review (in room or adjacent)	Critical
Parking and access	Parking and access for teams + changeover (approx. 60) within reasonable proximity	Critical
Public safety	Passers-by protected from shots on goal by location of field or physical barriers (e.g. ball-stop netting)	Critical
Practice wall	Wall (approx. 3 metres tall) adjacent to training facility	Desired
Pre-season fields	As per training fields available during preseason (Jan-Apr). Located where goals and equipment are stored.	Desired
Summer fields	Minimum 1 field to support school programs, Quickstix, skills program, representative team training	Desired
Event fields	Enable 8 small fields (U11 specification) in proximity. Support local primary school carnivals, LV carnivals.	Desired
Indoor facility	Facility to support MILL competition throughout year. 2 courts approx. basketball size. No colocation required – can continue use of APARC.	Desired
Box lacrosse area	Area to establish a box lacrosse pitch (55m x 25m) with artificial turf and fencing.	Desired
Function room	Function rooms to enable hosting of club events, capacity 60-100	Desired
Gameday lighting	Lighting to game specification	Desired



Option A. Dorothy Laver Reserve West exclusive use

Council description:

“Abandon. This option envisages DLRW remaining grass with lacrosse consolidating their use to DLRW (South), with existing lights. This would be under a seasonal agreement. There would be potential use of DLRW (North) as an overflow ground. There would be no further increase to parking arrangements. Lacrosse would yield up ERR. It would propose the removal and relocation of cricket from DLRW (North and South). There would be opportunities for preseason training for lacrosse, shared with other users. It would be available for all users in the off season. This option is the abandon proposal and Council would look at Plan B for another synthetic soccer location. This option provides additional opportunities for other users at ERR and DLRE”

Analysis

Note: This option is not a straight ABANDON option. The Council-provided description indicates that Camberwell Lacrosse Club will lose a tenancy and move to “overflow” booking. This booking system has resulted in the club being scheduled pre-season at grounds away from where our goals are stored, causing considerable problems for junior coaches and players. One tenanted ground and overflow is not workable.

Requirement	Fit	Assessment
Community location	✓	
Gameday fields	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Insufficient grounds for lacrosse: The requirement to fixture 13 teams into 8 time slots including 4 teams at 9am Sat is not catered for by a single tenanted ground with “potential use” of an overflow ground The option proposes a significant overuse of DLRW(s) beyond standard practice
Training fields	✓	
Training lighting	✓	
Equipment storage	✓	
Club social rooms	✓	

Concerns

- Camberwell Lacrosse Club requirement is for more than one ground based on scheduling of 2018 teams as well 2019 teams on our books.
- DLRW(s) turf will not bear the additional load without significant degradation. At end of season 2018, the goal area that was in the crossover between the training area and the match area was largely devoid of grass. Moving this pitch completely into the training area and adding the load of 3 senior teams will result in an unplayable ground by mid season.
- The option to provide Camberwell Lacrosse Club with a tenancy at DLRW covering both north and south grounds (with cricket pitch removal) should be considered and added as an option. It is unclear why Council Officers have not included this given discussions held identifying our requirements.

Assessment

This option requires amendment to ensure the Club is no worse off than currently. The move from 2 grounds (ERR and DLRW) to a single ground at DLRW(s) with overflow is a substantial reduction.

If it is amended to allow Camberwell Lacrosse Club to continue to use two lacrosse fields, it is our preferred option:

- Camberwell Lacrosse Club retains two playing fields and sufficient training space
- Provides field for other clubs to conduct pre-season or summer competition
- Frees up Eric Raven Reserve for soccer or other sports
- Enables investment to be redirected to improve grounds in other areas



Option B. Eric Raven Reserve and Dorothy Laver Reserve West (shared)

Council description

“Amend. This option envisages a conversion of DLRW (North and South) to synthetic. It is proposed that lacrosse will use ERR for matches and training as their primary ground with a new set of LED training lights. Storage and fencing at ERR would be reviewed. Use of ERR would be under a seasonal arrangement. There would be potential use of DLRW (South) as an overflow ground when required as booked, noting a mechanism for synthetic bookings is not yet confirmed. There is an option for multiple line markings on DLRW (South) for additional use by other clubs and sports where permissible. There would be shared use of the pavilion and other facilities at DLRW. Cricket would remain at ERR, but would be removed and relocated from DLRW. This option is the amend option and a synthetic would still be installed at DLRW. Further opportunities will also be available for other users at DLRW (north) and DLRE.”

Analysis

Requirement	Fit	Assessment
Community location	✓	
Gameday fields	✗	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Insufficient grounds for lacrosse: The requirement to fixture 13 teams into 8 time slots including 4 teams at 9am Sat is not catered for by a single tenanted ground with “potential use” of an overflow ground The option proposes a significant overuse of ERR beyond standard practice
Training fields	✗	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ERR cannot fit training requirement due to space (appendix 3) Overflow training would need to be catered for at DLRWs with specific scheduled times, not overflow booking
Training lighting	✓	
Equipment storage	?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Storage improvement would need to be implemented, not just reviewed
Club social rooms	✓	

Concerns

- Camberwell Lacrosse Club requirement is for more than one ground based on scheduling of 2018 teams as well 2019 teams on our books. The option for overflow “when required as booked” is likely to create fixturing conflicts. Pre-designated timeslots are necessary.
- For training, additional grounds beyond ERR are required (only 3 teams can train at ERR at once, see Appendix 3). Camberwell Lacrosse club would need to be given pre-designated timeslots one night per week at DLRW(s) to allow training.
- This option will put a substantial load on the ERR turf that may adversely impact its quality. This may result in unplayable conditions with no contingency for training or playing senior matches. Dorothy Laver Reserve West (south) would need to be made available to lacrosse if the condition of Eric Raven Reserve deteriorates due to overuse (expected usage is 25% greater than best practice)

Assessment

This option requires amendment to ensure the Club is no worse off than currently. The move from 2 grounds (ERR and DLRW) to a single ground at ERR with overflow at DLRW(s) is a substantial reduction.

The option is only workable if changes made.

- Commitment to support fixturing of lacrosse when required at DLRW(S), rather than “as booked”
- Facility sharing arrangement so that lacrosse games and training are scheduled and no concurrent use due to limitations of venue and pavilion



Option C. Dorothy Laver Reserve West (south), Dorothy Laver Reserve East Overflow

Council description:

“AMEND. This option envisages a conversion of DLRW (North and South) to synthetic. It is proposed that lacrosse use DLRW (south). This would be on a booking arrangement, noting the synthetic booking mechanism is yet to be confirmed. There is the option to include additional line markings on DLRW (south) for additional use where permissible. There would be shared use of the pavillion and other facilities at DLRW. Parking at DLRW to remain as is. It is proposed that lacrosse also use DLRE as an overflow ground without lights. Cricket would remain on DLRE. Cricket would be removed and relocated from DLRW. There would be additional opportunities for other users at DLRW (north) and ERR. Lacrosse would yield up ERR.”

Analysis

Requirement	Fit	Assessment
Community location	✓	
Gameday fields	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This option provides no tenancy for the Club, only access to a booking system so no guarantee of ability to fixture any games Insufficient grounds for lacrosse: The requirement to fixture 13 teams into 8 time slots including 4 teams at 9am Sat is not catered for by a single bookable ground with “potential use” of an overflow ground A FIL spec lacrosse field will not fit on available space Senior games at DLRW(s) create risk due to proximity to shared path and car park
Training fields	?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The transfer of lacrosse to synthetic requires further study due to the potential for impact and burn issues
Training lighting	✓	
Equipment storage	✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assume retention of existing storage facility
Club social rooms	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This option does not provide the Club with club rooms to use during the season, resulting in a substantial negative impact on the community aspects of the club

Concerns

- Camberwell Lacrosse Club is left without club rooms, only a shared facility.
- Camberwell Lacrosse Club requirement is for more than one ground based on scheduling of 2018 teams as well 2019 teams on our books. The option for overflow: “when required as booked” is likely to create fixturing conflicts. Pre-designated timeslots are necessary.
- Concurrent use of DLRW at the same time as soccer is played is **not viable** due to pavilion size and parking. This would only be workable if there are fixed scheduled timeslots which are exclusive use so that two sports are not competing for change rooms, kitchen and club rooms at the same time.
- Dorothy Laver Reserve West south ground is not suitable for senior lacrosse due to the lack of space for a field and the close proximity to the shared path and the car park. Stray balls could cause significant damaged when propelled at over 140 kmh.

Assessment

This option provides Camberwell Lacrosse Club with no home and no tenancy. There would be no club rooms and significant risk with senior lacrosse being played on a surface adjacent to a shared path and a car park.

It is not suitable

- No tenancy and no club rooms for the Club, just shared use.
- DLRW will not fit a full size lacrosse field and a soccer field as outlined in the proposal, and is not suitable for senior lacrosse due to the close proximity to shared path and car park
- Car park and pavilion cannot service two sports concurrently, canteen sharing in current pavilion is not viable



Option D. Eric Raven Reserve, Dorothy Laver Reserve East Overflow

Council description

“PROCEED. This option envisages adoption of the current synthetic proposal, with minor variation to include additional line markings and the removal and relocation of cricket from DLRW. Lacrosse would make ERR their primary facility under a seasonal arrangement (with the addition of new training lights) and storage and fencing would be reviewed at ERR. DLRE would be available as an overflow ground for Lacrosse. The intention of this proposal is a soccer focused facility at DLRW. Cricket would remain at ERR.”

Analysis

Requirement	Fit	Assessment
Community location	✓	
Gameday fields	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Insufficient grounds for lacrosse: The requirement to fixture 13 teams into 8 time slots including 4 teams at 9am Sat is not catered for by a single tenanted ground with “potential use” of an overflow ground. The option proposes a significant overuse of ERR beyond standard practice DLRE works required to address safety (player and playground)
Training fields	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ERR cannot fit training requirement due to layout (appendix 3) There is no overflow training option
Training lighting	✓	
Equipment storage	?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Storage improvement would need to be implemented, not just reviewed
Club social rooms	✓	

Concerns

- This option will put a substantial load on the ERR turf that may adversely impact its quality. This may result in unplayable conditions with no contingency for training or playing senior matches.
- Lacrosse Victoria would need fixtured timeslots at Dorothy Laver Reserve East to ensure effective assignment of teams given that there will be requirement for concurrent playing of home games.
- DLRE requires safety upgrades if required by more senior teams due to the proximity of a playground and does not have adequate change rooms for senior matches.

Assessment

This option requires major amendment to ensure the Club is no worse off than currently. The move from 2 grounds (ERR and DLRW) to a single ground at ERR with overflow at DLRE is a substantial reduction.

Not suitable

- Does not fit club training requirements due to shape of ground; Does not have training capacity for teams planned for 2019 (see Appendix 3)
- Requires commitment to works on DLRE



Appendix 3 – Lacrosse Training Safety Constraints



Appendix 3 – Lacrosse Training Safety Constraints

Council planners have consulted Lacrosse Victoria and are using current year match fixturing as the basis for determining that the Camberwell lacrosse Club program can be fully accommodated at Eric Raven Reserve.

This is not the case.

Neither the need for safe and efficient team training space, nor the obligations of our teams to provide sufficient safe fields for the Lacrosse Victoria match program can be met at Eric Raven Reserve.

The following points are relevant:

1. Matches

During matches, safety for spectators, passers-by, parked cars and houses demands either high protective fencing or space buffers of at least 35-40 metres, both directly behind the goal and at angles to the goal-face at each end of the playing field.

1.1 Dorothy Laver Reserve West (DLRW)

These safety requirements are met at DLRW by extensive space buffers if a single field is placed centrally. Low perimeter fencing is in place along the Gardiners Creek boundary and at the city end of the reserve. When two fields are used at DLRW, safety at the city end is only compromised in the north-western corner in the proximity of the bike path. The area directly behind the goal-face and to the south is an environmental wetlands area which has no people traffic. The club does, however, experience significant financial cost due to lost balls which fly over the existing low perimeter fence and are lost in the wetlands

At the Dunlop St end of the reserve there is no perimeter fencing and safety for passive users of the lakeside grassed areas, people using the shared path and parked cars is less than desirable. Whenever possible, the club restricts match usage of this area to lower-age junior matches. The club displays warning signs about potential danger from balls at the edges of playing fields when matches are in progress.

Selective installation of some additional, and in parts, higher perimeter fencing would solve these safety and cost issues.

Currently at DLR there are two covered synthetic cricket pitches which commonly have raised and uneven transition edges which introduce direct injury risks to players. These risks are removed when a central, single lacrosse pitch is used.

1.2 Eric Raven Reserve (ERR)

Low perimeter fencing is restricted to just the car-park side of ERR. This leaves parked cars partially exposed and at risk at the pavilion end of the reserve.

The overall length of ERR is approximately 140 metres with an oval configuration that includes drainage ditches and some concreted edges. This leaves little scope for moving the pitch laterally or lengthways to lessen the ball safety risks and reduce over-use wear on the grass surface. Depending upon the placement of the 110 metre playing field for lacrosse, the space buffers needed to protect spectators and passers-by are less than desirable at the pavilion end of the field. At the High St end there are less safety issues due to the caged cricket practice nets and the steep slope on the eastern side. The club does, however, incur costs for loss of balls into Gardiners Creek and into the vegetation on the slope areas.

At ERR injury issues for players are increased by the presence of the large turf cricket wicket area which causes 'skating' type falls when hard and dry and traction, turning and congestion issues when it is wet and gluey.



2. Team Training

Camberwell Lacrosse Club is currently one of the largest clubs in Victoria with the smallest training venue. This already creates challenges that would be exacerbated by a move to Eric Raven Reserve.

For safe ball movement at team training sessions, careful placement of goal-nets is needed to achieve sufficient playing space and space buffers. The preferred space for junior teams to train is 55m x 30m. This is generally used length-wise, providing a space to train that is equal in length to half a field, although narrower. Teams can practice midfield skills and general ball movement. For some specialist attack/defence drills, the ground can be setup at right angles so that the area is similar in shape to the attacking third of a lacrosse field (55m x 30m; restraining line to boundary).

2.1 Dorothy Laver Reserve West (DLRW)

All team training for Camberwell Lacrosse is currently housed at DLR. Typically, team training takes the following pattern:

Tuesday

5.30-6.30pm Under 15, Under 17

6.30- 8.30pm Senior teams

Wednesday

5.30- 6.30pm Under 11, Under 13, Under 15 and Under 17 Girls

6.30-8.00pm Senior women

Thursday

5.30- 6.30 pm Under 11, 13, 15 and 17 boys

6.30- 8.30pm Senior men’s teams

The existing floodlighting at DLRW provides a useable playing space that fits four team training spaces. The heaviest use is on Thursday nights with a typical set-up as shown at right.

Currently, this set-up does not allow space for Under 11 teams to train separately. The preferred solution is to extend the lighted area towards the city end of the reserve.

Increases to 2 x U13 and 3 x U11 teams are expected from existing numbers in 2019, causing further compromise to the team training space and efficiency.



Note: the scale outlined in the diagram is accurate and was created based on GPS coordinates using a Google Maps function.



2.2 Eric Raven Reserve (ERR)

No mid-week training is conducted at ERR as there is no lighting.

Council have recently indicated that the lighting proposed to be installed has been redesigned to cover the entire playing surface. However, the oval shape of the ground with significantly cut off corners reduces the number of possible training spaces to 3. The maximum number of safe team training areas possible is three (see diagram). Trying to fit four teams creates issues due to the concrete drains cutting off the edges and the two of the grounds shooting towards the pavilion. While this is manageable on game day when there is only one ball in play and club members ensure passers-by do not congregate in the at-risk area, this would be problematic at training.

The shape makes it inadequate to meet Camberwell Lacrosse training needs and there is no allowance for the expected increase in team numbers.



Figure 5: 4 team spaces overlaid on ERR



Figure 6: safe training configuration at ERR



3. Playing Field Space

Every lacrosse club in Melbourne has two or more grass-surface playing fields at a single location (see Table), with the current exception of Malvern Lacrosse Club which is experiencing an uncharacteristic period of low junior team numbers.

Table 4 - Victorian lacrosse club field allocations

Lacrosse Club	Venue	Number of Full-Size Grassed Fields
Altona	Paisley Park	4
Caulfield	Caulfield Reserve	2
Camberwell	Eric Raven Reserve	1
Camberwell	Dorothy Laver Reserve West	1
Chadstone	Trevyau Reserve	2
Eltham	Eltham Lower Reserve	3
Footscray	Angliss Reserve	4-5
Malvern	Malvern Cricket Ground	1
Melbourne University	Western Oval, Parkville	2
Moreland	Fleming Reserve	2
Newport	Paisley Park	4
Surrey Park	Mont Albert Reserve	2
Williamstown & Williamstown Women	Greenwich & Fearon Reserves	3-4

Camberwell stands out as the one club which does not have two fields at a single location.

Camberwell's two grassed fields are split between two locations; one at Eric Raven Reserve and one at Dorothy Laver Reserve. This is not the most desirable set-up as it splits the club's operations, increases the costs and requires duplication of equipment for matches, kitchen supplies, catering and other arrangements for managing the club. It also impacts on the fixturing of matches as Lacrosse Victoria endeavours to satisfy the majority of clubs which want multiple games played at their venue on "home" days to optimize the set-up of the facility, the provision of officials and maximization of canteen revenue. Similarly, for transport and supervision reasons, clubs prefer their "away" teams in the same or adjoining junior sections to, wherever possible, not be spread between different locations. Arising from this, there have been anomalies in Lacrosse Victoria's fixturing of Camberwell's fields in 2018, with the normally expected alternation of home-away matches not being applied for Camberwell teams which share a field.

Camberwell Lacrosse needs two grassed playing fields to cater for safe training and team matches and sufficient field flexibility to cope with growth, plan for growth, conduct special events, respond to LV fixture management pressures and keep the playing surfaces in reasonable condition. Ideally, these two fields should be at one location with the whole area under floodlighting.

Council officers made un-announced visits to Dorothy Laver Reserve West to observe Camberwell team training during one week and concluded that the information provided by the club about team training safety clusters was not accurate. The fact is that the week on which the officers visited training was unrepresentative as it was a lighter than usual week due to the U11 teams having finished their competition program and the U13 and U15 teams having one week to go and not engaged in finals.



4. Management of Ground Surface Wear

Extreme surface wear occurs in lacrosse around the goal-circle areas of both the playing field and training areas. This is worst when wet conditions prevail or when the lacrosse goals are constantly placed at the same location during training sessions.

Having two or more fields under lights at a single venue enables most clubs to rotate usage and manage surface wear during team training sessions in order to preserve the surfaces in acceptable condition for matches.

Camberwell has floodlights only over a portion of DLRW and achieves ground surface protection by the use of 'team training clusters' which are grouped around a synthetic cricket pitch at the southern end of the reserve. Without floodlighting, most of the area used as the playing field at DLRW is preserved from extreme surface wear by not having team training.

Eric Raven Reserve, without floodlighting, is well-preserved from extreme ground surface wear due to its usage being restricted to weekend games. This will change dramatically with floodlighting if use for team training is required on 3-4 midweek nights and the match program is intensified to include more teams plus Saturday and Sunday fixtures.

In 2005 the use of Eric Raven Reserve was doubled when it was used by the Boroondara Lions soccer club on Sundays. The end result was a pitch that was almost unplayable by midseason.

5. Managing Growth

Circumstances in volunteer-based community clubs change from year to year in response to a wide range of personnel and management issues. In particular, junior player and team numbers vary upwards and downwards in line with the availability of coaches, response levels from recruiting, competition success and player retention rates. The teenage/adolescent years are particularly susceptible to unexpected shifts.

Stable and successful clubs are constantly managing these issues but cannot guarantee that they will not experience rushes of growth or unexpected declines from time to time.

Loss of, or uncertainty about the availability of playing facilities, negatively affects recruiting and compounds in following years to cause a decline in team and player numbers. Clubs need the surety and flexibility of having adequate playing and training space to manage growth.

Junior teams of boys and girls in the U13, U15 and U17 age-groups need a minimum of 10 players. In 2018, Camberwell had 19 registered players in both Boys U13 and Girls U13 teams and the players had to accept large player benches and reduced playing time during matches or be rostered off for some games. This was not ideal.

For 2019, Camberwell's playing lists indicate that two teams in both U13 boys and U15 girls sections will be needed. A listing of Camberwell's eligible junior players in these groups records 26 boys and 28 girls respectively. Clearly, these additional numbers can flow through to higher age levels in subsequent years, the point being that playing space to accommodate them needs to be available and known in advance.

Camberwell Lacrosse has for many years accepted the playing facilities available to it and managed its junior numbers at levels compatible with the facilities and the need to sustain a viable senior club.

On the contrary, Ashburton United Soccer Club seems intent on over-reaching Boroondara's capacity to provide more and more playing space. Despite this, the 2018 fixtures and ground use show that AUSC still has considerable under-used field space within the many venues the club controls.



Table 5 – Days each time slot used per venue in 2018 for Solway ward clubs

Time slots	AUSC Venues								Camberwell Lacrosse	
	Ashburton	Batesford	Highfield South	Highfield North	Markham	Tooronga	Warner	Watson	DLRW	ERR
Sat										
9 am							17		11	
10 am							17		8	11
11 am							2			
12 pm					9				1	8
1 pm	9		20*					19*		1
2 pm					9					10
3 pm	8		19*					19*		
Sat Total	17	0	39	0	18	0	36	38	20	30
Sun										
9 am		12	3		15		18	10	8	
10 am		6	4		12		18	12	7	
11 am	8	11	12		12		16	13	3	
12 pm		5	2		3		1	7		
1 pm	1	6			14			6	7	
2 pm	6	4			1	3		2		
3 pm	5	5			15	1		6	1	
5 pm									1	
Sun Total	20	49	21	0	72	4	53	56	27	0
Grand Total	37	49	60	0	90	4	89	94	47	30

* home games for St Hilary’s and Donvale soccer clubs

Data source: LV, FFV, VCFA and Over45’s 2018 fixtures

Table 5 reveals that Eric Raven Reserve was more heavily used for Saturday lacrosse matches than the premier field for AUSC (Ashburton Park) was used for soccer. Similarly, despite the LV fixturing irregularities referred to previously, DLRW hosted more lacrosse on Sundays than soccer matches hosted at Ashburton Park. With the fixturing anomalies resolved, and extra Camberwell lacrosse teams in 2019, the use of both DLRW and ERR will increase. Throughout the playing season, Ashburton Park remained unused on Saturday mornings and lightly used on Sunday mornings, presumably as a sensible precaution to manage ground surface wear and ensure a quality surface for the premier senior games.

Camberwell Lacrosse supports this approach to ground management, but it will not be available for lacrosse if the DLRW redevelopment proceeds and the lacrosse program is restricted to a single field at Eric Raven Reserve.



6. Lacrosse and Synthetic Playing Surfaces

Lacrosse can be and is played on synthetic surfaces. This is especially true in the United States and Canada and in other places where winter snow conditions prevail and there is less scope for the preparation and maintenance of grass playing surfaces. In Australia, synthetic surfaces have occasionally been used for pinnacle events such as Australian Championships and International matches for three main reasons:

1. To ensure a consistent playing surface of good quality when the field is used intensively over a 5-6 day game period.
2. To ensure a usable playing surface in the event of likely or persistent wet weather conditions.
3. To take advantage of the pavilion, catering, parking and spectator infrastructure which is usually in place due to the associated high capital investment costs of synthetic fields.

Synthetic fields are not the preferred choice of playing surface for lacrosse for a variety of reasons related to player safety:

- Men's lacrosse is a body contact sport in which players are permitted to tackle. Falling or being knocked to the ground from this body contact can result in heavy landings. The likelihood of severe injuries increases on synthetic compared with grass surfaces due to their underlying hardness and less forgiving nature. Additionally, burn-type abrasion injuries to elbows, arms, knees and legs are also common from synthetic surfaces.

These injuries are of lower incidence and of less concern in women's lacrosse where the playing rules do not permit body checking or bumping.

- Severe knee injuries in the form of ACL tears requiring knee re-construction are more likely on synthetic compared to grass surfaces. This is due to the higher "coefficient of friction" which causes an athlete's foot to get stuck when they are changing direction, twisting or turning at high speed.
- Sport concussion injuries caused by a player's head striking the ground in a fall are higher on synthetic compared with grass surfaces. The long-term impairment effects of concussion are becoming increasingly apparent in sport and in compensation and liability claims. Concussion claim settlements in the USA are approaching US\$1 billion and claims in Australia are beginning to emerge. Younger children are especially susceptible due to their head-to-body weight and size ratios being higher than adults.
- There is growing world concern and medical research looking at links between synthetic playing surfaces and cancer. The focus is on skin abrasions and contact with carcinogens from the tiny black rubber particles which are used in synthetic fields to soften the surface and keep it stable.
- Constant exposure across a whole playing season of training and playing on synthetic surfaces is harder on the bodies of athletes with adverse effects on recovery time and general injury levels.

For all of these reasons, lacrosse is hesitant about synthetic surfaces and, whilst our club is not opposed to playing pinnacle games and tournaments on synthetic surfaces, it is not the preference of Camberwell Lacrosse Club to constantly expose either junior or senior players to artificial fields.



Appendix 4 – Testimonials

Over many years the Camberwell Lacrosse Club has received letters and phone calls from young people and parents whose sons or daughters have been part of our junior club. These are testaments of heartfelt thanks and congratulations which tell of the positive impact lacrosse and the Camberwell Club has had on their child's development.

They range over many themes but there are some recurring messages.

- Sport can provide powerful boosts to self-image and confidence during the awkward years of childhood and adolescence
- Lacrosse is different and has a magical appeal to some children who have not found what they like in mainstream sports
- Having friends and role models in a sports team with a caring club is fun and a great ally for social interaction and testing yourself with peers
- Team sport teaches strategy, team-work, loyalty and pride in combination with physical skills. These are highly beneficial attributes for personal development

A few representative examples are reproduced following. They affirm that the Camberwell Lacrosse Club, apart from being a source of sport and recreation, provides a valuable community service as a youth club, mentor for young people and a source of opportunity and training in life.

I have learned that I am much stronger than I first thought after starting lacrosse, not just physically, but mentally too

I believe [my son] would not have kept playing sport if his only options were AFL, soccer and basketball. He now enjoys a great support network that includes kids his own age as well as older role models.

Lacrosse has been a wonderful introduction to community effort, dedication and great sportsmanship with there being nothing other than encouragement for all players regardless of skill and outstanding volunteer contribution to run the club, foster interest in juniors from all the local primary and secondary schools and build a safe sporting environment

At the age of nine, my daughter found lacrosse. At the age of thirteen, when so many girls are obsessed with image and Instagram and struggle with self-worth, my daughter doesn't suffer from anxiety or low self-esteem ... I'm eternally grateful Doug Fox stepped through the doors of Glen Iris Primary School when he did and my daughter now plays a sport she loves

Sophia, Year 8 student, Canterbury Girls Secondary College

Dorothy Laver Reserve should not be made into a soccer ground. It is more than just a park, it is home to Camberwell Lacrosse, home to a sport that I think and talk about at least, if not over, twice every single day. This park has been a place I have learned so much about myself, not just about my body, but my personality, character.

Lacrosse is important to me in a way no sport ever has been. I had never really had an interest in any sports until the day I came home with a Camberwell Lacrosse flyer clutched in one hand. It was different, it was exciting. The question was, why had it taken me until Year Seven to discover it? The answer to that is, because of things like this. Soccer is so dominating, snuffing out diverse sports such as lacrosse. Building *another* pitch is so unnecessary when there are so many already around. I live not even two blocks from two soccer fields. Within ten blocks of where I live, there isn't even one lacrosse field. Demolishing a pre-existing facility, home to a dedicated club such as Camberwell Lacrosse is not going to promote new things to young people.

New experiences teach children so many things about themselves. Lacrosse is a new experience to most because it is uncommon and distinct. Soccer is taught in every school from a very young age, while many have not even heard the word 'lacrosse' in their lives. I have learned that I am so much stronger than I first thought after starting lacrosse, not just physically, but mentally too. Running up and down a field three times the size of a basketball court while it is pouring the most rain you have ever seen in your life, with people continuously stepping on your feet with studded shoes and swinging at you with lacrosse sticks will do that to you. Lacrosse has brought to life my interest in health and physical wellbeing, and Dorothy Laver Reserve is a place where I feel happy and safe, where I have bonded with people I never would have met, through a sport and a place we all love and adore.

Shaeron and Bob, Parents of 16-year old boy, South Camberwell Primary and Camberwell High School

We would like to talk a few moments to explain about the difference lacrosse has made to our son, and in particular the importance of Camberwell Lacrosse Club.

We always wanted our son to partake in a team sport, as we believe it fosters cooperation, negotiation, social skills, plus introductions to others outside of the immediate school and family environments. We tried AFL, cricket and basketball – and he hated all of them. We were about to trial him with soccer, when he brought home a leaflet from Camberwell Lacrosse club, after an introduction session run at his school. He said he was interested, so we leapt at the chance, and took him to training. He has loved it from the start: when they win, when they lose, training – all of it. Since then, he has played in every season, plus indoor during summer.

In 2017, he tried out for the U15 Southern Crosse team, to play at the nationals in Perth. He was lucky enough to be chosen, and the change this made in all aspects of his life has been amazing. He was an okay student, but never overly academic. He was never the most confident of children, always doubting himself. Since he was picked for the team, his confidence and belief in himself has grown, and this is reflected in his grades (suddenly mainly 'B's with some 'A's, whereas before he was all 'C's). He is more confident with a variety of people and is more willing to share his ideas and opinions; he is confident traveling around and about; and organizing activities with friends. Some of this may be due to the natural ageing process, but we think it is too coincidental that it occurred when he was chosen to be part of the State team.

Now, we are sure you will say that there are other lacrosse clubs around. BUT, and this is a big but, the inclusion, team spirit and sportsmanship shown at Camberwell Lacrosse club doesn't always seem to be reflected in other clubs. From the start, the team have been taught that while winning is great, it is how you play the game, what you have learnt, and ensuring that all members of the team are included, that is what counts. Our teams have always played fairly against other clubs, lending players to the opposing side to ensure a fair match can be played; playing with reduced numbers to ensure an evenly matched game; and when playing a new team (who didn't have the skills) playing with lesser men on the ground, and allowing the other team to score, to ensure their players remain motivated and stay in the sport. All show a generosity of spirit and compassion not seen in many other clubs or sports.

Our son has recently started training with the senior members of the club, and while this can be quite daunting, he is loving learning from them, not only the skills of the game, but social skills and how to communicate with other age groups, in a confident manner. Over the last year, because of the caliber of coaches at the club and the influence they have had, he has got involved in coaching the younger players, and is following his new goal of becoming a PE teacher, hoping to inspire others to play sports.

So, while to you it may just be another fringe sport, to us it is our son's passion, his drive and his game. And all of that is intricately tied to being a member of Camberwell Lacrosse club.

Please don't take away our grounds.

Helen and Ben, Parents of 14 year old girl, 10 year old boys and 9 year old girls, Hartwell Primary

I would like to take a few moments to express how incredibly important the Camberwell Lacrosse Club is to our family. We were first introduced to Camberwell Lacrosse four years ago, when our daughter Cassidy, then 10 years old, was 'hooked' after experiencing an introductory lacrosse course, run by Camberwell Lacrosse Club, at our local primary school. This was the beginning of what will undoubtedly be a lifelong love of lacrosse for our daughter and has sparked in her a passion for physical fitness and interest in nutrition.

Cassidy was thrilled to join the local club of this unusual sport that encourages teamwork and the development of physical and mental attributes- such as strength, agility, self-esteem, resilience and leadership. We have seen her thrive in the wonderful community environment at Camberwell, where the girls are encouraged to support each other, challenge each other and develop their lacrosse skills, with more experienced players mentoring and coaching. We've been excited to see Cassidy's self-confidence grow, from being mentored as a junior player in her first years, to now taking on the role of mentor to others. Having experienced this mentorship from many of the older players over the years, Cassidy has taken a keen interest and is now heavily involved in the club- becoming Team manager for her U15 girls team, mentoring other girls, as well as Captaining this year.

Aside from the many successes in her lacrosse game, Cassidy has found great support from the club throughout her lacrosse journey. Socially, Cassidy has developed respectful friendships with players and past players of all ages. The club actively encourages positive social interaction between girl's and boy's teams, and older and younger players. She and her team mates meet outside of usual practice times, developing skills and sharing social experiences.

We are so proud of Cassidy's self-discipline and commitment to this sport. We can see what an incredible opportunity this club gives her to be involved in lacrosse, to continue to develop personally, to learn many useful life skills, and to find support and belonging in a social and inspirational sports club.

We have also seen the transformation of our younger children, Fred and Eliza, who have begun playing lacrosse. For Fred, it means hours of fun, learning with his mates, playing a great physical challenging strategic game. Fred looks up to his two coaches who are both members of the Senior Men's team. These coaches are two of the most considerate young men - important role models- who devote themselves tirelessly to the U 13's boys and are instrumental in inspiring Fred to develop. Although both Fred and Eliza are only beginning their lacrosse, they have found a place to challenge themselves physically and, like Cassidy, are developing great friendships and skills.

Camberwell has truly become a passion and place of belonging, for the entire family, with Ben (dad) taking on a coaching role this year, joining in the Dads' indoor team, and starting up a Coffee Cart. Our extended family (proud Grandparents!) join the spectators each weekend to cheer on the kids' teams. This encouraging community fosters a sense of responsibility and respect in our children, for all ages. Eliza (only 9 years old) feels comfortable helping in the club canteen, Fred and brother Beau, help with setting up grounds, sorting equipment, while Cassidy has taken on restringing sticks and all sorts of other tasks to 'give back' to the club.

Rob and Amanda, parents of 16 year old boy and 13 year old girl, Parkhill Primary School

Camberwell Lacrosse club has become an important part of my family's life over the past 5 years.

My son was a small child in primary school. We were keen for him to play a team sport and he initially tried AFL. Auskick gave him the initial step into building skills and working with team mates. However, his size meant he was continually being knocked over and struggled to compete. When it came time to graduate from the clinic style Auskick to real game we were very concerned that his personal confidence would be impacted. We had considered soccer but the trialling process and fees seemed to focus on supporting the elite teams at the club.

Then one day before the winter season had started he came home saying he wanted to play lacrosse. We went down to Camberwell Lacrosse and found a sport that was ideal. He could use his speed and coordination to succeed in the early years. The rules ensured he was safe and had a fair go at having a role in the game. He scored three goals in his first game and came home on top of the world. As he got older he developed confidence and grew in size so was able to compete as physical contact was introduced. Unlike AFL, contact only involves the players competing for the ball - he was not getting pushed around off ball as he had been in footy. He trained hard and practiced frequently. He improved enough to win his way onto representative teams from the age of 13 and now has three national championship medals.

I believe that he would not have kept playing sport if his only options were AFL, soccer and basketball. He enjoys a great support network that includes kids his own age as well as older role models. He mixes with some elite players as well as those who struggle with the basics but who keep coming back every week and enjoying the challenge and the atmosphere.

His sister is experiencing similar benefits, currently, playing u13 Lacrosse with a group of local girls she would have never otherwise met. The club has always been a wonderful outlet for me to become involved in the community and try to contribute back. Camberwell Lacrosse club has added huge value to our lives and the lives of all club members and parents. It is a remarkable club that deserves to flourish in the Boroondara community.

Con and Angela, parents of 15 year old girl, Camberwell

We are writing to share with you a story of a young Boroondara girl growing in self-esteem, confidence, resilience and fitness; and we would very much like you to understand this story as you deliberate the future of Dorothy Laver Reserve.

Our daughter started Year 7 in 2016. It was a very difficult year for her, her primary school friends had gone in different directions, and she felt isolated in high school. She is not interested in the same things as her peer group – she does not have a facebook account, or instagram, she does not take selfies, and she shakes her head at reality TV shows.

We had been encouraging her into team sports, for all the reasons we know about the importance of sport to children; and for her particularly it was to give her a regular social group outside of school. She was not interested in the mainstream options – netball, basketball, tennis, soccer, etc; nor was she interested in other physical activities like judo, karate or the like.

One day though in 2016 she came home from school and she slapped a piece of paper on the table and said “this is it – this is what I want to play”. It was a flyer that Doug (our resident Lacrosse recruiter) had given her at Canterbury Girls. She was hooked from that moment.

In 3 years she has never missed a game, or training, or weeknight practice matches. She plays under 15s, and fills in under 17s and for the Women’s most of the time – yet she is only 14. She has had her boots sucked off her feet in the mud at Eltham, she has been belted with rain on at Dorothy Laver, and she had been blown sideways at Williamstown – and she has never complained - she has put her head down and pushed on through. We did not know this version of our daughter before Lacrosse – this strong, capable, determined and resilient young woman.

She has become much more focused on her fitness and nutrition; and she now runs home from training instead of being driven. Two of her siblings now join her, creating a ripple effect of fitness.

Before Lacrosse she could only imagine her career being in art or design; now she is also considering options like dietician, nurse, and other health related professions.

Lacrosse has fundamentally changed her life in so many positive ways. Please do not tell her, via your actions, that Lacrosse is not important. She knows it is not mainstream, and that is in fact what makes it so very important.

If you would like to hear more about her story she has also written to you. We are very happy to speak to you in person, to help you understand more fully the importance of keeping Dorothy Laver reserve available to Lacrosse and the children of Boroondara.

We know that the club is currently facing some challenges, but hope that our story might be one more voice to add to the many who have experienced Camberwell Lacrosse and found a remarkable place that supports young people to become physically and mentally strong in their lives through the game of Lacrosse.

Jo Ann and Anthony, parents of 9 year old girl and 12 year old boy, East Malvern

I just wanted to take this opportunity to praise Camberwell Lacrosse Club for making its way into our family. Though we live down the road from a club in Stonnington, we chose Camberwell as we preferred the grounds at Dorothy Laver West and we were made to feel welcome by families of the club.

My son played his first game with the club 2 years ago. He had played football, cricket and tennis, but though he enjoyed the sports he didn’t feel a passion or motivation towards them.

After seeing the game played many times at Dorothy Laver West on our bike riding ramblings along Gardiners Creek Bike Track, he decided to give Lacrosse a go. Finally, he found his sport! In the first year he was awarded Best All-rounder and followed it up in the second year with Best Attack Player. But what was even more important than these awards, was that he found something that he loved doing. We have seen his confidence and belief in himself flourish because of the game. What we also love about the sport, is that its rules intrinsically encourage teamwork, by awarding points to the player who assists the goal scorer and ensuring that there are a certain number of passes between players before a goal is scored. Every player is valued.

This year my daughter has joined the Girls Lacrosse Team. Once again, we are seeing one of our children, who was tentative at sport, start to engage in each game, get excited about going to practice and look forward to each game. We are so grateful that Camberwell Lacrosse Club values the Girls teams so much that they have appointed a Girls Director of Coaching, who has herself not just represented Australia as a player but coached at a National Level. Even at today’s match this Coach took the time to talk my daughter through a tactical play, encouraging her development every step of the way.

And finally, I’d like to reflect on the club from a family perspective. What a way to spend some quality family time. Last year both my son and daughter even got to play in the same junior team (what an inclusive game!). This year, though they are in different teams, they each encourage and cheer on the other’s efforts. We have found the club to be very encouraging of families; running introductory nights, family meal nights during practice and other off-field social events.

Ned, 15 year-old boy, Camberwell High School

I've been playing lacrosse for almost six years. Before lacrosse I wasn't very good at many team sports, but lacrosse has taught me the necessary skills for most sports and has given me opportunities that I wouldn't have experienced if I hadn't discovered this unique game. Opportunities such as, trying out for state teams, meeting new friends, and keeping fit in the winter. Lacrosse has changed the way I live and the person who I am. To hear that our club may be knocked down and replaced by another fake-turf soccer field, was devastating. Without lacrosse, I'm not sure where I would be now, and if our tight knit family friendly club was demolished, many companionships would be lost.

Kristin and Robert, Parent of 13 year old girl, Glen Iris

As the parent of a thirteen-year-old girl who has played lacrosse with Camberwell Lacrosse Club for five seasons, I am writing to you to express my grave concern at the proposed development of a year-round soccer facility at Dorothy Laver West Reserve.

My daughter, Trinity, was introduced to lacrosse at a young age and we are forever grateful to the sport that she found it when she did. At the age of nine, she tried to join the netball team her friends at school played in and was told by the mother coaching the team there wasn't any room. At an age when all kids should be encouraged to play sport and have fun, my daughter was told sorry, you can't play.

It was at this time Camberwell Lacrosse Club came to Glen Iris Primary and introduced the kids to lacrosse. My daughter, disheartened and discouraged from playing any team sport, loved lacrosse. She was encouraged to have a go at the 'Quick Sticks' program Camberwell Lacrosse provided, and to my joy, my daughter asked if she could go. She went, and she was a natural.

My daughter wanted to play lacrosse for Camberwell in the next season. Despite the hard work Camberwell lacrosse Club was doing, there weren't enough girls to form an U11 team. Her only option was to play with the U11 Boys team. Trinity was nine, playing in an U11 Boys team. That tells you how much she wanted to play.

After that season, Trinity joined the U13 girls team despite being very young and has loved playing and has grown as a player and a person ever since. The year playing with the boys taught her she was stronger than she believed, and at an age where most kids' sport is single sex, lacrosse provided her with an opportunity to learn how to believe in herself, taught her resilience, and that she was as good as any boy in the sport she loved. Every season she has played lacrosse she has grown in confidence and that confidence has stayed with her and has seen her be awarded The Higgins Medal for her primary school and be made a House Captain in her first year at high school.

But in young girls, building confidence is ongoing. Trinity did eventually join a netball team, and in fact now plays with the top U13 team for the Ashburton Netball Club, however due to the initial setback when she was young, she has always questioned her ability on the netball court. She never has that doubt with lacrosse.

My daughter steps out onto the lacrosse field with a belief in her ability that I wish all kids could have in themselves. She is trying out for the lacrosse U15 State Representative Team of Fire and Ice this month even though she is only thirteen. She may get picked, she may not, but she will try her hardest and that's all a kid can do. I couldn't be more proud of her.

By converting Dorothy Laver West reserve into a soccer facility and forcing Camberwell Lacrosse to only have Eric Raven as a home ground, I fear this will have a negative effect on lacrosse. Girls and boys who maybe aren't good at the big sports like netball, soccer, footy, will lose the chance to find a different sport that they could participate in and enjoy. Young kids learning a sport like lacrosse feel more comfortable with space, not crowded onto one field when multiple other age groups are training. Dorothy Laver is what is required to cater for lacrosse and to ensure its future. It's one ground for lacrosse.

One ground.

Surely, to ensure all kids- big, small, fast, strong, the confident, the doubters- get the chance to play sport, we need the alternative sports to the mainstream to not only survive but be supported.

You can't tell looking at a kid what sport they will love to play.

But we should ensure they get the chance to try as many sports as they can to help them find their passion.

My daughter wants to play with Camberwell in U17, Women's, and one day represent Australia. Not in netball, or soccer, but in lacrosse. I don't see how Camberwell Lacrosse will thrive by evicting the club from Dorothy Laver and restricting the club to one ground. It would be a shame if because of the limited space at Eric Raven, girls like my daughter had to move to a different lacrosse club to pursue their dream because the single ground can't cater for the needs of all Camberwell lacrosse teams.

At the age of nine, my daughter found lacrosse. At the age of thirteen, when so many girls are obsessed with image and Instagram and struggle with self-worth, my daughter doesn't suffer from anxiety or low self-esteem, and although I can't say it is because she found lacrosse, I'm eternally grateful Doug Fox stepped through the doors of Glen Iris Primary School when he did and my daughter now plays a sport she loves.

Tony and Sue, parents of four, Hartwell Primary School / Camberwell High School

My family's involvement with lacrosse started with a clinic run by Camberwell Lacrosse Club at Hartwell Primary School. As has happened for many years now, two or three committed young lacrosse players from the Club spent time with the year 5 and 6 group to show how this game with the strange-looking sticks was played. My two eldest daughters were instantly hooked. The older had been interested in netball but the 'cliquey' nature of the way teams form left her on the outer. She found the group of girls starting out at Camberwell much more welcoming. While after a few years she stopped playing, lacrosse remains the only sport that she ever felt a part of and is one that she hopes to return to one day. The younger daughter would eventually also play netball too, but lacrosse has always been the sport where her passion lies, and it has rewarded her in many ways, not the least being to play at State representative level. She has now coached junior girls for several years and is a key part of a reborn senior women's team at Camberwell. She sees the power of the sport to transform tentative youngsters into confident, skilful exponents, many of whom who just didn't get a chance in the mainstream sports.

My son also played lacrosse, also enticed through a school clinic, this one run by Club (and lacrosse) legend Doug Fox OAM. Like his older sisters, he was never interested in the usual sports on offer but found a place in the U12 lacrosse team at Camberwell. He had a great time for several seasons until his interests shifted again – if that's his only experience of team sport then at least he's had one.

This story concludes with my youngest daughter. Probably born with more than her fair share of natural ability, she was always going to play something. After trying footy and netball (a season of each) and lacrosse, she settled on the latter. She has progressed rapidly, playing at State level as well as being part of a National U19 program. Camberwell Lacrosse Club has supported her at every step of her journey to date. With the return of the women's team this season, she now plays with a fantastic group of young women through whom she sees what part of her future might look like.

The Club regularly brings families together for a variety of events and the kids naturally form friendships. When junior boys and girls have combined training sessions, the versions of the game they play, different for each gender, yet fundamentally the same, come into contrast, and they end up appreciating each other's skills.

Now approaching ten years of involvement with Camberwell Lacrosse Club, I feel very much a part of a group of people who are committed to promoting the sport of lacrosse in a fair and inclusive fashion. The Club is an asset to the Community and in my opinion puts back much more that it is given. We are proud to say that we are a lacrosse family and members of Camberwell Lacrosse Club.

Thank you for being such a great club!

Sharia and Ian, parents of 11 year-old daughter, Ashburton Primary School

We are involved in many community sports with our children - tennis, basketball, netball, hockey and now lacrosse. Whilst all these activities are equally important, I can honestly say that lacrosse has been a wonderful introduction to community effort, dedication and great sportsmanship with there being nothing other than encouragement for all players regardless of skill and outstanding volunteer contribution to run the club, foster interest in juniors from all the local primary and secondary schools and build a safe sporting environment. The changes we have seen in our daughter through her love of this sport have been amazing - new friends, self-confidence, dedication to weekly training and early Sunday starts for the games. Please don't sacrifice a lesser well known sport for a sport that has adequate representation and opportunity within Boroondara- you will crush a community spirit that existed long before this proposal and who have operated for years to build a respectful and family friendly club through which our children are flourishing.

Antony and Lita, Parents, 16 year old girl, South Camberwell Primary and Canterbury Girls Secondary College

We read with shock and dismay about the proposal to develop Dorothy Laver West into a Soccer facility with no apparent plan for the existing users. Our daughter Laura currently plays Lacrosse with Camberwell in u17s and women's and has been at the club for 8 years. With guidance and encouragement from the club, Laura has represented Victoria at two u15s National Lacrosse competitions. Laura has grown as a person and developed leadership in sport due in great part to her involvement with Camberwell Lacrosse club. She is Sports Captain at Canterbury Girls Secondary College and was recently awarded the Pierre De Coubertin award from the Australian Olympic committee. I also umpire junior girls to support the club's campaign to expand the female participation which has been steadily increasing over the past few years. This is their training and competition ground and this proposal would adversely impact the club's operation. Our older daughter also played with the club for 5 years. We have found the club has provided a great environment for nurturing the sport with focus on participation and inclusion. One initial attraction was the proximity of the training venue and ease of bike access and this continues to be a positive factor.

The uncertainty moving forward for all club members is undoing all of the hard work of the past and current committee which has greatly increased all round participation in lacrosse and female participation in particular.

Lisa and David, Parent of 15 year old boy, Glen Iris Primary/Melbourne High

Our son began playing lacrosse after a visit from Camberwell Lacrosse to his primary school. After having enrolled him in many different sports we thought it would be something else he would be trying, not enjoying and dropping in a term.

However, at lacrosse he found his place and his passion. He found a group of like-minded team mates and supportive coaches who have been great role models.

We chose his secondary school to be one where he would not have compulsory Saturday sport so that he could continue with Camberwell Lacrosse and be involved in the local community. We are so grateful that he has found, at Camberwell Lacrosse, a place where he enjoys training twice a week and playing matches each weekend. He is active, healthy, engaged and has a great group of friends.

The location is also somewhere he can travel to independently when needed. We would be devastated if at 16 as he heads into the stresses of VCE that his sporting club was no longer available to him at a convenient location.

Please consider all the young adults in the community that have not found their place in other more mainstream sports.

Brendan and Simone, Parent of 14 year old boy, Trinity Grammar School

My son Mason discovered Lacrosse at age 9. He had tried Football, Cricket and Soccer, but nothing stuck. In fact, Soccer was quite alienating for him as there was so many players he almost never got a game. We were told by the Boroondara Eagles "If you don't like it leave, there are plenty of others waiting for his spot". Mason heard this and left, engaging in no sport for over a year. He was becoming a difficult child that was performing poorly academically, and had no outlet for his energy.

After watching TV one day he said "I want to try Lacrosse". I think his imagination was captured by the body armour, looking almost warrior like, and the speed of the game. I responded with "You're out of luck mate, nobody plays Lacrosse in Australia", because I had never seen it played. Turns out that wasn't true - one of his classmates played Lacrosse. So Mason joined Camberwell Lacrosse Club.

It now appears he is quite good at Lacrosse, and he loves the fact he is good at it. He played in the U15 National titles last year and made friends all over Australia, who he remains in touch with (mind you, it's via the PS4). He feels it's the one thing in life where he really excels and he currently hopes to win a Lacrosse scholarship to study in the USA, when he finishes high school.

I'd hate for Boroondara to make it even harder for boys like Mason to discover Lacrosse. It's life-changing for those that don't fit in the Soccer/Football duopoly.

Jennie, parent of senior player, ex Solway

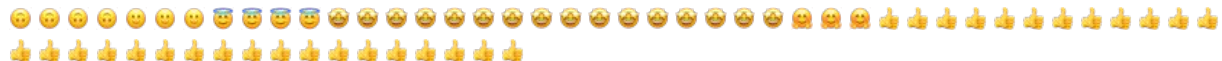
My son started playing lacrosse several years ago. Once he started playing in Victorian teams and older age groups, I became "hooked" by the speed, skill and excitement of the game.

Such has been my interest and obsession in lacrosse that I have become an accredited Mens Club referee (probably the only lacrosse referee who has never played the game and only one of two women referees at senior mens level). I love the exercise (and being paid to run!) plus being in the midst of the grunts, mud and sweat!

Both my son and I have made lifelong friends through Camberwell Lacrosse Club and the Club and lacrosse play a big part in our lives and is something that we have a common interest in together.

Ella, 13 year old, Ashburton Primary

I started Lacrosse with Doug coming from Camberwell Lacrosse Club to my school to teach us about lacrosse which no one had ever heard of. It was really fun and I enjoyed it. At the end they handed out a flyer for a mini Lacrosse comp for beginners to come and I was like I MUST DO THIS I LOVE IT!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! I went with my friend Isabella and we were put in random teams but we got lucky and once we started there was 6 rounds. Once a few people got a go at goalie I REALLY WANTED A GO SO SO SO SO SO BAD. When it was my turn I had a lot of fun and I stopped some goals which I really enjoyed and I looked so funny in the gear - it was THE BEST TIME EVER so I joined the club and I have been playing for 2 years now. In the first year I played under 13s and under 11s but this year I'm playing now I play for the under 13s and under 15s even though I'm eleven. When they asked if I could play for them I was so happy and I'm really lucky cause Sean, who is the Australian goalie for he men's team - I get coached by him which I'm so grateful for and Merideth who plays for the women's teams and she coach's our teams and I think I we all have learnt a lot from her. And I've meant so many new friends it's the best experience!!! I LOVE LACROSSE - MY NEW DREAM IS TO BE A PROFESSIONAL PLAYER.



Merran, parent of 12 year old girl, Ashwood High School

My daughter Millie only recently came to the Camberwell Lacrosse Club through a school program run by Doug Fox at Ashwood High School. Millie was invited to try lacrosse at a competition level. She's not a netballer or soccer player - sports that get a lot of attention and funding, so it was great to find a sport that she not only enjoyed but was available to play locally.

Everyone at the club has been so welcoming and encouraging, even going so far as to drop a lacrosse stick and ball at school for her to practice with at home. I also think it is fantastic that older players coach and mentor younger players, passing on their skills, knowledge and passion for the game.

It would be a travesty to lose lacrosse at Dorothy Laver Reserve West given its long and proud history at the ground. Diversity in sport is what makes Australia great. It's imperative that all sports, particularly lesser known sports, are given a chance to shine.

Alicia, Parent 12 year old girl and 15 year old boy, Hartwell Primary

The Camberwell Lacrosse Club has been a positive influence in our family.

Both our son and our daughter have been involved with the Club. Neither had been very interested in team sports before discovering lacrosse. Both have blossomed, gained confidence, made friends and learned the value of co-operating as a team.

Our daughter is proud to wear her Camberwell Lacrosse Club uniform and likes to wear it to other non-club events!

The Club has a welcoming family feel and some lovely social activities.

We really appreciate being able to enjoy the Dorothy Laver Reserve West facilities, which are close to home and an asset to the municipality.

We hope that the club is able to remain at this site and can continue to invest in the health of Boroondara's younger residents.

Sharon, parent of 9 and 11 year old boys, Hartwell Primary

I wish to strongly protest the proposal to develop Dorothy Laver as a soccer field.

My two sons aged 9 and 11 have played Lacrosse with Camberwell for several years now and we greatly enjoy the sport and the team spirit engendered by the club.

AFL and soccer are popular sports, but they don't suit all children and as a society and community we need to offer children and teenagers various options when it comes to team sports. My children have tried many sports but have settled on Lacrosse as their favourite and we have been very pleased to be able to participate in both summer and winter Lacrosse competitions.

Participation in lacrosse has helped to develop their athletic abilities and their team work, as well as being the basis of many strong friendships.

Again, I strongly protest any proposal which would limit the use or utility of Dorothy Laver as the much loved home ground of the Camberwell Lacrosse Club.

Ian and Sue, parent of 10 and 12 year old boys, Camberwell

We are a new family to Camberwell Lacrosse Club for season 2018, having moved from Perth, WA in January. My husband has been involved in Lacrosse since 1984 and represented WA twice in his career. Our sons, now 13 and 10 started playing in 2014. Our oldest tried Auskick, hockey and basketball before deciding Lacrosse was his sport. Our youngest chose Lacrosse because Dad played. Upon moving to Melbourne, we commenced searching for a new club. Our preference was a club with a similar culture to our WA club, Wembley Lacrosse Club, who pride themselves on being a family friendly club. There are several clubs close to our home in Camberwell. We chose Camberwell Lacrosse Club on the recommendation of someone who worked at Wattle Park Primary School. And we have not been disappointed. Camberwell Lacrosse Club welcomed us into the club and both of our boys quickly made friends within their respective teams.

Lacrosse provides our kids, and their team mates, with an alternative sport. It has boosted their confidence and assisted in making the transition from Western Australia to Victoria that much smoother. The atmosphere, the good balance between competitive and nurturing and great people has made it easy for us to become involved with and attached to the Camberwell Lacrosse Club. It would be an absolute travesty to lose this Community connection and I urge the council to think long and hard about displacing them from Dorothy Laver Reserve, the home of Camberwell Lacrosse Club for decades.

Annabelle, parent of 15 year old girl and 14 year old boy

Both of my children love lacrosse. Doug (Fox) came to their primary school a long time ago and they decided (separately) that they wanted to give it a go.

For my daughter, who is now nearly 16, it has given her a different group of friends from her school friends, which as a parent I think is really important. She really enjoys the teams she is in and also knows quite a few girls in other teams too from other clubs. It has added greatly to her self-confidence, she was never going to be a tennis player, but she is good at lacrosse and enjoys working at it to improve her skill base. She fully intends to carry on through to adulthood and now plays in two teams, the U17s and the Women's. Her aim is to play for Australia.

There is a large network among the girls from different clubs on social media where the girls speak to each other. Also, as she gets older, thanks to MILL (Melbourne Indoor Lacrosse League), she has got to know a few of the older boys and they support each other regarding play and games. They also train together outside of the Club's normal training schedules.

For my son, he is slight in frame but quick. He disliked Aussie Rules and hated going to Oz kick – he used to get bowled over by the bigger boys. However from day 1 he loved lacrosse and has progressed over the years with the same team and is now playing in the U15s. He too works hard on his skills. I imagine he too will continue to adulthood and has never once asked to do another sport.

For both children, they are proud to be lacrosse players. It has helped define who they are. We today are a lacrosse family.

Camberwell Lacrosse Club has always been welcoming. It is a club that has a great connection with its members, which other than watching games at the weekend by the parents, is seen in the large number of people who participate in the social events the club runs throughout the year. Its culture is inclusive, authentic and fair which is a testament to all those that volunteer to help run the club.

Finally lacrosse is accessible, unlike other sports, the fees are low and there are no add-ons throughout the year. This means that it is able to straddle across income levels and Camberwell also has a "scholarship" process if members are unable to afford the fees.

Scott, parent of 16 year old girl

At 13, my daughter was one of those early teens who avoid any form of physical activity. Having played lacrosse since the age of six, and having shown little interest in any other sport, strong bonds with teammates and coaches overcame her preference for sitting in front of a computer. The social connection kept her playing and training through this period. This proved to be pivotal. Continuity of engagement carried her through to a place where she found a true passion. She worked hard on her skills and tried out for the Victorian state team. She discovered that leg-speed is her greatest asset on the field: running for fitness and fun is now a regular part of her life. The confidence gained has encouraged her to pick up other sports such as badminton, even while her commitment to lacrosse increases. This is her last year of junior lacrosse, but she is already an established player in Camberwell's senior team. There is every sign that her passion will continue to deepen.

Without lacrosse I fear she would still be sitting in front of the computer.



Appendix 5 – 1983 Camberwell Lacrosse Centre Submission

**refer to separate document:
DLRW CamLax SubmissionApp5 - 1983 proposal.pdf**



Appendix 5 – 1983 Camberwell Lacrosse Centre Submission

Camberwell Lacrosse Centre

February 1983

Prepared by:
HAL CUTTING ARCHITECT
Architects and Urban Designers
202 Lt. Page Street, Middle Park
690-7494

6907494

with assistance from the President and Committees of the
Camberwell Men's Lacrosse Club and the Camberwell Women's
Lacrosse Club.



CAMBERWELL - ~~GLEN IRIS~~ LACROSSE CLUB

(NAME CHANGED JULY 1979)

Hon. Secretary:
Mr. J. Williamson
21 Seaton Street,
Glen Iris 3146

The Mayor and Councillors,
City of Camberwell,
Civic Centre,
Camberwell Road,
Camberwell 3124

4th March, 1983

Dear Mr. Mayor and Councillors,

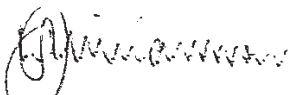
I am writing to formally place before Council a combined submission on behalf of the Camberwell Lacrosse Club and the Camberwell Womens Lacrosse Club.

The purpose of the submission is to propose the development of a combined sporting/recreational centre to serve the needs of males and females involved in the sport of lacrosse in Camberwell, and to link in with the overall development of recreational facilities within the municipality.

Our Clubs respectively request the opportunity for a deputation to meet with Council representatives at your earliest convenience to discuss this proposal.

Correspondence should be addressed to me at the above address and to the Camberwell Womens Lacrosse Club at the address shown on the attached letter of support.

Yours faithfully,



J. Williamson
Hon. Secretary

Formed in 1952 by the amalgamation of:
CAMBERWELL LACROSSE CLUB (founded 1927) and GLEN IRIS LACROSSE CLUB (founded 1928)



CAMBERWELL WOMENS LACROSSE CLUB

President:

Mrs. J.E. Jackson
16 Donald Street,
Ashburton 3146

Mr. J. Williamson, Hon. Sec. CLC,
21 Seaton Street,
Glen Iris

4th March, 1983

Dear Jim,

I am writing to confirm the total support of the Camberwell Womens Lacrosse Club for the concept of a combined lacrosse centre.

My Club has discussed the concept and studied the submission which has been prepared for Camberwell Council.

The whole thing is excellent! Given the difficulties women's sport experiences in gaining acceptance and access to grounds and facilities we can see great merit in this combined planning exercise.

The Camberwell Womens Lacrosse Club assures you of full support and authorises you to proceed in lodging the report as a joint proposal involving the women's lacrosse club.

Thank you for informing us, incorporating our requirements and involving us throughout this exercise. We hold out great hopes for a successful result.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs. J.E. Jackson
President

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APPENDIX A

APPENDIX B

1 Introduction

1.

Introduction

The members, families and supporters associated with the Camberwell Men's Lacrosse Club and the Camberwell Women's Lacrosse Club wish to place before Council a proposal to establish a permanent home for the sport of lacrosse in the City of Camberwell. The proposed lacrosse centre is to be located at Dorothy Laver Reserve (East and West), Glen Iris.

This proposal is made at a time when the two clubs are experiencing severe difficulties and frustrations associated with the lack of suitable playing surfaces and clubrooms and the fragmentation which results from the present need to use four separate venues.

The Clubs believe that the contribution which they have made over a long period in providing opportunity for physical recreation and personal development for large numbers of young people of both sexes, warrants strong support from Council.

The Clubs have participated in, and followed with interest the development of the Camberwell Leisure Study. We believe the proposed lacrosse centre, as outlined in this report, strongly reflects both the philosophy and priorities which have been identified in the Leisure Study.

In setting out the design for a lacrosse centre, close attention has been given to the needs of other compatible users. The plan outlined in this report is therefore consistent with the multi-purpose community sports concept, which is a key priority within the Camberwell Leisure Study.

The Men's and Women's Lacrosse Clubs, with their enthusiasm, resources and knowledge of other, less publicized sports in the area, wish to work closely with Council in creating a new Sports and Recreation Complex of a type which will place the Municipality at the forefront of recreational planning.

2 Background

2.

2.1 History

The sport of lacrosse has been played in the City of Camberwell for over 60 years, with clubs based at Canterbury, Camberwell, Hartwell and Glen Iris.

During the early 1950s Camberwell Lacrosse Club (founded 1927) merged with Glen Iris Lacrosse Club (founded 1928) to form Camberwell-Glen Iris Lacrosse Club. This club was based at Eric Raven Reserve, Glen Iris, until its tenancy was terminated in favour of a football club during the mid-1950s, and lacrosse was re-located to what is now Dorothy Laver Reserve East, in Francis Crescent, Glen Iris.

In 1969 the Club commenced a major re-building program based on recruitment from local schools. Within a few years the Club had grown to become the largest lacrosse club in Victoria, and one of the largest sporting clubs in Camberwell (refer Table 1, Page 3).

In 1979 the club was re-named as Camberwell Lacrosse Club and a women's section formed.

In order to accommodate this substantial growth, new playing facilities were sought and found at Markham Avenue Reserve, Ashburton, Warner Reserve Ashburton and the Dorothy Laver Reserve West.

At the present time all of these venues are in use by lacrosse during the winter season with Warner Reserve on a half-day shared arrangement with the Ashburton Football Club.

This multiple-venue arrangement is far from satisfactory and the two Clubs are now seeking to develop appropriate facilities at a single location - Dorothy Laver Reserve, East and West, Glen Iris.

3.

Table 1

REGISTERED PLAYER MEMBERSHIP

	Male	Female
1969	33	
1970	53	
1971	67	
1972	80	
1973	80	
1974	90	
1975	109	
1976	121	
1977	115	
1978	135	
1979	133	28
1980	126	31
1981	111	37
1982	113	28

4.

2.2 The Site

The site of the proposed development is located at the southern boundary of the Municipality of Camberwell (Fig. 1).

The 6 Hectare site encompasses Dorothy Laver Reserve's East and West and is bounded by Saxby Road, Francis Crescent, Dunlop Street, the Camberwell/Malvern Municipal Boundary and is traversed by Gardiner's Creek (Fig. 2). Of undulating and poor quality surface, Glen Iris Park currently contains three concrete cricket pitches, providing three small overlapping cricket areas.

An earth depression carrying surface water into Gardiner's Creek triangulates an area at the Dunlop Street end where a vehicle entry exists, extending to a carpark area around an S.E.C. pylon. The pylon supports a high voltage line which runs lengthwise through the Reserve. Dorothy Laver Reserve East contains one concrete cricket pitch, an old timber change room, a Scout Hall and associated carpark off Saxby Road.

This report, while concerned with the upgrading of both Reserves, will concentrate on how Glen Iris Park can be developed and therefore be integrated with Dorothy Laver Reserve East.

2.3 Management

The City of Camberwell has managed Dorothy Laver Reserve West for some years even though the ownership is with the City of Malvern. This situation developed as a result of the change in the course of Gardiner's Creek and a formal transfer of title to Camberwell is now being finalized (Fig. 3).

Figure 1
Location Plan

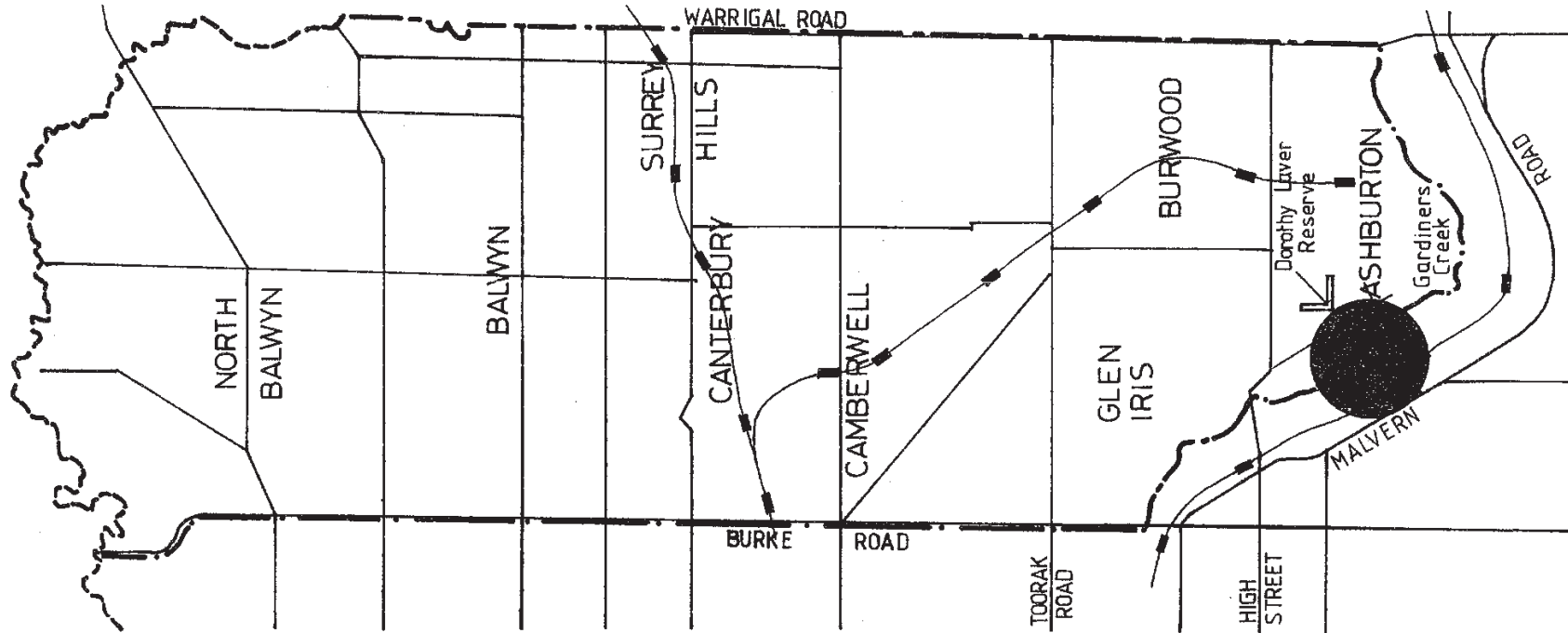
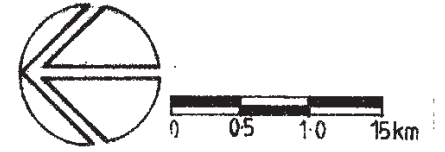
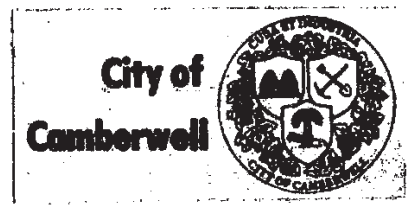
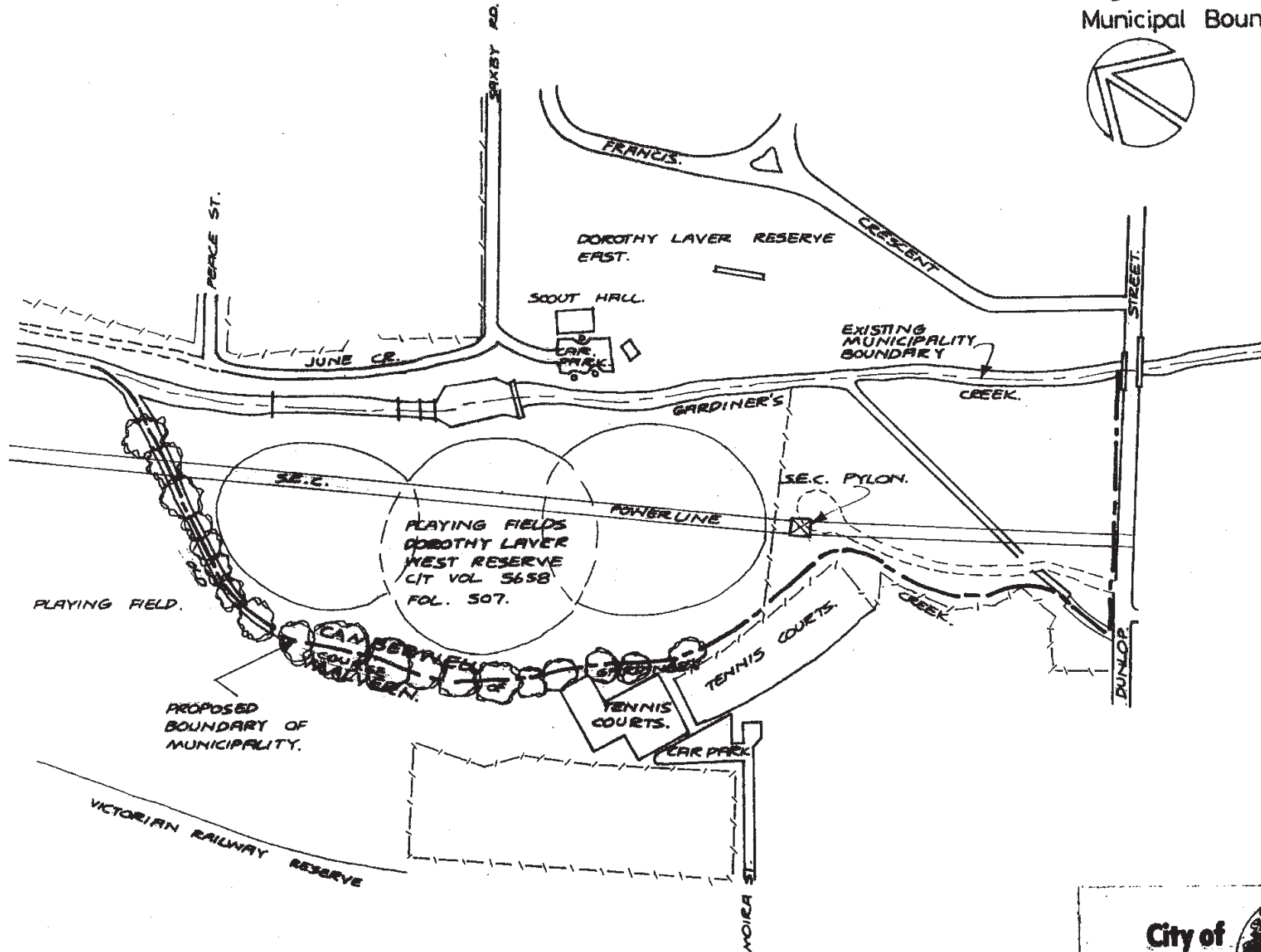


Figure 2
Existing Conditions



Figure 3
Municipal Boundary



3 Development Concept

5.

3.1 Aims

The development of a Camberwell Lacrosse Centre is sought at Dorothy Laver Reserve, East and West with appropriate playing pitches, pavilion/clubrooms and other facilities.

Details of the requirements and a phased development plan are contained in Section 5 and 6 of this report.

In seeking to develop these facilities, the Camberwell Lacrosse Clubs are aiming to:-

- extend the significant contribution which has already been made to the recreational opportunities which exist within the local community;
- reflect a standard worthy of the City of Camberwell;
- establish leadership for the City of Camberwell in both men's and women's sections of the sport of lacrosse in Victoria.

These aims cannot be achieved without the support and commitment of the City Council. The Clubs believe that their performance so far is deserving of such a commitment.

In 1979 the club was re-named as Camberwell Lacrosse Club and a women's section formed.

In order to accommodate this substantial growth, new playing facilities were sought and found at Markham Avenue Reserve, Ashburton, Warner Reserve Ashburton and the Dorothy Laver Reserve West.

At the present time all of these venues are in use by lacrosse during the winter season with Warner Reserve on a half-day shared arrangement with the Ashburton Football Club.

6.

This multiple-venue arrangement is far from satisfactory and the two Clubs are now seeking to develop appropriate facilities at a single location - Dorothy Laver Reserve, East and West, Glen Iris.

3.2 Rationale

Lacrosse in Camberwell is at present experiencing problems and frustrations relating to venues and facilities. The need for a rationalization of the grounds and facilities used by the two lacrosse clubs has been prompted by a number of factors:

3.2.1 Separation of Playing Fields

Fragmentation resulting from the physical separation of the four grounds used to accommodate the large numbers wishing to play does not enhance a sense of unity for players, their families or supporters.

3.2.2 Permanent Home

The lack of an identifiable "home" and clubrooms causes communication and cohesion difficulties and unnecessary duplication of costly equipment, problems with security and maintenance of club equipment.

3.2.3 Quality of Facilities

The poor standard of playing surfaces and pavilions and lack of facilities for players and spectators compared with other clubs with whom they participate has not gone unnoticed by the controlling body, the Victorian Amateur Lacrosse Association (refer Appendix A). The lack of compatibility with other sports which share the grounds used by lacrosse is a constant detriment to the game and in the case of cricket pitches, a source of player injuries.

7.

Despite its strength, Camberwell is clearly the poor relation of Senior Lacrosse in Victoria at the present time.

3.2.4 Potential

The significant growth which lacrosse has achieved over the last decade (yearly average membership - 109 men and 30 within the more recently formed women's club) has reached a point which is now restrained by the lack of suitable playing facilities and venues.

The clubs have achieved senior grade playing standard and produced a number of State and National representative players. The clubs are keen to develop on this base, but it seems a critical point has been reached which will prevent full realization of the Club's potential unless improved facilities become available.

Refer Table 1 page 3 from 1979 onwards.

3.2.5 Timing

Lacrosse has experienced a long waiting time in seeking to improve its playing facilities. Uncertainties associated with the proposed Freeway location have resulted in postponements of developments such as a Practice Wall and playing surface upgrade which have been suggested to Council in the past. With the apparent resolution of the Freeway location and the publication of the Open Space Strategy of the Camberwell Leisure Study it is considered timely to pursue this development proposal which has been in mind for some years.

8.

3.3 Community Involvement

The Camberwell Lacrosse Club promotes and values both a local and a family membership base.

The Club has since 1969 recruited on an annual basis from primary schools in Glen Iris, Ashburton, Alamein, Burwood and South Camberwell (ref. Fig 4).

Over the past ten years the average membership has totalled 107 males. Of these, an average of 82% of the juniors and 67% of the seniors have been local residents. A further 13% of the seniors are former Camberwell residents who have migrated as young adults to nearby outer eastern suburbs to establish homes (see Table 2).

This pattern of local membership contrasts sharply with many other sporting groups which have high proportions of members coming from outside the municipality to use Camberwell facilities.

The Lacrosse Club also enjoys a strong family involvement through the wide range of social and Club-related activities which it organises. During 1982 a total of 10 of the 18 members of the Club Management Committee were local resident parents with sons and daughters participating in the sport. The President, Secretary and Treasurer were all fathers who had no contact with lacrosse prior to the time of their sons joining the Club.

9.

This family/parental involvement is prized and reflects the youth-development context within which the Club conducts its activities. Over the years, many parents have expressed their thanks to the Club for the positive contribution which the Club has made to their son or daughter's personal development.

Through informal "try-out" days, participation in community events such as Camberfest and support given to the physical education programs of local schools, the Club has proved itself as a stable provider of a healthy recreational activity for young people. The Club seeks to both continue and improve this role within the community. (Ref. Appendix A)

The growth of Lacrosse recently can be attributed in part to the introduction of non-contract rules for younger players known as "Soft Lacrosse" to the extent that the sport has become one of the most accident-free sports played.

The change in the nature of the population in Camberwell to that of a greater number of young families has provided Camberwell Lacrosse with an excellent resource of future players.

10.

Table 2

PROPORTION OF TOTAL CLUB MEMBERSHIP
WHICH IS RESIDENT IN THE CITY OF
CAMBERWELL

	Junior	Senior	
		Current residents	Former residents
1972	95%	No senior teams	
1975	78%	70%	
1978	72%	61%	10%
1982	83%	65%	15%

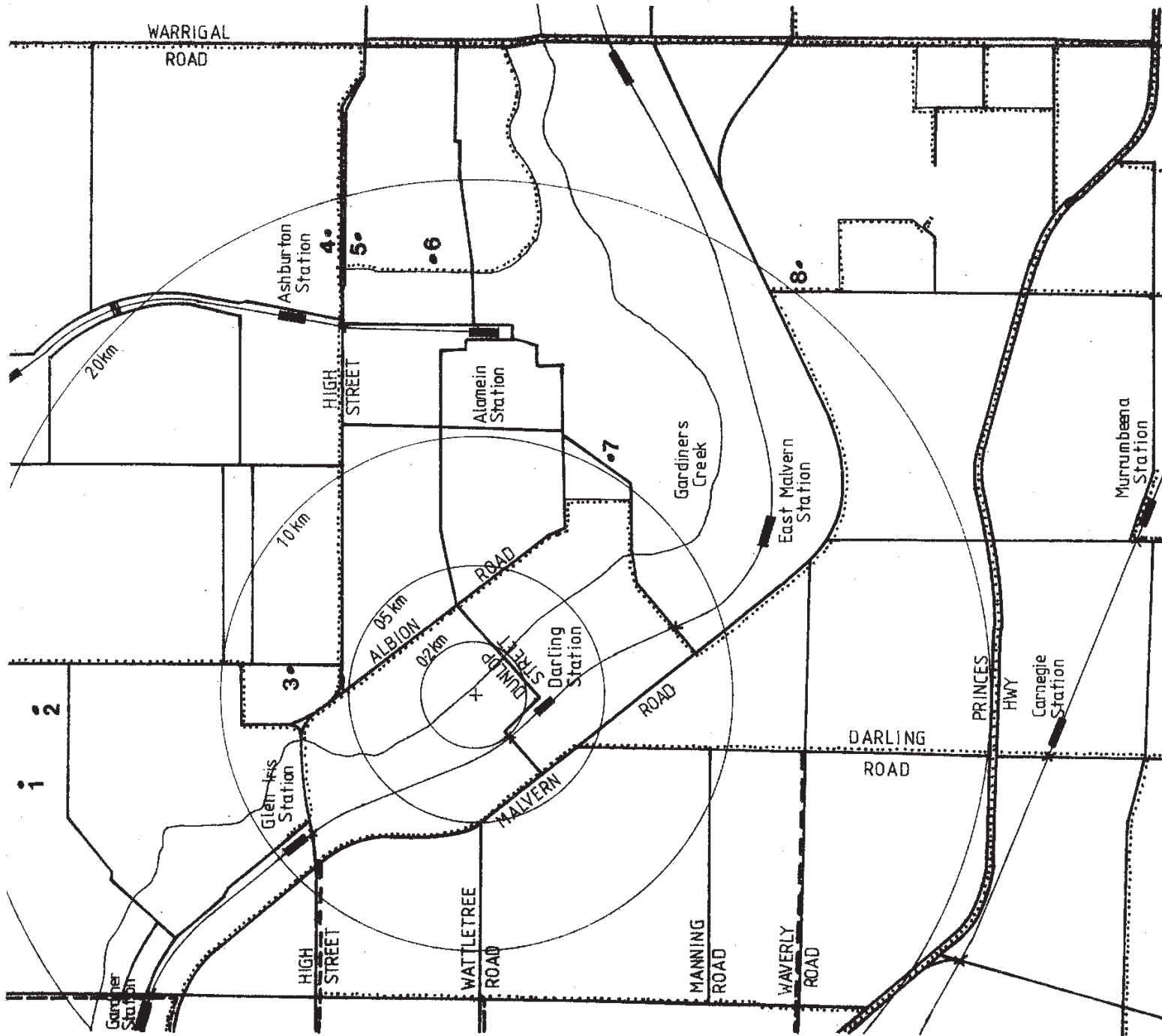


Figure 4
Public Transport & Schools



Schools:

- 1 CAMBERWELL STH. PRIMARY SCHOOL.
- 2 ST. CECILIA'S R.C. SCHOOL.
- 3 GLEN IRIS PRIMARY SCHOOL.
- 4 ASHBURTON PRIMARY SCHOOL.
- 5 ST. MICHEALS R.C. SCHOOL.
- 6 ALAMEIN PRIMARY SCHOOL.
- 7 SOLWAY PRIMARY SCHOOL.
- 8 CHARSTONE HIGH SCHOOL.

- Tram Route
- Bus Route

4 Design Constraints

11.

4.1 Country Roads Board

The State Government has deferred the Construction of the Proposed S.E. Freeway extensions.

In doing this however, the possibility of a small extension of the Freeway has not been discounted and the C.R.B. have proposed to the Government certain road works in the area of Glen Iris Park.

The C.R.B. preferred route of the works is along the C3 route (i.e. next to rail line) rather than the C1 route (along Gardiner's Creek). See Fig. 5.

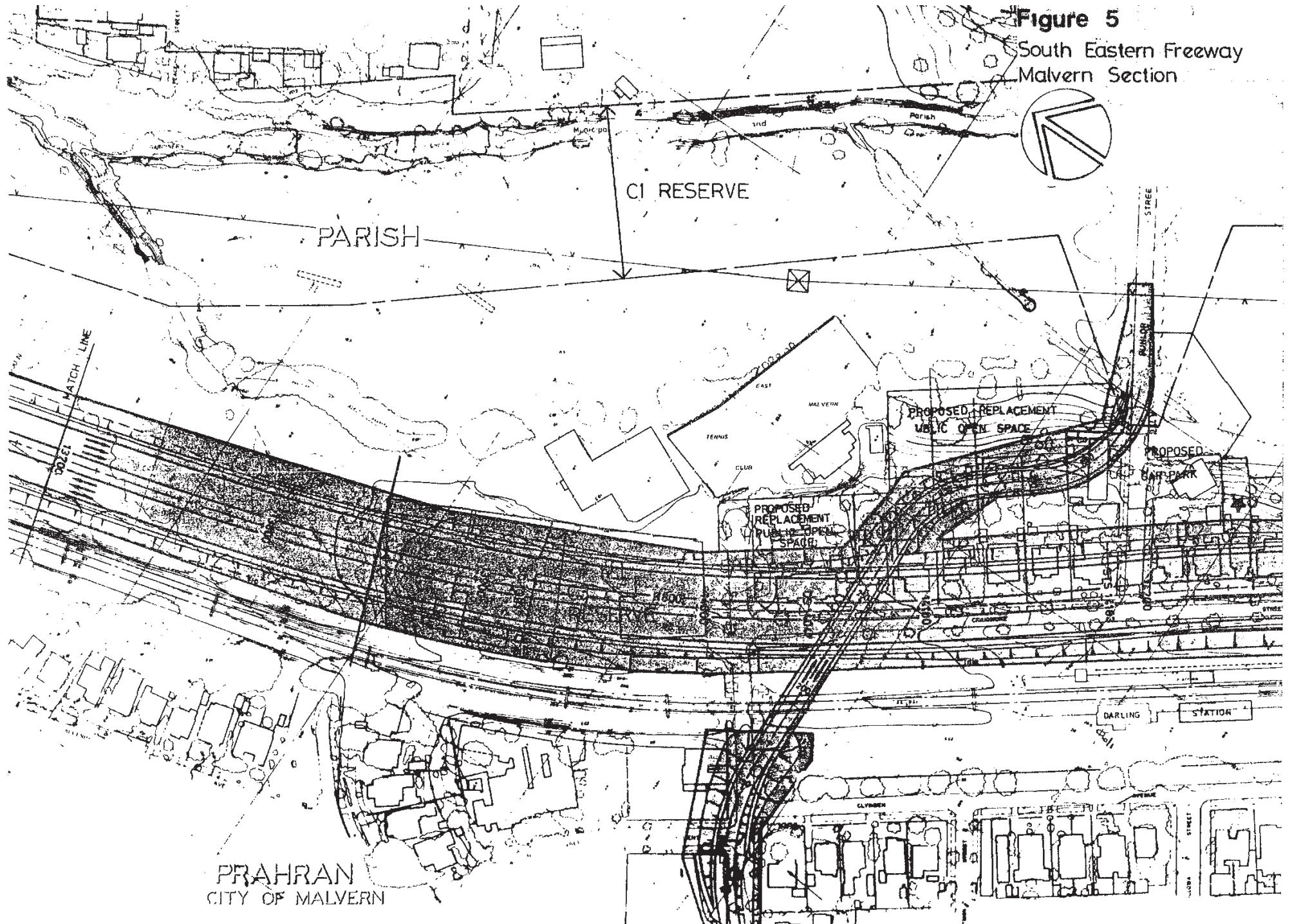
The C.R.B., in making their C3 proposal have also produced a Landscape Plan (Fig. 6) which is compatible with the proposals contained in this report.

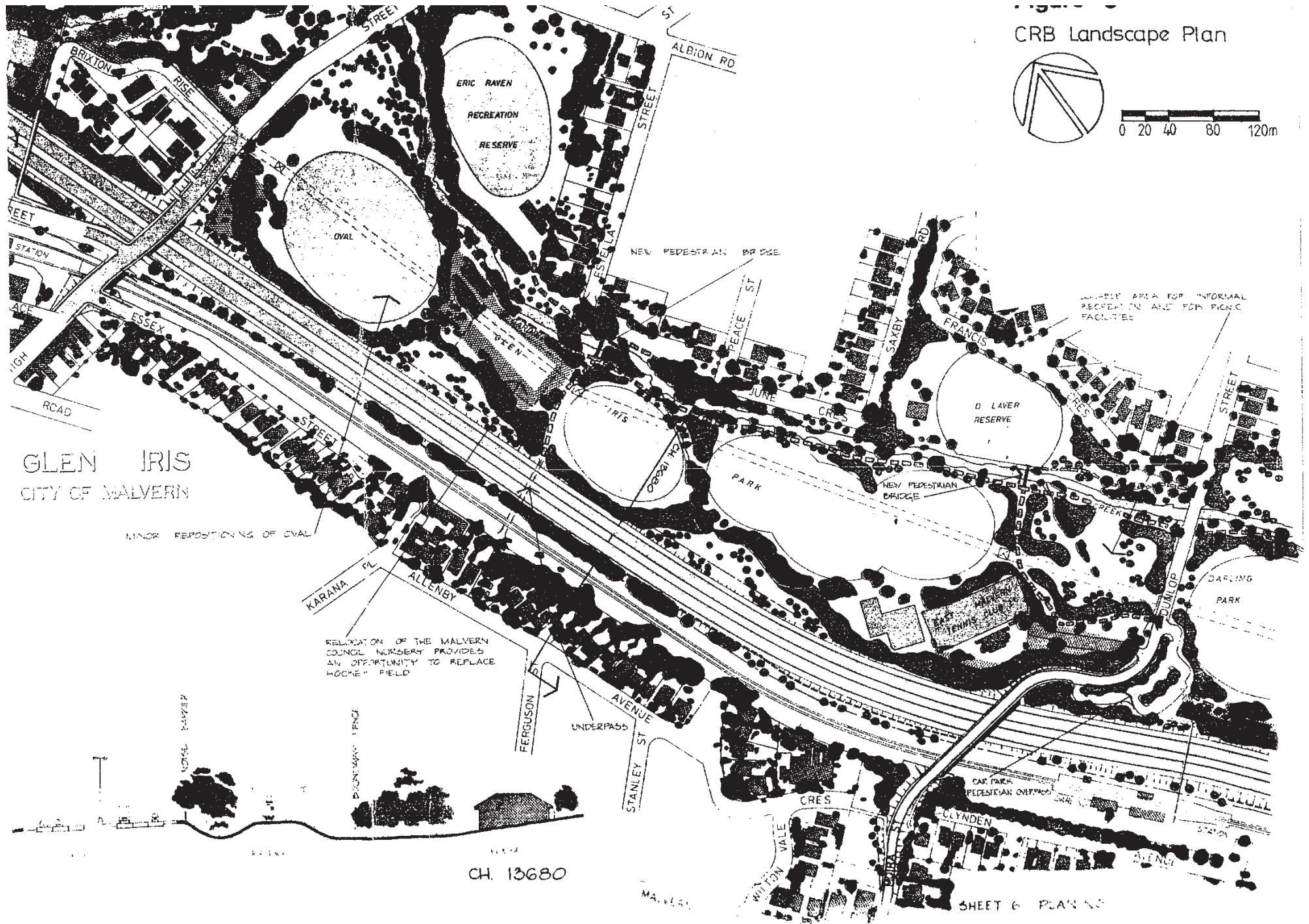
4.2 State Electricity Commission

There are no current plans by the State Electricity Commission to relocate the high voltage transmission line from its present location.

Current S.E.C. easements indicate a no-build area within 12 metres of the existing pylon.

Further investigation would be required to locate underground cables in the area of the proposed pavilion which, together with M.M.B.W. easements, will influence the final design of the building.





12.

4.3 Park Access

There are three possible vehicular entry points to Dorothy Laver Reserve West as indicated on Fig. 7.

Access A from Saxby Road was not considered viable because of the costs associated with a vehicular bridge across Gardiner's Creek, and the possible increase in traffic along Saxby Road, a quiet residential street. A Pavilion located near Saxby Road requiring this entry point could also be seen to be detrimental to the quality of the residential environment.

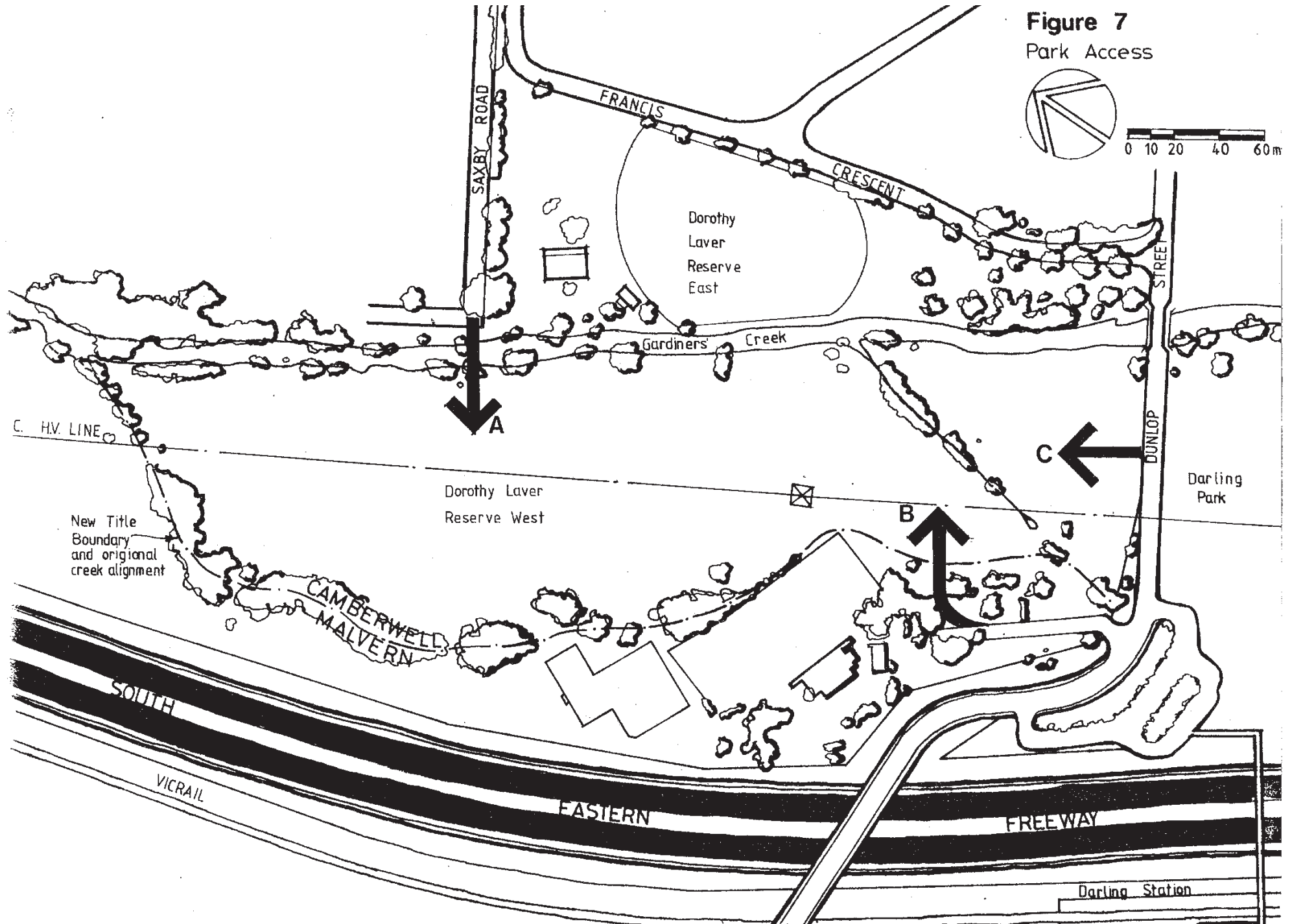
Access B depends on the extension of the South-Eastern Freeway and associated works. The C.R.B. proposal indicates a new road providing access to the East Malvern Tennis Club. This would provide a reasonably central entry at a location which would appropriately separate Passive and Active recreation facilities.

Access C could be used if the freeway extension does not proceed without greatly affecting the proposed development.

4.4 Passive/Active Recreation

As mentioned earlier, it is not intended that the whole of the park be developed for active sports. A large area should cater for passive activities such as walking, sitting, B.B.Q. facilities, and children's play equipment. A separation of these activities is preferable. In addition, it would be ideal if the carparking serving these functions was located in such a way as to provide centralized access without conflicting with pedestrian movement between them.

Figure 7
Park Access



13.

4.5 Playing Fields and Sports Courts

Appendix B indicates Men's and Women's field and court dimensions of those sports it is envisaged could use the Centre.

4.6 Orientation

The ideal orientation for most sports is North/South and Lacrosse is no exception. For Lacrosse, this orientation allows goal-keepers to get a good sight of the ball at all times without looking into the sun. Winter south-west winds blow diagonally across the pitch without greatly favouring either end. A games control area at mid-pitch should ideally face east.

4.7 Carparking

Carparking requirements can be divided into four categories for:-

1. Club functions and training.
2. Passive recreation.
3. Match days.
4. Special matches.

A maximum of 20-30 car spaces would be required for training sessions of most sports and this number would be more than adequate for the requirements of the passive area on most occasions.

Match days would attract 100-150 cars, part of this number could be provided in locations to view the matches in progress.

For special match days, e.g. Finals, the additional carparking requirements could be accommodated in the proposed C.R.B. Darling

Figure 8

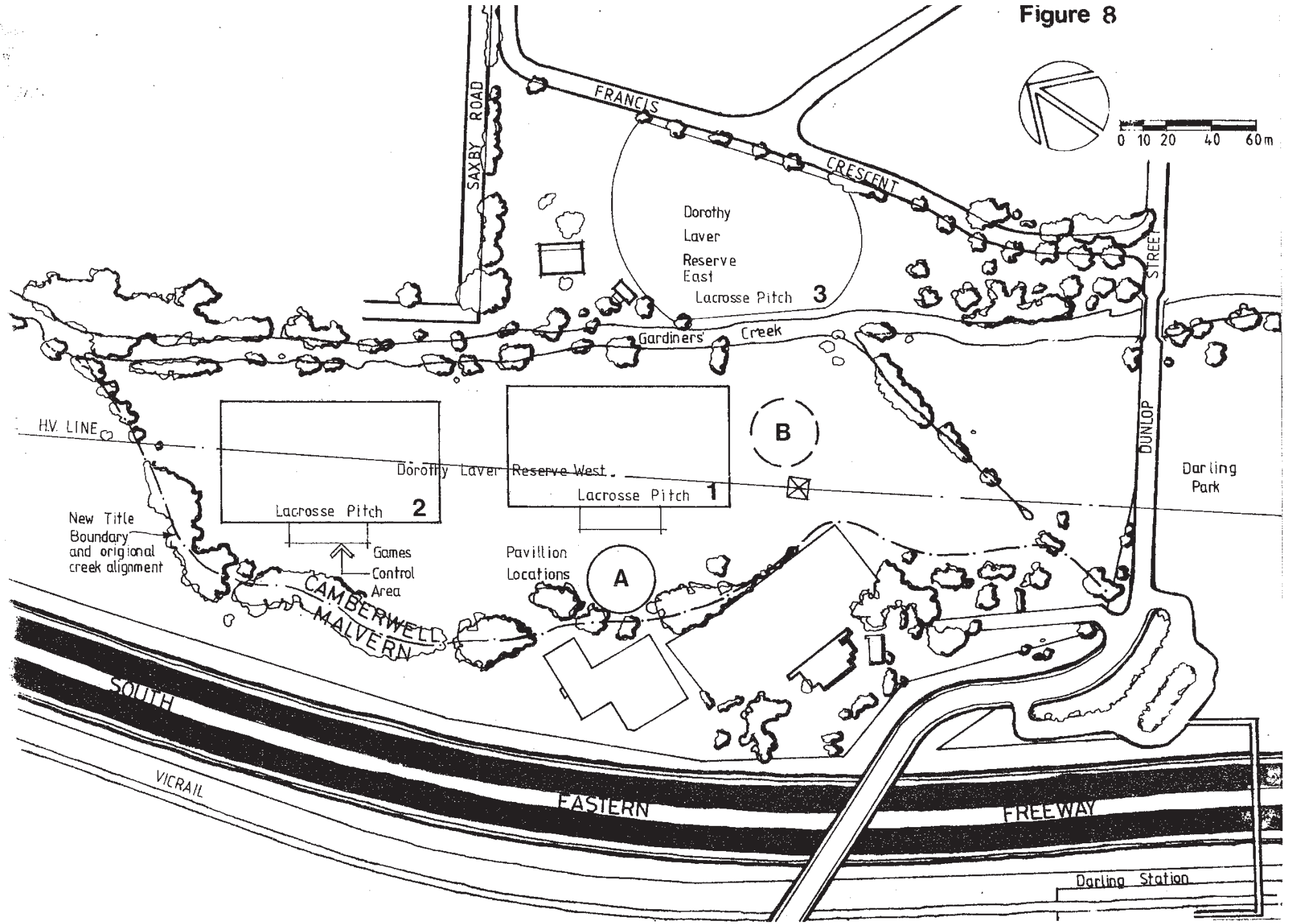


Figure 9

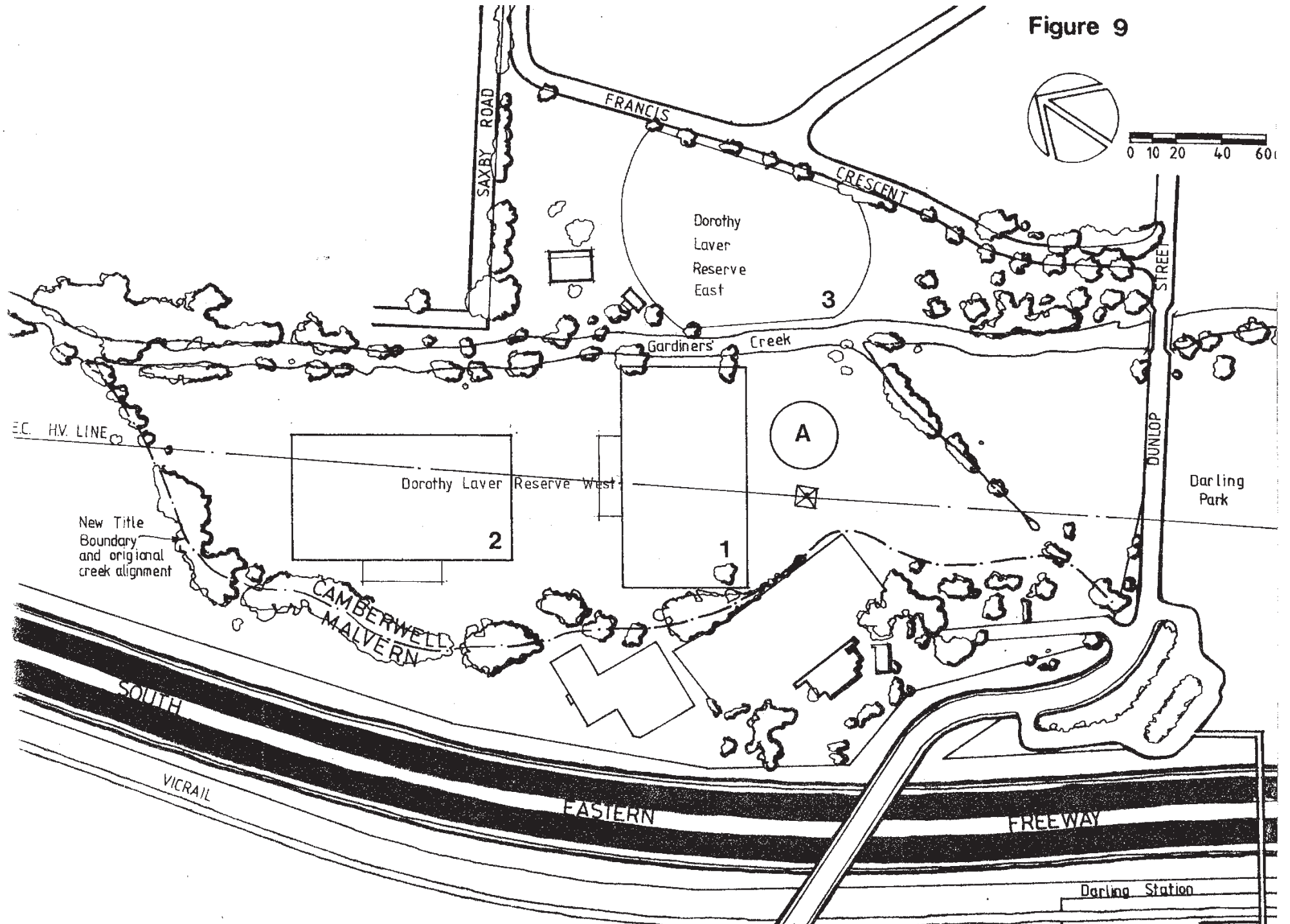
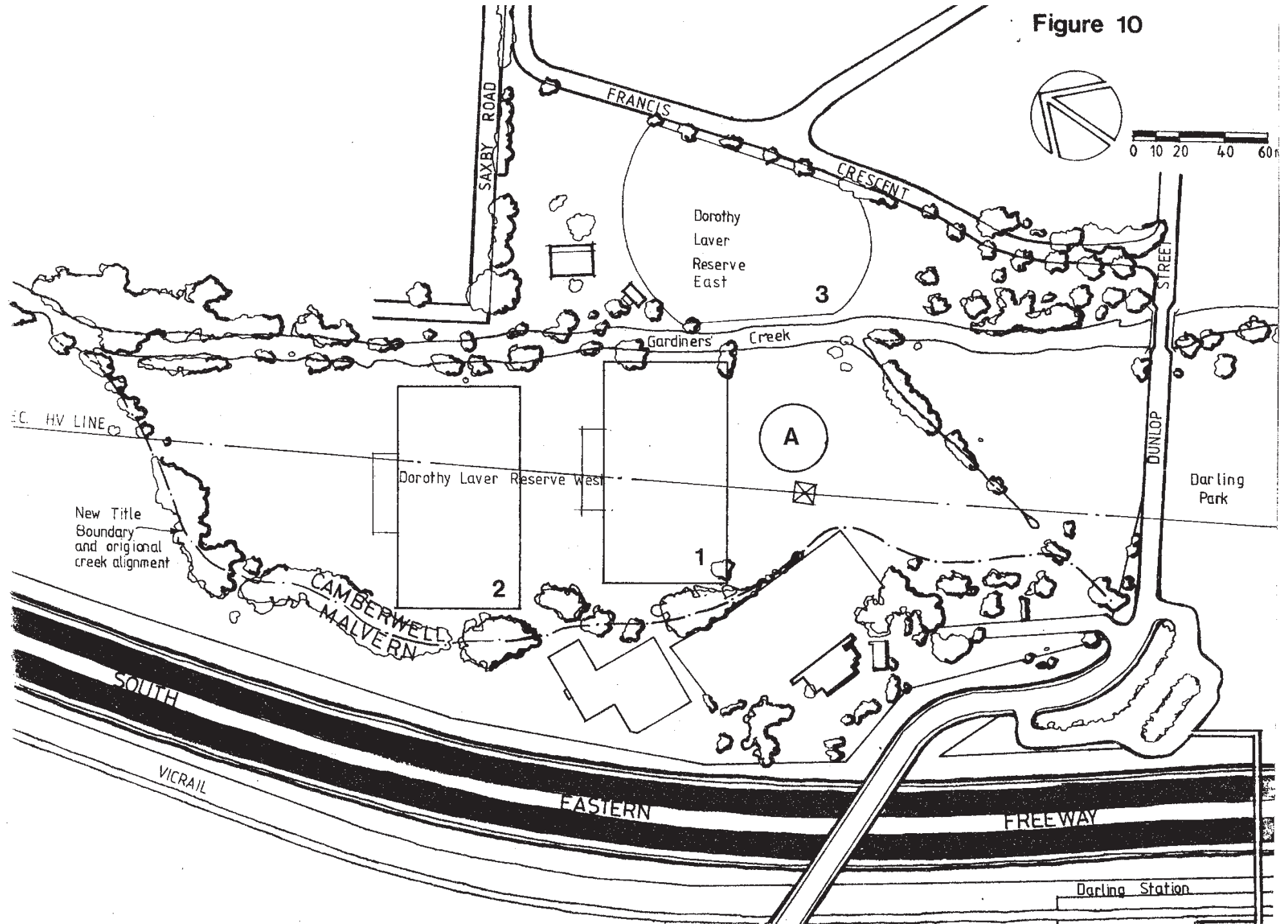


Figure 10



14.

Station parking off Dunlop Street or by street parking which currently exists for Dorothy Laver Reserve.

4.8 Layout of Active Sports Areas

As mentioned in Section 3 every consideration is given to other sports apart from Lacrosse and in particular Athletics.

300 m and 400 m running tracks have been used for design purposes but it is not intended that this be a permanent track. The Lacrosse pitch dimensions are adequate for other sports shown in Appendix B.

A number of alternative layouts were investigated as shown in Figures 8, 9, 10 and 12.

Fig. 8 shows pitches parallel to Gardiner's Creek and while there is adequate space around the pitches the orientation is not ideal. The most ideal pavilion location (A) at mid-pitch is not well located to either pitch 2 or 3 and is too far from the vehicular entry point.

Figs. 9 and 10 have similar orientation problems although the pavilion location is far more suitable.

15.

4.9 Recommended Pitch Layout

Figure 11 shows diagrammatically the principles of development incorporating a centralized car park and pavilion location and a separation of active and passive recreation.

Figure 12 shows, using these principles, the ideal pitch orientation and the preferred pavilion location, which would service pitches 1 and 3 directly.

Dorothy Laver Reserve East would be connected to the West Reserve by means of a footbridge. This diagram has been further developed after consultations with those connected with this report and form the basis of the Site Development Proposal.

Figure 11
Site Development
Principles

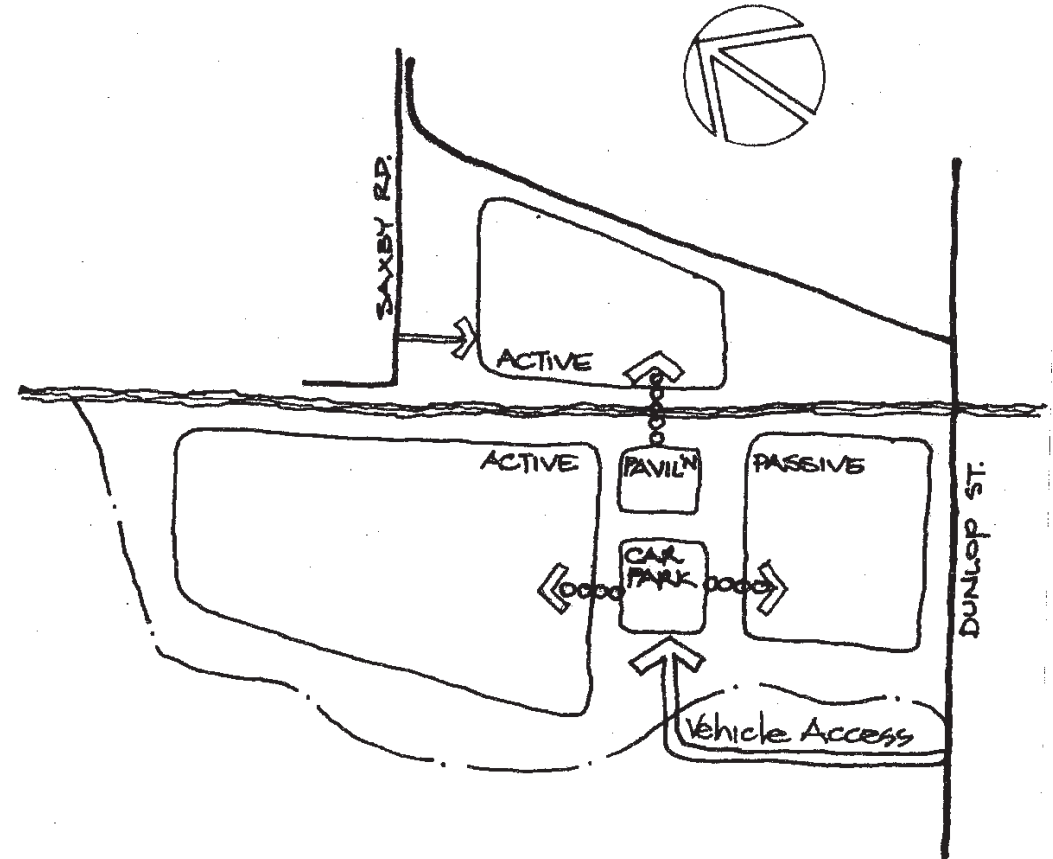
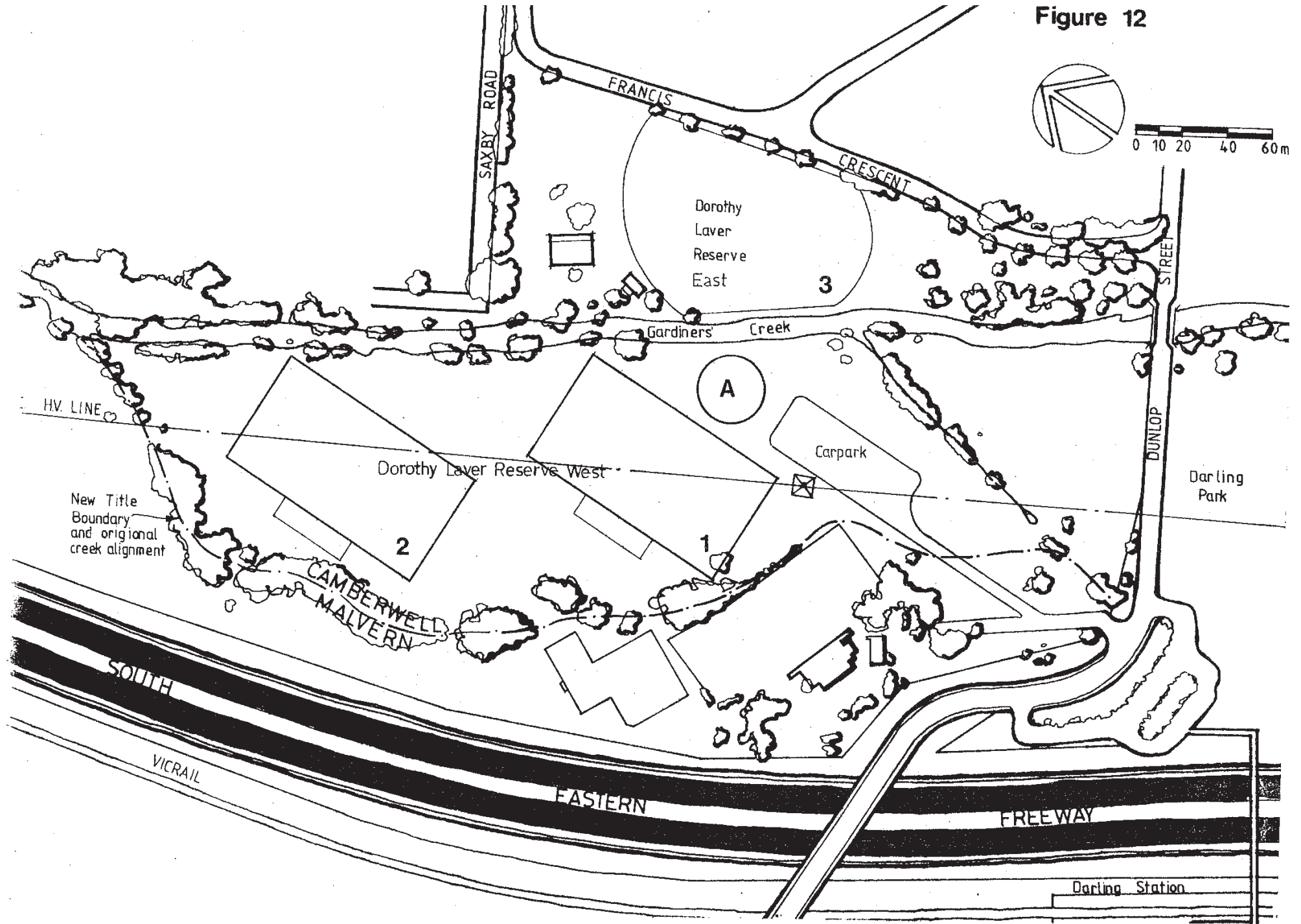


Figure 12



16.

4.10 Multi-Purpose Sports Court

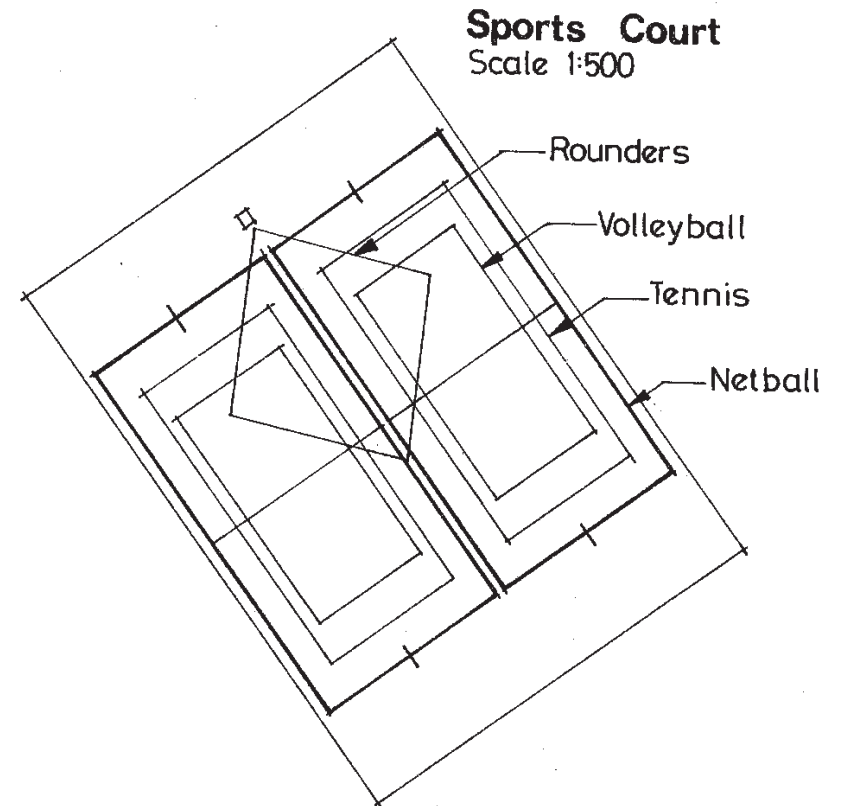
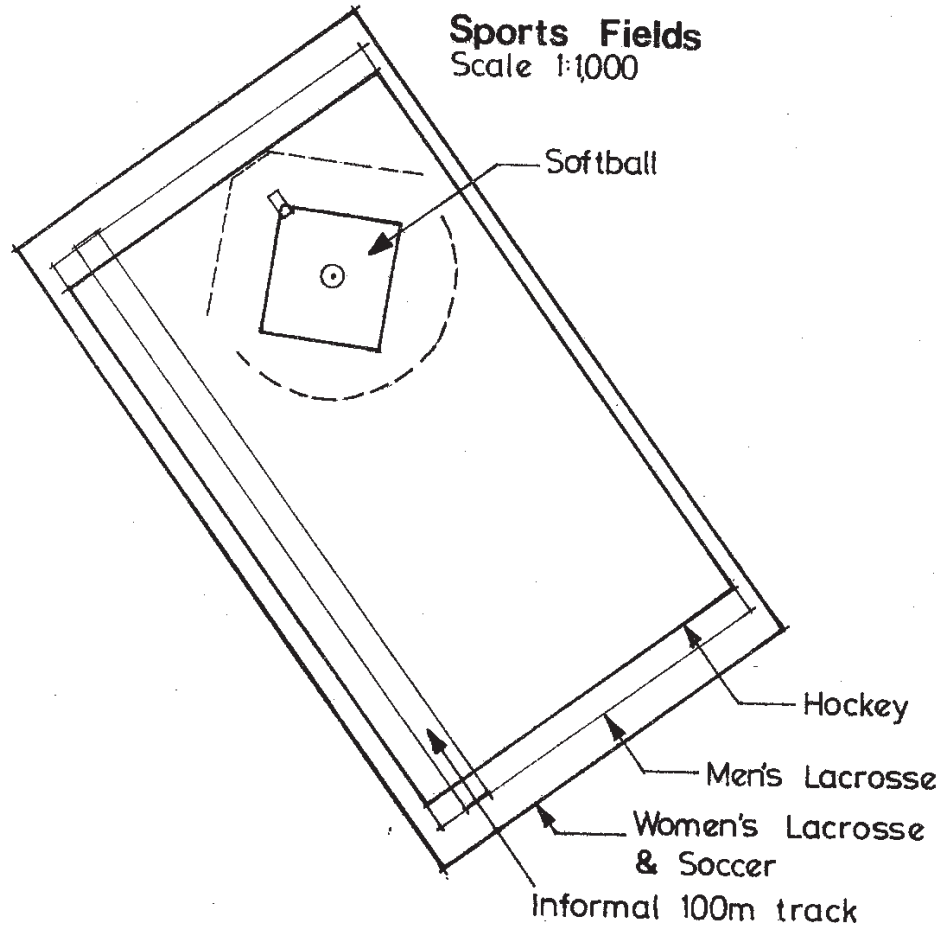
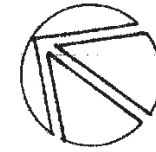
It is intended to provide a 45 m x 30 m synthetic surfaced sports court.

This would be used for lacrosse training, netball, tennis, volley ball, rounders, etc. (refer Fig. 13).

4.11 Practice Wall

A practice wall is essential for lacrosse training. One wall of the pavilion would be ideal for this purpose and would enhance the facilities of individuals practising other ball orientated sports.

Figure 13
Multiple Use Sports
Field & Sports Court



5 Site Development Proposal

17.

5.1 The Preferred Plan

Figure 14 indicates the potential the site has for a first class facility for all users as an integrated and convenient centre. Various aspects of the plan are discussed in detail below.

5.2 Playing Fields

The main thrust of the plan is to provide three top quality pitches. This would require the upgrading of the playing surfaces of Dorothy Laver Reserves East and West. Sports Pitch No. 1 is seen as the main pitch and is designed to accommodate only those sports which are compatible. Some of these sports are shown in Fig. 13.

Pitches 1 and 2 are separated by a wide spectator viewing area as explained in Section 6. Pitch 2 is designed to be part of a larger field area which would accommodate a larger variety of field games and can comfortably accept a 400 or 300 metre informal running track.

5.3 Pavilion/Clubrooms

A building has been located in a position which is serviced by adequate carparking, is adjacent to Pitch No. 1 and conveniently located to service both Pitch 2 and 3, while still allowing sufficient space for a Sports Court. The building would provide male and female change rooms, kiosk, meeting rooms and clubrooms which may also provide for indoor viewing of games. An electronic scoreboard would be incorporated on the pavilion for use by those sports using Sports Field No. 1.

18.

5.4 Footbridge

The construction of a pedestrian footbridge over Gardiner's Creek would be required to integrate Dorothy Laver Reserves East and West. The bridge has been located in a similar location to that shown on the C.R.B. Landscape plan (Fig. 6).

5.5 Sports court

Lacrosse training, like that of other sports, is usually confined to a small area. This has a detrimental effect on grassed surfaces.

In order to reduce wear and maintenance of the prepared pitches, a sports court of all-weather synthetic surface has been proposed for training purposes and of a size which can adequately cater for sports such as volleyball and netball. It is envisaged that the court would be available for disabled persons sports and for the Scouts who are located across the footbridge.

One wall of the Pavilion has been designed as a Practice or hit-up wall which would complement the training or casual practice for most sports and which is seen as essential for Lacrosse.

The sports court would be provided with lighting of a standard for night training.

5.6 Spectator Viewing

Adequate spectator viewing areas have been designed along the lengths of each pitch. However, for many people attending sports on Municipal Reserves, the most common and comfortable provision for viewing is from the private car. A raised earth embankment has been located between pitches 1 and 2

19.

to cater for vehicle viewing as shown on the plan. Provision for covered open space viewing would be required around the Pavilion while the building itself should cater for indoor viewing for the aged, disabled and those not prepared to brave the elements.

5.7 Fitness Track

A fitness and jogging track is proposed of Youth Sport and Recreation standard which would link in the linial open space "chain" along Gardiner's Creek as discussed in Council's Leisure Study and indicated on the C.R.B. plan.

This track would be excellent as a player conditioning facility being available for those who are not involved in organized sport and which could be used without interruption by other sports.

5.8 B.B.Q. and Children's Play

Two areas are proposed for this more passive activity. The first is an area adjacent to and sheltered by the Pavilion, which would provide an outdoor focal point for the members of the various sports using the centre. This area would be serviced by the kiosk and public toilets of the building. The second and more general area is located between the carpark and Dunlop Street.

20.

5.9 Urban Open Space Chain

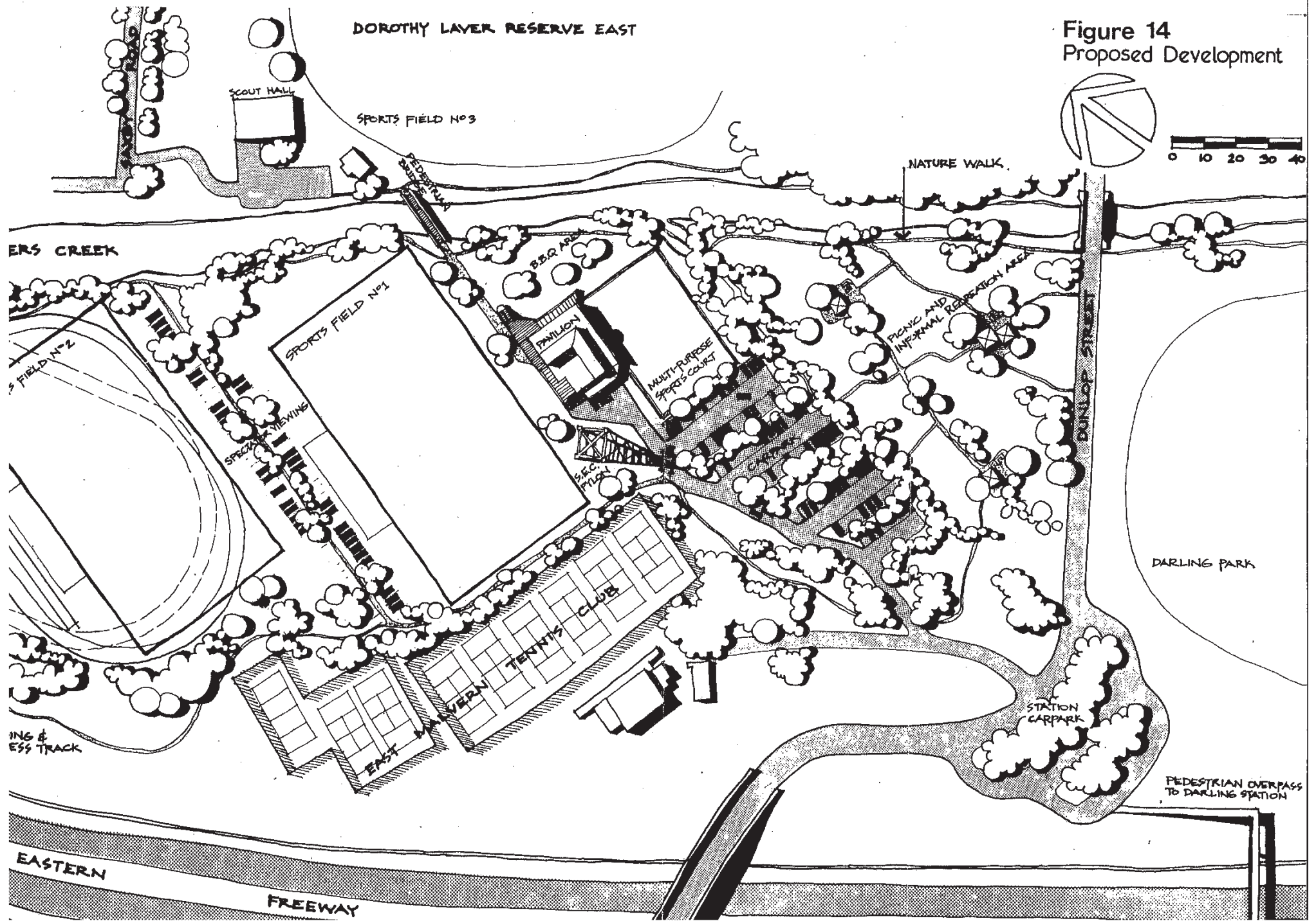
Dorothy Laver Reserves East and West are seen as an integral part of the "Urban" Open Space Chain as discussed in Council's Leisure Study.

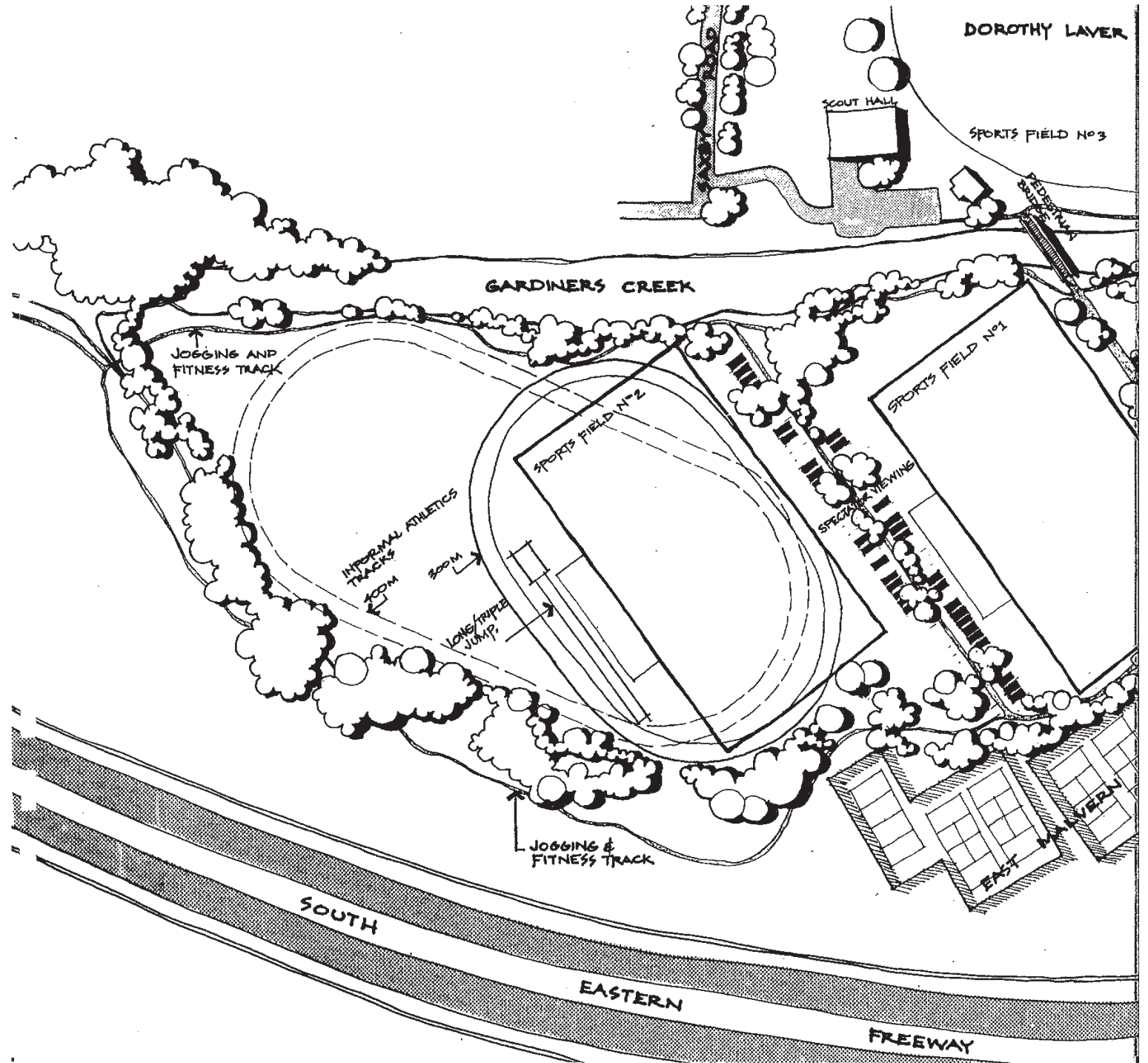
Paths and trails mentioned in Section 5.7 would link directly in to other paths and trails along Gardiner's Creek.

Fig. 14 shows how these would pass through "Wilderness" areas created along the creek and provide access to rest areas for BBQ, Children's Play areas and picnic facilities.

We believe that a successful completion of this facility would be accompanied by a program for the restoration and beautification of the Gardiner's Creek Environment which would provide an excellent nature walk and would take advantage of this natural and unique resource.

Figure 14
Proposed Development





6 Implementation

6.1 Construction of Sports Fields

The required upgrading of the sports fields in particular would involve an efficient drainage and watering installation, grading topdressing and re-sowing.

6.2 Phasing

Of critical importance is the establishment of the playing fields which could precede the development of the pavilion and other facilities proposed.

6.3 Financing

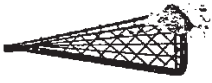
While the major works would be financed by Council and through State Authorities the Camberwell Lacrosse Clubs are prepared to contribute at a level to be negotiated.

6.4 Tenure

In establishing a centre of this type the Lacrosse Clubs will be looking to Council for the provision of a long term security of tenure over the facilities either separately or in conjunction with other sports clubs. Those associated with this report are prepared to work closely and vigorously with Council to ensure the success of the Centre.

Appendix

Appendix A



VICTORIAN AMATEUR LACROSSE ASSOCIATION

141 Queen Street

ESTABLISHED 1879

Amateur Sports Club, ~~14 McKinnon Street~~, Melbourne, 3000.

Reply to: ~~25 George Street~~
~~HIGHETT VIC 3190~~

The President
Camberwell Lacrosse Club
1 Baird Street
ASHBURTON. VIC. 3147

15 February, 1982

Dear Mr. Gibbs,

On behalf of the Victorian Amateur Lacrosse Association, I am writing to once again raise with your club the question of the quality and appropriateness of your playing venues.

You will be aware that regular weekly reports are submitted by referees and Association Officials regarding match presentation and conditions at each club. The reports on Camberwell matches reveal the following inadequacies in respect of your State League team venue at Warner Reserve, Ashburton.

1. Confusion arising from interference to lacrosse ground markings by lines used for other sports.
2. Sub-standard playing surface with poor grass cover and interference from roughly covered cricket pitches.
3. Lack of fencing at southern end of field which causes long delays to play for retrieval of balls. This also presumably causes inconvenience to residents adjoining the ground and danger to club members crossing the road to retrieve balls.
4. Poor provision for bench officials and spectators as no shelter is available, the area is very exposed and cars are restricted from parking within view of the playing area.

2.

Many of these difficulties plus overcrowded changing rooms are also evident at your club's other venues at Markham Avenue and Francis Crescent.

The Association is aware of the difficulties which are experienced by clubs in some municipalities in gaining access to high standard venues in competition with football clubs and other sports.

We have been delighted with the very great growth and achievement which the Camberwell Club has recorded over the last decade, culminating in your return to State League status in 1979. The question of suitability of venue was, as you may recall, discussed with your club at that time.

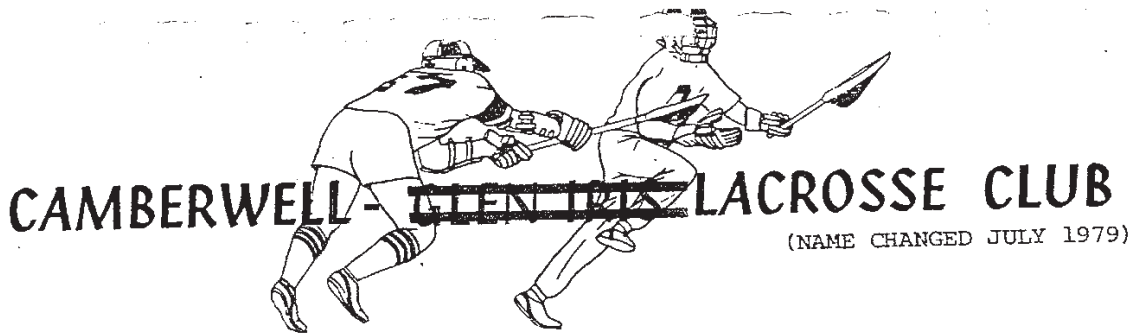
Whilst the Association would be, of course, loathe to initiate action which might exclude any club from State League competition on the grounds of unsatisfactory playing conditions, I must urge you to look to your responsibilities and take positive action to improve the present situation.

Can I suggest that you take this matter up with your local Council and inform the Association of progress at your earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely,



PHIL A. HUMPHREYS
PRESIDENT



23 February, 1982

Mr. P. Humphreys
 President
 Victorian Amateur
 Lacrosse Association
 18 Wilson Street
BENTLEIGH. VIC. 3204

Dear Mr. Humphreys,

Your letter of 15 February regarding deficiencies in playing surface and changeroom facilities at our grounds is acknowledged.

You will be aware that the club has been fortunate in gaining additional playing venues to accommodate large growth over recent years.

We are aware of improvements which are needed to bring our facilities up to the standards enjoyed by most of our competitor clubs. On this point, some approaches have been made to our local Grounds Committees and City Council.

In part the difficulty in gaining improvements is related to uncertainties over the future route of the South-Eastern Freeway and to the outcome of a major Leisure Study which is being conducted by the Council to determine future recreational priorities.

The club is currently waiting on the publication of results from the Leisure Study and intends making a formal proposal for the establishment and development of a well-appointed, permanent home for lacrosse.

My club seeks the patience and co-operation of the Association during this period. You are assured that our club is well-respected for our work with young people within the Camberwell Municipality, and confidently expects Council support to achieve the improved conditions which you refer to.

I will keep you informed of developments as they occur.

Yours sincerely,

Norm Gibbs
 Club President

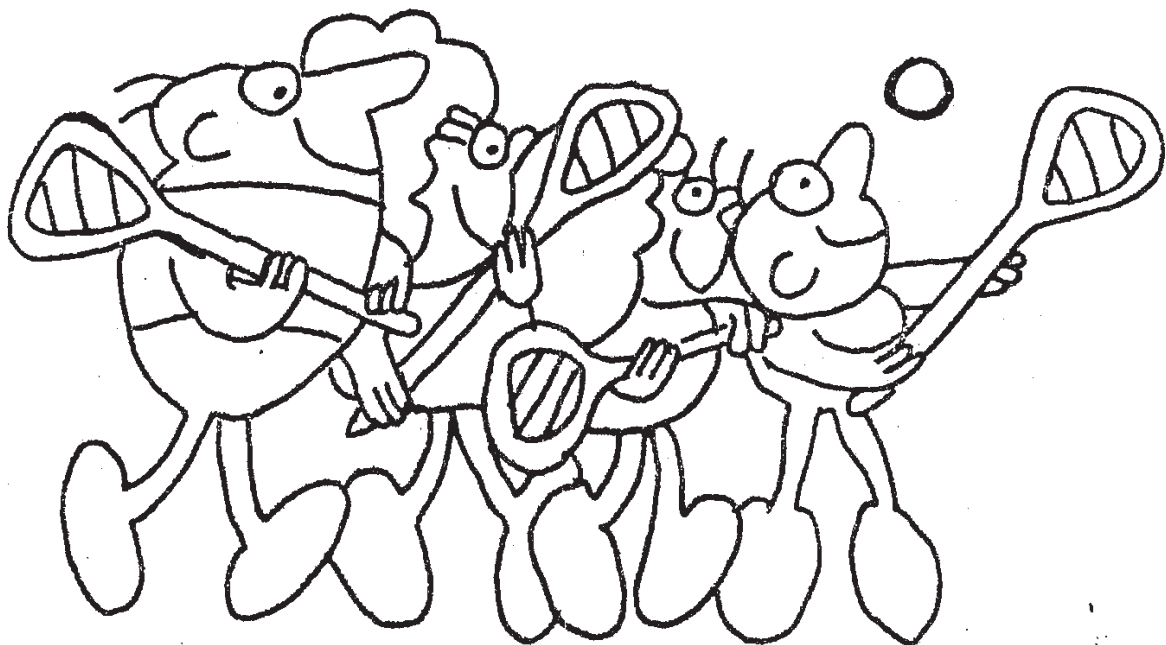
Formed in 1952 by the amalgamation of:
 CAMBERWELL LACROSSE CLUB (founded 1927) and GLEN IRIS LACROSSE CLUB (founded 1928)

BOYS & GIRLS - AGED 7-10

JUNIOR LACROSSE

conducted by

CAMBERWELL LACROSSE CLUB



WHEN

Saturday mornings between 9.30 - 11.15 am, from Sat 19 April '80 for 16 weeks.

WHERE

Dorothy Laver Reserve, Francis Cres, Glen Iris

ENROLMENT

Accompanied by a parent on Saturdays at Dorothy Laver Reserve at 9.15 am until groups filled. Enrolment fee \$5

SPONSORED FOR THE COMMUNITY BY :

ALLWAYS TRAVEL , high st, ashburton

AND PATRA

CAMBERWELL LACROSSE CLUB
and
CAMBERWELL WOMENS LACROSSE CLUB

Dear Parent,

Your child has indicated an interest in taking part in the junior lacrosse program conducted by our Clubs for boys and girls aged 7 - 10 years.

We welcome he or she most cordially and assure you that we will do our best to promote those physical and character-building qualities which a good team sport can provide for any young person. We hope that you will support and encourage your child's involvement.

In order that you are fully informed regarding the organization and requirements of our junior program, the following details are provided:

1. The program will be conducted using modified equipment and simple playing rules which are known as 'soft lacrosse'. This is a fast, exciting non-contact team game which places emphasis on the development of ball-handling skills, teamwork and fun.
2. The program will be conducted on Saturday mornings at Dorothy Laver Reserve (East and West fields) between 9.15 - 11.30 am and will be supervised by coaches experienced in teaching and organizing children.
3. All equipment will be supplied by the Club, although arrangements can be made for individuals to purchase their own if required. A subscription of \$5 will be charged for the 16 week program.
4. Participants are asked to wear school T-shirt and white shorts or similar.

Lacrosse is a sport which gives every player, big or small, an equal chance of developing the skills which may lead on to exciting opportunities in the future e.g International and Interstate representation at senior and junior levels.

Camberwell Club has both mens and womens teams for senior and a range of junior grades. We are particularly proud of our very strong family following in the local area and of the successes achieved by many of our members in representing Australia, Victoria and the Club.

In conclusion, we invite you to come along at any time to see your child in action. We would be pleased and honoured to meet you and it goes without saying that your child will enjoy having you there to see him or her play. There are also a few social functions during the season at which we would enjoy having your company along with your child.

Queries at any time can be directed to:

Doug Fox	25 3206	(Program Co-ordinator)
Norm Gibbs	25 4608	(Club President)
Doug Adams	25 4051	(Club Secretary)



CAMBERWELL - ~~GLEN IRIS~~ LACROSSE CLUB

(NAME CHANGED JULY 1979)

President:
R.E. Jackson
16 Donald Street
Ashburton 3147

Secretary:
D. Jim Williamson
21 Seaton Street
Glen Iris 3146

7th February, 1983

Dear Member,

Our first social function of the season will be a fund-raising night for Retlaw Compton who has been selected to play in the Australian U-21 team to tour America in April this year. The function will be a "Chicken & Champagne" night, including music, etc., please support this function and make a good start to the 1983 season.

DATE: 5th March
TIME: 7.30 p.m.
VENUE: Eric Raven Reserve Hall, Estrella Street, Glen Iris
COST: \$14.00 Double
\$8.00 Single
R.S.V.P: Before 28th February to Alex Fida 257414
Rob Jackson 251442
to assist with catering

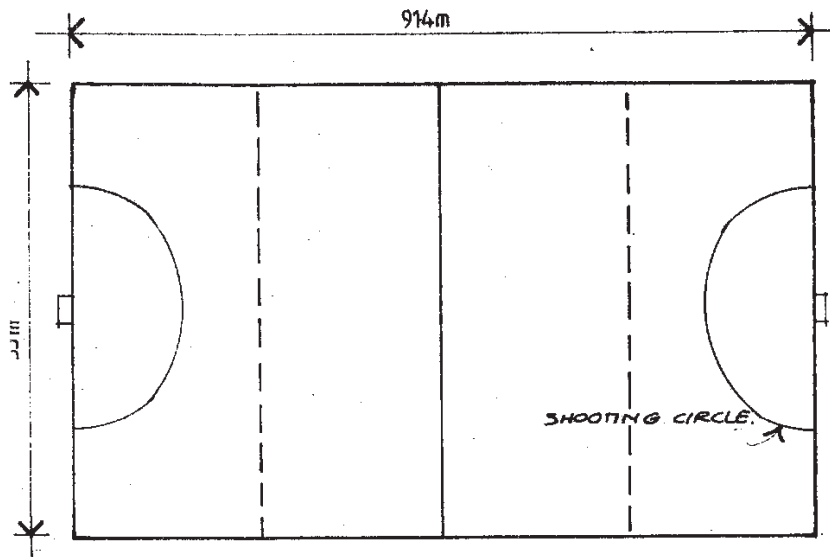
All Senior training will commence on Tuesday, 15th February at Francis Crescent oval at 6.00 p.m. sharp.
Training will be match practice so bring all your equipment.

Junior training will commence on Saturday, 19th March at Francis Crescent oval, U-12 at 9.30 a.m. and U-14, U-16 at 11.00 a.m.

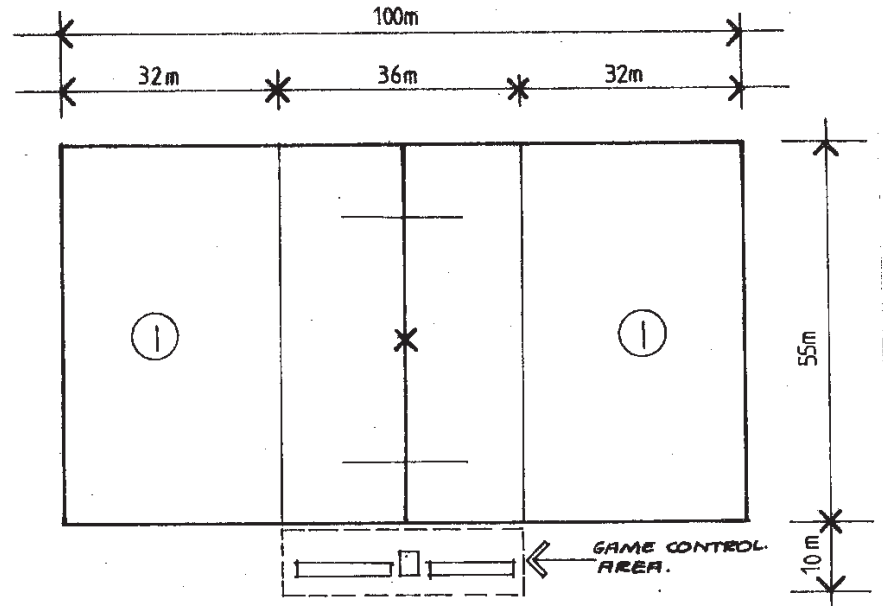
Jim Williamson
Hon. Secretary

Appendix B

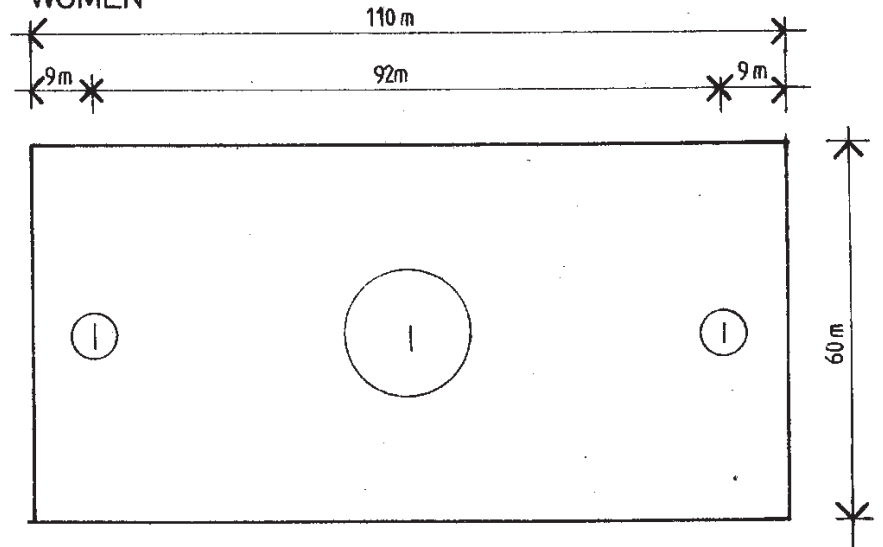
Hockey



MEN Lacrosse

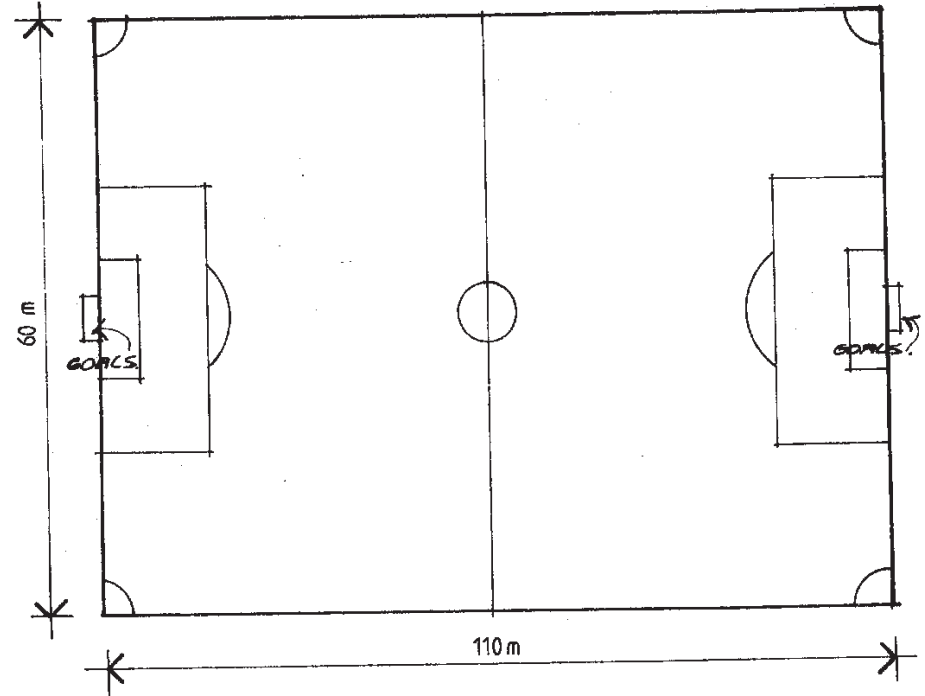
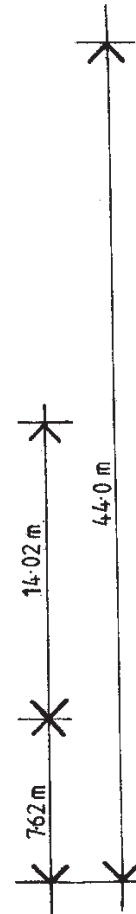
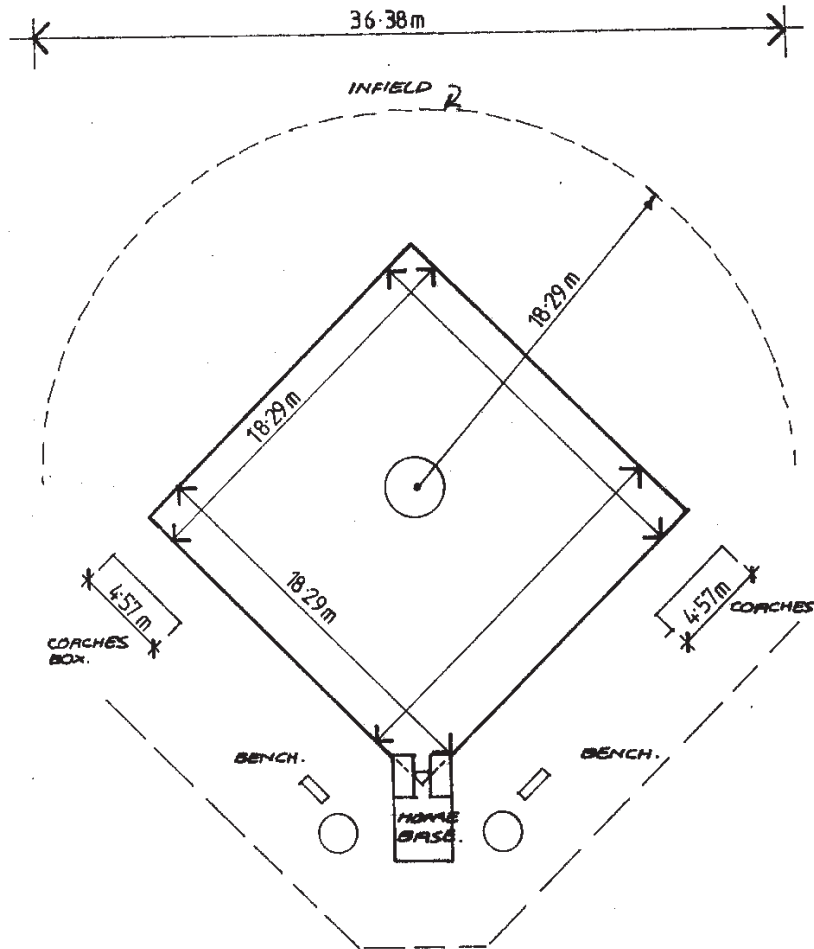


WOMEN Lacrosse

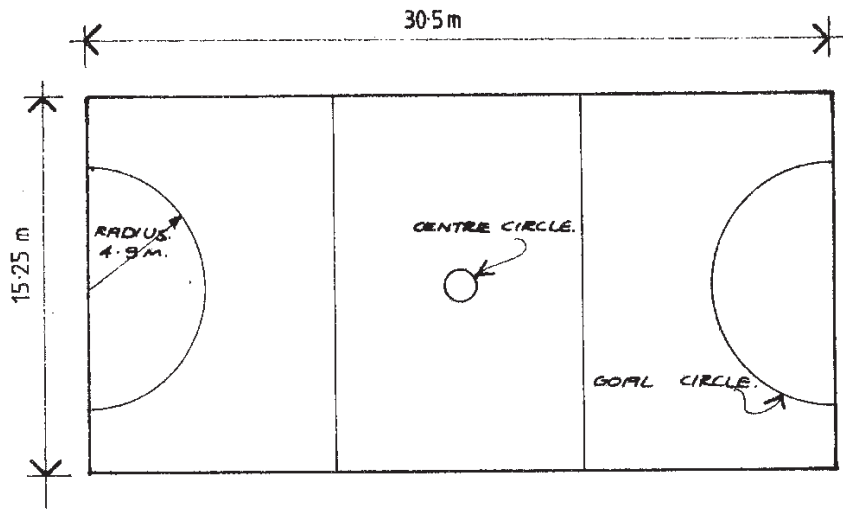


Softball

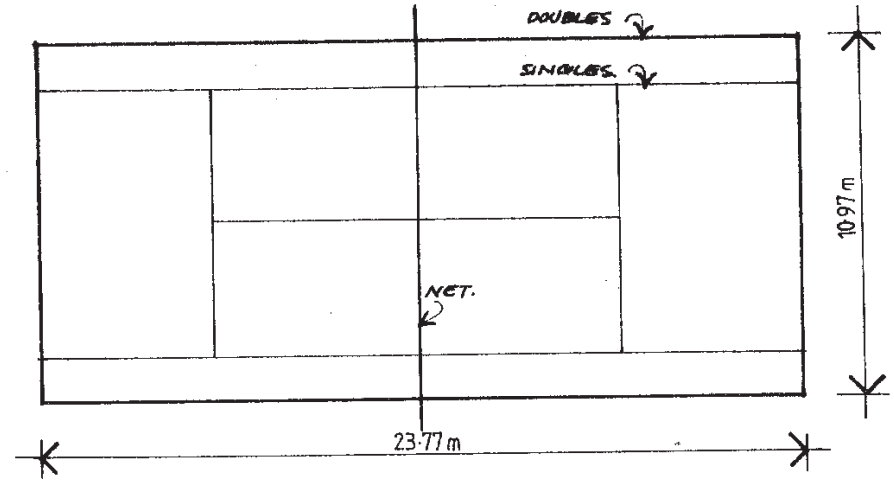
Soccer



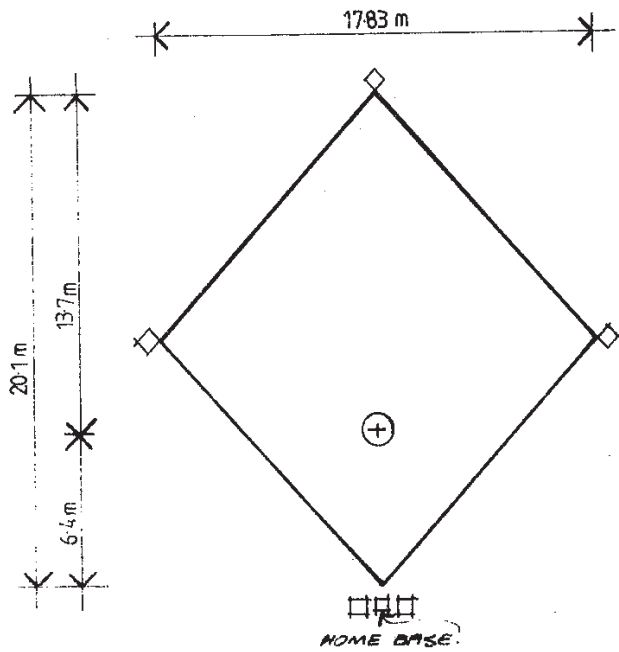
Netball



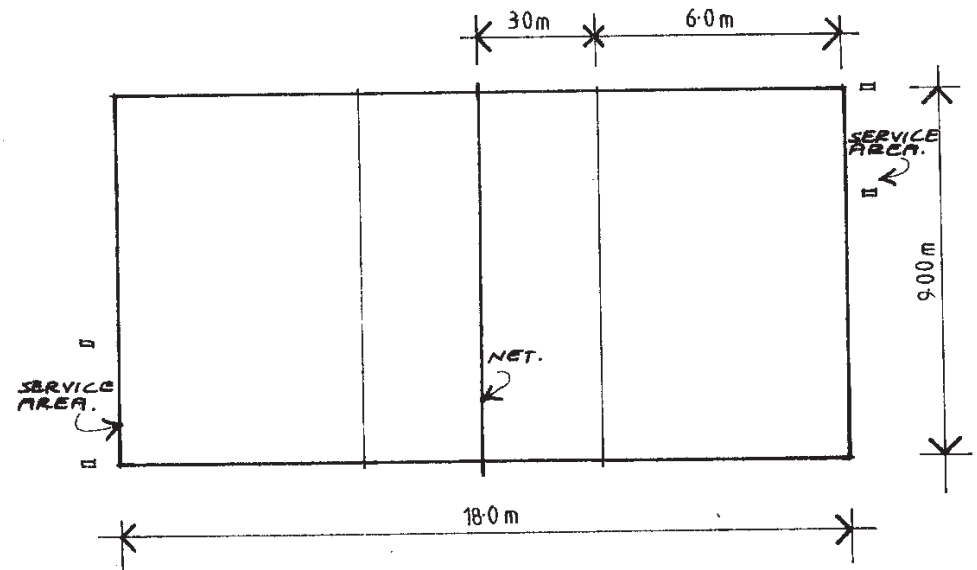
Tennis



Rounders



Volleyball





Glen Iris Cricket Club

Incorporating Glen Iris Cricket Club (founded 1923)
and Glen Iris United Cricket Club (founded 1937)

Registration No. A0027279F

AFFILIATED WITH THE EASTERN CRICKET ASSOCIATION (INC.)

About Glen Iris Cricket Club

Located in the eastern suburbs of Melbourne, Glen Iris Cricket Club is a community cricket club consisting of thirteen junior teams and seven senior teams, making it one of the largest cricket clubs in the Eastern Cricket Association. Glen Iris CC is a welcoming club and provides the opportunity for players of all ages and abilities to participate in Australia's most popular summer sport. As a club we aim to offer players the opportunity to play cricket at Glen Iris for their entire cricket career. In 2018 the youngest player is 6 years with the oldest 70 years.

Between October and March Glen Iris CC's home ground, Eric Raven Reserve, is in action seven days a week with training sessions, matches and social activities. The modern pavilion provides a welcoming environment for players, partners and parents to relax post-match.

Our First XI currently plays in Wright Shield. Glen Iris CC is also represented in A Grade including Under 12, Under 14 and Under 16. While Glen Iris strive to be strong in the top grades we enter teams through the various junior and senior grades to provide playing opportunities for players of all abilities.

Glen Iris Cricket Club consists of over 250 families with 95% living in either the City of Boroondara or City of Stonington. Players attend a variety of local schools, both public and private.

The club is administered by many volunteers, the majority of whom are parents of junior players or past junior players.

Current Game Ground Usage

For the season 2018 / 2019 the following current match ground usage will apply:

	Friday Nights	Saturday Mornings	Saturday Afternoons	Sunday Mornings	Sunday Afternoons
Eric Raven Reserve	Junior Blaster and Master Blaster programs		1 st & 2 nd Senior Turf	n/a	Lower grade turf Colts & Veterans (depend on fixturing).
Dorothy Laver West – South Oval	U14 A and U16 A	U12 B	LOC 1 and LOC 5 senior synthetic	U10	Veterans (depending on availability of Eric Raven Reserve).
Dorothy Laver West – North Oval	U14 B and U14 C	U12 B & C	n/a	U10	n/a
Dorothy Laver East – Saxby Oval	U14 B and U16 C	U12 A	n/a	n/a	n/a

Under the proposed Dorothy Laver Reserve West development, the use for cricket will cease at Dorothy Laver West North Oval and Dorothy Laver West South Oval. As per table above this action will leave the Glen Iris Cricket Club with the following teams without a ground;

- Dorothy Laver West North Oval - U14 B & U14 C Friday evenings / U12 B & C Saturday mornings / U10 Sunday mornings.
- Dorothy Laver West South Oval – U14 A & U16 A Friday evenings / U12B Saturday mornings / U10 Sunday mornings.
- Dorothy Laver West South Oval – LOC 1 & LOC 5 senior one day sides Saturday afternoons.
- Dorothy Laver West South Oval – Veterans senior fixtures Sunday afternoons.

The current ground arrangement for Glen Iris CC juniors from Friday – Sunday provides convenience for parents / players with three grounds all within walking distance. This convenience is particularly important for parents with children playing at different age groups removing the inconvenience of long car trips between multiple locations. As a club we run weekly social activities that engage not just the junior players but parents – U10 GICC derby's combined with Pink Stumps Cancer fund raising days as an example.

This convenience and location of junior grounds is a strategic advantage the club currently holds and any move from the DLW grounds will need to consider a similar geographic set up – walkable distance between junior playing grounds. In addition, the DLW is currently only a short walk from the club's HQ at Eric Raven Reserve.

Proposed Game Ground Usage

After review by our club for grounds that accommodate a geographical proximity to each other, similar to the DLW Reserve, we are proposing the following ground tenancy.

1. **Burke Road South Reserve Glen Iris** – by season 2019 / 2020 a grass field with a synthetic wicket exclusively for junior cricket only; ovals dimensions are too small for senior cricket.
2. **Howard Dawson Reserve Glen Iris** – A senior size oval for use of senior cricket on Saturday and Sunday in addition to junior fixtures on Friday afternoon, Saturday and Sunday morning.

The following match day ground usage will apply from 2019 / 2020 assuming the development goes ahead.

	Friday Nights	Saturday Mornings	Saturday Afternoons	Sunday Mornings	Sunday Afternoons
Eric Raven Reserve	Junior Blasters & Master Blaster programs	n/ a	Turf 1 st & 2 nd XI's	n/a	Sunday afternoons – Lower grade turf colts & Veterans (depend on fixturing).
Howard Dawson Reserve	U14 B and U16 B	U12 B	LOC 1 and Loc 5 senior synthetic	U10 or U11	Veterans (depending on availability of Eric Raven Reserve).
Burke Road South Reserve	U14 A and U16 A	U12 A	n/a	U10 or U11	n/a
Dorothy Laver East – Saxby Oval	U14 C	U12 B & C	n/a	n/a	n/a

Outcomes for further clarification / discussion on the above grounds / scenarios

Eric Raven Reserve

- Assuming Camberwell Lacrosse lose significant storage capacity at DLW then we are concerned as to the impact this will have on the limited storage space for both tenants that currently exists at Eric Raven Reserve.
- Although summer tenancy period is October to April, in the past we have had some access to Eric Raven nets to assist with preseason training. Should Lacrosse move permanently to Eric Raven, will this access still be possible? In addition, should Camberwell Lacrosse be successful in hosting any finals during September, what impact would that have on pitch preparation for the upcoming cricket season?

Burke Road South Reserve

- Are the current clubrooms secure and lockable for club equipment to be stored? Is there enough storage space for equipment?
- The pond / billabong located in the south west corner is not fenced to the ground; does this pose a problem for direct ball run off into the water?
- Have previous local resident issues been resolved? We have had fixture changes over the years as residents staged human protests over cricket being played on the oval?

Conclusion

Given the above oval allocation, further clarifications resolved, and fixturing / registrations stay similar, the Glen Iris Cricket Club is satisfied with the proposed development of Dorothy Laver Reserve. Without the above oval allocations, the Glen Iris Cricket Club would strongly reject options A, B, C & D.

**Boroondara City Council**

Dorothy Laver Reserve West
31 Hutchinson Drive,
Kew, 3101

10th August 2018

RE: Dorothy Laver Reserve West Proposal

Oh behalf of the Ashburton United Junior Football Club (Ashy Redbacks), this second submission to council is to re-affirm our position of being AGAINST the re-development of Dorothy Laver Reserve West until a more detailed proposal can be presented with proper due diligence and greater consultation with existing tenant clubs and community.

As a club, we are concerned that the proposal has not fully considered the needs of the existing tenants or that the expected background diligence has been conducted prior to the proposal being presented and released to the community. We are also disappointed that some parties were made aware of this prior to it being released to the general public which has created a perception of bias involvement and influence on the process to date.

For the record, at the time that we were first consulted about this proposal, post it's public release, the officers that I spoke to had no knowledge of our Club's usage of the ground when asked about it. This information has been in the council's systems via the online booking system that we utilise each year, but it was clear that it hadn't been reviewed prior to that first discussion. This was the first aspect that concerned me about the due diligence behind this proposal.

What was presented at the time was a clear indication of Dorothy Laver Reserve West becoming a soccer centric facility for female players following what we are led to believe was an assessment of the City's reserves for a synthetic field. Looking at the criteria listed in the recent *Dorothy Laver Reserve West Proposal FAQ August 2018* document, it lists *Impact on Residents / Parking capacity and type of road access*. If this is translated to mean there is parking on site with access to a road then yes the assessment criteria are met. At the community consultation forum on the 18th July, it was clearly stipulated that no traffic impact assessments had been done. This was further reinforced in the FAQ documentation, once again it must be questioned as to what due diligence has actually been conducted and to what level.

The same can be said for environmental studies around biodiversity – flora, fauna, wildlife and flood plain impacts, not to mention the potential impacts of synthetic field run off, or noise from the Monash Freeway.



Given this lack of assessment I cannot understand how this proposal could be accepted for progression as not enough information is available for a sound decision to be made.

These are examples of the broader topics and themes that have been resonating within the community and the various discussions that constituents are having with me as President of the Ashy Redbacks.

Specific concerns around the proposal – from a sporting perspective

We at the Ashy Redbacks are not opposed to more people in the community engaging in sports and recreational activities. What we are concerned about are a number of key topics that are raised as part of council proposing Dorothy Laver Reserve West be turned into a Soccer centric sporting reserve.

Our issues are as follows:

- 1. The facility being a soccer only reserve.**

Despite there being an opportunity for the surface to have other markings on it or being made available to other sport codes, the intention of the facility is to increase female participation in soccer. A new facility, intended to serve a senior national women's team, will immediately focus usage at the top end of women's soccer and attract player numbers.

The modelling of these player numbers has not been presented by council. Given grounds (for all sports) are largely at capacity already in the council, then increasing participation in soccer means these are not new players and not transference of players from other grounds. When asked, no answer has been forthcoming around which reserves will be freed up as a result of the new facility.

Assuming this is the case, then whilst we are increasing the participation in senior women's soccer, we are not decreasing the ground usage elsewhere to offset clubs who already use the facility.

I would have expected that council would have at least considered this and been able to articulate what the plan was for movement of existing sports club tenants prior to releasing the proposal. Through consultation it has been obvious to our club, as well as the Camberwell Lacrosse and Glen Iris Cricket Clubs, that this was not the case. Once again, this raises the question as to the perception of bias involvement and influence on the process to date.



2. Flow on impact of ground pressure

Re-allocating grounds will have a potential cascading effect as clubs seek to find other suitable locations. Whilst council will support finding a space in the short term, clubs will no-doubt look to gain access to other, potentially more suitable grounds in the future. This will cause a ripple effect across the council which causes challenges.

To date, the development officers have provided a list of potential grounds that our club could make use of as alternatives. These grounds however are limited in their availability and we have been clearly told that *“These are subject to change with summer allocations and as such are only an indication as summer allocations have yet to be determined.”* Of those that were provided in the list, it was also noted that *“There are potential changes with Burke Road South and Warner Reserve so they may not be available into the future, or maybe only in a limited capacity.”*

I have to read this as, two of these are potentially not options and for the remainder, they are prospective, but not confirmed options. My take out from this communication and discussion is that we will have the option of whatever is left available post summer allocations and we will have to make do with what is remaining.

For our club of 700 registered players across 31 teams, trying to organise pre-season training across an adequate space for safe training, whilst considering the logistics for parents to drop off / pick up safely, and then managing a situation whereby parents may have multiple children training at potentially different locations at the same time whilst wrestling evening rush hour traffic is incredibly challenging. We do not provide childcare services for teams training however we have a duty of care for our club members and leaving 7 year old children waiting for their parents to arrive unsupervised is simply not an option for us.

3. Council’s policies are not up for change

We have been told that no grounds with a turf table have been provide *“as the current position is that we do not permit pre-season training on grounds with a turf table, which is consistent with bench marking we have undertaken across other nearby councils. This is to ensure the ground condition and turf table for cricket who are the incumbent seasonal tenant at that time.”*

We appreciate the need to maintain cricket blocks for Summer sport but



we're able to work around a roped off pitch area. The fact council will not reconsider this policy given the pressure on ground space seems contradictory.

For the record, as of today – mid August – the cricket block area at Burwood Reserve East is still hard enough to knock out a player if their head was to hit it in a tackle. When we take residency in April the block is like concrete and we train around it from a safety perspective. This would be no different in a pre-season timeframe. Further, children with rubber soled shoes and a rubber ball would not cause anywhere near the same amount of damage as a leather cricket ball, a bat being hit on the top of the surface, or metal spikes being worn on the surface.

If the council were to look at the longer term strategic impact of participation in sport then this policy needs to be revisited with a more common sense approach to enabling the grounds to be better utilised.

4. **Growth in soccer vs. growth in AFL**

The proposal FAQ's document cites *"a 21% increase in registered players from 2014 to 2016; 19% growth in Miniroos girls (under 11) in 2016; and 10% growth in junior girls (aged 12 to 17) in 2016."*

Based on statistics from AFL Victoria for the Victorian region alone, the increase in girls playing football has been increasing at circa 40% growth YoY since 2014 with 100% growth between 2016 and 2017.

The total number of dedicated female football teams in Victoria have been:

- a. 58 teams in 2010
- b. 355 teams in 2016 (growth of 512% on 2010) - Introduction of VFLW
- c. 747 teams in 2017 (growth of 110% YoY from 2016) - Introduction of TAC Cup Girls and AFLW
- d. 2018 numbers are currently being calculated with it predicted at over 1,000 dedicated female football teams

These numbers do not account for any net growth in boys football over the same timeframe.

Whilst we appreciate the initial numbers in 2010 are small, the rapid increase in female AFL football are staggering and these are expected to continue. Our club alone has grown to 4 dedicated girls teams with an anticipated 1 – 2



more teams predicted for season 2019. We have 60+ girls coming through our three Auskick feeder centres which will easily account for more teams.

At this point we have had to cap the number of participants at our club at 700 as we cannot get any more ground space. This growth in girls football means we have to either not take on players that are girls, or drop boys teams from our club to make way for girls. Either option is not good from a participation in sport or for the future success of our club in general, especially when we are an open, inclusive and a community based club.

We have placed a request in to council for an upgrade of our Burwood Reserve ground lighting to LED's at a stronger lumen's count so that we could run twilight games safely at 5pm which would enable us to take on two more teams, and the increased lighting would provide a more safe environment for young girls training and commuting around the club at night throughout winter. This request was declined as the asset life of the existing lights was in the middle of its 15 year maintenance cycle. Again, a council policy that may have been appropriate at the time of the lights being installed, but it's a policy that will have to be challenged to account for more growth of the game. All investment we have heard around female sport is in pavilion upgrades for female friendly facilities. We have these already, but are unable to progress anything because it doesn't focus on lighting, which is equally needed in a locked capacity council.

Council have not detailed plans for increasing participation and the growth in AFL, at least to our club. Turning a turf reserve into a soccer centric one with a potential fence around the synthetic rectangle field moves further away from supporting active promotion of AFL at Dorothy Laver Reserve. This feels more exclusive than inclusive from a community participation perspective.

This comes at a time when one of the local soccer clubs, Ashburton United, are operating out of 9 different field / reserve locations. We have 2 playing fields and jointly borrow Ferndale Park for 1 day of training and Sunday playing despite being 60% of their Club's size. How is this proposal to add more soccer fields an additive to AFL or the community as a whole, outside of soccer? Not to mention the impact on the Lacrosse club – who we support as a diverse sports option for those who choose to play it.

We also note that there are other masterplans within the council area for further soccer field development e.g. Markham Reserve. I would like to ask



that council respond to our club with where there are masterplans for additional AFL grounds to go in across our area?

Pre-season options

We appreciate that we are a smaller tenant of Dorothy Laver Reserve West using the space only for our pre-season training in February & March, however as we are not able to utilise Burwood Reserve it is the best option that we have and one that we have used for many years.

We have been requested to indicate in this submission what our preferences and options are based on what we have been provided by council as alternates to Dorothy Laver Reserve West.

Our initial preference is to keep the current space at Dorothy Laver Reserve West by not having this proposal proceed. The options below should not be taken as us endorsing the proposal and making way by moving to an alternate location(s), rather as complying with the request asked of us.

Note – we would only consider these if the options were guaranteed and locked in for the next 5 years so that we could manage our Club’s activities with certainty. To not have this puts us in a vulnerable position and impacts the safety of our players who would not have suitable grounds to prepare and condition themselves for the more physical game of AFL.

In order of preference (all times from 4pm – 8pm in February & March):

1. Dorothy Laver Reserve West Monday nights & Hartwell East Tuesday nights
2. Ferndale Park Monday nights & Hartwell East & West Tuesday nights
3. Warner Reserve Monday nights & Hartwell East & West Tuesday nights
4. Nettleton Park Monday nights & Hartwell East & West Tuesday nights

In conclusion, I would welcome the opportunity to discuss the Dorothy Laver East proposal and this response on behalf of the Ashy Redbacks at the upcoming Special Services Committee Meeting.

To reiterate, we do not object to the increased participation in sports and the use of the councils reserves for this purpose. We do however object to the current proposal in terms of its level of due diligence and consultation to date as an input into any decision making process to proceed and the treatment and lack of planning shown for all current sports club tenants of the reserve.



I can be reached on 0405 421 323 for any clarification around the points raised in this submission.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Carlisle". The signature is written in a cursive style and is enclosed within a large, horizontal oval shape.

Steve Carlisle
President
Ashburton United Junior Football Club

Response to Revised Council Options for Synthetic Sports Centre at Dorothy Laver Reserve West

Thank you for inviting the Ashburton United Soccer Club (AUSC), the Alamein Football Club (AFC), Riversdale Soccer Club (RSC) and the Football Federation of Victoria (FFV) to provide a further submission on the Dorothy Laver Reserve West proposed development in response to your recommended options that are being submitted to Council. We understand that our Response will be presented to Councillors as an attachment to the Council Agenda Paper.

Please find at **Attachment A** our summary response to the four Council Options which includes our preferred arrangements under the various options.

This is a common response from football supported by AUSC, AFC, RSC and the Football Federation of Victoria (FFV).

We note and support that under all the proposed options a cricket pitch will not be included at Dorothy Laver West.

In sum, we support Option D PROCEED with a preference for 2 (two) full sized soccer fields with markings for junior/miniroos pitches on the Southern field and the option for markings on the northern field.

Our second choice is Option B AMEND subject to it being developed to maximise football usage. This assumes again two full sized soccer fields and that Lacrosse would train and play most of their matches at Eric Raven Reserve (ERR) with overflow matches played at DLRW South. Football would prefer junior Lacrosse overflow matches were played at DLRE.

We have attempted to review how best to accommodate football at grounds not allocated to Lacrosse as well as the best sharing arrangements in the light of the proposed development being considered by Council. We appreciate very much the initiative of Council to create a synthetic sports centre of high value and usage to meet demand by key sports especially girls sports. We are conscious of the world standing of the Australian Women's Football team in the lead up to the Women's World Cup in France next year which we expect will inspire more girls in Boroondara to play football with community clubs as well as aspire to playing NPL and above.

Key factors and preferences driving our response are as follows:

- Year round availability of a training and playing surface suitable for community football and other sports up to the highest level.
- Surface that can meet heavy usage particularly in winter for training and games thereby avoiding ground closures and rescheduling of matches.
- A new soccer centre in the area where our clubs are centred which would allow our clubs to consolidate rather than being spread over nine sites in several municipalities
- Avoidance of playing or training across cricket pitches
- Configuring two full sized soccer pitches on DLRW
- Marking up DLRW South to accommodate miniroos and small sided football training and matches allowing hundreds of girls and boys to use the centre for training and weekend games.

- Allowance of Lacrosse markings on DLRW South for overflow games should Option B be preferred by Council.
- Consideration of multiple markings on DLRW North should it not be required for NPL or WNPL football.

With regard to multiple markings on the Northern field, the FFV has provided the following advice:

- If the main full-size pitch (north) is to be set up for NPL in the future, then FFV NPL regulations state there should be no additional permanent line marking.
- If the final decision by Council is to provide permanent additional line marking on the main pitch, then an exemption to play NPL on the pitch would need to be applied for to FFV NPL Competitions Department.
- If temporary line marking is required for small sided games on this main pitch, then there are paint products available that will adhere to the synthetic surface but will wash away.
- 7-9 aside junior games can be played across the 2 halves of the main pitch.
- With the cricket pitch being removed from the south end of the synthetic surface, an additional mini-roos pitch can be included providing 3 small pitches as well as the junior pitch.

It should also be noted that from 2020 it is proposed that Community Clubs such as Ashburton and Riversdale will be able to enter teams into Junior NPL competitions with associated ground regulations as to markings.

Alamein and Ashburton does not support the Northern field having permanent multiple line markings, preferring to adopt when needed temporary line markings or the use of flat discs to mark fields such as used by many Australian Rules juniors. It would be expected that senior State League teams as well as the Alamein WNPL women and girls teams would use the Northern pitch including at the beginning and end of seasons when access to ovals is limited by the requirements of cricket at grounds such as Ashburton Park and Frog Hollow. Alamein in particular see the new synthetic field as an opportunity to have a home ground that could be used all year round.

Riversdale has a preference for permanent miniroos/small-sided games markings arguing that this would enhance usage by the many junior players in the municipality.

We support the attached analysis of *Football in the City of Boroondara* (**Attachment B** -prepared by RSC) and draws attention to the following key points:

- There are some 3,000 players in Boroondara soccer clubs and nearly 250 teams (including other leagues such as Churches and Veterans).
- Soccer is 50% more popular in Boroondara than state-wide in Victoria by player participation.
- Four clubs account for some 80% of players.
- Female participation is around 20%, well above State average with 95% playing for the four main clubs.
- Over 40% (more than 1,300) play miniroos (U7-U11) and this number is expected to grow.
- Soccer training requirements are not being met in terms of Full Size Pitch requirements.

We also believe that there is significant scope for growth in football in Boroondara. Currently more players (all ages) that live in Boroondara play for teams outside Boroondara than any other municipality. Some 39% of Boroondara players play outside Boroondara. FFV have provided the following figures (main municipalities):

LGA/Club	Count of FFA Number
Yarra City Council	301
Manningham City Council	205
Monash City Council	157
Whitehorse City Council	116
Stonington City Council	115
Darebin City Council	33
Melbourne City Council	33
Glen Eira City Council	25
Port Phillip City Council	24
Banyule City Council	21

Within this group of Boroondara residents there are 65 players with WNPL clubs outside Boroondara. It is anticipated that better training facilities would make it more attractive to such players playing with a Boroondara-based club.

We would also like to reiterate the commitment made in clubs' original submissions to Council on the DLRW proposal. We are willing to work with Council for the betterment of community sport and football and for enhanced facilities. This includes working with Council in seeking funding for the development of clubroom and changing facilities at DLWR especially from State Government sources in terms of their grants or loans programs including for female-friendly facilities.

The Clubs are spread over many grounds and have an urgent need to consolidate locations. This project will help this immensely along with the redevelopment of club facilities at DLRW. Any consolidation through this project could also release grounds currently allocated to AUSC and AFC for other purposes.

Should you wish to discuss any aspects of this submission please contact Bob Stensholt or Tas Tsatas from AUSC, Bill Gaganis from AFC, Anthony Nicholls on behalf of RSC and Kevin O'Byrne from the FFV.

Attachment A

Revised Options		Football Response - Ground Usage:				Lacrosse	Cricket	Football Response - Comments:	
	Council Revised Options	Dorothy Laver Reserve West (North)	Dorothy Laver Reserve West (South)	Dorothy Laver Reserve East	Eric Raven Reserve	Council Options	Council Options	Football Preference	
Option A	<p>ABANDON This option envisages DLRW remaining grass with lacrosse consolidating their use to DLRW (South), with existing lights. This would be under a seasonal agreement. There would be potential use of DLRW (North) as an overflow ground. There would be no further increase to parking arrangements. Lacrosse would yield up ERR. It would propose the removal and relocation of cricket from DLRW (North and South). There would be opportunities for preseason training for lacrosse, shared with other users. It would be available for all users in the off season. This option is the abandon proposal and Council would look at Plan B for another synthetic soccer location. This option provides additional opportunities for other users at ERR and DLRE</p>	Dedicated to Lacrosse, available to other users when not in use	Dedicated to Lacrosse, available to other users when not in use	Dedicated to Other uses & Cricket - e.g. miniroos football either side of pitch	Dedicated to Cricket and Other Uses - eg full size football field, miniroos, training	Primary ground: DLRW (S) Overflow ground: DLRW (N)	ERR and DLRE	Not Supported ranked 4th	As noted in our covering letter, Football has reviewed how best to accommodate football at grounds not allocated to Lacrosse and avoid playing football across cricket pitches at all times. Our proposal and notes below seek to provide a balanced view for the council demonstrating how all user groups can benefit from this project. Option A is the least preferred as it does not provide a year round football focused facility that is capable of withstanding the growing use demands of football that synthetic provides. Should the project be abandoned there is still the opportunity to rebalance the demand as shown within the notes under each ground.
Option B	<p>AMEND This option envisages a conversion of DLRW (North and South) to synthetic. It is proposed that lacrosse will use ERR for matches and training as their primary ground with a new set of LED training lights. Storage and fencing at ERR would be reviewed. Use of ERR would be under a seasonal arrangement. There would be potential use of DLRW (South) as an overflow ground when required as booked, noting a mechanism for synthetic bookings is not yet confirmed. There is an option for multiple line markings on DLRW (South) for additional use by other clubs and sports where permissible. There would be shared use of the pavilion and other facilities at DLRW. Cricket would remain at ERR, but would be removed and relocated from DLRW. This option is the amend option and a synthetic would still be installed at DLRW. Further opportunities will also be available for other users at DLRW (north) and DLRE.</p>	Dedicated to Football available to other users when not in use. Explore miniroos markings.	Dedicated to Football & Lacrosse overflow, available to other users when not in use. Marked up for miniroos and SSF.	Dedicated to Other uses & Cricket - e.g. miniroos football either side of pitch	Dedicated to Lacrosse & Cricket	Primary ground: Eric Raven Overflow ground: DLW(S)	ERR and DLRE	Could be developed to maximise football usage - ranked 2nd	Our preference for Option B is subject to there being no cricket pitch as proposed by Council allowing for 2 full size synthetic fields. This option would allow DLRW to be used for football 365 days a year. Football supports Lacrosse fully utilising ERR under lights for training as then the Southern pitch could be used for several hundred junior and senior footballers for training five nights a week. Football would share the southern field for weekend games with Lacrosse where this is an overflow demand although it would be better if the overflow was managed at DLRE. This option allows a 2nd full size football field and junior/miniroos pitches to be marked along with Lacrosse on the southern field at DLRW.
Option C	<p>AMEND This option envisages a conversion of DLRW (North and South) to synthetic. It is proposed that lacrosse use DLRW (south). This would be on a booking arrangement, noting the synthetic booking mechanism is yet to be confirmed. There is the option to include additional line markings on DLRW (south) for additional use where permissible. There would be shared use of the pavilion and other facilities at DLRW. Parking at DLRW to remain as is. It is proposed that lacrosse also use DLRE as an overflow ground without lights. Cricket would remain on DLRE. Cricket would be removed and relocated from DLRW. There would be additional opportunities for other users at DLRW (north) and ERR. Lacrosse would yield up ERR.</p>	Dedicated to Football available to other users when not in use. Explore miniroos markings	Dedicated to Lacrosse, available to other users when not in use. Marked up for miniroos and SSF.	Dedicated to Lacrosse & Cricket, available to other users when not in use	Dedicated to Cricket and Other Uses - eg full size football field, miniroos, training	Primary ground: DLRW(S) Overflow ground: DLRE	ERR and DLRE	Not maximising football usage due to limited access to DLRW (S) ground - ranked 3rd	Option C has been enhanced no cricket pitch is proposed for DLRW allowing for 2 full size synthetic fields. This option would allow DLRW to be at least in part used for football 365 days a year. Football notes that Lacrosse would train at DLRW (S) and play most of their matches there. It would also have access to DLRE. The Southern pitch would not be available for several hundred junior and senior footballers for training and there would be limited access on the weekend in winter unless Lacrosse played junior games at DLRE. It is assumed that this option allows a 2nd full size football field and associated junior/Small-sided fieldsto be marked along with Lacrosse on the southern field at DLRW. ERR would be available for football for training and matches in winter but may not cope with heavy usage by several hundred players a week.
Option D	<p>PROCEED This option envisages adoption of the current synthetic proposal, with minor variation to include additional line markings and the removal and relocation of cricket from DLRW. Lacrosse would make ERR their primary facility under a seasonal arrangement (with the addition of new training lights) and storage and fencing would be reviewed at ERR. DLRE would be available as an overflow ground for Lacrosse. The intention of this proposal is a soccer focused facility at DLRW. Cricket would remain at ERR.</p>	Dedicated to Football available to other users when not in use. Explore miniroos markings.	Dedicated to football and other uses.	Dedicated to Lacrosse & Cricket, available to other users when not in use	Dedicated to Lacrosse & Cricket, available to other users when not in use	Primary ground: Eric Raven Overflow ground: DLRE	ERR and DLRE	Preferred Option - Ranked 1st	Option D would be fully enhanced for football allowing for 2 full size football pitches and associated markings thereby allowing all year round use.

Attachment B

Football in the City of Boroondara

Analysis based on 2016 FFV League Data

9th August 2018

Football in the City of Boroondara

Club	MiniRoos Male	MiniRoos Female	Junior Male	Junior Female	Senior Male	Senior Female	Total
FFV Affiliated Players in Boroondara (2016 est.)							
Alamein FC	-	-	-	56	-	16	72
Ashburton United SC	407	110	308	84	54	32	995
Boroondara Eagles FC	352	77	266	112	60	48	915
East Kew Junior FC	99	-	112	-	-	-	211
Old Camberwell Grammarians SC	-	-	-	-	54	-	54
Old Scotch SC	11	-	-	-	144	-	155
Old Xaverians SC	-	-	-	-	90	16	106
Riversdale SC	209	36	168	-	90	-	503
St Kevins Old Boys SC	11	-	-	-	54	-	65
Swinburne University SC	-	-	-	-	54	16	70
Total	1,089	223	854	252	600	128	3,146
% Total	35%	7%	27%	8%	19%	4%	
% of Females		37%		42%		21%	
Big 3 + AFC	968	223	742	252	204	96	2,485
Big 3 + AFC %	89%	100%	87%	100%	34%	75%	79%

Note: Big3+AFC refers to the top three clubs (Ashburton, Boroondara Eagles and Riversdale) by size plus Alamein FC.

- In 2016, we estimate that there were 67,000 active participants in FFV winter leagues in Victoria
- The City of Boroondara accounted for just over 3,000 players playing in ten clubs representing 4.5% of the State’s participation *(Note that the City accounts for <3% of the State’s Population)*
- The Big3+AFC clubs accounted for just under 2,500 participants representing 79% of the City’s participation

Football Participation by Market Segment

Club	Total	Total MiniRoos	Total Juniors	Total Seniors	Total Female	% Female	% MiniRoos
FFV Affiliated Players in Boroondara (2016 est.)							
Alamein FC	72	-	56	16	72	100%	0%
Ashburton United SC	995	517	392	86	226	23%	52%
Boroondara Eagles FC	915	429	378	108	237	26%	47%
East Kew Junior FC	211	99	112	-	-	0%	47%
Old Camberwell Grammarians SC	54	-	-	54	-	0%	0%
Old Scotch SC	155	11	-	144	-	0%	7%
Old Xaverians SC	106	-	-	106	16	15%	0%
Riversdale SC	503	245	168	90	36	7%	49%
St Kevins Old Boys SC	65	11	-	54	-	0%	17%
Swinburne University SC	70	-	-	70	16	23%	0%
Total	3,146	1,312	1,106	728	603	19%	42%
% Total	100%	42%	35%	23%	19%		
% Female	19%	17%	23%	18%			
Big 3 + AFC	2,485	1,191	994	300	571	23%	48%
Big 3 + AFC %	79%	91%	90%	41%	95%		

Note: Big3+AFC refers to the top three clubs (Ashburton, Boroondara Eagles and Riversdale) by size plus Alamein FC.

- Average Female Participation in Boroondara is 19%, well above the State Average
- The largest market segment is MiniRoos (U07 – U11) accounting for 42% of all participation in Boroondara
- The Big3+AFC account for:
 - 90% of all Junior and MiniRoos participation; and
 - 95% of all Female Participation

Football Training Requirements in Boroondara

Club	Total Teams	Std Weekly Training Hours	Est. Weekly Training Hours	Avg. FSPE Required	Avg. Weekly FSPE Hours Required
FFV Affiliated Team Hours of Use in Boroondara (2016 est.)					
Alamein FC	5	3.00	15	0.50	7.50
Ashburton United SC	80	1.50	120	0.38	45.00
Boroondara Eagles FC	72	1.50	108	0.38	40.50
East Kew Junior FC	17	1.00	17	0.38	6.38
Old Camberwell Grammarians SC	3	2.00	6	0.50	3.00
Old Scotch SC	9	2.00	18	0.50	9.00
Old Xaverians SC	6	2.00	12	0.50	6.00
Riversdale SC	38	1.50	57	0.38	21.38
St Kevins Old Boys SC	4	1.50	6	0.50	3.00
Swinburne University SC	4	1.50	6	0.50	3.00
Total	238		365	0.40	144.75
Big 3 + AFC				114.38	79%

- We estimate that there are 238 Boroondara teams entered into FFV Competitions (2016 est.)
- We have incorporated a number of educated assumptions regarding the number of training hours for a team each week and the required training area for each team to train on in order to arrive at the weekly requirement for Full Sized Pitch Equivalent Hours (“FSPE Hours”)
- The Big 3+AFC Clubs require 114 FSPE Hours per week making up approximately 79% of the City’s total requirement for FFV teams (145 FSPE Hours)

Note: Big3+AFC refers to the top three clubs (Ashburton, Boroondara Eagles and Riversdale) by size plus Alamein FC.

Submission from Ashburton United Soccer Club on Proposal for Dorothy Laver

Submission from Ashburton United Soccer Club on Proposal for Dorothy Laver Reserve West

Introduction

Ashburton United Soccer Club applauds the allocation by Boroondara Council of \$4.5 million in its recent budget for the proposed synthetic surface facility at Dorothy Laver Reserve West.

As noted in the club's letter of support to Council for the budget Ashburton United Soccer Club "is one of the largest community Soccer Clubs in the south east and the largest outdoor sports Community Club in the City of Boroondara."

It has well over 1,000 players involved from Under 4s through to Men's Masters at an over 55 age group. We have a large female group who also play from Under 4 girls through to Women's State 2 level.

We are a large inclusive Community Club with a high degree of cultural diversity. Our Club like many others is experiencing a high growth and the facilities available are not able to cope with the player numbers. The Attached Profile of the Club at the end of this submission provides a summary of club and its membership and reach.

Currently the club's outdoor teams and players and those of its sister club, Alamein Football Club, are spread across seven or more facilities in Boroondara as well as using facilities in other municipalities and at schools. Following is a snapshot of our facility use for the over 800 AUSC players (excluding Futsal):

- Winter Grounds:
 - Markham Reserve - Monday - Thursday 5 - 8pm Saturday and Sunday all day
 - Warner Reserve Monday - Thursday 5 - 8pm Saturday and Sunday all day
 - Ashburton Park Monday - Friday 5 - 9pm Saturday and Sunday all day
 - Highfield Park Sunday 8am - 2pm
 - Watson Park Monday - Thursday 5 - 8pm Sunday all day
 - Willison Park - Saturday/Sunday 8am - 1pm (use when Warner unfit for play)
 - St Kevin's College ground – when available for training and Senior Women's matches
 - Batesford Reserve - Tuesday and Thursday 5 - 8.30pm, Sunday all day
- Summer training grounds during February - March 2018:
 - Dorothy Laver Reserve West – two nights
 - Warner Reserve - two nights
 - Knox Regional Football Centre – 1 night
- Summer Training Term 4/Term 1
 - Salesian College Monday - Thursday 5 - 8pm
 - Camberwell High School Tuesday/Thursday/Friday 5 - 7.30pm and Saturday am
 - St Kevin's College when available
- Schools
 - Camberwell Primary School Tuesday pm for an hour
 - In school programs at St Michaels Parish School and Hartwell PS

Alamein plays its matches at H A Smith which is a long way from Ashburton as well as being a sub-standard ground for Premier League football. It is also forced to use grounds as far away as Knox for practice at considerable expense.

As would be readily apparent having so many teams and players spread over so many venues makes running the club logistically very difficult. Having a significant soccer centre capable of

Submission from Ashburton United Soccer Club on Proposal for Dorothy Laver

running many matches and programs at the one place without the concern of overuse would be of enormous benefit and welcomed by all families.

The Dorothy Laver Reserve West Proposed Project

The club regards the project as a ground-breaking one for the City of Boroondara. It provides in the one location in Boroondara a multi-pitch soccer centre that can also be used for cricket. The full project for Dorothy Laver Reserve East and West provides a Premier League standard full size pitch, a junior pitch and four miniroos pitches. Depending on Council allocation when the project is completed it would be expected that there would be a significant reduction in the number of grounds that the club would use. Council may elect to reallocate such grounds for other sports and usages.

Summer access for football

We welcome Boroondara's recognition of the huge year-round demand for football (soccer), as demonstrated by this proposal for a soccer-focussed facility with year-round access to support it. Summer access would not only provide for pre-season training but would also allow the introduction of new outdoor programs such as summer competitions or five or seven aside adult competitions. The club also welcomes the centre having the capacity for cricket use with the retention of a relocated cricket pitch.

The use of the synthetic surfaces during summer would take pressure off grassed ovals such as Warner Reserve that have in the past been used for summer training. Current use of Dorothy Laver Reserve West in the cricket season would be converted to use of the synthetic more than the currently allocated two nights a week.

Provision of a high-quality football pitch

As noted this proposal includes Boroondara's first football facility that meets the minimum standards that apply to higher levels of football competition including WNPL. We welcome Boroondara's support for football participation through the provision of such a high-quality facility.

Use of synthetic

The latest synthetic grounds provide several benefits:

- Higher utilisation potential
- Consistent and reliable surface for safer participation
- Environmental benefits including lower water usage
- Available all year round
- Available for club and school use

We applaud this initiative and understand that this space will also be available for passive recreation.

Optimising the Project

Ashburton United is among Victoria's largest soccer clubs. We are an active football community consisting of members from all walks of life:

- ages 3 to 70
- women and men, girls and boys
- diversity of ethnic, religious and socio-economic backgrounds

The Club has a highly successful track record and a wealth of experience in promoting participation in sport through a wide cross-section of the community including schools, holiday programs and indoor competitions.

In the interests of assisting the City of Boroondara to achieve its stated objectives Ashburton United offers the following suggestions to optimise the proposed project. These suggestions

Submission from Ashburton United Soccer Club on Proposal for Dorothy Laver

relate to Lighting, Pitch configuration and Ground Allocation. The suggestions are listed here and discussed in subsequent pages.

Area	Suggestion	Benefit to Council Objectives
Ground Allocation	Allocate on a time-shared basis between Alamein WNPL club and AUSC as the nearby community club with over 800 players. There may well be scope for use by Schools and other community soccer clubs as Council allocates usage. Appropriate arrangements would need to be made in summer on a sharing basis between soccer and cricket if the latter were to continue.	<p>Maximise participation opportunities and benefits through full utilisation of the facility for games and miniroos programs as well as training.</p> <p>Soccer usage would especially be for training and small sided football. There is a need for such usage in summer months five evenings a week. Any cricket usage would be for matches. Should there be the development of summer competitions there would be clashes with cricket on weekends.</p>
Pitch Configuration	Review the configuration to see if it can include a second pitch of at least 96m x 60m rather than the three smaller pitches. This may necessitate the second pitch being slightly offset to the main pitch. This pitch can be appropriately marked up to provide for multiple smaller pitches from miniroos upward. Should the second senior pitch not be possible than the Junior pitch should be marked to allow for additional miniroos fields.	Support participation by all ages rather than targeting up to Under-11 age group only, maximising participation opportunities and associated benefits.
Lighting & Access	Ensure lighting meets the "match-practice" standard of 100 lux rather than 50 lux.	Safe usage for football training which is predominantly game-based.
	Extend access and lighting to 10.30pm on at least 1 weeknight	Support participation for mums & dads playing in seniors or veterans teams that have young children by providing them with a family-friendly time. Scheduling flexibility allows players to coach junior teams with benefits especially for female teams

Ground allocation

In order to ensure that the additional capacity provided by the project is utilised we urge Council to ensure that AUSC is granted a significant allocation to use the facility during both summer and winter months. AUSC operates programs 12 months of the year across many grounds. Our football programs are currently severely limited due to unavailability of sufficient grounds to meet the year-around demand for football, despite our significant use of out-of-area and non-council facilities.

With appropriate allocations the proposed development has potential to address several of Ashburton United's highest priorities in terms of access to grounds. These include:

- consolidation of winter grounds to simplify operations and build community
- summer access to high-capacity grounds for training and football programs with lighting for all-ages use
- summer access to grounds for compulsory competition matches and pre-season matches

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As much as the physical layout, the allocation of the facility will play a key role in determining how the facility will meet Council's objectives and the needs of football and other sports in Boroondara.

Pitch configuration

As proposed the project consists of:

- a full-sized football pitch at the maximum allowed size (105m x 68m)
- a second area with a "junior pitch" and two miniroos (U8/9) pitches

The full-sized 105m x 68m pitch proposed is an excellent configuration. It optimally supports both training and match-day usage across all age groups and levels. If a community club is given access in addition to the flagged WNPL usage then this area is likely to be fully utilised from 5pm to 9pm each weeknight and from 9am to 5pm (at least) on Saturdays and Sundays. Of any possible pitch configuration this area will provide the greatest return on investment to Boroondara in achieving its objectives.

The smaller pitches proposed may not represent an optimal configuration, specifically for weekend use. While this area is very usable for training purposes, its weekend utilisation will unlikely exceed that of a natural grass pitch. The "junior" pitch does not meet the minimum size required to support junior matches for the Under 12 age group or higher (minimum size 90m x 50m, maximum 105m x 68m). The Miniroos grounds are age-group specific and support participation for Under 9s only.

In its current configuration this area is only suitable for matchday usage by children up to 11 years old. On weekends, this area would be minimally used after midday in this configuration, serving only as a warm-up area for the main ground. We do not believe this is an optimal use of the allocated funds.

The project would be significantly improved by ensuring that the facility supports a second "full-sized" pitch meeting at least the minimum size of 96m x 60m which we believe is possible within the same or a very slightly modified project footprint. A length of 100m for the second pitch would be preferable.

A single full-sized pitch efficiently accommodates all match configurations as follows:

- U6-7: 6-8 pitches
- U8-9: 4 pitches
- U10-11: 2 pitches
- U12-Senior: 1 pitch

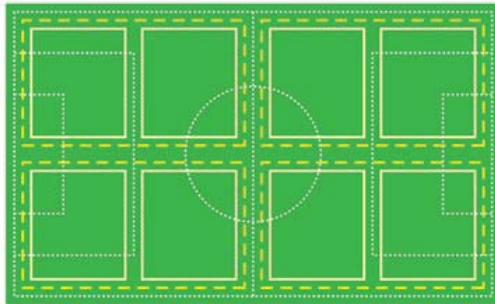
The second pitch would therefore support participation by all members of the community and maximise the benefits of the project. Even with a covered cricket pitch it would be suitable for community-level junior (all ages) and senior (all ages) usage.

Submission from Ashburton United Soccer Club on Proposal for Dorothy Laver

Field layouts

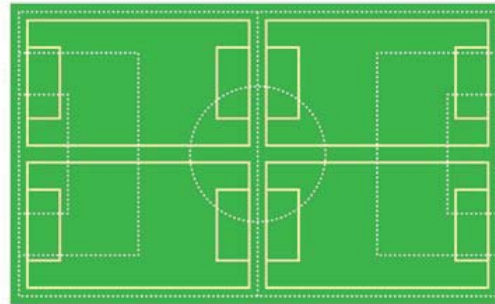
Under 6 & 7

Six to eight MiniRoos Football pitches per full-size pitch if required. MiniRoos Football pitches to the correct dimensions are also set up existing smaller fields or open grass areas.



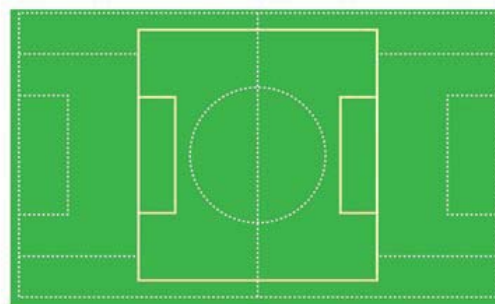
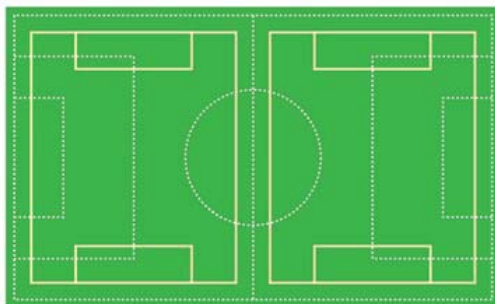
Under 8 and 9

Two to four MiniRoos Football pitches per full-size pitch if required. MiniRoos Football pitches to the correct dimensions are also set up on existing smaller fields or open grass areas.



Under 10 and 11

One to two MiniRoos Football pitches per full-size pitch if required. In the Under 11 age group, the final stage of development in the MiniRoos Football formats before players commence 11 v 11 football, it is recommended that clubs where facilities and scheduling allows, set-up the field from penalty box to penalty box and adjust the width of the field with use of markers to meet the maximum specified width. MiniRoos Football pitches to the correct dimensions can also be set up on existing smaller fields or open grass areas.



Lighting

We ask that if it is not yet part of the facility plan that Boroondara design the lighting for the facility to meet the WNPL “match-practice” (100 lux) standard rather than the lower (50 lux) standard for physical and skills training.

This is in line with FFV’s recommendation that the 100 lux standard be used for most football training because most football training is game-based as noted in the Community Sporting Facility Lighting Guide for Australian Rules football, Football (Soccer) and Netball (<http://www.sport.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/201704/Football-Netball-Soccer-Lighting-Guide-2012.pdf>).

For this facility we expect that meeting this standard will be especially important to accommodate training for a higher standard of football where player awareness and reaction times are of critical importance.

This would also ensure that the lighting meets the competition standard for amateur competitions. This would provide the ability to use the facility for twilight and night games as overflow and catch-up games when other grounds are unplayable due to inclement weather.

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Alamein Football Club may wish for lighting to be of a standard required for WNPL matches. That club or the FFV would be able to provide details. Our club would support this.

Extended access

Making the ground available ideally to 10.30pm on a limited basis (for example 1 night per week) would have significant positive benefits. This would be similar to what occurs at some hockey fields.

It would offer the opportunity for tenant clubs to run matches kicking off at 8.30pm which would encourage participation by mums & dads to young children at a family-friendly time.

It would also allow clubs to run some adult matches away from traditional weekend timeslots. This would allow current players to coach junior teams; in our experience current players are best able to engage with, mentor and motivate young players to continue their participation in the sport. It is particularly beneficial for female football where female coaches are in extremely high demand.

Pavilion and other Facilities

The current pavilion is fortunately ideally located as it will be positioned near the boundary of the new synthetic surfaces allowing for ease of access for players, spectators and the location of a canteen.

As advised by Council officers it is expected that ground usage will go from 25 hours a week to 75 hours. There will also be multiple games or training squads using the centre rather than just one or two at a time. There would for example be a need for at least four change rooms and two shower facilities as well as a good sized kitchen canteen and indoor club space for spectators, functions, meetings, fund raising lunches etc. With juniors and miniroos there may be over 100 using the centre and facilities at a time let alone those attending Premier League matches..

Separate or sufficient facilities need to be available to cater for both women and men. Female friendly facilities would be a priority for the Club and its sister club Alamein. The facility would also need to have a referees' room and toilet/shower as well as male/female toilets accessible from the outside. Storage space and areas will be need to cater for the various clubs using the centre. This would include movable goals of various sizes to cater for the various age groups using the centre. Appropriate gates would be needed so the goals can be moved in and out.

With the main pitch being used for Premier league matches it needed to appropriately fenced to FFV standards and agreement. The club understands that the synthetic surfaces will be fenced which will cater for three sides of the main pitch. The fourth side between the two playing areas could be closed off with a movable net which is used at other soccer centres in Melbourne. Its design would need to ensure that cricket can be played at the centre in summer.

Given the requirements for centre usage, it is expected that the current pavilion would not be adequate to properly cater for the users of centre and the expected hours of use. The club understands that redevelopment of the pavilion is not included in the plan for the centre but would have to be funded separately and could possibly cost in close to \$1.5 million if all the suggested components were included. This could be achieved possibly by doubling the size of the current pavilion along the side of the synthetic playing area.

Parking will need to be considered. Currently parking on site is shared by users of the East Malvern Tennis Club (in Stonnington) and users of Dorothy Laver Reserve West. There have been suggestions in the past that Stonnington Council provide sealed parking adjacent to the tennis courts under and among the trees. Our club currently has players from that neighbouring municipality and that may be able to be used in discussions with Stonnington to provide additional parking.

Submission from Ashburton United Soccer Club on Proposal for Dorothy Laver

Collaboration with Council on the Project

Our club stands ready to work with Council officers and the local Councillor Garry Thompson for the development of this exciting project as well as with the extra proposal to reconfigure Dorothy Laver Reserve East to provide for two grass under 8/9 miniroos soccer fields.

We are willing to be on any working group or consultation group that Council establishes for the design and development of the centre.

Ashburton United Soccer Club is also willing to consider investing appropriate resources both in kind and monetary as might be needed for the new centre particularly for the redevelopment and extension of pavilion.

State Government Opportunities

The Club understands that Boroondara Council is providing \$4.5 million over two years for the development and installation of the synthetic pitches and that it has not sought as yet any funding from the State Government.

However, Council has not as yet planned or allocated any funding for the redevelopment of the pavilion or has funding in the budget for the realignment of Dorothy Laver Reserve East.

The Club understands that the State Government has recently provided a significant boost to its various funding arms for grassroots sport and we would like to work with and support Council in accessing such funds in support of our over 1,000 players, many of whom are women and girls.

They include:

- The **Community Sports Infrastructure Fund** which has received a \$60 million boost with up to \$800,000 for Major Facilities projects – any proposal for facilities such as a new pavilion at Dorothy Laver Reserve West would fall into this category (next round for Council applications closed 25 June 2018).
- The **Female Friendly Facilities Fund** which has received a boost of \$15 million with up to \$500,000 available to Councils that apply (next round closes on 23 July 2018). The Club also understands that Council is allocating some \$3 million a year over the next three years for enhancing facilities for female use. This has long been an issue for Ashburton United especially at Ashburton Park with Senior Women and Under 16 girls playing before or after men's' games and having to share the same change rooms.
- A new \$100 million low interest **Community Sport Infrastructure Loans Scheme**. This is of interest to our club as we are aware that Council has a policy of supporting clubs that seek a loan (e.g. Camberwell Hockey Club some years ago). Ashburton United believes that it is now in a position to consider servicing a loan of perhaps five hundred thousand dollars over ten years as well as make a modest contribution to the cost of facilities.

Should a Council application for one of the two Funds be successful and should such funding (including the Council contribution) be augmented by a contribution from the Club in the region of \$500,000 it may be possible to undertake the pavilion work and complete it by 2020 or 2021.

The Club would be active in supporting Council for such funding including by having a strong dialogue with the State Government and the Opposition including with local MPs such as the Hon Phillip Dalidakis and Mr Graham Watt.

Transitional Arrangements

Should Council approve the Dorothy Laver Reserve West redevelopment, Ashburton United will seek Council support for transitional arrangements for summer usage to substitute for the

Submission from Ashburton United Soccer Club on Proposal for Dorothy Laver

current allocation of Dorothy Laver Reserve West for two nights as well having the Club avoiding the expense of hiring the Knox Regional Football Centre for one night a week..

This could be achieved through Council allocating to the Club for several days or evenings use of the new Highfield Park facility. The Club may also seek from Council usage of this ground for holiday programs starting in January 2019.

Conclusion

The Ashburton United Soccer Club strongly supports this project for Dorothy Laver Reserve West and looks forward to working closely with Councillors and Council Officers on its design and implementation.

Submission from Ashburton United Soccer Club on Proposal for Dorothy Laver

Attachment



Ashburton United Soccer Club

Our Philosophy

Ashburton United Soccer Club (AUSC) is first and foremost a community-based soccer club. We are a not-for-profit club and rely on the generosity of volunteers to provide safe and enjoyable opportunities for people of all ages and abilities to play soccer, develop skills, build friendships and connect with the broader community.

Our History

AUSC was established in 1979 with one team competing in the Eastern Suburbs Churches Association. In the mid 80's there was a major increase in the number of junior teams, and in the mid 90's due to wider community involvement, the name of the club changed to Ashburton United Soccer Club Inc., and we joined the Victorian Soccer Federation at both junior and senior competitions.

From the late 90's the participation of women gradually increased. We are one of the most unique soccer clubs, catering for youngsters at Miniros level, as well as offering FFV Metropolitan Leagues for outdoor soccer from April to September, and Futsal (5 a side) indoor soccer. AUSC uses 7 separate grounds due to the huge increase in junior and women's teams in recent years.

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Submission from Ashburton United Soccer Club on Proposal for Dorothy Laver



Our Club Today – a snapshot

Club history

Year established	1979
Description	Community based, not for profit soccer club. Committed to providing a safe, enjoyable and supported soccer experience, regardless of skill level for ages 3– 60+
Activities and teams	80 winter teams, 70 GoalKick players, 600 junior and senior summer Futsal players, 100 year-round Futsal players

Achievements

Awards	Largest Miniroos provider in Victoria in 2016
Championships	Bendigo, Tasmania, Castlefield Cup
Memberships	FFV Community in Business, Football Federation Victoria
School involvement	Camberwell PS, Malvern PS, St Michaels PS, Hartwell PS
Club affiliations	Sister club Alamein

AUSC by numbers

Number of players	800+ winter outdoor, 700+ futsal all year
Programs offered	Aldi Miniroos, Youth & Junior, Ladies and Mens Senior, Masters, Small Sided Football, Futsal, Player and Skill Development, School Holiday Programs and In-School Programs
Newsletter recipients	2,767
Team staff message recipients	1,200
Facebook reach	954 on senior page, 1054 on Club page
Match and training venues	Warner Reserve, Watson Park, Markham Reserve, Ashburton Park, Highfield Park, Batesford Reserve, Willison Reserve
Council areas	Boroondara, Stonnington, Monash
State electorate	Southern metro
Federal electorate	



Football Club United of Melbourne Incorporated trading as Alamein FC
269A High street, Ashburton Vic 3147
ABN 53 932 124 357 | Not for Profit registration # A0091690K

09 July 2018

Introduction

Alamein United Soccer Club applauds the allocation by Boroondara Council of \$4.5 million in its recent budget for the proposed facility at Dorothy Laver West reserve.

Being the only WNPL club in the municipality we are ecstatic that the council have elected to provide such a significant investment into local sports including that of Soccer and allow female participants to develop and participate in this for ever growing sport.

Currently the club, is spread across several facilities in Boroondara as well as using facilities in other municipalities and at schools. Including the following:

- Winter Training Grounds:
 - Ashburton Park
 - Knox Regional Soccer Facility to allow full pitch tactical training (without cricket pitch) at considerable expense to the club.
 - HA Smith Reserve
- Summer Preseason training grounds during Nov - March
 - Dorothy Laver West
 - Knox Regional Soccer Facility to allow full pitch tactical training (without cricket pitch) at considerable expense to the club.
 - Camberwell High
- Game Day
 - HA Smith Reserve
 - St Kevin's (occasional usage this year)

Alamein plays its matches at H A Smith which is a long way from Ashburton as well as being a secondary tenant to Old Scotch and upon fixture conflicts are required to find an alternative venue. There is a requirement to meet the minimum FFV standards for Senior women's match fixtures to erect temporary fencing to the perimeter of the ground which causes concern to residents due to noise pollution early on Sunday mornings and logistical problems in man handling more than 300 fence panels and stands each home game.

Having several current W League, Australian Matildas and Young Matilda Representatives, it is imperative that we can offer the best possible facilities for aspiring young women to follow their dreams and develop to be successful athletes in their chosen sport. Having a significant soccer centre capable of running many matches and programs at the one place without the concern of overuse would be of enormous benefit and welcomed by all families.

The Dorothy Laver West Proposed Project

The club regards the project as a ground-breaking one for the City of Boroondara. It provides in the one location in Boroondara a multi-pitch sporting venue which provides excellent facilities for soccer. The full project for Dorothy Laver East and West provides a Premier League standard full-size pitch, a junior pitch and four miniroos pitches. Depending on Council allocation when the project is completed it would be expected that there would be a significant reduction in the number and variety of grounds that the club currently use.

Summer access for football

We welcome Boroondara's recognition of the huge demand for football (soccer), as demonstrated by this proposal for a soccer-focussed facility with access to support its extended FFV 27 week competition programme (plus finals) and not including preseason training.

The use of the synthetic surfaces during summer would take pressure off grassed ovals that might have in the past been used for summer training and allow full size pitch opportunities with goals for preseason friendly matches and tactical training sessions.

Provision of a high-quality football pitch

As noted this proposal includes Boroondara's first football facility that meets the minimum standards that apply to higher levels of football competition including WNPL. We welcome Boroondara's support for football participation through the provision of such a high-quality facility.

Use of synthetic

The latest synthetic grounds provide several benefits:

- Higher utilisation potential
- Consistent and reliable surface for safer participation and reduced injuries
- Environmental benefits including lower water usage
- Available all year round
- Available for club and school use

We applaud this initiative and understand that this space will also be available for passive recreation.

Lighting

We ask that if it is not yet part of the facility plan that Boroondara design the lighting for the facility to meet the WNPL "match-practise" (100 lux) standard rather than the lower (50 lux) standard for physical and skills training.

This is in line with FFV's recommendation that the 100 lux standard be used for most football training because most football training is game-based as noted in the Community Sporting Facility Lighting Guide for Australian Rules football, Football (Soccer) and Netball (<http://www.sport.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/201704/Football-Netball-Soccer-Lighting-Guide-2012.pdf>).

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Pavilion and other Facilities

The current pavilion is fortunately ideally located as it will be positioned near the boundary of the new synthetic surfaces allowing for ease of access for players, spectators and the location of a canteen.

As advised by Council officers it is expected that ground usage will go from 25 hours a week to 75 hours. There will also be multiple games or training squads using the centre rather than just one or two at a time. There would for example be a need for at least four change rooms and two shower facilities as well as a good-sized kitchen canteen and indoor club space for spectators, functions, meetings, fund raising lunches etc. With juniors and minirosos there may be over 100 using the centre and facilities at a time let alone those attending Premier League matches.

Collaboration with Council on the Project

Our club stands ready to work with Council officers and the local Councillor Garry Thompson for the development of this exciting project as well as with the extra proposal to reconfigure Dorothy Laver Reserve East to provide for two grass under 8/9 minirosos soccer fields.

We are willing to be on any working group or consultation group that Council establishes for the design and development of the centre.



Alan Cubbon

President – Alamein FC

LEGEND:

LINE MARKING:

SENIOR SOCCER

(100m X 65m + 3m RUNOFF)

JUNIOR SOCCER

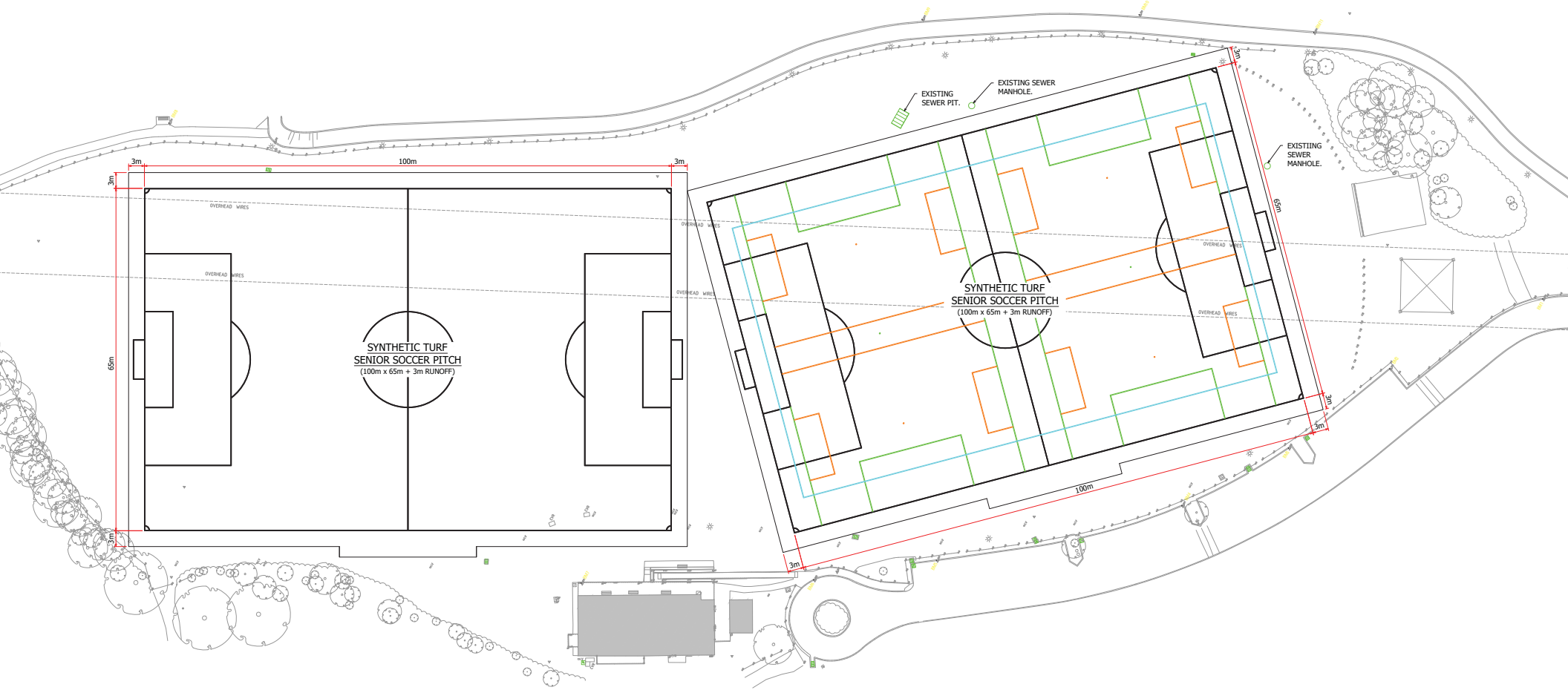
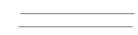
(93m X 53m)

MINI ROOS SOCCER U10-U11

(65m X 40m)

MINI ROOS SOCCER U8-U9

(40m X 30m)



This attachment includes all verbatim comments received through the on-line survey during the Dorothy Laver Reserve West consultation phase.

<p>Your information sheet advised the council is considering a similar project for Dorothy Laver Reserve EAST. I am very against both proposals being accepted. I do accept the West Reserve project is good for sport and support that. I am very against the East Reserve being redeveloped. My reason is... - I am a member of the Glen Iris Dog Club who use the Oval every Sunday and natural grass is far preferable. - I walk there and enjoy the natural landscape. - I believe there is too much emphasis and funding for sporting facilities.</p>
<p>I am concerned about traffic, parking, general loss of amenity and impact on residence. We currently have major traffic congestion during the week and on week-ends when any event is on in the area as people park in Francis and Winifred Crescents. People do not respect speed limits and drive dangerously around the Francis Street corners. Increasing usage would impact the area immensely turning it from a quiet residential area to a busy sporting precinct. I agree sport is important however by making this area sport specific you will decrease the family use of the area for recreational purposes such as our neighbourhood weekly dinners in the park, our annual Christmas get togethers and families that meet at the ovals for fun. The other impact is the amount of rubbish that will be left in the parks as we have seen constantly after each sporting event that takes place in Dorothy Laver West and East. The Glen Iris Cricket Club does not have a great record in leaving the park clean and it is usually upto the residence after a game to collect the rubbish to stop the environmental impact it has on the creek. You do not seem to have thought about increasing parking in the area for the additional cars either. I am more concerned about your proposed planning for Dorothy Laver Reserve East. This is definitely a residential amenity with two street frontages that face this park. If you do proceed with the development I am concerned that we will not be able to stop any future development of Dorothy Laver East which will dramatically impact through parking, traffic, noise and rubbish to name a few points. You state in your letter that this increases passive recreation - how????????????? Where has this proposal started from? Is this from the NPL? Why can't current soccer precincts be upgraded to include women - Ashburton Soccer area?</p>
<p>This is a pointless waster of rate payers money that will not achieve objectives. Dorothy Laver West is already well used by the lacrosse club in winter. Replacing a community-based club that meets the needs of many boys, girls, men and women with an elite club will reduce, not increase, participation. Options for the lacrosse club have not been outlined. The surface of Dorothy Laver is very resilient and there is no reason to replace natural grass with artificial turf. An artificial surface will restrict the possible uses, preventing other sports from making use of the ground, as well as being a waste of money. There is inadequate parking at Dorothy Laver for a national premier league team which will result in parking overflow to residential streets.</p>
<p>What is proposed to happen to the Lacrosse Club? Soccer is played all over the place, lacrosse isn't and our club is one of the oldest in Australia, in fact it was 90 years old last year. Are you proposing to move us elsewhere or shut us down? I am very concerned about this as a member and a parent of children/young people who play. Both my children have been playing for 5 years and they love it. My daughter now plays in two divisions as she is older. I am also surprised that this is the first I have heard of it. Is there a reason why the Council didn't consult existing users? Seems very odd. Plus as a rate payer I think you are spending a lot of money needlessly when other facilities are widely available for soccer.</p>
<p>I am disappointed with this proposal. There is no mention of existing users of this park. My daughter plays lacrosse which she loves. She can be at the ground up to 3 times a week with practice and games. The Camberwell lacrosse club do a fantastic job supporting, training and managing the club. It is an important outlet for my daughter who is a patient at the children's hospital for her weight. It is critical for her health and development. She has never found a group of people so supportive of her sporting interests. Where would you propose the club operates from if this goes ahead?</p>
<p>This project will completely wipeout current sports clubs and lacrosse community members ability to play. The current Camberwell Lacrosse Club, who use these grounds for training throughout the week and for games each week from early February through to October, will be completely unable to continue. This club, which is growing significantly in membership, helps to support men and women in sport and would be devastated by the loss of these grounds. I would urge the council to reconsider this proposal due to its significant impact on girls, boys men's and women's lacrosse. The fact that there are so few grounds available for lacrosse in the eastern suburbs means that lacrosse in this area will be extremely limited, affecting local clubs such as Camberwell Lacrosse Club, Eastside lacrosse teams, as well as Lacrosse Victoria State Teams.</p>
<p>As a very close resident I am concerned about the following; -parking, there is already large congestion during AFL, tennis and Lacrosse matches. Cars line the streets it become very difficult and dangerous to drive and cross these adjoining roads. - synthetic courts. Please leave Dorothy Laver reserve East as REAL grass. I would be very disappointed if both reserves were to be synthetic. - what happens to the Lacrosse Club? Can they still use this facility? - instead of being a full Soccer focus it would be wise to consider other Sporting dimensions such as Hockey, Basketball. - We use these areas frequently and rarely see people using it to kick the soccer ball... You did not survey the local Boroondara residents about their recreational habits. The residents around this area are predominantly Basketball, hockey and AFL players.... I am flabbergasted that the council can turn grasses areas into synthetic surface with a sole sporting purpose (soccer).</p>
<p>Not fair, Home of camberwell lacrosse</p>
<p>This is a great project. However, we are residents of Peace Street Glen Iris and would like to enquirer as to what provisions are being made for car parking at the new ovals. Car parking is a problem in this area with regards to the oval on the est side of Dunlop Street opposite Dorothy Laver Reserve when football is being played. People have to park on nature strips etc. we are concerned that with the new ovals people will see the need to park in these streets on the north side of Gardeners Creek. Thanks for considering the car parking situation.</p>
<p>What about the existing Camberwell lacrosse club? What would happen to our winter competitions that use this ground. The new design does not address anything about lacrosse who have use this ground since the eighties. Seems to be ignored. Unless lacrosse fields are addressed I don't support this redevelopment.</p>

<p>Camberwell lacrosse has been playing on the field since the 90's, for a growing sport like lacrosse to take away a home field like Dorothy Laver can be detrimental to our club.</p>
<p>Has the Lacrosse Club that currently use the ground been consulted in this process? The Lacrosse club use the grounds for training twice a week and games on the weekend. They also maintain and use the club rooms. It would be a shame to not allow Camberwell Lacrosse Club who have been using the grounds for nearly 40 years have any say into the changes. The proposed plans do not allow for Lacrosse to be played.</p>
<p>What about Camberwell lacrosse club. I train there tuesday nad Thursday's and play on saturdays. WHERE DO YOU EXPECT US TO GO? So I do not support this development unless you reconsider and think before you do anything.</p>
<p>Not good enough, you're essentially turfing the la cross club. The plan is poorly devised and not broad enough.</p>
<p>As mentioned "well being" is important to a childs positive development. I am a mother of three boys who did not play football or soccer. Lacrosse was their chosen sport and used these grounds weekly for training and games. Lacrosse is an avenue for children who would like to play a team sport, but does not fit in to other mainstream activities. Please consider an alternative ground for developing womens soccer as for those wanting to play, can do so, and those children who are playing lacrosse can also play.</p>
<p>Whilst I am all for improving sporting and leisure facilities, it seems that this proposal totally ignores the biggest user and supporter of this area sincer 1980's, Camberwell Lacrosse Club. This is the home of the club, it trains and plays here for most of the year, working in with the local cricket club. What is the impact on the local environment of this artificial grounds? Is this the best use of this area. Parking is always an ongoing issue. The wet and parklands together with the bike path would be compromised. Has a comprehensive EES been undertaken for the area?</p>
<p>Really disappointed that Camberwell Lacrosse, who have used this facility for so many years, and fundraised to develop the Infrastructure (the lights) are being completely ignored as a major stakeholder of DLW. Why would council wish to deliberately alienate and penalize members of the community to support a land grab by others?</p>
<p>Unfortunately but not surprisingly you haven't catered for the existing community sporting club that currently uses the facility and has fund raised to have the rooms, lights etc upgraded. There is currently an upgrade of Highfield Park that caters for soccer that is nearly at completion, i think it's great that the council is upgrading facilities but it shouldn't be to the detriment of sporting organisations that already use and have had as there home club for years, what are these clubs suppose to do now.</p>
<p>I am very concerned over the development of this, with no consideration to the current use of the ground and club rooms for lacrosse. My son, and his team, hold games and all training sessions here, and have done for at least the past 6 years. The grounds are used extensively in the winter for both Saturday and Sunday matches, plus training on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursday evenings from 4:30 - 9pm. I understand the need for development of soccer fields, but am unclear why this has to be to the detriment of other sports. I believe there are already existing soccer fields in Ashburton - are these being developed and reviewed?</p>
<p>As members of the Camberwell Lacrosse club I think it is outrageous that Council would propose this project without consultation of the current groups using the Reserve. Camberwell LaCrosse have been using the ground since the 1980s and was responsible for its development and installation of the lights. Our club remains a very active group within the community and has representation at community, state and National levels with some of our players heading to the world championships in Israel soon. Membership of the 90year old club continues to promote and represent the sport in junior and senior levels for both boys and girls teams and council has not approached or considered the implication for the club and its training and playing facilities In the proposal. The realignment of this ground would significantly impact a sport that has contributed significantly to the community. Consultation of development of the ground further to support LaCrosse would be most welcome, however, I am strong against any discrimination of this sport in favour of soccer.</p>
<p>I would expect that the lacrosse club that developed the ground in the 80's and provided the lights of there own back will be facilitated. Mentioning this as there is no mention of the club in your plans.</p>
<p>This ground is currently used by Camberwell Lacrosse. How does this proposal affect the existing use by the lacrosse club? They have not been consulted. I would like to see the existing users' concerns understood and addressed before any changes are made.</p>
<p>The Camberwell lacrosse club use this ground and to have a council, without consultation to the community make a proposal to give it to another sporting code is disrespectful. The lacrosse club fosters an alternative sport and offers children who want a sport that uses ball stick skills as well as fitness.</p>
<p>This project does not accommodate the clubs that currently use the facilities. The facilities were initially built and developed in the early 1980's with the Lacrosse club.</p>
<p>I don't understand what is driving this project and what the impact on current users of these fields are. I have been a supporter, coach and former player of Camberwell Lacrosse Club for the whole of my life (46 years) and have enjoyed the use of these fields with this club for many, many years. This facility is critical to the success of our club and the loss of it what potentially put at jeopardy the future of this club. I hold no positions at the club so my views are not those of the club but simply a concerned past player. The proposal does not outline whether the club would continue to use this space during winter and if not, what the proposed alternative is. Soccer is a cashed up sport with significant venues already in place. This proposal is putting at risk a second tier club, which is damaging for our community. More information is required so everyone can fully understand the circumstance.</p>
<p>What do you propose to do with the Camberwell Lacrosse Club. This is a long established sporting group who over the years contributed to significant improvements to this ground. Soccer is already well catered for in the area as is aussie rules. Leave Camberwell Lacrosse Club alone or use your funds to improve the ground into a dedicated Lacrosse playing surface.</p>
<p>Car parking is a major issue for this facility. This ground belongs to the Lacrosse club and has done so since the 1980's. We did the hard work to put the lights in. Dont take away Camberwell Lacrosse heritage to make way for a sport that does not suit this area.</p>

<p>It would be nice if some information regarding the relocation of the Camberwell Lacrosse Club Included with the information provided on the refurbishment. Has any thought gone into the Lacrosse Club?</p>
<p>Make provision for lacrosse, who's home ground and fundraising provided for the ovals in the first place.</p>
<p>A council giving back to the community that supports it is always a great thing but I can only see soccer being addressed here. Where is the facilities for lacrosse that has graced the grounds with its unusual but entertaining presents for as long as I have been walking my dog around those parts? If there is other plans please let us as a community see them as I would hate to see a small sport bullied out.</p>
<p>Sub 1: What do you propose to do with Camberwell Lacrosse Club? Having been it's home since the 1980's, Dorothy Laver has been looked after, watched over and loved by the club and all it's members for in excess of 30 years. This is a disgrace. Australia Lacrosse has been in the top tier of world standings since the 70's and Camberwell Lacrosse Club has seen many of its members, men's, women's and junior's represent Australia. Australian soccer has never achieved the same standings in its respective field nor will it ever. How can you even consider a proposal such as this without consulting the resident club first. Shame on your lack of morals, ethics, values and integrity. I call Camberwell Lacrosse Club my home, though I now work and live overseas, I am absolutely appalled and angered that this is even being tabled. But I guess yet again...Money wins out and the soulless parasites of the world will push their greedy agenda. Sub 2: Do not go ahead with the proposal to replace an excellent community facility used by many sports with an artificial ground designed only for soccer!!! Additionally, why was there no consultation with Camberwell Lacrosse Club???</p>
<p>I am concerned at the lack of information about what is proposed for the Camberwell Lacrosse Club. Please advise what the plan is to accommodate our club which has been around since 1927.</p>
<p>Whilst I am all for promoting sport I don't believe that you have properly addressed the impact of current players at the reserve which has been home to lacrosse for my lifetime. You should not accommodate one sport at the expense of another especially when the amount of money allocated to football globally is obscene. Lacrosse without the support of councils will struggle it cannot compete with the might of football. Whilst a multi sport pitch seems good why is it needed? Natural turf is fine and what is played on in most areas of the world. Please address what provisions are being made for lacrosse as they have been missed off this proposal.</p>
<p>My daughter currently plays and will continue to play lacrosse with Camberwell Lacrosse Club. This is her second season. If you change this to soccer, there will be no where for them to play. So I object to this proposal.</p>
<p>Why is there no mention of the Camberwell Lacrosse clubs use for the ground?! Seems grossly one sided!</p>
<p>This proposed project has no mention of what will happen to the camberwell lacrosse club. Where will the camberwell lacrosse club be relocated?. Dorothy Laver West has been the home for the Camberwell lacrosse club for a long time. Camberwell lacrosse club has been a valued member of the Boroondara council and the community. I suggest that the council re considers the proposal. This is also nothing but a waste of rate payers money with this proposal. SHAME ON YOU CITY OF BOROONDARA</p>
<p>The proposed development seems to be quite short sighted in its future use. That it completely excludes any other sports, particularly those that are currently using it and have been for many years.</p>
<p>Sub 1: I am concerned about issues with stability of the surface and of the base materials when Gardiners Creek is in flood. The council will be aware of the extent of flooding that can occur and the damage it can cause to surfaces. I am also concerned about how the surface will be cleaned of deposited sand and silt after a flood and the effort required to properly clear matted debris off fencing. It is unclear from the diagram what the proposed height of the perimeter fencing is, what materials will be used and how many access points there will be (and their locations). I am highly sceptical about whether this will improve general amenity for local park users. Sub 2: (2nd submission) I would like the council to consider the entire content of the website www.synturf.org and its associated links as my second submission. Of particular interest and concern are the articles on health risks (from PAHs, phthalates, lead, BPA, particulates etc.), increased risk of specific cancers, increased risk of physical injury, increased biological risk from grazes, skin damage from extreme surface temperatures, environmental impacts and effects, risk of water damage from flooding, fire risk, potential for vandalism, limited life span, disposal issues, life-cycle cost comparisons with natural turf, and long term liability risks for the Council. Of major concern is "Amy's List" of people that have played on artificial turf fields and have been diagnosed with cancer. The report identifies that 75% of all these cancers were leukemia, lymphoma, sarcoma and thyroid, (which is vastly different from the normal spectrum of cancers). My preference would be to keep the Dorothy Laver Reserve (West) as a natural grass surface, and employ more green-keepers using money "saved" from not installing an artificial surface.</p>
<p>This is Camberwell lacrosse club's home, I have played at this ground for nearly 15 years. If you can't give us equally as good if not better facilities to relocate to (within the same area) then this is NOT happening. You cannot abandon our sport just because it's not as 'popular' as soccer. We're definitely much tougher than soccer players...</p>
<p>How will the synthetic grass allow for injury free cricket to be played, as falling and diving is part of the game. Will council insurance cover any claims? Also what options for moving has been given to the current users of the natural grasses area, I understand used by lacrosse. If they have not been given an equal opportunity, then I feel it would be a discriminatory decision.</p>
<p>My son trains for Camberwell Lacrosse on this field. The game of Lacrosse is played on grass at various grounds around Melbourne, so it's necessary to train on grass. One solution would be to put huge training lights at the Eric Raven bound where they play their games.</p>
<p>This plan fails to address the needs and requirements of the Camberwell Lacrosse club?</p>
<p>Dorothy Laver West was created and designed for Camberwell Lacrosse club, the club has been there since the 80's. Turning it into a dedicated soccer field is unjust and is turning a blind eye to the dedicated community of Lacrosse players that are already struggling to receive support and funding. I'm not against further development of the ground but it is very important to me and the Lacrosse club that the developments does not compromise the ground's capability of providing a place to train and play Lacrosse.</p>

<p>I am opposed to the new proposed plan as it is a narrow minded proposition and doesn't take into account the lacrosse and cricket needs that have been the fundamental support of the grounds.</p>
<p>Sub 1: Where in this proposal are you acknowledging and addressing that this ground is the home ground of Camberwell Lacrosse! It is one of a very few local, community lacrosse clubs. There are many, many, many soccer & cricket clubs. Please consider this plan with regard to the lacrosse club's ongoing membership and continued life in our community. Sub 2: Thank you for the consultation session today, particularly well done to a the two main speakers from council who did remarkably well under obvious pressure and uncomfortable circumstances. As a local resident & parent of a passionate young lacrosse player please take action to understand the full range of requirements and activities of Camberwell Lacrosse Club. It is truly a wonderful sporting club with genuine & solid community values. The council has a unique opportunity to support & enable the club and sport of lacrosse to have our home ground upgraded (with lacrosse fields) for our children's sport of choice and other sporting clubs to use on seasonal rotation. From the meeting please review the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Look into publishing the criteria for ground selection. - Look into placing lacrosse fields with the other field combinations in the plan. - Consider the lacrosse clubs usage & schedule of games/activities. - Consider it remaining the home ground for Camberwell Lacrosse Club. - Obtain an Environmental impact study on the area. - Obtain a Traffic Flow & Parking Impact study. - Review options for existing soccer field/s (club/s) to have their grounds upgraded to meet the desired WNPL field and MiniRoos fields giving more options for the Lacrosse club to remain and share Dorothy Laver fields with cricket clubs. Thank you
<p>Camberwell Lacrosse Club celebrated its 90th Birthday last year, and has been a long standing Tennant of Dorothy Laver Reserve. It's disappointing that the first notice many of us heard of this was on an online post. Most importantly, the club needs a reasonable plan to ensure the club has a home for the next 90 years.</p>
<p>While I understand the demand for a soccer facility is great, I believe that it should not be done at the expense of other sports. Camberwell Lacrosse club has a long history, we recently celebrated our 90th anniversary, and is one of the few Lacrosse clubs in Eastern Melbourne. Camberwell are the ONLY Lacrosse club in Boroondara. This ground caters specifically to Girls and Women and I am certain the club would struggle to survive if our home ground was taken from us. Surely it would make more sense to upgrade an existing soccer facility rather than poaching grounds from other sports. The grounds are used at least three nights every week from February to September as well as both Saturday and Sunday for games from 9:00am to at least 3:00pm. Provision for the Lacrosse club MUST be made within this proposal or an alternative location for the project be assessed.</p>
<p>This ground is used by so many people and I believe that the development of these pitches would be extremely detrimental to the park and people that use it. I personally use it around 4 times a week. The Lacrosse Club that is in use of the grounds right now has had a massive focus on making the womens game of lacrosse bigger and getting more people out and about doing physical activity. Although soccer has large numbers of players, there are also large numbers of grounds around the area. Lacrosse is growing as a sport and community and would defiantly benefit from further development of their ground, which could come from the council if they put their money into this instead of into soccer. As a junior player and invested member of the lacrosse club I highly object to this proposal.</p>
<p>You absolute scumbags. Planning to take a ground from a community (camberwell lacrosse club) who rely on the ground and have so much history with it (it was us who initially argued for it to be made back in 1983) to "enhance the overall community benefit". By limiting the community that will benefit off it. Preposterous. Only the soccer association and some rich prick will benefit off this, not the community. Camberwell Lacrosse club relies heavily on this ground. It is where we train and play games, and used 5/7 days a week. Relocation would potentially have a disastrous ripple effect on the club and the participation in junior and senior ranks. This proposed development would promote participation of soccer at the expense of a community who have literally been here since the grounds were "paddock-like fields on the west side of Gardiners Creek." Our club history is long and great, and our community many. This proposed plan would decimate our participation, our community and above all else a sense of family. This is where people go to play a sport, but stay to belong to something greater than themselves. I have had the great privilege to have been a member of countless teams, all of which I have made great friendships out of. I have also had the privilege to know so many great people, not just players, but parents, sibling and volunteers. I look up to members of my club, because when it comes down to it, I know they have my back. I should know the council has our back, but it seems all they want to do is stab us in the back. An information drop in session two business days after announcement, scheduled for 2pm around the end of the financial year, is beyond pathetic. You scumbags obviously want to push this through quick, don't you? Without any consideration for the community and the people who use this land. Without consideration for the people and families who come here to belong to a club, to achieve their best, and among all else, have fun. This "exciting new project" seems more important to you than the extremely negative impact that my community, my family will face. Also, the reasons for making this "exciting new project" that you have listed don't add up. Making a "soccer focused facility" won't "enhance the overall community benefit" for this ground. Currently the grounds are used by Camberwell Lacrosse Club, Glen Iris Cricket Club, Glen Iris dog training club, St Kevins school cricket, AYC cricket club, and Camberwell Grammar school cricket, most of which will not be able to use the grounds. Replacing three cricket pitches with one of your "cricket wickets" (who says that?) will not make up for the loss of three cricket grounds. Sure, you might say go somewhere else, but why don't you, because we were here first. Additionally: - Nothing about the new grounds would specifically increase opportunities for girls and women. Girls and women already use those grounds. - The development would not open new opportunities to train between the hours of 5-9pm because, we already do. We have lights. We fundraised those lights with extensive effort. Our club. Not you. - The Women's National Premier League team shouldn't benefit at the expense of a whole community. Your arguments are horseshit, and your consideration for the community that currently uses these grounds is nonexistent. We were here first, and you shouldn't kick us out just to satisfy the prick who 'needs' another ground (and already</p>

<p>has eight) because you would be decimating a community. What you are doing is wrong. With all due respect, Fuck yourself.</p>
<p>I think that that the oval should stay as lacrosse fields because I play and use the facilities. I also help the canteen and our family loves lacrosse. The lacross club should stay the same. I am 9 years old and to me the lacrosse club is home.</p>
<p>Nonsense</p>
<p>I am appalled that this has even been raised. Camberwell Lacrosse Club have been tenants at this location for over 40 years. The location was developed by Camberwell Lacrosse Club in consultation with Ms Dorothy Laver herself. It is their home. It is home to boys, girls, men's and women's teams. It has been the birthplace of many players who have gone on to represent their their country at world cups. Camberwell have financially invested in facilities and infrastructure at this location which, for an amateur sport, is not easy. Soccer is currently played at Watsons Park, Markham Avenue Reserve, Warner Reserve and Ashburton Park. How many more venues do they need? Are we to have no sporting diversity at all? Is it only AFL, soccer and cricket from now on? This beggars belief.</p>
<p>Wow. How can you present this 'exciting' proposal and fail to make any mention of the existing users of the ground? It's deceptive. I am strongly opposed to this development for a number of reasons. Primarily, as a person whose three children all play lacrosse at Dorothy Laver West, and have done for years, I find it extremely disappointing that there is no regard for lacrosse in this plan. Secondly, in the development of this plan, what consultation was done with the existing users? I'm guessing none (except of course the soccer clubs). Thirdly, I know the numbers can be made to show that synthetic surfaces are 'cost effective' but the fact remains that at that site, adjacent to the Creek, the drainage required under a synthetic surface would be a huge undertaking. Furthermore, fans of synthetic surfaces will always claim the environmental benefit because of water savings, but again, you can make the figures work whatever way you want - ultimately, there's intrinsic value in real grass, mud and all - and to lose would be terrible.</p>
<p>This area is currently used by my children's Sporting club- Camberwell Lacrosse Club. The club is a family club and is very well utilised. The lacrosse players require the natural grass turf. A synthetic turf would not be suitable. Please do not change the use of Dorothy Laver reserve. It's great as it is.</p>
<p>Dorothy Laver Reserve West already has sport being played. I understand that soccer is needed to play but how about we grow the community of lacrosse. Lacrosse has been played there since the 1980s and bt changing the fields then we will not be able to play lacrosse there anymore as it is not ideal for the sport of lacrosse.</p>
<p>I oppose this proposal. It will kill off the Lacrosse Club's decades-long attachment to DL West. Where are you kicking them off to? I also think it is disgusting that you would present this proposal for public consultation without making any reference to the existing Lacrosse Club usage. You are presenting it to residents as a redevelopment of passive open space. Obviously you presented it that way deliberately. It is 100% misleading and deceptive. It's like an episode of Utopia.</p>
<p>I would not be happy for it to be designated to soccer. What will happen to Camberwell Lacrosse Club that has been at this reserve for many years and contributed to the current facilities? Have the lacrosse club been considered at all in this new plan?</p>
<p>I think that no compensation or regard to Camberwell Lacrosse club, whom have called Dorothy Laver their home for over 30 years, has been demonstrated by the council- the 'representatives of the people'. Not only did the council fail to inform any of the lacrosse players/locals/Malvern tennis club/cricket players/any higher officials, they also have a clear conflict of interest! Soccer has enough facilities available and MORE than enough resources- lacrosse is a small sport in Australia, one that is struggling to have a say in a variety of matters-but it is one with a tighter community than soccer clubs will ever have.</p>
<p>It would be a bad idea as there are already multiple clubs using the reserve, abd has been using for ages</p>
<p>I am a former member of the Camberwell Lacrosse club during my three year stay in Melbourne from 2006 until 2009. I now work in the field of sport and recreation and feel it is important to provide you with feedback in relation to this project. As outlined above the plan seems to show a highly soccer focused field and limited scale use project. This project seems to ignore the history and heritage of the Camberwell Lacrosse Club founded in 1927. Although one cannot ignore the growing participation numbers of soccer in all communities it must also be stressed that sport diversity must be maintained within communities. A number of communities are now finding the focus on a single sport ie. American Football, Soccer, Ice Hockey etc. hinders overall participation levels within the greater community as the one size fits all approach has its draw backs. This is important to reflect upon when developing multi-use sport spaces. Rather than the creation of fields as outlined on the above drawing I would recommend in my professional opinion looking at alternatives with larger fields which can be divided into smaller fields as required. The permanent set up of smaller fields limits the flexibility for the council and the clubs using the space. Please let me know if you wish to source additional information on this I am happy to share as I have worked on a number of projects in this regard. Ultimately, it is my belief it would be in poor taste and respect for the history and long commitment to the community shown by the Camberwell Lacrosse Club to the place them behind a new soccer club for field access and this should be taken into account when making any redevelopment decisions.</p>
<p>I find it incredulous that the council would suggest such a detailed plan and THEN ask for feedback BEFORE consulting the existing occupiers of the fields! It is simply lip service for a plan that will clearly progress regardless of community feedback. As a member of the Lacrosse club that utilizes these grounds I am strongly against it. Where are you planning on putting us? Are you even aware of just how much we use this ground for training & game days? Do you know how many teams we have? Not happy.</p>

<p>This is absolutely appalling. The lack of consideration for the founding lacrosse club is inexcusable and completely unjust in the way the council has gone about it. There has been zero awareness of this alleged project until last Friday even though it is clear it has been planned extensively. Construction cannot start early 2019 with this extreme short notice. The Camberwell lacrosse club calls this field and clubhouse home and founded it in the 1980s when it was previously bare land - the council cannot simply evict our historic club from the area with NO WHERE TO GO. Eric raven is not even a possibility as the ground is of poorer quality and the overall area much too small to support both a men's and women's club. This project cannot go forward, it will devastate hundreds of families who have ties to the lacrosse club just to feed the unnecessary and selfish expansion of soccer which is an already much larger sport with ownership of multiple grounds. Lacrosse needs the room to grow in its own right and it is entirely unfair to stunt this growth before it has truly started. We urge the council not to go forward with this project - how is it fair that the soccer league get MULTIPLE grounds at their disposal yet we are supposed to be okay with being uprooted from our ONE and only club residence which we have owned for decades? This is simply unacceptable and the family's affected will not let it stand.</p>
<p>How does this "benefit the community" when it only serves soccer which has excessive funding already?? This is not an "exciting" project when the entire thing excludes any thought for the Camberwell lacrosse club who have been the longtime residents of the club and grounds. The club is in the process of attaining a grant to renovate the lighting and we have renovated the club house in recent years - the council can't just force us out when we have put our blood, sweat and tears into the whole place and not to mention MONEY. This just can't go forward. Extremely disappointing the council would try to do this, only supporting the sports with the biggest pockets.</p>
<p>This plan will have a devastating impact on Camberwell Lacrosse Club, with next to no consultation with the club, of which Dorothy Laver Reserve West is a vital part of. The installation of synthetic turf would render is completely unusable for lacrosse. The club is extremely fortunate to have one of the best Lacrosse grounds in the competition as the good drainage of the oval means it does not become muddy like so many other lacrosse grounds. The excellent lighting for the ground is also a integral part of the lacrosse club's training, and on many occasions the Australian representative teams have travelled 40+ minutes to train at Dorothy Laver because the grounds and lighting are so much better for lacrosse than many other lacrosse grounds through all of Melbourne. I hope you please take this into consideration, as this ground is really, really important to the players and community of the Camberwell Lacrosse Club.</p>
<p>This field had been Home to camberwell alcrosse club who developed and funded much of the structures on DL. I am very against doing anything that does not also support lacrosse.</p>
<p>Although the Dorothy Laver Reserve West project will be beneficial to soccer programs, the lack of consideration and consultation towards the Camberwell Lacrosse club, in which the the Dorothy Laver Reserve West oval is a vital apart of, shouldn't be over looked. Installing a synthetic turf will mean the club as well as the lacrosse community will lose an excellent ground and so I hope you take this into consideration.</p>
<p>What happens to the lacrosse club that plays there? I've played lacrosse here for 26 years. Where is the ground for Camberwell lacrosse going to be?</p>
<p>I think this project should be discontinued as it will negatively impact those who use the ground for lacrosse, plus there is little difference using synthetic or real grass for soccer players especially given the field's excellent drainage. Real grass is also so much nicer for dogs!</p>
<p>You mention cricket once in the summary yet every week during summer there are games on every oval starting at Juniors and going right through Seniors on Saturdays and Sundays. Why should cricket in Summer and Lacrosse in winter give way to soccer? A disgraceful idea.</p>
<p>The project should not go forward as synthetic turf is bad for playing lacrosse on and will mean that many teams will have to find alternative places for matches. Not only that, but the drainage of the oval is already good so that the oval doesn't get really muddy which makes it ideal.</p>

<p>Sub 1: And where in this proposal is the plan for a long term lacrosse club who will be left with little option to continue? No lights for training at Eric Raven, and not enough room to accommodate multiple training teams. There are soccer fields everywhere- Burwood, Waverley, Ashburton, Central Park Malvern, are those being sacrificed to allow Lacrosse to continue in this area? Lacrosse is huge in the West and Eltham because of support, and this is another example where a minority sport is being killed off because of greed and a lack of appreciation that there are boys and girls who want to play an alternative sport and deserve ONE ground to play at. Sister is currently plaid at Hartwell Sports Ground, build your complex there. I also live in the area, walk my dog, run the path, and the tranquility of the area will be forever compromised. People wonder why bees are dying, it's these type of developments in sensitive areas that have a long term negative affect on the environment that can't be reversed. There is so much to lose with this proposal and for the majority, little to gain. Sub 2: The removal of such a large area of natural grass and the installation of synthetic turf poses significant environmental issues: 1. Synthetic installation will damage soil structure, damage soil microbes, damage soil life. A synthetic surface does nothing to enhance biodiversity and up until now the council. local volunteer groups, local sporting groups and local residents have worked hard to encourage the growth of fauna and flora. Natural grass is a habitat for insects, plants, other organisms and provides food for birds. This development will destroy the habitat. There are other alternatives to this site that will not have the same damaging affect on the environment. 2. Natural grass plays a significant role in controlling climate - it absorbs sun radiation and converts it to food. It reduces temperature extremes by absorbing the sun's heat during the day and releasing it at night. Synthetic will do none of this and will create an Urban Heat Island. 3. Natural grass assists in eliminating CO2 pollution from the freeway. By removing such a huge area of natural grass, you will affect the air quality for park users, residents, and athletes. 4. Natural grass absorbs noise. Synthetic does not. The noise from the freeway will increase for local residents. 5. The crumb rubber fill for synthetic surfaces has been tested and proven to leach zinc. A development of this magnitude using synthetic turf should not be rushed, it should not use a material which is proven hazardous, and it should not be done in a location with a sensitive water system prone to flooding adjacent to the ground. 6. Parking and traffic. - Parking not addressed. Increased traffic to this location not addressed. The entry road to the park is hazardous enough now with the current traffic. The speed of cars coming over the freeway overpass will cause an accident if traffic to the ground is increased as predicted. At best, the exit lane would need to be increased to a double lane to allow multiple cars to turn left and right simultaneously. So I guess that's more park land sacrificed for this project which has been rushed, poorly planned, poorly consulted. 7. Since when has the council discouraged diversity in sport? Since when has the council been all about soccer and not about a local sport which is growing but may struggle to maintain its members when forced off of its traditional home when there are other grounds/reserves as options for a soccer field? Since when is the sun being in a goalie's eyes more important than the environment, residents, a local sporting club and other users such as local schools? Sub 3 : If the council simply needs to provide a soccer ground for a local soccer club, why not allocate Eric Raven Reserve to soccer? There's parking, a club house. The off-leash for dogs would be affected, but then Council is prepared to affect that arrangement by shifting Camberwell Lacrosse to only that ground even though lacrosse needs more space. Dorothy Laver stays as is, Camberwell Lacrosse isn't affected, Ashy Redbacks aren't affected, the local cricket club isn't affected, locals are happier. After the council meeting on the 18th July, the push for a WNPL approved facility seems to be in question, so why the need for so much disruption with pursuing an artificial surface soccer development which is clearly not wanted by the majority? Sub 4 : Does the \$4.5m budget for this project include the cost to relocate Camberwell Lacrosse to Eric Raven Reserve as per Council's plan and all that will be required to try and make that ground close to suiting lacrosse's needs - lights, new turf, drainage issues? Does the \$4.5M budget take into account works most likely needed to address the flood cycle of the creek? Does the \$4.5m budget include the cost of improving the road entry to the reserve to make it safer for the increase in traffic Council forecasts? Even if cars can't park, the increase in cars driving in and simply dropping off kids will increase dramatically. Has council considered the safety of the kids with the issue this will cause parents? What exactly the \$4.5m of rate payer's money is and isn't covering needs to be disclosed to the public. We have the right to say if funds aren't being used efficiently.</p>
<p>Replacing the grass with synthetic turf not only limits the number of viable sports which can be played but reduces the evology of the reserve, increasing significantly to our footprint. There are few benefits to replacing the turf. My lacrosse club Camberwell Lacross would be completely unable to use their home oval, it appears you have not consulted with them. I implore you to invite members of every sporting group who uses the facility to a meeting so they may educate you on the inviability of this project.</p>
<p>Synthetic turf is quite bad for playing lacrosse on and I belive will hinder the existing women and girls' lacrosse team whom train there. Similarly as a soccer player, turf is really frustrating to play on and I can't see how it's addition will provide more opportunities but rather discourage people to use the space.</p>
<p>I believe that this development should not go ahead! The grounds are home to the Camberwell lacrosse team and by changing to astro turf the clubs needs will not be met.</p>
<p>Sub 1: Is there a plan to relocate Camberwell Lacrosse Club to a new ground. If so, are these additional costs covered. Camberwell lacrosse club has covered the cost of the current flood lights and changing rooms and so would be hugely financially impacted by this move. Sub 2: Has any thought been given to where are the current Lacrosse and Cricket clubs are then going to train and play?</p>
<p>My son is a member of Camberwell Lacrosse, I would like to know how this will affect the lacrosse team. Two new soccer fields have been created at Highfield Park Camberwell. Currently the only place to play lacrosse is at Dorothy Laver.</p>
<p>The development looks great but there seems to be one glaring omission. Where are the lacrosse facilities.?? Do you have provisions to relocate Camberwell Lacrosse Club and if so where? They have been in existence since 1980s and have not relied on much funding, were able to build their clubhouse and have been respectful to the environment and facilities. We understand that higher profile sports deserve great facilities, however not at the expense of others. There is extremely limited parking in this area. To put a WNPL facility here would be absolute chaos during weekends AND weekday evenings. Local roads don't have the ability to take the overflow. This may not be the most appropriate area for an experiment into women's soccer. Why not keep a designated soccer area at Highfield Park, which is alot more user friendly. I hope that this development</p>

<p>is planned much better than the current rushed community consultation process.</p>
<p>While it looks like a great use of available space, it only appears to cater for two sports: soccer and cricket. Knowing that other sports use this space, for training and competition, I sincerely hope that this is an oversight and that the detailed plans will in fact accommodate other sporting Clubs. By this I mean that this will be a shared facility, where other sports are able to use the facilities for both training and competition as well as having use of the Clubrooms for various social functions.</p>
<p>So what about the lacrosse club the currently resides there? and how they have raised funds for the improvement of that feild and its club rooms. This is a poorly thought out plan using the hype of the world cup without considering the effect it my have on other smaller sports that actually need the support of the council. Improvements to the feild are welcome but don't ruin such a great club which this year has made strides in growing the women's lacrosse in the area.</p>
<p>Strongly believe this proposal will only serve a small minority of residents. How does this proposal even come up? Having grown up playing lacrosse, I have seen the influence of cashed up soccer clubs circling long held, sporting clubs with proud traditions.</p>
<p>I am unhappy with how this project has been handled. Short feedback time. No info on what will happen to camberwell lacrosse that has used the reserve for decades, it comes across deceptively like the reserve has no club currently using it. So little support is already given to minority sports , and they are being shoved aside yet again.</p>
<p>This is a disgraceful plan. This reserve has been used and developed by the Camberwell Lacrosse club since the 1980s. In addition it is also used for junior cricket which will also be negatively impacted by these plans. As a family with a 4th generation player at CLC, we are deeply saddened by these plans. Our families commitment to this club and these facilities has been recognized with the installation and unveiling of a lacrosse throwing wall in our family members name. Given there is a synthetic surface newly installed on Carol Cres at Gardner Park, it would seem yet another is not required- with utilization low at the Carol Cres reserve. We oppose these plans!</p>
<p>What about the lacrosse club? Where would camberwell play and train during the winter seasons. The juniors and seniors can't all play on Eric raven. By building the soccer oval you would effectively kill the lacrosse club.</p>
<p>Can you please verify what will happen to Camberwell Lacrosse. My son has tried many sports and has only just found a sport, lacrosse that he enjoys. While I am all for providing more sports facilities in our area it would be great to know that the smaller sports are also going to be supported.</p>
<p>I believe the park should be still used for Lacrosse</p>
<p>I used to play lacrosse on this field and i think you should not turn it into a soccer field because but lacrosse isn't s very popular spot so there's aren't many forlsds for it so why reduce the small amount of fields we have.</p>
<p>While it is encouraging to see Boroondara investing in the sporting/recreational facilities, I'm concerned that the proposed plans for Dorothy Laver in no way address it's use by the Camberwell La Crosse Club. This club is a vibrant, community focussed group, with fantastic outreach programs in to schools around Boroondara, promoting participation, fitness and fun. Our family is in it's second year of involvement with the club and our son (12yo) is loving the game. He's also benefiting from a highly engaged and supportive seniors team, whom freely give their time to support and coach the juniors - including members of the Australian team - something I feel is indicative of the great culture the club has developed over its many years in the community. We have also met families whom have 2 and even 3 generations of players involved and have loved the welcoming atmosphere and the regular events for players and families. It is also my understanding that the club was instrumental in establishing the ground and funding the installation of the floodlights - helping to create a fantastic facility that is used by many. The Camberwell La Crosse Club, to me, is part of what we love about Ashburton and the broader Boroondara community - strong community spirit and a focus on family participation. As such, I feel it would be remiss if the current proposed development did not include the needs of the club. Many families have benefited from having this club as a member of our community and I hope that Boroondara would want to ensure that current and future families could continue to do so. Thanks for your consideration.</p>
<p>The plan does not address the needs or perspective of families engaged with Camberwell Lacrosse club which incorporates junior, senior, state league teams on Saturdays and female teams on Sunday in Junior, senior and state league teams. Why can't the current facilities be timetable and shared as they are in other community sporting groups? Up rooting onecomunity sporting club for the benefit of another potential doesn't seem logical?</p>
<p>It's not good camberwell lacrosse has been there for years and you can't just replace it for a stupid soccer pitch Dorothy laver is were I train with camberwell lacrosse and I don't think you are considering the lacrosse club as were are we supposed to train on a soccer pitch!!!! This project is useless.</p>
<p>I am incredibly dismayed that there had been no consultation with the tensnt clubs. This had been home to Camberwell Kacrosse club for over 30 years and now there is a proposal to take over the ground for a mega sport like Soccer. Where is the fairness, where is the equity, where is the support for wide range of sports? Why hasn't Council supported the club with decent facilities. 4 of the 6 light towers were paid for by the Lacrosse Club. Let alone the potential parking issues and constant use issues. Are there not existing grounds that Soccer use ithout displacing lacrosse.</p>
<p>Sub 1: We live in Francis crescent and are concerned about any development of Dorothy Laver reserve EAST. Whilst there are parking facilities in Dorothy Laver reserve West, there are almost no facilities on the Eastern side, this results in significant congestion in Francis Crescent whenever there are sporting events on this side. Francis Crescent is far too narrow to allow for parking on both sides and our driveway (40 Francis Crescent) is often all but blocked. I would like the council to consider making the park side of the road in Francis Crescent a no standing or resident only parking area, and would oppose any proposal to increase the sports facilities in Dorothy Laver Reserve EAST. Sub 2: I am particularly opposed to replacing the natural grass with plastic fake grass. There are also already more than enough sporting facilities in the area and simply not enough parking to support further growth.</p>

<p>Currently the sports grounds in the area have a lack of parking yet you are proposing additional sports areas with no additional parking. We live on Francis cres and when these venues are used people park all over our street including on the nature strip and footpaths forcing pedestrians on the road. Not to mention the noise being generated from these until 9pm on training nights. We have young kids who we are trying to get to sleep from 7pm and this will make it more difficult. The removal of the grass is a concern as well as the area will no longer be able to be used for casual purposes and public recreation as the plastic grass is not as nice as natural grass. As most people do I work and the public information session between 2pm and 3pm is not acceptable as I will not be able to make it. Can you hold one after 5pm when most people will be able to attend? Please do not change these areas as they are perfect now!</p>
<p>I am strongly opposed to this development. My son plays for Camberwell Lacrosse which is a fantastic local club supporting young Lacrosse players in the area. It is a very community minded club that has invested heavily in improving facilities at the ground. Lacrosse is a fast growing sport, especially amongst junior players and it would be very sad to change the current grounds. They are well used and cared for.</p>
<p>These current ovals are used for a variety of use including football pre season overflow training (because of a lack of grounds due to cricket and football season conflicts) , cricket training, cricket matches, running training, junior and senior Lacrosse training (including senior representation), complete junior lacrosse competitions and is a traditional home of long standing cricket and more specifically Lacrosse club. With the advent of significant proposed changes, I'm interested in where these People, clubs and sports will go to train and play? Due to the proposed synthetic surface, this will be unusable by cricket, football or lacrosse leaving it an inflexible surface. Instead of displacing all these people, clubs, sports why not Re-Development Nettleton Park which is a single use summer, daytime use Oval only? Why is soccer being prioritised over these other people, sports and clubs? What other options have been considered vs displacing others?</p>
<p>There are thousands of soccer fields already in Victoria alone but very few lacrosse fields, lacrosse is now in the State school program under quick sticks with huge work bring done and will grow rapidly over the next decade. Where are they going to play if you shut down the only few grounds we have now ? Or are you just ok with soccer and AFL being the only 2 sports played in Australia in 10 years !</p>
<p>My daughter plays and trains for U12 lacrosse at this ground. This area has always been home to the Camberwell lacrosse club and many of the facilities have been fundraised for by the club. I believe lacrosse has been played there since the 80's. My other daughter plays soccer. There are a huge number of sporting facilities for soccer - it seems irresponsible to reduce the facilities and accessibility of lacrosse. Surely diversity in sport would further enhance the appeal of Boroondara. Please ensure that any plans to develop this area also includes dedicated facilities and grounds for lacrosse.</p>
<p>Your proposal does not address the impact on the current sporting clubs that utilise Dorothy Laver West for competition sport - specifically Camberwell Lacrosse Club. I would also highlight that this proposal would appear to have a deliberately short consultation period that is disrespectful of the those who have volunteered over many years to maintain the upkeep of the lacrosse facilities.</p>
<p>This project does not take into account the current users of the facilities. As both my son and daughter play team sport on this field, I would be very disappointed if this project did not take into account the current users.</p>
<p>As a parent of a 13 year daughter who plays lacrosse at Dorothy Laver Reserve I am concerned that the needs of the existing lacrosse club have not been taken into account particularly as the history of the Camberwell lacrosse club stretches back to the 1980's at the current site i understand soccer is a popular sport but surely there would be alternate soccer sites that could be considered as opposed to turfing out a well established club like Camberwell Lacrosse that provides a traditional welcoming and fun outlet for my daughter and her team mates.</p>
<p>What is the plan to incorporate the existing lacrosse club into the proposed development? The proposal does not in any way mention the lacrosse club or acknowledge that the ground was initially set up for Lacrosse and the club have payed for all the existing facilities. I'm sure there are many soccer pitches with the surrounding area that can be expanded or redeveloped.</p>
<p>This proposed development is exciting but not if you play Lacrosse! Camberwell Lacrosse and the significant sporting support it provides to the children and adults that play for the Club are being completely railroaded with this proposal. They have developed the clubhouse, lighting and amenities in the area and the council are not proposing that they just take over and disregard the money, time and personal investment that has been provided. It is disgraceful and unjust. Opposed to this proposed 'new and exciting project'.</p>
<p>Neglects to ensure continuity for local lacrosse club. Particularly disappointing given the club has invested its own funds (with no support from the council) into this reserve only to have it repurposed and the lacrosse club ousted. A secondary plan must be developed to ensure the lacrosse club is given an appropriate area or remunerated for their investments into the land.</p>
<p>This is the home ground in winter of Camberwell Lacrosse Club who have had for many years an active and large junior program for boys AND girls. The junior teams play on both Saturday and Sunday and train there too. Lacrosse has had a long and distinguished history in Camberwell and this proposal would leave this club without a home. And what about cricket? Glen Iris Cricket Club has a massive junior program that uses Dorothy Laver.</p>
<p>I am a parent of a recent junior lacrosse player who has this year graduated to senior ranks. Dorothy Laver has been a wonderful home ground for Camberwell Lacrosse Club, the new nets and wall have been an added bonus.</p>
<p>Please do not make this ground to be single use for soccer only. The lacrosse club is fantastic and needs a home. Teenage girls are extremely active and competitive here and we need to encourage more of this.</p>

<p>This field is critical to the Camberwell Lacrosse Club which uses it actively throughout winter for evening training and weekend matches. This is a fantastic local sports club run by volunteers. The club showcases the sport of lacrosse, running clinics for local primary schools, introductory coaching sessions for young players and excellent carnivals and tournaments. As a parent of two teenage boys playing at the club I have been delighted that this club engaged them in organised sport as they were not interested in other sports. The club encourages a wide range of junior and senior players who may otherwise not play any sports. They also provide excellent coaching and have many elite players playing in state and national representative teams. It would be unreasonable to exclude the lacrosse club that currently uses Dorothy Laver West from using the ground. There are already limited grounds available for this sport across Melbourne and it should be supported as well as other higher profile sports like soccer. Safety is a key consideration for lacrosse training due to the nature of the sport, so good lighting and enough space for players to spread out are critical to avoid potential injury from flying balls.</p>
<p>I strongly object to this plan. This ground has been the home to hundreds of lacrosse and cricket players since the early 90s. The lacrosse club has been in existence for over 90 years and would suffer by losing members to other local teams if it was moved.</p>
<p>It seems there has been little consideration for the Camberwell Lacrosse Club (as well as the cricket club) - I myself have played at this ground for 17 years, where will you be moving us to? We use the grounds three days a week for multiple teams training's and twice a week for multiple teams games being played through out the day. We also use Eric Raven reserve but this is no where near big enough to house both women, men's & junior training's and logistically simply can't work on game day with multiple teams needing to play at the same time. As a dog walker this will also impact on where I am able to walk my dog, not to mention the eye-sore this will create along the gardeners creek trail.</p>
<p>My son currently plays for Camberwell Lacrosse club. The Dorothy Laver West ground is their home ground. This plan has made no mention of the club and has not considered the implication to the many, many families who use this ground on a twice weekly basis.</p>
<p>What about the lacrosse club??? My son plays and absolutely loves the game and the wonderful club atmosphere?? Having read your proposal it appears there is absolutely no concern for a club that has been operating from the reserve for a number of decades??? Why hasn't that been taken into account?? The club has actively managed the upkeep and expansion of the club and now are just being tossed aside?? Expect more from a council supposedly representing its community.</p>
<p>There are no facilities supporting the existing prose club being proposed in this submission for the redevelopment of the Dorothy Laver West reserve. How will this project support the growing numbers of junior participants in lacrosse? How will these facilities be accessed/shared by the current clubs I.e. Camberwell Lacrosse Club? The current facilities provided to Camberwell Lavrosse Club are inadequately uprooting their junior development and service playing programs.</p>
<p>I'm disappointed to hear this news with no acknowledgement to the current sports being played on this field. Lacrosse has a strong history at the grounds and the Camberwell Lacrosse Team have such a good reputation, being so caring, supportive and really bringing together many families across the South East to the lacrosse community. They're known as one of the nicest clubs to join. With the strong background and history lacrosse has, the 'chiefs' here at Dorothy Laver have created a similar foundation on family, respect and passion for the game and community. It's a shame you've spoken about this 'exciting' new project without any mention to Lacrosse. Lacrosse can actually be played on synthetic. More research is needed here. NZ have worked well to incorporate Soccer and Lacrosse as both are similar size fields. It sounds like you're really going a step back in your approach to utilising fields without any education on growth of sports and state of the art facilities Eg. College Rifles Lacrosse Club, Remuera, Auckland.</p>
<p>Why is this project being proposed when there is already a strong sporting club that is still a tenet? Without consultation. Camberwell Lacrosse Club has a high rate of both girls and boys junior players. If this plan would go ahead these junior would no longer be able to participate in sport. What is that achieving for the local community I ask.</p>
<p>I can't help but notice that the lacrosse club has been excluded from the potential user groups. Just wondering why that is the case. A long standing tenant of the field wouldn't it make more sense to include them as a lacrosse field and a soccer field are the same size. This would increase not only passive user but active ones too. Rather than isolating the users to soccer alone.</p>
<p>With our family having been involved in local football or soccer in the area for over 20 years I strongly support this development for the many kids and players and their families. Council will need though to ensure that the Lacrosse Club is properly catered for as well cricketers in any change of this magnitude.</p>
<p>Certainly an admirable project however you have not addressed all of the sporting clubs who are currently using the reserve and what happens to them. Both of my sons play lacrosse with Camberwell Lacrosse Club. The club has invested substantial money over the years in improving the grounds and clubrooms. They have also been active in promoting their sport through local primary schools to expose children to the sport and encourage them to participate ongoing - thereby providing a community wellbeing service to both boys and girls. Both of my boys found lacrosse in this manner and are the better for it. Will you relocate the lacrosse club to another ground with the same ground area and facilities that they currently have? What compensation and assistance will you provide towards this? An oversight that needs to be rectified.</p>
<p>My daughter trains at the facility, along with many grounds within Boroondara. it is well known in football circles that we all struggle to find any free space. Typically the grounds are over-used, based on demand which is a good problem to have. The installation of a synthetic surface allows greater use of the scarce resources that we have to share. Congratulations to the council for this initiative, I fully support the project, well done.</p>

<p>As a Boroondara resident within the Solway Ward, I wanted to express my concerns about the proposed redevelopment of Dorothy Laver Reserve West - https://www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/about-council/have-your-say/all-consultations/dorothy-laver-reserve-west-community-consultation The Camberwell Lacrosse Club (http://www.clclax.org.au/) has utilised these grounds since the 80's and the Council consultation process does not even appear to recognise that prior use, nor how the proposed redevelopment (for soccer) would make it wholly unsuitable and effectively displace the Camberwell Lacrosse Club and the competition games held each week over the Victorian Lacrosse Season. Some further background Dorothy Laver West was initially developed for Camberwell Lacrosse Club in the 1980's, previously being unused land. The club arranged to develop the club rooms and fund raised to pay for the lights. Since then, it has been home to our club. My 11 year old daughter, Ella regularly plays in both Under 13 and Under 15 teams (as Goalie) and she is devastated that her club is under threat. It also seems unreasonable that the community consultation is being so brief (with the Camberwell Lacrosse Club only being notified last Friday (June 22), yet the consultation closes July 6th. It is also breathtaking that there is no detail for how the Lacrosse Club would be accommodated, compensated or relocated as the proposed use of artificial turf is wholly unsuitable for lacrosse. It's as if the Council is somehow unaware of the existing use of the area (beyond cricket), which simply makes no sense or perhaps it's because they have chosen to ignore this glaring issue so that they can cater to the football (soccer) lobby. Please respond with your perspective on this matter and what steps you will take to ensure that the needs of all users of these facilities are appropriately considered. Regards Ian Jamieson Sub 2: I am opposed to the project which does not appear to even consider the existing and long established use by Camerwell Lacrosse This appears to be a land grab, especially when there are already several other soccer focussed venues in Boroondara. The use of artificial turf will make this venue completely unsuitable for lacrosse and the very fact that the needs of the Lacrosse club are not even mentioned in the summary of the proposal is astounding.</p>
<p>I am concerned about this proposal. We are currently members of the Camberwell lacrosse club and my daughter uses these facilities for games and training on a regular basis. Lacrosse does not appear to have been considered in the future use of this public space.</p>
<p>I play for camber well lacrosse team, by this project continuing my lacrosse club will be either forced to close or use grounds not designed for our sport. If i may say why do we need a new soccer field? there are plenty all around Melbourne but lacrosse clubs barley have any grounds we can play on. I find this project unneeded and a waste of the time of the boroondara council. Please reconsider this decision as i and many others love our lacrosse club and would hate to see it move from its original location which has been there since 1980 or even be shut down due to lack of locations.</p>
<p>What does this mean for the Camberwell Lacrosse Club who currently use this reserve?</p>
<p>The consideration of the ancient and beloved Camberwell Lacrosse Club has obviously not been pushed in sufficient amount. I do not understand how anyone could completely disregard a whole club- of which has a tight and loving community, not bothering to give them a voice or a chance. this decision is selfish and demonstrates the disgusting attitude the council has toward smaller amutuer sports clubs.</p>
<p>I have been a member of Camberwell Lacrosse since 1980 when we moved to the area, my whole family had played for the club and myself and my brother still do currently. This is the home of our club and we have fundraised to build these rooms, put in lights you name it and we are very passionate about this remaining the home of our club. How does it just get taken from the club after all the years of tenancy when we have put our sweat and tears into this place. I find it unbelievable that a clubs sporting home can just be taken from them like that. I really do hope that this is taken into consideration and the location can be place somewhere else!!.</p>
<p>My son and daughter play lacrosse at Dorothy Laver Reserve West, Saturday's and Sunday's and train on a weekday. Dorothy Laver Reserve West is probably the safest lacrosse reserve in the whole of Melbourne as there are no houses, roads or kids playgrounds that are in danger of fast flying lacrosse balls. Lacrosse is being represented at the World Games in 2021, for men and women and Australia has been invited. With lacrosse being represented at the World Games and with 60 countries playing it, it meets the requirements to become (again) an Olympic sport, as soon as Los Angeles 2028. All other lacrosse grounds on the east and south east of Melbourne are cricket grounds, therefore have a limited season of availability, not to mention they are ovals and not large enough for a proper, rectangular lacrosse field. These plans of yours are very short sighted and are not considering the thousands of lacrosse players that play at Dorothy Laver Reserve West throughout the year.</p>
<p>This plan doesn't consider the lacrosse club that has called the venue home since 1980. This land was initially developed for the camberwell lacrosse from previously unused land. Pushing one sporting club out for another is unacceptable.</p>
<p>This is stupid.</p>
<p>My understanding is that this area was developed for lacrosse over 30 years ago. There appears to be no suitable area for lacrosse with the current plans. I would strenuously request that at least half this area be retained for lacrosse use, with actual grass not synthetic turf. I also walk here regularly and value the greenery and environmental benefits provided by the grass, which are missing with artificial turf.</p>
<p>The proposal should not go ahead as it ignores existing usage of the ground. The stated needs re accommodating the full age spectrum of juniors through to seniors, and increasing opportunities for women and girls are already being met by the existing Lacrosse Club. Improving the efficiency of the existing lighting does not rely on converting the ground's usage to soccer. Camberwell Lacrosse Club was involved in development of the site as a sports ground, and raised funds for installation of the existing lights. Dorothy Laver is recognized as one of the best playing surfaces for lacrosse in Melbourne and has been used as a training venue by the Australian team (currently ranked 4th in the world). Destruction of the playing surface would be a loss to the sport nationally. According to https://www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/recreation-arts/sportsgrounds-and-sports-facilities, there are already nine venues in the municipality for playing of soccer.</p>
<p>Camberwell Lacrosse Club - how will this impact their club & teams?</p>

<p>I think this is a great and sensation idea!! Soccer is a sport that is growing and our council is the only council in Melbourne that doesn't have a dedicated soccer pitch 365 days a year. You have a successful women's NPL club in the area and a junior club, Ashburton United, that has over 800 kids participating, that can only currently access a soccer ground for 6 months of the year. To see the facility and that area with kids all year round playing soccer will be a great image for the community and council!</p>
<p>Hi, I am working in soccer for Ashburton United as their Small Side football coordinator. (I am in charge of 400 kids from 3 to 11 years old). I think it is a fantastic project for the city of Boroondara and all the soccer players in the area. My suggestion will be to add a second full-size soccer pitch (from my calculation it will be a bit smaller, 8m long and 3-4 meter wide smaller than the "big one". Indeed, adding this full-size pitch instead of SSF pitches will allow a club to maximise the utilisation of the ground for training and games. I explain. Training: with two pitches, a club could define 16 spots for training, which means 16 teams training at the same time, it allows a lot of flexibility as spaces can be increased or decreased depending on the team age and needs. If my count is right, we can organise 22 sessions for U7-U8-U9 at the same time. Therefore, a second pitch will be a great asset to maximise the utilisation of grounds. Games: With a second pitch, we can play 2 11v11 a-side games at the same time. SSF plays in the morning (Sat or sun) only from 9 to 12. Which means in the afternoon, it is likely that the south of the reserve will not be used. Having two full-size pitches will allow clubs to organise all SSF games on one pitch and let the juniors (12-17) play on the big-one during mornings and both of them during the afternoon. If my counts are right again. A club could organise 14 small side games. For example, 4xU7 games + 2 U8-9 games at 9 am, 2xU8-9 + 1xU10-11-12 at 10am, 2xU10-11-12 at 11 am and 12 am. or something different. It allows for lots of flexibility. Clubs in Boroondara know how to maximise the space they will be allocated. With the LED lighting, it is also very likely that games could be played at night time. As for the cricket pitch, it can still be implemented in the same area. I suggest that the east of Dorothy Laver stays for cricket purpose and that the west becomes fully soccer purpose. - As for safety, I would like to suggest a safety net between both pitches. - Don't put non-removable goals to allow again flexibility for the clubs - More bins and water fillers around the pitch. - A watering system as artificial turf needs watering last longer, maybe with a bigger rainwater tanker - It will be great to use "vegetal gums" instead of "tyres" that are proven to cause cancer for the players. - Led lightning poles could also include solar panels to provide the pavilion, or the other small pitches with electricity. (or electricity could be created with the creek, the creek is strong at this spot, or a Turkish guy just invented turbines that catch the wind created by the cars on the motorway!) - Also, the fibres could ideally be "recycled" as many artificial turfs today when you change them cannot be recycled, if this facility can be environmentally friendly, it will be great for the image of our community. Last point, the most important in my opinion, because the plan is already a great one. It is a very positive idea for the soccer community. Ashburton has 800 members. We use 5-6 grounds at the moment. Our logistic is massive. Dorothy Laver could reduce the logistical cost and allow our club to reduce fees for locals. Also, it will create a community spirit that we struggle to create because we are spread around the city of Boroondara and Monash. The atmosphere will be amazing, it will strengthen our club as a soccer community but moreover as a family. It will help us improve our face to face communication, our relationships. Thanks you for reading.</p>
<p>This proposed project would wreck the natural landscape of the area, providing my family and all those who live in the area with an eyesore that would ruin the natural beauty of our beloved park and creek. Synthetic turf is a horrendous idea - why unnecessarily tear up one of the best ovals in the area to make it into something as exclusive as a soccer pitch? It would not be able to be used by any other sports due to permanent markings and not to mention it would not be suitable to walk my dogs on or for kids to play on. Natural grass is disappearing and we do not want a fenced off synthetic turf facility in our neighbourhood - this serves NOBODY except the already very well funded and supported soccer clubs who have taken over enough ovals and general space. Council, please support the families and smaller clubs for a change and do not go ahead with this plan.</p>
<p>The change to a synthetic ground catering for all year round football would have a HUGE impact on the community, allowing for a large number of juniors whilst having the ability to tick the boxes for a WNPL ground would give no excuse to not be out and using it everyday of the week. Just the thought of it all gets me excited.</p>
<p>As part of Ashburton SC, it's a massive opportunity for us to have one home ground for all the teams across the competitions. we will greatly appreciate the fact that council would want to make this happen for the local users as well! definitely looking forward to this being approved!!</p>
<p>It definitely should not be changed! The place is so natural and calming and putting in the fake grass will ruin it and make it all fake and horrible. Soccer should be played on real grass normally fake grass ruins the boots and gives people synthetic burn which is horrible while with real grass you get a smudge of green on your knee and that's it. A cricket pitch in the middle is also a terrible idea because people will get synthetic burn diving for the ball. KEEP IT NATURAL and real. DO NOT CHANGE IT!</p>
<p>The area needs proper soccer facilities, this would be huge for the community.</p>
<p>Needs to be dedicated space to accommodate lacrosse.</p>
<p>This is a great idea for all the local sports teams. It gives clubs a chance to finally have a ground during winter.</p>
<p>How many more synthetic sporting fields are needed in Melbourne which limits the use of the grounds for general use. Why would you kick out a sporting club who has been using these ground for thirty years. Lacrosse is a legitimate sport like soccer which has been in existence for more than a hundred years. Unlike soccer lacrosse gets very little funding and obviously very support from greedy councils like that of Bundoora. The commercialisation of these grounds would change the whole natural esthetics of the area. I feel the money the spent to change these grounds to synthetic could be spent elsewhere on much more pressing issues. The soccer already have grounds allocated to them why can't they utilise what they have like other sport do instead of being greedy and taking over other sports allocated grounds. It's not fair that people who play and support lacrosse have to suffer when they already get the dregs of council grounds as it is?</p>
<p>Dorothy Laver Reserve West should not be transformed into a synthetic grass reserve as it will make this beautiful place look fake and does not do any good. The council says this is a good idea coz it's good for soccer but soccer should be played on real grass not fake.... (LIKE IN MUSTANGS FC they play in real grass). Also they say it is safer.. But how? All it does is give people SYNTHETIC BURN, even real grass can't do that. Many people that play soccer say that when they play in fake grass they get burns and their boots get ruined. How is this good for developing soccer? Real grass is very safe and is one with nature. Also the council wants to put a cricket pitch in the middle of a synthetic field because people can play cricket there.</p>

<p>Well you can't play cricket on a synthetic field. You can play on a synthetic pitch but if you play on a synthetic field you get burns from diving for the ball. How does providing a ground that gives them burns help young cricket players develop their skills ? Also when they check which way the wind is going for bowling purposes, people will pick off the fake grass and it'll go flying into a birds mouth and as it is plastic will kill the bird. Also animals may think it's grass and eat the fake grass and get sick and die due to the intake of plastic. This includes dogs as this area is popular with dog walkers... Won't be so popular after the grass is removed and replaced with plastic. So this idea is bad for the environment and the local community too. Also schools use it for cross country training and with the fake grass is is easier to get injured so won't be used anymore. It may be argued that real grass will get muddy when it rains so fake grass is better and safer.. Well soccer is a winter sport so is meant to be played in the rain. Also how is playing on fake grass setting kids up for professional sport? Professionals play on real grass. Many parents join kids into sport so that they can play outside with nature. Forcing them to play on fake grass crushes this incentive by parents. For these compelling reasons Dorothy Laver Reserve West should stay the same as a Lacrosse field with real grass while another ground with real grass can be used to play soccer, as while councils try to encourage small sport clubs , they are discouraging Camberwell Lacrosse by taking away a ground that is rightfully theirs. Thank you, and I appreciate your time reading this. I hope you will consider all the young eager lacrosse players whose careers will be impacted by your decision. There are plenty other grounds where real grass soccer pitches can be made but this place... This special place sits in the heart of many budding Lacrosse players as the ground that allowed them to thrive.</p>
<p>I personally do not think that changing the area and making it synthetic is a good idea at all. It is actually a terrible idea. Playing soccer on synthetic grass can ruin boots and if u look at professional soccer they play on real grass (example: World Cup). I have been discussing this with my friends, who also use this park frequently, and they also believe this idea isn't a suitable one. There is no issue with the park as it is so why change it? The park at the moment is great and I spend a lot of time there - I will probably stop using this area, as will my friends, if it is changed to be synthetic. Please do not change it. Thank you in advance.</p>
<p>Sub 1: The Dorothy Laver Reserve West project would provide a platform for players of both Ashburton United SC and Alamein FC to train, play and develop as footballers during the winter in a environment that would be home for both clubs. This project would also reduce the distance between junior and senior teams, therefore leading to improve future development from junior to senior football as well as relationships and culture around the clubs. A clear benefit of this development is the separation of the cricket pitch from the football pitches which has been a constant hazard in several football pitches in the Boorandara area for quite some time. I believe this project however needs a key focus on the clubs that will make use of the complex by which they have clear priority at time of use and lease and can create a home environment for the players, coaches, volunteers and everyone else involved in the clubs at Dorothy Laver Reserve. Sub 2: As a player at Ashburton United Soccer Club, I strongly support the development proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>This field has been home to the Camberwell lacrosse club since 1980. Their club provides junior teams both men and women and a strong senior playing group. They are a valuable part of the community and lacrosse Victoria.</p>
<p>All plans look great but has there been any thought toward camberwell lacrosse club? Very unfair that there is no mention to CLC and that no plans have been made for the upgrade of their facilities? Poor form.</p>
<p>I play lacrosse on this oval and am outraged at the idea that lacrosse would be kicked off an oval it was developed for.</p>
<p>I support fitness and extending soccer facilities, but concerned about: Will general public, including dogs, still have access to walk through this area without major impediments for fencing, gating etc. Dogs should still be allowed on this surface! What are the fencing plans Impact on ducks and wildlife that frequents the area What are the differences in maintenance costs, and budgeted replacement of artificial turf on ongoing basis.</p>
<p>I wonder if the local community realize the amount of work the current tenants (Camberwell Lacrosse Club) had to put in to raise the funds to have the infrastructure for the light towers installed? I also wonder if the local community and the local councilors are aware of the lacrosse club being an amalgamated club within lacrosse Victoria and that this project not only jeopardizes the participation of junior boys and girls participation in sport? I would also be interested to know whether the sneaky tactics used by council (by only informing the current tenants of this proposal) is common knowledge to the community and councilors?</p>
<p>A Disgrace it is a lacrosse ground that we all love</p>
<p>I believe it is a great idea. I think the local sporting clubs need access to an all weather any time of year solution to public grounds. It provides a sporting hub for the local community and different sporting codes to embrace.</p>
<p>This would be great for us who play soccer. This is a great idea and I support the project 100%.</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>It would be a great asset to the local community and the local sports clubs.</p>
<p>Fantastic idea! This will be of huge benefit to the local community and encourage more adults and kids, especially females, to take up soccer, with all its health and well-being benefits. Many thanks!</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>This proposal does not consider the needs of the Australian lacrosse community generally or the Camberwell lacrosse club</p>

specifically.
As a parent of a two children who play at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. Many of the grounds we use become waterlogged under even medium rainfalls and are unable to be used. Only 2 weekends ago, all games on Warner Reserve were cancelled due to the rain so the U10 girls team could not play. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.
As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.
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As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.
As a parent of a child who plays at Camberwell Lacrosse Club, we strongly do NOT support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. As the current proposal does not address any options or plans to allow Camberwell Lacrosse Club to continue at the reserve which it has so supported for the past 30 plus years.
The needs of Camberwell lacrosse club need to be considered and accommodated to ensure that the sport remains prevalent in the area.
I can not except that you have not mentioned lacrosse. I oppose this unless you make lacrosse A game that's the oldest sport in history played there . It's the lack of respect by the Australian government has in the game that's stopes Aussies playing and making us number 1 in the world.
As long as the Camberwell Lacrosse club is still in this conversation and remains an existing member of this facility.
As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.
Dear Council, I am a volunteer coach at Ashburton United Soccer Club and also have two boys playing at the club. In a few years my daughter will also play at AUSC. I strongly support Council's proposal for the synthetic playing surface. We have visited your synthetic pitch at Gardiner Park which is an outstanding facility and Council is to be commended for being progressive in relation to the quality of its sporting facilities. Ultimately, the more of these facilities that are provided will increase youth participation rates in sporting clubs which is a highly important objective. It is evident that the current surfaces are in need of an upgrade. I ask that you engage with our club committee to finalise the proposal.
As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.
This is a great idea. The area is in desperate need of purpose built footballing facilities.
This ground has been for lacrosse for many years. You must make sure they have a minimum of two grounds to play on. Otherwise you are just killing a club in a sport where clubs, players and club rooms are already hard to come by
Zero mention of the current occupants there, camberwell lacrosse club? What is the plan for them then?? As I understand it camberwell lacrosse developed that site, and self funded the rooms there! Very poor and biased presentation of the facts. I strongly disagree with your proposal.
This is not on. We have enjoyed playing lacrosse here for years and so do our children. Soccer has enough fields already and lacrosse is fighting for survival. If this goes ahead it will have a horrendous affect on the camberwell lacrosse club. Please do not destroy the club and our sport for MORE soccer fields, soccer is already well and truly taken care od.
As a player at Ashburton United Soccer Club, I strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.
Disappointed to see a lack of thought regarding Camberwell Lacrosse Club and how a dedicated soccer facility would affect the club.
As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.
I am all for supporting female soccer in the area! Go for it!
I think this is a wonderful proposal that supports sport in the community for all ages and increases the options for evening useage, support of women's sport and soccer teams in particular.
Great initiative to support local junior sport.
If you are a PLAYER please copy: As a player at Ashburton United Soccer Club, I strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.
As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.
As a parents of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal. This is a terrific initiative proposed by the City of Booroondara. I congratulate you.
As a player at Ashburton United Soccer Club, I strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.

<p>My children play lacrosse - a sport which is growing. A sport open to all - both boys/ girls/ seniors. A sport which they love. The only sport they were interested in playing. There are limited lacrosse fields in Victoria - which both boys and girls to play on. This ground has been the venue for Lacrosse Victoria's U11 Lightning Carnival for a long time - where all U11 teams/ come together to finish their U11 season. One of the few grounds in the Eastern Suburbs such an event can be hosted. Soccer seems to be taking over. Only recently Gardiners Creek Park (just down the bike path) was made into a soccer ground/ with synthetic surface. Please council stand up for the sport of lacrosse. We may be a lesser known sport, but we have a national team, growing world wide and are currently a possibility as a future Olympic sport.</p>
<p>I think this is a fantastic idea! Soccer is an increasingly growing as a sport in Melbourne (especially the participation of junior players), so to have a dedicated facility for local clubs to call home, and for residents to use, would be absolutely amazing! Really excited by the idea, and think it would be absolutely amazing. Hope it comes to fruition!</p>
<p>As a player at Ashburton United Soccer Club, I strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>As a player at Ashburton United Soccer Club, I strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>As a current player at Ashburton United Soccer Club, I strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal. Think this would be fantastic and really hope it comes to fruition!</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>As a player at Ashburton United Soccer Club, I strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>This severely impacts the lacrosse club, which is the only lacrosse club in the council, this goes against diversity of sports available to the community, which will impact the opportunities for junior players at our club. Why does soccer dominate? Why can't a fairer sharing between sports and greater consideration to multi use be incorporated?</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, I strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>It seems like it will improve the local sporting clubs especially as it is so inclusive as to positively affect all ages. The cross sport inclusion is great and the cricket pitch off the soccer grounds is a great feature. I am excited to see this and use as a feature of my local surroundings and club.</p>
<p>I support this project.</p>
<p>I think this isn't a great idea as you are killing a sport that is already not well known. Leaving Camberwell Lacrosse Club without a ground to train on or play on will result in the club going down hill and possibly no longer being apart of the sport. This leaves plenty of us sad as we are trying to grow our sport.</p>
<p>As a player at Ashburton United Soccer Club, I strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>This doesn't address how the Camberwell lacrosse club will survive and if grounds will be available for them to use. As a lacrosse player for many years (not from Camberwell) it seems unreasonable that their local council does not support a growing sport. Particularly a club who had the grounds set aside for them many years ago and raised their own funds to contribute to the facilities that are there today. You are not proposing a long term solution and quite possibly contributing to the demise of a great sporting club.</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>Those grounds are currently needed for lacrosse. There are plenty of good quality soccer facilities all over Melbourne. Lacrosse - the fastest growing sport in the world - has very few facilities in Melbourne. This makes no sense.</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>Where have you proposed to put Camberwell Lacrosse Club and Glen Iris Cricket Club who are the current Dorothy Laver Reserve tenants? The Lacrosse Club have recruited hard to put more sporting participants on the field. Very disappointed to see that this proposal has been put together without consultation and consideration of the Camberwell Lacrosse Club and all other lacrosse clubs who play on the fields.</p>
<p>These fields have long term tenants in winter, being the Camberwell Lacrosse Club. The Camberwell Lacrosse club has invested significant money in the facilities through funding for both the lights and changerooms. To move the Lacrosse Club out of this facility and remove usage of the ground by marking it for soccer would be a terrible thing to do to these long standing tenants who invest heavily in the local community. Consultation with Camberwell Lacrosse Club committee on this project is paramount and meeting their needs as the current tenants should be the priority over expanding and developing the facilities for a soccer club who have usage of other fields.</p>
<p>I am the Secretary of The East Malvern Tennis Club which sits directly adjacent to your facility (on the City of Stonnington side) You can see our 10 red courts on the plan above. Our major concern is CAR PARKING. The plan appears to be missing the provision of additional car spaces for the increased usage of this facility, especially if you are having a national/state team playing there. Our Tennis Club car park is small and on many occasions we have sporting users from both DLRW and DW Lucas Reserve parking in it. We also have a driveway between Courts 6 and 7 (you can see the grassed area between the front 6 and back 4 courts in your plan). This required 24 hour access as it is used by our onsite caretakers to access their home, and more importantly an entry point for emergency services. We/they often find this driveway blocked at night time.</p>

<p>If this project goes ahead we would require access to this entry during construction. Also, as part of the Project we would hope this area would be clearly marked as a driveway so none of the increased traffic park across it.</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>This is a fantastic outcome for Football and the hundreds of players in and around the City of Boroondara. It will help to satisfy the growing needs of football in the region with a particular focus on women and girls. 20% of footballers in Boroondara are female and this number will continue to grow as we move towards an FFA and FFV focus of 50/50 participation by 2028. The development of football facilities in the City is extremely important as Boroondara and its football clubs of Ashburton United; Boroondara Eagles; East Kew; Old Camberwell Grammarians; Old Scotch, Old Xaverians; Riversdale, St Kevins Old Boys and Swinburne University have had some of the largest growth in participation since 2009 and these new facilities will help to satisfy this growing demand. Congratulations to the Council.</p>
<p>Don't build it</p>
<p>As a player at Ashburton United Soccer Club, I strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>I've been playing for the Camberwell Lacrosse club for the past 5 years now. This ground has become my second home! The installation of synthetic grass and incompatible line markings for lacrosse would mean the we would need to relocate our club. Camberwell has also recently invested a fair sum of money into the Clubrooms, so both children who play here and the club president would be at a loss.</p>
<p>This is a fantastic outcome for Football and the hundreds of players in and around the City of Boroondara. It will help to satisfy the growing needs of football in the region with a particular focus on women and girls. 20% of footballers in Boroondara are female and this number will continue to grow as we move towards a Football Federation Australia and Football Federation Victoria focus of 50/50 participation by 2028. The development of football facilities in the City is extremely important as Boroondara and its football clubs of Ashburton United; Boroondara Eagles; East Kew; Old Camberwell Grammarians; Old Scotch; Old Xaverians; Riversdale; St Kevin's Old Boys and Swinburne University have had some of the largest growth in participation since 2009 and these new facilities will help to satisfy this growing demand.</p>
<p>As a team manager at Ashburton United Soccer Club, I strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>Please leave it as a Lacrosse facility. Camberwell have built a strong base, raised money etc. to take the facility away to accomodate another sport is unfair.</p>
<p>I have an 11 year old daughter that plays soccer for Alamein, and providing a dedicated facility within the City of Boroondara is a significant support for female participation in soccer/football and sport in general at a high grade of competition. It would be fantastic for all the girls/women in the club to feel they are a valued member of the local community through the provision of such a facility. Female participation in high level sport is generally not a well supported, and it is extremely encouraging to see the City of Boroondara becoming a leaser in supporting female sport. The proposed facility will allow participation in football all year round, which is an important factor in developing skills and engagement in the sport. A reliable synthetic playing surface as the proposed will also allow and encourage ongoing participation by all participants all year round which will maximise use of the facility. I congratulate the City of Boroondara for its vision to establish a great facility.</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>As my daughter is a junior soccer player I fully support the development of this much needed facility in the area, particularly as she plays/trains soccer for 10 out of 12 months of the year. The advantage of having synthetic pitches will enable uninterrupted regular training and games, something that is at times weather dependent when using non-synthetic pitches. We have been to this location many times and would suggest that with more intense soccer that the car park would need to be extended past the existing pavilion with disabled car parks near the pavilion.</p>

<p>Sub 1: I totally object to this project. There has been no notification about this project to the community groups that are currently using the existing fields. I am involved with the Camberwell Lacrosse club and this project would mean that we lose the use of these fields for training during the week, and also have repercussions on the game fixtures. The games played at this ground and the neighbouring ground Eric Raven Reserve and played concurrently, so this would force the games to be played at separate venues for the same club. Some of the clubs that are coming from a distance (Eltham, Altona etc.) would then have some of their teams playing at Eric Raven, and the others at other grounds on the same day at the same time. This will be detrimental to the all of the clubs involved and to Lacrosse Victoria. In addition to this, Dorothy Laver is currently being used for the training squad of the elite Lacrosse players in Victoria (State and National sides), so it is another opportunity that this project will affect. Have all the sporting clubs involved been notified of this proposal yet? Has the City of Stonnington been advised that their tennis club will be affected, particularly for parking? I strongly object to this project, and I would encourage the council to reconsider the location of this Soccer ground. Effectively, it will turn a well utilised multi-purpose public space into a single purpose venue. Sub 2: I have offered feedback on this project some weeks ago, and have attended the drop in session that was offered. I was unable to ask a question on the night, but part of my question was answered. The question related to "Plan B", which the attendees and now the FAQ sheet clearly states that there is none. I would like to make the suggestion for an alternative location. The driving need for this ground is to give more people more access to play sport. So to have a ground that offered minimal disruption to existing sport, and no disruption to Soccer was a key selection criteria. We were told there were several other criteria that grounds needed to meet to be able for consideration for this process, but the key ingredient was more access to sporting facilities. I would like to propose that the council owned Freeway Golf course be considered as an alternative location. It meets all the criteria that has been put forward so far (location, access, parking, minimal interruption to existing sport, size, orientation). It would require some of the fairways of the current course to be realigned and shortened, but essentially the participants at the course could still play golf and not lose a complete ground. The location would also answer the current noise concerns of residents close by (as it would be an issue at DLRW) and also the environmental aspects as the run off area is far larger before it hits a water source, unlike DLRW. It would have little or no impact on the flood water level of the area. I believe this would be a better location for the grounds, and would have far less objection than the current proposal.</p>
<p>As a player at Ashburton United Soccer Club, I strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>These facilities are currently and are continuously being used during the winter by the Camberwell Lacrosse Club and they have made that their home since 1980. Over the last number of years they have PERSONALLY raised funds to make adjustments to THEIR HOME, as they spent thousands of dollars of their own club money for supreme lights and a new Club House for their members. I find this completely disrespectful that the council wants to move the Camberwell lacrosse club out of their home considering all the money they put into redefining and shaping the facility into something that means so much to them personally. I Demand that the Council of Boroondara Leaves the Camberwell Lacrosse Club in their home and that this project finds a different Location for this to take place. Dont take away Dorothy Lavar! Its been apart of Camberwell's history for almost the last 40 years and i cant believe that you want to just disregard it like it never happened for a club who havent written their history yet. Take this project and find another location.</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>Sounds really good</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, I strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. I ask that you AUSC to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>I support the improvement and development of municipal reserves and parks, to enable more members of the community to be able to exercise and participate. My family is actively involved in the Camberwell Lacrosse Club which operates from this site. I am very alarmed that there appears to be no provision in the council plans for the Camberwell Lacrosse Club members and a very short 'consultation' period, which does not appear to be genuine or in good faith. As a Boroondara rate payer, I request that the plans be reconfigured to include the Camberwell Lacrosse Club and that communication between Council and the Club improve immediately. Kind regards.</p>
<p>Concern at loss of natural vegetation being replaced by synthetic surfaces, having seen the alterations in Ashwood for a similar soccer project. Would like to understand the consideration for the other sports, especially Lacrosse that is currently played at that location. The Dorothy Laver Reserve area is quite unique with its mix of playing fields/walking/bike tracks and recreational facilities. The planned proposal may impact upon this current mixed-use capability and visual keeping with the surrounds.</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>I think this is a good addition to expanding the range of sporting facilities available in the area.</p>
<p>It has been the home to a sporting club for nearly 30 years they should not be made to relocate for another soccer pitch. This is a discusting proposal.</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal. Michelle Mehta.</p>
<p>As a player of ashburton united soccer club of over 5 years now i think that a permanent synthetic soccer facility would really benefit the club and help the club grow and have even greater involvement with the community than it already does.</p>
<p>As a female soccer player at Alamein FC, we use this regularly and to be able to use this year round would be of great benefit! I also work at Spiire, a land development consultant, who could assist in the civil design of the sports ground upgrade.</p>
<p>What is being done to ensure Lacrosse is still playable on a grass field at the reserve? Camberwell Lacrosse often hosts the Under 11 lacrosse Carnival which requires many grass fields and the junior and senior clubs have called it home since the 80s</p>
<p>Excellent for women's soccer and other sports</p>

As a local business over this is great investment in women's sport
Myself and my two children currently play lacrosse at this facility. This proposal serves no function to me or our sport, It seems to be pushing Camberwell lacrosse club out which I find terrible. Please consider the existing club in your plans. They deserve to be included.
As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.
What will happen to the existing club using the ground at the moment? Camberwell Lacrosse has been using this ground for a long time? The club is working hard to re-establish the women and girl's teams. Lacrosse is a growing sport all of the world and there is a real push to have the sport to be included in the Olympics for men and women. Camberwell Lacrosse club is a club that has had many players in state and national teams. Camberwell is a community club where players are recruited from local schools and it is very much a family club. I am sure that the lacrosse club would be only happy to share the ground which is not what soccer has done in other areas of Melbourne. If Camberwell Lacrosse Club is taken off the land then there will be a lot of unhappy voters. Grounds like this should be multiuse for all clubs in the council area. This is lot of public money for just one group to monopolise the ground.
As a player at Ashburton United Soccer Club, I strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.
Do not go ahead with the proposal to replace an excellent community facility used by many sports with an artificial ground designed only for soccer. Please reconsider this use do that many teams such as lacrosse can continue playing there. Thank you.
This is a Disgusting Proposal. Why don't you try denying a few Developers for a Change and generate new open spaces that way, instead of STEALING from One Sport to give to another. Absolutely appalling.
Do not replace the lacrosse field with an artificial soccer pitch.
This is a ridiculous proposal. Grass grounds allow a wider variety of sports to access the oval and promotes greater participation of the local residents.
Please do not convert to a soccer ground. I have used this ground several times a year for lacrosse, including mens, womens and juniors both on a Saturday and Sunday for many years now. An artificial ground is not conducive to lacrosse. What plans have been made to continue playing lacrosse on these grounds? Very disappointed. It is not fair to the hard working members and players of Camberwell Lacrosse club. My heart goes out to them. Do not kill our sport!.
What are your plans for the Lacrosse club already using this site.
I am deeply disappointed and shocked that, without prior consultation with the Glen Eira Cricket Club or the Camberwell Lacrosse Club, council has developed this plan. As far as can be ascertained council plans to displace the large and growing Camberwell Lacrosse Club that provides a home for mens, womens, boys and girls lacrosse. I urge you to please guarantee Camberwell Lacrosse Club that it has a home and a future at Dorothy Laver West. This facility is crucial for lacrosse in the Eastern Suburbs of Melbourne - as a small sport lacrosse is regularly under siege from other larger sports to obtain use of scarce facilities.
As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.
As a player at Ashburton United Soccer Club, I strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.
Would love the idea of synthetic soccer pitches. An excellent idea to enhance the local amenities to a standard of similar council areas.
As a player at Ashburton United Soccer Club, I strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.
I fully support the proposed development and the need to provide improved all weather facilities for football (soccer) the biggest played and fastest growing team sport.
we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.
I fully support the proposal.
Please consider carefully the needs and council obligations to ensure that lacrosse maintains its position and can meet future requirements Many players from the Camberwell lacrosse club have represented the state of Victoria and Australia A well administered club and I suggest that council meets with its community obligations to the Camberwell Lacrosse Club.
Great initiative, we desperately need this facility in Boroondara.
Don't get rid of the lacrosse in the area. The club contributes to the Australian lacrosse team on a regular basis and provides an invaluable community asset to your local area.
Do not develop an excellent community space used for a variety of sports and replace it with a facility designed in favour of one sport only at the exclusion of other minority sports.
As a parent of a child who played at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal, so that the best outcome can be achieved. Thank you.
What is happening to the lacrosse club that uses this ground? In all the information provided it seems like you have just left them out which is simply not good enough. Lacrosse may not be as popular as soccer but that just adds to the importance of giving clubs assistance. If Camberwell Lacrosse club is unable to continue training it is likely that many kids will just stop playing. Whereas soccer has countless existing options all over the place.

<p>The plan does not address how Camberwell Lacrosse needs will be met in the future, except that the facility is clearly not designed for lacrosse "Do not go ahead with the proposal to replace an excellent community facility used by many sports with an artificial ground designed only for soccer" Dorothy Laver West was initially developed for Camberwell Lacrosse Club in the 1980's, previously being unused land. The lacrosse club arranged to develop the club rooms and fund raised to pay for the lights. Since then, it has been home to Camberwell Lacrosse club.</p>
<p>As part of the lacrosse community, i think the synthetic surface will rule out other sporting activities such as lacrosse.</p>
<p>I am a member of the Camberwell Lacrosse Club that was the founding member of this reserve in the 1980's, and where I began as a junior in 1985. I went on to represent Australia at 3 world cups as a player and 2 as a coach, and currently hold the position of Director of Women's coaching at the club, which is home to a large number of junior lacrosse players, male and female. In the past years we have seen a resurgence in women's and girls lacrosse at the club, and as a consequence of dedicated recruiting and the building of strong connections with local schools, we are now providing opportunities for increasing numbers of girls, boys, men and women from ages 6 onwards. We are concerned that the proposal seems to have not included lacrosse at all - neither in the planning or in the consultation! As a ratepayer in the City of Boroondara and as an active member of this sporting community I request that a more open, inclusive and transparent consultation process be undertaken in order to more fully assess the future of Dorothy Laver Reserve West - don't disenfranchise the current users and caretakers of this space without having a fuller appreciation of the bigger picture!.</p>
<p>Nothing has been raised in regard to the current Lacrosse club who has played on that ground for decades. As a Lacrosse player i ask Boroondara council this: What is its plans for lacrosse at this park and are the plans going to be made public?</p>
<p>What will happen to Camberwell Lacrosse Club which has used these grounds for many many years as our home ground? Lacrosse is very important to me and many other people in the area however it has recently been slowly being killed by sports such as soccer and footy. Please help support the lacrosse community and don't kill off the club.</p>
<p>I think the proposal is fantastic as there is nowhere near enough soccer (football) grounds for the increased demand. As a parent of a daughter playing soccer we definitely need a dedicated facility that is available all year round to enable the girls to further develop their skills & reach their full potential.</p>
<p>This is a wonderful opportunity to create a permanent base for soccer in the City of Boroondara and Council is to be commended for taking this initiative. Soccer has been a major sport in the Ashburton/Solway area for many years, as evidenced by the size of the Ashburton Soccer Club, which is one of the largest soccer clubs in Victoria. Both Ashburton and its sister club Alamein, desperately need a permanent home to cater for the multitude of community teams, as well as its elite squads competing at the highest level. A facility such as this would ease the congestion and overuse of current grounds that are also heavily used for cricket, and at the same time, would make far better use of an underutilised sporting ground. Moreover, an investment such as this would enable the City of Boroondara to keep pace with the investments being made by neighbouring Councils in Monash and Stonnington, who are investing heavily in soccer infrastructure. As a bone fide local resident, former Ashburton player, and parent of children who have played at the club, I strongly support the plan to create this football facility and urge Council to engage with representatives of the Ashburton and Alamein clubs over tenancy arrangements.</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>I would like to know what you are planning to do with the current lacrosse clubs who use this facility, particularly Camerberwell. This is the best lacrosse facility this side of MELBOURNE without roads or other facilities where lacrosse can be played safely. The lacrosse club has looked after this facility for many years I am highly surprised you have not mentioned this club and sport in your proposal. This proposal primarily looks after one segment of sport (soccer) and fails to mention the impact on other clubs Using this facility including lacrosse and cricket. You should immediately provide an impact statement on current clubs. Failure to do so would be an abuse of process and inhibits our ability to comment fully on your proposal. I expect a reply to all commenters on this issue as a matter of urgency if this is to be believed as a fair and free community consultation process.</p>
<p>My sons play lacrosse for williamstown & we play against Bundoora at Dorothy Laver Reserve I was wondering where in the proposal is the lacrosse ground - it is a great club and shouldn't lose their ground for the sake of another sport instead incorporate lacrosse into the proposal so it's fair for all sports people - where are the kids playing lacrosse play ?</p>
<p>Please do not go ahead without accommodating the sporting clubs that already use the reserve.</p>
<p>This reserve is extremely important to camberwell lacrosse club and fosters a place where children can learn and play a game that is growing in popularity in australia. The proposed plan would take that opportunity away from these children and would decrease the opportunity to help grow the game of lacrosse.</p>
<p>Why a soccer only pitch on the 2 reserves? Where are the Lacrosse grounds going to be located? Lacrosse and Soccer can be played on the same size field, why can't these grounds be a shared facility. Lacrosse is a minor sport compared to soccer, we are being pushed off grounds we have developed and looked after.</p>
<p>Great Project. So much needed.</p>
<p>Congratulations on another wonderful sporting initiative for our City. I am surprised and disappointed though, with what appears to be a complete oversight regarding the sport of Lacrosse. The Camberwell Lacrosse Club has been a part of the Premier competition of Melbourne's lacrosse for 37 years. Last year their first team was narrowly beaten in the Grand Final. One of Camberwell's most eminent citizens, Doug Fox AO, has devoted his sporting life to the welfare of this marvellous game, and is almost singly responsible for bringing hundreds of youngsters to the game. Dorothy Laver West is the home of the club, and to recognize Doug's work and to foster the game further, the plans for the project must include line markings across the ground for at least three lacrosse fields.</p>
<p>As part of a sporting club, this development would allow different clubsto be able to use the ground facilities all year round without the issue if ground wear and tear during summer and winter. I think the investment outways the cost.</p>

What are the plans for the Lacrosse Club and other Sporting Club users of the ground, there is no mention of the impact on them! Why are other Sports who are developing Juniors and Women in sport neglected in favour of Soccer!
As a player at Ashburton United Soccer Club, I strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.
It is good to see that Council has finally committed to introducing a synthetic pitch to be used by the wider community. There is a shortage of year round facilities within the City of Boroondara that can be used by a variety of sports.
As a long time member of the Camberwell Lacrosse Club I am concerned there is no mention of the club in the proposal. I hope this is an oversight given the contribution the club has made to the local community. Not to mention the fundraising the club has undertaken to develop the area (e.g. lights and club rooms) and the hundreds of players that have and continue to call the ground home.
There does not appear to be any consideration of sports other than soccer - this development should not be allowed to go ahead without the assurance that the current tenant clubs will be granted rights to play and have clubrooms (particularly cricket and lacrosse who have been there a long time) at the new facility.
Having played lacrosse at the facility since I started in the early 90's it is disappointing that there has been zero discussion with Camberwell lacrosse after they developed the facilities, and there has been no mention of compensation or alternatives if they lose their grounds.
I am horrified to hear that Boorandara Council would consider dedicating this valuable community resource to the exclusive benefit of a single Sport. So instead of natural grass and open space available to all ratepayers, the proposal is fences, artificial surfaces, intrusive lights, gender bias, and significant investment of Ratepayers money, and all for the benefit of Soccer. I am unaware of any significant contribution that Soccer has made to the Boorondara community over the years, let alone one that would warrant such largesse from the Council. I would appreciate being appraised of full detail of the arguments supporting the proposal. Yours Sincerely.
As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.
As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.
It is a wonderful idea and much needed venue and avenue for young talented girls to have their own home where they can develop.
So the Camberwell lacrosse club and community that have been using these grounds for longer than I have even been playing and are any existing avenue for children in the area to participate in a unique, exciting and family focused sport are just going to be thrown out in such an unceremonious and cold hearted fashion???? I can't help but think that this is at its core a financial decision, so lacrosse not generating any revenue for you supposed representatives of the community. Or could it be much like when the Whitehorse Council did this to Surry Park lacrosse club, Is there a family member of the before mentioned community representative counsel who is a soccer player or involved in this new women's soccer league. Not overly surprising in this political correctness, gender equality gone mad society that while Camberwell lacrosse club provides for both men's and women's teams the new facility is for a solely female based league. Disposable society indeed.
As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.
What a fabulous way to use the space. the more opportunity we can provide for our kids to get out and about and enjoy exercising, the better our society will be overall.
As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.
Do not go ahead with the proposal to replace an excellent community facility used by many sports with an artificial ground designed only for soccer.
I am happy for an upgrade to the grounds, however, the grounds should not be for the exclusive use of the soccer and cricket. Our La-crosse team has this as it's home ground and has done for many many years. There needs to be mention that the Cambereell Lacrosse will have use of the grounds in any agreement.
I oppose this as what happens to the existing sporting club Camberwell lacrosse that this has been its home ground for nearly 4 decades. There is nothing in your exciting plans about the existing sporting club that is equally to the community as a sport.
I've grow up in the area! And also play cricket and lacrosse at Dorothy laver and this ground means a lot to me and it has a lot to do with our lacrosse club! This development dose not address the lacrosse club that already uses the facilities from our under 11,13,15,17 boys and girls team to our senior women's and men's teams by handing the ground over to soccer you would be getting rid of the local lacrosse club witch is also a growing sport! What is going to happen to the local lacrosse club if this go's through?
I am a member of the South Australian lacrosse community, so I imagine my opinion won't count for much. As a long time member of a club playing a minority sport, I am used to seeing our sport be overshadowed by other more glamorous, mainstream and wealthy sports when working hard to promote my own. However I am appalled that a council would proceed with such a development without any recourse to the existing tenant. No mention of the fact there is a lacrosse club there, a very healthy one with many teams and probably over 150 members, men and women, who are set to be dispossessed of the grounds they have had as their home for over 30 years. No suggestion that lacrosse would remain even as a co-tenant. No mention of lacrosse whatsoever, and even the cricket club seems to be pushed to the periphery as well. Probably no thought as to where the lacrosse club could move, if that is what is has to do. It is great that the council is looking to provide opportunities for women and girls to play sport. Well Camberwell Lacrosse Club is well ahead of you there, they had their first women's teams in 1979. They currently have three junior girls' teams and a senior women's team as well. This is a sport that has been in Camberwell, proudly representing their area, for over 90 years, and last year the men's State League team were

grand finalists. They are hardly a club on the brink. What future do you intend for this club?
How about Lacrosse? Long time user of the grounds.
What about the lacrosse club that uses this ground. Will they be reimbursed for the money and effort they have put into maintaining this ground and infrastructure? An existing ground user should not be inconvenienced to make way for a new user that had no link to the site. I don't think this is fair.
As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.
As a player at Ashburton United Soccer Club, I strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.
As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.
I don't think this is a great community decision and all who utilize it should be considered.
As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.
Wonderful great for girls and women playing soccer. Great initiative and thank you.
You are turning a community facility which currently services more than one sporting group into a single sport facility for soccer. I disagree with the proposal.
Do not go ahead with the proposal to replace an excellent community facility used by many sports with an artificial ground designed only for soccer.
It would be much appreciated a new and big sport grounds. I believe sport is very good for community and a nice and new sport ground is always appreciated to involve community and a good space for kids and families.
The Camberwell Lacrosse Club began its early days here, and 90 years on we train and play lacrosse games on this field and use these facilities. They have become a second home to many players, parents, and club members from juniors to seniors. It is heartbreaking to see that this plan clearly takes no account of the sport of Lacrosse nor the club which has proudly resided here for decades. This area is in an excellent location to encourage young children from nearby schools to come down to a local pitch and have a throw and get into the sport and its social activities. I humbly ask the council to postpone this decision, and enter talks with representatives from Camberwell Lacrosse Club so that we might be able to share the use of these fields.
As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.
Do not turn this much use natural grass sports ground into a synthetic soccer only ground. Other sports and the community use this ground year round.
As a player at Ashburton United Soccer Club, I strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.
I believe what you are proposing will only support what council appear to want and not what the greater community require. You will be supporting one sporting community while you do not appear to be providing for the many that currently use the facilities.
This reserve is home to a highly successful and long-standing lacrosse club (Camberwell) and my understanding is that this proposed development will leave them with no-where to call home. I am a member of the Bendigo lacrosse club, but my father, Graham Webb played for the club when it was Camberwell-Glen Iris many decades ago at a time when that club was in peril through lack of player numbers. Please do not put the Camberwell lacrosse club in peril again now by making it homeless, through poor development decisions, especially at a time when the club enjoys success and great membership and participation of many men, women and kids. Regards.
My sons play lacrosse on these grounds, both at club and State level. Synthetic surface is a terrible choice and limits the sports (and uses) which can be played here. Lacrosse is a growing sport and doesn't have many grounds as perfect as this one. It would be a crime to have to find another ground for the Camberwell club. It is well maintained and a credit to the grounds people that look after it. Soccer can find other grounds.. I think lights on the other hand are a great idea, as it will extend the hours that these grounds can be used. Surely soccer can be played on grass ... ??
I would like to give you several reasons for objecting to this proposal: 1. Dorothy Laver Reserve West is situated beside the wetlands and natural bush land that has taken 30 years since completion to develop into a truly natural area that attracts wonderful bird life, tortoises and marsupials. The concept for this area at the time was to rejuvenate the land and waterways to the original form before Europeans altered the area. I think a perimeter fence that would abut this area and the noise emanating from the senior soccer field will detract from the original focus of the area as well as frighten off the nature that is attracted there. 2. No mention is made of parking and traffic management. When there is a lacrosse carnival on this sports ground, the traffic spills into local streets and creates traffic jams in the narrow surrounding streets. 3. I am concerned that lacrosse that has used this oval for 30 years has not been mentioned in this plan. A number of local families have been involved in lacrosse during this period. Where are they to go? 4. Have other sites for this soccer complex been considered? I would like to hear about other options before this proposal takes place.
Fantastic to have a dedicated quality football facility to support the many boys and girls that play, as well as the Women's National Premier League team Alamein
Our community needs this facility! We are a wonderful family orientated lacrosse community and taking this club away from us will be devastating. Put the 4.5 million into growing women's sport not kill them. Please don't go ahead with the artificial soccer ground.

<p>This is terrible, whilst I appreciate you may need soccer grounds, they must not come at the cost of the fields used by the Camberwell Lacrosse club. To plan to do this without consideration and provision of an alternative venue at the very least is disgraceful. I believe the Camberwell Lacrosse club was integral to the initial planning and development and fundraised to purchase the lights for these fields in the 1980's. These grounds are also used by many other sporting clubs and community groups for various activities and it would be a shame to replace them with a facility designed only for soccer. I do not support this development.</p>
<p>By making this a soccer only field you will be killing all other smaller sports in the community. Unless this is being designed to cater for all other sports that are currently in place I don't see this being a positive outcome.</p>
<p>Great to support women's soccer for all year facilities.</p>
<p>What about the lacrosse club? A lacrosse club that has been there since the 1920's! If this proposal goes through it will eliminate the Camberwell lacrosse club. Lacrosse is already a small sport as it is, and Camberwell specifically is an up and coming lacrosse club. Lacrosse is also an up and coming sport within Victoria. I don't see why the fields could not be used for lacrosse instead. Field of this leisure and advancement would have a huge impact on the lacrosse community for the whole of Victoria.</p>
<p>Disappointing to see that a council is not thinking about all aspects of different sporting groups in the community, especially a club that originated in the booroondara area in 1927!! If this proposal goes through it will eliminate Camberwell lacrosse club. Lacrosse already being a small sport in Victoria is struggling to find accessible grounds to play games and facilities with enough grounds to accommodate the sport!.</p>
<p>What about the lacrosse club? The sport of lacrosse needs facilities with space to avoid getting hit with balls. The facility has been great for the sport of lacrosse with the camberwell lacrosse club being a part of the community for 100 years. It would be very short sighted to loose such an important part of the community.</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Alamein Football Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>Please do not turn this multi purpose sport ground/park into a one sport dedicated ground! Where do the current teams that use the ground end up?</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Alamein Football Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>This project should not go ahead without inclusive provision of field space for the dedicated use of the Camberwell Lacrosse club. A long heritage of community use by all age groups.</p>
<p>Turning the park into a dedicated soccer only facility is narrow sighted. The current multi-sport facit of the park should be supported instead of excluding some sports for the promotion of one. Please don't go ahead with this plan.</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Alamein Football Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>great idea</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Alamein Football Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
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<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Alamein Football Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>As a player at Alamein Football Club, I strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>I sincerely hope that this project does not go ahead. Dorothy Laver Reserve West has been home to Camberwell Lacrosse Club the entire time I have played at the club. This club has allowed me to grow as an individual and make lifelong friends. Without our home, it is highly likely our club would lose a significant amount of players to neighbouring clubs and god forbid, even potentially fold. This change would cause catastrophic irreversible damage to a well respected family club in the lacrosse community. Please do not do this.</p>
<p>Project looks good. Will boost participation in the area. I however would prefer another full size pitch(grass) instead of the SSF ones where the cricket area is. City of Booroondara has to start looking into updating a few facilities for soccer as it's probably the only one left behind compared with other councils in the vicinity. Especially if Team 11 is succesfull in their A League bid. Hopefully the project gets a green light. Regards.</p>
<p>As a resident in Ashburton, Boyle Street and parent of three children who are plays at Alamein Football Club & Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. This is more then overdue and the reserve is currently under utilised. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>As a coach at Ashburton United Soccer Club, I strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. Please can you engage with our committee to formalise this proposal.</p>
<p>I am concerned about the Lacrosse club and its facilities. Where are they in this new proposal? The Lacrosse club has been part of this park for nearly forty years! How are they going to be accommodated in this new grounds. These questions need to be addressed.</p>
<p>This is a magnificent idea. I am a coach at Alamein Fc. I am also a resident of Ashburton. The current facilities for junior girls is way behind other councils. This project gives great hope to us all for attracting the best players to our WNPL club and also for giving the huge Ashburton soccer community a facility to be proud of. I hope council engage the committee of both of these</p>

clubs in the move forward. Chris Steele under 12 girls coach Alamein fc
Just wondering about provision for the lacrosse grounds currently utilising the space here. These lacrosse grounds already provide space for women and girls in sport. It would be a shame for these facilities to be taken over for the exclusive use of soccer (the fields/ turf is not the same).
We are apart of the Camberwell Lacrosse club and are curious about what will happen to our club if the area is turned into soccer fields Lacrosse is an awesome sport and shouldn't be moved out for another soccer field.
I play lacrosse for Malvern. If you change this ground we will not have a camberwell team to play against. Please do not go ahead with the proposal to replace an excellent community facility used by many sports with an artificial ground designed only for soccer. Dorothy Laver West was initially developed for Camberwell Lacrosse Club in the 1980's, previously being unused land. We arranged to develop the club rooms and fund raised to pay for the lights.
As a player at Ashburton United Soccer Club, I strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.
I fully understand the need for top class playing fields for any sport. The opportunity for a soccer synthetic year round purpose built area is and would be a great asset for any soccer players, but what happens to any other user of this area, have they been catered for?. For example the Lacrosse club, what provisions have been made for them, or are they to be told to play soccer only. I have played cricket there for some 40 years now and where will those pitches be relocate to, or is this not a sport worthy of your councils playing fields. It seems to me that consultation means just that and all parties need to be involved not one sport taking over another traditional venues. Catering for all is a term used by many but actually avoided by most. Waiting for your councils's response. Barry Wood
As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.
This proposal seems to be only centred towards soccer..... how will the local cricket team and lacrosse club operate?? This seems like a blatant disregard for the clubs that have used this ground for years. Make it a facility that the original users and/or other sports can use, rather than making it a synthetic ground only catered for soccer.
As a player at Ashburton United Soccer Club, I strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.
As a parent of a child who plays at Alamein Football Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council as proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.
My daughter plays for Alamein FC in the nplw. Please work with the Alamein board to help make the most of the rare opportunity to help women's football/soccer. Girls football is under resourced especially were facilities. Thank you
As a parent of a child who plays at Alamein Football Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.
As a parent of a child that plays at Alamein Football Club I strongly support the synthetic playing surface and new facilities the Council is proposing for Dorothy Laver Reserve West. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalist the proposal.
As a parent of a child who plays at Alamein Football Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.
I have been at player at Camberwell lacrosse club my entire life and it has been a massive part of my family with my grandfather and father both playing for the club. How can you propose tearing down one community to start up a completely brand new one? It just does not make any sense to me. Dorothy Laver Reserve East, across the creek from Dorothy Laver Reserve West, is completely unused except by Sunday morning dog walkers, so why not only use this ground? The club house itself at Dorothy Laver Reserve West was built for the use of lacrosse players, why change this? Why try to kill a club and a sport that is only trying to grow in Australia? An absolute outrage.
As a parent of a child who plays at Alamein Football Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.
It is unacceptable to build a facility without taking into the consideration of the incumbent sporting club. Do not proceed with an upgrade of DLRW that solely meets the needs of soccer.
As a parent of a child who plays at Alamein Football Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.
As a local resident in ASHBURTON and a parent of 2 children who play at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.
As a parent of a child who plays at Alamein Football Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal. Thank you for your time. Kind regards.
Hi. The last thing this community needs is another soccer pitch and cricket field, they are everywhere, and Spending 4.5M of tax payer money on this is a complete waste of scarce resources. Also the Camberwell Lacrosse club provides an alternative sport aside from Footy and Soccer for our youth.
Unsure about the comment that 2800m2 of land is being converted to open space when it seems that the majority of the open space is proposed to have grass removed and be fenced off (no future casual access??). Major concern is the environmental impact of removing grass. Both DL east and west are used by many water birds to forage for food including herons and lapwings. This will just put more pressure on their habitat. Without knowing what the time tabling of usage would be, we have a concern about the impact to on street parking in the area. We have cars parking in Saxby Road for events at both DL east and west and during the busier events, parking on the south side of Saxby Road (oval side) prevents some vehicles from moving along Saxby road.
As a parent of a child who plays at Alamein Football Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has

<p>proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>This would be phenomenal. Junior soccer and women's football is booming and have no facilities. Please please please do this. Alamein women's football club who play at the highest level have no facilities . I would also take my children there to practice during off seasons. Would be a great asset to the area. Fantastic multi use area.</p>
<p>You must ensure space and facilities for Camberwell Lacrosse Club. I'm not a member of this club, but I play lacrosse and live in Boroondara and have played at this ground since 1996. Losing this ground would decimate the club, and significantly impact on the already struggling sport of lacrosse in the eastern suburbs. It's not ALL ABOUT SOCCER. Allow other sports to operate and co-exist.</p>
<p>As a player at Alamein Football Club, I strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Alamein Football Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>What a fantastic proposal, finally Boroondara council are providing a facility that can maximise sporting use all year round, without the need to rest facilities due to inclement weather. A quality facility for local sporting clubs and a statement that female participation has an equal agenda to other male dominated sports and codes that has sadly been missing. I applaude the forward thinking and hard work that the council has undertaken in identifying and investigating its open sports and recreation strategy.</p>
<p>I think this is a very good move by the council. A great investment in the future of women's sport</p>
<p>This is a fantastic proposal that will provide much needed updated and year round sporting facilities for the youth and wider community. I strongly support this plan.</p>
<p>I have 2 daughters who have been members of Alamein soccer club for 3 years (since its inception) and prior to that for 3 years with Ashburton soccer club. Soccer in Melbourne's inner east needs facilities that meets the needs of girls and young women. Alamein has always struggled juggling game times around other (more dominant male clubs), having clean change rooms and having a training facility close to public transport and that is close to where we live. For example one night per week we train at Knox from 6pm. Public transport connections to that facility are weak: Girls coming from the south eastern suburbs have to get a train then an uber, amounting to over an hours journey in the dark. A soccer facility to provide for a range of facilities for girls at Dorothy Laver would support and promote girls sport and bring it up to the standard it deserves.</p>
<p>As a player at Ashburton United Soccer Club, I strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>There needs to be something included for camberwell lacrosse club, I have been playing at this ground for years and to elimante camberwell lacrosse's ground would greatly hurt the sport of lacrosse in Victoria, there needs to be something in terms of ground space included.</p>
<p>what about the lacrosse club that uses the field as much as anyone else.</p>
<p>This reads like a very good project to promote activity amongst boys and girls, which is critical in this day and age of technology. The facility based on what has been proposed sounds like it will fulfil a number of roles and needs. In addition it seems by the map that the project will be achieved with no loss of any of the surrounding trees or gardens. Initially I was concerned that my dog walking would be affected however based on the above, I can see that this will not be an issue. Letting the dog off the lead is not allowed at Dorothy Laver Reserve West anyway, that is only allowed at Darling Park.</p>
<p>I think this is a fantastic idea! Being able to have a soccer pitch without a cricket pitch on it would make it a lot safer and generally a much better facility.</p>
<p>This project will adversely affect the ability of lacrosse players using the grounds. Astro-turf surface is not suitable for playing lacrosse and will be dangerous for players with high bounce and injury. The project only mentions cricket and soccer , with no acknowledgement of the current tenants (Camberwell Lacrosse Club). I strongly oppose the development.</p>
<p>What will the existing users of this facility be offered. The lacrosse club which uses this facility have don so for many years. Is this the council cowering to a major sport and ignoring the minor sport currenty using the facility.</p>
<p>What about lacrosse ? Do they loose a ground or more?</p>
<p>Do not to take away an important asset from the community. Other sports such as Lacrosse depend on the use of this ground. Development of the ground is encouraged, but such development should be done as a multi-sport development with an appropriate surface, facilities and access for sports currently using the ground. Do not go ahead with the proposal to replace an excellent community facility used by many different sports with an artificial ground designed only for soccer.</p>
<p>Sounds fantastic.</p>
<p>As a member of a female only soccer club which is centred in Boroondara (Alamein Football Club), I strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. I ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal. This facility will greatly facilitate the ability of women and girls to be engaged in soccer in the Boroondara region where specific soccer facilities are limited.</p>
<p>great idea.</p>
<p>As a parent of a player who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal. The development of this facility will greatly increase the prospects for women and girls to be able to engage in soccer which is the no. 1 team sport played in Australia.</p>
<p>Please don't take away my beloved lacrosse club!</p>

<p>As a player at Ashburton United Soccer Club, I strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal. Additionally, I believe investing in sport and recreational facilities can only have positive effects for both physical and mental wellbeing within the local community. Upgraded facilities will only increase membership at local sporting clubs which will encourage healthy lifestyles to lead from the grassroots level all the way up to senior members.</p>
<p>Disappointed to see that the lacrosse club has not been included in the plan. This is a great club and should be supported by council.</p>
<p>I have a daughter who plays soccer and this would provide essential training facilities for the women's NPL Alemaine team.</p>
<p>As a player at Alamein Football Club, I strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>Dorothy laver reserve is already a valuable sporting complex and should be left for the community that have used it for the last 30-40 years to continue to enjoy.</p>
<p>I think it is such a shame to turn any parkland into plastic grass areas. Couldn't the same be achieved using real grass? it seems that while everyone is being educated to look after the environment, the amount of plastic & rubber manufacturing required to install plastic grass to such a huge area would be regrettable. I commend the council for the work they have done in restoring the green wedge along the creek line to a more natural habitat. Please don't ruin it by adding plastic grass.</p>
<p>It is important to keep Dorothy Laver Reserve the way it is. While the promoting of others sports is good, Camberwell Lacrosse Club is an integral part of the community. The Club is amazing at providing a great environment for junior players as young as 8 to thrive and play within a team and also for senior players to socialise and bond over mutual love for the sport of lacrosse. Dorothy Laver has always been an integral part of the Club for regular training and matchs. The families and friends of the club love it the way it is and for everyone involved with Camberwell Lacrosse Club, it is like a second home. The clubrooms hold important memories of times both good and bad and the field gives us the ability to play the sport we love year after year. In short, Camberwell Lacrosse Club and Dorothy Laver Reserve go hand in hand and no changes should be made.</p>
<p>What about CAMBERWELL LACROSSE CLUB? They use this ground every week, and there is no mention of that in the project plans. Terrible idea, the lacrosse club is way more entertaining to watch then soccer.</p>
<p>Great idea will motivate next generation of soccer stars from the area.</p>
<p>As a resident and casual user of the Reserve, this is a fantastic opportunity to provide a year round recreation facility, especially if it will increase opportunities for women and girls. Also, as a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, I support the proposal as it upgrades the sporting facilities available for our clubs use.</p>
<p>Fantastic idea being able to combine multiple sports onto the one oval.</p>
<p>I do not think that this is a good idea for everyone using this area. Real grass is a more natural and environmentally friendly alternative and the money spent getting new turf could be used for better causes instead of updating a perfectly fine sporting field. Moreover, this area is used currently for other sports, and it is not fair to them that just because soccer is becoming such a large sport, smaller sporting communities will be unable to continue using it as there home grounds. The community should be supporting these smaller sports, helping children discover something new and different, and promoting more and more soccer is not doing this.</p>
<p>As a Life Member of Camberwell Lacrosse Club and Australian Lacrosse Assoc, Chair Women's Rules, Federation of International Lacrosse, Federation of International Lacrosse Emeritus Umpire, I am dismayed that there is no provision for lacrosse to continue to be played at Dorothy Laver Reserve West; Dorothy Laver (Camberwell Councillor) was very pleased to have lacrosse playing at 'her' ground; Camberwell LC celebrated its 90th anniversary last year. Players from Camberwell LC continue to represent Victoria at U15 boys/girls, U18 boys/girls and Senior Championships and Australia at U19 and Senior Men's World Championships. The Dorothy Laver Res West project would be fantastic if it had been offered to lacrosse as a shared facility and am appalled that Council appears to be very willing to hand yet another existing mixed sporting facility over to soccer. I cannot see that an environmental study has been made in conjunction with the 'proposal' only the rush to have input by 9 July which surely speaks for itself, being \$4.5M to be spent on soccer only, not spent to benefit the broader sporting community, in the current financial year. Has the Councillor Thompson? declared a possible conflict of interest in this project? The suggestion that Camberwell LC could fit all its existing junior boys/girls, senior men/women's programs into Eric Raven 1 ground when currently 2 grounds at D Laver Res West are used fully as admitted by the Project Officer, doesn't work. We were able to walk to Camberwell LC grounds so parking was never an issue for our family; not so currently with the existing sporting facilities, let alone a 4 fold increase under this proposal.</p>
<p>I firmly believe this is long overdue and would be a fantastic asset for the growth and wellbeing of the community.</p>
<p>Replacing such a large area of grass within a beautiful parkland area with artificial turf is quite frankly, an appalling idea. That's especially so given the contrast with the adjacent creek environment and the nearby wetlands areas. The absence of any mention of the current users of the grounds, Camberwell Lacrosse Club, is also very concerning. What provisions are being made to include facilities for the junior and senior, male and female, lacrosse players?</p>
<p>Camberwell Lacrosse has been part of the community for a very long time involving Men, Women Girls and Boys. The club is very much family based and now it seems that they are going to get moved aside because of the latest craze that's come onto the market. Where are your family values Boroondara Council? Camberwell Lacrosse brings families together. As a sport "Lacrosse" teaches children about fair play, commitment, and respect. When was the last time Lacrosse or any players where in the news for anti-social behavior? Please don't overlook the positives that Lacrosse brings to the community.</p>
<p>Would be a fantastic capital improvement to increase and accommodate child sports participation levels.</p>
<p>Although this may sound good for soccer it would be very sad for Camberwell Lacrosse who have been a tenent at this location for a long time . The council should talk to all tenants of this sports precient before making it's final decision.</p>

As a lacrosse player of many decades playing for Surrey Park LC against Camberwell LC it's seems ridiculous that there is no mention of the lacrosse club in all of this. This area was set up for the lacrosse club who also contributed funding for infrastructure, what happens to them? Camberwell LC play in the premier state league lacrosse competition in Victoria and were the runner up for the premiership last year. Yet appear to being railroaded off their long time home by trying to rush this proposal through. What a disgrace!.
I am concerned by the development of this reserve with no planning for the other sporting groups which use this ground, specifically the Camberwell lacrosse club.
As a member of the Williamstown Lacrosse Club, we have a spirited and exciting rivalry with the Camberwell Lacrosse Club. As they were the spearhead that helped to create the environment and infrastructure around the reserve, I hope that there has been some consideration made for their use of the fields moving forward. As a club and sport that supports both youth and women's involvement, it would be a horrible mistake by local council to neglect such a valuable group in the community. And Australian Lacrosse is much stronger internationally than either men's or women's soccer has ever been; this is a chance to keep our foothold against the world. Please respect our game and what we as a sport have done for the community.
This proposal does not make any provision for the existing lacrosse club that uses this facility.
As a player at Ashburton United Soccer Club, I strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.
Is this some kind of joke bet you someone works at the council and their daughter plays soccer, Nothing was mentioned about camberwell lacrosse club and the effect it will have.
Excellent idea. As a member of the Ashburton Soccer Club this would be an amazing addition.
You can't possibly justify excluding all the other sports that rely on this ground by developing it as a dedicated soccer facility. As an example, where else can Lacrosse be played?
I love to see the council actively upgrading community sports facilities. Great stuff. However I am very disappointed to see that there are apparently no provisions that would enable the established lacrosse club who use this as their home ground to continue to do so. The lacrosse community is incredibly supportive and continue to put much effort into growing participation in the game in Australia, so losing a facility like this is a huge retrograde step.
Great idea for a fantastic football club and community
Excellent idea. This sports facility has been under utilised for many years. I only see benefit with this proposal. No impact on residents, dog walkers (leash on only anyway).
As a parent of a child who plays at Alamein Football Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.
This will be a devastating loss to the community of a much loved facility. Taking this away from the lacrosse kids and the dog walkers to give to elite soccer players is a reprehensible waster of ratepayer funds. The environmental impact are potentially terrible. Surely the council can find better ways to spend \$4.5 million dollars given they have already invested in multiple soccer grounds including recently Highfield Park. The council should review the role of the local councillor on the management committee of Ashburton soccer club.
Please don't give up on what is considered a minority sport. Lacrosse has a long and fruitful history and the lacrosse community are working hard to get it back at the Olympics. Sporting grounds should have multiple uses - not just one sport. Please communicate with the lacrosse club.
This is both both exciting and rewarding for Ashburton United, my local club where I have fostered close friendships and shared great memories. It is time for this warm, family club to have one place for all to call home, from the junior ranks to the womens to the mens seniors. It will bring our sporting community even closer together.
As a parent of a child who plays at Alamein Football Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.
As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.
As a parent of a child who plays at Alamein Football Club, we, Jacqueline Brown and Tetsu Yamada, strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.
Well needed for the soccer clubs (Alamein and ashburton)
After all the years, the time spent fundraising tens of thousands of dollars, the sweat through dozens and dozens of working bees, members blood, sweat, and tears by so many members and supporters of the Camberwell Lacrosse Club when no one else wanted the piece of land, now you are just going to take it away. PLEASE DONT DO THIS!!!! Lacrosse is one of the fastest growing sports in the world - and one that is currently working towards inclusion in the olympics. Removing one of only a handful of grounds in Melbourne will harm this sport in so many ways.
As a player at Ashburton United Soccer Club, I strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.
It would be wonderful if the Dorothy Laver West project can go ahead. There is currently a shortage of sporting facilities in this area. My daughter is in the under 12 Alamein team. It would be wonderful to have this new facility as our home ground.
You are going to kill a sport that is being played there all ready. And there is no need for all those soccer grounds so close together.

<p>My wife and I are strongly opposed to this proposal. This is not an appropriate site for a facility that will attract a large number of people and cars over much of the week. It is at the end of a small side road that is the only means of entry and exit for vehicles, with very limited parking available. The only way it could be expanded is to sacrifice existing garden beds and grassed areas. Even with the much lower intensity present usages, the small number of parking places is not enough and cars regularly park on the garden beds to one side. The tennis club carpark is only about 40 spaces and can get full now. Cars exiting this side road often do so dangerously, as traffic comes around from the overpass at some speed and cannot be seen coming because of the curve. An increase in the traffic doing this would lead to accidents. With so many different users of the proposed facility, there would be cars parked on the footpath along Dunlop Street - we have seen this already in the past for the more popular events on the neighbouring Dunlop oval. If one of these events coincided with something at the new facility it would be bedlam in the nearby streets and car parking areas. The proposed facility would also destroy what is now a pleasant open area of natural grass, in favour of a hard surfaced area with intensive lighting for night use. That would represent a serious loss of amenity for local residents. In summary, while there may be a case for a soccer facility of this sort somewhere in Boroondara, this is simply not the right location for it.</p>
<p>As a player at Ashburton United Soccer Club, I strongly support the synthetic playing surface the council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>I am concerned that the excitement of creating soccer fields for women will mean that the junior cricketers will lose access to the ground. Yes they are boys and it seems to not be fashionable or politically correct to cater for them but they are entitled to sporting grounds in their community.</p>
<p>First, this project reflects the importance of promoting women's sports facilities. 2nd it is much needed support for a local sporting entity that currently has no home. Third the investment in artificial surface is so necessary for the local weather conditions and the requirements of the game -- but also makes it available to use by others whose fields my otherwise have been closed. Fourth, it gives greater use to a major park near major traffic and commuting facilities. I am so grateful this is under consideration by the local council.</p>
<p>I would live to see a synthetic pitch at Dorothy Laver reserve, as it is often difficult to find appropriate grounds in the area in winter due to poor drainage and muddy pitches, plus the sheer volume of clubs using each facility.</p>
<p>The project should consider the needs of the existing sporting clubs using the facility and how the proposal will impact their operation. Different sports have differing requirements and what may enhance one sport may detrimentally effect another.</p>
<p>1. We will be directly impacted by the installation, in the positive. 2. The nature of football is year-round facility requirement and therefore the project is warranted and worthwhile. 3. Aust Bureau of Statistics for the vicinity indicates the participation in football is substantially higher than other major sports at junior levels. 4. If the installation can be accommodated by re-positioning other major sports in the area, the negative impact is minimised. 5. As a participant in a local club in the area dedicated football facilities are sorely lacking.</p>
<p>My children play lacrosse here. I don't see how this project is taking into consideration the field sizes to keep this sport at this location. Surely it wouldn't be hard to accomodate both sports?</p>
<p>This isn't for the benefit of the community. It's a zero sum game that benefits one sport over to the detriment of another.</p>
<p>I am interested to hear about this project as I have school age children who play soccer and AFL. I am yet to form an opinion about this project as my children have not yet competed at this reserve but would like to be kept informed for future refernce.</p>
<p>As a lacrosse family these fields are essential to the growth and sustainability of Camberwell lacrosse club. Removing the club from this venue will adversely effect my daughters ability to continue playing lacrosse.</p>
<p>The grounds are already being used by a sport club. Removing their only grounds jeopardises a sport with not many players, and could inhibit more players from playing the sport. It would be unheard of if a soccer club had their grounds taken over by a lacrosse field/club, so why is it ok for a soccer club to take over Camberwell Lacrosse Club.</p>
<p>Please please upgrade this venue for all of the amazing children, inparticular young girls, who are using this venue for their regular sports training and games. It's critical that any venue that supports Women's sport and increases their participation is upgraded and continues to provide a good quality facility for many years to come.</p>
<p>No. Stop. We don't want this.</p>
<p>I believe this project as it would interfere with the Lacrosse Club and harm the community.</p>
<p>I think its a great idea</p>
<p>As a frequent park user, I am completely disgusted and outraged by the reconstruction plans. This park is a frequently used area for many members of the community who would hate to see these ridiculous plans be laid out. Also speaking as dog walker and mother of two, I know this park is very important for the community, and laying out synthetic grass would ruin that completely. This is one of the very few parks in Melbourne that have nicely laid out natural grass ovals, and it would be disheartening to see it go. Having fences on the park, added together with synthetic grass would completely ruin the openness of the area, as well as the environment, considering there is a creek running right next to it. The fact that the council wants to convert this oval into a commercial and overly fake area makes me absolutely livid.</p>
<p>This is a fantastic outcome for Football and the thousands of players in and around the City of Boroondara. It will help to satisfy the growing needs of football in the region with a particular focus on women and girls. 20% of footballers in Boroondara are female and this number will continue to grow as we move towards a Football Federation Australia and Football Federation Victoria focus of 50/50 participation by 2028. The development of football facilities in the City is extremely important as Boroondara and its football clubs of Ashburton United; Boroondara Eagles; East Kew; Old Camberwell Grammarians; Old Scotch; Old Xaverians; Riversdale; St Kevin's Old Boys and Swinburne University have had some of the largest growth in participation since 2009 and these new facilities will help to satisfy this growing demand.</p>
<p>I like the idea of the synthetic field, however it must be multi-purpose, please add a full size lacrosse field with markings and appropriate run-off space, coaching spaces etc. so that the field can retain it's multi-purpose functionality. The ensure that the club room space is shared between all parties.</p>
<p>Upgrade so all sports can use. Do not limit to one. 100% against just soccer. Please don't change. Thanks.</p>

<p>I am in opposition to this development. I fail to see how this project benefits the local area, residents and the environment. In fact the impact on the environment will be terrible. What a great win it would be for FFV and what a loss for local residents.</p>
<p>I am writing this feedback with regards to this consultation process as the President of the Ashburton United Junior Football Club (Ashy Redbacks) – one of the largest junior AFL club in the Yarra Junior Football League (YJFL), and as a parent of two children playing at the club. We have been a tenant of Dorothy Laver West and East for a number of years as part of our pre-season activity (Feb – Mar inclusive). This a requirement for our Club as we are not able to utilise our home grounds, Burwood Reserve, due to the Burwood Cricket Club having tenancy throughout the summer months. This year we were split across Dorothy Laver and Markham Avenue Reserve, which wasn't ideal for the size of our needs. Our club has 700 registered playing children from 7 to 18 yrs of age and we are experiencing continued growth due to the increased appeal and expansion of female football. As a re-occurring annual tenant of the grounds, we would like the opportunity to hear what the proposed plan is for providing suitable alternatives for our pre-season training locations. As our council, we need to have a designated space so that we are able to prepare for the upcoming season and our concern is that we will find ourselves restricted to a smaller venue, or being spread across many locations – neither of which are ideal for us and the needs of our Club, our pre-season training programs, and the logistics of our families who need to drop off and pick up their children. To date we have had no formal notice provided to us about the proposed development, nor any pre-emptive consultation. Whilst we are supportive of the active development of sport and recreation within the community we do not agree to the proposed plan without there being adequate planning and agreement around suitable alternatives being agreed and put in place. I suspect that this concern would also be shared by the other sporting clubs who utilise the reserve i.e. cricket and lacrosse and whose players are also members of our football club. I present this view on behalf of our entire Club in this matter, representing the 700 players and 1,200 parents of the local community.</p>
<p>The council SHOULD NOT move forward with this new proposal as it is completely unfair to the existing Camberwell Lacrosse Club who have been at Dorothy Laver reserve since the 1980's. This proposal would completely destroy camberwell lacrosse club.</p>
<p>Do not go ahead with the proposal to replace an excellent community facility used by many sports with an artificial ground designed only for soccer.</p>
<p>The proposal does not mention were or how the exhibiting Camberwell Lacrosse Club is to be accomadaded. This Club has provided a much needed alternative sport to the local community, helping young children to become involved in healthy sport and thus learn the benefits of both a healthy lifestyle and team spirit. The Camberwell Lacrosse Club is a well established community sporting group catering to a wide range of the local area and would obviously need to be relocated should his soccer facility take over their traditional grounds. The Club has invested heavily in infrastructure and needs to be compensated by provision of an alternative facility. My Club makes regular trips to Camberwell and surrounds to participate against Camberwell so know the area well and look forward to a continued association with Camberwrl through the Lacrosse community.</p>
<p>What will become of the lacrosse club facilities. Has council considered this as part of their due diligence i would say no unless provisions are met.</p>
<p>I believe that the fields should stay as lacrosse fields as the sport is only just developing and by moving the sport else where is making the already difficult task of developing the sport much more difficult. It's saying that the council has no cares about helping developing one of the oldest sports there is. A simple thing like relocating the home of a club has the potential to ruin the club doing the opposite of developing the sport but help tearing the sport apart.</p>
<p>Does not take into account the lacrosse club.</p>
<p>DO not create a reserve for one purpose. Soccer is a sport that will not last, honour the original club of the ground and at least consult with them through this process. I believe doing this will remove many active people from the community being detrimental to all involved.</p>
<p>30 years ago Camberwell Lacrosse Club lead the charge to develop what was then a waste land into a community facility that exists today including significant Camberwell LC financial contribution. No alternative or recompense has been offered, or included in the proposal. Prioritising an elite women's national premier league club over local community boys and girls playing lacrosse is not consistent with Boroondara Strategy. Elite soccer should not be funded by local rate payers. Forcing the lacrosse club to play and train all age groups (boys/girls/men/women) at Eric Raven Reserve will impact local residents with increased traffic and noise during evenings. Eric Raven is one of the few leash free dog parks and will not be available during Saturday and Sunday games or 3 nights weekly currently required for lacrosse training by boys and girls (8-17 yrs), men and women. The planning process has had no involvement with the current users of the ground, sporting clubs and local residents until this week. An environmental plan does not seem to have been conducted. I was a member of the Eric Raven & Dorothy Laver Reserves Committee for more than 45 years as Secretary/Treasurer, initially with Camberwell Mayor Dorothy Laver who held these meetings in her home.</p>
<p>Urgent Action Required Boroondara council are currently assessing a plan to turn Dorothy Laver West into a dedicated soccer facility to support the areas Womens Premier League soccer club. The plan does not address how Camberwell Lacrosse needs will be met in the future, except that the facility is clearly not designed for lacrosse. This is seemingly being rushed through the local council, Please Do not go ahead with the proposal to replace an excellent community facility used by many sports with an artificial ground designed only for soccer... Dorothy Laver West was initially developed for Camberwell Lacrosse Club in the 1980's, previously being unused land. We arranged to develop the club rooms and fund raised to pay for the lights with little to less help from others only what we as a club and lacrosse community raised. I feel to rip this out from underneath us for it to be set up for soccer is a kick in the teeth. There's only 10 or so grounds Melbourne wide that are used for lacrosse compared to the 100's used for soccer.. use one of them instead of forcing a growing game and a powerhouse of the sport out on the street.</p>

<p>Are you serious. You want to construct this project on an area that is used by local residents for picnics, dog walking and general enjoyment of a reserve that is filled with wildlife not to mention the fact that it is a flood prone area. I am a resident of Glen Iris and have not had any notification of this in my mail box. You have not consulted with any residents of Glen Iris Ashburton or surrounding areas who use this reserve for pleasure not to mention existing sports playing there at present. The parking there is horrific on some Saturdays with the adjacent football ground attendees parking on footpaths and in the tennis club parking area which by the way flooded not 2 weeks ago. I don't want this money spent on a project that will destroy a beautiful Natures Retreat. NO NO NO</p>
<p>As a member of the lacrosse community my concern is why turn this sporting area into an artificial ground designed only for soccer. Currently as multipurpose are it is a great community asset for lots of sporting clubs. What plans have been made to accommodate the existing sports who use this ground.</p>
<p>I am a member of the Riversdale Soccer club For a number of years, the Committee of our club has strived to extend the traditional soccer program by providing alternative, non-council pitch facilities. I am very supportive of the proposed works at Dorothy Laver reserve.</p>
<p>Fantastic idea, concept drawing and perfect location. Well done on the initiative!!</p>
<p>Camberwell lacrosse club has been here for many years men's ladies and juniors have grown up here it's not a good idea how many legacy clubs are local council going to destroy. Like Chadstone bowls.</p>
<p>I am a Riversdale Soccer Club member, For some time, the Committee of the Riversdale Soccer Club have engaged with third parties in order to provide our kids with options to extend the traditional "winter" soccer season. As a parent of a child who plays at Riversdale Soccer Club, we see value in this development and strongly support the creation of the synthetic playing surface proposed by Boroondara Council at Dorothy Laver West Reserve. Also curious how this fits in with the updated oval at Highfield Park.</p>
<p>Hello, I'm the parent of children playing with Riversdale Soccer Club. We play against teams with amazing synthetic pitches, and it would be great to have one to utilise so close to home. For some time, the Committee of the Riversdale Soccer Club have engaged with third parties in order to provide our kids with options to extend the traditional soccer season. As a parent of a child who plays at Riversdale Soccer Club, we see value in this development and strongly support the creation of the synthetic playing surface proposed by Boroondara Council at Dorothy Laver West Reserve.</p>
<p>I am a Riversdale Soccer Club member. For some time, the Committee of the Riversdale Soccer Club have engaged with third parties in order to provide our kids with options to extend the traditional soccer season. As a parent of a child who plays at Riversdale Soccer Club, we see value in this development and strongly support the creation of the synthetic playing surface proposed by Boroondara Council at Dorothy Laver West Reserve.</p>
<p>I am a Riversdale Soccer Club member. For some time, the Committee of the Riversdale Soccer Club have engaged with third parties in order to provide our kids with options to extend the traditional soccer season. As a parent of a child who plays at Riversdale Soccer Club, we see value in this development and strongly support the creation of the synthetic playing surface proposed by Boroondara Council at Dorothy Laver West Reserve.</p>
<p>I am a Riversdale Soccer Club member. For some time, the Committee of the Riversdale Soccer Club have engaged with third parties in order to provide our kids with options to extend the traditional soccer season. As a parent of a child who plays at Riversdale Soccer Club, we see value in this development and strongly support the creation of the synthetic playing surface proposed by Boroondara Council at Dorothy Laver West Reserve.</p>
<p>This will be absolutely fantastic. The volume of players who can take advantage of these grounds year round, under lights will be phenomenal. What a great initiative. Congratulations. I am a parent of three boys who play soccer at Riversdale Soccer club and this will be such a community asset and powerful contribution to children's health and activity. Again, well done.!</p>
<p>I am a Riversdale Soccer Club member. For some time, the Committee of the Riversdale Soccer Club have engaged with third parties in order to provide our kids with options to extend the traditional soccer season. As a parent of a child who plays at Riversdale Soccer Club, we see value in this development and strongly support the creation of the synthetic playing surface proposed by Boroondara Council at Dorothy Laver West Reserve.</p>
<p>I am a Riversdale Soccer Club member. For some time, the Committee of the Riversdale Soccer Club have engaged with third parties in order to provide our kids with options to extend the traditional soccer season. As a parent of a child who plays at Riversdale Soccer Club, we see value in this development and strongly support the creation of the synthetic playing surface proposed by Boroondara Council at Dorothy Laver West Reserve.</p>
<p>My family is a Riversdale Soccer Club member. For some time, the Committee of the Riversdale Soccer Club have engaged with third parties in order to provide our kids with options to extend the traditional soccer season. As a parent of a child who plays at Riversdale Soccer Club, we see value in this development and strongly support the creation of the synthetic playing surface proposed by Boroondara Council at Dorothy Laver West Reserve.</p>
<p>What happens to the current lacrosse fields at the grounds? Why are they being ignored? Camberwell lacrosse club players representing Australia at the world cup next month... and this move would deny them training grounds as the other ground they use has no lights. It would also reduce them to one ground, limiting the number of junior teams they could have as there are time overlaps preventing all teams from using one ground. This move promotes one sport while potentially wiping out the only lacrosse club in Boroondara.</p>
<p>As both a player and a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>I am a Riversdale Soccer Club member. For some time, the Committee of the Riversdale Soccer Club have engaged with third parties in order to provide our kids with options to extend the traditional soccer season. As a parent of a child who plays at Riversdale Soccer Club, we see value in this development and strongly support the creation of the synthetic playing surface proposed by Boroondara Council at Dorothy Laver West Reserve.</p>

<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Alamein Football Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>It is very short-sighted of you to provide for only soccer; there are other sports that use the grounds, especially the lacrosse club (who had the facilities build in the first place). Fix the lights by all means but also include ALL the clubs who use the field!</p>
<p>I have been travelling to Dorothy Laver Reserve to play lacrosse for over 20 years and would hate to see the Camberwell Lacrosse Club removed from their home ground. Camberwell Lacrosse Club has a strong tradition of inclusive sport with men's, women's, boys and girls lacrosse and do wonderful things in their local community. Many Australian lacrosse teams also used Dorothy Laver Reserve as their home base as they prepared for world championship competition. I urge Boroondara Council to please consider allowing Camberwell Lacrosse Club to continue to access the facilities at Dorothy Laver Reserve so they can continue servicing the community as an inclusive, family friendly sporting Club.</p>
<p>There is no mention of the lacrosse teams who currently use this space. What consideration is made for them and any other sports teams using the space? The reserve is situated beside the wetlands and natural bush land that has taken years since the freeway construction to become an area that attracts bird and other animal life. What is the effect on this area? I only see negatives. There is no consideration of parking and traffic management. With large events on this sports ground and the tennis club in operation the parking spills into local streets and creates traffic jams despite the nearby train station parking. Dunlop street is a major thoroughfare and it doesn't take much to make it unworkable. Train commuters are then also badly affected. Have other sites for this soccer complex been considered?</p>
<p>This is a poorly considered proposal. It shows no awareness of environmental issues. The timing for consultation is not adequate at all. Soccer is well provided for in this area and lacrosse for all ages and genders absolutely needs to be considered by maintaining lacrosse access to this reserve as is.</p>
<p>No to synthetic surface, as a lacrosse family with 3 members currently playing and in general trying to grow Lacrosse as a sport in Victoria, a synthetic surface would rule out Lacrosse at this venue & potentially see a club fold due to nowhere to play/train.</p>
<p>In Melbourne there are heaps of spots to play soccer, but not at all many places to play lacrosse. There is a wall that only lacrosse grounds have to practice against, whereas you can play soccer anywhere.</p>
<p>I can't believe that you would remove a highly active local Lacrosse club that has been at this location for over 30 years and has funded the development of the infrastructure at the site. With the very short notice it comes across as an abuse of power. There are other locations that could be used for soccer.</p>
<p>This is DISGUSTING. Trying to grow the game of lacrosse, especially in the eastern suburbs and the council thinks it's okay to do this. Soccer has a reputation and a strong community involvement- by eradicating a ground that is dedicated to lacrosse (and has ALWAYS been a lacrosse field) is completely diminishing the hard work and commitment that Camberwell lacrosse and lacrosse VICTORIA have put in over these years. Completely unfair and will not be taken lightly.</p>
<p>Dorothy Laver Reserve West was originally developed for use by the Camberwell Lacrosse Club in the 1980s. Since then, it has been an area heavily used by the Club, and it is well loved by all members. My sister alone may spend up to 7 hours a week playing lacrosse at Dorothy Laver Reserve West for the Camberwell Lacrosse Club. She absolutely adores it. If these grounds were converted for use as new soccer fields, my sister and her entire team (not including all the other teams who use the Reserve for lacrosse) would need to find somewhere else to play. This project aims to increase the physical well-being of people in the area, but by trying to accommodate for the interests of soccer players in the area, everyone who already uses the Reserve for its lacrosse facilities will be displaced. Creating a new soccer field, when there are plenty of pre-existing fields to play soccer in around Camberwell and even Boroondara, is completely unnecessary. My sister may travel up to 60 minutes to reach other lacrosse clubs to play competition against other teams. This travel time is necessary because there are few lacrosse clubs around Melbourne. Removing Camberwell Lacrosse Club from Dorothy Laver Reserve could mean the death of this 91-year-old club, and this would mean the death of lacrosse for my sister. If people wanted to play soccer at Dorothy Laver Reserve West enough that this project is seriously being considered, they would be using the Reserve to practice even without premium soccer-specific facilities. Save your funds and leave the Reserve for the lacrosse players, and all who currently enjoy its fields and other facilities.</p>
<p>Why is this project going ahead when there is more than ONE sport that is played on this ground. This is either money or a councillors single mindedness that has suggested such a one eyed view to one SPORT over others.</p>
<p>Additional soccer facilities are desperately required in the Boroondara area, and this site appears ideal to not only provide for this, but also to provide a 12 month, 7 day per week floodlit facility for the community to enjoy, no matter what age or gender, plus flexible options for alternative sports to utilise as well. As a regular park user of this and other Boroondara parks, I fully support this development and am keen to be kept abreast of the project as it progresses.</p>
<p>Do not go ahead with this. Camberwell lacrosse club have invested money in these grounds and are working hard as a minority sport to increase their community participation. Displacement of a minority sport is not acceptable. There are soccer clubs everywhere!!! Its not necessary. I also have the luck to play there and camberwell have some of the best fields in lacrosse. We move eastern games there when our fields get drowned out. We have junior boys and girls and senior women & men.</p>
<p>What are you doing for the sports and clubs that utilizes the space at the moment? A soccer controlled field is not community space.</p>
<p>What about the lacrosse club? Do not go ahead with the proposal to replace an excellent community facility used by many sports with an artificial ground designed only for soccer.</p>
<p>My family have been members of the Riversdale Soccer Club for over 14 years. Our 2 sons still play for the club, and i know this new synthetic pitch will be absolutely wonderful as an added pitch in the area for our Soccer Club to use. We live in Ashburton and there is certainly a lack of synthetic pitches available for sporting clubs to use, unlike some other suburbs. Synthetic pitches offer year round use in all weather, and this feature is incredibly useful. I am in full support of this new synthetic pitch. It will also offer much needed space in summer pre-seasons, when so many other pitches have to compete with other summer sports. We can't wait to use it !.</p>

<p>Lacrosse, already being a sport that struggles to find areas allocated for the their participants to use, will struggle to find other areas to reside.</p>
<p>I am a Riversdale Soccer Club member. For some time, the Committee of the Riversdale Soccer Club have engaged with third parties in order to provide our kids with options to extend the traditional soccer season. As a parent of a child who plays at Riversdale Soccer Club, we see value in this development and strongly support the creation of the synthetic playing surface proposed by Boroondara Council at Dorothy Laver West Reserve.</p>
<p>Do not go ahead with the proposal to replace an excellent community facility used by many sports with an artificial ground designed only for soccer.</p>
<p>We are Riversdale Soccer Club members If this truly is going to be for everyone at multiple clubs then great. Riversdale Soccer Club have engaged with Camberwell high in order to provide our kids with options to extend the traditional soccer season. As a parent of a child who played at Riversdale Soccer Club and it still playing as an adult we see value in this development and strongly support the creation of the synthetic playing surface proposed by Boroondara Council at Dorothy Laver West Reserve. Fantastic news.</p>
<p>I am a Riversdale Soccer Club member. For some time, the Committee of the Riversdale Soccer Club have engaged with third parties in order to provide our kids with options to extend the traditional soccer season. As a parent of a child who plays at Riversdale Soccer Club, we see value in this development and strongly support the creation of the synthetic playing surface proposed by Boroondara Council at Dorothy Laver West Reserve.</p>
<p>Congratulations on this exciting proposal and I wholeheartedly support it. I live in walking (and hearing distance) from another Boroondara sports ground that has lighted use until 9pm and it poses no issues for me.</p>
<p>As a player at Ashburton United Soccer Club, I strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
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<p>As a player at Ashburton United Soccer Club, I strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>Hello I was gob smacked to discover that my local council was considering causing the dissolution of our local Lacrosse club and funding an elite enclosed space to which locals will no longer have ready access and doing it with council funds. Council funds to which I have been contributing to, for nearly 20 years. The ridiculousness of such a notion beggars belief! Our local Lacrosse club is the only one in the whole of Boroondara. How many soccer locations are there in Boroondara? I bet you can't answer that without checking, because there are so many! These Lacrosse fields were developed because of our club. They are available for the multifunctional use of all the Boroondara citizenry who value our limited greens spaces. Yet this proposal would change it into a gated, concrete and plastic space for the exclusive use of a few elite sports people. Is even one of them likely to actually live (and vote) within Boroondara? My teenage daughter has discovered Lacrosse and it has become her passion. Tell me where else within Boroondara you expect her to go? By contrast there are any number of places to enjoy soccer. I know this because I grew up playing soccer. It can be enjoyed in any number of the places that you have already allocated to it. It doesn't need to expand into this small, well-loved corner of Boroondara. I look at the reasons for this proposal at the Boroondara website (https://www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/about-council/have-your-say/all-consultations/dorothy-laver-reserve-west-community-consultation) and think "What a joke!" You say: "a year-round soccer focused facility that accommodates the full age spectrum of juniors through to seniors, and increases opportunities for women and girls" - Are you saying that there is nowhere for girls to play soccer in Boroondara? No! But you are saying to my daughter: "There is nowhere for you and your passion in our city". You say: "...Women's National Premier League (WNPL) senior soccer field". This is not local. This is not for our benefit and certainly not for my daughters. And you would have us funded it. Elite Sport should be funded by elite sports bodies not by local councils and their citizens. You say: "enhanced opportunities for passive recreation with approximately 2,800m² of land currently used for active sport being converted to passive open space". You would take a green, grass covered, open space, available to all our community- walkers, pet owners, young families, pic-nic-ers, general sports playing locals and wall it off. You would cover it with concrete and green plastic, reduce the available open space to a mere, minor fraction (2,800m²) of what it is and claim this enhances opportunities for passive recreation. What hypocrisy! You say: "energy efficient and environmentally friendly LED sports ground lighting that increase training opportunities for participants between the hours of 5pm and 9pm". What an excellent idea! Spend some of the funds I contribute on improving the lights that our club funded. You say: " relocation of the cricket wicket off the ... field, providing a safer facility for sporting participants. " Another good idea. Lets move the pitch away from the lighted area so the our Lacrosse players do not need to train on it. Lacrosse is a winter sport and training can only be undertaken in the evening under lights, so it makes sense for the cricket wicket to not be where the lights are. But lets consult with the cricketers. They too should be heard. As should we. This consultation process has not begun fairly. You gave us just 2 business days to arrange for us to meet with you last Tuesday. In the middle of the day, in the middle of the working week. Yet, still we made a presence. We care about our green spaces, our facilities and our clubs. We care about our children and the things they love. And we care about our City too. Elite National Sport should be located where it contributes to the local environment and be funded by the elite sporting bodies that represent it. It should not be to the detriment of locals like my daughter and not be funded by the rates locals like me pay. This process</p>

<p>has begun unfairly but it can still end justly. Reject this proposal that would take away from our local amenity for the benefit of elite sport.</p>
<p>As a player at Ashburton United Soccer Club, I strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
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<p>I am a Riversdale Soccer Club member. For some time, the Committee of the Riversdale Soccer Club have engaged with third parties in order to provide our kids with options to extend the traditional soccer season. As a parent of a child who plays at Riversdale Soccer Club, we see value in this development and strongly support the creation of the synthetic playing surface proposed by Boroondara Council at Dorothy Laver West Reserve.</p>
<p>Roses are red, Later ill be nappin' Ashy to dorothy laver Lets make it happen.</p>
<p>How will this project benefit the existing users of these facilities? What has council decided to disadvantage existing users and develop a perfectly good facility so that the only beneficiary will be non existing tenants? Why the obsession with synthetic surfaces? Is it councils position to change all natural surfaces in boroondara to synthetic? Council seems to be determined to ruin a perfectly good and used facility. One can only assume councillors have a direct benefit, possibly financial, in making this change.</p>
<p>As a player at Ashburton United Soccer Club, I strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>Would love a proper pitch to play and use as a home ground for the growing club of Ashburton.</p>
<p>As a player at Ashburton United Soccer Club, I strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>As a player at Ashburton United Soccer Club, I strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>Don't do it! That ground has been used for the lacrosse club (and hosted many amazing lacrosse events) for over 40 years! There are so many other sports that play on that field and you want to focus purely on soccer. It's ridiculous - find somewhere else. Soccer is boring.</p>
<p>A great iniative and a must in supporting the growth of women/girls football and sport in general.</p>
<p>Please preserve lacrosse facilities.</p>
<p>This is a dedicated Lacrosse field. Lacrosse is a minor sport, loved by many and receiving very little funds from Governance at Federal or State Level. Usually Local Councils do support minor sports e.g. Not Aussie Rules Football or Cricket. Lacrosse has developed the current club rooms and lighting at this ground and should be supported to continue to play at this field. nWe love the sport of Lacrosse which is trying hard to be reinstated as an Olympic Sport. Come down and watch it being played, have the rules explained to you and you will also Love it!!!</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>This is an excellent idea and will provide increased access to quality sports and recreational facilities to all members of the community.</p>
<p>There are many sporting teams that use this field so to change it just for a single sport to the possible detriment of other sorting clubs is stupid. The Dorothy laver reserve was originally created for the lacrosse club so to change the reserve for a sport that it wasn't originally made for at the possible detriment of the original club at that reserve would be an honest example of how shit our government are.</p>
<p>I am a Riversdale Soccer Club member. For some time, the Committee of the Riversdale Soccer Club have engaged with third parties in order to provide our kids with options to extend the traditional soccer season. As a parent of a child who plays at Riversdale Soccer Club, we see value in this development and strongly support the creation of the synthetic playing surface proposed by Boroondara Council at Dorothy Laver West Reserve.</p>
<p>Camberwell Lacrosse Club is a important part of our sport in Victoria, and for them to have their facility taken from them would be a great shame. Lacrosse is a growing sport and clubs need the support of local councils so they in turn can support local kids!</p>
<p>I am concerned about the lack of facilities and options from this plan for the other sporting clubs using this space. What does this mean for camberwell lacrosse club. It is s club that has a good junior development programme. All sports should be encouraged and supported not just one or two, especially sports that already use this ground.</p>
<p>"Do not go ahead with the proposal to replace an excellent community facility used by many sports with an artificial ground designed only for soccer".</p>
<p>I do not support the project as this would disadvantage Camberwell Lacrosse Club, an already established sporting club focussed on Junior development in the area.</p>
<p>I am a Riversdale Soccer Club member and have been a member since 1994. I played competitive soccer with the club up until 2014 and continued with the club into coaching the juniors (u5,u6,u7,u8 to this year u11's both girls and boys). Each year, the Committee of the Riversdale Soccer Club engage with third parties in order to provide the kids with options to extend the traditional soccer season. As an ex player, now a coach and a parent of 3 boys who play at Riversdale Soccer Club, I see absolute value in this development and strongly support the creation of the synthetic playing surface proposed by Boroondara Council at Dorothy Laver West Reserve. This would be an extremely exciting development for the community.</p>

<p>No. Please don't go ahead with this! What about the lacrosse club that resides & plays there? Lacrosse is a game that exists because of the love & loyalty from its community - not just with this club - but from all the clubs. This sport doesn't get a lot 'leg ups' anyway, so please don't pull away the ladder. I understand soccer is popular, but lacrosse has our whole family driving across town to participate. Please don't put an artificial turf here & completely forget lacrosse & the lacrosse community.</p>
<p>No, No , No ! This ground has belonged to Camberwell Lacrosse Club since the early eighties. My husband and sons played lacrosse there. Now another generation is playing . CLC is a strong family club . It means so much to many people .It is a minor sport with a STROG following . Please don't do this !</p>
<p>I am in support of these types of projects. Which soccer clubs will have use of the facility?</p>
<p>"Do not go ahead with the proposal to replace an excellent community facility used by many sports with an artificial ground designed only for soccer".</p>
<p>Do not go ahead with the proposal to replace an amazing community facility used by many sports with an artificial ground designed only for soccer</p>
<p>This ground is home to Camberwell Lacrosse Club. Soccer cannot come in and just take over grounds that are allocated to other sports. Where do they go?? I say NO to this project</p>
<p>I am shocked to hear that Boroondara council are currently rushing through assessing a plan to turn Dorothy Laver West into a dedicated soccer facility to support the area's Women's Premier League soccer club. The plan does not address how the needs of Camberwell Lacrosse Club will be met past the 2018 season, except that the facility is clearly not designed for lacrosse, or indeed the cricket that is played there. Worse, from a whole of community point of view, is that the plan is put artificial turf over a very large area of grassed fields within the currently beautiful parkland adjacent to Gardiners Creek. This natural parkland serves many more people than the sports clubs that currently have the use of the fields and the proposed changes would significantly affect that priceless community amenity for all the locals and the many visitors drawn to our parklands. Indeed, the park is a beautiful space with a top facility and ground that is well drained, always in good condition and an asset to the community. This is seemingly being rushed through planning with the community consultation period currently open but with a very short timeline. I would be grateful if you could do what you can to ensure the proper amount of community consultation occurs before the needs of an elite national club are put over the extensive and varied needs of the local residents and community. I have appended some notes prepared by Camberwell Lacrosse Club that more fully express my own concerns as a long-term resident of Ashburton since 1987. Concerns Environmental impact Loss of biodiversity, replacing green open space and bird habitat with artificial surface; Negative environmental impact of building a synthetic surface on a designated flood plain (land subject to inundation) resulting in contaminants in water ways. If a levee is built around the ground, the flood zone may rise into nearby residential zones potentially impacting insurance cover of residents. Loss of amenity Fenced area for sports only, no more dog walking and family games; Massive reduction of open space to only 2,800m2 - locals will be restricted to small patches at either end; Projected 400% usage increase (75 hours a week) will result in overflow of car parking into local streets. Loss of a community club 30 years ago Camberwell Lacrosse Club led the charge to develop what was then waste land into the community facility that exists today, including significant club financial contributions. No alternative or recompense has yet been offered or is included in the plan; Prioritising an elite Women's National Premier League club over local community kids playing lacrosse is not consistent with Boroondara strategy - elite soccer should not be funded by local ratepayers. Flow on impact at Eric Raven Reserve Forcing the lacrosse club to play and train all age groups at Eric Raven Reserve will impact local residents with increased traffic and noise during evenings; Eric Raven, one of the few leash-free dog parks in the area, will not be available during Saturday and Sunday games or three nights a week required for training. Inappropriate investment and governance The planning process has had no involvement from current users of the ground, sporting clubs and local residents, until this week; Consultation has been token: short notice and arranged at a time of maximum inconvenience (during business hours with 2 days notice at end of financial year); Process of feedback is being abused, with FFV encouraging all soccer fans to complete the survey "on behalf of football"; Criteria and decision making process have no transparency, and council refused to clarify or make these available. Council staff indicated it was a council department, not councillor, decision. This is a \$4.5 million investment that has a negative impact on the community and has been pushed through with poor governance and consultation. Council must STOP this process now, engage with stakeholders and perform a community and environment assessment. This should be conducted by an independent body, not by council staff working closely with Football Federation Victoria."</p>
<p>I think this will be a great facility and provide a much needed upgrade in the Boroondara area. We need more year round facilities for clubs and the public alike.</p>
<p>Do not go ahead with the proposal to replace an excellent community facility used by many sports with an artificial ground designed only for soccer.</p>
<p>I support grass and the lease to Camberwell lacrosse as my two daughters played lacrosse for a number of years. If Camb lacrosse had only one field the conditions of the ground would deteriorate and become unplayable . It would make the sport unattractive to juniors and possibly become an unsafe surface. The minority sport of lacrosse is worth supporting as Camb lacrosse has expanded its junior female participation rates and is one of few eastern suburbs clubs to expand and rebuild female competition. Camberwell lacrosse has always managed the ground surface so there has been good grass coverage to lessen impact on the summer sports. I also find synthetic to be unattractive, particularly when water remains on the surface for a period of time. I previously lived in Dunlop St and just moved 1 year ago.</p>
<p>I am a Riversdale Soccer Club member. For some time, the Committee of the Riversdale Soccer Club have engaged with third parties in order to provide our kids with options to extend the traditional soccer season. As a parent of a child who plays at Riversdale Soccer Club, we see value in this development and strongly support the creation of the synthetic playing surface proposed by Boroondara Council at Dorothy Laver West Reserve.</p>
<p>Many sports use these grounds, by putting synthetic turf down you are minimising other sports. Where are you thinking of relocating camberwell Lacrosse club to. I think you are being very narrow minded.</p>

<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Alamein Football Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>Sub 1: The grounds are currently being used by Camberwell lacrosse club; What does your proposal propose for them? Synthetic turf ruins the area for walkers. Sub 2: I am a resident and ratepayer in Boroondara for the last 30 years. I am wondering why soccer clubs who already have at least 15 grounds in the city of Boroondara need to take over a ground from different sports? Surely the city could look at redeveloping a ground that soccer already uses? I asked this question on Wednesday but was not given a satisfactory answer. I am still expecting one.</p> <p>This will be at the expense of the Ashy Redbacks football club who use the ground for training, Glen Iris Cricket Club , and Camberwell Lacrosse club. At your "consultation" there was a lot of mention of the word "diversity" . 1 association taking over sports grounds that are currently used by 3 sports does not sound like diversity to me.</p> <p>I attended your "consultation" on Wednesday evening and left with the feeling that this has been decided long ago. I happened to do a little google research on soccer and Boroondara as suggested by one of your staff members and found a document with mention of a search for a site for a synthetic grass surface. This document was published in 2006. The whole process leading up to this has been done in secrecy with no consultation or mention to current tenants or residents. I am sure that the soccer club has been fully aware of what has been going on. A question was asked by an attendee (not me) about any vested interest by anyone on council . This was denied by the person running the meeting. The same thought has crossed my mind. I am wondering if this goes ahead we will see one or a few of your staff doing an "Andrew Robb" or a "Martin Ferguson"? I happen to live in close proximity to the grounds in question. Dunlop street. We have had ongoing issues with through traffic and vehicle's from other areas using our street as a shortcut to avoid Malvern Rd/ High St corner and also the boom gates on High Street. This issue has been raised with council many times resulting in some speed humps that are more for show than actually discouraging through traffic. A year round soccer ground is only going to intensify the traffic and parking problems. Saturday mornings during winter East Malvern football club hosts Auskick I have seen reports stating that they have around 600 kids attending. If anyone from council bothered to investigate what happens in the area they would be aware that there is already parking and traffic problems on Saturdays. I was also suprised to hear that Stonnington council who share the area have not been informed of this!! This seems to be a poorly thought out plan by vested interests with no consideration for the current tennants of the ground or for local residents; as such I am in opposition the proposal.</p>
<p>As a player of the Camberwell Lacrosse Club who will be negatively impacted by this proposal, we strongly oppose the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you abandon this proposal immediately.</p>
<p>DO NOT TAKE THIS VENUE AWAY FROM CAMBERWELL LACROSSE CLUB! IT IS A VITAL CLUB WITHIN THE LACROSSE COMMUNITY AND IS CRITICAL IN SUSTAINING THIS ALREADY UNREPRESENTED SPORT. PLEASE RESPECT THE CLUB, PALYERS, SUPPORTERS AND LOCAL COMMUNITY BY ALLOWING THIS SPORT AND CLUB RICH WITH HISTORY TO CONTIUE USING THIS PLACE!!!</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Riversdale Soccer Club, we see value in this development and strongly support the creation of the synthetic playing surface proposed by Boroondara Council at Dorothy Laver West Reserve.</p>
<p>Please leave camberwell lacrosse club at Dorothy laver reserve west. Support women in sport!</p>
<p>This project leaves no purpose-built space for a Lacrosse Club that has been a mainstay in Victorian Lacrosse for numerous years. The Camberwell Lacrosse Club has put huge amounts of time and effort into this venue. To take it away with no replacement is narrow minded and provides no alternative to minority sports. Lacrosse is one of the quickest growing sports in the world. To get rid of a facility like this is detrimental to not only this club, but the game itself, as well as the wider community. Please reconsider this development.</p>
<p>I believe the proposal is unfair on the Camberwell La Crosse club ; a club that was formed in 1927. Dorothy Laver West was initially developed for Camberwell Lacrosse Club in the 1980's, previously being unused land. They arranged to develop the club rooms and fund raised to pay for the lights. Since then, it has been its home to the club. It is fed by local primary schools - Solway Primary School, Glen Iris and Camberwell South etc. so has a direct and ongoing connection.</p>
<p>I would like to say that I am against the proposed changes to Dorothy Laver Reserve because it would seem it will only be suitable for Soccer once completed. What is planned for the Lacrosse club that currently uses the site?</p>
<p>I am a Riversdale Soccer Club member. For some time, the Committee of the Riversdale Soccer Club have engaged with third parties in order to provide our kids with options to extend the traditional soccer season. As a parent of a child who plays at Riversdale Soccer Club, we see value in this development and strongly support the creation of the synthetic playing surface proposed by Boroondara Council at Dorothy Laver West Reserve.</p>
<p>I am a parent who has 2 children playing at Ashy Redbacks who utilises the Dorthy Laver reserve during pre season training. My question is what does this mean for Ashy Redbacks ability to train.</p>
<p>I am all for the development of multi-use projects enhancing the community. I moved in to the area in 1994 and have seen a very gradual and then accelerated change of demographic over those 24 years to where we find ourselves today, a young family area that utilises outdoor activities regularly. Amongst other things, I have been involved with the Ashburton United Football Club which has seen a mirrored growth as you would expect. It has been a beacon in the middle of the Glen Iris, Malvern, Ashburton and Camerwell areas which has drawn many families over the years to see it today at just over 1200 voting adults and over 700 children, both male and female. I find it amazing that a club with such a strong history and continued strong growth, who use the grounds as a vital part of setting up their year and thus find them extremely important to all these members, was not consulted in a meaningful way. I understand that notices and letters are often supplied but as this is news to the President, it is news to us. Even if proper protocol was followed, I am flabbergasted that the club that carries so many members were not contacted in person and explained what it means to them. Are we re-locating? Are we using the new facilities? These questions and more need require answering before any decision is made save a fairly problematic back lash. I look forward to hearing an update from our President once you have made personal contact which I gather will be soon as you currently have a lot of members in your council wanting an answer.</p>

<p>It discourages the participation and growth of sports other than soccer. As someone who grew up playing lacrosse here against camberwell lacrosse club, it is rather disheartening to see that a sports club like this and perhaps many others will soon no longer have a ground to train and play. It's like the council has no regard for sports other than those proposed above.</p>
<p>my family has lived in the area for over a 100 years. played lacrosse on dorathy laver east in the early 1900!my granddfather.4 generations of our family have been involed in lacrosse.so what is happing to the camberwell lacrosse access to the grounds?also the dog club on sundays. on speaking to my grand parents in francis cres, they recived the letter drop on monday 25 june,informing them of the meeting on tuesday the next day at 2 -3 pm not much notice or a very good time for working people. what gives. with incread congestion & noise on weekends & nites. more fencening and brighter lights. seen as local councillor is on the local soccer club committee seems a conflict of int. sounds a bit doggy!restl this propasal comes out of the blue with no commuitley knowing whats going on.</p>
<p>"Do not go ahead with the proposal to replace an excellent community facility used by many sports with an artificial ground designed only for soccer".</p>
<p>What is going to happen to Camberwell Lacrosse Club? Where are we expected to play and train when you give a ground we have used for decades to another sporting club? There are dozens of soccer facilities and clubs in Boroondara and only one lacrosse club so you are going to deprive the lacrosse players of Boroondara of literally the only option they have to increase the already plentiful options to soccer players? To try and sell this project under the guise of providing female athletes more opportunities is completely disingenuous what about female lacrosse players whats you excuse for removing their opportunities? This whole project stinks of dodgy corrupt local government no environmental impact assessment, no explanation of where we are expected to play if this project does go ahead and then you want to rush the whole thing through as quickly as possible hoping nobody will notice any of the obvious issues with this project. Camberwell Lacrosse Club has always been treated with indifference by Boroondara Council we understand that we play a sport that is not that popular and we are a small club however we do expect to be treated with a bit of respect rather than walked all over by a council that doesn't seem to care we are a local institution that has played in the area for 90 years. Surely there is a better location in Boroondara for this facility why not redevelop one of the many of parks that doesn't have a winter sport tenant? Unfortunately I don't have much confidence in Boroondara doing the right thing and coming up with a solution that is fair for all parties I'm sure this project is considered a done deal by the council and this feedback will be considered an annoyance that's to be ignored. I hope I can be proven wrong.</p>
<p>I started my lacrosse career in Australia at Dorothy Laver. 'Down by the creek' as the song goes. It was and is such a great ground that caters for much more than a sporting playing field. As the owners of dogs my parents would walk our dog while I trained. In the off season I would use the open fields to keep fit (there's not much open real green space left in this area these days. I am appalled that there is no conservational impact analysis being made? This is a large open green space that is important to the area of boroondara. Also as a council it would great to look into the sports you want to support. Lacrosse is a great family friendly sport that delivers a family friendly community that you can play from a young age and keep going until you really can't run no more. There's something so special about it. Australia are highly competitive and both mens and women's teams often medal at world cups. It's a sport that people can have realistic goals to represent their state and their country at. Please please please see sense and don't make a rushed decision that could kill a club and many wildlife that call this great ground home.</p>
<p>I'm providing this feedback with regards to this consultation process as a parent of two active children playing Australian Rules Football with the United Junior Football Club (Ashy Redbacks) – one of the largest junior AFL club in the Yarra Junior Football League (YJFL) The Club has been a tenant of Dorothy Laver West and East for a number of years as part of its pre-season activity (Feb – Mar inclusive). This requirement is due to the Burwood Cricket Club having tenancy of Burwood Reserve throughout the summer months and limited other alternatives. As re-occurring annual tenant of the grounds, it's disappointing the Club and parents (majority being local residents and therefore rate payers) not given greater opportunity to hear about the proposed plans and what alternatives are in place for our 2019 preseason training requirements. Whilst I'm very supportive of the active development of sport and recreation within the community, as our council, I reasonable expect greater pre-emptive consultation inclusive of detail plans catering for those parties displaced by the proposed redevelopment. The club has 700+ registered children from 7 to 18 yrs of age and the Club is experiencing continued growth due to the increased appeal of the sport and the expansion of female football. I'm sure my concerns mirror that of other local parents of the registered children.</p>
<p>I don't believe this should proceed. The Camberwell Lacrosse club currently use and maintain this and have since the 80's. Your argument about encouraging sport for the community is daft as there is already an established team. Clearly you look for who can pay the most not who actually deserve to use it.</p>
<p>There seems to be no consideration made for the Camberwell lacrosse club which has been there for over 30 years. This is a major part of our family's recreation during the year.</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Alamein Football Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>Ruins the natural vibe of the area. A sad day for minority sports who need the support of council and have been great leasers of the area and look after the field and rooms. A multifunctional area should not be dedicated to soccer year long which already has great sponsors behind them. Would also increase already busy traffic and difficult parking opportunities. Noisy too.</p>
<p>The Camberwell Lacrosse Club have a proud history and have been great users of the Reserve for decades. Council should be assisting them to develop an all weather facility on the site..... please stop soccer from taking over.</p>
<p>As a sportsperson I love seeing the community provide new and upgraded facilities. I don't however like seeing communities have to foot the bill for a single use facility. There doesn't seem to be any joint usage plans and only soccer seems to get to access the facility. The way this has been to the community seems to be rather suspect as there are already plans to being construction and multiple stakeholders have not been councilled on plans. I hope that the council will change the plans and either make the facility a multiuse facility and not disregard many groups for the sake of soccer.</p>

<p>As of former player of Camberwell Lacrosse club myself and having children who still play the game - I am appalled at the lack of consideration for the Lacrosse club and other users of the reserve. From what I see of the plans it benefits soccer at a huge loss to other sporting clubs and locals alike.</p>
<p>The project is giving no consideration to the existing Camberwell lacrosse club which has previously raised money for the lights on the oval and organised renovations of the club rooms. I have been a member of Camberwell lacrosse club for more than 7 years, training and playing matches on Dorothy Laver West. I think that it is fantastic that the council is looking to further expand facilities available for women's sports, however the proposed project would be cutting off all facilities available to the many female members of Camberwell Lacrosse Club. The new development needs to take this into consideration by at least putting lacrosse markings on the new field to enable the continuation of lacrosse on the oval. Dorothy Laver West oval is also a flood plain which means that making the surface synthetic would increase its susceptibility to flooding and decrease the ovals ability to absorb heavy downpours. I also think that the oval is much more aesthetically pleasing when it is natural grass.</p>
<p>Another hipster council being bullies to get their own way low tactics sleazy and uncaring pushing private a genders pathetic accommodate both properly or leave the existing club alone. Call it what it is corrupt.</p>
<p>This plan is appalling! These grounds have been a vital and loved part of the lacrosse club and it would be devastating. It would also remove valued community land for the public, dog walkers ect.</p>
<p>I support the proposal</p>
<p>one word - disappointing.</p>
<p>I'm writing this feedback as an annual user of Dorothy Laver Reserve. I am club captain of and a player at the Ashy Redbacks, and each year our girls teams and a number of our boys teams utilise Dorothy Laver Reserve for our preseason training. It has been very convenient for us due to its location, and the space available has meant that multiple teams can use the ground at one time. If the ground were to be made synthetic then we would no longer be able to use the ground. Having trained and played a practice match on a synthetic surface earlier this year, I have first hand experience of the harm that can come to players if playing on these surfaces. Many players left our training with cut knees and other scratches because of the surface and the ability to practice tackling is eliminated as the surface is a lot harder than grass and therefore more dangerous. Changing the surface would mean that our club would have to find another ground close by that we could use for our preseason trainings. Due to high demand it is difficult to find ovals that aren't already being used by other teams or other sports. It would be a shame if our teams were to be unable to undertake preseason training due being unable to use our usual ground, and this would have a big influence on the seasons of many of our teams, as well as our club. That being said, I think that new lights would be highly beneficial and allow for more people to safely enjoy the ground at a wider range of times. I am in full support of the proposal for new lights. I hope that my views and the views of my team can be taken into consideration.</p>
<p>As a long time player of womens lacrosse, it would be terrible for the sport if camberwell was to be left homeless. Camberwell has had a womens team for nearly 40yrs. We are meant to be encouraging girls to take up sport. Please do not take camberwells ground away from them.</p>
<p>As a 15 year long former play and member of camberwell lacrosse club i love the traditional home of my club. However i am a huge believer in involving girls in sport. Unfortunately camberwell lacrosse club has done stuff all to do this. As a former coach of the womens team it was like pulling teeth to get funding and attention on the womens game. Soccer will do so much to encourage many girls getting involved. So im all for progress. Good job.</p>
<p>As a member of the Camberwell lacrosse club and past player that played first r many years on this ground I'm disappointed to see a smaller sport marginalised for a sport with no connection to the immediate precinct. Surely there are other locations suitable for this development.</p>
<p>The proposed changes to the Dorothy Laver Reserve West oval (namely the installation of synthetic turf) would prohibit use by both the local lacrosse club that trains on the ground, and the many other lacrosse clubs that come to the area to play with the local club. As it currently stands, there is already a limited number of available ovals to use for lacrosse games across the city, with more traditional sports such as football and soccer using up most of the available space. On top of this, the home ground for a lacrosse club must be available for regular training sessions. We are currently training two days a week and already have to spread the training times for the many age and league groupings across many hours, as we only have the space to train 2-3 teams at once. Lacrosse is both more dangerous and more difficult to play on a synthetic surface than on grass or dirt. These factors would prohibit use of the field by the lacrosse group, cutting our available space for games by another two thirds and our capacity for training by between two thirds and three quarters. The lacrosse club is a large and passionate group that brings a lot of traffic to the Dorothy Laver Reserve area. Personally, I wouldn't be surprised if our early morning Saturday games made up the majority of the coffee sales in the surrounding area. Many of the players also stop at local businesses for lunch before our early-mid afternoon games. To my knowledge, the lacrosse club also makes up a very large portion of the reserve's usage. If the club is unable to play on the majority of the reserve, it will certainly be discouraged and could even be forced to leave and try to find a replacement home ground. This would likely have a negative effect on local businesses and an even stronger effect on the overall use of the ground.</p>
<p>Do not put in a synthetic ground for soccer. It's already a great ground for the community and for multiple sports to all get a use out of the field. Limiting the field to only soccer is unfair to those in the community to who do not participate in the sport and wish to continue to use it the way its always been.</p>
<p>There doesn't seem to be any mention of the exsisting Lacrosse Club / fields moving forward. Why?</p>
<p>I do not agree with this proposal. How many more soccer field are needed. No mention of the existing lacrosse club that currently use this ground. Lacrosse already do not have access in general to good facilities as it is. As soccer and lacrosse are played in the same season it seems greedy money hungry Boroondara council are kicking them to the curb, an organisation that gets no federal funding unlike that of soccer. SHAME ON YOU. One can only assume people in charge of this proposal have a personal vested interest in soccer being played there. Apart from this having synthetic grounds limites the use by the residents and is more open to vandalism. An example is the cannons soccer club who had somebody torch their new synthetic ground in the Monash council.</p>

Do not change it leave it for lacrosse and cricket. That's what it was made for
The proposal does not discuss the impact on other existing users, e.g. the AFL related club who use the grounds (AFL 9s, pre-season Training), the reduction of one of the cricket fields, the apparent cessation of any support for Lacrosse; nor, in the case of DL East, the GI Dog Club who use this facility. Don't personally support Soccer though I can understand that there is a need, however, in this area, Soccer seems to be over supported, e.g. there are Soccer fields at Watsons Park, Markam Ave, Warner Ave and High Street. Within the same area, there are the 3 fields that are used by the Knights (Stonnington) near the EM RSL, and one ground off High St (Stonnington) near Glen Iris Station. Not sure what sport is played on the other field near this last one on the Boroondara side of the creek. So does this mean with this concentration of Soccer support here, that some of these other mentioned fields will be re-purposed to other sports? I support greater and better support for sporting activities, however, I think it should be balanced. Our kids play AFL and their club had to cap the number of teams available because of the lack of training and playing facilities; they used to participate in Athletics, but once they became too old the Little Aths, there are no facilities within Boroondara for athletics at all. As one of the premier councils in Melbourne, it is incumbent on you to support greater participation and cover more sports. This is a good move towards providing good support for Soccer, but there must be a commensurate support for other sports and activities, especially where this initiative impacts other recreational users of these facilities by providing alternates, and this must be covered in the proposal. Finally, as a daily cycle commuter into the city who uses the path immediately adjacent to the construction, I'd like to ensure that there is no impact on this path by this activity; for example, redirecting cyclists to use Saxby St would be unacceptable due to the need to travel with cars and the entrance on to the track at the end of Saxby St is loose and dangerous and is therefore not an acceptable alternative as you would be putting cyclists in danger from cars and surface.
This project has not taken into consideration the environmental impact of a synthetic pitch nor the needs of all sporting clubs that utilize the reserve. Lacrosse is a fast growing sport that should be supported and this project fails to do so. Plans should be reconsidered and improved in order to ensure that all stakeholders, including non-sporting visitors, as well as the environment are served better by these developments. Dorothy Laver reserve is a fantastic place for healthy living and sports of all kinds to be available to the community. The current plans do not reflect or support this.
I play lacrosse at Dorothy Laver West, taking away our ground would especially be detrimental to our junior program. Which in the future would hurt our senior numbers.
Dont put the soccer shit on this reserve! I DONT AGREE WITH THIS PROPOSAL!!!
Soccer is a shit sport and this sport needs to Ben saved, you're tearing our sport apart.
This venue is important to lacrosse and should be left as a dedicated space to support junior lacrosse in the Boroondara area.
It's 30 June 2018, I'm out walking the dog on a Saturday morning, it's cold, it's windy, it's raining, it's the first day of the school holidays. Over on Dorothy Laver West there are 2 junior Lacrosse games underway. 6 players a side. And the immediate carpark is full. 3 cars are already parked illegally on the garden area fringing the tennis club. There's even a couple of cars parked illegally on the verge along June Crescent. I love the sounds over summer of the junior cricket players on a Friday evening and Saturday morning. Even when I get trapped in my driveway on Saxby Road when cricket parents park along both sides of a narrow street. I have previously raised this with council but was told it didn't warrant further traffic management (no parking signs along one side of Saxby Rd was my suggestion), that I'd just have to put up with cars parked across my driveway. I'm a supporter of offering sporting facilities to encourage health and fitness. It's why we love the area, lots of parks, ovals and paths. Like many other residents in the area we utilise the open space for our own leisure activities. Whether that's walking the dog, kicking the footy in winter, throwing the frisbee, hitting a softball/baseball or over summer when my son drags across his cricket stumps, bat and ball and gathers the neighbourhood kids for a game of cricket. Areas of concern
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No consideration of existing sporting groups that utilise the facilities – Camberwell Lacrosse, Glen Iris & Ashburton Cricket, Dela Sale and St Kevins Football clubs. Or even Glen Iris Primary and Solway that use the ovals for interschool sports • Providing additional facilities for a popular sport with no consideration for maintaining opportunities for sporting diversity. • No consideration for traffic management – The 72 existing car spaces do not currently cope on a Saturday morning when there's Lacrosse, Auskick and Tennis underway in the various adjoining areas • This is a biodiverse area with wetlands and bird habitats. What is the environmental impact of runoff from a synthetic surface or the affect of heat sink on the immediately habits microclimate. • Your passive recreation statement is spin and not fact. The whole area is already available around sporting club use for passive recreation and are well utilised. The proposal in fact dramatically reduces availability for passive recreation. • The relocation of the lighting puts the light towers directly opposite 26 Saxby Road and with the increased usage there is likely to be flood lights and noise flooding into this house in particular every day of the week as opposed to the current 1-2 evenings from the far end of Dorothy Laver West • The future proposal for Dorothy Laver East shows field boundaries that extend to the edge of the oval along Francis Crescent and I have deep concerns that this will mean the removal of some of the large established and spectacular trees that line this oval. Stand in the middle of this oval and swivel 360degrees, it is an amazing green spot in the middle of suburbia • If council wants to increase capacity for soccer by looking into synthetic surfaces, why not redevelop an existing soccer oval and then assess how capacity has changed. Surely redevelopment of facilities at their existing base must be the starting point. Even marking the existing ovals for soccer would increase capacity without spending \$4.5M on a synthetic surface.
We'd also like council to investigate and report on some obvious conflict of interest and probity issues.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conflict of Interest - Garry Thompson is a member of the committee of Ashburton United Soccer Club. A key club that will benefit from this proposed redevelopment of Dorothy Laver West. • Probity Issue - Soccer club parents in the area were asked over the previous weeks to sign a petition in support of this redevelopment. This was prior to any consultation with the community and existing sporting groups using the area. Although at the open day held on Tuesday 26 June the council representatives denied any consultation with AUSC.
Can you advise if you will investigate this conflict of interest and probity issue through raising it on this forum or whether this needs to be raised through a different formal process?

<p>Making these ovals synthetic will limit the ability for Junior AFL football teams to use particularly in the preseason, my 3 boys do preseason for Ashy redbacks, these fields are extremely important to the Ashy redbacks.</p>
<p>As a user of this facility i would like to add my comments: Firstly, the undue haste and lack of engagement with the sporting clubs that use the reserve at the present time. The council has announced a start date for proceeding without due input from the public. The Camberwell Lacrosse club has used this site for many years and THEY have girls and women playing sport. What provision has been made for their loss of facilities? The lacrosse club was instrumental in procuring the current lighting for the ground. There appears to be no planning for increased demand for parking. I see no evidence in the current plan located above for 'enhanced opportunities for passive recreation'.</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club and a resident and ratepayer of Boroondara I strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>I am a former Camberwell Lacrosse Club player and current resident of Glen Iris. Through the opportunities and support of this club I represented teams from Under 13's to State League; and representative teams of Victoria; honoured to represent Australia, and played and captained a college team in America. I would hope this qualifies me to speak loudly and clearly of the benefits and fabulous community that lies in the tradition of the Camberwell Lacrosse Club. Did you know the State League team made the Lacrosse Victoria Grand final last year for the first time in recent history? To try and ram through this change and huge investment with no transparency, no strategy to engage with the current users of the ground (who have continually raised funds to improve their own amenities), no appreciation of the traditions of a successful community club; is quite frankly unbelievable and ultimately will fail. I would like to see and understand the council's strategy of how the lacrosse grounds will be included and improved, and also transparency (that should be made easily available to the entire public) of how and why this decision to finance and support an elite soccer facility with no inclusion of other parkland users has come to be. That will be really interesting for all of us who are now engaged in this project.</p>
<p>What about the lacrosse fields. Its a struggling sport and you going to make it harder.</p>
<p>I am not in support of this proposal as no consideration has been given to the other sporting groups such as AFL football and Lacrosse that utilise these grounds. What is the plan in terms of relocating these groups to other viable sporting grounds?</p>
<p>What will happen to the camberwell lacrosse club that is a foundation sport at this reserve with a thriving junior program in men's and women's lacrosse . Camberwell lacrosse club were in the men's State league grand final in 2017 and members have put blood sweat and tears into providing a sport and club rooms for the local community . Not ok to just move lacrosse out and a big sport with money like soccer in!.</p>
<p>I understand the intent to encourage women in sport and I fully support and love this idea. However, the ground is home to SO many different smaller sports clubs that would be ruined if the park was to change. We should be utilising the space as it is and encouraging the growth of existing smaller sports and women's teams that desperately need the love of our community. Changing the park to suit only ONE sport which already has existing clubs and fields in the area is just illogical, and would mean the other sports that use the oval, which is currently the lacrosse team's HOME GROUNDS, would be unable to use it. It just seems like your intent to encourage women in sport, which is amazing, is not going to be helped at all by simply changing an oval and disadvantaging other girls sports teams, to only suit soccer. I as well as many others just find this project counter productive and unreasonable, and I implore you to reconsider the repercussions that this would have on the sporting and lacrosse community in our area.</p>
<p>This development will benefit the local community tremendously. I have played soccer since a young age and could have only dreamed of such great facilities in my local area. The synthetic pitch enables sporting teams to use the ground all year round. The proposed lighting is also a wonderful addition as it will allow clubs to train till 9pm in a safe environment.</p>
<p>The way this project is presented it is clear that little or no consideration has been made for the current sporting clubs using this field, along with the residents in the area. I am involved in lacrosse, but I'm not a member of camberwell. They are one of the few clubs who can cater to numerous games. However, from experience the parking spaces are limited and on many occasions players, supporters and families are made to park on residential streets. There has been no consideration of how the parking issue will be addressed if the project moves forward. It also leads people to wonder has the been any research done to see what the community feel would be best or how it will impact the environment.</p>
<p>It would be a SERIOUS shame if the oval were to become exclusively a soccer venue - lacrosse too is a growing sport in Australia. Currently the women's Australian Lacrosse Team are ranked 4th in the world, having won the World Cup on 2 previous occasions. The oval is used for junior development and senior lacrosse and should continue to be used for this.</p>
<p>110% supportive of this investment. With three football playing daughters under the age of 13 this is critical for their ambitions to play and develop on top level facilities, but more importantly encouraging healthy active kids across the board. A great initiative and one that I look forward to seeing approved and then using with my girls especially as I am a Boroondara resident.</p>
<p>I oppose the project as no consideration to existing lacrosse club that have club rooms and currently use this ground has been made.</p>
<p>I disagree with the proposal. The Camberwell Lacrosse Club will be left with no home. And the loss of open grass land will be devastating.</p>
<p>Please provide an area for lacrosse. It has been at this location for decades. Please consider our small sport and plan for us as well. Australia is among the top nations competing and many Australian representatives come from Camberwell Lacrosse. Thank you.</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Alamein Football Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>What happens to the Lacrosse fields?</p>
<p>I support developing soccer in the are all but not at the expense of another sport that has supported the local community for decades. A solution needs to be found to support soccer and lacrosse.</p>

<p>I think there is some evidence of health risks for children to be playing on this surface. The tiny black crumbs that support the turf are made from tyres and can be toxic. This is a risk for the players and for the surrounding environment Various pigments are used for colouring the blades and lines such as titanium and lead The synthetic turf can also grow weeds and so may require weed killer Why are we digging up perfectly good grass for synthetic material? There is some evidence of more abrasions on this surface and higher infections that are resistant to antibiotics.</p> <p>This whole project needs further time to consult with the community. have you thought about the parking impact and is there enough parking spaces? it is already fairly chaotic when we have footy on Friday evenings the station carpark overflows into Dunlop street and Francis Crescent The environmental impact on the park and being so close to Gardener's creek I am not against sport for the young and enjoy watching teams play. I am very concerned about the changing of the surface and loss of an area to the general public. What will happen to the cricket matches in the summer?</p>
<p>I am a Riversdale Soccer Club member. For some time, the Committee of the Riversdale Soccer Club have engaged with third parties in order to provide our kids with options to extend the traditional soccer season. As a parent of a child who plays at Riversdale Soccer Club, we see value in this development and strongly support the creation of the synthetic playing surface proposed by Boroondara Council at Dorothy Laver West Reserve.</p>
<p>I am a Riversdale Soccer Club member. For some time, the Committee of the Riversdale Soccer Club have engaged with third parties in order to provide our kids with options to extend the traditional soccer season. As a parent of a child who plays at Riversdale Soccer Club, we see value in this development and strongly support the creation of the synthetic playing surface proposed by Boroondara Council at Dorothy Laver West Reserve.</p>
<p>This project directly conflicts with a sporting team and will as a result effect the growth of a sport which has high chance of being included as an Olympic sport in the near future.</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays lacrosse at Camberwell Lacrosse Club, we strongly oppose the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you abandon this proposal immediately.</p>
<p>I would like to hear what plans Council has for providing suitable alternatives for clubs who use this space already, as it appears to be very focussed mainly on soccer.</p>
<p>Dorothy Laver is one of the best Lacrosse facilities in the state. My family is from the western suburbs and spend numerous weekends at the Camberwell Lacrosse club including enjoying time within the municipality. This would be a heartbreaking blow to our Lacrosse community enjoying countless hours of fun and activities at Dorothy Laver. It would be a tremendous loss.. We kindly ask for your consideration and not go ahead with this proposal.</p>
<p>I am a Riversdale Soccer Club member. For some time, the Committee of the Riversdale Soccer Club have engaged with third parties in order to provide our kids with options to extend the traditional soccer season. As a parent of a child who plays at Riversdale Soccer Club, we see value in this development and strongly support the creation of the synthetic playing surface proposed by Boroondara Council at Dorothy Laver West Reserve.</p>
<p>Concerns re this proposal; - No consultation with existing users - Seems to be rushed - Obvious pre work has been done, who is driving this project - Why are rate payer funds being used to build a Soccer only facility - not joint usage - What are the environmental impacts - Lack of parking & access - Transparency re process - Why wont council release their sporting ground rankings re this project - Timelines to commence would suggest that consultation has taken place, just not with existing users - What happens to existing user groups - Melbourne water input due to area being a flood plain - Who are the decision makers - Who is sponsoring this proposal - Lack of respect to existing users - No understanding of existing users sport, needs, history & ongoing community involvement - Over 30 years variations of this proposal have been suggested by existing users to council & rejected, yet now all steam ahead for Soccer.</p>
<p>I do not want the field to be turned into a soccer field because I play lacrosse there!</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>I believe that while the proposal was from a good place, a soccer field would stop people from playing lacrosse. I think that building a new field over where the lacrosse club trains will be counterproductive. Many that enjoy their sport will be forced to leave lacrosse and will instead have to go somewhere not local. Perhaps creating a soccer court somewhere else would be more appropriate.</p>
<p>don't do it please & thanks</p>
<p>I'm concerned with the proposed Dorothy Laver West [East] proposals for synthetic soccer pitches. As a parent of a child at Ashy Redbacks footy club I'm concerned, along with the President of our club that we wouldn't be able to use the ground areas for our club's pre-season training. We use Dorothy Laver areas for pre-season training as we can't use the Burwood ovals in Feb' & March due to Burwood cricket club use of the grounds. Childrens sport is very important in keeping kids healthy & active as I'm sure you're well aware. With the addition of so many new teams entering Ashy club we are really stretched for space pre-season [even during the season..]. If we can't use these spaces at Dorothy Laver over summer I'm not sure the kids will be able to train anywhere, this is a problem.. Also too I'm concerned about the use of these new synthetic pitches as what happens to the used materials once the lifespan of the material is over. Isn't this increasing the landfill problem, why can't the area just be better drained like we did at Ashy a number of years ago..? Dig it up & put proper drainage in would be a better idea in my mind. Also as club members of the Glen Iris dog club which uses this area too & I'd be concerned for them at they might not be able to use the area on a Sunday morning too. This club connects many older people in the community through their dogs, I can see that the soccer people would take over the areas & stop the Glen Iris Dog Club from using the area meaning they would have to find another area that might not suit these older people etc.. In summary I think it's a bad idea on 3 levels, 1. being less opportunity to use the area for Ashy Redbacks in pre-season training, 2. the Glen Iris Dog club would be 'kicked off' from using the area on Sunday mornings, 3. the landfill issues with the synthetic materials during construction & at the end of it's life. Cheers</p>
<p>Your arguments are pretty flimsy and irrelevant as it is already a sporting club. This is a stupid idea as this club is already established, please don't.</p>

<p>I do not believe jay Dorothy laver reserve west should be transformed into a dedicated soccer centre. The reserve hosts many different sports all year round and these grounds obviously do not account for sharing the fields with other sports.</p>
<p>This is great for female sports participation. There are not enough facilities as it is.</p>
<p>As a weekly user of this precinct I think it is outrageous to convert it into permanent soccer fields. This will limit the amount of users able to use the area and will definitely decrease the usefulness of the area. If you want to do something useful for the grounds try putting in better lighting and a fence around the entire place. This would be extremely beneficial and would increase the usage and helpfulness of the area.</p>
<p>I think that the lacrosse grounds are a great attribute for the area, and should be kept this way. Many people enjoy playing lacrosse here, as they are wonderful grounds. Even with the lacrosse grounds, people can still use the gardens for other recreational means, so having a lacrosse pitch there does not impact it. Please keep the lacrosse areas, it is very rewarding.</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>Greatly concerned that no consideration is being given to other sporting clubs that also use the reserve, such as Caulfield Lacrosse Club. Soccer is not the only sport that uses the field. Our daughter's club plays against Caulfield at this ground and the council needs to consider the needs of all sports. Poor form that decisions are being made by individual/s that have an undeclared Conflict of interest, being associated with the soccer club that will benefit from this change.</p>
<p>It is sad to see council supporting the use of an open area for the benefit of few. There are many other soccer grounds throughout Boroondara. Environmentally synthetic turf is detrimental to local wildlife including the local duck population on Gardiners Creek. This area is currently widely used by local dog walkers and families when it is not being used for sport. It has a long history of use by Camberwell Lacrosse providing sporting opportunities for both male and female locals, from juniors to seniors. Currently Stonnington council provides grounds for Malvern Lacrosse as does Whitehorse for Surrey Hills Lacrosse and Glen Eira for Caulfield. It is sad to see that Boroondara is not supportive of their local Lacrosse players. This area currently is used by Lacrosse during winter and cricket during Summer. Eric Raven is an inferior ground and as far as I know does not have lights to support training during the Winter months. As a ratepayer I am extremely disappointed to see that once again a group has managed to promote their cause over others. Football and soccer are already well catered for I believe.</p>
<p>my friend plays lacrosse at this park and i would hate for her to have to stop or switch clubs because of this!</p>
<p>As a player at Alamein Football Club, I strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>I have and had Friends / Family involved playing various different team sports for almost 30 years! What a shame to put at risk and take this away or put at future generations risk!!!</p>
<p>I am a Riversdale Soccer Club member. For some time, the Committee of the Riversdale Soccer Club have engaged with third parties in order to provide our kids with options to extend the traditional soccer season. As a parent of a child who plays at Riversdale Soccer Club, we see value in this development and strongly support the creation of the synthetic playing surface proposed by Boroondara Council at Dorothy Laver West Reserve.</p>
<p>This is impacting on 2 smaller user groups. But mainly Camberwell lacrosse club which we have been affiliated with for 25 years. The CLC is a fantastic supportive family friendly club which have shared this facility with the local cricket club over many years. The lacrosse club has been involved in many improvements at this club with a small but very supportive and active community group. It seems to be very small minded that clubs of many years standing that are only a small voice will lose their home fir a new sport which is taking over every bit of space they can. Something of the size you are talking about will also impact hugely on local residents with parking. Council should look elsewhere for larger grounds that don't get used and won't impact smaller clubs which share and give 2 sports annual usage.</p>
<p>So disappointed with this Soccer centric proposal. To not even mention that the Camberwell Lacrosse club use these fields currently and have so for a long period is corrupt in itself. There is no mention anywhere what place Lacrosse - Men's, Women's, girls and boys will have at these fields - so I can assume that you are planning to not give them any access at all and go completely with soccer. Lacrosse has not only been at this location since it's deveopment but they fundraised to get the current field lighting and worked very hard to get the club rooms that are currently used. As you mentioned in one area the word MULTIUSE, but then you go ahead and explain that all fields will be created specifically for Soccer and the only other sport ALLOWED or made provision for will be cricket and even then the field will be changed to make way for soccer. So from the details you have outlined on this proposal we can assume that you have not done any consultation with Camberwell Lacrosse and that you are getting a large amount of funding from Soccer so they can move into any sporting area they like and take fields away from other community groups and grass root sports. It's called diversity and fair play which is obviously not part of your council on this proposal. You need to understand that all community areas and sporting groups require a fair go and that the Very unfair redevelopment of the Dorothy Laver area is purely designing the whole area for soccer. BE FAIR. We support the Camberwell Lacrosse club in their requirement and right to keep the use of their grounds. Regards</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>Moving the lacrosse team will take away great heritage, culture and movement from a wonderful club.</p>
<p>I used to be a member of Camberwell Lacrosse Club for 5 years and am appalled by the decision that gives no consideration to lacrosse players. I also walk my dog on this reserve and strongly dislike the idea of a synthetic surface for both myself, my dog and sports players. Also I'd hate to see the state of the synthetic when it floods. Keep it grass and keep the lacrosse club!</p>

"We are proposing an exciting new project with the installation of a synthetic surface to Dorothy Laver Reserve West to enhance the overall community benefit and use of this ground. The multi-field synthetic surface would provide one senior soccer field, one junior soccer field, two under 6-7 MiniRoos soccer fields and one cricket field (overlaid across the soccer fields)." This comment is basically saying it will enhance the benefit of the soccer community. The project will have no benefit for the Lacrosse community of Camberwell Lacrosse Club, which will be able to function under your proposal, the Ultimate Frisbee community and the hundreds of dog walkers (myself included, in the past) who use the area of Dorothy Laver West. "a year-round soccer focused facility that accommodates the full age spectrum of juniors through to seniors, and increases opportunities for women and girls" The Camberwell Lacrosse Club, already provides Boroondara with a sporting club that provides for the full age spectrum and has focussed, very successfully, on increasing the participation of women and girls. The concept of "relocating" all the lacrosse activities to one ground is ill-advised. The parking is insufficient, the amount of traffic in Estella St will be extremely disruptive and potentially dangerous due to the narrow nature of the street. This does not even address that Lacrosse with multiple teams (boys, men, girls and women) cannot train and then play on one ground. The risk of injuries because of the poor quality of the playing surface due to overuse is significant. (perhaps a future insurance claim, if Boroondara fail to provide safe training and playing areas for Camberwell Lacrosse Club). This proposal appears to disregard the support and money Camberwell Lacrosse Club has provided to this area - Improving the ground and fund raising for the lights.

While I would prefer no further development of both Dorothy Laver East and West reserves, I acknowledge that there is greater pressure on the use of these parks by sporting clubs. A compromise that I feel would allow the rate paying members of Boroondara to continue to enjoy the amenity provided by open space and natural grassed playing fields would be to develop the ovals further as unfenced natural turf pitches that would allow sporting clubs access and ratepayers access at all other times. As both a member and committee member of the Glen iris Dog Club I would be totally opposed to seeing Dorothy Laver East developed with a synthetic pitch for similar reasons stated above. Once these open spaces are converted to synthetic pitches the next step will be to fence them effectively excluding residents from their own open space and reducing their amenity which is why we choose to live in this area in the first place. A synthetic surface is also not ideal for dog training or walking dogs, particularly in the hotter summer months. As a group that has up to 70 dogs in training on a Sunday morning I am hoping that there will be a lot more consultation with the Club before any decision is made to further develop Dorothy Laver East Reserve. I am also amazed at the limited consultation that has taken place with residents of Ashburton to date on this proposal as I only became aware of this threat to our open space quite by accident. Regards.

I will also email a copy of the below information to Paul Senior / Andrew Mackinnon. (There is an image I intended to include - which I will email - showing the Dorothy Laver Reserve under significant flood which is one of the key concerns with this site) This is a submission to protest against the plan to redevelop Dorothy Laver West and East ovals with artificial turf and a dedicated soccer facility. Firstly – please note that we definitely support both provision of more and improved sports facilities in Boroondara and also greater recreational use being made of the Dorothy Laver ovals, however the current proposal is extremely problematic for a range of reasons outlined below. Our firmly held view is that Boroondara needs to select a different site to house the proposed soccer facility. We believe that there are major risks and impacts with the proposal, many other suitable sites exist within Boroondara and strongly recommend that the Council and Sports & Recreation unit immediately rule out the Dorothy Laver Ovals area as an artificial turf location. In no specific order, below are the multiple reasons why the proposed site is unsuitable. ENVIRONMENTAL SENSITIVITY OF THE DOROTHY LAVER AREA In Boroondara's own 2005 report of the "Inventory and assessment of Indigenous Flora and Fauna in Boroondara", the Dorothy Laver Reserve (known as "Site 23") contains flora and fauna which would be put at risk from the artificial turf development. The reserve contains the only representation of Swamp Scrub in Boroondara, plus viable populations of two plant species and one bird species that are threatened in Boroondara. The reserve is a wildlife corridor of Gardiners Creek and the report notes that indigenous waterbirds and frogs move between the reserve and the adjacent wetlands. Significant investment by Boroondara has been undertaken at the site which could be undone by this development. Anecdotally, there are common sightings of birds such as Rainbow Lorikeets, native budgerigars and other native birds foraging for food in the grass of both West and East ovals. Our concerns about impact to local flora and fauna are heightened by the evidence of toxicity present in artificial turfs. This has been raised by researchers as a concern for the health of children playing on the turf, however the obvious danger of the toxins entering the Gardiners Creek waterway and wetlands is clear. For reference see Prof Stuart Shalat's article "Why artificial turf may truly be bad for kids" (published March 2017). A further issue is the carbon capturing that natural grass provides, particularly right beside the Monash freeway – this would be lost with a large expanse of artificial turf We note that at the public information session held on Tuesday 29/6/18 it was confirmed that no environmental impact study has yet been done on the proposal, which we would consider to be a critical exercise to conduct before any development of this type is seriously contemplated. NOISE AND HEAT IMPACT A West Australian government report (released 2018) which compared the impact of natural grass versus artificial turf raised a number of concerns including – but not limited to -increased noise reflection and challenges with heat dissipation. Given the proximity of the site to the Monash Freeway the introduction of a large artificial surface would only amplify the freeway noise. Given Boroondara Council's active campaigning in recent years for better Monash noise control (most notably led by former Mayor Coral Ross) -this proposal would seem to undermine these efforts. The WA Government report also identifies that artificial turf absorbs sunlight leading to the area being up to 40% hotter than a natural grass surface and creating an 'urban heat island' that can impact surrounding areas. Professor Shalat's (previously referenced) study notes that artificial field surfaces can reach 200 F (93 degrees Celsius) whilst natural turf would rarely exceed 100F (37 degrees Celsius). RISK OF ASSET DAMAGE FROM FLOODING A key concern with the Dorothy Laver Reserve is that it operates as a flood plain for Gardiners Creek. Apart from the concerns of drainage, this proposal would put a \$4.5M capital investment directly in a place that has been subject to flooding three times over the last 11 years. Particularly of note was the 2007 flood when a large variety of council assets including paths, fences and even bridges were either destroyed or damaged beyond repair. If another flood of this proportion happened then it is not impossible to imagine how costly the damage to the turf would be. As a reference point here is an image of the reserve during that flood (to be emailed). No-one wants to see millions of

<p>dollars of investment floating down the creek or regularly damaged. TRAFFIC IMPACTS As residents of the area we are willing to live with the traffic and parking impacts that occur with high usage sporting activities, even though the streetscape does not cope flexibly with a large influx of cars. Two prime examples are De La Salle Football Club pre-season training and AusKick clinics on Saturdays during winter. Both of these reduce streets such as Francis Crescent and Saxby Road down to thoroughfares that are only 1 car wide. Car numbers generated by six training fields being utilised (which would no doubt be multiple nights during the week) or a WNPL Soccer game would dwarf the current volume during the existing busy periods. When the current car spaces at Dorothy Laver West are used up then the nearest parking are the residential streets on the other side of the creek – namely Francis, Winifred, Saxby, Peace and Estella. The latter three streets have only one end accessible, making the prospect of traffic chaos even more likely. FUTURE ACTIONS THAT BECOME MORE LIKELY IF THE FACILITY IS ESTABLISHED • Fencing off the artificial pitch in order to protect/maintain the asset which would effectively lock out current users of the space. • Likelihood of increased night-time usage including potentially senior league / WNPL matches attracting crowds with subsequent noise and traffic implications • Future incentive to build grandstands which would logically be located on the west and north sides of the ground. This would direct crowd noise directed straight into the residential streets beside the area. • Loss of further green space to increase parking availability. PROCESS ISSUES WITH ADEQUATELY INVOLVING IMPACTED PARTIES • According to City of Boroondara’s “Community Engagement Policy 2015-2020”, there is a requirement to inform, consult, involve, collaborate and empower Boroondara residents in major decisions such as this proposal. This is to be done by following the approach known as “The IAP2 Public Participation Spectrum” however so far this doesn’t seem to have been adhered to – particularly the required principles of ‘Inclusiveness’ and ‘Transparency’ • The first notification to impacted residents was a letter drop to local houses on Friday 22/6/2018 after 5:00pm advising them that the only information session scheduled was to be held two days later on Tuesday 26/6/18 at 2:00pm which is the least likely time that most residents are available to attend. For such a huge investment you would think greater consultation is in order. • During that consultation session it became apparent that no prior consultation had been made with either Glen Iris Cricket Club or Camberwell Lacrosse Club who have both been the Summer and Winter tenant clubs of both Dorothy Laver ovals for over 50 years. This is contrasted with the confirmation that various Soccer authorities had been provided both input and a tour of the area before anyone else was consulted. • Also during the session was an admission that there are 10 sites within Boroondara in consideration for this development. The concerning part is that Boroondara representatives would not reveal where the other sites were which doesn’t allow any discussion regarding the merits and challenges of the other sites. The only information on this issue was that Dorothy Laver reserve was currently the preferred site. • Another concern is that it seems that no notice of this proposal has yet been given to Stonnington Council. This is highly problematic given the potential environmental impact of the Glen Iris Wetland area which is within Stonnington’s boundaries. It is expected that Stonnington Council would be most concerned with activity that could damage such a significant area into which they have invested a large amount of time and funding. • Boroondara seems to have a total capital budget of \$4.5M for artificial surfaces construction and this would be all spent on just one facility, rather than spreading this across a variety of locations and therefore increasing availability. Additionally, the Boroondara 2017 – 2022 Capital Spending plans only lists \$2.07M for that 5-year period - so where is the other \$2.93M coming from? If Soccer authorities are funding part of the construction then how can Council claim to remain independent and balance the needs of all parties if this is the situation of the “deepest pockets” having the most say? SUMMARY We are very pleased that the City of Boroondara will be investing in new/updated sporting facilities, promoting recreation and finding ways for the Dorothy Laver Reserve area to be used even more for recreation. What we absolutely do not accept is that Dorothy Laver Reserve is the appropriate location to house an artificial turf facility that will likely damage the surrounding environment, cause traffic, noise and heat issues and dislocate current tenant sporting clubs plus recreational users of the space in favour of just one sport – no matter how popular that sport is. Our firm opinion is that the Dorothy Laver area must be protected as a natural space and removed from the list of potential sites for this development.</p>
<p>Please retain lacrosse grounds. They are well utilised.</p>
<p>What happens to the Camberwell Lacrosse club who currently uses these facilities? They have a very active lacrosse program in men’s, women’s and junior (boys & girls) and it is always challenging playing against them. The grounds and facilities are always in great condition and it would be a shame for them to lose these.</p>
<p>Please keep the reserve as it is! The junior lacrosse communities vitally need this ground, as it is used to train and play on. If Dorothy Laver Reserve West is turned into soccer pitches, the whole lacrosse community will be negatively impacted, as the project will effect where lacrosse clubs across Melbourne play and train.</p>
<p>Synthetic grass is dangerous to sports people and dogs. Where is the Lacrosse Club in this exciting plan? Up the creek?</p>
<p>The facility upgrade looks promising, at a superficial level, but concerns around impact on DL East, including parking and traffic management, particularly during upgrade works, broader community access to DL West, in addition to cricket & soccer are not clear. Likewise the diagrammatic inference, without supporting information for upgrade/ reorientation to DL East. In addition, as an existing tenant of DL east, no information was provided around the potential upgrade or consultation. I have only received this information, and sought further clarification, based on verbal reports and incidental communication from members of other user clubs.</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal. In addition, as a local, these surfaces are excellent in winter and when it is wet. For example, Warner Reserve can flood in winter and the ovals are unusable by the community at times. Many thanks.</p>

<p>I have just become aware of Council plans to convert the Dorothy Laver East and West Reserves into soccer fields and to make other major changes. This is to register my deep concern about the proposals. For many years, as Secretary of the Eric Raven and Dorothy Laver Reserves Committee, I helped to advise and support Council in the tenanting, management and development of the three reserves at Eric Raven and Dorothy Laver. I was also an active member of Camberwell Lacrosse Club with three sons who played from U13 through to seniors. Now a daughter in law plays in the women's team. I am also looking forward to my young grandchildren becoming involved. The City of Boroondara, Camberwell City Council before it, and the community can take pride in the sporting facilities along Gardiners Creek. Councillors like Eric Raven, Keith Walter and Dorothy Laver helped to make it all possible. Over the years, long term tenant clubs like Camberwell Lacrosse Club, Glen Iris Cricket Club and others have helped to care for the reserves and have made significant financial contributions to their improvement. My objections to the proposals to convert the reserves are as follows; 1. One of the long term tenants, namely Camberwell Lacrosse Club is not provided for at what is recognised state wide as its home ground. There seems to be little fairness or equity in removing that community based tenant in favour of another tenant that wishes to expand beyond its present grounds. 2. There seems to be no corresponding proposal to convert exiting soccer grounds such as Ashburton Park to synthetic surfaces and to intensify their use. It would seem to be more logical and equitable to upgrade existing soccer facilities than to displace another long established tenant. 3. The present combination of summer cricket tenants and winter lacrosse tenants at Eric Raven and Dorothy Laver reserves makes good use of the area and its facilities. This is achieved within limits that seem acceptable to local residents. The Eric Raven reserve however has been shown to deteriorate over winter with both heavy training and match usage. 4. Turf conversions to couch species some eight years ago improved the surfaces and made them resilient enough for their current level of year round use. This effort and expense would be written off and represents a waste of ratepayer money. New spending of \$4.5 million ratepayer dollars for the benefit of some and the cost of others also needs to be questioned. 5. Apart from sport club tenants, the reserves are all used by the wider community for casual, unstructured use. Passive recreation, dog exercising, family games of football kick to kick, cricket can all be seen. 6. Converting to synthetic surfaces and enclosing the area, I fear is a step along the path of exclusion fencing of the area and denial of access to all but paying customers. This has rightly and strongly rejected in the past by Council and its different advisory committees.</p>
<p>I object to the current plan as it impacts significantly on the operation of Camberwell Larosse club who initiated development of the land for that purpose and funded the current lights. Both my daughters played lacrosse here and one continues to play u17s and womens. I umpire junior girls to support the club that has been very active in the past few years to develop the girls/ womens game.</p>
<p>This park is much used free space. I am concerned to see the current park which is available to all to exercise their dogs off lead, engage in jogging and other recreational activities , redeveloped and enclosed . It is currently used for cricket and Lacrosse. Where will these teams be reloaded to play games? If this developments goes ahead it further limits space for dog owners to exercise their pets off lead as the other ovals along Gardiner's creek are often being utilised for much of the weekend and In the afternoon during the week. It would appear to me that the Warner Reserve on Warner avenue ,Ashburton, which appears to be underutilised, would be a more appropriate location for the proposed soccer grounds.</p>
<p>It's a good idea but your kicking out camberwell lacrosse club who been there a little thirty years and your your doing this with barely any notification.</p>
<p>I strongly oppose the proposed destructive loss of grassed and parkland areas. It's a terrible idea. Over-development. Loss of natural turf, to be replaced by a plastic surf. Huge environmental costs. Greenhouse-unfriendly artificial lighting. Loss of fields used by other existing activities (dog walking, lacrosse). A coarse development next to the lovely waterbird area.</p>
<p>What kind of impact will this have on the camberwell lacrosse club?</p>
<p>I think the project is a bad idea. Dorothy Laver Reserve West is home to Camberwell Lacrosse. If the project were to continue on Camberwell Lacrosse will not have a ground. This means that u11s boys and girls , u12s boys and girls , u13s boys and girls , u14s boys and girls , u15s boys and girls, u16s boys and girls , u17s boys and girls , mens state, mens div 1, mens div 2, mens div 3, womens premier div, womens div 1 will all be gone. Camberwell Lacrosse has a long history. Its one of the oldest clubs in Victoria. When the project was to continue the long history will be removed. Many clubs have experience the same problems and are no inactive. We don't want to let another lacrosse club become inactive. Lacrosse in Victoria has a long rich history, if this was to continue. There will eventually be no lacrosse in Victoria.</p>
<p>There needs to be a ground for lacrosse</p>
<p>As a player at Camberwell Lacrosse Club, we strongly oppose the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you abandon this proposal immediately.</p>
<p>Camberwell Lacrosse Club need to be included into this plan and be able to keep their club there as they have been a long time resident club of this field and they deserve to have a place to play there.</p>
<p>As you are aware Dorothy Laver is home to Camberwell lacrosse club as both a playing and training ground. many young local children have began their lacrosse journeys at this location. we have coexisted with the cricket club effectively sharing facilities when either is in off-season. to take away this ground from an effectively 'boutique' sport like lacrosse will severely reduce the number of opportunities kids have to play lacrosse within the Boroondara council. especially considering how many local soccer club options there are already. Camberwell lacrosse is very dear to me. I learnt so much about teamwork, respect and the legacy of dedicated people that have kept this sport alive in Victoria & Australia to be still highly competitive on the world stage despite our small numbers. personally I have such wonderful memories including representing my state and country due to the mentoring and guidance I received at these grounds and the copious amount of hours training I was priveledged to be a part of. I would love for this opportunity to remain a possibility for local kids and think it would be an absolute travesty to commit the grounds to another sport with already overwhelming support in the area. please reconsider your proposal. Thanks</p>
<p>Keep as a lacrosse field</p>
<p>do not turn this into a soccer park as it is the home of camberwell lacrosse club which has not been mentioned in these plans, find another place!</p>

<p>As a parent of a child who plays lacrosse at Camberwell Lacrosse Club, we strongly oppose the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve.</p>
<p>I am shocked that lacrosse hasn't been included in this plan. As a former player at Dorothy Laver Reserve it has always been a name synonymous with lacrosse, so much so being from out of the area I was unaware that other sports were played there. I am amazed after years of being the home ground to the long standing Camberwell Lacrosse Club that they would not be included in this plan.</p>
<p>This would destroy the lacrosse club using this reserve!</p>
<p>There has been no consideration given to an established lacrosse club that use this facility and have done for many years. Camberwell lacrosse club are a strong club that have built a strong member base over many years. This redevelopment proposal is unacceptable behaviour from elected officials serving their own interests and not the broader community.</p>
<p>In a time that small sports need a helping hand to develop and grow to better our communities, this project plans to remove multiple sporting clubs with long histories and passionate members from using the reserve (without forewarning) exclusively for a single sport. A proposition such as this is a total disregard of community interest and makes a mockery of its overall wellbeing in favour of potential financial gain. I am in support of a renovation but strongly oppose the proposition of an exclusive facility for soccer and suggest that whatever upgrades are made are done for the benefit of all residing clubs rather than a fraction.</p>
<p>As a player at Camberwell Lacrosse Club, we strongly oppose the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you abandon this proposal immediately.</p>
<p>This move is seemingly relegating lacrosse completely from this sporting facility, which Camberwell Lacrosse Club have called home for almost 40 years. Lacrosse is a relatively small but growing and exciting sport in Australia, and Camberwell Lacrosse Club is an integral part of Victoria's competition and an important team for growing the sport in Melbourne's east. One of the goalkeepers representing Australia in the upcoming Lacrosse World Cup is Sean Aaron, a Camberwell player. Having lived in Boroondara almost my whole life, I think this would be a terrible decision to make a facility which shuts out lacrosse - by the way, I've played soccer most of my life and love the sport, but do realise it has ample opportunities everywhere in Melbourne/Australia, whereas lacrosse does not. Hence, lacrosse needs to be supported in whatever way it can, and allowing soccer to monopolise this facility and leave Camberwell Lacrosse Club homeless is not doing that.</p>
<p>I support Camberwell lax.</p>
<p>What about the existing Lacrosse club that has been there since 1979?!?! Sport diversity is so important.</p>
<p>As a player at MCC Lacrosse Club, a club who plays Camberwell Lacrosse Club on the Reserve, we strongly oppose the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you abandon this proposal immediately.</p>
<p>As a member of the Lacrosse community, the loss of this facility will have a dramatic impact negatively, not only on this club, but in the state and nationwide. Excluding other active sporting clubs will have a negative impact on the local community, potentially driving locals to seek their sporting opportunities outside the local area.</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays lacrosse at Camberwell Lacrosse Club, we strongly oppose the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you abandon this proposal immediately.</p>
<p>From the proposal that has been presented it is glaringly obvious that there has been a major oversight in the concept. You have failed to incorporate the current clubs, both social and sporting, that utilise these facilities. Many of these clubs have been actively using the space for over 40 years. As a member of the lacrosse community it's insulting that the Camberwell lacrosse club isn't included in the proposed future of the grounds and down right dishonest and deplorable that the club hasn't been consulted prior to the plan being announced. This club contributes greatly to the local area, providing men, women and children's teams of all ages.</p>
<p>How dare you try to throw Camberwell Lacrosse Club out! Their men's State League Team made it to last year's Lacrosse grand final. The actions of this plan toward niche sports and the growth of lacrosse in Australia is disgusting.</p>
<p>To be replacing an entire sporting club - Camberwell Lacrosse Club - without providing any alternative grounds or a place at the ground is unfair and truly goes against the Australian sporting spirit. Isn't it the council's job to be encouraging the community to play sport? I understand soccer is a much bigger sport however, how can you disregard lacrosse which has consistently produced such a high level of skill and a distinct sense of community. Camberwell Lacrosse Club has men, women, boys, and girls who have either previously represented the country, or are currently in an Australian team or squad. The natural grass land is much more inviting to families and those wishing to walk dogs or use the park in general. While the renewal of the field lights would be a welcome change, it has been an unfair decision to remove the current sporting clubs and replace them with a soccer club. I'm sure the soccer club already has a home, and there is no need to be replacing smaller sports or smaller clubs. It is an outrage that the council would claim the iconic home of Camberwell Lacrosse and replace our wonderful small sport with a 'year-round soccer focussed facility'. With lacrosse being such a small sport, how could you contribute to wrecking the community and displacing a fantastic club - making it more difficult for them to build numbers and grow the game of lacrosse.</p>
<p>As a nearby resident of Dorothy Laver West Reserve, we strongly oppose the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you abandon this proposal immediately</p>
<p>As a player at Melbourne University Lacrosse Club (who also benefit from lacrosse clubs participation in the competition), I strongly oppose the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you abandon this proposal immediately as it is destructive to sporting clubs, their competitors and the sport of lacrosse itself, especially for women.</p>

<p>A member of Ashy Redbacks football club, Steve Carlisle has written to you voicing his concern for the lack of consideration of Australian football use in this development. With our club struggling to find enough grounds to facilitate the demand (especially with women's football popularity increasing) I find it truly disappointing that a council in our native sports cultural heart land would show such a total lack of regard and support to the game that is at the core of our national heritage. Not asking you to forego the soccer pitches but surely you can retain natural turf (rather than synthetic) and give the club assurances that they will be able to maintain their current level of use of the facility. Doing so will be suitable to all sports involved and prevent you from making the mistake of excluding the one sport you should be nurturing the most, due to its cultural importance to this great country of ours.</p>
<p>As a player at Camberwell Lacrosse Club, we strongly oppose the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you abandon this proposal immediately.</p>
<p>Where are the plans for the already existing camberwell lacrosse club in this grand scheme. Has there been any consultation in regards to their continued use of their facilities? Why hasn't this soccer plan included them in planning, or has this soccer club decided that they can just take over existing grounds for themselves despite it being home to the Camberwell lacrosse club for nearly 40 years. The lack of consultation by this soccer club is appalling and the fact that no consideration has been given to an existing sporting club is disrespectful.</p>
<p>Stop trying to destroy satellite sports in this state by redeveloping grounds based purely on monetary gains. It's a disgrace that a council would even consider this action. If you want the area developed then develop it for the existing sports. Australia is in the top 3 countries in the world in lacrosse and camberwell lacrosse club is a part of this success. These are are a great group of kids and players from a great club.</p>
<p>You are taking from one sport to give to another without consulting the current tentents. Lacrosse may not be as big as soccer but it gives back to the community and provides an outlet for all age groups to enjoy a unique sport. Find another venue where you are not destroyed one sport to give to another. A existing soccer venue would make sense?</p>
<p>As a player at Camberwell Lacrosse Club, we strongly oppose the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you abandon this proposal immediately.</p>
<p>No lacrosse fields???? whats going on? only thinking of the big vote getters and leaving other smaller clubs behind.how disgraceful!</p>
<p>Hi this is disgracefull to take a sport field away from a sport which is growing bigger and bigger in this country it is disgraceful to allocate funds to another sport which already has a lot of fields why not change one of there grounds not one of ours which puts a great old club at risk how about giving camberwell one of the soccer clubs ground if that's not ok for them why is it ok to take a lacrosse field from us.</p>
<p>As a player at the lacrosse ground i strongly oppose the synthetic turf proposal.</p>
<p>As a lacrosse player that has played at Camberwell Lacrosse Club countless times, I strongly oppose the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. I ask that you abandon this proposal immediately.</p>
<p>Why dies every one want to cast a smaller sport away for soccer. Every single field you look at everywhere is SOCCER. Stand up and start supporting the lesser known sports. Maybe support a sport that has won a World Cup and medal every time it's on. Very sad times</p>
<p>I am concerned about where the other minor sports such as lacrosse fit into this project and wether they will be allowed equal access to facilities or will just be shunted off to the side. I have seen a number of projects like this where the primary sport takes over at the expense of other sports and as a result participation and growth of such sports is stunted in the area.we need more people from a variety of sports participating not just a case of you can use it when where not using it.</p>
<p>It is unfair to the current teams located at Dorothy Laver whom have been there for years are getting overteaken by soccer fields. It isn't necessary to have so many soccer fields and kick out sports that need to continue growing their sports. It's a set back for all sports in the east of Victoria. Clearly the council is biased and only cares about one sport. Soccer.</p>
<p>As a Lacrosse player, I strongly oppose the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you abandon this proposal immediately.</p>
<p>"Sport and recreation plays a vital role in maintaining and improving community health and wellbeing." If you truly believed this you wouldn't be destroying a vital community organisation that has been in the area for decades. Lacrosse has been played at Dorothy Laver for a very long time, and has always been a very inclusive sport for all ages, both for men and women. One thing I've always loved about lacrosse is that it offers those who might not enjoy mainstream sports to still flourish in a team based environment, you are ruining the ability to connect a wider range of community members in inclusive, recreational activity.</p>
<p>Please leave the natural grass for the use of the community and junior and senior sports. My family have played many games and tournaments here and there are always locals making use of the grounds as well. Artificial turf would prohibit most of the general public playing, walking their animals and junior and senior teams getting together.</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays lacrosse at Footscray Lacrosse Club, we strongly oppose the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. I've seen my children participate in auskick, junior soccer and junior basketball. Unlike all the sports, lacrosse doesn't enjoy prime time tv coverage. It is a wonderful sport that should be promoted not sidelined. Lacrosse fosters the team effort unlike any other sport my children have been involved in. Please don't ignore the passion of the woman this very reserve is named after, for a sport that already has strong 'women in sport' success. We ask that you abandon this proposal immediately.</p>
<p>The Camberwell Lacrosse Club should have input into the changes. Playing lacrosse on a synthetic pitch is dangerous and consulting the lacrosse clubs needs is a priority for health and safety.</p>
<p>Lacrosse as a sport is constantly under attack despite a rich history in Australia. Reconsider the development plan to be inclusive of the current clubs.</p>

<p>As a player at Camberwell Lacrosse Club, we strongly oppose the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you abandon this proposal immediately.</p>
<p>It's already a perfect grassed uports area, no need to make it solely a soccer ground I enjoy watching the lacrosse games at this field,.</p>
<p>The plan should not go ahead as currently planned as it prioritises soccer clubs and ignores the past and continued use of the space by the camberwell lacrosse club who need the space. Synthetic turf is incompatible with lacrosse play and therefore there needs to be an area of residual grassland where the club can continue to reside for many more years.</p>
<p>I live nearby and frequently use the facilities at Dorothy Laver East and West, visiting several times a week with my children and on my own to run and walk. I strongly oppose the construction of artificial turf ovals at Dorothy Laver. It's great that the council is supporting womens sport, but another site should be considered. 1. The site is close to the rehabilitated wetlands. The current grassy ovals help to support a variety of bird life - I frequently see native birds such as parrots, plovers and white-faced herons as well as more common birds such as magpies etc. on the grass. There are a pair of plovers that regularly next at Dorothy Laver East (regarding the proposal to develop this reserve too). There is also a loss of the carbon sink and green space provided by the oval. Grass is preferable to artificial turf. 2. The construction of artificial turf ovals will remove a lot of the amenity for other users of the path. Residents of Boroondara value our leafy green spaces. The area is heavily used by runners, cyclists and families with children, and shared with sporting teams. The visual value of natural green spaces cannot be overestimated for helping to create mental peace, and as a pleasant surface to play on for children. 3. The Dorothy Laver ovals are currently a genuine community space - one that is shared by sporting teams, casual users and local residents. This proposal favours sporting teams at the expense of the amenity of all other users. 4. The site is in the flood plain of Gardiner's Creek and drainage etc. will be further affecting, impacting the fragile wetlands.</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Alamein Football Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>Sporting clubs and their member will be negatively affected by this plan.</p>
<p>The Camberwell Lacrosse Club use this reserve every week. It's my understanding that if these plans go ahead the lacrosse club will have no place to call home. It's very disappointing to know the council/ government have not thought about Camberwell Lacrosse Club during this process and shows a clear lack of investigation as to who uses the fields and how to fit fields and club rooms for everyone.</p>
<p>This ground has been a home for many aspiring junior lacrosse players over the last few decades and it would be a tragic loss for many in the camberwell community if young lacrosse players lose the community that has been grown there through the love and labour of many hard-working members of the community. Please don't move lacrosse from this facility.</p>
<p>I hate this idea. Why should soccer get to take over other sports! There is plenty of other places that soccer is played and the lacrosse ground has been there for ages. Please don't let this happen!</p>
<p>Why are you removing access for sporting groups currently using the park without consulting them or providing any means of re-homing their club? This is an outrageously poor plan with little foresight, and no consultation of those currently using the reserve. Do not do this.</p>
<p>I am strongly against this proposal in it's current form as it exclusively benefits a single sporting club from a single sporting code that is not even a current tenant at Dorothy Laver Reserve. Camberwell Lacrosse Club and the other tenants will be left with no home ground or home clubrooms. A redevelopment of Dorothy Laver Reserve is welcome but not at the expense of the current tenants. This proposal is exclusively for the benefit of a single sporting club to the exclusion of all others. The fact that the proposal makes a point of emphasising "female sporting" opportunities demonstrates that this is a blatant ploy to "tick the correct boxes for approval" at the detriment of other sporting clubs and codes who currently use this public amenity. Having been involved in several sporting codes where grounds and facilities are shared, I have found soccer clubs to be the the more arrogant, preferring to have the use of such facilities exclusively. This is usually done by club coaching staff and players having little or no respect for others who are meant to have equal access to the shared facilities. Typically, training areas are excessively spread out to overwhelm other groups who are training in the same vicinity. There is no mention of the other tenants of Dorothy Laver Reserve, presumably because the plan is to only highlight the "exciting new development" and keep any negative press about other sporting clubs being removed and displaced from the public eye. Alamein FC already has HA Smith Reserve as their home ground. There is no need to displace or remove other clubs from Dorothy Laver Reserve. Alamein FC is also the sister club of Ashburton Soccer Club who are located at Warner Reserve. Is this a take over of Dorothy Laver Reserve by stealth?</p>
<p>Camberwell Lacrosse Club have used this space for almost 40 years and came on to this patch of reserve at a time when it was disused and turned it into a popular sporting precinct. Camberwell have ran a highly successful lacrosse team, junior recruiting program and have hosted many successful Victorian lacrosse carnivals for junior players at Dorothy Laver. They should be able to continue to do so without interruption or interference given their tenure at the ground. Myself (since 1994) and my 3 children (aged 15, 12 and 10 and in the future for my 15 mth old) participate in games at this beautiful ground against Camberwell LC and implore you to seriously reconsider this plan which would leave Camberwell LC in a state of limbo as to training and playing on this ground. While I understand soccer/football is a very popular sport, lacrosse has a very solid following in certain pockets of Melbourne, the eastern/south eastern suburbs of Camberwell, Chadstone, Caulfield, Surrey Park, Eltham and MCC being some of them and they should have been properly consulted on this.</p>
<p>As a Lacrosse player, I strongly oppose the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you abandon this proposal immediately.</p>
<p>Please retain the Lacrosse grounds- you have one of the best lacrosse teams in the state and we often come and compete against them. Please retain sporting diversity and the benefits of real grass! Do not act without democratically informing all the healthy other sporting players and cinsidering them. No to synthetic turf. Yes to sprting diversity and Camberwell Lacrosse.</p>
<p>Oval needs to be for all sports not just soccer. Pull your heads out of your arses council.</p>

<p>Camberwell Lacrosse club have been using these facilities for as long as i remember. I played there and now have my daughter playing on the same ground. As a member of wyndham lacrosse i know the feeling of being pushed out by a soccer club and the impact it had when we lost our facility due to the soccer teams selfishness. Please don't let lacrosse suffer any more, we to would like to grow our game.</p>
<p>I have been a member of the Camberwell Lacrosse Club previously (CGI) for over 40 years and now enjoy walking the dogs and using the park as a recreational facility. I understand the pressure on council to provide sporting grounds but feel a great injustice if council was to move the Lacrosse Club from the current facilities. The best out come for this proposal would be a shared multi functioning sporting centre, that could be used not only by a Soccer / Lacrosse / Cricket Clubs but also the public.</p>
<p>As a player at Caulfield Lacrosse Club, we strongly oppose the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. It will have a detrimental on the entire lacrosse community. We ask that you abandon this proposal immediately.</p>
<p>Please save the area for Lacrosse who have been using the site since 1979</p>
<p>Sad that you are not involving the current sports that play there!!!</p>
<p>As a park user (dog exercise) i would prefer that these grounds remain as natural grass. Synthetic surfaces often are vandalised, requiring fences at a future date. This restrict access and creates unnecessary boundaries and exclusion zones for park users who wish to traverse that terrain when sport is not being played. Synthetic surfaces also restrict the type of sporting activity to games that use that exact dimension. This may restrict the type of sports that may one day wish to use these playing grounds. Grass can be easily adapted to accomodate a variety of games.</p>
<p>What is the plan for the woman's lacrosse that is currently using the space? Lacrosse is a sport that needs all of the help that is can get in Australia and you plan to destroy the Camberwell lacrosse club. This is a really bad proposal.</p>
<p>What is going to happen to the lacrosse club they can't play on synthetic turf you should be supporting this sport not kicking them out shame on you.</p>
<p>While changing one of the reserves to your proposed synthetic ground would make sense, mandating that both east and west reserves be converted is unacceptable. Also, to make mention of a fence surrounding the new proposal is idiotic and clearly shows that the soccer lobbyists are working very hard. Simply put, to convert both reserves to serve ONE SPORTING CODE, while excluding all other sporting groups and users is a terrible use of council funds. At the very least one of the reserves needs to stay as a natural grass surface so that it can be SHARED BY ALL USERS! I will not accept this proposal in its current form and will be supporting the groups that are also against this proposal.</p>
<p>Synthetic grass and permanent markings limits the use of the reserve for sports other than soccer. As the parent of a junior lacrosse player we enjoy coming over to the east to play. Don't let the sport of lacrosse be lost to the kids in the eastern suburbs by limiting the multi-use fields on which it can be played.</p>
<p>As a user of Dorothy Laver West Reserve, we strongly oppose the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you abandon this proposal immediately.</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays lacrosse Newport Lacrosse Club, I strongly oppose the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you abandon this proposal immediately. Camberwell has a strong history in the formation of the grounds approaching 40 years. With strong interest from youth teams thru to adults it would be sad to see the disbandonment of a strong sport at these grounds.</p>
<p>Just wondering when the Camberwell Lacrosse club is going to be able to use the excellent new facilities? You already have a club using the space yet how much consulting have done with them? Alamein FC should only allowed to use the new facilities when Camberwell is not. The disregard for Lacrosse is shameful.</p>
<p>I am saddened that this project will push out the existing users of this ground. Lacrosse is slowly but surely being pushed aside. Australia competes in lacrosse at a high level internationally. I dont think this will be the case if this scheme and others like it are allowed to destroy the future of lacrosse in australia. Congratulations, your secret deal will disapoint children and families not just in your comunity, but all lacrosse families across our state and country.</p>
<p>By doing this you are killing the sport i was raised on and the sport my family have been playing for over 30 years, pls dont kill off our heritage for a sport that can get its ground easily elsewhere.</p>
<p>As a player at Camberwell Lacrosse Club, we strongly oppose the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you abandon this proposal immediately.</p>
<p>Dorothy Laver West has been the home of the Camberwell Lacrosse Club since 1979 when the Camberwell Lacrosse Club petitioned the council at the time to allocated an abandoned grassland as lacrosse playing grounds. Dorothy Laver West has remained the home of the Chiefs ever since. Whilst most lax clubs around the country are enjoying terrific support from their local governments, Camberwell's predicament is a little different. The City of Boroondara recently put out for community consultation an "exciting plan" to turn Dorothy Laver West into an all synthetic turf facility. Exciting right? Not exactly. Turns out the idea is to turn the field into a "year round" soccer facility and "provide a year-round soccer-focused facility with increased opportunities for women and girls, whilst also enhancing opportunities for passive recreation". Not sure when lacrosse became "passive" recreation. Turns out no one told Camberwell (or any other clubs based out of the facility). This lack of consultation leaves the tenure of the Chiefs in jeopardy and frankly that is just not good enough. It is especially poor form on the part of Alamein FC who appear to have gone behind closed doors to screw over other sporting clubs without having the decency to have a chat about it. Forget the different sports, it is just not the sort of the thing clubs do to each other.</p>
<p>As a player at Camberwell Lacrosse Club, we strongly oppose the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you abandon this proposal immediately.</p>
<p>I strongly disagree with the development of the Dorothy Laver Reserve West project. The current clubs have not been consulted at all, and have not been even slightly taken into consideration with how this will effect their current state. VERY POOR BOROONDARA!</p>
<p>As a player of lacrosse I strongly oppose the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you abandon this proposal immediately.</p>

<p>It would be so sad to see Camberwell Lacrosse Club homeless. Lacrosse is a sport that has little funding and it is the passion and commitment of the players and fans that keep it alive. Losing this ground would be a massive hit to the lacrosse community across Victoria. Please find it in your hearts to keep the club and sport alive.</p>
<p>Lacrosse in Australia is played at a high standard compared to the world stage. It is the fastest growing sport in the USA. Camberwell lacrosse continue to grow as a club for both men's and women's lacrosse. It will be an absolute travesty to rip these facilities from under their feet. Camberwell has its goal keeper in the senior men's division playing for Australia at the world series in Israel in two weeks time. I strongly urge council to not support this take over plan by soccer. Regards.</p>
<p>As a nearby resident of Dorothy Laver West Reserve, we strongly oppose the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. This park is used by not only sporting clubs but many local residents dog walking and enjoying the natural environment of the creek and wetlands that abuts the grounds. I grew up in the area and have used this park for the last 30yrs. Converting this beautiful parkland in to a synthetic ground will be an eyesaw and visually will look awful. The consultation on this project has been inadequate I found out about this on Facebook. It seems like the consulting step is token and the decision has already been made without consulting local residents. We ask that you abandon this proposal immediately.</p>
<p>Where will Camberwell Lacrosse Club be placed? Where will I play lacrosse, a sport that I have played for 22 years? How about you revise your plans and find a way to incorporate a men's and women's lacrosse field so that ALL local sports teams are benefiting from the upgrade?</p>
<p>Sub 1: As a parent of a child who plays at Alamein Football Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal. Sub 2: Totally agree with Council supporting a football (soccer) complex that will benefit female players. Note should also be made that other sports (such as Lacrosse & Hockey) can if necessary use similar sized grounds if this is necessary. I am also associated with the Boon Wurrung Foundation (Aboriginal Organisation) and it is great to see Booroondara doing something for female sport. Soccer in particular is a rapidly growing female activity.</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Alamein Football Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>It should stay as a lacrosse club the soccer field needs to fuck off</p>
<p>As a player at Camberwell Lacrosse Club, we strongly oppose the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you abandon this proposal immediately.</p>
<p>Leave it how it is, too many soccer fields already replace the existing soccer club with a hockey field.</p>
<p>Why in the flipping flying fuck would you remove a competitive open age bracket lacrosse team to make two mini pitches for 8 year old girls!? Are you mad!? Quite convenient that you left out those negatively impacted.</p>
<p>I can't believe the local council are even considering the proposal to turn grassed recreation parkland and ovals into fenced artificial fields for the exclusive use of one sport- soccer. Apart from the fact that the local Lacrosse club will be left without a home after more than 30 years at this location, preseason football users, joggers, dog walkers and local residents seem to have not even been considered in the plans. The council plan appears to be lacking in other detail. Environmental impact & increased parking requirements aren't addressed. If you were a cricketer would you want to stand in the sun on an artificial surface for a game in the height of summer? Plans for an artificial surface, single sport use for Dorothy Laver West should be abandoned.</p>
<p>Please keep as a lacrosse field</p>
<p>As a player at Camberwell Lacrosse Club, we strongly oppose the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you abandon this proposal immediately.</p>
<p>this place has been part off one off the worlds greats games of lacrosse.</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays lacrosse at Camberwell Lacrosse Club, we strongly oppose the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you abandon this proposal immediately.</p>

<p>Sub 1: Car parking from patrons of East Malvern football club & cricket on Dorothy Laver East reserve already causes significant parking congestion on local roads. Limited parking on western side will only cause greater congestion in surrounding areas. Traffic speed is already an issue along Albion Road due the higher number of vehicle cutting through to Malvern Rd & avoiding the Glen Iris Rd/ Malvern Rd intersection & rail crossing. LED lights are also brighter with a higher colour temp which can only impact surrounding areas further. The hard base under a synthetic surface will deflect noise to a much greater extent, again deteriorating the amenity of the area. The mail out dated 3 July refers to an updated information sheet being enclosed. Nothing was attached or included in the sealed envelope. Sub 2: In addition to my feedback of 3 July, I wish to further raise my objections to redevelopment of Dorothy Laver Reserve West & Dorothy Laver Reserve East. It is not, as described in the letter, exciting. The proposed project is creating several large playing areas & wedging them into a land locked area serviced only by local residential streets. There is a distinct lack of infrastructure available to support the increase in traffic & patronage such a development will inevitably attract. Creating a year-round facility will only exacerbate this. The development can only be to the detriment of residents & prevent their quiet enjoyment of their home. Parking is already an issue and safety concern when football or AusKick is being played on Dunlop Reserve or cricket being played on Dorothy Laver Reserve East. Vehicles are commonly parked on nature strips & footpaths creating a danger to pedestrians & other traffic due to reduced visibility & congestion. The proximity to both Darling & Glen Iris railway stations will provide no benefit or relief as no user of the sporting grounds will use public transport. No user of the existing sporting grounds, including Dunlop Reserve, use public transport so it is illogical to expect that the proposed development would be any different. All that happens now is that people attending the sporting grounds park in the station carparks, on both sides of the freeway, thereby denying legitimate users of public transport the opportunity to park at the station. You have my email address as part of this response. Please let me know via return email: - Why Boroondara thinks it needs a WNPL standard field? - What style of perimeter fence is being proposed? - Given LED lights are generally a VERY white light, 6000k (Kelvin temp), & only 6 towers are being utilised, what is the height of the light towers & what steps are proposed to prevent a very white light straying into adjoining areas & disturbing residents (including those along Albion Road who may have line of sight of the towers)? - What other locations have been considered & why are they not still under consideration? - Why has there been no provision for additional off-street parking? I look forward to your reply. No doubt more questions will follow.</p>
<p>We currently use these two spaces on a daily basis for walking our dog, kicking the football with our children and casual exercise. We highly value the natural aspect and openness of these spaces, values that will be lost through the current proposal to convert the area to astro turf and fencing the area. It is assumed that we would also no longer be able to walk our dog on Dorothy Laver Reserve West. In the three years we have lived on Saxby Road we have not ever noticed soccer being played on these spaces and so are surprised by the decision to upgrade these areas to dedicated soccer fields. We notice these areas being used for cricket, La Crosse, Little Athletics, Dog club and dog walking. There is no indication how these uses will be catered for by the current proposal. We along with other local residents have concerns about upgrading the grass to artificial turf in such close proximity to the ecological values of the Gardiners Creek corridor and the risk of flooding of the facility. This includes increased artificial lighting of the area that will impact on the native wildlife that utilise the corridor. Parking in the area is already at capacity during Auskick and cricket events. The plan does not have any consideration for additional parking requirements to accompany the increased use of these facilities.</p>
<p>As a Lacrosse player, I strongly oppose the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. I ask that you abandon this proposal immediately.</p>
<p>While its exciting to see womens sport be the focus of development its even more disappointing and frustrating to see another sport lose their home of such a long time. Surely the council should honor those who were there first and actively using the reserve. Is there not another location the synthetic turf could be built? Or even make an upgrade that could allow the function of both lacrosse and womens soccer.</p>
<p>This does not appear to be a real consultation process and sits at the inform stage of a community engagement framework. Budget yr 1 approved!, concept schematic overlay prepared, press releases being made by Alamein, apparent and perceived conflict of interest at a political level? Was there no other suitable facility for a synthetic installation? Camberwell Lacrosse Club have worked in partnership with Council for 40 yrs to turn a paddock into a community facility and now they are being thrown out. What facility are they being offered in return? Why is a minority sport being overridden by a major sport? It looks like bullying and all this for an NPL side that will attempt to dominate the facility and yet is restricted in the club capacity to a limited number of players, girls and boys at each age level, Very disappointing performance by Council. Played at this Club at the weekend. Definitely DO NOT support this proposal.</p>
<p>It prevents lacrosse from being played. This park was set up for lacrosse. There must be many other locations for the soccer field. Btw: I don't play lacrosse or soccer but it seems unfair.</p>
<p>I believe that this is absolutely disgusting that the plan has been put in place with no consultation with the existing sports club's who are already setup to use these fields. Putting the club in this position where they are unsure of their future standing and ability to compete in their competition as well as support the families who are part of the club is an untenable position to take.</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>I am very supportive of these new sporting facilities as my four children all use these parklands for both soccer and cricket.</p>
<p>Yes yes yes - this is definitely needed. We need this space to be better utilised for our kids sports and community programs all year round. This is a brilliant idea.</p>
<p>I totally oppose the project First of all for environmental reasons and it no longer serves the community. We will have heavy impacts of traffic and increase of noise.</p>
<p>Please don't make Camberwell Lacrosse Club homeless. My kids have played there over more than 20 years. Camberwell Lacrosse Vclub deserve more respect!.</p>
<p>I support this development and think it will be a great addition to the area. With a surface that is useable all year round, this would generate a higher participation in people playing sport and thus promote the community to socialise and enjoy the</p>

facilities.
What about the camberwell lacrosse club? They use this sporting ground and there is no mention of lacrosse in the proposal. Not everyone plays soccer, you need to consider the current users of the space and the entire sporting community.
I object to the proposal outlined in Council letter of 3 July because: Artificial facility prone to flooding Grassed areas of significant flora and fauna importance Traffic increase in the area not welcome.
I am against this project as I think replacing natural grass with a synthetic surface, over such a large and flood plane area, is not a good idea. Also, I do not favour fencing public park areas off from casual park users.
As a parent of a child who plays lacrosse against Camberwell Lacrosse Club, we strongly oppose the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. This proposal is detrimental to our lacrosse community. We ask that you abandon this proposal immediately.
As a father and active participant of a sporting club within Boroondara, I can tell you that this facility is a welcomed addition to the recreational facilities available within the council. It is of huge importance as participation in sports helps combat the obesity epidemic that plagues our youth
Replacement of the lighting is a great idea to allow for enhanced training opportunities, especially during winter for lacrosse. But a replacement of the field using synthetic turf is totally unnecessary. Non-synthetic (natural turf) is much easier and less harsh to play on, resulting in less injuries. I ask that you abandon this proposal immediately and prioritise the welfare of all lacrosse players.
My family of 4 children and myself play lacrosse. On a Saturday and Sunday we go to the camberwell lacrosse club regularly in the season. We have been to Melbourne wide lacrosse carnivals held there. We have been to state based team training there. I am angry and disappointed that this proposal is being considered without any consideration for other park users. It is a disgrace. As a kid I supported camberwell football club and went nearly every Sunday. The people of camberwell need a lacrosse ground.
I am not comfortable with a large grassed area being replaced with a synthetic surface. The advantages are obvious: no watering, minimal/no repainting of lines, reliable ball roll; but the disadvantages also need to be considered: hotter in summer (and might it smell?); single sport facility (as lines cannot be added/removed); and loss of grassed open space. I am not sure what the effect of dog urine might have; is this why there is to be a perimeter fence (as the reason for this is not provided)? Also, it is not at all clear how the "active sport" area will be converted to "passive open space". It is just a change of surface and line marking, isn't it? The LED lighting can be done with the existing surface, so is not a relevant justification. Similarly, the relocation of the cricket pitch - assuming cricket will be played somewhere else - seems to be a consequence, rather than a driver for change. I am equally concerned about losing more grassed land should the East Reserve also be converted to a synthetic surface. I note that there is no mention of a change of surface, just line marking; so, for the moment, I will assume that this will remain grass. In summary, the material presented to residents seems to be biased. It says what is to be done without a clear explanation as to why. For instance, how would a new surface, as opposed to new line marking, "increase opportunities for women and girls"? This is just 'spin'. There is no discussion about the disadvantages, so we can evaluate the pros and cons; just pros are provided. If you are to spend \$4.5 million of our (the residents') money, sure we have a right to know whether it is clearly justified or not.
Don't change it, my footy team needs these ovals for our pre season training and if they aren't able to be used where would you people suggest to fit 700+ kids to train during the holidays??
I welcome this initiative and hope it goes ahead! It gives more sporting opportunities to our community, and extends game play and training options for clubs. Well done Boroondara!
I believe it is a necessary project, due to conflicting ground issues between the Cricket and Soccer teams using Boroondara parks, as well as over crowding at other parks during training hours. Hopefully this will also encourage more people to join the sport, and the clubs to cater for the increase in registration numbers.
If the fields are to be upgraded they need to still be able to accommodate the Lacrosse clubs training requirements and game requirements come weekends. There is insufficient parking and fields to have Lacrosse solely held at Eric raven reserve. The upgrades would be beneficial in allowing teams to host national tournaments but if Lacrosse is kicked out completely the sport as a whole in the east will suffer.
What about the Lacrosse community ? Could you please let me know ASAP what your proposal is to provide for the Lacrosse community Not everyone fits into football cricket and soccer. You would be an amazing council if you could see the potential to in fact grow the Lacrosse opportunities in your area to encourage diversity. As I understand it there is the possibility of Lacrosse becoming an Olympic sport. You need to encourage diversity not destroy it . I really hope to hear that you have a great plan that encourages all sports not just the most popular ones . I would also be interested in any environmental impact statement you have regarding synthetic turf. Given the overdensification of the suburbs, and the grounds proximity to the waterway, I would hope you have done or are doing genuine evaluation, Sincerely.
I would prefer you use some money to provide overhead lighting on the path as has been provided by the Stonnington council. During the winter months there is not enough sun to generate enough light from the solar ground lights and coming home at night from work on foot is dangerous along the Boroondara Council sections of Gardiner's Creek path. Dangerous because you cannot see and dangerous because predators can conceal themselves.
As a player at Ashburton United Soccer Club, I strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. I have been playing Soccer since 2009 and it has been a struggle at times to get good access to decent playing fields.
I think to support a Women's only Sporting Club is something so long overdue in Boroondara! We so many Sporting Clubs being a man's domain this is crucial for gender equality!.

<p>I strongly support this project. As a local resident and parent, with our son playing u10 soccer with Ashburton United, we see how the local (and not so local) sporting grounds can deteriorate through the winter. With large numbers of clubs and teams utilising these facilities year round, installing a synthetic surface is essential. If the funding could be found I would wish to see it rolled out throughout the city of Boroondara (perhaps Warner Reserve next?).</p>
<p>To Whom it May Concern, I have been coaching junior girls' lacrosse and have been playing lacrosse for years. I am also a local resident who often walks through this park. Changing the use of this park would mean one less lacrosse club in Victoria out of only 15. This case is even more pertinent for women's and girls' lacrosse as not all clubs have female teams. Camberwell Lacrosse is one club who has invested in female lacrosse. To someone who might say "the club can move", this is much harder for a lacrosse club than other sports. Lacrosse is entirely volunteer run and doesn't have the same funds and people power required to lobby a new council for ground use, administration, uniform changes and the many other requirements. Despite having considerably less resources than other sports, including soccer, women's lacrosse has been more successful on the world stage, having won two world cups and never having placed lower than fourth. This seems a pretty good return on investment (players entirely self-funded) to me. Please don't punish a community who has fought so hard, represented this country so well. An additional point I would like to make is that an artificial turf pitch would not suite the surrounds of the park, given the natural bush-land aesthetic of the surrounding wetland areas. While you might be one council, I implore you to see the bigger picture of the impact you will have on lacrosse if you follow through with the above plan. Victoria provides the lion's share of women's lacrosse team members. What if a few councils acted to remove the lacrosse clubs from their areas? There is no federal money supporting lacrosse, we cannot afford to lobby your actions, we can only appeal to your sense of responsibility.</p>
<p>Sounds like it will be an amazing facility and would benefit many sporting clubs, including one my daughter plays for, Alamein, girls soccer team. Definitely need more soccer fields in the area, it will be very much welcomed, thank you,</p>
<p>You need to maintain the lacrosse fields. The lacrosse club is an important community resource.</p>
<p>I do not support the development as it will preclude the lacrosse teams from playing at the reserve which they have done for many years.</p>
<p>What about all other sport but football? What about the ground when synthetic turf is going down instead of good old grass? Thoughts about the animals? The creek? This is very poor.</p>
<p>Disgraceful conduct by a council. Surely you have learnt by other councils. Soccer isn't a sport you want to get in bed with. And what is worse is you are pretty much destroying a smaller sport like lacrosse in the process.. I bet anything there is a conflict of interest within the council.</p>
<p>My family plays Lacrosse and although we are at an opposition club we oppose the repurposing of Dorothy Laver Reserve West for soccer which already has numerous grounds. Recognition should be given to the historical association and involvement Camberwell Lacrosse club has with both the ground and the local community.</p>
<p>As a nearby resident of Dorothy Laver West Reserve, we strongly oppose the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you abandon this proposal immediately.</p>
<p>This is a great initiative and will enable greater use of the ground, especially with wet days. Thank you for considering.</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Alamein Football Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>No mention as to where lacrosse field will be. Assuming council, is kicking them out as soccer is also played in winter. I also don't think synthetic grounds will be allowed to be used by the general public. Imagine dogs on synthetic grounds and the damage they could possibly do.</p>
<p>I'm disappointed to learn that there has been a lack of consultation with all stakeholders of the reserve for its future use and upgrades. More specifically the installation of a synthetic surface in a flood prone precinct will only reduce the number of sports that can utilize the grounds.</p>
<p>My daughter plays soccer in the WNPL and this upgrade to Dorothy Laver Reserve would bring the facility to the same standards as most of the Clubs in the WNPL. I feel for to long Womens/Girls Sport in particular soccer has been ignored compared to the Men's sports in particular AFL. I think this is a wonderful project for the Boroondara Council to take on, well done to the Council for having the gumption to take on such a project!</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>

<p>Firstly as an ex School Principal I would like to congratulate the City of Boroondara on considering and facilitating any project that encourages the local community to involve itself in active participation. However I do have some strong concerns with the proposed outcomes of this current venture in regards to the current tenants-namely Glen Iris CC and Camberwell Lacrosse Club. For 39 years I was a member of the Eric Raven & Dot Laver Advisory Committee (before these special committees were needlessly and unfortunately disbanded) and as Chairman for many of those years. In May 2005 the then Secretary of the Advisory Committee and myself met with the Mayor-Jack Wegman and CEO Peter Johnstone in regard to the seemingly harsh treatment of Camberwell Lacrosse Club. Despite the committee having recommended ground allocations Council Officers decided to allow a soccer team from the other side of the City -Boroondara Lions -have use of Eric Laver Reserve one week before the season commenced. The outcome of the meeting did not change the outcome but we were assured that the mistakes of this decision would not be made again. It would now appear that Camberwell Lacrosse Club are on the losing end of another decision. Also it would appear GICC will be in need of replacement playing area. I am not a member of either of the organisations but I am very aware of the long serving nature of these 2 clubs and the opportunities they have provided for so many local constituents over many years. Is Council taking into account- -the effect of replacing green open space with an artificial surface. -the negative impact of establishing a synthetic surface on a designated flood plain. Remembering the current pavilion had to be moved from its original citing as a consequence of the flood plain -increased traffic flow in local streets and insufficient area for "legal" parking Camberwell Lacrosse Club as one of the original user tenants assisted in the development of this sporting precinct and has contributed both financially and with labour over the years. I am happy to see monies spent on promoting/ developing any sport for both male and female and as such have no problem with the advancement of Women's soccer--but not at the expense of a long serving community facility. Has Council considered venues where soccer is currently played? Having been involved in previous surveys and conversations with people living in the neighbourhood in regards to decisions involving all 3 sporting areas over many years I will be interested in the feedback of direct neighbours. I hope that Council does not destroy the fabric of the Lacrosse Club and lessen the unity of the GICC in making any future decision. I was a citizen representative on the advisory committee and have no affiliation with either of the affected clubs just a genuine interest in local sporting bodies over 50+ years I wish you all the best in your deliberations.</p>
<p>have your council thought about camberwell lacrosse through this not fair to a great lacrosse club you should leave be for the sake of less maintenance in synthetic grass by all means do the lights but really unfair i'm supporting the camberwell lacrosse club 100% so i disagree with the upgrades.</p>
<p>I am deeply opposed to the proposition. The area is currently used by a very large sporting community that relies on the grounds.</p>
<p>I am opposed to the installation of a synthetic surface at Dorothy Laver Reserve on the grounds that this is supposed to be a green belt and laying a synthetic surface in an area where we are fortunate enough to have green spaces seems to lack foresight. This area is one of the few true green belts in our city and we should preserve it as such. Once we start laying synthetic surfaces and disrupting our natural resources it becomes easier to keep on doing just that.</p>
<p>I support this project.</p>
<p>You havent mentioned that there is a Lacrosse club currently using the facilities. Hoe is it that a soccer club can come in and sweep the lacrosse club out from under their feet. What are they paying and what are your staff getting from this deal. Sound crooked to me.</p>
<p>As a player at the Ashburton football club, I believe this will be a fantastic addition to the community.</p>
<p>My son is a member of the Camberwell Chiefs Lacrosse team who's home is Dorothy Laver Reserve. It's a community club that utilises both our fields so both the younger and older members can train and also have multiple levels of competition at the same time which is needed to get through the various grades. This could not happen if we were limited to 1 field which would be distroid from over use. Being at Dorothy Laver allows the various grades to mix and learn from one another as we can train on the same nights. Personally while my son is training I am walking around the fields and get to see the training as I walk. It would be an injustice to move a team that has been a part of the local community for so many years.</p>
<p>This can not happen it is too important to our club and the growth of our sport. There are many grounds for soccer to be played on and not enough for lacrosse so don't take away our home.</p>
<p>WE, object to the proposed alterations to the Dorothy Laver Reserve,referred to in Rebecca Carland's letter of 4 July,2018. Living in a nearby street, we are concerned that the proposed alterations and increased useage will lead to increased traffic in our area, which is already subject to high congestion. We agree with the objections raised in the notes from "Dear Fellow Resident".</p>
<p>I strongly feel that this facility should be developed for shared, multi-sport usage, therefore I object to this proposal to replace an excellent community facility used by many sports, with an artificial ground designed only for soccer.</p>
<p>Is the council saying that soccer is better than lacrosse? Why does the soccer get so many new grounds and lacrosse is having there's taken away from them? I am 11years old and live in Glen Iris. Will I have to go across the Westgate bridge to find another club to play with?</p>
<p>I have been playing lacrosse for going on 15 years, All the clubs in the competition provide a great community service for people of all ages to meet new people and play a great team sport. Disloging the camberwell lacrosse club from dorethy reserve west, a ground the they built, puts the club at risk of losing members, something any club can not afford. Lacrosse clubs need the support of their councils as much as any sporting club. I oppose the construction of the synthetic grounds as it is throwing the entire lacrosse cummmunity under the bus for the sake of another greedy club.</p>

<p>Firstly, just to be open, I work happily at Boroondara at the Hawthorn Arts Centre as Arts Customer Service Officer 3 days a week. I am fully supportive of Boroondara and all the wonderful contribution to this municipality!! The area I live in is very peaceful and picturesque and has a lovely feel which I think needs to be preserved even from a aesthetic point of view. When I bought my home my new neighbours proudly informed my that the council had done great works improving the whole area in front of my house. However in this instance I am very concerned about the proposed project from a number of aspects. Environmentally, I am fully aware, due to living there since 1995, that the area supports much fauna and flora that needs to be preserved as it is. It is a beautiful open space enjoyed by locals and visitors alike. I requested shortly after starting work at Boroondara that we have a duck sign installed as the ducks sometimes waddle up the grass and start crossing the road. I am very grateful for the installation of the sign!! I am concerned that a fence around the area would make it look closed in as the beautiful open aspect would be lost. Additionally, the street would become much busier and possibly more noisy. We already have some noise from the freeway so I think it would be unfair to residents to add further noise impact. I have photos in my phone taken on 2nd December just last year of the water rising up behind my car just behind the trees in front of my house. It was the first time I considered that the water might rise up to my driveway and across the road. It is a flood prone area!! Most importantly climate change is predicted to increase the incidence of such extremes of weather and this would need to be considered. Could this please be looked at from an Environmental team member or consultant. The grounds proposed in fact could become more user unfriendly with time if these extremes of weather continue. I consider that there may be other open space areas in Boroondara that would offer more reliable and consistent opportunities to be useful as sporting fields. Additionally, if the synthetic turf had to be replaced this would surely only be done at great expense to council. These are just a few of my thoughts. I intend to be at the next meeting in Camberwell. I am very appreciative of all the extra letter drops I have received and the change in dates to allow concerned residents to provide their feedback. Many Thanks!!</p>
<p>As a nearby resident of Dorothy Laver West Reserve and past player of Camberwell Lacrosse Club I strongly oppose the synthetic playing surface council have proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. I ask that you abandon this proposal immediately.</p>
<p>I am very much in favour of this proposal. It will be great for the local community and for the sporting clubs using the facility, especially Ashburton United Soccer Club.</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>I would like to keep the ovals available for football and cricket</p>
<p>Our daughter is playing lacrosse here and I am outraged that the current and future lacrosse teams are being disregarded! Camberwell lacrosse has worked so hard to build the club here. Their consultation should be part of this.</p>
<p>Sub 1: I am concerned out the parking arrangements for all the additional people who will be using the park , up to 9 pm at night (as we are informed by the flyer). Additionally, has consideration been given the traffic flow and interruption into Dunlop Road, which is a main throughway over the freeway and the rail line. It gets congested enough now, adding in a lot more traffic will like choke up the road at game and practice times. I note that that the flyer is silent on these issues and in fact does not even mention more parking spaces being made available. Sub 2: This is my second post. I failed to mention in my first post about our concern that a reconstruction of the sports fields , which now act as a flood pan for the creek , might be disrupted. We live 2 houses from the creek in Peace Street which is on the northern side. In winter and during heavy summer downpours, the creek does flood over the southern bank of the creek in our vicinity. Any northern side flooding that might occur after a disruption could inundate the properties north on the northern bank of the creek.</p>
<p>Where will lacrosse be accommodated? Clubrooms, goal shed/storage and of main focus a place to play!</p>
<p>I think this is a fantastic project and support it going ahead. This will make the ground much more versatile all year round.</p>
<p>I Feel that with all the proposed changes that a Lacrosse Field should be facilitated</p>
<p>As a player at Camberwell Lacrosse Club, we strongly oppose the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you abandon this proposal immediately.</p>
<p>I enjoy watching my little cousin and friends play Lacrosse on weekends at this ground. Therefore I hope this proposal does not go ahead.</p>
<p>Your plan does not address the needs of Camberwell Lacrosse Club and other sporting leagues. I also walk my dog in the area.</p>
<p>This should not go ahead The claim for enhanced passive opportunities for passive recreation with 2800m2 space is ludicrous and should be retracted. Two small parcels of land at each end do not provide any real opportunity and there is an overall loss of 20000m2 currently used for many hours of the week by the community. I will not be able to walk my dog on a synthetic ground. Attempting to shoehorn a WNPL ground and facilities into such a small and sensitive space will not work. There is no way that area can fit the required parking, grandstands and spectator traffic that FFV is planning. This should be considered for Macleay park or somewhere where there is enough room. I strongly object to \$4.5 of ratepayers money being used to suit the needs of an elite club to the exclusion of local residents and local sporting clubs.</p>
<p>Do not go ahead with the proposal to replace an excellent community facility used by many sports with an artificial ground designed only for soccer.</p>
<p>Do not go ahead with the proposal to replace an excellent community facility used by many sports with an artificial ground designed only for soccer. Our children have been using this facility for many years and are shocked and saddened that their sports ground is being taken away from them without even asking. We are appalled that something this unfair can be occurring in a democracy.</p>
<p>Great initiate by the Boroondara Council and foresight. They are to be commended on their financial support together with the State Government support.</p>

<p>There might be money in soccer but there's value in diversity!. Don't lose a sport and limit people's options. Not everyone wants to play the big sports like footy, basketball or soccer. Providing diversity ensures access for those that don't fit the mould for the big sports. Camberwell Lacrosse Club provides a family friendly, positive sporting experience and has done so for years. They support girls and boys, women and men of all ages to play sport - they always have. They enrich the community and have put blood, sweat and tears into their grounds and facilities. There should be a place for small and large clubs within every community, don't turn your back on the smaller clubs or the less well known sports; these groups offer a unique opportunity for many who would otherwise not play any sport.</p>
<p>As a parents of a child who plays lacrosse, as a player and coach who plays against Camberwell Lacrosse Club, we strongly oppose the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you abandon this proposal immediately.</p>
<p>I read with horror at the above proposal, to replace natural cool lush attractive grass turf which can be used by all members of the community, to yet more hard hot artificial turf, which can only be used by a select few. One of the outstanding characteristics of Boroondara is the pretty, natural environment surrounding Gardiner's Creek, (much of which was lost to The monolithic Monash Freeway years ago) and this will soon be lost if we continue to build over its surface. The current surface is used by many well established sports groups such as Camberwell Lacrosse Cub and the Dog training groups, which bring many people from all over this and surrounding communities to the area. Please encourage any future sports that you are considering to be played in the area to toughen up their game and use what is currently there! No need to spend rate payers dollars on something that is not needed which will devastate the look and feel of this gorgeous section of Dorothy Laver. Please don't do this!</p>
<p>I am very concerned about the proposed development for several reasons, some of which are described below. The park is currently very attractive and desirable place to visit. As Melbourne's population density increases it will become more and more important to preserve these human sanctuaries. This also applies to the wildlife that has established itself in the reserve, and particularly the wetlands located immediately adjacent to the proposed development. These (recreated) wetlands, their wildlife and the maintenance of a green corridor are worth protecting and are part of what makes Boroondara a great place to live. The natural grass surface of the Dorothy Laver Reserve (West) provides excellent aesthetics and amenity for local park users; including walkers, joggers and bike riders using the Gardeners Creek Trail. The natural grass surface is user-friendly for all forms of recreation; including sitting, laying, playing and dog-walking, as well as for sports activities. It is rare to see the reserve area not being used. By comparison, a fenced-off artificial surface will be undesirable for general park users. An artificial surface would not be suitable for most activities undertaken by most of the park users, and would be particularly unsuitable for dogs. In addition, I would expect that the proposed fencing would be higher and more extensive than the current (low-level and partial) fencing and would make the proposed development unsightly and unfriendly. Current park users largely walk or ride to the park, which maintains the park's amenity and does not put pressure on the limited amount of parking. By comparison, users of a sports facility would largely drive, and would require car access and parking during short-term, high-use periods. The council proposal does not include increasing or reconfiguring car parking areas. I am worried that if the development proceeds, it would soon become clear that more parking would be required to accommodate this short-term peak-usage requirement, resulting in further loss of parkland. (You have to remember that the freeway was "sold" to residents as two-lanes each way, with it quickly becoming three lanes, and then four.) Another aspect is that the only access to the Dorothy Laver Reserve (West) is blind to traffic heading east along Dunlop Street until about 35 metres from the intersection. If large volumes of traffic are cued to leave the park, then drivers would become impatient and the risk of bad accidents would significantly increase. I am worried that if the development proceeds, then there will be a need to widen and realign the access road, with further impact on the parkland. My final comment is that the proposed development would be a significant investment. This means that the parkland will be lost for decades, regardless of its adverse outcomes.</p>
<p>The sport of lacrosse in an uncommon but interesting sport and provides some unique local character to the southern region of Boroondara where it is played. This sport provides a valuable alternative to mainstream sports in the area and contributes to local diversity. The Camberwell Lacrosse club was strongly championed by former Camberwell Mayor Mrs Dorothy Laver because she recognized the sporting alternative this club provided for the local community. Dorothy Laver advocated the transformation of disused paddocks on the western side of Gardners creek into sporting grounds for the Camberwell Lacrosse Club. This project was completed in 1985 proving the sporting grounds named in her honour and the home of the Camberwell Lacrosse Club. It would be a tragedy for the community of Boroondara to see this local club displaced from its traditional home and replaced by mainstream sports that are already more than adequately catered for within Boroondara. This project disregards the vision of our one of our great female leaders and her legacy of diversity.</p>
<p>A big No No No! Overdevelopment of our neighbourhood limits our natural green spaces. The current surface draws many families to the area for organised sport and recreational play outside of these times. The current grass surface is amazing, it does not break up under high use, has great drainage and is an asset to the community and natural environment. Installation of a synthetic surface destroys such a vast usable space - aside from the soccer playing community. Such significant investment could be spent on areas in need of beatification where natural grass / green habitats are not feasible. Please don't destroy such a beautiful existing amenity!</p>
<p>Nothing against artificial turf. Just ensure that both male and female groups are able to play lacrosse on Saturday and Sunday from April until September. The sport has grown a lot in Australia and the compete in international competition, performing quite well. Suggest to use permanent lines for the lacrosse as they are more economical than temporary.</p>

<p>These grounds are the long standing home grounds to our Lacrosse club. These changes make the grounds no longer suitable for Lacrosse. They are designed for a completely different sporting club. How can the council in all conscience do this, knowing these grounds have been Lacrosse facilities for decades. No prior consultation before these plans were released. Lacrosse is a much smaller sport than soccer and cricket, with limited ground options compared to these other sports. How can the council justify taking it away from Lacrosse users. You would be better off showing your support in diversity of sports. PS... Camberwell Lacrosse have women/girls lacrosse teams too. So no need to play the "supporting women's sport card". This whole redevelopment idea stinks of some kind of enhanced revenue benefits for the council long term.</p>
<p>I am a Riversdale Soccer Club member. For some time, the Committee of the Riversdale Soccer Club have engaged with third parties in order to provide our kids with options to extend the traditional soccer season. As a parent of a child who plays at Riversdale Soccer Club, we see value in this development and strongly support the creation of the synthetic playing surface proposed by Boroondara Council at Dorothy Laver West Reserve. Regards</p>
<p>What are your plans for the sports and teams that currently play and train at this reserve...soccer and cricket are already well catered for. in the area. Lacrosse for juniors and seniors, for males and females, needs to be supported so that Victoria can continue to participate on State, National and International levels.</p>
<p>I fully agree that this area has potential for being developed for better sporting facilities. However I do not think that a synthetic surface is appropriate. It introduces artificial material in a significant water runoff area into the creek; it robs the area of natural vegetation for example as a CO2 sink; it hold and reflects significant heat in summer. It may require less maintenance but the \$4.5 million investment seems excessive compared to improving and maintaining the current surface.</p>
<p>Please do not replace the grass with a synthetic turf. This is a huge waste of money, it interrupts the natural state and cycle of plant life capturing and converting carbon, it is a huge unnecessary upkeep and maintenance cost, and it will disrupt the entire area during construction and into perpetuity with soccer-focused events etc. Please reconsider the synthetic turf portion of the upgrade. I have no objection to the upgraded lighting etc.</p>
<p>I live local to these grounds and use them regularly. I have also lived in the area for many years. I am amazed that the council would consider taking this amount of parkland to turn into artificially surfaced soccer fields. This is a beautiful area that needs no changes to what is there. These artificial surfaces are a blight on park land visually and are uncomfortably hot for animals and people. These grounds are currently being used for La crosse, cricket, dog training groups and football. These clubs have used these grounds for many years and to then hand these grounds and this area over to soccer seems totally unfair and that goes for both sides of the creek. I play cricket and have had experience of playing on these synthetic grounds and it is not a very enjoyable experience. The heat bounces off the plastic and the rubber inserts and it makes the ground much hotter and thus uncomfortable, for the players. Grass is a much better heat and is much easier on players legs as far as not getting tired and diving to make stops. The plastic means that diving to stop a ball will leave burns on the arms and legs of those doing it which means staying on your feet is imperative. Training for football on these grounds is also a problem as they don't allow for tackling due to the burns suffered when hitting the ground. I would ask you to take the above into consideration as surely to change something should mean that that improves things. This development certainly does not do that.</p>
<p>According to experts it is reported that most synthetic turf surfaces absorb rather than reflect sunlight, causing the emission of heat. These high temperatures not only impact the surrounding environment, but they can also affect the health and safety of athletes and children who use the synthetic turf grounds. Environmental and health impacts of artificial turf reviews attest that tire rubber crumb contains a range of organic contaminants and heavy metals that can volatilize into the air and/or leach into the percolating rainwater, thereby posing a potential risk to the environment and human health. Withe these two areas placed between Gardner Creek and surrounds it is extremely worrying in relation to the impact to the waterways and these areas. There will be displacement of the wildlife such as birds and ducks that live within this environment and share the natural landscape as in place at the current time. In addition, kicking off other local sporting clubs such as the dog club, la crosse, cricket and football clubs is extremely unfair and unjust. These clubs have relied on these ovals and areas to function for many many residents in the area over many years is also at risk. There is a huge park like this already in the area just beyond Burke Road and ask the question why they can't use the synthetic space that has already been put in place. Further, local council should not proceed with this project and spend a great deal of money destroying the environment, nature and ruining what is a perfectly functioning environment currently in use for locals. The unsightly fake unnatural environment is NOT wanted by locals! Council should take note and not make short sighted decisions. This would be a very unpopular decision should the project proceed. The other matter to be considered is the risk of injury and damage to people, children and animals with such a large unsightly synthetic area that is known to cause injuries such as burns, abrasions or overheating when using the space. It basically will be a hazard for animals throughout the summer months. With the development and removal of the natural environment within the area it is imperative our parklands remain natural for us all!</p>
<p>I am concerned that I have only heard about this proposal via a notice put up in the window of the changing rooms. I have the following questions: 1. What efforts have been made by the council to publicise this proposal? 2. Why is the council suggesting artificial turf? I have observed numerous native birds feeding on the reserve at different times of the year. What will be the impact on them? 3. What will be the impact on the Lacrosse club and its teams?</p>
<p>Sub 1: This idea does not represent the needs of the community at all. There has been no proper consultation and it's an appalling amount of money planned to be wasted. No actual rate paying resident wants this terrible infrastructure. It will destroy the ambience of the area and cause congestion and chaos to the local community. In a world where the environment is precious the proposal encourages ripping put grass (natural) and replacing it with plastic. As a woman with a daughter I am also appalled that the council is trying to disguise this atrocity of nature as for the benefit of women. There is no basis for such claims and the council should be ashamed of itself. A resounding NO! Sub 2: This survey is rigged. You don't even have to verify residency in the area to complete and comment. Do not call this community forum when anyone with an email address can submit a comment.</p>
<p>I strongly oppose this development. It does not serve the local community at all. In facts it destroys our green space and excludes us from sharing this beautiful space with our friends who live here.</p>

Generally supportive of this. Interested to see if there will be additional parking provided.
As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.
I feel the development plan has NOT taken into consideration the sporting facilities current users! Why on earth would go ahead and plan a new facility without the consultation of the current sporting groups!??? This should be given full priority !!
A great idea which will provide better facilities all year round particularly for soccer. Both of my children play soccer at this venue (1 current, 1 previously) which is a huge participation sport in our local area.
Increased football facilities benefits all.
Are all present sporting clubs being Looked after by council Bear in mind they provides facilities. To assist Men and women in sport.
I am not in favour of this project, as it is making it difficult for minor sports to survive. Also, I don't believe their other ground, "Eric Raven Reserve" will support all Camberwell Lacrosse Club's teams.
I am deeply disappointed in this proposal.
I am a member of Riversdale Soccer Club - both as a long-serving player and committee member. For a long time time, we on the committee at the Riversdale have had to engage third parties (such as local schools, Darebin and Knox football centres) to provide our players with options during preseason or to extend the traditional season. As a player and a committee member, I know that Riversdale SC sees great value in this development and strongly supports the creation of the synthetic playing surface proposed by Boroondara Council at Dorothy Laver West Reserve.
Please send detailed plans of proposed DEDICATED parking facilities for the greatly increased traffic this project will generate. At present, Francis Crescent is dangerous when cars are parked on both sides of the street and opposite driveways making it difficult to exit and negotiate the bend safely when training is on. Also please advise what surfaces are used on the D L East reserve as your map is unreadable. Thank you in anticipation of your prompt reply.
For too many years now, soccer has taken second place to cricket despite having a huge number of participants and a popularity that continues to grow. Our soccer players have put up with years of not being able to pre-season train at their own grounds because the cricket season is still finishing. When the season starts they have to put up with playing with cricket wickets that sit as an uneven playing surface in the middle of the pitch - in dry weather hard as rock, in wet weather a sticky bog where the ball doesn't move and in extreme weather they are unplayable and dangerous. Current grounds are overused (rarely a season goes by where matches are not cancelled due to pitches being unplayable) and this new facility would at least go some way to helping relieve that problem - extra ground space means less stress on current facilities, better conditions for players - good for the club, good for the players, good for the sport of soccer and good for the community.
I am concerned that the habitat of both the residents and the wildlife will be impacted if a public address system and siren are involved in this proposal. Dunlop Street is already a ratrace during the week and the traffic ignores the 50km/h residential street speed limit. The surface is likely to be destroyed by the large number of SUVs that are most likely to be the vehicle of choice for those driving to the grounds and there is insufficient parking for any additional vehicles to the area. I also believe the Lacrosse Club is being poorly treated and it has been here longer than we have and we have lived here for 32 years.
Please leave these fields alone and keep as grass. This area is busy enough and cannot accommodate the high volume of your proposal... it is residential area with families not a busy thoroughfare and sporting venue with high fencing and more parks. I live opposite Dorothy laver and my dog walk there every day...
I object to your plans for the Dorothy Laver Reserve for the following reasons. The removal of the lovely grassed oval to replace with synthetic surface , We enjoy walking on the grass. We are worried about the increase in our major flooding in Francis Crescent due to decreased absorption of water. This development will impact the flora and fauna of our creek We are very concerned about the increased parking in the local streets as well as the increased traffic flow.
As we understand, the new Dorothy Laver Reserve West is being upgraded to accommodate a new professional level soccer field, with facilities to match. This general sporting and leisure precinct is already very busy during peak sporting times, with significant existing traffic problems during these times. We are seriously concerned that the overall area will become overrun with vehicles, along with the required parking spaces to suit. Vehicle parking already spills into surrounding streets where cars parked over private driveways is common. The current plan for additional parking spots appears insufficient. Getting a parking spot on sporting days, to catch a train from Darling station is also highly problematic. As such, we are not currently satisfied with the current plans for redevelopment. Please give due consideration to these important issues.
I don't know how you came up with this proposal but it doesn't work with the current landscape. For starters there is no parking & no matter what you do you will never have enough parking at this venue. This sounds like the council has their mind made up and bugger to all other Stakeholders & Residents. Sounds like the FFA & FFV have can just buy land for their sports where ever they can with no consultation or consideration of other Sports, Eco Systems & Local Residents. Did you know the Harlequin Rugby Club used to play here before they moved to their current venue & were told that it is unsuitable for sport because of the Flooding that does happen here. They then built up the nature reserve and told nothing would be built here. This was when the Lacrosse Club moved in. They were a very small club then but have grown & now use a second venue, which you want them to use all the time. I am sure there are other green spaces more suited for this development, especially as you need the Car Parking Space which this doesn't have.
This area is residential and cannot cope with the amount of traffic as it is. The volume of traffic will increase and what about the wetlands and the impact on Gardiners Creek? Remember the Harlequin Rugby Club? They were forced to move because of the creation of the wetlands. The two ponds were originally underground lakes that fed into the creek and the rugby ground on the top. We don't need this in our area full stop. Lacrosse has been there for 30 years and my adult boys were one of the originals playing cricket with the junior cricket club. What a disgrace if this goes ahead. Find another venue that won't interfere with the natural environment of this area. Doesn't the car park get flooded? What about the ground behind the Ashburton pool precinct? The ground behind the Ashburton scout hall? Markham Avenue?

Our family have three children (two boys and a girl), all of whom are involved in junior football (that would be Australian Football) and we are alarmed at the possibility that this oval would be turned into a soccer venue. Australian Football, particularly women's footy, is struggling for grounds to play on and the Ashburton Redbacks, for whom my children play, use Dorothy Laver as a pre-season training venue. It's particularly valuable, because all of the teams can train at the same venue (something that's not possible during the actual season). This is so helpful because it means we don't have to transport the 3 kids to 3 different locations at the same time.

Don't pollute our beautiful park with artificial anything! Also, the moment you put these artificial pitches on an oval, it means that's it's useless for any other sport. Leave the grass alone!

SO THE TRADITIONS AND FAMILY VALUES THAT HAVE BEEN FORGED OVER DECADES AT THE CAMBERWELL LACROSSE CLUB WILL JUST BE TERMINATED WHERE DO THOSE HARD WORKING AND COMMUNITY SUPPORTIVE MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES MOVE TO SOME CLAY PIT OR TOXIC GROUND PLEASE CONSIDER THE CURRENT SPORTING TENANTS AND THEIR COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS OVER MANY DECADES IN YOUR DECISION MAKING.

Hi As a local resident, I am very concerned by the prospect of additional traffic and parking congestion on the area of the redevelopment, and the associated changes at Eric Raven Reserve. In particular, Peace and Estella Streets will become even more congested if these developments proceed as planned. Even now, Estella St is at times completely parked out, and this situation can only be expected to worsen as planned and under construction multi-unit housing developments increase the demand for on street parking. Both streets are single ended, with no alternative access for residents to enter or leave their properties, and being fairly narrow, access for emergency vehicles and waste collection services is restricted. Further, the intersection of Estella St, High St and Albion Road is difficult at the best of times, and further traffic volumes will only make this situation worse unless traffic management at this intersection is improved, and/or an additional access road is provided to High St from the Raven Reserve end of the street. From what I can see, similar objections to parking and traffic volumes apply to the Dorothy Laver development. Apart from these considerations, the noise and light pollution from these developments on week nights and weekends will adversely affect the quality of life for existing residents. Provision of sporting infrastructure is important and should be encouraged, but needs to be a balanced with the reasonable and legitimate needs of ratepayers and residents. I urge the council to reconsider the proposed developments, and look at other ways to better use the existing infrastructure which will be less onerous for residents in this area. Regards

12th July, 2018 Dear Mayor, Councillors and Chief Executive Officer, As a Boroondara resident and ratepayer, and a member of Camberwell Lacrosse Club I would like to strongly object to the proposed plan to redevelop Dorothy Laver West and East ovals as an artificial turf and a dedicated soccer facility. Let me start by expressing my strong support for increasing youth and adult participation in COMMUNITY BASED sporting activities of any kind. It is, however, my view that this proposal oversteps the boundaries of the council's remit, is not in the best interests of the community as a whole, and that in its present state unlikely to even meet its stated objectives. My specific objections are as follows: 1. The role of the council is to promote and support the community. In its Project Information Sheet, the council states that the project will "provide the community with Boroondara's first Women's National Premier League (WNPL) standard senior soccer field". The WNPL, however, is an elite sporting league, not a community based one. The WNPL FAQ document from 2015 states the following: Q - Can a current club operate as a WNPL and a Community club? A - No. With the exception of MiniRoos, WNPL clubs cannot enter teams in Community Competitions. It is not the role of the council to promote or support elite sport and I object to the council spending its ratepayer revenue, to the tune of \$4.5m, to do so. We pay rates so that the council can fund community-based services, not so it can promote elite sport. 2. The proposal, in its current state, will not even deliver "Boroondara's first Women's National Premier League (WNPL) standard senior soccer field". As such it is underfunded and is misrepresenting the full impact of delivering on such a promise. WNPL standards require (amongst others) the following: a. Covered roof players race from the dressing rooms to the playing area b. Four lockable dressing rooms c. A first aid room including basic first aid equipment and a bed / massage table d. A match officials room with a writing desk and chair or bench e. Car parking for 100 cars within 400m of playing field f. Grand stand with undercover seating / viewing area for 500 people g. PA, media and operations viewing area with unobstructed views of the playing arena These facilities are neither currently available nor are they included in the current proposal. At a minimum, this necessarily means that the total cost of the project will far exceed \$4.5m and in all likelihood will require the entire reserve and adjacent natural space to be converted into a soccer arena and its related facilities. This initiative, therefore, must be put on hold until such time that the council can make a true and accurate representation of the totality of the project's implications (financial and otherwise). 3. The proposal represents a ludicrous level of per-player investment and will result in net loss of sporting capacity to Boroondara. WNPL regulations essentially preclude usage by other community clubs and restrict its own clubs to 5 teams of maximum 20 players each, for a total of 100 players. Even if the cost of the project can be contained within \$4.5m, this represents a \$45,000 investment per player, which is 3 times the average annual salary in the W-League, women's top soccer competition in the country. Moreover, Camberwell Lacrosse Club currently has more than 200 registered players and on a growth trajectory. Losing 2/3 of the club's fields translates to more than 130 players, for a total net LOSS of 30 players in capacity. Note that this estimate does not include the impact to Glen Iris Cricket Club. Eric Raven cannot accommodate more than 3 times its current usage, which is what will be required to cover for the loss of the Dorothy Laver capacity. 4. Football Federation Victoria (FFV) have shown complete disregard towards our community and rate paying residents whose money is used to fund this project. Their social media campaign on Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, email and via SportsTG solicits responses to the community consultation from throughout Victoria "on behalf of football". It is a clear indication that their only interests lie in the promotion of soccer and not in the benefit to the Boroondara community. While this is understandable, I object to my rate money going to support such an organization. 5. I attended the first consultation session at the reserve club rooms on Tue the 3rd of July. From the information provided by council staff it was evident that the entire proposal is half baked. Obvious and basic research (such as visiting the grounds while they are being used to gauge participation levels and usage patterns) was not undertaken. Reasonable concerns, (such as parking, traffic, environmental impact and flood risk) which should have been known in advance, have simply been ignored and dismissed with 'we'll deal with these during the design phase'. Questions regarding estimates of future usage or potential return on investment

<p>were met with shrugged shoulders. This totally undermines the credibility of the plan to a degree that it simply cannot be judged on its merits and should be abandoned or at the very least taken back to the drawing board. 6. The community engagement process smacks of an attempt to rush this project through much the same way that government rushes legislation in parliament. It also taints the project as driven by self-interested parties, intent on promoting soccer at the expense of anyone else. Lack of advance notice, extremely short period of time for submissions, scheduling of consultation at a time obviously meant to preclude as many as possible from attending, consultation with FFV while disregarding current tenants, unwillingness to disclose analysis, all point in the same direction: inherent bias towards soccer. To use a vernacular, this proposal 'does not pass the pub test'. It will not deliver on its promises, it will cost much more than estimated, and it benefits a single elite soccer club at the expense of a number of community clubs, residents, rate payers and casual users. I urge the council to abandon this project in its current form and to embark on a new project aimed at improving both usage and facilities at Dorothy Laver West and East in a manner which benefits the community it serves.</p>
<p>It is important that the CGI lacrosse club retains the use of this reserve.</p>
<p>I am disappointed to hear of this potential overdevelopment and additional pressure on this park and strongly object to this increased over use and subsequent increased traffic and parking overflow that would result from this proposed development. A compromise that I feel would allow the rate paying members of Boroondara (and Stonnington) to continue to enjoy the amenity provided by these magnificent open spaces would be to develop Dorothy Laver West Reserve as unfenced natural turf pitches that would allow sporting and other clubs access for competition and practice and ratepayers access at all other times. I object to our Council rates being used to convert passive open space to develop fenced synthetic turf pitches which reduces the passive open space and ability for walking and relaxation. As a member of the Glen Iris Dog Club I am less concerned about Dorothy Laver East being developed as natural turf pitches as long as there is an assurance that this is not just one step closer to converting them to synthetic pitches. A synthetic surface is also not ideal for dog training or walking dogs, particularly in the hotter summer months. As a group that has up to 70 dogs in training on a Sunday morning I am hoping that there will be a lot more consultation with the Dog Club before any decision is made to further develop Dorothy Laver East Reserve. The Club now has over 110 financial members, is well managed, and we feel the Club provides a valuable community service in promoting responsible dog ownership and training in both obedience and agility, all through volunteer trainers. I am quite surprised at the limited consultation that has taken place with residents of Ashburton to date on this proposal as I only became aware of this threat to our open space quite by word of mouth. I walk through these spaces at least once a day and live less than 10 minutes walk from both Reserves and yet we received no notification of the development proposal, which I suspect I'd due to the overdevelop of residential areas with no regard for passive residential amenity. Regards</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Alamein FC Women's NPL soccer club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>Where will current Lacrosse, cricket and football tenants be re-located to? I am not sure Boroondara have the facilities to re-locate these groups.</p>
<p>Football Federation Victoria is supporting the proposed development at Dorothy Laver Reserve West. The project which includes a multi-lined, multiple pitch development is a great initiative to provide a facility that caters for 11 aside senior games through to junior small sided games and mini roos. Early development non-competitive programs can also be conducted at the venue. Having a facility that is fully lit with LED lighting will also alleviate pressure on natural grass pitches. General Statement: Football facilities face unprecedented demand from communities across Victoria as participation grows with the sport's popularity. Participation will continue to grow with most of the growth coming from women and girls. At a growth rate of 5 per cent, 420 equivalent pitches will be required over the next 10 years. At the moment, women and girls make up just 19 per cent of players, 19 per cent of accredited coaches and 10 per cent of referees. Better facilities accommodate more people, and especially more women and girls, playing football more regularly, while a lack of poor-quality facilities discourages participation. Appropriate facilities are particularly important to women and girls – not just female-friendly change rooms, but social and meeting spaces as well as supporting programs and pathways. The provision of modern change rooms, social spaces, lights, drainage and synthetic surfaces all help to boost participation, get the most out of the public investment in the facility and help boost community health and wellbeing.</p>
<p>Ashburton United is a fantastic community focussed soccer club with growth in female members. To allow such a fantastic facility to all members would be amazing.</p>
<p>I think this is a great project and would be extremely beneficial for local spots clubs such as Ashburton united soccer club. I would however love if the ground remained non synthetic and, considering the size of the ground, maybe placing 2 full sized pitches next to each other if possible as I think being able to have 2 games played at once will allow for the development of a larger community feel and more efficient use of surrounding facilities such as club rooms, club equipment etc.</p>
<p>I think this is a wonderful idea and much needed in the area. I have 2 children that play soccer and there is a definite lack of facilities in the area. I also know that the participation rate of soccer is growing at a significant rate and that more all year round facilities are needed, especially with the high incidence of girls taking up the sport.</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>I would like a purpose built facility made for female soccer as I have a young daughter who wants to play elite football. As a resident of the city of Boroondara I don't have anywhere for her to progress to at that level. With these facilities she will be able to follow her older cousin who is already a member of Alamein fc. Women's football is a booming sport for girls and should be supported by council.</p>
<p>Please do not ruin our beautiful grassed area, that's currently available for many many different sports by making it only useful for one or two sports.</p>
<p>I love going and kicking the footy at this oval and mum and dad walk the dogs and everybody can do what they want because it's all grass! Please don't wreck it by putting soccer grounds on it.</p>

<p>The Camberwell Lacrosse Club has been active in the Reserve during all of my life. In the 1950s I was playing there (the club at that time was called the Camberwell/Glen Iris Club). Last year the Club's State League team played in the Lacrosse Victoria Grand Final. The junior teams are strong and use Dorothy Laver Reserve West amenities; the Club under this plan is condemned to strangulation. This is a despicable use of Soccer politics (and probably money) to wipe out a smaller sport). Another example of the rich lording it over the poorer in our current Society. This Club serves a sport which has only one other opportunity east of the Camberwell area.</p>
<p>This project is not appropriate and is a poor use of ratepayer funds. I am very disappointed (but not surprised) at the way this has been handled by council. The issues with this project are: - Public use of the existing space will be severely reduced and restricted due to the fencing around the artificial surface. - Why is the council spending such a large sum to fund a facility for elite soccer at the expense of the local community and ratepayers? - Alternative arrangements suggested for existing users are a poor and inadequate afterthought. - The local lacrosse club played a major role in the development of the current community facility at Dorothy Laver reserve, including significant financial contributions. No suitable alternative or recompense has been included in the plan. - There is already insufficient parking during sporting games. The increased usage will impact surrounding residents. - How did this plan get so far without properly including all stakeholders? It seems that the only prior consultation was with soccer bodies. This raises serious concerns regarding council planning processes. - "Community consultation" on this was sneaky and underhanded: too late, at very short notice and during business hours. Is this really a "proposed" project or, as now seems likely, a done deal? - Why has council refused to properly clarify or make available the planning and decision making criteria around this project? In summary this cosy deal with FFV to spend a large amount of tax payers money for an elite group at the expense of local clubs and residents is very poor and should stop immediately.</p>
<p>Please keep it grass and available for Lacrosse. This reserve is already being used by Camberwell Lacrosse Club for many young people. My niece and nephew use this reserve for training and games against other clubs. You will be severely restricting the Club from operating and limiting the activity of many young people. My nephew has been taking part in the national competition on the Victorian State team for the last couple of years as have other young people from this club. What about supporting them and their development? Why aren't you considering their future too.</p>
<p>We live opposite the reserve. Currently, when organized activities occur there is already congestion of Francis Crescent with parked cars. This includes training sessions in the late weekday afternoons. Having 2 soccer ovals with 2 games going would make the situation far worse. Such a small reserve is not suitable for such a development. We would also prefer natural grass in the reserve to an artificial surface.</p>
<p>I play for Ashburton United Soccer Club</p>
<p>The document you letterboxed to us stated that the ground would be built to international standards. Not stated was that this involved a large grandstand, 1.8 m high fences and parking for 200 cars. If this will be done, now or later, you have been dishonest in not stating that from the start. Parking for so many cars will overflow into our streets (Winifred/Francis Crescents), with consequences for people visiting us. We believe that any major matches should be played at city sports grounds, not in suburban environments. Fencing the ground will take away space that is needed for casual recreation. Our boys played Lacrosse when younger, and we deplore that, with so many soccer grounds and so few Lacrosse fields, Lacrosse will be moved to an inferior and smaller ground with less amenity. Dorothy Laver reserve East is used heavily for casual recreation, especially with the adjacent children's playground. We would be horrified if any fences were to be built around those fields.</p>
<p>I support the proposed project. As usage will be expanded there should be sufficient ability for parking for parents/visitors driving to sporting events.</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>I have a child doing both soccer and AFL. I am not sure why the space cannot cater for AFL junior league as well. It would be a shame to spend so much money and limit the space to only two codes of sport. AFL should be supported as well in all developments.</p>
<p>I believe this development is of vital importance in being able to provide a year round surface for organised sport to be played and also to provide the local community a valuable open space for use.</p>
<p>I live in the area and have young children who love to play sport and I have seen with the new synthetic pitches opening that it gets more children off screens and out and about exercising. Definitely I great idea for any community.</p>
<p>I think it would be great as I have a child who plays soccer and another who will start playing in a couple of years. We've had matches cancelled and had to change home grounds in the past due to waterlogged grounds (Warner Reserve) and I feel that synthetic turf will eliminate this issue. Also, my son has played on synthetic turf before and really enjoyed that game. We also often ride past there and I don't see any issues from that perspective.</p>
<p>I am strongly opposed to this proposed project for many reasons:- environmental, excessive use, traffic, parking etc. ,current sporting groups disadvantaged, aesthetically ugly, unnecessary waste of money.</p>
<p>I think it is a great idea. it would help the kids in the area greatly.</p>

<p>Council has not addressed the requirement for additional car parking in the immediate vicinity of Dorothy Laver West Reserve and later at Dorothy Laver East Reserve. Will it be at the expense of the current parkland or do you expect local streets to accommodate the overflow? Neither would be acceptable to me. Council has not addressed traffic management. Especially at the weekends, Albion Road, Dent Street and Dunlop Street are already carrying high volumes of traffic, and I would object to further congestion as a result of this proposal. The needs of dog walkers have been ignored. As a dog walker and casual walker, I would be disadvantaged by this proposal because the more intensive use of the Dorothy Laver ovals for sports would mean they would not be accessible for dog or casual walkers as often. The Eric Raven Reserve, currently designated for off lead dog exercise. If sports are to be played more often on this oval, our dogs will be unable to exercise at these times, so what provision is Council making for an equivalent off lead park for dogs? Is Council aware of the specifications for Premier League Soccer? I understand they include under cover grandstand seating for 500 spectators, car parking for 200 cars within 400 metres of the facility, covered player races, 1.8 metre high chain wire fencing, ticket boxes and public address systems. How is Council proposing to accommodate these requirements? I object to any of these requirements being acted on at the proposed locations. Facilities of these types are quite unsuitable for the peaceful haven of parkland and wetland in which these ovals nestle. They are suited to dedicated professional sporting facilities only, not our bucolic parkland. I object to replacing the grassed surface at Dorothy Laver West Reserve. Firstly, there is the issue of run-off being a problem, because of the impervious nature of the material. Secondly, it will affect the local bird life. Small flocks of red backed parrots occupy the ovals over several months of the year, as do blue herons. Removing the grass from these ovals contradicts Council's expressed purpose of the parkland as a nature reserve for birdlife.</p>
<p>I am a local resident and have 2 sons that play for the Ashburton Soccer Club. I have also been a coach and Team manger at the club. I am also a director of Dalton Consulting Engineers (www.dceng.com.au), a civil engineering consultancy specialising in the design of sporting facilities including the recently completed St. Kevins College sporting complex in Tooronga. I fully support a new synthetic sporting facility at Dorothy Laver Reserve due to the lack of dedicated soccer pitches which can be used during the week under lights for official matches and training. Current facilities within the Boroondara area particular around Glen Iris and Ashburton are often unplayable on the weekends due to their over-use during the week and susceptibility to wet weather. Most of the reserves also have a cricket pitch in the middle which during the soccer season becomes hazardous for players.</p>
<p>Yes, my family and i believe that this proposal would create a valuable asset to the local community and become a well used facility by local sporting groups and by local residents for casual sporting activities. We are a soccer family, and we often look for this type of facility near us, where we can meet up with others for a game of soccer especially on the weekend. Having goals, and especially goal nets, in permanent position would also assist with making this a desirable meeting place. Local soccer club/s, like Ashburton United, would enjoy including this as a location for home games, i would imagine.</p>
<p>I would like to understand how this project will influence the local wildlife given there is a substantial wetland adjacent to Dorothy West Reserve? Currently, when walking through both Dorothy Laver East and Dorothy Laver West there are often flocks of native birds/parrots feeding/resting on these two reserves. A few years ago, a survey was undertaken seeking anecdotal feedback on the prevalence of native birds within the reserves and wetlands. Has then there a change in emphasis on the importance of this? Additionally, I often walk between the wetlands, through Dorothy Laver West to the Gardiner Creek walking trail. The height fence required for the soccer ground will create a barrier to the seamless use of the spaces by those using the area for other recreational uses.</p>
<p>Great idea. This will enrich the area and provide more opportunities for community members to get outdoors and exercise. This development will be nothing but positive for the community</p>
<p>I am a family that participates in junior soccer activities at Ashburton Football Club. I think the proposal makes a great use of the available space but without a detrimental impact to the surrounding neighbourhood. There are very few grounds that support the junior sports 3-10 age group (which also includes mixed teams) or women's participation in support and this will help place those two groups back on par with older age groups and men's facilities.</p>
<p>Great idea.</p>
<p>As a member of the Ashburton United Soccer Club the expansion of this facility is exciting as both a player and as a user of parks. This project would be a huge success among the community both as a whole and for the club.</p>
<p>I support this great council initiative and believe it help improve the soccer development of all age groups and gender in the Boroondara area.</p>
<p>I think that it sounds like a great project and would really beneficial to the community, in particular for soccer clubs in the area.</p>
<p>What about lacrosse! Where is the support for minority sports? Camberwell Lacrosse club has a growing junior membership - boys and girls - teenage boys - teenage girls - senior teams. Not everyone wants to play soccer, football or netball. My boys love the game, love the club and it has provided them a safe haven to play with their friends. What happens when we have 3 teams playing at once? Where do we play? Is the council going to build CLAX a new clubroom with new lights on a new ground?</p>
<p>My family and I support the need for this development!</p>
<p>Synthetic surface on a flood plain? Doesn't sound good. No mention of cricket and lacrosse club that have been kicked out with no mention at all. Someone has jumped the gun with absolutely no thought process into the project. No consulting with local residents. What kind of show is the council running? Doesn't benefit anyone except soccer for people who don't even live in the local community.</p>
<p>A growing population benefits from participation in organised sports such as soccer. Mental and physical health benefits are well established. Quality facilities will encourage more members of the community to participate in soccer.</p>

<p>I have been living in the City of Boroondara for 20 years, and recently purchased a new house a small walk from Dorothy Laver Reserve West particularly for what it is today - Parks & Grassland. Currently this ground is highly utilised for many activities for various sporting clubs (cricket, lacrosse etc), as well as many social/recreational members of your community. I believe that this proposal should look towards your own strategic direction and take a leaf from the "Trees for our future" motto that you have, and think about the "Parks & Ovals for our future". Trees, parklands, and grassed areas are rapidly reducing across Melbourne and we should be investing rate payers money effectively for projects such as this. The "Green" Future of your shire is in your hands, and we should be reducing development to ensure that future generations know what grass, trees and parks are. If you think that keeping grassland and ovals are important, then there are many alternative sites that could/should be used for these types of synthetic areas, which would keep and improve parklands both in Dorothy Laver West and in other areas of our city. 1. Build current carparks at recreational centres underground and have synthetic ovals/pitches above (i.e Ashburton rec centre) 2. Fully utilise old tennis courts/bowling green (left & right entrance area) of Hays Paddock 3. Reclaim and build multilevel facility (even indoor) at the currently derelict Master site at the south end of Auburn Road 4. Optimise the current "Half" soccer field and repair the top oval at Fritsch Holzer Park.</p>
<p>I strongly support the improvements in the Dorothy Lave Reserve West project. I also believe the east project should go ahead asap, as the oval there is long overdue for improvements. I am a regular user of the area, and believe the proposed improvements will directly enhance the usability of the park and local area. The area is well served by parking with area adjacent to the park, and the Darling Station car park. I strongly reject the anonymous document that was distributed to my letterbox. If you don't have the common curtesy to put your name to a political document, you don't deserve to be heard.</p>
<p>One of my close friends and his team use this field to play lacrosse. This field is essential for his club and the new work would make the field unusable for his sport which is quite unfair. Please consider helping a growing sport like lacrosse have a home in this reserve.</p>
<p>This project needs to be undertaken in consult with the major stakeholders associated with the grounds. The reserve has been home to a local lacrosse club for decades who have been treated as an afterthought. They will be heavily affected by the works and, to date, have had minimal involvement or say in any of the designs. This is an amazing opportunity to revitalize the area but careful consideration needs to be taken during the planning and design phase to ensure that the council deliver a quality product for the whole community.</p>
<p>The conversion to synthetic surfaces would enhance the usability and safety (ground is flatter and better for laying soccer) than the current turf pitches.</p>
<p>Important to have good facilities to encourage girls to play soccer. I have 3 girls and would love them to play on good grounds.</p>
<p>This is an amazing initiative and I'm fully supportive of this project. I think the more space we have for sport in our communities the better. Am very much impressed by the synthetic surface at Gardiner, and can see this being used regularly and safely in all weather conditions.</p>
<p>It would provide year-round sporting opportunities for the kids from the sports clubs using these grounds. We are constantly faced with wash outs because of poor pitch conditions. Many other clubs now have at least one synthetic pitch available from the council.</p>
<p>Not impressed What compensation is to be made to the many junior and senior, men's and women's Lacrosse teams that train and compete here? What connections do the councillor proponents have with the soccer clubs that would benefit? These need to be investigated further and exposed. Something very wrong with the high handed way this has been handled to date.</p>
<p>Scant attention seems to have been to the problem of traffic in the streets leading to this facility. These streets are narrow with plentiful driveways into residences on both sides. When the proposed alterations to the Park are in full swing , the traffic drawn to the proposed use will cause access problems to the residents nearby to the Park. The proposed development will detract from the peaceful ambience now enjoyed by residents in this area, with no doubt a deterioration in the value of the residents properties.</p>
<p>Dear Councillor, My wife and I have been residents of Ashburton since 2002 – Nairn st and now Ashburn Grove. We bought in the area because of its natural corridor and many grass ovals. We generally applaud the council for introducing new facilities and upgrading our infrastructure, thank you. This said, the game of lacrosse has become a major part of our interaction with the community. Our son Remy is 10 and will not play ANYTHING else, including soccer. Womens soccer is to be supported but the loss of Lacrosse is a huge sacrifice and major disappointment. We also would be extremely unhappy with the Dorothy Laver reserves being converted into large areas of HOT, ARTIFICIAL, PLASTIC grass. PLEASE do not do that, this material is completely unnatural and unattractive. We want a REAL green corridor thanks.</p>
<p>What are the people who play sport there supposed to do? Maybe in your fancy spiel about your project, mention the fact that every sporting club that currently plays there will be EVICTED from their home ground, with very late notice. There are sports other than soccer that would actually like to use this ground too.</p>
<p>Great project which has an excellent balance between synthetic year round facilities and natural grass with a very smart layout allowing the shared use between cricket and soccer. My family is very supportive of this project.</p>
<p>I am concerned about: Increased night time noise and lights General increase in traffic, but specifically at the already dangerous reserve entry. Lack of additional car parking at both reserves. Relocation of the lacrosse and cricket clubs. That the funding is being used for soccer only, what about other sports?. Dorothy Laver Reserve East does not have the required facilities (toilets, change rooms, parking etc) to handle the increase in activities. How likely the synthetic cricket ground will get any use, cricket is rarely played on synthetic. Synthetic surface is not suitable for dogs.</p>

I attended the drop in on the 26th June after speaking to Paul Senior that morning to express my disappointment at the way the whole process to this time has been handled. There was total disregard to the fact that this area is already utilized by the Camberwell Lacrosse Club and has been since the 1980's. I was also assured by Paul that everyone including soccer was informed at the same time, something I found hard to believe given the amount of planning that had been done. Despite his assurances it now turns out not to be true! Why was the lacrosse club, residents affected etc only told on the Friday with the meeting to be held on the Tuesday at 2PM!!!! at the end of the financial year with all feedback to be in by 6th July. If I was a cynical person I would deduce from this that the Council wanted this rushed through with the minimum of fuss, in fact someone pointed out that a friend at a local soccer club had been told it was a done deal!! I am not going to go into the details of why I think this should not happen as I know Camberwell Lacrosse has had further meetings with Council to outline these. Overall I find the whole process flawed I could not believe it when the members of the planning team were asked had any of them come down on a Saturday or Sunday to see how the grounds were used, the parking issues that already exist and Council want to quadruple use!! The answer was no they just relied on fixtures etc. I think a club that has been there for over 30 years deserved a little more respect than that. I've been involved with lacrosse for over 50 years my husband played coached for many years both of my sons played are playing for Camberwell Lacrosse and my daughter is still playing at 47 for Camberwell Women's. I'm not naive I know the power soccer has through sheer numbers but sometimes it would be nice if people looked beyond that. I have a granddaughter that plays soccer so I am not biased but in my experience there is no other sport like lacrosse for family participation and involvement. There was also total ignorance of the Australian players that are representing or represented Australia from Camberell Lacrosse at World Championships. Coaches that have coached Australian teams from Camberwell , in fact any history of the club that to me once again is disrespectful and leads me to believe they were not part of the bigger picture, I will be attending the meeting on Wednesday and look forward to hearing not more apologies for the way it was handled but why!! Hopefully Council will have someone taking notes on what transpires and will provide feedback so this can be passed on to interested parties unable to attend.

We support investment in the provision of recreational opportunities but have major concerns regarding this development given the significantly negative impact on the amenity of our home and local environment. The first relates to the environmental impact of a loss of natural drainage in a flood prone area and the second is the enormous loss of amenity and traffic congestion resulting from significant increased traffic flow and parking in the local streets associated with the large number of spectators encouraged as a result of this development. We live in Dunlop st. This is already used as a main thoroughfare for traffic cutting through between Malvern roads and High St. This already results in significant noise increases and difficulty exiting our property in what is a residential area during peak flow traffic times. Parking on dunlop street is a hazard at these times and creates significant traffic jams when cars wish to park on the street. Speed humps are limited in their impact. This is currently manageable outside of peak hours during the week. As a result we can enjoy the residential amenity of the area on weekends and after hours when we should be able to expect a quiet residential area that is amenable to family life. This proposal is a direct threat to this with the expectation of serious traffic congestion and loss of parking amenity after hours and weekends when the area should be quieter for residents and for which I chose to live here. Who would want to engage in passive recreation amidst hundreds of spectators and car pollution and cheering crowds? Where exactly does the council envisage spectators are going to park and how do they envisage they are going to get out of dunlop st without massive traffic jams and delays as hundreds of spectators try to exit the reserve after matches? And how does the council envisage residents are supposed to manage with the noise emanating from crowds in the area. What restrictions are you going to impose to ensure these issues do not happen? Imagine if you lived here and how you would feel. We are about to invest significantly in the construction of a new home on our block. This development is a serious concern for staying here. If this goes ahead without proper safe guards and consideration for local residents I will certainly not be voting for the current councillors again. There are multiple others areas in the City of Boorondara that even I know of that are already situated in more suitable areas on main roads where these facilities would be better and more readily situated. We are not supportive of this at all and in T would request even more support in securing the area in which we live as off limits to through traffic.

Fully support this and it is way overdue.

It is an absolutely amazing pitch. And is well suited for a perfect soccer game

I believe this project to be another great council incentive providing and ongoing promotion of healthy lifestyle choices for our young girls and girls who desperately need it.

I am recommending this proposal to be endorsed and implemented asap, with improved facilities and infrastructure it will ensure junior sporting clubs can prosper and grow by supporting kids and their families to remain engaged in a positive well resourced environment. our children's ability to attend sporting programs all year round is an important part of their mental and physical well being.

I think this would be a fantastic project and it will enhance the community's sporting facilities and the improved lighting will make it safer for junior players to train during the winter season.

As a mother of a teenage girl who plays soccer, we urgently need grounds in our area that can be played on when wet. Soccer is a winter sport but so many times in our local area training and games are called off, due to unfit grounds. This never happens when we play in the North or Western suburbs, they have top quality grounds and it is not fair for our children as they are currently being disadvantaged. We need this for now and for the future.

<p>In general terms, I am greatly concerned that this project has reached the stage where consultation and community engagement is being undertaken extremely late in the piece where the proposal is being presented as virtual 'fait accompli' with belated token community involvement. The proposal should have been floated with the community before it even got off the ground for consultation with various alternative sites presented to the community for its feedback - this was not done. As an alternative, the oval abutting the RSL and backing onto Winton Road comes to mind. In respect to the project as presented for Dorothy Laver Reserve West, I have no significant concerns as DLRW does not directly abut a residential area but is sandwiched by the freeway and Gardiners Creek away from homes. I DO, HOWEVER, HAVE SERIOUS CONCERNS IN RESPECT OF DOROTHY LAVER RESERVE EAST because it directly abuts a residential area and the obvious parking issues that would arise would directly and adversely affect the amenity and safety of the area in which many young families live. More specifically, 1. The proposal is ill-conceived as it has made no provision at all for increased traffic. 2. The radiant heat and chemical fumes rising from a synthetic surface would significantly impact the immediate environment as well as the health of the community, especially young children. The entire aesthetics of the area would be impacted by what would be a visual blight on the hitherto verdant landscape. Many have remarked on the beauty of the park and its surrounding pin oaks as you turn into Francis Crescent. This would be utterly destroyed. 3. The DLRE is in a flood plain which floods on a regular basis and would destroy any ground level construction and development thereby wasting \$4,000,000 of rate-payer funds 4. Residential values in Francis and Winifred Crescent would fall significantly impacting both the residents' principal asset and thereby reduce rates payable to the City of Boroondara. BETTER USE OF FUNDS & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT Why has the City of Boroondara not asked the community surrounding both Dorothy Laver Reserves where it feels rate payers' money should be spent? Where is the community engagement? Why not beautify the area by dredging the silt and sediment in Gardiners Creek? If this is not the Council's province, then it should request that Melbourne Water do so.</p>
<p>I am very keen to see the Ashburton United Soccer girls' and women's teams have their home games on a field that is in good condition. Currently, their home matches are played on different fields, depending on availability, and all of them have significant issues around safety (pot holes, divots, and raised surfaces), or around lay of the land -- literally, on such a slope that it renders the results ridiculous as one end is so profoundly advantaged by gravity. It would be a great opportunity for Boroondara to demonstrate its commitment to encouraging girls and women to participate in sport, rather than continuing to rely on clubs to relegate girls/women's teams lesser facilities as is so often the case. The constant issues around injury and fairness is an added disincentive for the girls/women who already feel they are very much second class citizens in the sporting space, evident in the pattern of disengagement amongst females in sport particularly in the teen years. Boroondara has an opportunity to help reverse this trend and lend its direct and valuable support to girls' and women's sport by ensuring the surface is ideal for soccer playing, and by reserving the space for the many girls' and women's teams from the Ashburton club.</p>
<p>I live directly across the road from Dorothy Laver Reserve East, and I do not support the suggested changes to either park being re-surfaced with synthetic turf. I use both parks virtually every day, for walking, enjoyment of local birdlife on Gardiner's Creek and exercising my dog. We already face traffic and parking congestion during sporting and training event periods and I do not want to see this increase due to further upgrades. Lastly, I think it is craziness to suggest laying an enormous synthetic surface over an area which floods quite dramatically every few years. I'm sure synthetic surfaces are re intended to cope with weather and normal rain water drainage, but how does it work when it's several feet under fast flowing flood water??</p>
<p>I think the area needs an all year round football pitch as there is a tremendous amount of junior players in the area. Not only junior but senior mens and women's teams who could benefit from this. I feel the Boroondara council area has always lacked top quality football facilities and this would be a welcomed action if it goes ahead.</p>
<p>I object to using so much money on creating a synthetic surface to suit just one or two sporting groups. This changes the function of the park and focuses on the minorities and not all users of the park. As a person enjoying walking - sometimes with dogs - this will be an off limits area. I believe our parkland should be used by all types of sporting groups and all residents. This new surface is an elitist approach and a shear waste of money. Which we the residents provide.</p>
<p>I am in strong agreement with this proposed upgrade. Changing the surface will mean the fields can be used more effectively all year round.</p>
<p>I used to play lacrosse for camberwell lacrosse club. This change of ground will mean the club needs to relocate, and having been playing at the grounds for a extended period of time it is grossly unfair to push a club out of its location, and not consider the teams already using the ground.</p>

<p>I am particularly concerned at the cost of this project. It appears that yet again ratepayers are being asked to subsidise sporting clubs, who are likely to comprise largely people from outside the municipality. Active sporting grounds in this ward are lavished with attention, yet parkland for passive recreation languishes with poor maintenance. Watson Park is a classic example with large amounts spent on lighting, turf wicket, ground maintenance and water to the oval area, yet tree after tree has died through lack of water around the perimeter during the drought, been cut down and never replaced. The giveaway in your proposal for Dorothy Laver is the poorly worded add-on about passive recreation. This is completely inadequate. Show a decent plan for how parkland is to be improved, how there is to be a proper visual and acoustic separation between active and passive areas, what planting is to be done, how it is to be maintained, how sporting clubs will be required to pay for the costs of the upgrades through paying full market rents for ground use (and sure, put a mechanism in place where there might be a reduction on a per head of local resident member), how you intend to keep traffic out of Francis Crescent and Dunlop Street (including parking) and importantly how you intend to stop the noise from pavilions causing neighbourhood disturbance as regularly happens with the pavilions along the valley, and then come back to the neighbourhood and seek proper input on an holistic plan. If you wanted marks out of 10 for how Council has handled this one, try minus 10. When there are saturation letterbox drops by Council, a sporting club offers a BBQ and drop-in, and you provide very sparse detail, one can almost certainly put money on something very wrong about the proposal that even Sir Humphrey would blanch at. Back to the drawing board, and come up with a half decent idea that actually has detail in it! You could, for example, do a plan for all of the grounds and open space in the Solway Ward, show precisely how you will develop the spaces to the same standard as exhibited in the Junction Ward, and how you will maintain them (physically as well as financially without additional ratepayer subsidy to sporting clubs) and I would think you might get agreement. As it currently stands, I am very pleased I am not on council seeking another term of office. I have lived in this ward for almost my entire life, and it has always seemed like a very distant relation to the northern wards, and yet I have never noticed any difference in the rate in the dollar levied for the demonstrably poorer support and service you offer.</p>
<p>We play Lacross on these grounds and there is nowhere else to play the game locally. Mixed use of the grounds is not a bad idea however use only for soccer when there are soccer fields close by in stonningron council seems silly to duplicate grounds and exclude other sports. Removal of parking is a crazy idea, it's hard enough to park when there are games on now let alone if there are a whole lot of soccer fields. It seems like a half baked idea by people who never attend local sports matches. A few soccer fields would be ok along with areas left for other sports.</p>
<p>I am vehemently opposed to the proposed development of the Dorothy Laver Reserve for a number of reasons: Parking for residents is already compromised due to local school, dog training and sporting group access as there is very little public parking. There are many young children living in the immediate area who feel a freedom in the open access to their local park, reminiscent of gentler times as they ride bikes on the road in a quiet safe little residential pocket-all this would change if the traffic was to increase significantly. People often park in the vicinity of the reserve to avoid time limits attached to parking at Darling Station. Artificial turf is an eyesore considering that the current natural grass surface functions perfectly and is a visual pleasure, more forgiving of falls and joggers joints and smells fantastic after mowing. I also spend quite a bit of time birdwatching in and around the duck pond which has a wonderful variety of permanent inhabitants and visiting water birds which would likely to be disturbed by increased activity and removal of natural services. The reserve also has grass parrots, gang gangs, corellas, magpies, galahs, rainbow lorikeets and sulphur crested cockatoos visiting the trees and foraging for grubs in the grass. Not to mention the myriad of frogs and smaller often unseen creatures such as insects, integral to our environment that call this suburban oasis home. This is NOT a suitable development for the area or the reserve and would not serve the immediate community and would reduce our general quality of life.</p>
<p>I do not want to lose access to a park we use. This is fenced off from the community that doesn't take part in soccer. By all means go ahead and put more lights in, but leave the field as a multi purpose ground for the residents. I don't like the negative impact that it will have on the environment, Glen Iris/Ashburton has a lovely leafy feel and I don't want this tarnished by artificial grass.</p>
<p>I am strongly against this sort of commercialism in one of our few 'quiet places', particularly with the building of synthetic, artificial fields. We purchased our property in 2013 to be able to enjoy the nature that surrounds us. Nature nearby keeps residents grounded, improves well-being and encourages people to exercise, I personally walk or jog in this area 4 days out of 7. As it is, now 5 years later, the noise from the freeway has already affected this area. It is so bad that we cannot open our windows on the south side of our home. Why not put some efforts into installing sound barriers for residents. 1) The lake nearby will be severely affected environmentally, the ducks and frogs will not adapt to the noise and increased lighting at night. They are often seen on the Dorothy Laver early morning and at sunset, last seen yesterday. Has an environmental impact study been done? The existing environment has been created so well, it is a joy to walk in this area. 2) Peace street is already full on the weekends from car parking for the footy on the field next to High Street. Now it will be worse during the week as there is not enough parking. 3) Professional soccer requires high fences, this will completely destroy our peaceful area. Professional soccer should have a place like the Hockey centre in Parkville, not in suburbia. It is hard to believe that this audacious plan is even being considered. There is no value of local residents. A synthetic surface in this area over 2 fields, this is unbelievable. 4) The pathways are already full morning and night with cyclists riding to and from work. If increased people walking to soccer are distracted there is the danger of serious accidents. 5) How loud is the broadcasting going to be during matches? I don't want to hear it from my home. This will be unfair. 6) Concern that the value of our properties will drop due to increased traffic and lack of nature. 7) Where do people take their dogs to throw balls etc? PLEASE FIND ANOTHER LOCATION - do not destroy our environment</p>
<p>I object to this proposal, it will have a huge impact on surrounding streets with regards to parking, as it is there is not enough parking in the area when there are large games on. It can be difficult to get a park in my own street on game days now without the extra impact these grounds will have. I am also concerned about the environmental impact the synthetic surface will have with regards to run off into Gardeners creek. I also understand the ground will be fenced, this will impact the many dog walkers and also those people that use these grounds as casual recreation areas.</p>

<p>I play lacrosse at this ground which would not be able to happen with synthetic turf, Camberwell lacrosse club would lose their ground. This is not supporting women's sport and is in fact taking away from it. There's are more sports other than soccer that need to be considered. Also I do not support the idea of synthetic surface, the grounds should be natural and made of grass which is better for the environment and makes a much better experience.</p>
<p>My daughter plays lacrosse at Camberwell lacrosse club which has been occupying Dorothy Laver for over 30 years. Soccer is promoting this proposal as a great opportunity for young girls and women in sport - how can this ignorant comment be made when it only caters for soccer? Women in lacrosse are a far greater minority than women in soccer and they are being DISPLACED by the more mainstream sport, when in fact they need more support and room to grow than the already well established sport of soccer! So this idea that the proposal is supporting the growth of women's sport is completely untrue as it is literally stopping the growth of all girls and women who play lacrosse at Camberwell lacrosse club.</p>
<p>This proposal should not even have made it to this stage of debate. Dorothy laver is a beautiful park land right next to the creek and duck pond as well as being right next to wetlands and dense vegetation. This proposal threatens this natural beauty and all its biodiversity as increased usage of the grounds + more lighting (only half the oval has lights at the moment) + the artificial turf will be very detrimental to the state of the vast flora and fauna of the area. Why does the council want to replace grass with plastic? Please allow Dorothy Laver to stay a lovely space of grass which everyone can enjoy as PASSIVE LAND that isn't constantly polluted by noise and light and bright unnatural PLASTIC. It would be an eyesore and not something our community wants nor needs. Please hear our voices, it would break my family's heart to see this beautiful area ruined.</p>
<p>No please, the community urges the council to withdraw this proposal - it will hurt so many, especially children who want to spread the minority game of lacrosse. This is the home ground and club rooms of Camberwell lacrosse club - they have no where else to go. Ashburton soccer club, and all soccer clubs in Boroondara for that matter, have their own individual home grounds and club rooms so there is no loss for them if this proposal doesn't go through (they just have to cap their numbers and not take into the club more than they can cater for...which is what they should be doing anyway!). But if this did go through there would be a colossal loss for the historic lacrosse club that has been there since Dorothy Laver's inception!! They would be left without a home base - all mens, womens, boys and girls teams + life members. Soccer should not be able to take multiple grounds when sports like lacrosse cannot even have one per club! Completely appalling and an atrocious thought! PLEASE reconsider, there are so many more cons than pros. The overwhelming backlash at the council meeting you held on the 18th (and the first drop in session) should tell you that we don't want this, only the soccer community with nothing to lose support this proposal without any thought for environmental implications or existing sporting clubs.</p>
<p>No sorry, this is a terrible idea. No one is for this proposal apart from the soccer clubs who already have so much space it's ridiculous! Dorothy Laver is home to a lacrosse club, cricket club, Ashy redbacks footy preseason, and so many other recreational uses such as ultimate frisbee, dog walking, kite flying, etc. Even ducks like to walk over the oval each night to graze on the grass! Of course this multitude of uses are deemed secondary to the 'wants' of the sport soccer. There are so many more parts to the community than one sport! This proposal greatly limits and reduces the oval's range of uses and if it goes through it will no longer be a passive site for anyone to use - grass is unquestionably so much more versatile and enjoyable to use than synthetic turf which will also disrupt the environment and impact all the lovely wildlife in the area. The council can't brush all this aside and move forward with this - the community will protest and it will be ugly!</p>
<p>I stand firmly against this proposal along with the rest of my family and many of my neighbours. I am a small business owner situated on High street and live near Dorothy laver reserve as well. I visit the parklands regularly for walks and to take family to the duck pond and am appalled that the council would even consider destroying the natural landscape in the name of soccer for a facility that is a greedy "want" not a "need". It is a great reserve that can be used by all (NO PERMANENT MARKINGS) and we wish to keep it that way with no distasteful artificial grass. Also parking and traffic is already terrible in the area due to other small sports going on - this would increase congestion tenfold which would make the lives of residents (my neighbours and I) harder and more frustrating even when simply backing out of a driveway. The council must consider more factors as they have not done studies on the environmental and residential effects of this ridiculous proposal.</p>
<p>You dont just have to develop something because you can .. leave it alone and let nature have some tiny little piece of what's left Thxs</p>

<p>I train and play football (soccer) at Dorothy Laver Reserve and have done so for about 20 years, apart from brief periods where I was playing semi-professional football overseas. Improved LED lighting would be beneficial to park users, particularly for evening football training sessions during the week. However, the proposal to install artificial turf would be disastrous from a sport and environmental perspective. I have played football on various forms of artificial turf (both old and new artificial turf technologies) around the world, including on some of the so-called 'best' artificial turf football pitches in the UK, France, Germany and Australia. Artificial turf is an atrocious surface on which to play football. It leads to a higher incidence of soft tissue injuries, due to there being less give in the surface and due to increased friction causing burns when sliding. Artificial turf is unbearably hot to play/train on in an Australian summer and I know of team mates who have burnt the soles of their feet through their boots during mid-summer training on artificial turf. These characteristics and others mean that artificial turf is not an enjoyable surface on which to play football. It is no coincidence that football matches at the highest levels are not played on artificial surfaces. In my experience, when artificial surfaces are used for football training overseas, they are heavily watered (e.g. with in-ground sprinklers) beforehand to minimise surface friction. The same would need to occur at Dorothy Laver Reserve for it to be a bearable surface to play on, but this would obviate the one and only perceived 'benefit' of artificial turf: that it apparently requires less water than natural turf. Artificial turf is also responsible for untold environmental damage, which would be exacerbated at Dorothy Laver Reserve due to its proximity to Gardiners Creek. As a plastic product that slowly degrades due to use and UV exposure over its lifetime, artificial turf at Dorothy Laver Reserve would leach petrochemical pollutants into Gardiners Creek and downstream, particularly during flood events. Rubber-based artificial turf (as opposed to sand-based) also releases volatile toxins into the air on hot days, which are then breathed in by those using the surface. As a relatively impermeable surface, the increased stormwater runoff into Gardiners Creek would also need to be considered. Local wildlife (e.g. birds such as waterbirds, swallows, swifts, grass parrots, magpies) that use the Gardiners Creek corridor currently forage on (or above, in the case of swallows and swifts) the sports fields at Dorothy Laver Reserve. This 'habitat' would be removed by the installation of an artificial surface. Finally, artificial turf may reduce management requirements over the short-term (e.g. no need for mowing and manicuring) but the long-term management requirements are intense and polluting. The artificial surface is likely to have a useable life of approximately 15-20 years, after which the plastic turf will need to be ripped up, dumped in landfill and replaced. While the installation of new lighting would be beneficial, I strongly believe that Council should not install artificial turf at Dorothy Laver Reserve.</p>
<p>I fully support this initiative as my daughter and son both play soccer and would love to be able to do it all year round.</p>
<p>Synthetic surface is a terrible solution. A properly designed and natural surface playing field should be installed. This is a public park and Council can do better than this proposal. Have the impacts of the synthetic surface been assessed? What will it mean for stormwater runoff, temperature in summer - under the hot sun this will turn a heat refuge into a heat trap. What is the impact of this on the surrounding neighbourhood and the trees around it. The ground at Yarra bend park in Fairfield was redone with a natural surface and can be enjoyed by all members of the community when not being used for training. No one will picnic on a plastic ground meaning a reduction in public open space. Not an acceptable solution.</p>
<p>I am very concerned about the impact this proposal will have on various community groups and clubs. This is an extremely one-sided plan directed only at soccer clubs. What about other sports such as Lacrosse?</p>
<p>I believe that this would be a great initiative which would improve the amenity of the area and make it easier for adults and children to be active and enjoy this great space. Being active and enjoying sport and recreation is critical in modern life. Artificial turf reduces the impact of wet weather on training and provides valuable experience on this surface for players to train on (these surfaces seem to be a feature in professional sports more and more and becoming familiar with them is an advantage). In summary, this would be a great initiative.</p>
<p>Upgrading of the Dorothy Laver (West) reserve to improve sporting facilities is acceptable, but it must be realised that the area is subject to periodic flooding, and a synthetic area of such a size will be difficult to maintain --unfortunately, the cost of repairs will be at rate-payer's expense. However, the most pressing problem will be access --which is currently just one narrow roadway -with a risky entry at the intersection with Moira/Dunlop St. It seems to me that the proposed location for such a high-use space will be quite inappropriate due to limitations of access to traffic and emergency vehicles. Off-street parking will also be another huge problem--there is barely sufficient space for the tennis club members and the public who use the park, especially when sporting clubs are using the ovals - and even when cars use the adjacent Railway car park, there is insufficient space, so many park on the verges. This will be exacerbated if the proposed upgrading of the competition occurs, as there will be much larger numbers of players and supporters (and paying public ?) --where does Council expect the larger number of cars to be accommodated ? We certainly do not want them on the narrow streets in the vicinity of the ovals. Already, in Francis Crescent, we experience traffic problems when the Little league children use the Dunlop oval and when the sporting clubs train of an evening on the Dorothy Laver East reserve--the blanket parking on each side of Francis Crescent reduces the roadway to a single lane, and residents have difficulty entering/leaving their driveways. With such extended hours of use being proposed, the car parking issue must be sensibly addressed before any firm decision is made --the local residents must be assured that such an upgrade will not impact on their parkland/street ambiance.</p>

<p>I have very strong reservations concerning this project, and as a rate payer and nearby resident, I want the Council to take these concerns into account. My main concern is the "synthetic surface" (artificial turf) to be used on an ecologically sensitive area very close to the Glen Iris wetlands and its associated fauna (ducks) and flora. As this area is on the Gardiners Creek floodplain, it is inevitable that toxic chemicals from the synthetic surface will be washed into the creek or wetlands, causing irreparable ecological damage. The existing natural grass abates the noise and dust from the Monash Freeway, and acts a "carbon sink", something needs to be retained in this important Green Wedge of the metropolis. The substrate to the artificial grass is likely to be akin to a concrete surface, increasing noise and dust rather than absorbing it. I understand that the main soccer pitch will be fenced off, restricting access by members of the public. This is a major change to the overall ambience of the Reserve: many people (not only locals) come to walk their dogs on this park. I have no real concerns about additional traffic in my immediate area. I agree that the Council should provide facilities for a range of sports and outdoor activities. However this proposal locks in one single sport (soccer) at expense of other activities and and replacing natural grass (with all its advantages with artificial turf. I attended the "drop-in information session" on Wednesday evening, but there was no real additional information. The chairman of the meeting generally did not answer questions directly, and implied that he had no further information. I am not the only person with these concerns, which were applauded by most of the audience when this matter was raised at the "information session".</p>
<p>As a member of Ashburton United Soccer Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>Please don't remove the grass. What about the local environment. The last thing we need is more degrading plastic in the environment!</p>
<p>Firstly, it would be helpful to receive a legible plan of the proposed project as it is not possible to interpret the above/hard copy distributed to residents. We are strongly opposed to the proposed development of the reserve for the following reasons: - We live immediately adjacent to the reserve. No detail has been provided on the height of proposed lighting towers however light pollution will impact our residence from at least three lighting towers regardless of the height. Current light towers and after hours use of the Reserve is concentrated on the southern end well away from residences. The proposal of extra lighting towers will bring after hours use of the Reserve further north and much closer to residences of Saxby Road, June Crescent and Peace St. - Parking is already an issue our Owners Corporation has approached Boroondara Council about several times in the past. During sports training and games, cars not only park in an unsafe manner over the bike track and on nature strips however also park on common property belonging to our Owners Corporation. Cars have at time got bogged on our front lawn and caused significant damage to our lawn and vegetation. The proposal does not sufficiently address parking and traffic congestion. - Please confirm intentions for the development of Dorthy Laver East - As noted above, additional lighting towers will increase use of the Reserve in the northern end, immediately adjacent to residences. Noise generated by the existing use of the reserve is already a nuisance and increased use will be louder, closer and have extended hours. - While we support the concept of the Women's National Premier League, this does not belong in a quiet suburban back street. - The proposal notes the area will be fenced. As frequent users of the Reserve (twice daily) we do not support any restrictions to access and use of the Reserve. - The Glen Iris parklands are a nationally recognised bird habitat with many birds feeding on the oval surface as well as using the open area as shelter from foxes overnight. Birds would reject the area if this was resurfaced. - The current permeable Reserve is important in flood management and we believe proposed changes to the surface will increase water run off and the strain on storm water management in Gardiners Creek - No information is provided regarding the funding of ongoing maintenance of the Reserve. Further to this, any flood has the potential to cause significant damage resulting in additional repair costs. We oppose this development in this location.</p>
<p>As the President of Riversdale Soccer Club, I warmly welcome the initiative as it directly addresses a huge gap in Boroondara's sporting landscape. I strongly urge Council to consider the needs of all sports clubs in this consultation, but this project should be pushed forward as it is a desperately required resource.</p>
<p>An area of fake turf that large would look horrendous! And only seems beneficial for maintenance cut-backs. Have local sports groups been consulted on their thoughts regarding playing on fake turf? I'd be concerned if an ecologist had given this project the green light. Has there been an environmental or visual impact assessment?</p>
<p>Terrible idea. It will increase urban heat in the area and destroy existing ecosystems.</p>
<p>To whom it may concern, Our family is very actively engaged in all sporting activities, and between us participate in 6-10 sporting events each week so we greatly appreciate the need for sport & rec facilities. However, as local residents of this parkland we are very concerned about the zoning, laying of artificial turf & fencing of Dorothy Laver reserve for the exclusive use by soccer clubs. We currently walk our dog there every day, enjoy neighbourhood football matches there over the entire year, and the kids are always down there playing with other kids. We will lose all of that if the use is made exclusive for the sporting clubs. Another concern is of the environmental impact - there are many birds and other animals that currently nest & live close by to this native parkland - what is the impact of replacing their home with artificial turf? Has this been investigated? Additionally, how does council propose to accommodate the extra parking requirements that will come along with this increase in land use for specific events? This must be outlined - the current parking near East Malvern tennis club will in no way suffice. No doubt there will also be greatly increased traffic in Saxby Street every weekend - The plan submitted thus far does not address these very important issues and if it was to go ahead we believe will need further consideration of local residents. Yours faithfully</p>
<p>No we do not want this next door to us. It's such a great, quiet space where our family walks the dogs and my siblings play and muck around on. It will be heaps busier with this here, the carpark will be impossible to park in most days as I'm assuming this will mean more days/nights the reserve will be in use and the streets will be even more blocked up!! It will be a nightmare and fake grass is a) not eco-friendly, b) not necessary at all, and c) takes away from such a nice area right next to the creek. Say no to the proposal, everyone nearby is against it and there will be an uproar if it goes through.</p>

<p>NO we don't want this project to go through, how is it even still being considered after all the blatant opposition by all groups apart from soccer at the council meetings? This is the camberwell lacrosse club's home ground, this proposal is so selfish and unprecedented!! It only serves soccer and it has been very falsely advertised as there is a huge bias by only talking about the 'positives' of the proposal on this web page - NO MENTION OF THE EXISTING CLUBS and the destruction this would cause! Also this page has been shared by higher ups like the football federation who have a large media following, this just means there will be people signing this survey who live no where near it and would not be impacted by it at all therefore they should not have a say. This is so biased it's not funny, please don't let this proposal go through it will devastate so many families and children - my children at the lacrosse club!.</p>
<p>I think this project is unnecessary and a waste of the council's time and money. The vast majority of the community is really against it so why are you still pushing it? The council should really reconsider this proposal, I was at the latest meeting and you didn't have many answers and the response to many questions was that you have not done studies on the environmental impacts on creek/wetlands/native species and residential impacts when there will be more lights and more noise more days of the week! This affects me directly I live on the street next to the park, I have grown up in the area and it has sentimental value for so many people in the area too. Please withdraw the idea we don't want it you will upset a lot of people and cause drama.</p>
<p>I live right next to the park and I disagree completely with this idea, I'll be extremely upset if it goes forward. I grew up right next to this reserve and still live here i love the area why the council wants to ruin the perfectly good grass with fake plastic is beyond me. Sporting clubs already use it and don't disrupt us and our neighbours so we are happy, but now you want to increase the capacity with only soccer players for more nights of the week and increase traffic even more no thanks! it is already so busy with footy being played and the carpark is small so there will be even more overflow into our streets for parking for 'elite soccer'. Our community doesn't want 'elite soccer' or any soccer we are so happy the way it is with lacrosse and cricket using it and the grass staying with no permanent soccer markings...!!</p>
<p>"A vibrant and inclusive city, meeting the needs and aspirations of its community" is the council of Boroondara's tag line but in light of this proposed project this is clearly not true. The proposal is not inclusive it is very exclusive to just the soccer community's benefit while everyone else (lacrosse, footy, cricket, nearby residents, environmentalists/ecologists) are left either being displaced or very upset about the effects of the ridiculous synthetic grass idea. HEAR US AND LISTEN TO THE MAJORITY OF THE COMMUNITY NOT JUST SOCCER WHICH IS ONLY ONE SMALL PART OF IT - WE DO NOT WANT THIS IT IS A WASTE OF FUNDING THAT OTHER SPORTING CLUBS AND COMMUNITY GROUPS COULD PUT TO FAR MORE BENEFICIAL USE. Also you should consider the bias towards soccer as they have more funding and media exposure than minority sports like lacrosse - if you stand for inclusiveness and the "aspirations" of the community then you MUST support minorities and tell soccer to cap their numbers they don't need this ground!!! - sincerely, a member of the community affiliated with lacrosse and cricket.</p>
<p>I am very concerned this development is going to totally destroy the natural bushland feel of the area. This proposed facility is going to bring a lot of traffic to the area which is already extremely busy with other sporting groups. I very strongly oppose this development.</p>
<p>I heard about this project 20/7/18 from someone at work who knows my children used to play lacrosse for Camberwell and represented Victoria and Australia. Why has this not been advertised apart from in the football community? I searched on line and found their site seeking support. I followed a reference to the Boroondara site and it seems to be a fait accompli - even fully funded through capital works. Not one mention of what happens to lacrosse - where they are to go and what happens to THEIR light towers. I called the council phone number listed for more information 9278 4595 and all I got was someone from "nature strips" who knew nothing, could not answer any of my questions, but could send me this survey to complete (without knowing any concrete information). He said he will tell someone I called and maybe they might ring early next week but no guarantee (too bad that the survey has to be completed by 5pm Tuesday) I checked through May - July of both Boroondara Bulletin and Progress Leader and can find no mention of this project. I think it is disgraceful they way you have disregarded the needs of the lacrosse community just because they are a minor sport. No doubt the football people lobbied you</p>
<p>NO NO NO!!! As a resident I can not agree to this development, why replace a natural turf ground with a large artificial surface next to our wetland wildlife area. We do not need additional traffic, parking issues, noise and congestion on the surrounding roads. Council wake up to yourselves this makes of financial again at the communities loss.</p>
<p>This is a natural reserve and should be preserved that way. It should be for all children to use and feed the ducks, not just sports. There are so many in the area, but our beautiful parks are disappearing.</p>
<p>I do not agree with the development of dorothy laver. Synthetic turf will only benefit sports players and not other users of the park. Keep it as normal grass please.</p>
<p>I support the proposal as a sporting user</p>
<p>I support the proposal as a sports user of this facility</p>
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<p>I have already submitted some feedback, but following the consultation meeting last Wednesday, I find I have more questions I would like answering 1. Highfield Park is undergoing extensive renovations for soccer - has a team been allocated to this for their home ground? Could Alamein use this? 2. If, as was said at the meeting, the proposal of Dorothy Laver isn't allocated to a specific sports club, why were there so many Alamein (?) players present at the meeting? 3. Why do they think the ground has already been allocated to them? I can only assume that this is because they have been told it is to be their home ground. 4. I would love a proper answer to one asked at the meeting which was "why has Alamein Soccer club already been told that this was a done deal?" 5. Why, when there are already 10 soccer grounds (from what was said at the meeting) within Boroondara, would you contemplate taking away the grounds from the only lacrosse club present. Camberwell Lacrosse has 13 teams playing off only three grounds I bet no soccer or football have to face these logistics 6. How can there be a proposal put forward, with no thought about a plan B? 7. How can the proposal have got to this stage, with no consideration of the environmental impact on the river or wetlands, and apparently no consultation with Stonnington Council? 8. I still can't correlate what was said at the meeting with the plans above. We were assured at the meeting that DL East was not part of the proposal, and that it was just one ground that was going into DL west. Yet the plans clearly show development of both grounds, and training grounds on DL west. It feels to me that this has already been approved, then the process was thought about, and realized that proper procedure hasn't been followed, and so you are doing catch up. If this proposal goes ahead, as planned, it will be a travesty of equity and support of diversity within Boroondara.</p>
<p>This park is already extensively used by many groups so what happens to all the displaced users? There is also very limited parking in the area so this will just force more cars to park on our already congested local roads, not to mention drawing additional traffic during rush hour in the evening given the lights. Of all the ovals in the area, this has the best pitch surface and is least prone to getting boggy, so putting a large artificial surface in looks like a great waste of money (that would be partly my money as a rate payer). I would be interested in how this new surface will perform on one of the occasional floods that comes through and covers all the ovals?</p>
<p>I am totally not in favour of this proposal. The council seems hell bent on proceeding with this despite having no idea how the increased traffic flow will impact on the surrounding area, having not undertaken an environmental impact study, having no plans to address parking in the area and having no plans to accommodate sporting clubs already using the reserve. Obviously someone on the council has strong ties to soccer, as this is not the first time that soccer clubs have been given priority over other clubs in this area -Eric Raven Reserve being a case in point a few years back. This is a facility for a club that has only recently formed - if they even exist yet. It is not a facility that is needed in Boroondara. Council has given no figures to show why it is needed, at the expense of long established clubs. How about spending our rates on things that we need, not a facility we do not want.</p>
<p>As a nearby resident of Dorothy Laver West Reserve we strongly oppose the synthetic playing surface and fence council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you abandon this proposal immediately.</p>
<p>Please leave the natural grass. Artificial turf is hot, lifeless and ugly. It has not been evaluated as to its ecological impact.</p>
<p>I do not believe the Dorothy Laver redevelopment should proceed. It is a great facility in a beautiful natural environment that supports many girls and women playing lacrosse and training. The alternative grounds are inadequate. It is important that Boroondara supports diverse sports such as lacrosse, which Australia has had outstanding international success playing. I have played at Dorothy Laver through my career and always enjoyed playing at the facility. Your continued support of women's lacrosse is important - don't abandon Lacrosse for soccer.</p>
<p>It's such a shame the council is ignoring the spring clubs using the facility by completely changing the focus to soccer. This will make it the facility unsuitable for such games like lacrosse which is been played here for very very long time. As matter of fact Lacrosse been looked after very well across the bridge (western suburbs) and DLR been one of very few grounds on the eastern suburbs. The lacrosse community have been working very hard to introduce this fabulous game to our young girls and boys which had become successful recent times. Lacrosse is awesome team sport that taught my daughter persistency, declipline and excellent sportsmanship. It helps her manage her time better and focus a lot better in all other sports and academic too. The council should seriously consider before destroying such a legacy lacrosse have built in our suburbs.</p>
<p>Do you have a recent environmental impact study? How would laying artificial turf and new lighting impact the adjoining wetlands area and how would this turf be able to stand up to flooding in the area. I am also concerned about the cost of laying artificial turf I appreciate the beauty of the natural beauty of the area and don't want to see it destroyed. We need green spaces.</p>
<p>As a former player at Camberwell Lacrosse Club, we strongly oppose the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you abandon this proposal immediately.</p>
<p>Thanks for the opportunity to have our say on this issue; 1. We think Boroondara provide great facilities for sports participation and we enjoy seeing those facilities used. 2. Of course parking is an issue even now with barely room for one car to pass when vehicles are parked on either side of the street. When they are parked poorly (out from the curb or close to driveways) the difficulty/danger ramps up sharply. This issue will get dramatically worse with increased use. 3. We see Lacrosse being played quite often and understand they have competition for males and females, juniors and seniors. This sounds awfully like Lacrosse is addressing one of the primary goals for the project, thus why disrupt their current usage patterns. Additionally, our Lacrosse players have a significant and successful international presence right now that needs to be nurtured. 4. The proposal introduces artificial surfaces to an area immediately adjacent to what we consider are some fabulous wetlands. We hope like hell that appropriate consideration has been given to potential damage to a significant and pretty unusual feature with great educational significance for future generations. Heck, the wetlands are a fabulous place for a walk and to sit and ponder the meaning of life! 5. We understand this is not the facility vested interests want us to think about with grand stands, monster car parks and bright lights, but where is the step forward in achieving the council goals of accommodating the full age spectrum of juniors through to seniors, and increased opportunities for women and girls Lacrosse is already there! 6. We hear that council wants to increase usage fourfold. Maybe that's right, but spending \$4.5m we're guessing it's somewhat correct. Whatever the impacts are they will be BIG with such increased usage.</p>
<p>Spending this much money replacing a lovely large grass park for everyone with synthetic park for one sport is ridiculous.</p>

I am a Life Member of Camberwell Lacrosse Club, past player and coach, and past Australian player and coach. I am appalled at the process adopted by Council via the Planning Department - particularly: - the lack of initial consultation - the ignorance regarding the details of the lacrosse (and other sporting) activities associated with the reserve - the initial timescale - the lack of transparency re the criteria used to select this as the preferred reserve - requests for details have been resisted. I could go on and on about this, but I am sure the point has been made by others. I appreciate that Council is under pressure to provide facilities for current growth in sports such as soccer and women's AFL football, however, the answer is not to disrupt a club that has effectively utilised the reserve for almost 4 decades and has played a key role in providing sporting support at all levels for the local community. Putting aside my link to the lacrosse club, I am also appalled at the process in general. Advice from the Planning Department indicates that no formal studies/investigations have been undertaken in the key areas below to date, and that they won't be undertaken until Council has made a formal decision to proceed with the project: - environmental impact - parking and access impacts - heritage impacts - community visual and access impacts I could continue to list other areas of concern and opposition, but I suggest that in a FAIR process what I have identified above should be enough to disband the project at this site and look for other options.

Do not take away the grass surface used by the Camberwell lacrosse club. The club and its families have worked tirelessly and shown community spirit and commitment to this reserve and provision of club house facilities over many years and it does not deserve to be moved along without the council consulting with the club to find an arrangement to enable the reserve to remain a lacrosse facility. There are already soccer facilities nearby in Oakleigh.

I am opposed to my rates being wasted to destroy a nature grass sporting ground in the middle of a beautiful parkland area for synthetic surface with issues of being destroyed by the frequent flooding in the flood plane, being uninsurable and costing large funds to clean the sewerage associated with flooding from the surface. It is also a disproportionate spend on soccer, which already dominates the sporting fields in this area and does not offer diversity for children looking to participate in sport. Further the councils work on this proposal has been underhanded and deceptive breaching council vales and procedures.

The documentation which I have seen so far does not refer to an EIS for the proposal, in particular how the Council proposes to address the car parking issue. On football days parking is a real mess, compounded by the failure of the Council to attend each of those days to issue infringement notices. What form of traffic management will be installed to provide some order to access to Dunlop street from the existing or any future car parks? Reliance on the parking area normally used by train users will not be satisfactory as we like to have rail outings at the weekend and due to health issues we drive the short distance to the railway car park, which is usually full due to sports people. Will the management of the DLR prohibit the concurrent use of different areas of the reserve. Concurrent use will cause major local issues.

Please accept this submission regarding the proposed development of Dorothy Laver Reserve West. Our interest in this development is that we are parents of two children that play lacrosse for Camberwell Lacrosse Club at Dorothy Laver Reserve West and we are actively involved in the club. We are also casual users of the reserve. We do not believe that the proposed development will serve the needs of the community and we think it should be immediately stopped. Our reasons follow as well as concerns about the Council's process. Firstly, Camberwell Lacrosse Club, as an existing tenant, will be negatively impacted by making the reserve a "year-round soccer focussed facility". The alternative Eric Raven Reserve is inadequate for the club's needs. The impact of the massive increase in use on the playing surface at Eric Raven could be disastrous, it is already dangerously slippery in the centre, and the nightly impact of lights and noise on very close neighbours will be entirely unfair. It seems unjust to evict the club that initiated development of Dorothy Laver Reserve West more than 30 years ago and invested its own money in installing the lighting that is there today. There are also many other clubs and sports that currently share the ground who would also be excluded, including Ashy Redbacks, ultimate frisbee, cricket and charities. Secondly, the community use of Dorothy Laver Reserve West would be significantly curtailed. Currently the lacrosse club happily shares the ground with many dog walkers, joggers, runners and young adults relaxing after work. There are also families and other groups who play games and sports on the grass when it is not being used for organised sports. Replacing the grass would prevent this type of community use. Thirdly, the proposal claims it will be Boroondara's first WNPL field. This implies that further development is required to meet stringent FFV WNPL ground requirements, development that has not been proposed or costed. However at the information session Council staff indicated that this sort of development would not happen. This implies it will be a WNPL ground for training that must be supplemented by another ground for matches. Meeting the needs of one club capped at 5 teams with a maximum of 20 per squad with two grounds is excessive given it is at the expense multiple established sporting clubs that use the ground for many more players. From an environmental perspective, replacing a grass ground in a sensitive area with synthetic turf is a retrograde step. Boroondara would lose a carbon sink to gain a field that holds heat and reflects noise. Nearly 2000 trees would need to be planted to offset the carbon impact. The local wildlife would suffer in what is currently an important wildlife corridor. Ducks are regular co-tenants of the grass field currently. Sports over summer would be curtailed because the grounds cannot be used when temperature exceeds 28 degrees C, which was over 60 days last year. A fifth issue is the impact in the Gardiners Creek flood plain. In 2011, the reserve was flooded, with tree stumps being swept into the middle of the field and the fence knocked over. This level of flooding on a synthetic field would result in the rubber infill entering the creek system and potentially destroy the creek and Stonnington Councils wetlands that are adjacent to the field. Loss of permeable ground would exacerbate the immediate impact of flooding and potentially put adjacent residents' houses in danger. Apart from being a proposal that has an overall negative impact on the community, the way in which the proposal has been developed is of significant concern. Council should review the processes and performance of the Environment and Infrastructure Department in this matter. There has been no transparency on the decision to select Dorothy Laver Reserve West and new tenant club for a \$4.5m investment. Consultation occurred only after the proposal was published - resident and existing tenant needs were not sought during its development. Council Officers admitted to consulting with Football Federation of Victoria but not its own community at the first information session. In particular, a number of matters have troubled us and raised some questions: 1. Why was an initial budget foreshadowing of \$2m to develop a synthetic pitch at Warner Reserve suddenly changed to \$2m for a generic sportsground with no reason provided for the change? If the Department had clarity that it was transferring the expense to Dorothy Laver Reserve West for a "year-round soccer facility" before the budget was

presented, why was this not indicated in the budget and why was the item described incorrectly in Boroondara Bulletin as being for multiple sports? 2. Even though the proposed expenditure was no longer for their own ground, Ashburton United Soccer Club applauded the budget item for a "sportsground synthetic surface" in their budget submission. How did they know at that stage, before proposal release, that this would benefit them? To what extent has the Sports and Recreation Department been working with Ashburton United Soccer Club and its sister club Alamein Football Club to address their specific needs, rather than balancing the needs of the broader community? 3. What bounds has council set for the decision-making process that has enabled its department to hide the details of this decision from the community until finished and presented for comment, with initially only two weeks to respond? Why did they not consult the community? 4. What is the rationale for prioritising an as-yet unspecified club aligned to a WNPL club over a long-standing local club that has been working in the Boroondara community for 90 years? Apart from the major concerns about the decision-making process within the council office, we also have concerns about the approach adopted for the Community Consultation. There has been minimal notice or publication of this process to the people of Boroondara by the council. Doing no more than letter boxing neighbours within a very close proximity on a weekend with a short deadline to respond appears to be an effort to discourage, not encourage, engagement. Providing two days' notice of the information session which was held on a weekday during business hours reinforces this. Thankfully lobbying has resulted in an extension and an extra session, though it has been interesting to note that council has made little attempt to publicise or encourage engagement. In contrast, the Football Federation of Victoria has been running a concerted campaign to get people from all over Victoria to respond "on behalf of football". They have utilised many forms of social media and have actively pushed this campaign throughout the consultation period. Clearly the result of this will be an absolute dilution of the feedback from the impacted community by generic responses from soccer fans who have probably never visited Dorothy Laver Reserve and possibly never will. This whole proposal appears to be brought about by the lobbying of one powerful interest group, soccer, influencing a council department who are disengaged from the community they should be serving and operating with little oversight. Developing a facility for an elite soccer team that requires exclusion of many other community uses is a poor use of ratepayer money. We call for Boroondara Council to now engage with all existing stakeholders and work to develop a new proposal that addresses the interests of multiple groups, not just the soccer lobby.

Dear Sir/Madam Boroondara Council. You indicate an artificial grass surface will be for the health of the community and presume for generations to come. I feel this is a terrible example of an artificial world that will inflict more environmental damage to the world and our children. Our rapidly expanding Cities need genuine healthy spaces with natural plants of all kinds so we can minimise pollution. This atrocious line of thinking by the Boroondara Council begs the Question is there any pecuniary interests. Finally "Please Please" do not open Pandora's box further. "Yours in good faith" .

I am the Vice-President of Camberwell Lacrosse Club (and have just returned from several weeks overseas). I was shocked to hear of the Proposal for re-development of Dorothy Laver, particularly as there was no mention on the original Council submission (22nd June) of Lacrosse, who have been tenants of the ground for over 30 years. Camberwell Lacrosse Club worked with the previous Camberwell Council to establish Dorothy Laver as a sportsfield over 30 years ago and invested the Club's money in developing the Clubroom and installing the lights. It is the heartland of The Club and is buzzing during training on week nights during winter and over the weekends with home and away games. Dorothy Laver has been the spiritual home of Camberwell Lacrosse, one of the leading Lacrosse Clubs in Melbourne and enjoyed by many local residents and families. We are a local club with local players. We have mens, womens, boys and girls teams; aged between 7 to 50+ years. Our women and girls numbers are increasing also. The Club provides an option to mainstream sports and supports the aim of the Boroondara Sports Strategy of diversity in sport. The Club needs two sportsfields in order to maintain our current level of participation, including training and competition. The proposed development appears to have no plans for infrastructure (parking, clubroom, lights, etc) to support competition at the elite soccer level. Hence it would appear that Council money will be spent on an expensive facility that will be used for training only by an elite group of women players who possibly do not live in the local community. There is no mention in the proposal for joint use by current tenants, including lacrosse, cricket, junior AFL football. As a local resident for 38 years, I recall the wasteland / rubbish dump that was present in the early 1980s on the land that is now Gardiners Creek wetlands and Dorothy Laver Reserve. At the time and after the completion of The South-eastern Freeway, the then Camberwell Council committed money and energy to develop the wetlands for the local residents. I am very concerned about the impact of such a massive synthetic surface (and the ensuing crowds, vehicles, noise, lack of natural grass) on the wetland areas, the native birds and fauna living in the wetlands both upstream and downstream of the proposed development. As a geographer, I am well aware of the potential negative impact of such a large area of impervious surface on a documented floodplain and adjacent to Gardiner's Creek, one of the Yarra river's major tributaries. As a local resident, I often walk my dogs on Dorothy Laver and along the creek. The original Dorothy Laver project information sheet (22nd June) notes an increase of open space for passive recreation. Given that the proposed synthetic field covers the entire sportsfield, I fail to see where the additional passive recreational land would be. I can only presume that the synthetic field would be fenced, with reduced access for walkers and dogwalkers. Since 22nd June, I am heartened that Council has extended the due date for submissions and has undertaken discussion with Camberwell Lacrosse representatives. However, I urge Council to follow due process, follow Council strategy, consult with and listen to the local community (including residents and other Dorothy Laver ground tenants) in the interests of local community sport rather than an elite competition.

For many years, Boroondara had provided open natural space at Dorothy Laver Reserve that has multiple public use. It caters for multiple sporting use and is not dedicated to any one sporting code. The ground surface has been brought up to a satisfactory standard for all this sports. The free open feeling of both spaces either side of Gardeners creek is a unique feature who's character would be degraded by adding fences. The extensive devotion of this area to the sport of soccer will completely fill all parking areas and overflow into neighbouring streets, especially at weekends. Under this proposal (with fence), walking through this park land will force pedestrians and dog owners to use the path along the creek which is already now heavily used by cyclists. As a Boroondara rate payer, it annoys me that \$4.5M will be wasted on such an unnecessary project resulting in the degradation of this unique area.

<p>Opposed to the re-development that has been proposed due to lack of meaningful consultation with the local community and existing users. This is a local facility with many stakeholders. The plans are a gross over development of the site and a synthetic pitch will result intensification of activities and traffic which appear to have been ignored completely. Having children participate in both soccer and lacrosse I have a view lacrosse is in need of more facilities not less. Elite soccer facilities should never displace community, amateur grass roots clubs. Junior costs to play lacrosse are about half that of soccer. Unlike AFL and Cricket, FFA sucks money upwards to fund itself. To prioritise elite sport over local clubs is wrong at a small local facility. The poor governance surrounding this proposal to date is matched only by that displayed by the FFV parent FFA itself (see for example https://www.theguardian.com/sport/2017/aug/16/decoding-australian-footballs-complex-and-critical-governance-issues) Perhaps this is simply a coincidence? The failure of the Council or Soccer club to even speak to other users whilst developing the plans warrants further investigation.</p>
<p>Great idea- but environmentally, it is too close to Gardiners Creek. An environmental impact study needs to be completed. Currently a whole native ecosystem exists both in & around this park, making this area unique. Native animals such as tortises, echidnas, lizards, snakes and birds such as princess & grass parrots, wrens, white faced herons and a variety of ducks live in the area and feed on the insects, fish and invertebrates that are part of the Dorothy Laver Oval area. Taking the natural surface off the oval will produce hugely variable and toxic runoff that has not be filtered naturally. The sensitive native wildlife in the area will die or move, if able, as a direct result of this change. The natural parkland and grassland of Dorothy Laver area is also vital for community members' (who walk, sit, think, meet and enjoy this quiet natural environment) mental health. This area is largest natural bushland along the eastern suburbs so close to the city and is part of a unique green belt which stretches from the city to Dandenong and beyond. The natural grass surface of Dorothy Laver oval is sound absorbent which also adds greatly to the livability of all in the area. Residents and all animals in this area need the sound buffer as it is next to both the freeway and railway line. The ovals in the area are utilised constantly by sporting groups, some of which will be excluded from this oval. This would put more pressure onto the other ovals in the area which are already very well utilised. Parking and movement of cars in this area is already an issue because of narrow streets, many dual occupancies as well as naturally increasing traffic in the area. The current constant use of the ovals for sport and leisure sees the roads constantly busy and carparks full a lot of the time. The area's traffic management is already at capacity. Other locations with no direct drainage into the creek and easier car access should be considered. Ideas include the wasteland of the old Iris buffet area, ovals on Koornang Park, Lord Reserve,, E Gunn Reserve, JT Packer Park / Duncan Mc Kinnon area to name a few. Environmentally, ,logistically and socially Dorothy Laver Reserve is the wrong place to construct an exclusive unnatural, exclusive sports ground. R Rosemary Cleland.</p>
<p>Extremely disappointed the council would even consider this, clearly there is a huge majority of the community that is against it and only a small fraction support it - all people who directly benefit from this excessive handout (soccer...) and don't live directly next to it (within view and earshot and suffer the consequences of traffic, more noise etc.). We don't want it, there is so much favouritism at play here and immediate neighbours of the reserve need to be heard FIRST and foremost.</p>
<p>Terrible idea with holes all over it. No studies done by the sound of it in regards to environmental effects and the impact on local residents (My family and I). I attended the council meeting with my family and it is absolute bullocks, he had no answers for the residents and said almost every concern was part of the "detailed planning" AFTER the decision is made. Absolutely not, these things need to be considered NOW BEFORE there is a decision otherwise that decision is clearly not informed at all without taking all aspects into consideration. Obviously the council is turning a blind eye to its own people who are the majority...listen to us for christ's sake we do not want this at all!</p>
<p>Ridiculous idea that my neighbours and I do not support in the slightest. Please don't continue to push this, there is a petition going around for local residents next to the park to sign in protest and almost everyone in the neighbouring streets are extremely against the proposal. So why are you still considering it? Save our beautiful park, many of us grew up around it and we absolutely hate the idea of fake turf it is an insult to the reserve's natural beauty and the surrounding wetlands and creek.</p>
<p>I think this is a totally inappropriate use of the facilities. Have a look at what soccer did to the once great Malvern Athletics Club venue a few kilometres along the creek. Their famous grass track was consumed and they effectively disappeared.</p>
<p>No this is disgraceful. Stop pushing this idea, the council needs to abandon it before it causes anymore division within the local community. I am a life member of the camberwell lacrosse club and have lived in the area my whole life, seeing the club rooms built and be developed over time. This is an insult and shock to both my sporting community and residential community and I am disgusted by the blatant disrespect you have for both. We make up a large portion of the boroondara community so the council must listen to us! You can't just go around ripping up grass that a multitude of clubs and people use regularly it is unfair, you must limit the space soccer takes up they can't just keep expanding and taking over other sports it is completely unjust and un-Australian and none of us will stand for it, you need to look after your minorities and give smaller sports room to grow as we have been doing since we built our club on Dorothy laver over 30 years ago.</p>
<p>I live near dorothy laver, about a 5 minute drive away, and I feel terrible for the people who live right next to the reserve to have this plan sprung on them so suddenly. It would be absolute madness increasing traffic and congestion in the small streets surrounding it and leaving residents to deal with more people parking in side streets as there is already limited parking. Plus the reserve is beautiful I go there weekly with friends on walks and rides, the council can't be serious making it artificial turf you must be insane! preserving nature and trying to minimise our effect on the environment is far more important than giving EVEN MORE ground to soccer which I already see at almost every park...this stupidity needs to stop! I do not support this and I suspect the 'few' who do support it are directly involved with soccer. Don't make the community suspect you of bias.</p>
<p>Nope don't like this at all, makes me extremely frustrated thinking about how the council even conceived this ill thought out plan it is so incredibly upsetting. Support minority sports like lacrosse and respect other sports like cricket and junior footy who also use the grounds. #SAVETHELAVER. We are not letting this one go.</p>

<p>I do not support this. My brother has played lacrosse and cricket at dorothy laver for 6 years or so and we also go to the park frequently. The clubs are a big part of his life and my family's and the reserve/club rooms are just as important to the clubs' identities. Everyone I know is so mad at this idea, please don't favour soccer which already has so many resources and space it isn't fair to keep giving to them and in the process take from sports like lacrosse which have far less opportunities locally but are still growing despite your movements to hinder them. #savethelaver</p>
<p>I am concerned about the impact of this project on the availability of the sports field for lacrosse use. Camberwell Lacrosse is one of Melbourne's leading lacrosse clubs and has many local Ashburton and Glen Iris families playing at a club level as well as having produced state champions. The club has a reputation for its community-minded culture with a strong family base of support. Dorothy Laver West is needed weeknights and weekends for its growing lacrosse activities to be viable. This project sounds like it has been driven by growth in soccer particularly at an elite level, and this simply shouldn't happen at the expense of diversity in sport. While my son is a very keen soccer player and likely to join a team in the future, it's concerning that this well-provided for sport appears to be "muscling out" a less prosperous but just as deserving sport that is thriving in our local area.</p>
<p>The more I hear and read about this proposal the more I am appalled at the handling of this proposal. 1) a poorly run meeting during the week where those pushing this agenda seemed ill prepared and did not respond to the actual questions and comments raised by those opposing the proposal. 2) rude responses made to those who dared question this proposal. 3) the fact that no environmental impact study done on building this artificial turf on a natural floodplain 4) no parking plan 5) no consultation with nearby residents regarding the lack of parking and the impact of that as well as the LED lighting on these residents. 6) the fact the existing club rooms and toilet facilities will be grossly inadequate 7) the lack of thought regarding a community sporting group (actually 2 of them) who have built and maintained this space for lacrosse, cricket and residents to utilise 8) the fact there is no actual club ready to move to this new premises. 9) the clear conflict of interest between the counsellor pushing this who has a vested interest in soccer. 10) the fact that several questions relating to soccer participants and the amount of green space utilised by soccer each week was met with 'we don't have that data' is baffling when you are talking about spending \$2.5M on a facility without knowing if it is actually required. A friend who I spoke to after the meeting, who happens to be a CFO, told me that if someone came to her with this proposal in its current format they would be immediately turned away to try again. Regards.</p>
<p>This project not proceed. This development would affect the amenity of residents in this area with respect to natural surfaces, sound, parking and traffic, adversely impact Gardiner's Creek, impact the neighbouring tennis club. I seek an inquiry into the conduct of Boroondara Council with respect to this whole project.</p>
<p>This is one of the worst ideas the council has come out with, what an obscene waste of taxpayer's money. Over \$4 million what in god's name are you people thinking? The grass is perfect and so many clubs utilise the area well we don't need bloody soccer coming in and ruining a family friendly environment with this elite women's soccer crap, it will obviously not be truly community friendly like it is now already. We do not support this and people who live around the area are fuming!</p>
<p>#SAVETHELAVER. We don't want this full stop!!! The council needs to back off and serve the majority of the community not just one sport that already has plenty of funding!!! There is petitioning, protesting and interviews with local newspapers being put in motion to stop this madness, and I will wholeheartedly support the movement against this proposal.</p>
<p>I'm very excited by the prospect of a development which could help provide year round, all weather training and practice facilities for Boroondara sports clubs. I'm involved with Riversdale Soccer Club. We are always searching for opportunities to keep training and practice going all year round; especially the Christmas - March period where cricket dominates our currently shared facilities. Dorothy Laver looks like an excellent site for this kind of development.</p>
<p>Please DO NOT do this!!! I am a junior player at camberwell lacrosse club and it is such a great and family-oriented environment within the club that we all love so much and uprooting our heritage here would destroy all that our members have worked so hard to achieve. the sport of lacrosse has grown so much over the years here in Victoria, please support our lacrosse club like the communities in the western suburbs like footscray and williamstown do because it is so sad you prioritise kids playing soccer over kids like me who simply chose to play something more unique. This would never happen over in the west - lacrosse would be taking over a soccer ground if anything!!! #SAVETHELAVER</p>
<p>Soccer does not have any priority over lacrosse and all the other clubs using dorothy laver!! Soccer is not the only growing sport and they cannot keep trying to take land from other sports just because they can't control their own numbers, it is extremely unfair. Other sports clubs are not responsible for catching soccer's 'overflow', it is simply ridiculous the council cannot let this happen.</p>
<p>No bad idea I don't know anyone who supports it, so why is the council pushing for it? Give it up for the sake of the community please!!! I want to keep our beloved grass land take your artificial turf elsewhere and leave our lovely reserve alone. - from all residents who live next to the reserve.</p>
<p>No, listen to the community when we say: We. Do. Not. Want. This. Leave our lacrosse club alone we've been here since the 1980s does that mean nothing to the council??? We will not be carelessly uprooted when there are so many who will be at a loss if this plan goes forward, while hardly anyone gains!! Soccer can't be the only benefactor that is ridiculous, yet that is what you are proposing! The masses are against this the council needs to face facts.</p>
<p>Worst idea I've heard in a long time. I have friends involved with the lacrosse club there and they are so upset over this, which is completely understandable since the council has tried to blindside them with this stupid proposal. There is a minute amount of support for this so stop trying to brush the majority of the community aside and please just leave the reserve alone - I love the place for walks etc. and so does everyone I know.</p>
<p>Corrupt, biased, unjust, ignorant - just a few words to describe the council if they decide to go through with this proposal. Stop this nonsense please, I am so certain that basically all of these survey responses have been negative towards the plan and so they should be. Do what the residents and the people who currently use the reserve want and shut this down. #savethelaver</p>

<p>Absolutely absurd!!! No one asked for this and no one wants it done, the council needs to serve the community equally not bow down to a fraction of the community who thinks they need even more land (what bullocks) while ignoring the rest of us. So sad to see the council try to push this, please stop this at once.</p>
<p>How can you possibly support this?! Say no to this project and save the council's dignity in the eyes of the community because we are all shocked and angry at the moment. DONT DO THIS!!</p>
<p>I live so close to the reserve and I cannot stand the thought of this plan it makes me pretty infuriated. Parking, traffic, increased levels of noise and light - my neighbours and I are all very upset at the thought of all these factors which can't be avoided without spending more and more of our money. Also many grew up here and love the park and its surrounds, you should not be allowed to ruin the natural beauty of the area (wetlands, trees and creek) by sticking bloody colourful plastic on the ground its gross! none of us are here for it #savethelaver</p>
<p>this is the home of my camberwell lacrosse club, please leave us alone we just want to play lacrosse it isn't fair kids that play soccer get more stuff by taking it away from us please help us our sport is not as big in the media in Australia. I just want to keep playing lacrosse with my friends at dorothy laver its a really fun place we dont want it to be fake grass we like our real grass #savethelaver</p>
<p>This is an inappropriate development and should not proceed. Developing a facility that is targeted at a single sport, soccer, to the exclusion of many others is not a reasonable use of ratepayers money. The claimed benefits are ludicrous: 1. year-round soccer facility excludes many other sports and casual uses that have not been provided with reasonable options 2. an WNPL facility needs significantly more development at significant extra ratepayer cost - if it is not for the Alamein FC to play games, then this benefit is not real and should not be claimed 3. claiming enhanced opportunities by fencing off the ground is illogical-currently the passive recreation is at least 20000m2 and only unavailable when sports are being played - leaving only 2800m2 at the ends is really a loss of more than 15000m2 4. energy efficient lighting could be a simple upgrade of the existing lighting and does not require a new synthetic field 5. relocation of the wicket results in only one wicket that cannot be used on days over 28c, which is at least one in three days over the cricket season. This is a ridiculous proposal that will destroy a beautiful community facility. Seems like it was written by FFV, AUSC and Craig Little, who has been actively working on this for 6 months full time (and he is proud to shout it). Its about time council had the balls to tell these guys that they need to use what they already have (at least 8 grounds) and not try to steal other sporting groups grounds. These "leaders" of the local soccer community need to stop empire building and start providing real community sport at affordable prices. Empire building with the WNPL club, paid coaches and administrators is not what local soccer players need. Over \$500 for juniors and then adding a coaches fee is crazy. Boroondara Council should come up with a proposal that really addresses the community needs - maybe even talk to them to develop the proposal.</p>
<p>My family have used and enjoyed the existing facilities over many years and I wonder why such huge and costly changes to the Dorothy Laver Reserves are needed. This proposal has been planned without proper consultation or consideration with those who currently use these facilities and as a long term ratepayer this is not what I expected from my council and it has offended me personally and many others who are effected. The complex planning in place shows that council has invested considerable ratepayer's money into a proposal that is unnecessary and unacceptable. The negative environmental impact is considerable, especially on the native birdlife that currently frequent the grasslands as their habitat. The following native birds currently enjoy the grasslands of Dorothy Laver Reserve on both sides of Gardiners Creek: Red Rump Parrots, these beautiful grass parrots are often seen gleaning from the tiny seeds produced on the current sports grounds. Willie Wagtails use these grasslands for feeding. Magpie Larks use the grasslands for feeding and nest collecting. Magpies use these grasslands to hunt and feed on worms and grubs living under the grassy surfaces. Welcome Swallows use these grounds frequently in season eating the tiny insects that thrive above and grasslands. The Australian Robin is another lovely native bird that is seen on these grassy fields. Waterbirds from Gardiners Creek are often seen feeding on these grasslands such as : Pacific Black Ducks, Australian Wood Ducks, White Faced Herons, Dusky Moorhens, Eurasian Coots and Masked Lapwings. To replace the grasslands with synthetic surfaces will mean these birds will have to go elsewhere. The sporting grounds are within the Gardiners Creek floodplain meaning that at times the waters rise and flow across the fields depositing welcomed silt. These floodwaters will cause great damage to any unnatural synthetic surface, meaning further waste to Ratepayer's money. Stormwater run-off from unnatural synthetic surfaces may cause a negative impact on the waters and wildlife of Gardiners Creek. We the local ratepayer's love the open fields that are so important to our chosen urban environment and I strongly object to the proposed changes that are in blatant contrast to the status of Gardiners Creek reserves environmental importance. Please do not proceed further with these unsolicited works.</p>
<p>I am concerned that the following issues have not been addressed by Council:- 1. Danger and parking issues caused by moving all Camberwell Lacrosse Club activities to Eric Raven Reserve, Estella Street is a very narrow and the current traffic volume can create congestion. Parking and traffic in the street is already an issue when St Kevins Old Boys are playing at T J King Reserve as supporters park at Eric Raven or Estella St and walk across footbridge. It is an impossible situation if the Lacrosse Club is also at Eric Raven. These changes will require a full review of traffic, timed parking and permit parking to ensure residents are safe and we can access our street. 2. A fenced oval is not in keeping with the open parkland along Gardiner's Creek - a reason why we like the area and purchased a home unit. It is restricted to a select group, the parking required for this facility is not available at Dorothy Laver and can only increase traffic in nearby streets, the Tennis Club car park and Darling Railway Station car park - currently utilised by the local AFL and cricket clubs. 3. Synthetic turf will not absorb freeway noise as well as the current natural grass and could have a longer term environmental impact on the Creek and surrounds. 4. The development has a bias towards one sport - Football and will push current tenants to either a) crowded facilities or b) large reduction in availability of playing grounds. Cricket and lacrosse will both lose playing and/or training space.</p>
<p>Strongly object the project which would just increase the parking demand and would cause accident with the high traffic demand when there are events arranged. Who should be responsible if there were accident because of the poor traffic control? Hate the artificial lawn which doesn't fit in the native surrounding environment. I don't think it's a wise move and please stop</p>

<p>the project.</p>
<p>Based on the information provided to date its hard to support this project. Proposing a \$4.5m investment without having the environmental or traffic/parking impacts available to consider the impact on amenity doesn't get to first base. If council want a considered response, please conduct a preliminary environmental and traffic impact.</p>
<p>This has been a poor consultation process- not up to Boroondara's normal standard. On face value, I don't want to see the replacement of natural turf with artificial surfaces- change the use of the fields, improve the lights but don't replace perfectly good natural surfaces with man-made ones.</p>
<p>1. This project involves displacing Camberwell Lacrosse Club, who have called this reserve home for the entire time DLW has been used for sport (since the early 1980's), without an adequate alternative location. 2. A synthetic surface is likely to exacerbate existing noise (from the freeway), flooding and run off issues (both volume and water quality) with the creek. 3. This area is currently used as public open space as well as organised sport. Replacing grass with a synthetic surface shifts that balance substantially towards one sport at the expense of other sports and public open space. 4. Soccer already use the majority of sporting fields in Boroondara - this does nothing to enhance diversity in the community. 5. An alternative location (e.g. Warner Reserve) would achieve increased utilisation without threatening a sensitive location or displacing existing users.</p>
<p>I have been playing lacrosse at this ground for 20 years, it would be a shame to see it taken away for a soccer field that would be ugly and used for one sport only. The cricket and lacrosse clubs share this ground and have always looked after it. They have got it to where it is now. There would be nowhere else for the lacrosse teams to train. Eric raven is too small and too close to residents.</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Alamein Football Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>I have been the the community consultation discussion and disgusted that council is happy to displace existing sporting clubs that cater to the community already across a large age group and sporting disciplines. To replace it with a single facility that only caters for one sport that has grounds everywhere. Council wants to shut down the Camberwell lacrosse club in what council appears to think isn't an important sport. My 11 year old had been in tears multiple time since attending Thursdays discussion. Lacrosse is his absolute passion and he loves Doug who inspired him to get involved. Doesn't appear to be any where near enough impact studies conducted for a spending of this magnitude. Where would you have the Camberwell lacrosse club who have done all the work to reclaim the land, put in the lights and maintain a club room???? Doesn't even seem to have been thought of!!!</p>
<p>Strongly object the proposal because of 1. traffic & parking issues 2. artificial turf is bad to the environment</p>
<p>The lack of community consultation during the planning for this project is a disgrace. With no demonstrated social, economic or environmental benefits, how can councillors justify the expenditure of ratepayers money without due diligence being undertaken?</p>
<p>SUBMISSION TO BOROONDARA COUNCIL IN RESPONSE TO DOROTHY LAVER WEST DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY CONSULTATION I am a resident of Boroondara. Our Lacrosse history is not as lengthy as some but it has had such a positive impact on our family that it feels like we have been part of the Camberwell Lacrosse Club for longer. We joined in 2016 and here is our viewpoint. INCLUSION – we joined the world of Lacrosse after a wonderful primary school based program that was initiated by Doug Fox (of the Camberwell Lacrosse). After sessions during the school PE program where Doug provided the expertise and all the equipment to introduce kids to playing Lacrosse. I hear that this was also a mechanism that enticed a lot of the longer term players from different decades – community based. A follow up mini tournament drew us to the Club to see what it was all about. From the first moment, there was a feeling of welcoming and sharing. We understood very quickly that the Club comprised of a group of very passionate and dedicated people. PARTICIPATION - My daughter started out with the U11 program over two years ago and hasn't looked back. On joining, she was able to connect with many girls from different schools. There is a strong mentoring culture at the Club and everyone is encouraged to participate. We quickly loved the format and skills of the game. My daughter was given the opportunity to also assist in the U13 age group games increased the rate of development whilst still keeping an achievable framework for the younger players. Now my daughter is in the U13 team and assisting the U15 girls. SUPPORT- The sense of community and pride in the Club is really entwined with the day to day activities whether it be games, training, tournaments, social pasta nights or trivia nights. Additional to that, is the camaraderie from all the other Clubs in the League. Learning of the work that had been done over the 30 plus years to build and develop the Camberwell Lacrosse and the sport in general is so commendable. The ongoing commitment to maintaining a suitable lacrosse venue at Dorothy Laver Reserve has taken a lot of volunteer hours to achieve and keep achieving. It does not matter where the sport is in its participation development, it is only going to continue to increase with time if the US examples are followed. In hearing the recent discussion at the council drop in session, the lobbying should not be about one sport against another. I would like to see that the facilities of Lacrosse are maintained at Dorothy Laver Reserve and if feasible or there is need to integrate with other sport proposals to widen the community availability and utilisation of a rather unique and very pleasant section of Boroondara. So what do we get from Lacrosse for a primary age child? Encouragement, ball/stick skills, aerobic fitness, friendship, team mates, role models, mentors, inclusion, opportunity, sense of community, self esteem and most of all FUN! The Camberwell Lacrosse representative group will be putting to the Boroondara Council, I am sure, the heart and soul of the Club into the discussions and proposals that endeavour to keep/save, grow and develop this sport and keep Lacrosse available to those in the Boroondara and surrounding districts. What Camberwell Lacrosse has established at Dorothy Laver Reserve for Lacrosse is more than just grounds and buildings. Our Community needs this sport to continue and be supported. Thank you for considering this submission.</p>

I make this survey response as a Boroondara resident, past player and Life member of the Camberwell Lacrosse Club who has for the past 50 years given my time in a voluntary capacity to the recruiting, coaching and mentoring of young people within my local community in the sport of lacrosse. My professional training and experience as a geographer leads me to the view that the proposed development at Dorothy Laver Reserve West, does not make a sensible fit with the geography of the reserve and its immediate hinterland. Significant issues relating to both the 'natural' and 'built' environment will need to be addressed, including bio-diversity and health sensitivities, flood management, protection of wetlands and the effects of traffic, noise, congestion, lighting and pollution which may impact on the lifestyle amenity, property values and insurance costs for residents. I am aware that the interplay of statutory requirements, planning overlays and due process can be intricate. This leads me to ask whether Boroondara Council has determined whether it will require a Planning Permit for the proposed development to proceed? The hasty and disjointed consultation process for the project is causing growing community alarm and scrutiny as it appears to many that the planning process has been tipped upside down and rushed to secure a pre-determined outcome. It is coming across as a "notification", not a "consultation". The growing disquiet within the local community suggests that the various issues of concern are being, and will continue to be, strongly pursued by a variety of interest groups. Accordingly, my present submission is restricted to matters affecting the sport of lacrosse and the dilemma in which Camberwell Lacrosse Club now finds itself.

1. Sports Participation Growth and Clubs Both the size and vitality of mature community sporting clubs are subject to periodic variations. Spurts of growth and decline come and go for a variety of reasons. Not surprisingly, new and young clubs have a particular desire to demonstrate growth and build lobbying power as a pathway to gaining facilities. Municipal Councils need to understand and manage these dynamics. The Dorothy Laver Reserve West proposal is premised on a growth analysis of soccer as reported in the Boroondara 2016, Sport and Recreation Strategy Plan. This cites a 21% increase in registered soccer players over a three-year period 2014-16, plus 19% growth in Under 11 girls and 10% growth in 12-17 year-aged girls for a single year. The Strategy Plan contains not one single mention of lacrosse and no analysis of lacrosse participation has been reported as background to why the lacrosse club is to now be displaced. The facts are that, for the period 2015-2018, the Camberwell Lacrosse Club has experienced overall female participant growth of 40% (Juniors 50% and Senior Players 30%) and for males 8.5% overall growth (Juniors 14% and Senior Players 8.2%). The lacrosse community has long suffered from lack of recognition. Currently, among the 60 nations that are affiliated with the International Lacrosse Federation and accredited to compete in World Championships, Australia ranks third for both men and women. Lacrosse is experiencing rapid global expansion and is on a pathway to achieving Olympic participation. Camberwell has players, coaches and officials who are participants in this exciting change. Lacrosse is a rapidly emerging world sport and does not deserve to be dismissed or treated as "minor". The Camberwell Lacrosse Club is well-capable of massively growing its sub-junior ranks, charging high junior fees and employing full-time managers, strategists and lobbyists and paid coaches along the lines of soccer in Boroondara over recent years. Rather than do this, it has adopted a tailored approach over many years which seeks to maintain a steady-state with sufficient junior numbers, drawn from local schools and families, to support a viable senior club without unreasonable demands for expanded facilities. The lacrosse club keeps membership fees to a minimum and pays no one. This family-friendly, inclusive approach is maintained to keep costs low and provide access to everyone, whatever their socio-economic circumstances. If lacrosse were to change this approach and adopt the soccer model, it would soon be pestering Council for a bigger share of the already limited playing spaces. By contrast, soccer is operating on a different basis. At this stage the lacrosse club has not fully researched the structure and circumstances of Alamein Soccer Club. It seems that the soccer demand which the current Dorothy Laver proposal is claimed to be responding to, has been recently built as an off-shoot, "proposal club" to the already over-reaching Ashburton United Soccer Club. Rather than a Boroondara community focus, the Alamein Football Club has elite women professional players and elite junior players as its underlying focus. When formed in 2016, players were recruited and "signed" from far and wide. It seems that Premier League soccer carries a mandate for clubs to secure and maintain players and facilities for multiple elite junior teams in addition to the senior team and to conduct annual "open" team selection trials on a regional basis rather than for our local community. The elite focus of the Alamein program does not match the documented philosophy or charter of the Boroondara Council on sport and recreation and seems in contradiction to the assurances given by the CEO and Council planners that the facility is not for elite sport.

2. Team Training and Match Programming Council's plan is to move the lacrosse club to a single venue, Eric Raven Reserve. This reserve does not have sufficient space or facilities to safely house the present team training and match fixturing program of the lacrosse club. The club would be severely disadvantaged and would have no opportunity for emerging and predicted future growth. Detailed information on these safety and other requirements, and the inadequacies of Eric Raven Reserve, is available from the lacrosse club. Disappointingly, this information was neither sought nor researched before Council issued its proposed development of Dorothy Laver Reserve. Lacrosse has a long, but insecure history at Eric Raven Reserve and this reserve has never been regarded or sought by the Camberwell Lacrosse Club to be its home base. Between 1952-88, the lacrosse club was moved off Eric Raven Reserve to Francis Crescent Reserve (now Dorothy Laver East) in order to provide a home for the now defunct Glen Iris Football Club. Again in 2005 lacrosse was evicted and the Boroondara Lions Soccer Club took over for one year before departing. Despite recent statements by Council Officers, the re-building of the pavilion and the proposed installation of floodlighting at Eric Raven Reserve has not arisen from the instigation of the lacrosse club. The lacrosse club's home base is, and has been since 1985, Dorothy Laver Reserve West.

3. Respect for Neighbours The Camberwell Lacrosse Club has always maintained a position of respecting the rights and needs of other users of the playing grounds and residents and organizations who live close to the reserves as our neighbours. At Eric Raven Reserve, the Community-based Grounds Committee (recently abandoned by Council), accepted that residents along Estella Street did not wish to have floodlighting at the oval or regular noise and traffic from social events at the pavilion. The lacrosse club always respected these circumstances and has never sought re-development of the clubrooms or the installation of lights. The lacrosse club is very aware that Eric Raven Reserve can become wet and cut up during winter conditions and has been careful to not over-use the field so as to protect the ground surface for matches and leave it in good condition for when the summer cricket season comes along. The proposal to install lighting to intensify usage on this oval will result in major deterioration of the ground surface. At Dorothy Laver Reserve, the lacrosse club has never had any issues from local residents, or from the dog-walkers, bike-path users or the environmental groups which keep a constant watch on the area. On occasions, such as when the club hosts a Lacrosse

Victoria Lightning Premiership morning for Under 11 juniors or hosts multiple matches on the women's Sunday fixtures, the lacrosse club is aware of large overflows of car-parking into neighbouring streets. Neighbours have been understanding of these occasional intrusions but the proposed expansion of activity at the reserve will change this. If all four soccer fields depicted in the plan for Dorothy Laver Reserve are in use at one time, a minimum of 100 cars can be expected with no allowance made for this doubling during cross-over times between games or for the traffic congestion that will be created at the only exit into Dunlop Street. In short, the lacrosse club has been a non-intrusive user of both Dorothy Laver Reserve West and Eric Raven Reserve and has lived harmoniously on the green spaces of these community reserves in the Gardiners Creek Valley. The synthetic pitch proposal is unlikely to see that harmony maintained, either at Dorothy Laver Reserve or at Eric Raven Reserve. I would be grateful if you could keep me informed about the ongoing status of this proposed development. Yours sincerely.

I am deeply opposed to this proposal, it is NOT a solution to any existing problems, its an over development and will create additional problems of maintenance and repair overheads into the future. More disturbingly, its a project that has been designed to divide the community and creates more losers than winners! COB is proposing to evict long term sporting clubs and impose their bias for gender specific soccer utilisation, this narrow sexist approach is disgusting and the COB should face an enquiry about this whole project as there must be conflicts of interest causing such terrible policy and bad decision making! There has been no environmental consideration of the high incidence of flooding of Gardiners Creek, the bio-diversity in the immediate area and benefits of natural habitats over artificial surfaces which exacerbate ever increasing climate change impacts. Loss of grass surfaces will increase ground temperature due to masonry substrates on which artificial turf are laid retaining heat, artificial surfaces are uncomfortable in elevated temperatures (meaning lower utilisation) and result in drainage and ground moisture changes all impacting on the local eco system. Additional fencing to surround the surface will be a issue to the inevitable rising flood waters which will collect debris and suffer damage, the artificial surface will be impacted by deposited silt and mud and require expensive remediation or replacement - all at greater expense to the rate payer for what is an impractical proposal which is excessive in cost compared to costs to convert other existing fields already used by the soccer clubs to be beneficiaries of this proposal. The council must fully evaluate all alternatives and be fiscally responsible to rate payers taking into full consideration the long term maintenance costs. The ambition of achieving an elite state grade soccer facility has not been balanced with any practical and realistic appreciation of what demands that would inevitably place on the immediate area in respect to volumes of traffic, car parking deficiencies (already grossly inadequate) and increasing the scheduling of activities will ensure congestion and impacts overflow into neighbouring streets impacting on the amenity of the residents in nearby streets. The existing park land is utilised by many for personal exercise and relaxation, these casual utilisations have not been considered by COB. This proposal is a "thin edge of the wedge" where further justifications will be argued in future stages to further develop the area and realise the elite facility potential by being forced to add additional car parking facilities at additional capital cost, reduction of surrounding bush land, more hard surfacing and drainage issues and inevitably building additional grandstands and associated infrastructure. This proposal is simply madness and the COB has a greater duty of care to the broader public than to pander just to the needs of a narrow group of sports users. The proposal to push the lacrosse clubs to utilise only Eric Raven reserve is grossly unfair, discriminatory and also problematic on many levels, but most significantly the surface will degrade from over utilisation in winter especially and its availability as the ONLY dog off leash area for local residents will be significantly impacted leading to loss of Amenity to all nearby and also to the sporting clubs too. For all the reasons above this proposal should be abandoned - its has massive impacts to the amenity of local residents and is a poor attempt at solving a complex problem. Instead COB should engage in a totally transparent and un-conflicted approach with all stakeholders to solve the problems of additional demands of sports organisations while balancing the utilisation of open spaces without impacting on the eco systems and environments that are the greatest assets of the area providing amenity and diversity for all.

I am a local resident and environmental scientist. I am strongly opposed to Council's proposal to build an artificial turf soccer playing field on Dorothy Laver Reserve West, which will include fencing and night lighting until 9 pm, loss of natural grass, and significantly increased human presence and traffic. Boroondara's Biodiversity Strategy's vision for 2023 is for "... healthy indigenous plant communities and robust populations of native birds and other wildlife. Our biodiversity corridors and healthy waterways provide connectivity for native fauna within the municipality and beyond,..." This vision recognises the critical importance of improving biodiversity. As Council has limited capacity to improve biodiversity on private land, it is essential that Council's public lands are properly protected and managed to improve biodiversity outcomes. Dorothy Laver Reserve is listed in Boroondara Council's Urban Biodiversity Strategy (2013-2023) as an area of local significance, containing remnant native vegetation and viable populations of 2 plant and 1 threatened bird species. The site is also a node on the wildlife corridor of Gardiners Creek. Three sides of Dorothy Laver Reserve West (the Glen Iris wetland directly to the north, Gardiners Creek to the east and a vegetated corridor to the east) contain important native vegetation, which is unique in such an urbanised area, and is therefore worthy of a high level of protection. The presence of this vegetation supports a large number of native bird species that use the Dorothy Laver Reserve surrounds for nesting and roosting. The Reserves themselves are used by many bird species for foraging during quiet times of the day. There is currently a pair of white-faced herons (listed as Vulnerable in Victoria) that forage over the Reserve during the early hours of the day. Other foraging bird species that I have observed in the Reserve include masked lapwings, willy wagtails, pacific black and chestnut teal ducks that forage over the grassed reserves in late winter and early spring, flocks of red rumped parrots and crested pigeons, sulfur-crested cockatoos, rainbow lorikeets, little corellas, Australian magpies, and magpie larks. I have also seen superb fairy wrens (Listed as Vulnerable in Victoria) and, very recently during a quiet dark morning, a tawny frogmouth. The loss of the natural grass, installation of lighting and significantly increased human disturbance in an area identified by Council as locally important for biodiversity goes directly against the first and second Objectives of Council's 2013-2023 Biodiversity Strategy, which are to: "Protect and Enhance Biodiversity on Public Land" and "To reduce Land Use and Development Impacts on Biodiversity". Whilst the loss of any natural grass (and replacement with artificial turf) is a significant environmental loss for ground-feeding bird species, it is particularly significant for Dorothy Laver Reserve West due to its unique location in amongst native vegetation and wetland habitat, which provides quiet roosting and breeding areas. Furthermore, the proposed development will also result in night-

time light pollution, increased radiant heat in summer and substantially increased human disturbance during the days and evenings, that will impact all birds in the area, regardless of their foraging behaviour. The environmental impact of the proposed development is considered to be substantial and irreversible, as well as being contrary to Council's own Biodiversity Strategy, It is for these reasons that I am strongly opposed to the proposed development. It is understood that a number of other locations were considered for the proposed artificial turf soccer field development, however Council has not made available to the public how these other locations were assessed in terms of environmental impact (or any other assessment criteria).

I STRONGLY DISAPPROVE OF THE DOROTHY LAVER RESERVE WEST PROJECT. 1. I'm disappointed to learn of this project through a community letterbox drop this weekend, despite living 500m from the reserve, and go past it on both sides at least twice a day, every day of the week. Why was the notification area limited to under 500m? Why wasn't signage displayed at the bounds of the reserve, both on the Gardiners Creek Trail side, and the eco-nature reserve side? A cynic would think you're trying to sneak through an unpopular project, to cater for a minority, without sufficient community consultation or scrutiny. 2. This is an important area for dogs to safely roam and run because of the large space and the fencing along the bike path. Dogs need to be able to run around, but converting this to a synthetic surface will curtail this. While there are some smaller reserves for walking dogs, they need an area to really run. This is one of them. 3. Conversion of this area into a large, synthetic sports field will greatly diminish the appeal, usability and amenity of the area. As a rate payer, resident and user of this reserve, I really value the reserve in it's current form. It was part of the reason we bought into this area. All of my family walk and cycle along both sides many times per week as well as use the grassed surface of the reserve. Being a large grassed area is the huge appeal. My daughter went to a local primary school (Glen Iris) which does not have a natural grass surface, hence having these large natural grassed areas for our children to play and us to raise them is vitally important. 4. I don't see why any other piece of real estate could be used for the purposes proposed, particularly given synthetic surface can be laid anywhere, whereas large grassed areas are rare and unique. 5. The reserve currently has a number of clubs making good use of the reserve. I object to the displacement of current clubs to accomodate some alternative clubs can move in to turn the area into their hub. While the statistics quoted about the uptake a soccer may be true, my tweenage daughter often feels disenfranchised by disproportionate resourcing of male dominated sports, and this is another example. Netball is the most popular girls sport by far, yet the only courts in the district are in another city (beyond Ashwood College) and these are just old uncovered asphalt courts and the car park is a muddy bog. I encourage you to visit those courts year round to see them fully utilised on weekends. If the council were serious about providing for and encouraging girls and women to play sport, they would resource that instead of soccer. 6. Parking and traffic issue continue to be a problem, not only as Dunlop / Moira Streets provide a "rat run" between High Street and Malvern Roads, the current usage of the area (including the Darling Park on the opposite side of Dunlop Street) has the area to congestion levels with people parking illegally and dangerously - particularly during the winter season when football is being played. All of this directly impacts the amenity of my neighbourhood and residence. 7. Soccer is already catered for down at the recently upgraded HA Smith Reserve, adjacent to Glenferrie Road. I constantly walk and cycle past there, and the large reserve is greatly under-utilised, although I already see soccer being practised and played there occasionally on reserves both on the north and south sides for the toll road. Why can this be better utilised rather than massively and destructively changing our local reserve? 8. The peaceful duck pond and picnic area to the east end will be greatly impacted and diminished if the reserve was converted to a synthetic surface with a high density of fields and high use. It is very common to see local wildlife on the reserve as it connects the creek with the eco-reserve on the opposite side. This project would likely have a large impact in stressing and isolating the wildlife. To re-iterate, I STRONGLY disapprove of this project and want to see the reserve continue in it's current form. Yours faithfully,

I think it is completely unacceptable that the Camberwell Lacrosse Club was not approached about this before the project was announced. There are many other appropriate grounds all around the area that would be equally as suitable for a project like this. It would be unjust to dislocate a sporting club with very strong roots in junior and senior womens lacrosse given the sport is not widely played in Australia, yet Australia consistently ranks within the top 3 countries that play lacrosse in the world and is the best performing outside of North America. This club also has significant womens prowess within Victoria as one of the top performing clubs in the A grade womens competition. Additionally to the high performing womens team, this club offers opportunities to girls that only one other club in the south eastern suburbs offers. Most other clubs do not have the numbers to field their own teams and therefore many of those girls move to Camberwell Lacrosse Club. Additionally to the currently existing lacrosse and cricket clubs at Dorothy Laver, this ground is regularly used for state and international training sessions that would be impractical on any other surface than the one that currently exists. A new synthetic turf would make our representative teams significantly less competitive as the ball reacts significantly differently dependant on what surface it strikes. On top of all of this, groundballs (scooping the ball off the ground) become increasingly more difficult to judge on harder surfaces as the ball tends to bounce more. All of these changes would significantly cripple the preparation our representative teams will experience if the proposed changes are made.

It appears that this plan is at an advanced stage and so it is disturbing to discover that given this sits on the boundary with Stonnington, that there has been no consultation with residents and staff of Stonnington thus far. I found out about this proposal by word of mouth while walking through this area. The scale of this development seems inappropriate for this important green corridor. Synthetic turf will increase run off and will alter the heat profile. Increased noise and lighting are likely to have a detrimental impact on the neighbouring areas. No mention has been made of the ongoing terms under which access to this facility will be provided. What deal has been struck with future users? This seems to be locking up a community facility for a very limited interest group. It has been suggested by Council staff that there will be little to no impact on dog walkers. That disregards the fact that displacing long standing users of this facility to other dog off leash ovals, will reduce availability of those other ovals for off leash dog exercising. Dog owners in Boroondara/Stonnington vastly outnumber soccer club members. Finally car parking will become a nightmare for the adjacent residents if the utilisation is significantly increased. You only have to visit nearby reserves when sport is on to find cars on naturestrips, corners and blocking residents driveways. Utilisation needs to be carefully managed by Council to ensure that this does not occur here.

<p>A focus on mainstream sport with little consideration for the impact it has on others. What community participation value does it add, what niche does it cater to? It just reinforces the norm that if you are not a member of the mainstream then your priorities, values are not important. What impact on environmental sustainability does it have, or is that not even a consideration? I am adverse to the impact it has on me and my family, it will bring my Lacrosse Club to its knees.</p>
<p>The 'facts' information you supplied after the council meeting on the 18th July: - 'the current proposal occupies less land than the existing sporting field so it will have a smaller footprint' is misleading given you are converting 90% of current natural open space into a fenced off, synthetic surface which has a SIGNIFICANTLY more detrimental footprint than the existing situation. THERE IS NO INCREASED PASSIVE SPACE OPPORTUNITY when you fence off what was previously an open space. The top strip of land being left at the end with the lacrosse wall will still be used by lacrosse and tennis players as per existing use. This is not a new opportunity. The bottom strip is all you are leaving for families/other park users, where as previously people could spread themselves across the field, now they are restricted. Not an increase in space opportunity. For such a large block of land currently enjoyed by many community groups, your soccer-focused facility is geared to benefiting one sport and too restrictive for others. A poor plan from a council which is meant to represent ALL in the community.</p>
<p>I have always enjoyed the Lacrosse services, having access to the parkland. They have had a long history. My children have played Lacrosse in the past & have been to other functions at the reserve. It is a very family friendly activity that is non-intrusive after-hours & suits the young families in the area. I think that the soccer will not be a good fit, going forward. They have other venues that could be explored further.</p>
<p>The reason so many people wish to live in this vicinity is because of the wonderful access to parks and garden areas. Nature and bird life are also enjoyed. The amount of development over the past years for minority sporting groups, who use the facilities provided with rate payers rates for a few hours per week and maybe several months a year has increased. The amount of money used in these developments for minority interest groups and the use of the facilities is not proportionate. The locals in the area enjoy and use the parks for incidental walking and enjoyment EVERY DAY. Unfortunately council does not seem to recognise that there are many more people wanting the parks to remain untouched and as natural as possible for ratepayer and resident's enjoyment. Please leave these areas alone, it would be extremely detrimental to the local residents and the natural parks, which are why we purchased and chose to live here originally. Kind regards</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Alamein Football Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>Post the Council meeting on the 18th July - Frequently Asked Questions - Council quoted growth numbers for soccer from a 2016 document that discusses growth from 2014-2016. Outdated figures. Get new ones to argue your case. If you are looking at recent growth, AFWL can't be beaten with a 76% growth in 2017 and yet this proposal takes away a huge training area for the local footy club which would have been further utilized in 2019 and beyond by both girls and boys. So your argument you are improving capacity of the existing ground by making it a soccer facility which AFL (let alone other sporting clubs) won't have access to is poorly justified. You aren't improving capacity for cricket - they go from 3 wickets to 2 - how is that improving opportunities for cricket as you have noted in your answers? The Women's Big Bash is growing girls cricket a grass roots level and yet you are limiting use of an existing cricket facility. Not only that, but at the meeting you had no alternative for the AFL club. If the proposal will free up grounds- state which grounds. BE SPECIFIC. You're being vague. Vague generally means a lack of answers. Which soccer clubs are giving up their grounds? You want feedback on the configuration of the sporting proposal - it is a narrow minded proposal restricting growth in three sports for the benefit of one sport. Irresponsible planning, irresponsible use of rate-payers money. Keep the oval natural turf so AFL, Lacrosse, Cricket and Soccer can play at the facility. I am sure Soccer and Lacrosse could come to an arrangement where the 2 clubs share the facility during the winter if Council improves Eric Raven so more games could be played there, AFL get the use in pre-season, cricket in summer. Council need to be proactive in making this space work for more than just one club.</p>
<p>Before any final decision is made by Council, the plan needs to address the environmental effects what is proposed, most especially in the context of the two ovals being subject to inundation. The higher than normal boundary fence proposed for DL Oval West, apart from being restrictive of other users, is unlikely to survive a major flood event, and the black, fine rubber topping that is used on the surfaces proposed is likely to wash off through the fence into the creek with even minor flooding. The visual effect of having a fence as high as is proposed will adversely impact the current general visual amenity of the DL Oval West, and the Gardeners Creek walking/cycle trail. While stray balls may represent a hazard to other users, judiciously located, point specific, higher fencing may be less visually intrusive. Finally, the impact of creating parking for what will almost certainly be a larger number of sport participants' and spectators' cars needs to be properly addressed in what should be a formal Environment Effects Statement commissioned by Council and independently assessed as per Victoria's current Environmental Effects legislation process. This would then ensure that the local Boroondara/Glen Iris community, and the wider public, can be satisfied that these and other major potential effects are properly addressed and taken into consideration by Council. To do otherwise and proceed unilaterally, as appears to now be the case, without taking proper environmental advice and considering formal recommendations, will be fly in the face of our long-establish and well-accepted Local Government ethical standards; a politically most unwise approach with potentially unattractive outcomes, as no doubt Council will see and agree. Alistair Brooks, Social Scientist/Anthropologist and a founding member of the Victorian Government's first Environmental Effects Assessment Group set up by the then Premier, The Hon. Rupert Hamer, under the original 1974 Environment Effects legislation.</p>
<p>Hate this plan & I've signed the petition against it. This will not happen, not in my neighbourhood.</p>
<p>NO. Sorry but soccer can move along we don't need or want this at all #SAVETHELAVER</p>
<p>No, this proposal would exacerbate every problem my neighbours and I face in terms of traffic, parking and disturbances. Not to mention the ruining of my favourite park, what on earth is the council thinking???? Don't go any further with this we don't want it.</p>

<p>So unfair to all the sport clubs that already use the space, such a stupid idea and why are soccer players the only benefactors...? So utterly selfish and exclusive in the worst ways. You know there's something wrong with the council when a kid like me (and all the kids at my club) has more compassion and sense than a bunch of adults who are clearly biased.</p>
<p>appalling actions by the council who have zero justifications for why soccer is being so favoured and our community's other sports are being brushed aside. So disgusting and at the meeting they kept saying everything will be considered after the decision!? NO these predicted problems about flooding, effects on residents, effects on flora and fauna, and the synthiturf creating a 'hotspot' need to be considered NOW!!! Council needs to stop fluffing around and address it all upfront before making any uninformed decisions. Just ditch the idea no one wants it apart from soccer who have enough!!</p>
<p>I'm a player at the lacrosse club and this is soo unfair on all of us who play here at dorothy laver every week. we train here and have so much fun as a team here and you can't just take it away from us to givemore to kids that play soccer why are they more important than us? The kids at the ashburton soccer club didn't even know they were taking it from us they were just told by the bosses to support it when we are all against it without being told what to think. please don't do this to us it will upset me and my friends and everyone at our club so much #savethe laver</p>
<p>Leave our lacrosse club alone we need all the space we can get, this is our only club room and home ground while the soccer clubs aren't at risk of losing theirs they just want grounds on top of what they have!!! So unfair and mean to take more than they should be allowed from sports with less space anyway. please stop this it makes so many people mad and annoyed it doesn't help anyone but soccer, we need it more trust me. #SAVETHELAVER</p>
<p>No I live less than 10 minute drive from here and I fully disagree with this idea. I visit it a lot and I love the reserve it really is a great place that is such a breath of fresh air in such an urbanised/busy suburban area as it's right next to gardiner's creek and the wetlands not to mention the fantastic duck pond! Really disappointing the council would try to wipe out even more grass, we hardly have any decent grass fields left in the community and this is definitely one we should fight to keep not destroy!!!</p>
<p>don't think this is a good idea, everyone I know who lives near here are really against it and I think it would ruin the area its a good field I don't know why the council would want to do this.</p>
<p>Walk my dog here all the time love letting her have a run around on the grass, artificial grass isn't the same and is so unnecessary when the grass is perfect it would really ruin the experience for so many people who visit the park. Stupid waste of money spend it on something that the community actually wants please, no one would appreciate this.</p>
<p>it's disappointing to see the Council effectively kicking the Camberwell LaCrosse Club of their fields. My child has been playing LaCrosse on those fields for 10 years and I also understand that the club raised funds to build the existing club rooms approximately 30 years ago. The Council is now drastically reducing the ability of their players from being able to play & train at their main ground. This type of action by the Council will put greater downward pressure on the club & their players. The club will no longer be able to support the training and playing requirements with the impact the current proposal. Camberwell LaCrosse Club is a very family oriented club who regularly have family nights, and days to engage family members. I also have to question the use of synthetic turf. These have been shown to: increase the likelihood of injury; they are extremely hot in summer to play and train on dramatically increasing the likelihood of dehydration and other heat associated conditions etc. Why would a council that talks about environmental issues and green space then put in a plastic playing field. Surely the answer is to manage the natural grass fields better. Not to use plastic that cannot be recycled.</p>
<p>I am a resident of 20 Saxby Road, Glen Iris. We bought in this street to enjoy the parklands, the ovals, the walking track....and the quiet street. This will all be changed and ruined forever if this project goes ahead. We are in vehement opposition to this. The parking and traffic in our deadend street will be chaos, the beauty of the area will be ruined and the value of our house diminished. We could not be in stronger opposition. We are sporting people and I have run grass roots sport for the biggest sport in the country, so I understand the need for greenfield space, recreation areas for organised sport etc - but this is a residential area, with the beauty of nature as well - this will be disrupted forever and we will be worse off for the value of our house, as well as the experience of living there...</p>
<p>As a parent of a child who plays at Alamein Football Club, we strongly support the synthetic playing surface council has proposed for Dorothy Laver West Reserve. We ask that you engage with our committee to formalise the proposal.</p>
<p>I have concerns for a variety of reasons. - Parking is a HUGE issue. Already on busy days cars RACE at speed up and down my dead end street looking to park and cross the creek to the other side. Which is already extremely dangerous to the very young and very old residents. Furthermore people stupidly park on both sides of our very narrow road making car access extremely difficult and Ambulance, Truck or Fire Engine CAN NOT access the road at all when this happens. To increase the amount of times this will happen is ludicrous and an unacceptable risk in an Emergency situation. - The access of Dunlop Street is blind coming around the bend from Malvern Rd, and there already have been a number of collisions at that point over the years. Increased traffic would exacerbate these incidences further. - Dedication to one sport as to disadvantage those clubs using the grounds now, such as La Crosse. cricket, etc. - I have lived both as a child and an adult and can attest to the periodical flooding of the area, and have serious concerns regarding drainage. I also work in a school which has had synthetic turf for many years and we quite often have situations after rain, whereby the students cannot use the yard. It also needs costly upkeep and periodical replacement of sections. - Obviously there is also the impact on the natural landscape of both the turf and proposed infrastructure. I strongly object to Council's current plan.</p>

Hi, I have a number of concerns regarding this proposal of replacing a natural grass playing field with plastic right next to the Gardiners Creek. Reasons include: Environmental: Chemical interference of the Gardiners creek and surrounding area. Rain splashing and flood waters will carry the chemicals of fake grass in to the creek and affect the waters and wild life both in and around the creek. Flood waters will damage the fake grass costing the Boroondara rate payer even more money for repairs ? Why do some fake lawns have dog bans ? Will allowing dogs on this one increase damage / maintenance cost ? Noise and lighting levels will increase negatively affecting everyone and everything around the reserve. Natural grass traps numerous pollutants as well as generates oxygen. Plastic grass gets very hot in the summer, reflecting and letting out more heat into our precious atmosphere. It's a beautiful site to see a large grass field for young children to run and play on. Plastic is so harsh on the children's skin. And it will be such a shame to see this area fenced off. With the increased number of people spectating around the sports field, there will be a higher level of rubbish left lying around. And as much as people may try to do the right thing and put it in a bin, some rubbish will often blow away and end up in the creek causing more pollution and unsightliness. Traffic issues: The entrance to the tennis club is on a nasty blind bend and I've seen a few near accidents. This will worsen with more traffic in the area. Dunlop street is already packed full of traffic in the mornings and busy in the evening rush hours. Many people would come from further afield than Boroondara and so vehicles would be used, especially in winter The car park at Darling station often over flows at current weekend sporting events, with cars parked all over the street and grass edge verges, This is from Darling Park usage. I don't think the area can cope with even more people coming here. Especially as Darling Park seems to be getting an even bigger, higher capacity building / club house. Soccer: I'm concerned about the large number of just soccer pitches being marked out all over the field. There appears to be no other sports being catered for here, yet Boroondara residents enjoy a wide variety of different sports. It seems very wrong to promote soccer so heavily when the area is surrounded by young families and not soccer clubs. I'm very concerned the Football Federation of Victoria has so heavily pushed on its website for soccer fans across the whole Melbourne region to complete this Boroondara community survey – with no real confirmed record of whether the contributor is actually a rate paying resident of Boroondara. This leads to a very skewed community consultation – which to be honest I think can not be trusted as a fair assessment from the locals ! It feels like the Boroondara rate payers are subsidising the facilities for other councils residents. This park and its surrounding area is enjoyed by so many walkers, cyclists and runners, children aswell as adults. Please let the Boroondara residents continue to enjoy this as it is. Do we really have to fill every available field area with so much sport ? I'm sure there are better things to spend this much money on. In case it wasn't obvious, I am actually AGAINST this proposal as are many of my neighbours who actually live in this very area. It's just a shame so many local households don't voice their objecting opinions to you as they are resigned to the fact you will go ahead anyway, especially with your seemingly biased survey. Community survey wise, asking if the contributor is a Boroondara resident should be a compulsory question that can be verified, eg rate payer ID / assessment number. Especially as we are the ones paying for it.

Whilst the Boroondara Council is trying to support women's sport in this initiative it is ar risk of disenfranchising another women's sport - women's lacrosse. Camberwell Lacrosse Club uses Dorothy Laver as it's base for practice and home games. Eric Raven would not be suitable or safe for the senior and junior women to use during the winter months. Currently the men's teams only use it for Saturday games and if it is wet the grounds become waterlogged as they are at the bottom of a hill and beside a creek. As a result the grounds surface is chopped up by the men particularly on the centre cricket pitch. In women's lacrosse, games are started and restarted after each goal by a 'draw' from the centre where the players have to compete for the ball running through that area. If all lacrosse practices are run there as well it will result in severe degradation of the surface with possibly resulting injury to players. Camberwell's Women's Division 1 team is currently on top of the ladder, if the team wins the competition it will be promoted to Victorian Women's Premier League next year. The junior teams are also doing very well and growing in numbers and success beating some of the teams from the traditional powerhouses of women's lacrosse in the western suburbs of Melbourne. Lacrosse Victoria has been trying to encourage the growth of women's lacrosse in the eastern suburbs and this will be a barrier to that growth.

<p>re: Artificial turf proposal for Dorothy Laver Reserve West .1. Has the risk of the artificial turf and/or the sand and granulated rubber substrate washing into Gardiners Creek during a flood event been assessed? Has the likely environmental impact of such an event been assessed. Has the impact on downstream municipalities (e.g. Stonnington Glen Iris Wetlands) been assessed? Melbourne Water has historical flood level data for Gardiners Creek collected at its automated monitoring stations. Has Melbourne Water been approached re this proposal? I have seen Dorothy Laver Reserve West in and after flood many times.in the last 20 years with a severe flood as recently as February 2011. 2. In the unlikely event that the artificial turf can be contained during a flood event, has the risk of disturbance of the mix of sand and rubber granules and contamination of the playing surface been assessed? Typical contaminants observed during the 2011 flood event at Gardiners Creek include - fine silt (clay) particles, oil as a film on ponding water, strong sewage smell present with ponding water (after a few days). Heavy metals such as zinc feature regularly in EPA assessments of the water quality in Gardiners Creek. Have the health risks of contamination of the playing surface been assessed? Have the injury risks due to an alteration of the composition and distribution of particles within the substrate, after a flood event, been assessed? It is common knowledge that Melbourne Water release the sewers into Gardiners Creek during major flood events. If the EPA test creek water after recent rain, the test results for e-coli are usually the highest across Melbourne. I get flooded with media requests to explain why this is so, when this happens. 3. In the 2011 flood event, fences of the type proposed were severely damaged by debris such as large logs being carried by the rapid flowing floodwaters. A fence perpendicular to the water flow, as proposed, would be most at risk. 4. Consultation with people who commission artificial turf playing surfaces has established that considerable effort goes into design of an artificial turf playing surface to ensure adequate drainage. How can adequate drainage be achieved on a flood plain during a flood event? 5. If the playing surface is raised to mitigate the flood risk, the knock on downstream flood risk to other infrastructure and private homes would need to be assessed in both Boroondara and Stonnington. 6. Has the likely impact on wildlife and birds been assessed? I have observed over many years that the ground parrots and galahs always prefer a grass surface over an artificial surfaces. The number of events held at night under lights would also impact local wildlife. Boroondara has earmarked Gardiners Creek as a wildlife corridor where wildlife is to be encouraged through the revegetation using indigenous species of plants. The fact that Friends of Gardiners Creek Valley has not been consulted on this matter suggests that this has not been assessed. 7. If the artificial playing surface will need substantial repair or replacement after every flood event, surely this artificial playing field should be on higher ground - on the basis of economics alone.</p>
<p>I wish to lodge my total objection to this proposal. Residents who buy into this area do so for its natural beauty and preservation of nature and open acces to green spaces. These spaces are quite unique and need to be preserved at all cost. Council has spent a large amount of rate payers money on sporting facilities over the past 8 years. In our view these expenses on sporting facilities have been disproportionate to the time and use made of them by the minority sporting groups who demand them. Most facilities are used for several hours per week and several months of the year. Residents and rate payers who live in these areas use the parks and gardens every day and all of the day throughout the year, walking and cycling and spending family time. The proposal will destroy the natural feel, and the luxurious expanse of greenery, native and bird life in the area, the environmental impact would be significant. The proposal meets the needs of one group only at the expense and wellbeing of many rate paying residents. The cost of this project for rate payers who neither want nor need this for this minority group is an extremely unfair distribution of funds. Kind regards.</p>
<p>Hate this and so do all the players from sport clubs that use dorothy laver. Ridiculous waste of money and so thoughtless in so many aspects of the planning. There is no where for the lacrosse club to go that can support the huge number of men, women, boys and girls even if we wanted to move somewhere, which we definitely do not!! Do not do this to us so many people from the club have grown up here and you can't just suddenly decide you want to kick us out when we are the ones who asked for the club rooms to be built there decades ago! #savethelaver.</p>
<p>No Don't support this plan, it's just not a good idea and too many people love the reserve as it is please don't change it we have too much gross artificial stuff around leave the grass alone and find a different oval which isn't situated next to such diverse ecosystems. You picked just about the most ecologically vulnerable area to propose this idea it simply won't work and is so unnatural.</p>
<p>No this is totally unfair and an abuse of power you shouldn't be able to just take away the space from camberwell lacrosse club all of a sudden after over 30 years!! We won't let the council do this it is so infuriating #SAVETHELAVER</p>
<p>Attended the meeting and was quite worried about the lack of research the council has done for an idea they really seem to be pushing. Clearly they do not know how this would effect the surrounding area and its inhabitants (people and wildlife) so this really needs to be shutdown as they had no answers for concerned residents. The council should not waste their money on something the community definitely doesn't want as it was obvious from all the negative responses at the meeting from literally every corner of the community...I'm signing the petition against this.</p>
<p>NO we don't want this, we don't need this and it's completely unnecessary. Leave dorothy laver with its current occupants and say no to fake grass.</p>
<p>The council is meant to listen to the people in its community and the people have definitely spoken...we don't want their ill-planned, uncalled for proposal! If it isn't scrapped by the council there will be a lot of disgruntled residents and I don't think that will boost your popularity or reputation.</p>
<p>I come here heaps and would hate for this reserve to be 'renovated', I think it would just ruin every aspect of what I love about the place. And I think this is the popular opinion among the community...don't go through with this plan!</p>
<p>My children come here sometimes for school PE and they love the place, so we also tend to visit it some weekends with them. They were upset when I told them there is a plan to make it artificial turf and frankly so am I. This open space with grass and no markings is the best for the community, full stop. Don't remove even more grass from our community.</p>
<p>NO #savethelaver</p>
<p>Love this place don't you dare ruin it. I will camp out and protest this, I grew up here and there is so much sentimentality surrounding the reserve. Save dorothy laver and don't do this please</p>

No this is such an upsetting idea, please don't go through with it.
Leave our home ground alone, lacrosse was here first and we've been here for decades soccer can bugger off and stop taking up more and more space it is unfair to all the other growing sports.
This proposal is so badly thought out except from a monetary incentive and money speaks all languages, that I am ashamed and disappointed that my Council and the Councillors elected by myself and many others could be so let down. The proposal to take or grab multi use land set aside as a RESERVE is probably illegal and needs to be investigated in law. The argument that it is used for several sports fits the multi use criteria for this land. What right does a single user have to remove the land from all other users which include many leisure activities as well as sport. I believe even another soccer club is to be evicted from the land they have been historically using. The area listed for development is and has been for some years, a low valley suffering from high traffic pollution and noise courtesy of the Monash Freeway which carries 160,000 vehicles (Wikipedia) per day and expected to rise to 200,000 by 2020+. Is this the best place to force hundreds of young people to play 'healthy' sport! No it is not which leaves a big question mark over why sports grounds already catering for soccer clubs in the municipality were not considered. In fact at least one of these grounds is in a designated activity area adjacent to the Ashburton Swim Centre! On top of these compelling issues there are the environmental aspects which are completely ignored by Council as being of any significance. You, through a wonderful lady, Andrea ... ran a marvellous program a few years ago on ecological issues which all Council should have been made to attend. Have you spoken to her and the team she once led on the issues at stake. Issues regarding a prized Gardiners Creek and its valley. Numerous species of Australian native birds seek refuge here from the gangs of Common Myna you allow to flourish. My family have seen platypus and white tailed native water rat with their own eyes, both under threat from human activity. Refer Friends of Gardiner Creek Valley Inc. An organisation which I believe you support! If these hard courts proceed and there is heavy rainfall and or a flood (3 in the last 12 years) then it would take a miracle to prevent runoff back into the creek. If you look at the structure of artificial courts you will see it is the last thing you want near a beautiful and important waterway. Why would you want to destroy it? There are other places with little significance ecologically if you must have courts. I have already contributed material criticising the health aspects of young people especially, playing on these courts and the chemicals they contain. With age and activity they are not safe necessarily from chemical dust being inhaled by young lungs. A question, does line and logo marking paint used today, still contain lead? Will you undertake a feasibility study of any area designated for hard court placement Will you investigate any study carried out in Australia of the safe use of Artificial Courts?
My son plays for the Ashy redbacks and they have been doing pre season training there for so long as they had nowhere else to do it they were told. So where on earth is the council going to move them if there was already nowhere else for them to go before Dorothy Laver?! Ridiculous!! Let our kids stay here you can't favour one sport over all the others.
No, bad idea.
#savethelaver we won't let the council do this, please reconsider.
WE DONT WANT THIS let us play lacrosse #savethelaver
Please DO NOT DO THIS.
Don't take our homeground away from us, it belongs to the Camberwell Lacrosse club. Please don't let this go through.
Soccer should never be prioritised above everyone else in the community!!! Lacrosse deserves better than this, this is an outrage there is noway you can let this go through!! #savethelaver #savethelaver #savethelaver
This is an ill conceived proposal which purports to enhance the overall community benefit and increases opportunities for women and girls. Fencing off the large majority of the park and leaving only 2800 sq meters at either end for community use be of benefit to the local community can not be to their benefit. Neither can the estimated 400% increase in usage with the accompanying extra traffic and street parking given that there are no plans to increase the already inadequate on site parking. There has been no environmental impact study done to see what effect it will have on the adjacent wetlands and Gardiners Creek. The long term resident tenant the Camberwell Lacrosse uses the reserve as its training base for its Women's and Men's teams and its Girls and Boys teams. In addition to this the Women's Division 1 team and Junior girls teams play there home games there as do some of the junior boys teams. While purporting to increase the opportunities of women and girls team it is in fact disenfranchising one group of amateur sportswomen to accommodate another group which includes professional players. The proposal includes a cricket pitch and ground overlaid across the soccer grounds. Unless the synthetic surface is laid on a shock pad it doesn't meet the AFL/Cricket Australia specifications and for safety reasons should not be used for cricket. Stage 2 of the proposal to put a further 2 under 8/9 miniroos soccer fields on Dorothy Laver East will displace the Glen Iris Dog Club. Minutes of the Council meeting of 12/06/18 how that The Ashburton Soccer Club, who use 7 grounds in the Boroondara Council area, indicate that they hoped that the council would develop one of their grounds. However rather than do this the council is proposing to disenfranchise the long term tenants of both Dorothy Laver West and East and the local residence with this ill conceived proposal. Please use your brains and say we got this one wrong and move on.
The parking requirements for the new women's soccer club is 200 car park spots. With only 36 available at the reserve, problems will arise on surrounding streets such as Peace St. where I am resident. Why did the council not state this clearly and visibly in the letter to residents? A 3rd party, perhaps the lacrosse club which would have to shift training locations, informed us via a leaflet. Council is concealing the facts. I am against this development.

<p>1. Pushes out an established Lacrosse club who has State and National players. 2. Eric Raven reserve is too small to house all of Camberwell Lacrosse Teams. It was ideal at present with both grounds in close proximity to each other. 3. Going by information provided, the new ovals have a larger footprint than Lacrosse at present. 4. Insufficient parking currently for Lacrosse and Tennis. New ground and increased sporting activity will require increased parking that can only be accommodated by taking more reserve, parkland and wildlife reserves. 5. Increased sporting activity/people/car parking/ovals will put more pressure on wildlife. 6. Artificial turf will reduce grass space therefore will reduce wild life that has a need for this. Certain species of birds use this as a food source. 7. Artificial turf requires replacement and is very costly. 8. Artificial turf causes burns when players fall and slide. 9. The reserves are a natural flood zone that accommodates the rises in water level along the creek. 10. Will not be able to accommodate a Premiere Girls Soccer team - Does not meet requirement. Build elsewhere on grounds that can accommodate this. 11. We bought in this area due to the lovely parklands and open spaces. This development will slowly erode this away. We use this area for dog walking/training and recreational walking/running. This increase in sporting activity and people will detract from quite reserve area.</p>
<p>1. Pushes out an established Lacrosse club who has State and National players which is my Lacrosse club 2. Eric Raven reserve is too small to house all of Camberwell Lacrosse Teams. 3. The new ovals have a larger footprint than Lacrosse at present. 4. Insufficient parking 5. Increased sporting activity/people/car parking/ovals will put more pressure on wildlife. 6. Artificial turf requires replacement and is very costly. 7. Artificial turf causes burns when players fall and slide. 8. The reserves are a natural flood zone that accommodates the rises in water level along the creek. 9. Will not be able to accommodate a Premiere Girls Soccer team - Does not meet requirement. Build elsewhere on grounds that can accommodate this.</p>
<p>This is a really disappointing idea, please don't do this to our beloved reserve. The camberwell lacrosse club has occupied this space for so long why do you want to suddenly kick them out?? It is so unjustified!!! Also the place is meaningful to me and so many others as I have played lacrosse for almost 10 years there and have grown up playing there and attending fun days there with friends. Don't ruin the landscape by stripping it of grass and making the area more urbanised it is gross and bad for the environment and the overall look of the place. DON'T DO THIS #SAVETHELAVER</p>
<p>No please do not do this!!! Such a terrible idea, council reconsider.</p>