



14<sup>th</sup> May 2019

To Whom It May Concern,

**RE: Whitehorse City Council Proposed Budget 2019/2020**

We write this submission in support of project number 2014-46 (Brentford Square - Streetscape) proposed in the draft 2019/2020 Budget.

Our Traders Association fully supports the Council's proposal of a design and concept plan to further enhance our centre.

Council and the Traders Association are currently working towards making our Centre a safe and appealing place to shop with the car park undergoing resurfacing and redesign of pedestrian pathways. Furthermore, the Association was successful in obtaining a Commonwealth grant for CCTV installation and increased lighting scheduled to be installed later this year.

The centre would greatly benefit from some streetscape works and would complement the wonderful work that is currently underway.

Should you have any queries in relation to this matter please contact me via email at:  
[rohan@fudgegifts.com.au](mailto:rohan@fudgegifts.com.au)

Kind regards,

Rohan Brown.

Brentford Square Traders Association President.

**Sulan Zhao**

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**From:** Andrew Davenport  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 30 April 2019 3:51 PM  
**To:** jgosbell  
**Cc:** Annual Budget; Sharon Ellis  
**Subject:** HPE CM: FW: Request of sealing section of track

Hi Phyllis,

Thanks for your email, I've referred your email to be considered as part of the 2019/2020 budget process.

I'll be in touch with progress.

Andrew

Cr Andrew Davenport  
 Councillor Riversdale Ward  
 PO Box 2230 Blackburn South, Victoria, 3130  
 Mobile 0407652145  
 Email: andrew.davenport@whitehorse.vic.gov.au

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**From:** Phyllis Gosbell  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 30 April 2019 3:46 PM  
**To:** Sharon Ellis; Andrew Davenport  
**Cc:** customerservice  
**Subject:** Request of sealing section of track

30th April, 2019

Dear Cr. Sharon Ellis and Cr. Andrew Davenport,

As an 80 year old long term resident (nearly 60 years) of [redacted] Street, Box Hill South, I frequently walk down Wellard Road and into Roberts Avenue to access the laneway which links to the Eley Road parklands.

Several years ago the pathway in this parkland between Eley Road and Boardman Close was sealed as was a small section from the laneway in a south westerly direction to join this path. However 99% of users of the laneway head in a North Westerley direction towards Boardman Close to access the traffic lights on Station Street and safely cross to either access the bus stop or enter the Gardiners Creek Reserve.

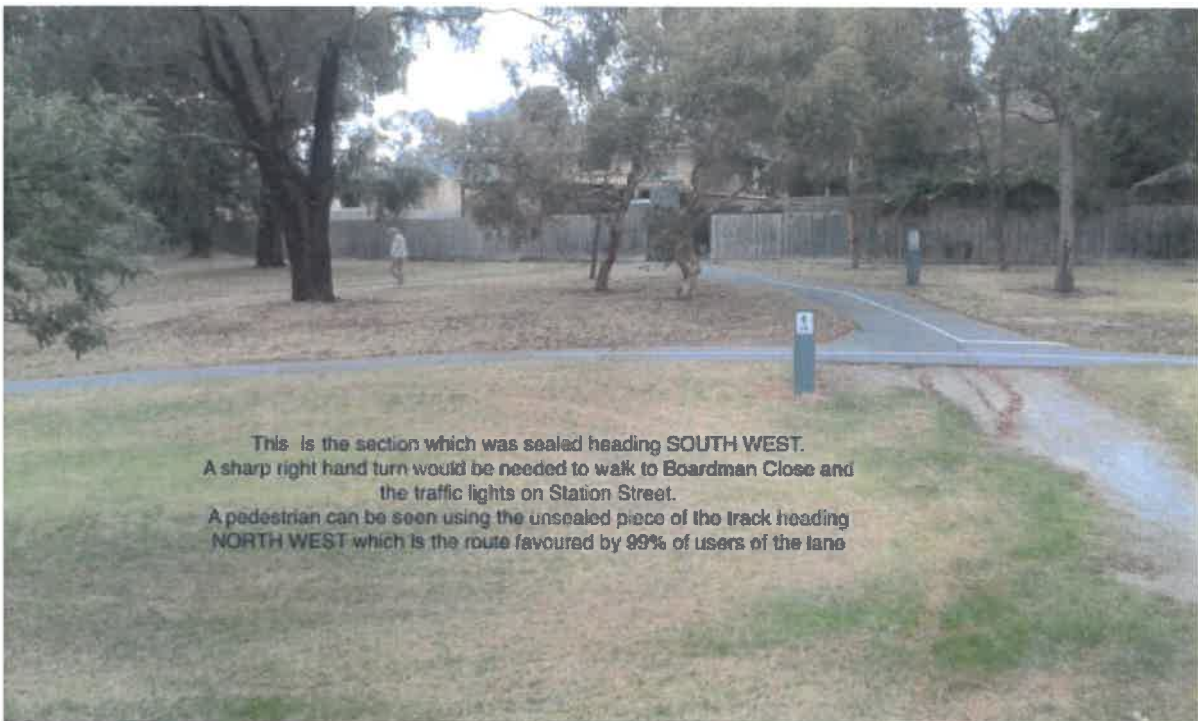
The section of the track from the laneway heading north west was not sealed and is now becoming very eroded. As mentioned above I frequently walk in this area and I am now concerned that I will trip and fall on this eroded piece of track.

Therefore I am requesting that consideration be given to sealing this small area of rough track (approximately 50-80 metres) so that I and all the other users of this track can safely negotiate their walks.

Yours sincerely,

L. P. Gosbell

**Photo attachments to Phyllis Gosbell's budget submission:**



**Sulan Zhao**

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**From:** Arulanandam, Luke  
**Sent:** Thursday, 2 May 2019 8:16 PM  
**To:** Annual Budget  
**Subject:** Street Parking - Corrigan Street Burwood 3125

To whom it may concern,

I called earlier to express that I believe my opinion that it is unreasonable to issue permits for street parking and charge an annual fee. I purchased a permit however I was unaware it was only valid for a year. We are unable to have guests over without them incurring a fine.

There should be a more fair way for us to obtain a permit than paying an annual fee for them.

Kind Regards

Luke

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**Sulan Zhao**

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**From:** john@i  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 8 May 2019 11:36 AM  
**To:** Annual Budget  
**Subject:** HPE CM: Budget Submission

This following submission is lodged by John Tyson, St, Burwood, Vic., 3125. Phone: 9808 6462  
Email: john@

### **2019/20 BUDGET SUBMISSION**

Before proceeding with the budget submission, it is important to give some context of the garden as background. Burwood Community Garden Inc. is set up to give the local community members a chance to socialise and cooperate together whilst gardening. We have an active group with community members from all walks of life and many ethnic backgrounds; representing the community at large. At the moment we also have an early learning centre as holders of a plot, which gives a chance for the very youngest of our council members to mix with the older generations.

Over the years we have regularly had garden produce stolen. Whilst these thefts do not have much monetary value, they are nevertheless important, as a garden with produce that goes missing contributes to members feeling mistrust of the wider community and can result in them giving up their plots. This sort of theft undermines the faith that members have in a community garden. The garden being labelled on the signage as a community garden with no real fences, may also contribute to the wider neighbourhood community being confused and feeling like this garden does belong to them and they have the right to take produce. Such sentiments have been expressed by members of the public at times to garden members. We have also experienced regular theft of objects with more monetary value, such as garden tools and other items such as a padlock, which, with keys, cost about \$60. Additionally, our members working alone in the garden would feel safer if it is more secure.

We would like Council to note that both Nunawading Community Garden and Slater Reserve Community Garden have high lockable unclimbable fences around the whole perimeter. The Committee of Box Hill Community Garden has considered a high fence in spite of having security lighting, but, they cannot have one because the emergency evacuation route from the Box Hill Arts Centre goes through the garden.

For these reasons, through Cr. Davenport, we requested the construction of a high fence along our Northern and eastern boundaries to give us better protection.

The Manager Parkswide responded to our request in a letter dated 1 March 2019 stating that the relevant fence would cost \$15,000 and expenditure of that level is not warranted.

The weekend after receipt of the letter we had another break-in. We notified police when we believed the cost of items stolen to be \$242; however, subsequent inspections showed the missing items to total around \$400 in value.

We request that \$15,000 be allocated in the 2019/20 Budget for a security fence at our garden at 15 Sinnott St, Burwood. We believe this will not only make the garden more secure, but help continue to the positive community culture that we are building.

John Tyson

Secretary, Burwood Community Garden Inc.

**BLACKBURN & DISTRICT****TREE PRESERVATION SOCIETY INC.****P.O. Box 5, Nunawading, 3131****19 May 2019**

Ms. N. Duff  
 Chief Executive Officer  
 Whitehorse City Council  
 Locked Bag 2  
 Nunawading DC  
 Vic 3131

[Annual.Budget@whitehorse.vic.gov.au](mailto:Annual.Budget@whitehorse.vic.gov.au)



Dear Ms. Duff

**Tree Society Submission re the Whitehorse City Council Draft Budget 2019-2020**

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission on the draft Budget 2019/2020 on behalf of the committee and membership of the Blackburn & District Tree Preservation Society Inc. The society accepts Council's invitation to speak to this submission at the Special Committee of Council on Tuesday 11 June 2019 in the Council Chamber, Whitehorse Civic Centre.

Firstly, council needs to be congratulated on a number of initiatives that have attracted funding in the draft Budget:

- \$500K has been allocated under New Operational Budget Initiatives for the implementation of the Municipal Tree Study recommendations including \$60K for costs associated with the formulation of a planning scheme amendment to extend Significant Landscape Overlay provisions to all residences in Whitehorse
- Funding of \$60K has been assigned to a Significant Tree Assistance Fund to provide guidelines and grants to property owners for the care and maintenance of significant trees on their properties
- A figure of \$1.13M has been allocated for strategic land acquisition with funds sourced from Council's Public Open Space Reserve Fund

However, the society is critical of the draft Budget in the following areas:

1. The long-term funding freeze for the Whitehorse Street Tree Program
2. The need for Council to more vigorously manage its burgeoning Public Open Space Reserve Fund
3. No specific funding for the implementation of Council's Urban Forest Strategy
4. The ParksWide 2019-20 Budget allocation.

**1. Whitehorse Street Tree Program**

At the Whitehorse Council Budget briefing session in mid-February, the issue of funding stagnation for council's street tree program was raised by the Tree Society. It appears that our concerns have not been heeded as the 2019-20 allocation for the program remains stagnant at \$300K for the year which is a similar amount for the past fifteen years (refer Table).

The society is alarmed that many of our local streets are relatively devoid of street trees, in fact some streets have **barely half** the desired number of at least one reasonably sized tree on each nature-strip.

**Whitehorse Budgeted Funds for Street Tree Planting Program (source Whitehorse Budgets 2003-2019)**

<b>WCC Budget Year</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Comments</b>
2003-04	\$235,000	
2004-05	\$200,000	Decrease \$35,000
2005-06	No Figures found	-
2006-07	\$300,000	Increase \$100,000
2007-08	\$300,000	No Change
2008-09	\$310,000	Increase \$10,000
2009-10	\$320,000	increase \$10,000
2010-11	\$300,000	Decrease \$20,000
2011-12	\$340,000	Increase \$40,000
2012-13	\$350,000	Increase \$10,000
2013-14	\$300,000	Decrease \$50,000
2014-15	\$300,000	No Change
2015-16	\$300,000	No Change
2016-17	No Figures found	-
2017-18	\$300,000	No Change
2018-19	\$300,000	No Change
<b>Draft 2019-20 Budget</b>	<b>\$300,000</b>	<b>No Change</b>

The total street tree planting expenditure from 2003-4 to 2018-19 was ~ \$4.2M. (or \$300,000 per year).

By way of comparison Whitehorse City Council spent the following amounts of money on the major projects from 2003 to 2019 (excluding years 2005-06 and 2016-17):

- Over \$2M on the Morack Golf Club
- Over \$3M on car parks
- Around \$4.5M on the Box Hill Gardens and
- Over \$50M on Box Hill Aqualink.

This stagnation of funding for the city's street tree management program needs to be rectified as a matter of urgency.

## **2. Whitehorse Council's Public Open Space Reserve Fund**

With reference to the current Whitehorse Council 2019-2020 Budget deliberations, the Tree Society committee and membership urge Council to manage the Whitehorse Public Open Space Reserve Fund more vigorously.

By way of background, Council forecast an amount in excess of \$37.5M in the Public Open Space Reserve Fund for the 2018-19 Budget year, with \$43.3M forecast for 2019-20.

In the draft 2019-20 draft Budget there has been an allocation of \$1.13M for strategic land acquisition and ~ \$2M for landscaping at the Nunawading Hub sourced from the Fund.

A significant surge in fund deposits is anticipated in the future due to the increased developer contributions resulting from the escalating number of medium and high-density developments within Whitehorse (including the high-rise building expansion in the Box Hill Metropolitan Activity Centre).

The amount of money in the Public Open Space Reserve fund is large and growing exponentially yet council allocates a mere fraction, in the order of \$1-1.5M per year, each year, for strategic land purchases for open space and parks.



The society advocates that council is sluggish in allocating funds to purchase much-needed strategic parcels of land to create open spaces and parklands for the residents of Whitehorse.

The most neglected areas for open space in Whitehorse are in the Box Hill area.

Ideas include:

- Convert the council-owned Box Hill Bowling Club site into a small park or large plaza to benefit Box Hill's high-rise dwellers
- Purchase the historic Box Hill Brickworks site, clean it up and develop the land as a municipal park and recreation centre by amalgamating the park with Surrey Drive, Surrey Park and Aqualink Box Hill
- Reduce ground-level open air car parks and instead turn the land over to parks and open spaces. A relevant case study is Cato Park in Prahran. The City of Stonnington has committed \$60M for the conversion of a 9,000 square metre car park into an open-air plaza and urban garden complete with two levels of underground parking. The \$60M cost will be made up from a \$37M loan, \$10.5M in savings and \$15M from council's open space reserve fund. Box Hill is crying out for this sort of people-friendly initiative.

A proportion of the Fund money could also be used to improve existing parks, for example:

- Provide additional funding for the purchase, planting and maintenance of more trees and lower storey vegetation in the city's parks and open spaces
- Work with Melbourne Water to create more wetland habitat areas in city parks with waterways
- Develop and implement strategies to minimize park use conflicts in the city's parks e.g.:
  - Build enclosed leash-free dog parks in parks to separate free-roaming dogs and other park users
  - Utilize alternative porous car park and entry road hard surfacing for outdoor sporting facilities e.g. Morton Park in Blackburn
  - Construct separate walking and cycling paths through linear parks that currently contain major bike trails e.g. the Koonung Creek and Gardiners Creek Trails.

### **3. The Whitehorse Urban Forest Strategy**

This Whitehorse initiative will guide how trees will be managed in the urban environment as well as acting as an educational tool to assist residents to understand the vision, policies and actions relating to Whitehorse's tree population.

The urban forest in Whitehorse consists of all trees located throughout the municipality irrespective of the tree species origin, location or ownership.

According to Council's interim strategy the current knowledge of the Whitehorse urban forest is limited, and data collection is required.

Existing canopy cover has been estimated at 22-26% however between 30-40% canopy cover is needed before the full benefits of an urban forest can be achieved

Council has set a target of at least 30% canopy cover by 2030.

To achieve this target of 30% canopy cover by 2030 Council needs to prioritize the strategy and provide the financial resources in the Budget now. However, there is no specific line item in the draft 2019-20 Budget to facilitate the strategy and the assumption drawn from this is that ParksWide, the department managing the project, must find the resources, both financial and human, from their existing Budget allocation.

This is not good enough, and the Tree Society calls for more specific funding for this major project.

### **4. ParksWide Funding**

The Tree Society committee has long-believed that ParksWide, the department responsible for the maintenance of the city's parks, gardens and sports fields, has been chronically underfunded over recent years and that this situation is worsening each year.



By way of illustration the following Table demonstrates that the ParksWide Annual Budget allocation, whilst increasing over the past five years, is lagging well behind other departments that deliver services to the Whitehorse community. (Source: WCC Adopted Budget 2014-15, pages 2 & 20 and WCC Draft Budget 2019-20, pages 4 & 24).

This shortfall in budget funds for the city's parks, gardens and open spaces needs to be urgently addressed by Council.

<b>Service Delivery Department</b>	<b>Budget Amount in 2014-15 (\$M)</b>	<b>Amount in Draft 2019-20 Budget (\$M)</b>	<b>Increase over the Five Year Period</b>
<b>ParksWide</b> (Maintenance of the city's parks, gardens and sports fields)	9.18	11.04	20.3%
<b>Arts &amp; Cultural Services</b>	4.77	5.99	25.6%
<b>City Works</b> (Depot operations, maintenance of footpaths, drains and roads)	7.16	9.03	26.1%
<b>Planning &amp; Building Services</b>	5.36	7.47	39.4%
<b>Engineering Services</b>	3.80	5.51	45%
<b>Executive Management</b> (Includes the cost to Council of the offices of the Chief Executive Officer and General Managers. It includes the associated staff costs and the costs of delivery of projects)	2.29	3.63	58.5%

In conclusion, it has been evident for many years that Council supports the funding of 'big ticket' items over the city's parks, open spaces, streetscapes and passive recreational pursuits.

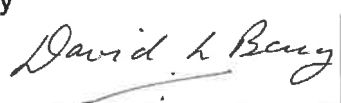
This needs to change as Council resident surveys have demonstrated over many years that passive recreational pursuits such as walking, cycling and enjoying the city's parks and open spaces are the most popular outdoor activities relished by the majority of Whitehorse residents when compared with active sporting activities.

Unfortunately there is no adjustment in this draft Budget.

Generous funding allocations for sporting pavilions (\$11.47M), the Morack Golf Course (\$1.7M), The Nunawading Hub (\$19.19M) and the Whitehorse Centre (\$3.26M) are still favoured whereas the city's natural landscape remains out of favour.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours sincerely



David Berry  
President, Blackburn & District Tree Preservation Society Inc.

## WHITEHORSE 2019/20 BUDGET SUBMISSION

This submission on Council's proposed budget 2019/20 draws attention to two areas of Council responsibility where it is believe that funding is inadequate.

**ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE** An examination of the budget indicates that there is insufficient provision for a sustainable level for the renewal and maintenance of our road infrastructure. Most of the City's residential streets were constructed through private street schemes where pavements were overdesigned to limit future maintenance costs on the local community. The expected design life for these roads in the order of 50 years before reconstruction is required. To achieve this life the budget should provide for maintenance resheets every 10 years (max) for sprayed seals or every 20 years (max) for asphalt, with reconstruction at 50 years. Most of our streets are now in excess of 60 years old. No information is available on the total length of roads under Council's responsibility nor unit construction costs but it appears from the provision of \$5.2 M for roads in an infrastructure budget of \$71 M (out of a total \$209 M income) is grossly inadequate. It seems that the present budget is skewed heavily towards 'soft' infrastructure. This could lead to the long term significant deterioration of our streets with pavement and surface failures (rough surfaces and pot holes) and a backlog of reconstruction requiring massive future expenditure. Our streets are further under stress from the rapid rise in local traffic and also the large number of heavy vehicles due to the many demolished/rebuilt houses in our community. It is contended that the road provision of \$5.1 M should be a least doubled to \$10 M.

**CONSTRUCTION SITE MANAGEMENT** This function is presently carried out by two officers within Community Laws. The situation has markedly improved over the last two decades when initially one officer was appointed and later a second. However with the current massive residential and commercial construction phase this control is far from adequate. Many builders now do the right thing, but there are still many 'cow-boys' in the construction and transport industry who have not yet learnt that you 'do not muck up' in Whitehorse. Most sites do not impact on the community by noise and dust, but there are many instances of clay being deposited on our roads which significantly affects the residential amenity. The control in this area needs to be significantly increased with a corresponding budget provision being made

I wish to speak to this submission at the Special Committee of Council meeting on Tuesday 11 June 2019, when this will be elaborated on further.

Brian Head

Street Blackburn North Victoria 3130

16/5/19

2019/20 Budget.

17/5/19

Submission 7

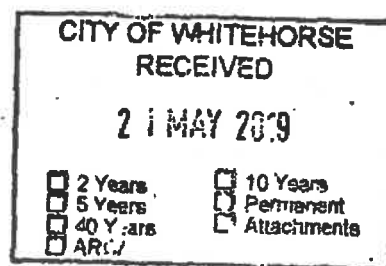
Submission from Kenneth Weeks of Blackburn  
regarding the state of the ponds in Elgar Park

In 2004 the poor condition of the ponds in Elgar Park was brought to the notice of Council. In 2006 I became aware of the situation and at the request of the general manager of finance visited the site with him.

The result was a feasibility study yielding a site plan dated 2008. Since this time I have attempted, as I do now, to have this plan carried out. Each year I try without result. When the master plan for Elgar Park was prepared this plan was ignored. Ergo I now, yet again, ask for these ponds to be repaired so as to restore the aesthetics of this part of Elgar Park and the miniature railway. I also wish to speak to this submission.

Kenneth Weeks

Blackburn



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**From:** Steve Ziemer  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 24 April 2019 7:51 AM  
**To:** Annual Budget  
**Subject:** HPE CM: Budget

Hello,

My feedback on the budget is as follows: the budget does not give enough consideration to rate relief for ratepayers. I am a self funded retiree and find it difficult to manage on-going increases to my bills.

Whitehorse council seems to be a big spending council and with the influx of many new properties I would have thought the extra revenue would have helped provide financial relief to ratepayers.

Regards,

Steve Ziemer

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**From:** robertjcolman  
**Sent:** Monday, 13 May 2019 1:45 PM  
**To:** Annual Budget  
**Subject:** HPE CM: Rates Budget Submission.

Chief Executive Officer.

Dear sir/madam.

I have been a rate-payer in my current area since 1993. I have seen many rate-rises but sadly I've rarely seen the outcome. The rubbish does get collected each week; the recycling objects get taken once a fortnight; we pay for the green bin to be emptied each fortnight, and wonder why our rates have increased so much. I realise that the rates are in line with those that are set, however as my "income" has not increased I wonder where the extra money goes? Are you able to tell me of the increases and where they have gone? I would be pleased to know! If the increases are for pay rises then my pension will have to increase accordingly. Otherwise I will not be able to pay the increase in my rates. As the Council is a non government organisation and a private company with its own ABN, I am wondering who has set the increase? Your answer will help me determine the future for my wife and I.

Yours sincerely.

Robert Colman

Blackburn South  
3130

Sent from my iPhone  
Robert Colman

G & J Easden

MITCHAM VIC 3132

28th April 2019

Whitehorse City Council  
Locked Bag 2  
NUNAWADING VIC 3131

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Open Space Development - 21 Wattle Valley Road, Mitcham  
We write to support the allocation of \$200,000 in the 2019/20 draft budget for landscaping and associated works at 21 Wattle Valley Road, Mitcham.

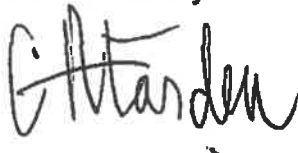
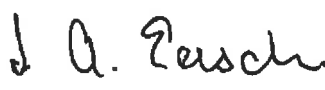
The proposed works will greatly enhance this local community asset, and importantly, will be in keeping with the area for residents and visitors alike.

It will also serve as a destination of last resort in the event of a bushfire, a resource for which our local community is currently lacking.

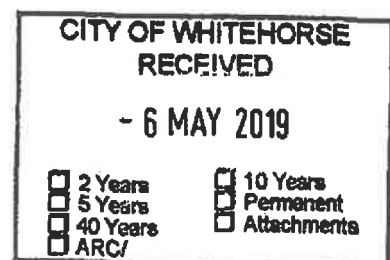
We also note that key to Council's 2012 decision to purchase the property was that the land rests on a floodplain, making larger-scale development unfeasible.

Again, we strongly support the proposed funding for 21 Wattle Valley Road, Mitcham.

Yours sincerely

Gerald & Jenny Easden



**From:** Ian  
**Sent:** Sunday, 19 May 2019 3:38 PM  
**To:** Annual Budget  
**Subject:** HPE CM: 21 Wattle Valley Rd Mitcham

To Whom It May Concern

I am writing in support of the retention as public open space of the Council-owned property at 21 Wattle Valley Rd, Mitcham.

It would provide a safe wildlife corridor between Antonio Park and Yarran Dheran/Mullum Mullum Creek. This is particularly relevant to the local kangaroo population. It is commonplace to see them grazing locally and crossing Wattle Valley Rd.

It would also provide better and safer access to members of the local community.  
Keeping it as open space would be consistent with the Bushfire overlay imposed in the area.

It should also be noted that this was the original reason for its purchase.

Thank You.

Regards,  
Jo and Ian McLean  
Valley Rd, Mitcham



Rohan & Tania Miniken

MITCHAM VIC 3132

Whitehorse City Council  
Locked Bag 2  
NUNAWADING VIC 3131

19<sup>th</sup> May 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

**Re: Open Space Development - 21 Wattle Valley Road, Mitcham**

We are writing to strongly support the allocation of \$200,000 in the 2019/20 draft budget for landscaping and associated works at 21 Wattle Valley Road, Mitcham.

The proposed works will greatly enhance this local community asset, and importantly, will be in keeping with the area.

I believe that one of the key elements to this proposal is to establish a wildlife corridor between Yarran Dheran and Antonio Park. I witnessed first hand last week the pressing need for this to be established when two terrified kangaroo's sought refuge from traffic in my front yard. The poor animals had no way to remove themselves from their predicament but were fortunate enough to be noticed by attentive drivers and were not struck in their desperate bid for safety. If the wildlife corridor existed then this would have provided them safe passage to bushland.

It will also serve as a destination of last resort in the event of a bushfire, a resource for which our local community is currently lacking.

We also note that key to Council's 2012 decision to purchase the property was that the land rests on a floodplain, making larger-scale development unfeasible. This is a residential neighbourhood with the privilege of native bushland on our doorstep that needs to be preserved and enhanced for residents and wildlife alike.

Again, we strongly support the proposed funding for 21 Wattle Valley Road, Mitcham.

Yours sincerely

**Rohan & Tania Miniken**

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**From:** MeBUG <mebug@mebug.org.au>  
**Sent:** Sunday, 3 March 2019 10:33 PM  
**To:** Ilias Kostopoulos; Annual Budget; customerservice  
**Cc:** 'Michael Hassett' via MeBUG Committee; Andrew Munroe; Denise Massoud; Tina Liu; Prue Cutts; Raylene Carr; Bill Bennett; Sharon Ellis; Andrew Davenport; Blair Barker; Ben Stennett  
**Subject:** HPE CM: Council Budget 2019-20  
**Attachments:** Whitehorse wishlist 2019-20.pdf

To Whitehorse Council

Attached herewith is a list of 14 projects for improved cycling infrastructure that MeBUG requests be considered for funding in the coming Council budget. This list is a subset of a list submitted a year ago for the previous budget. Not one of those suggested projects received funding. The revised list has fewer projects with those clearly rejected by Council, having been removed.

In putting forward this list, we remind Council that:

- In the 2018-19 budget, not a single metre of new bicycle path was budgeted nor built. This is, even for Whitehorse, a low water mark in cycling investment.
- The 2016 Cycling Strategy records that community consultation placed 'Build more off-road paths' as the top priority.
- The strategy also notes that 'Interested but Concerned' cohort, representing 60% of the community, 'Find situations in which they have to negotiate with traffic streams uncomfortable but respond well to stand alone paths and streets with little and slow traffic'.

We are fully aware of the Easy Ride Routes project and welcome any investment to encourage cycling. However we remain to be persuaded that this project will have a significant impact in encouraging the non cycling community members to take up cycling, with the attendant benefits in health and reduced traffic congestion.

We ask you to make every effort to include at least some of the projects in the list attached, in the coming budget.

Yours sincerely

Michael Hassett

The logo for MeBUG, with 'Me' in a light grey sans-serif font and 'BUG' in a bold, dark grey sans-serif font.

**Metro-East Bicycle User Group Inc**  
PO Box 172, Blackburn Vic 3130  
[mebug@mebug.org.au](mailto:mebug@mebug.org.au)  
[mebug.org.au](http://mebug.org.au)



## METRO EAST BICYCLE USER GROUP INC.

PO Box 172 Blackburn Vic 3130  
 mebug.org.au  
[mebug@mebug.org.au](mailto:mebug@mebug.org.au)

Submission 13

### Suggested Cycling projects for 2019-20, City of Whitehorse

Note: Reference numbers below are same as those in 2018-19 list to assist comparison

Ref #	Item	Justification	Comment
2	Construct 530 metres of new shared path on rail reserve North side from Oliver Avenue Bridge to Moncrief Road	Provide safe access to Nunawading commercial area from Box Hill to Ringwood shared path	Did Council submit this to VicRoads as it said it would? What was the response?
3	Remove access impediments to Box Hill to Ringwood Shared path at (a) Harvey Norman/Home Hardware (b) McGlone Street Mitcham (c) Richards St Mitcham (d) Provide kerb crossovers at i. Oliver Avenue Blackburn ii. Terra Cotta Drive, Nunawading iii. Tennyson Street, Mitcham	Improving safety for path users as well as efficient and direct access.	Item (a) is now known to be in Council jurisdiction, so previous excuses do not apply. The others about the main path and maintenance responsibilities are not a plausible reason to delay these. These simple improvements should be straight forward in consultation with VicRoads.
4	Shared path along north side of Whitehorse Road from Middleborough Road to Bolton Street	Widen existing footpath to provide safe route to Bushy Creek path via local roads	Council accept in principle. Consider for coming budget round.
6	Shared Path on Melbourne Water Pipe Reserve. (a) Construct new section from Ballantyne Street to Mahoneys Rd roundabout. (b) Widen footpaths along Burwood Hwy to eliminate gaps in shared path		Proposals discussed with Cr Bennett on site 26 Feb 2019. Eminently appropriate for immediate funding.
7	Create cycle path/route through Box Hill mall.	Link BHRRT to cycle routes to city.	We suggest Council budget for a consultancy to design a practical cycle route through Box Hill Central to link the Box Hill to Ringwood path with the proposed Box Hill to Hawthorn path now being advocated as a project integrated with the rail grade separations.

Ref #	Item	Justification	Comment
9	Delineate/mark wide sidewalk from Metropolitan Avenue to Springvale Road, as a shared path	Access to megamile and Nunawading community precinct	
14	Kerb crossovers in Derby Street and Fuschia Street Blackburn to facilitate cycling along the gravel path to Blacks Walk.	Eliminate obstacles	Council said it investigating. What is current status?
15	Woodhouse Grove & Mitta Av, Box Hill Nth. Construct short length of shared path to improve cycle linkage on Bushy Creek path.	Currently cyclists have awkward kerb crossings and have no option but to ride on the footpath.	Council's historical resistance to this simple improvement is perplexing. It should be a high priority improvement funded in coming budget
17	Severn Street Box Hill. Signage e.g.sharrows defining East-West cycling route via pedestrian lights and Melrose Street.		Council accept in principle. Consider for coming budget round.
18	Nelson and Saxton roads Box Hill. Signage e.g.sharrows defining North South cycling route connecting to Box Hill gardens.		Council accept in principle. Consider for coming budget round.
19	Dorking Road/Whitehorse Road Intersection. (a) Provide cut through to link Dorking Road with Whitehorse Road service lane on North-East corner. (b) Improve traffic light configuration and/or phasing so Northbound cyclists can cross and proceed in one phase of lights.	For Eastbound riders leaving Dorking Rd.  Avoid inconvenient and frustrating delay.	Council accept in principle. Consider for coming budget round.  Did Council forward suggestion to VicRoads? What was the response?
20	Mont Albert Road/Elgar Road intersection. Additional Cycle/ pedestrian crossing aligning with westbound lane of Mont Albert Road.	Would remove existing need for westbound cyclists to wait for two phases of lights.	Did Council forward suggestion to VicRoads? What was the response?
21	Springvale Road service lanes between Canterbury Road and Highbury Road. Provide cut-throughs and footpath widening (where no service lanes) to provide cycle routes both north and south bound.	General cycling safety. Will require joint action with VicRoads. MeBUG can furnish further details.	Council accept in principle. Consider for coming budget round.

Ref #	Item	Justification	Comment
23	Route markings Mullauna College to Mitcham station via Halliday Park, Fellowes and Edward Streets.		Council accept in principle. Consider for coming budget round.

**From:** MeBUG <mefug@mefug.org.au>  
**Sent:** Friday, 26 April 2019 2:25 PM  
**To:** Andrew Munroe; Denise Massoud; Tina Liu; Prue Cutts; Raylene Carr; Bill Bennett; Sharon Ellis; Andrew Davenport; Blair Barker; Ben Stennett  
**Cc:** 'Michael Hassett' via MeBUG Committee; Annual Budget  
**Subject:** HPE CM: Neglect of cycling investment in draft budget 2019/20

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

We draw your attention to the serious lack of capital funds for shared (walking and cycling) paths in recent Council budgets. We are most concerned that there appears to be a growing attitude of indifference to cycling investment exemplified by lack of capital investment and seemingly automatic rejection by council, of any suggestion or request from the cycling community. Council seems not to value or even appreciate, the potential of good cycling facilities to alleviate traffic congestion as well as the undoubted health benefits to the community.

In the current year budget (2018/19), there is only \$197k which is mainly for road treatments and bike 'racks'. There are no funds for new paths, despite the fact that Council's current Bicycle Strategy makes clear that 60% of people will only ride on separated paths. We provided Council with a list of 21 possible projects. Council officers provided a response justifying from their perspective, the rejection of every one of these suggestions.

We now find that for the proposed 2019/20 budget, there is even less funding provided, with just \$108k allocated for cycling related projects. Again, our proposals for consideration of 14 projects were all rejected, several on the basis of no funding available. The diagram below gives a historical picture of cycling budgets for the last several years.

This prompts us to enquire regarding the following:

- State government grant of \$273,000 for 2.7 kms of path on the Melbourne Water pipe reserve (Shaun Leane MLC Press release, 14 December 2016);
- Council budget 2017/18 provision of \$240,000 for further section of Pipe Reserve path (following on from stage 1 funded \$480,000 in 2016/17 budget).

It seems to us that there should be \$513,000 of grant and rates funding for the Pipe Reserve available for redeployment consequent to Melbourne Water withdrawing consent for further works on the Pipe Reserve.

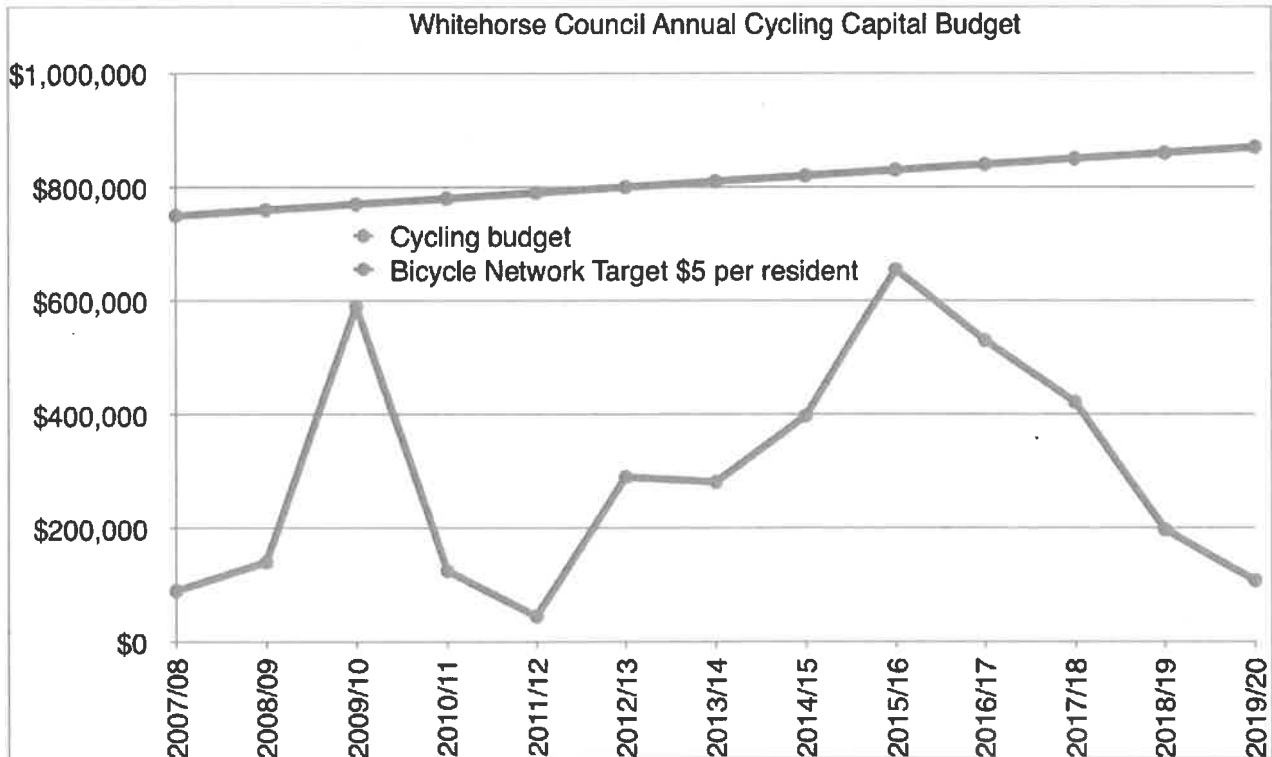
We ask that you intervene in the current round of budget deliberations to restore some realistic funding for separated shared paths, in compliance with Council's Bicycle Strategy, Integrated Transport Strategy, Sustainability Strategy and Community Road Safety Strategy, noting also that the current budget allocates some \$5M for roads and a further \$1.5M for carparks. The budget forecasts a near \$30M surplus, with similar surpluses year on year. Why such hoarding of ratepayers' funds is taking place is a separate issue worthy of scrutiny.

The broader issue of policy toward cycling investment is something we will continue to pursue with council in the future.

Yours sincerely

Michael Hassett

**Metro-East Bicycle User Group Inc**  
 PO Box 172, Blackburn Vic 3130  
[mebug@mebug.org.au](mailto:mebug@mebug.org.au)  
[mebug.org.au](http://mebug.org.au)





**From:** Alan Tonkin  
**Sent:** Thursday, 16 May 2019 4:19 PM  
**To:** Annual Budget  
**Cc:** WATAG Committee; Blair Barker; Tina Liu  
**Subject:** HPE CM: UPDATE: SUBMISSION: 2018-426 Easy Ride routes: Design and Construction \$38k

Sorry to be a pain, but I would like to update my submission from yesterday and have it replaced by this one as **new information has come to light**. Thankyou.

=====

I understand that this project is for the detailed design for Easy Ride Route NS2 (Saxton, Nelson Thurston, etc.)

It needs to be noted that the Easy Ride Route NS2 will be the major active transport route for bike riders, wishing to avoid our increasingly congested roads, to safely access the rapidly expanding Box Hill Metropolitan Activity Centre (BH MAC) from the soon to be improved Koonung Creek Trail which will result from the construction of the North East Link.

I have just learnt that this route will be included as one of the Victorian Government's Strategic Cycling Corridors (SCCs). SCCs are selected on the basis of providing links to a National Employment Cluster or a Major Activity Centre and are routes that cater for the highest, or potentially highest, cycling volumes. It is noted that the desirable treatment type for a SCC is a fully separated cycling facility. These facilities are generally considered to be international best practice and afford a high level of safety and assurance to riders of all ages and abilities.

Not only will the KCT be improved but so will the connectivity along the NEL, resulting in an increased number of riders and their range (especially with the rapid uptake of e-bikes - 20-30kms) from which they will be able to safely ride to BH MAC as there will be a continuous path to the likes of the City, Greensborough, Dandenong, Carrum - a huge population catchment offering them the option to ride to work in the BH MAC.

It is my opinion we need to consider, in the light of NEL and the growth of the BH MAC, the usage of the 4 North-South Roads from the NEL to BH MAC being prioritised, modified, signed and managed accordingly.

1. Middleborough Road be prioritised as the THROUGH route for through traffic because unlike Station and Elgar it doesn't end in a T intersection a short distance from the BH MAC
2. Station Street be prioritised as the PUBLIC TRANSPORT route for buses being able to access Transport unhindered and on time.
3. Elizabeth, Woodhouse, Saxton, Nelson be prioritised for the ACTIVE TRANSPORT route given is links to the soon to be greatly improved Koonung Creek Trail and its far flung connections
4. Elgar Road be prioritised as the DESTINATION BH MAC route with roads off it like Hopetoun, Carrington, Brougham, entering directly into the heart of the BH MAC and through to the new car parking

It is in this context that I would like to propose that the Easy Ride Route NS2 becomes a Bicycle Super Highway with a totally separated Copenhagen style bike lane from the Koonung Creek Trail at the NEL to Thurston. This will require at a minimum removing parking on one side of the road along the route and a cut-through at the Elizabeth/Woodhouse intersection plus some widening and modification of intersections and roundabouts.

I therefore submit that the amount allocated in the budget would not be sufficient for this sort of visionary long term approach to congesting busting active transport to be adequately investigated, for the community to be properly engaged and for a final design to be completed.

Maybe you can ask our Officers what a realistic amount might be for such an approach and adjust the budget allocation accordingly.

My fear is that the money allocated will only result in just a bit of paint on the roads for bike lanes and sharrows. That the amount will not address the core reason why 60% of folk who would ride a bike to work, schools, shops, don't - because they do not feel safe.

My experience is that I am becoming more and more nervous riding in bike lanes given the rapidly increasing evidence of driver distraction and observing distracted drivers drifting into bike lanes. Hence for vulnerable road user safety, separation has become an imperative.

Research shows only separating vehicles from bikes will address that fear and get them of their bikes which research also shows will be better for their health, the planets health and the economy. [Please read the Whitehorse Cycling Strategy 2016](#) and [Design Guidance for strategically important Cycling Corridors](#)

Thank you for your consideration.

C'ya

Alan

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Alan Tonkin - Australia 3129  
L: +61 (0)3 9890 2420

AMAZING GRACE - changes everything

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Email sent using Optus Webmail

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**From:** Alan Tonkin  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 15 May 2019 4:18 PM  
**To:** Annual Budget  
**Cc:** alantonkin; WATAG Committee; Blair Barker; Tina Liu  
**Subject:** HPE CM: SUBMISSION: 2018-485 Bushy Creek path connection \$15k (NEW)  
**Attachments:** Mitta-Woodhouse Re-alignment.pdf

G'day folks

I would like to make the following Budget Submission regarding 2018-485 Bushy Creek path connection \$15k (NEW).

I am proposing that a mere 0.2% of the combined Capital Works Program of \$5.41 million for parks, open space and streetscapes and \$3.88 million for recreational, leisure and community facilities (TOTAL \$9.29 million) being \$18,580, to be re-allocated and added to the \$15,000 allocated to budget item 2018-485 Bushy Creek path connection, making a total of \$33,580 which I am informed should be sufficient for a world class treatment of this important bike route intersection of the Bushy Creek Trail with the Easy Ride Route NS2) and the Bushy Creek Trail crossover used by, amongst others, students and families of the nearby Koonung Secondary College and Box Hill North Primary School.

Attached is a sketch of a proposed design that could be worked up, with appropriate community engagement, into proper design drawings for costings and tendering.

It needs to be noted that the Easy Ride Route NS2 will be the major active transport route for bike riders, wishing to avoid our increasingly congested roads, to safely access the rapidly expanding Box Hill Metropolitan Activity Centre (BH MAC) from the soon to be improved Koonung Creek Trail which will result from the construction of the North East Link.

Not only will the KCT be improved but so will the connectivity along the NEL, resulting in an increased number of riders and their range (especially with the rapid uptake of e-bikes - 20- 30kms) from which they will be able to safely ride Box Hill as there will be a continuous path to the likes of the City, Greensborough, Dandenong, Carrum - a huge population catchment offering them the option to ride to work in the BH MAC.

Thank you for your consideration.

C'ya  
Alan - Active Transport Ratepayer

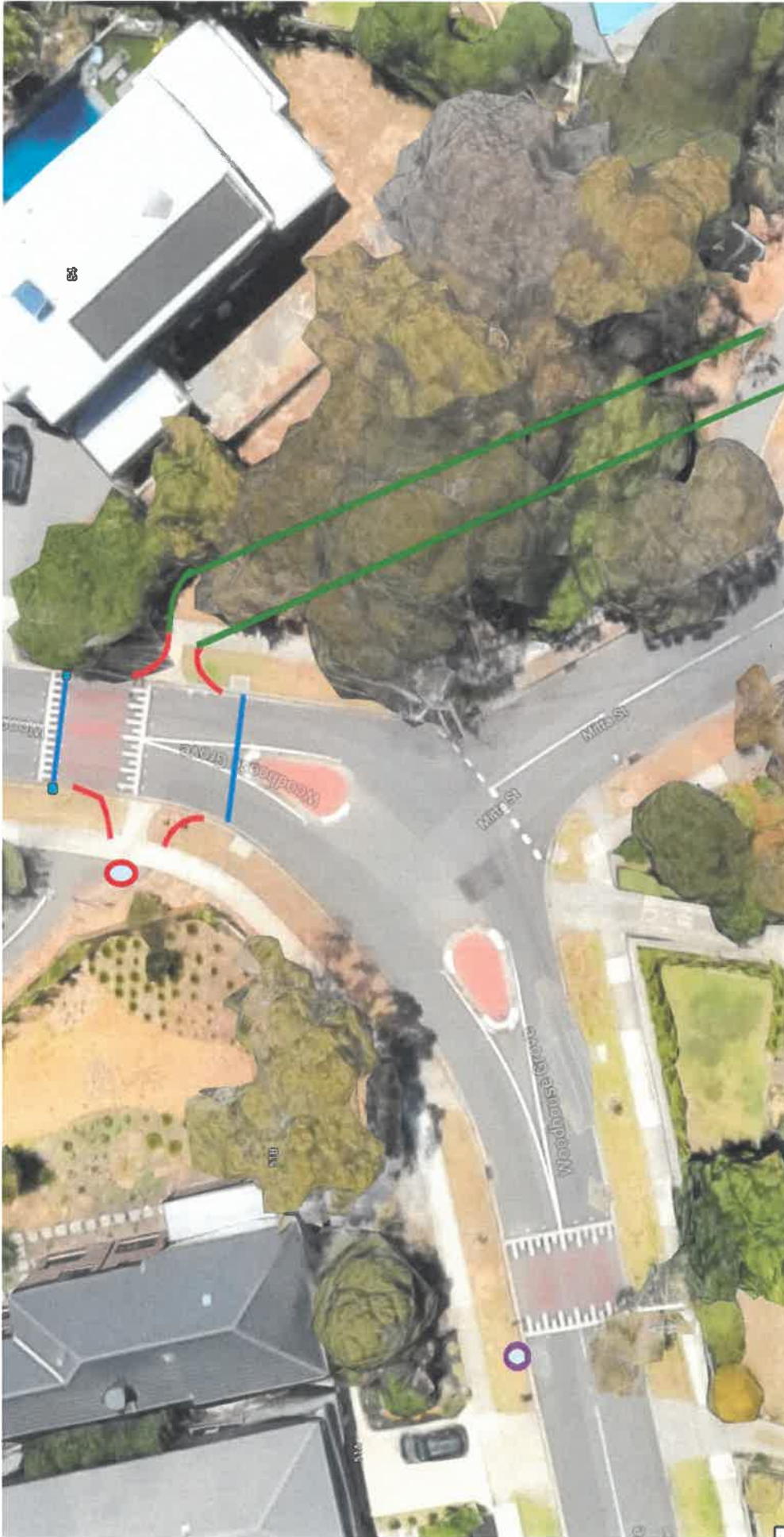
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This treatment needs to be of world class standard given it is 1) Intersection of 2 Active Transport routes – NEL to Box Hill Bicycle Super Highway (Easy Ride Route – NS2) & Bushy Creek Trail. 2) An Active Transport route for nearby Primary & Secondary School students. 3) Close to bend.

**PURPLE** – For safety, move the 40kph sign from current position to before the bend & reduce the Primary School speed zone speed to 30kph.

**RED** – Remove bollard and widen crossovers with curvatures so oversize bikes (tandems, bikes towing tag-a-longs or kiddies trailers, cargo bikes, adult trikes, recumbents, etc) can turn safely from Woodhouse (Easy Ride Route - NS2) onto the Bushy Creek Path in either direction & vice versa

**BLUE** – Replace existing speed hump with a flat top wombat crossing and prioritise crossing users over vehicles, given this is a major route for children attending Box Hill North PS and Koonung Secondary College

**GREEN** – Re-align path to avoid the current unmanageable right turn onto Woodhouse path (eastbound) for oversize bikes & the turn @ Mitta'



19<sup>th</sup> May, 2019

Dear Councillors

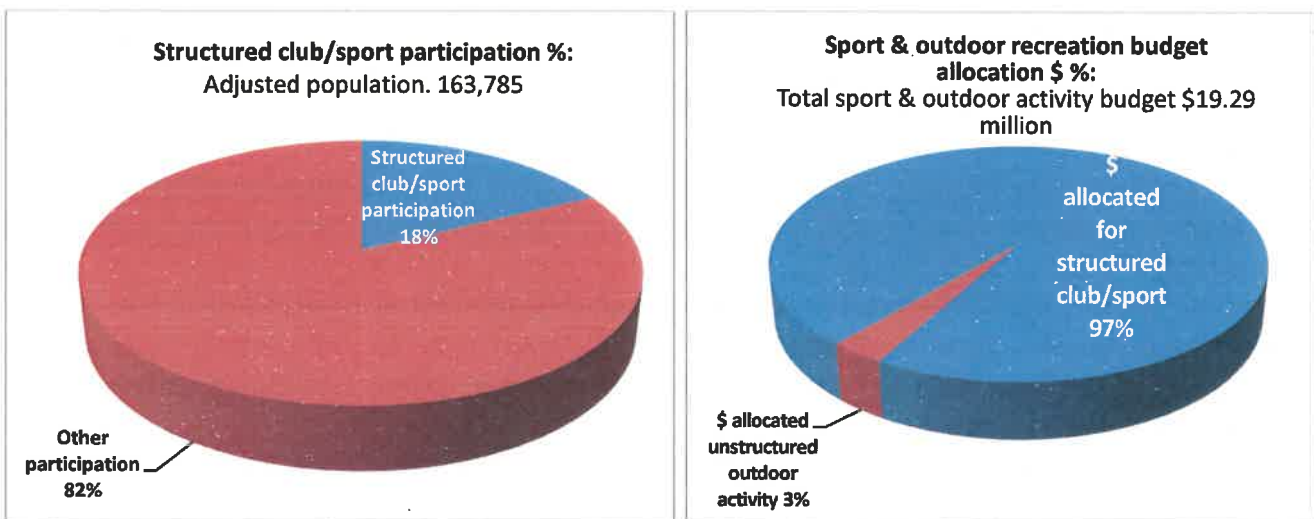
By email to Councillors and Budget Officers

**Re: WCC 2019-2020 Draft Budget**

WATAG wrote to you on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2018 asking for your support during pre-budget planning, for substantial additional funding for Active Transport projects in Whitehorse for 2019-2020.

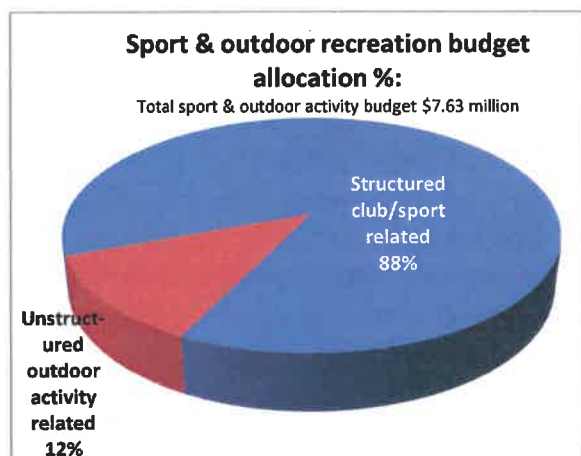
We wrote again on 13<sup>th</sup> March, before the final draft budget deliberations. The scenario we presented was that, based on the current year figures (2018-19), 82% of the population who are not involved in structured club/sport will receive just 12% of the budget related to sport and recreation capital expenditure (see graph on following page). We thought this to be very inequitable for those who like to walk in our parks and ride bikes rather than play organised sport.

Unfortunately, the draft budget for 2019 -2020 greatly increases this inequity. The graph below shows that 18% of the population will now receive a massive 97% of the recreation related budget.



As an example of inequity in budget allocations just for bicycles, we noted in our September letter that the average budgetary allocation for cycling infrastructure over the past four years (2014-15 to 2017-18) was ~\$500K per year. The current year (2018-19) allocation is \$197K, a drastic reduction of 60%.

This has been further reduced in the draft budget for 2019-20 to \$103K, a reduction of another 48%. And the inbuilt inequity between organised and non-formal outdoor activities is much worse.



#### The figures for the current year 2018-19.

The graph here shows that for 2018 -2019, structured club/sport – with a participation rate of 18%, benefitted by receiving 88% of the capital allocations. Unstructured outdoor activity related activities with a participation rate of 82% receives just 12 % of capital funds.

This means that the inequity built into the draft 2019 -2020 budget is far worse than for the current year, because as noted on the previous page, unstructured outdoor activity related activities with a participation rate of 82% receives just 3% of capital funds.

Well recognised research continually shows that over 60% of the community would like to cycle more if only they could feel safer and if it was much more convenient. This 60% is approx. 99,000 people<sup>1</sup> in Whitehorse. Compare this to approx. 18% (32,000 people<sup>2</sup>) who participate in structured club/sport. Council figures show that In Whitehorse 62% of people walk and 13% ride a bike regularly for exercise<sup>3</sup> (quite apart from additional walking or riding as active transport for which no data is available). Only 4.8% participate in club based sport and participation rates appear to have dropped<sup>4</sup>.

These figures give concrete evidence that show that there is a very big inequity with the draft budget being so strongly weighted towards structured club/sport capital spending.

**This is quite contrary to the Whitehorse Recreation Strategy 2015-2024** which includes the following statements saying that Council:

- “has noted the clear message from the community about the need to **support physical activities that do not require membership of a sporting club** or have the constraints associated with playing team sport”
- “recognises the importance to **support unstructured activities** that assist residents to lead a healthy lifestyle through physical activity”
- “will have a focus over the next 10 years on **unstructured (non-sport) recreation opportunities** while continuing to support organised sport”
- “will have a more significant focus on **providing for the casual or unstructured recreation needs** of the community than in the past”

Officers appear to have forgotten about these strategic intentions set out in the Recreation Strategy when drafting this budget, and have clearly not made Councillors aware of this situation.

**WATAG asks Councillors to request a budget redrafting to more closely meet Council objectives.** We believe that capital funds should be allocated in a manner which more closely reflects pro rata percentage of community participation, and which reflects Council’s own strategic aims.

<sup>1</sup> 60% of adjusted 2019 population with 0-4 and 85+ population groups excluded.

<sup>2</sup> VicHealth data gives 17.73% participation in Whitehorse

<sup>3</sup> Whitehorse Recreation Strategy 2015-2024 p.16 Table 2.

<sup>4</sup> Whitehorse Recreation Strategy 2015-2024 p. 15

### Why is this necessary?

Council consistently notes in its many policies and strategies the need for safe, healthy and sustainable outcomes for all residents.

Some of these policies and strategies are noted in an attachment to this submission. We invite you to browse the list and check some of the statements extracted from them.

An emphasis on providing Active Transport infrastructure in Whitehorse will make it safer and more convenient for ALL residents to travel around in the city. These improvements will also help counter a predicted further increase in traffic congestion/gridlock faced by Whitehorse in the near future.

To redress the balance between structured club/sport and unstructured outdoor activities, we repeat the suggestions made in our September letter and our letter in March. They were made at a time when budget considerations were in their infancy and obviously very flexible. It is very disappointing to find that not only were the suggestions not accepted, but that an even more inequitable budget has been drafted.

### What can be done now? Minor adjustments:

We hope that even at this late stage, equity and sense will prevail and Council will agree, at the very least, to the following suggestions for some minor adjustments.

- **Fast track the implementation of the city's 'Easy Rides' cycling routes program** with a view to full implementation over a 3-5 year period. At the present rate, this program will take a decade or more. As an example of how this can easily be done, item 2018-450 AQN Car Park Bollard Replacement \$35,000 could be held over until a future year with the funds reallocated to the 'Easy Ride' route program. The bollard replacement at Aqualink Nunawading is surely of less strategic importance than the development of safer cycling routes, and could wait another year.

In addition, we are aware that Alan Tonkin has made a personal submission relating to Easy Ride Route NS2 in the budget (Item 2018-426). He states that the \$38,000 allocated will be insufficient to do this work in a way which will meet the needs of the route which is now being included as a Victorian Government Strategic Cycling Corridor (SCC). Box Hill revitalization and the impacts of the NEL make it vital that this Easy Ride route be developed with the future in mind.

**We recommend that Item 2018-426 allocation be substantially increased to allow for a more rapid implementation of the Easy Ride route program by adding a second route for 2019-20.**

**We recommend that all Easy Ride routes be implemented in a way which will meet future requirements as a result of SCC designation and to properly service Box Hill and NEL connections**
- **Develop a strategic program to upgrade footpath crossovers** throughout the city to address safety issues for mobility cart/wheelchair users and pedestrians. We have been advised by officers that there is no plan to bring these substandard crossovers up-to-date except when individually referred to officers. We think this is not good enough to meet council's obligations to provide safe transport opportunities for ALL.

**It needs a specific ongoing annual allocation made by council to rectify these legacy problems.** The 2019-20 allocation of \$2.5 million<sup>5</sup> for the Footpath Renewal Program (damaged and worn footpaths) is an 8% increase (\$200,000) over the current year. We believe that at least 25% of this increase (\$50,000) should be allocated specifically to redressing this problem. This should be continued for 5 years or until the job is effectively finished. We note that this would amount to just 2%<sup>6</sup> of the total amount for this year.

**We recommend that \$50,000 of item 2014-44- Footpath Renewal Program be specifically allocated to the task of upgrading footpath crossovers. Note that this is NOT a request for additional funds, or reallocation from some other category. It will effectively have no budget impact, but will have great benefits for infirm, and disabled folk.**

<sup>5</sup> Item 2014-44 Footpath Renewal Program \$2.5 million

<sup>6</sup> 2% of normal footpath cost is considered VERY reasonable since approx. 10.7% of citizens are over 70. It is precisely this demographic who are most disadvantaged by the poor quality crossovers.



- Under the category “Parks, Open Space and Streetscapes”, Item 2018-485 - Bushy Creek path connection - \$15,000 is to “re-align the existing shared user path near Woodhouse Grove/Mitta St”<sup>7</sup>. Realigning the path within the park does not in fact constitute a ‘connection’, as implied in the budget listing. A connection can only be said to have been made if the crossing over Woodhouse Grove is also modified and brought up to a standard that will enable a full range of path users to cross safely from one section of Bushy Creek Path to the other.

Consequently **we ask that an adequate allocation be included in the budget for this.**

As an example of how this might be funded, we note that if just 2% of Item 2014-177 (Play Space Renewal Program - Cyclical replacement & upgrade of play spaces - \$1.950 million) was reallocated \$39,000 could be added to enable this work to be done.

The Play Space renewal program is undoubtedly important, but it should be noted that:

- it is a cyclical program ie it is not specifically time-critical, and 2% of it could be held over for a year with minimal, if any, impact.
- the program amount has increased by 86% over the current year (\$0.900million), and
- the reallocation would still mean an 82% increase for Play Space compared to this year.

**We recommend that the Play Space renewal Program be marginally adjusted to enable a full and adequate connection to be implemented for the Bushy Creek path at Woodhouse Grove.**

### **What can be done about redressing the overall inequity?**

Analysis of the draft budget is challenging because of the limited definitions and descriptions provided, and the sometimes inconsistent placement of some items under different broad categories. However WATAG has done a detailed analysis and we make the following observations:

- 5.9% of the capital budget is categorized as ‘cyclical’, ie relates to an ongoing program of capital expenditure which appears to be made on the basis of some unstated cycle rather than a demonstrated need for the expenditure in this budget.
- 14.6% is categorized as ‘renewal’ or part of a program with no specific projects attached that can be identified. This again appears to indicate that the expenditure is part of an ongoing program rather than a demonstrated need for any of the particular projects covered by the program to be implemented immediately in this budget.
- 2.4% relate to nominated shopping centre ‘streetscape’ projects some of which have already had substantial funds spent over the recent past. They appear to be part of a long term ‘program’ to upgrade shopping centre precincts on a periodic basis. Why any or all of these upgrades need to be done in this budget is quite unclear, since a delay in some or all of them by one year would appear to have minimal, if any, effect in the long run. Whilst it is important to keep city infrastructure up-to-date, we wonder whether Councillors are provided with a cost-benefit analysis to show that there will be a positive impact as a result of some of these upgrades, or whether it is expected that they simply accept that an unstated ‘public good’ will be the result.

This process of seemingly ‘automatic’ expenditure (based on being on a list rather than being because of a demonstrated need) means that 22.9% of the capital budget - \$16.4 million - is not available to be applied to meet other Council objectives outlined in many strategies and policies.

WATAG thinks this is wrong, particularly whilst the kind of inequitable allocation we have described above exists. By deferring just some of these projects by one or more years, funding could easily be reallocated to meet Council’s own objectives.

**We recommend that all projects which are categorized as part of a cyclical or renewal program such as those noted above, be reexamined to determine whether it is critically necessary to implement them in 2019-20. This must be evidence based so that a full justification can be established. Reallocating funds will allow other more urgent strategic objectives to be met.**

<sup>7</sup> Correspondence from Council 1<sup>st</sup> May 2019

**Finally...**

SGS Economics is a consultant on the Box Hill planning Project Team. Marcus Spiller is a Principal. He had this to say last year at a conference on challenges to Australia's Metropolitan Governance:

*"Herein lies Australia's metropolitan governance challenge. The current capacity to produce good metropolitan strategies far outstrips the capacity to bring them to fruition."*

Whitehorse Council has developed many fine plans and strategies in relation to activity, health, bikes, well-being and sustainability. It is only by putting appropriate budget allocations towards implementing the fine ideas, that this statement will be challenged.

**Speaking to this submission:**

WATAG will send a representative to speak to our submission at the Special Committee of Council, which is to be held on Tuesday 11 June 2019 at 7.00pm in the Council Chambers.

Thank you

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chris Trueman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Chris" and last name "Trueman" clearly distinguishable.

Chris Trueman

Correspondence Secretary-Whitehorse Active Transport Action Group Inc.

[secretary@watag.org](mailto:secretary@watag.org)

Mob:

See attached 'Selection of Council Strategies and relevant quotes'.

## Selection of Council Strategies and relevant quotes

### Sustainability Strategy

- “encouraging the community to live more sustainably every day.”

### Cycling Strategy

- “Cycling is an essential mode of transport as well as an important recreation and sport activity that has great environmental and health benefits.”
- “The strategy sets objectives to increase participation in cycling, improve health levels, provide a safe and convenient environment for cycling and maintain and promote existing cycling facilities.”
- “A key theme within the Whitehorse Cycling Strategy is for Council to develop a network of cycling routes that predominantly use local roads to connect to key destinations such as schools, shops, transport hubs and recreational facilities.”
- “Using local streets rather than busier roads is safer and less stressful and aims to encourage community members to start riding or ride more often.”

### Road Safety Strategy

- “To improve the safety and accessibility for pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users.”

### Integrated Transport Strategy

- “active modes of transport have a range of health, environmental and community benefits”
- “improve the safety and accessibility for pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users”
- “increase the use of sustainable transport modes of transport to minimise the impact of transport on the environment”
- “increase the safety of residents and commuters who travel within and through the municipality”

### Open Space Strategy

- “improving the communities public health, well-being and social connectedness”

### Recreation Strategy

- “...noted the clear message from the community about the need to support physical activities that do not require membership of a sporting club or have the constraints associated with playing team sport”
- “...recognises the importance to support unstructured activities that assist residents to lead a healthy lifestyle through physical activity”
- “Council will have a focus over the next 10 years on unstructured (non-sport) recreation opportunities while continuing to support organised sport”
- “Well-designed, sustainable and integrated urban infrastructure will help achieve recreation and associated health and wellbeing outcome”
- “...design principles, that optimise access for all ages and abilities, will underpin the planning and design”
- “Planning for recreation and sport will acknowledge that most residents get their physical activity through non-club based and social activities”
- “Council will have a more significant focus on providing for the casual or unstructured recreation needs of the community than in the past”
- “Council recognises the benefits associated with unstructured physical activity options – flexibility, better health, spontaneity, local access, minimal cost, choice of environment and connecting with the community.”

Chief Executive Officer  
 Whitehorse City Council  
[Annual.Budget@whitehorse.vic.gov.au](mailto:Annual.Budget@whitehorse.vic.gov.au)

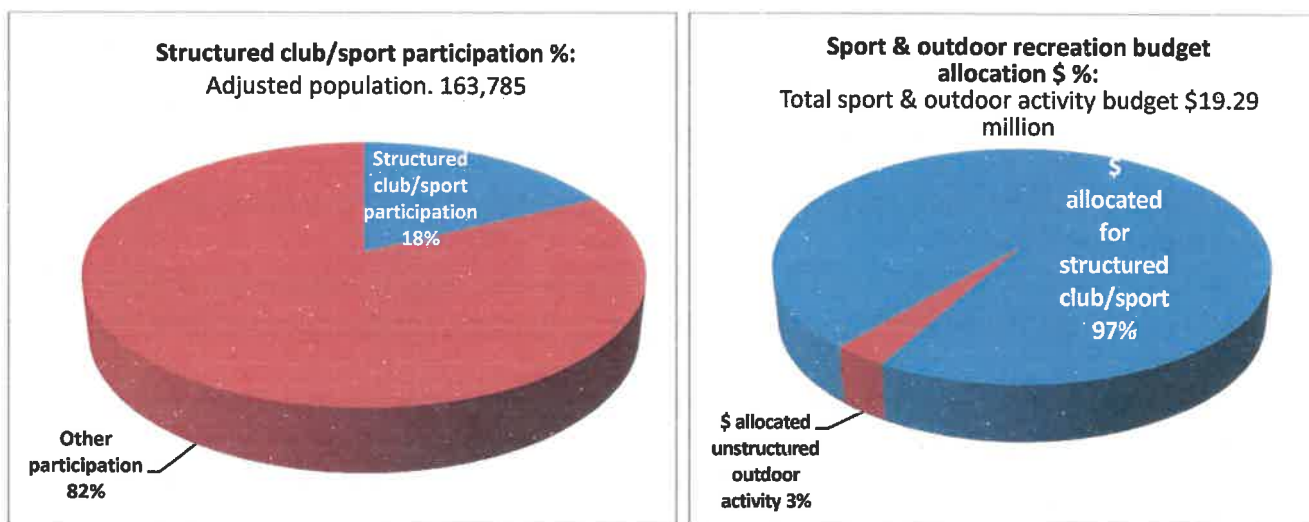
### Budget Submission 2019/20

I have read\* the submission of Whitehorse Active Transport Action Group (WATAG) for this current budget review and I am alarmed at the catastrophic collapse in funding for active transport.

The scenario WATAG has outlined is that, based on the current year figures (2018-19), 82% of the population who are not involved in structured club/sport will receive just 12% of the budget related to sport and recreation capital expenditure (see graph on following page). I believe this to be very inequitable for those who like to walk in our parks and ride bikes rather than play organised sport.

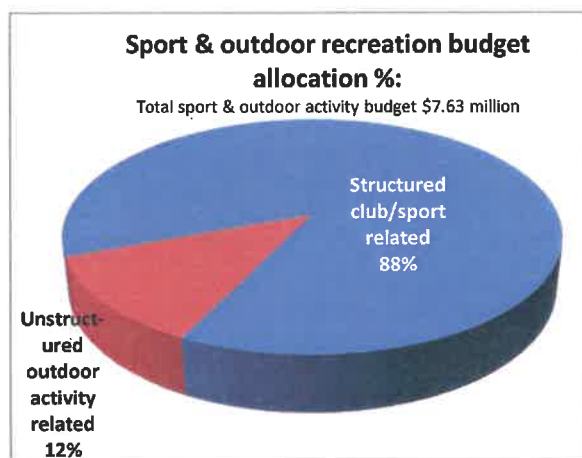
Unfortunately, the draft budget for 2019 -2020 greatly increases this inequity.

The graph below shows that 18% of the population will now receive a massive 97% of the recreation related budget.



As an example of inequity in budget allocations just for bicycles, WATAG noted that the average budgetary allocation for cycling infrastructure over the past four years (2014-15 to 2017-18) was ~\$500K per year. The current year (2018-19) allocation is \$197K, a drastic reduction of 60%.

**This has been further reduced in the draft budget for 2019-20 to \$103K, a reduction of another 48%.** And the inbuilt inequity between organised and non-formal outdoor activities is much worse.



### The figures for the current year 2018-19.

The graph here shows that for 2018 -2019, structured club/sport – with a participation rate of 18%, benefitted by receiving 88% of the capital allocations. Unstructured outdoor activity related activities with a participation rate of 82% receives just 12 % of capital funds.

This means that the **inequity built into the draft 2019 -2020 budget is far worse** than for the current year, because as noted on the previous page, unstructured outdoor activity related activities with a participation rate of 82% receives just 3% of capital funds.

Well recognised research continually shows that over 60% of the community would like to cycle more if only they could feel safer and if it was much more convenient. This 60% is approx. 99,000 people<sup>1</sup> in Whitehorse. Compare this to approx. 18% (32,000 people<sup>2</sup>) who participate in structured club/sport. Council figures show that In Whitehorse 62% of people walk and 13% ride a bike regularly for exercise<sup>3</sup> (quite apart from additional walking or riding as active transport for which no data is available). Only 4.8% participate in club based sport and participation rates appear to have dropped<sup>4</sup>.

These figures give concrete evidence that show that there is a very big inequity with the draft budget being so strongly weighted towards structured club/sport capital spending.

**This is quite contrary to the Whitehorse Recreation Strategy 2015-2024** which includes the following statements saying that Council:

- “has noted the clear message from the community about the need to **support physical activities that do not require membership of a sporting club** or have the constraints associated with playing team sport”
- “recognises the importance to **support unstructured activities** that assist residents to lead a healthy lifestyle through physical activity”
- “will have a focus over the next 10 years on **unstructured (non-sport) recreation opportunities** while continuing to support organised sport”
- “will have a more significant focus on **providing for the casual or unstructured recreation needs** of the community than in the past”

Officers appear to have forgotten about these strategic intentions set out in the Recreation Strategy when drafting this budget, and have clearly not made Councillors aware of this situation.

**I support the WATAG request for a budget redrafting to more closely meet existing Council policy objectives.**

I believe that capital funds should be allocated in a manner which more closely reflects pro rata percentage of community participation, and which reflects Council’s own strategic aims.

<sup>1</sup> 60% of adjusted 2019 population with 0-4 and 85+ population groups excluded.

<sup>2</sup> VicHealth data gives 17.73% participation in Whitehorse

<sup>3</sup> Whitehorse Recreation Strategy 2015-2024 p.16 Table 2.

<sup>4</sup> Whitehorse Recreation Strategy 2015-2024 p. 15



**Why do I believe a budget rework is this necessary?**

Council consistently notes in its many policies and strategies the need for safe, healthy and sustainable outcomes for all residents.

An emphasis on providing Active Transport infrastructure in Whitehorse will make it safer and more convenient for ALL residents to travel around in the city. These improvements will also help counter a predicted further increase in traffic congestion/gridlock faced by Whitehorse in the near future.

**What can be done now? Minor adjustments:**

I hope that even at this late stage, equity and sense will prevail and Council will agree, at the very least, to the following suggestions for some minor adjustments.

- **Fast track the implementation of the city's 'Easy Rides' cycling routes program** with a view to full implementation over a 3-5 year period. At the present rate, this program will take a decade or more. As an example of how this can easily be done, item 2018-450 AQN Car Park Bollard Replacement \$35,000 could be held over until a future year with the funds reallocated to the 'Easy Ride' route program. The bollard replacement at Aqualink Nunawading is surely of less strategic importance than the development of safer cycling routes, and could wait another year. In addition, I am aware that Alan Tonkin has made a personal submission relating to Easy Ride Route NS2 in the budget (Item 2018-426). He states that the \$38,000 allocated will be insufficient to do this work in a way which will meet the needs of the route which is now being included as a Victorian Government Strategic Cycling Corridor (SCC). Box Hill revitalization and the impacts of the NEL make it vital that this Easy Ride route be developed with the future in mind. I would like to request that Item 2018-426 allocation be substantially increased to allow for a more rapid implementation of the Easy Ride route program by adding a second route for 2019-20. I support WATAG's proposal that all Easy Ride routes be implemented in a way which will meet future requirements as a result of SCC designation and to properly service Box Hill and NEL connections
- Develop a **strategic program to upgrade footpath crossovers** throughout the city to address safety issues for mobility cart/wheelchair users and pedestrians. It needs a specific ongoing annual allocation made by council to rectify these legacy problems. The 2019-20 allocation of \$2.5 million<sup>5</sup> for the Footpath Renewal Program (damaged and worn footpaths) is an 8% increase (\$200,000) over the current year. I would like to request that at least 25% of this increase (\$50,000) should be allocated specifically to redressing this problem. This should be continued for 5 years or until the job is effectively finished. I note that this would amount to just 2%<sup>6</sup> of the total amount for this year. I request that \$50,000 of item 2014-44- Footpath Renewal Program be specifically allocated to the task of upgrading footpath crossovers.

Whitehorse Council has developed many fine plans and strategies in relation to activity, health, bikes, well-being and sustainability. It is only by putting appropriate budget allocations towards implementing the fine ideas, that this statement will be challenged.

<sup>5</sup> Item 2014-44 Footpath Renewal Program \$2.5 million

<sup>6</sup> 2% of normal footpath cost is considered VERY reasonable since approx. 10.7% of citizens are over 70. It is precisely this demographic who are most disadvantaged by the poor quality crossovers.

**Selection of Council Strategies and relevant quotes**

Submission 17

**Sustainability Strategy**

- “encouraging the community to live more sustainably every day.”

**Cycling Strategy**

- “Cycling is an essential mode of transport as well as an important recreation and sport activity that has great environmental and health benefits.”
- “The strategy sets objectives to increase participation in cycling, improve health levels, provide a safe and convenient environment for cycling and maintain and promote existing cycling facilities.”
- “A key theme within the Whitehorse Cycling Strategy is for Council to develop a network of cycling routes that predominantly use local roads to connect to key destinations such as schools, shops, transport hubs and recreational facilities.”
- “Using local streets rather than busier roads is safer and less stressful and aims to encourage community members to start riding or ride more often.”

**Road Safety Strategy**

- “To improve the safety and accessibility for pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users.”

**Integrated Transport Strategy**

- “active modes of transport have a range of health, environmental and community benefits”
- “improve the safety and accessibility for pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users”
- “increase the use of sustainable transport modes of transport to minimise the impact of transport on the environment”
- “increase the safety of residents and commuters who travel within and through the municipality”

**Open Space Strategy**

- “improving the communities public health, well-being and social connectedness”

**Recreation Strategy**

- “...noted the clear message from the community about the need to support physical activities that do not require membership of a sporting club or have the constraints associated with playing team sport”
- “...recognises the importance to support unstructured activities that assist residents to lead a healthy lifestyle through physical activity”
- “Council will have a focus over the next 10 years on unstructured (non-sport) recreation opportunities while continuing to support organised sport”
- “Well-designed, sustainable and integrated urban infrastructure will help achieve recreation and associated health and wellbeing outcome”
- “...design principles, that optimise access for all ages and abilities, will underpin the planning and design”
- “Planning for recreation and sport will acknowledge that most residents get their physical activity through non-club based and social activities”
- “Council will have a more significant focus on providing for the casual or unstructured recreation needs of the community than in the past”
- “Council recognises the benefits associated with unstructured physical activity options – flexibility, better health, spontaneity, local access, minimal cost, choice of environment and connecting with the community.”

\* Disclaimer

I am a member of the WATAG Management Committee.



**VERMONT SOUTH CLUB INC****Livingstone Road, Vermont South**Postal address: PO Box 6002, Vermont South, Vic. 3133  
ABN 60 896 828 957Website: [www.vermontsouthclub.com.au](http://www.vermontsouthclub.com.au)President: **David Dressing** ☎Secretary: **Jim Baker** ☎

Chief Executive Officer  
Whitehorse City Council  
Locked Bag 2,  
Nunawading DC Vic 3131

16<sup>th</sup> May 2019

Attn Ms Noelene Duff

Dear Ms Duff

We, at the Vermont South Club are extremely disappointed that our request for funding assistance for an extension to the club in Livingstone Road has not been granted. The Federal Member for Deakin Michael Sukkar has promised funding to the tune of \$300,000.00. This has been included in the federal budget, and can be confirmed by the attached letter from the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development the Hon Michael McCormack. Also, to further prove that the funding is more than a promise, we need to complete a Request for Information document which in turn will lead to a Deed of Agreement between the Vermont South Club and the Federal Government. This is well under way, however we are waiting on a completed set of drawings and associated costs from the builder.

There are many clubs in the City of Whitehorse. Our club was nominated for a Deakin Community Award recently by Councillor Raylene Carr. We were on hand to receive our Certificate from Michael Sukkar. Raylene obviously supports what we do in the community and we were thrilled to receive her nomination which came as a complete surprise. The club is also supported by many volunteers who give of their time to make sure our place can develop and be a community hub.

Our club and its members support 7 different charities, we have weekly visits by a group of disabled bowlers and recently hosted a state disabled bowlers practice match before their national competition. Prostate Cancer, Beyond Blue, Breast Cancer Research, Reach, St Vincent de Paul, Rice for Cambodia are other Charities we support.

It is also worth noting that we, collectively, are one of the largest clubs in the state that does **NOT** have poker machine revenue to assist in the financing of its ongoing business. Our business model is to be as self-sufficient as possible. We understand the pressure that council is under to provide the municipality with the best facilities possible so we fund some of our own projects. In recent times we installed solar panelling to help reduce our power bills. 8 years ago, we had a new green laid at the Eastern end of the complex at a cost of \$130,000, both 100% funded by the members. We have given the Bowling Club the go ahead to replace the well worn western green at a cost of \$147,000.00, to be completed by August this year also coinciding with our promotion to Division 1. Some years ago, we invested \$250,000.00 and together with council's contribution we were able to have the facilities we have now.

Unfortunately, we have out grown ourselves. Currently standing at 257 bowling club members we can only seat 90 comfortably. When functions are held in house on Tuesdays / Saturday's pennant we are overcrowded. The photo's attached attest to this. Unfortunately, only 90 people could be

accommodated for last year's Christmas Party. First in first serve. It filled quickly and many members missed out.

Other clubs are struggling to exist and for whatever reason and finding it difficult to halt the downturn in numbers. We, on the other hand, have already begun to add to our membership base with innovative marketing and branding plans. With netball growing at an enormous rate, we are investigating the installation of 2 netball courts, so a few teams can use our place as a training venue. We will know better after a study is completed on tennis court usage at the complex. This would also release some of the pressure over at Sportlink.

With our membership growing every year it is obvious that we have a space issue. We also have a large number of members in their 80's, and we want to be able to offer them a place away from home. Therefore, in our extension plans, we aim to provide a lounge area where the elder set can come to their club, play cards, a place to read, mix with others to have coffee or to look at the bowls, all from a warm, friendly environment. We also have plans for the Blue Cross residents to take the opportunity to come to our place to also enjoy what the club has on offer.

It is our intention on non-pennant days to make full use of the clubrooms to ensure they do not sit idle at any time. Although having said that we play bowls at the club every day except Fridays and Sundays.

After being the President of the Vermont Football Club for some years I have always been community conscious and believe in developing a future for our clubs. Everything we do at the Vermont South Club is securing our future for the **LONG TERM**. We seek to occupy a position as the most recognisable and respected sporting club in the district. From time to time we hope we get financial support from the City of Whitehorse so as we can continue to provide the best bowling club facilities available in the area.

In respect to the above we would respectfully ask the council to revisit our funding request. We are looking for \$300,000 from council to add to Michael Sukkars \$300,000. The club can contribute \$150,000 to the project as well. We understand that our request would be contingent on the signing and execution of the deed of agreement.

We would like the opportunity to speak to our submission as part of the budget process offered by you.

Yours Sincerely

*David Dressing*

*President :Vermont South Club inc.*

*Mobile :*

*Email : [safetyssense@iprimus.com.au](mailto:safetyssense@iprimus.com.au).*





**The Hon Michael McCormack MP**

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**Deputy Prime Minister  
Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development  
Leader of The Nationals  
Federal Member for Riverina**

MS19-000548

Mr David Dressing  
Vermont South Club Inc  
Charlesworth Park  
Livingstone Road  
VERMONT SOUTH VIC 3133

Dear Mr Dressing

I am writing to confirm the Australian Government's commitment to provide up to \$300,000 for the Vermont South Bowls Club project (the Project).

The commitment will be delivered by the Department of Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities through the Community Development Grants Programme (CDG).

The Australian Government is committed to supporting local communities to prosper and grow. Local infrastructure projects are critical if we want to boost economic growth and improve local amenities and facilities.

A Departmental Officer will contact you shortly to discuss the next steps. This includes undertaking any final due diligence and preparing a Deed of Agreement. Whilst this letter confirms the commitment to your project, funding of \$300,000 is contingent upon the execution of a Deed of Agreement.

I recommend that you do not enter into financial commitments or begin work on the project until such time a Deed of Agreement has been signed with the Australian Government. Please note that the contents of this letter should be kept confidential until a Deed of Agreement is signed with the Australian Government.

I wish you every success and look forward to seeing the project completed.

Yours sincerely

Michael McCormack



Attention:

**Noelene Duff**

Chief Executive Officer

Whitehorse City Council

Email: [Annual.Budget@whitehorse.vic.gov.au](mailto:Annual.Budget@whitehorse.vic.gov.au)

Dear Ms Noelene Duff,

**Proposed Pavilion Re-development at Heatherdale Reserve  
Application for funding from Whitehorse City Council**

On behalf of the Heatherdale Reserve Pavilion Action Team I am formally submitting an application for funding allocation from the Whitehorse City Council from the proposed 2019/20 Budget. We believe that an allocation of \$2M from the council will allow a necessary and much needed facility to be built.

When we first proposed this project to the Whitehorse City Council we were encouraged to seek 'external' funding and to lobby for the support of the Whitehorse Councillors. We believe we have achieved this and are now seeking council's support to make this project a reality.

Over the past few months we have been fortunate to have:

- An offer of \$2M from Michael Sukkar (Liberal Party) as part funding towards the project, an amount that is a commitment by the Federal Government not dependent on the election outcome.
- A matching offer of \$2M from the Labour Party, a part-funded agreement that was endorsed publicly by the Shadow Minister for Sport, Don Farrell, Federal Senator for Victoria Raff Ciccone and Federal Labour Candidate for Deakin Shireen Morris.
- Attendance at this last announcement by Whitehorse City Council representatives Cr Bill Bennett (Mayor) and Cr Prue Cutts (Springfield Ward). We are pleased to have their support, along with Cr Ben Stennett (Springfield Ward).

The current pavilion at Heatherdale Reserve needs re-development due to its age, increased and increasing usage requirements and the fact that it generally does not serve the current or future needs of the community. The facility was originally built at a time when the inclusion of juniors and females was not fully supported. This is perhaps evidenced by the provision of one internal female toilet. In today's environment, this is totally unacceptable and this has been recognised by community leaders at all levels of government and is why we have bi-partisan offers of Federal Government funding.

In an effort to be pro-active with this project, the Heatherdale Reserve Pavilion Action Committee has also:

- Prepared comprehensive plans drawn up by highly respected architect Mal Elliott. The proposed design of the pavilion has factored in the preservation of trees and maintenance of current parking by remaining largely within the footprint of the existing building. It provides for ample and adequate female friendly change room facilities on the ground floor and a club social area on the first floor. There is also accommodation for third party users in the expectation that the pavilion would be used for a much broader community purpose.
- Had these plans fully costed by a reputable Quantity Surveyor. This report has the total construction cost of the project at \$3.83M. (This would make the Federal Government's share of the cost a little over 50%)
- Prepared a comprehensive Facility Development Plan that highlights the needs of the community and the sporting clubs that use the Heatherdale Reserve.

**Please find these three documents attached to this application.**

It is important to note that the facilities are home to a large and fast growing contingent of female participants of both cricket and football. As a matter of interest, Heatherdale CC will be participant in the inaugural Women's Senior Cricket competition in the eastern region, the first within the BHRDCA.

The Action Team has worked hard to address the needs of the community, has positively engaged with council officers to better understand the planning timeframes, engaged our own architect to work up concept plans, engaged a reputable Quantity Surveyor to cost the project and engaged with Federal Government (Liberal and Labor) to secure over 50% of the funding required for the project.

We see this as a once in a lifetime opportunity for the Clubs and the City to advance the facilities that serve the Heatherdale Reserve Community. We respectfully ask that you consider our application for an additional \$2M in funding with a view to ensuring that a desperately needed community asset is built.

On behalf of the Heatherdale Reserve Pavilion Action Committee I would also like to request an opportunity to speak to this application at the meeting of the Special Committee of the Council on Tuesday 11 June 2019.

Yours faithfully,



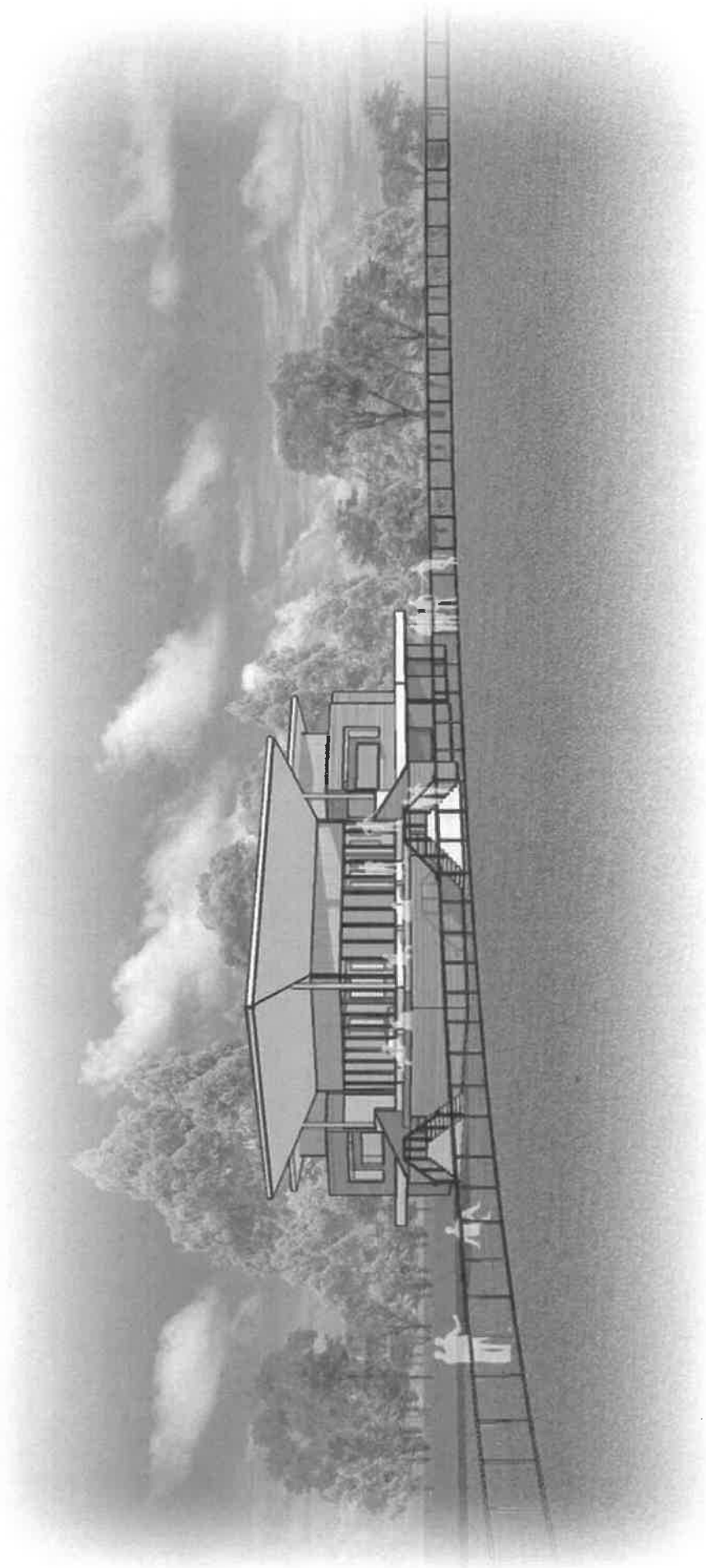
Kevin Oakey

Chairman

Heatherdale Reserve Pavilion Action Team

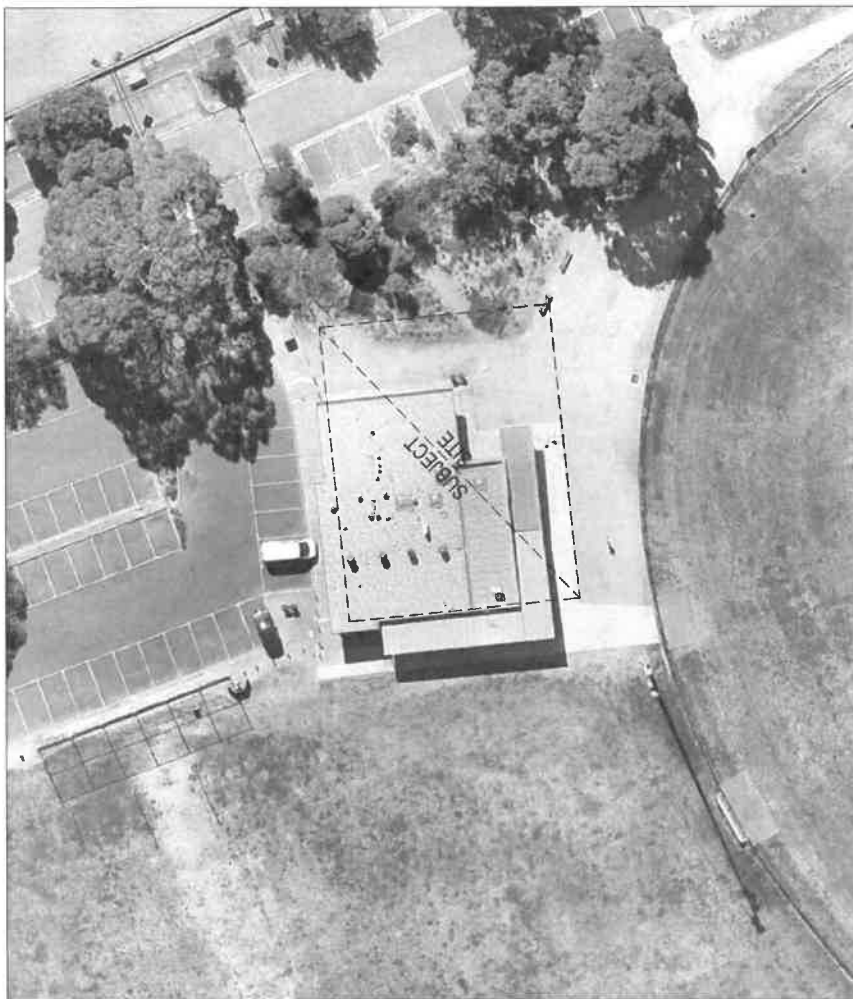
On behalf of:

- Heatherdale Cricket Club
- Heathmont Jets Juniors Football Club
- Donvale Crusaders Junior Football Club
- Mitcham Eagles Junior Football Club





Date:	JULY 18
Checked:	ME.
Plot Date:	
Drawing No.	E-1
Rev.	00



**DESIGN PROPOSAL SITE PLAN  
DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION  
PHILOSOPHY FOR NEW  
HEATHERDALE PAVILION**

PROJECT: HEATHERDALE PAVILION

Check and verify all dimensions and tolerances on this prior to commencement of any work on shop drawings. If any discrepancies occur in documents, Architect is to be consulted before proceeding with any work. Drawings to be read in conjunction with specifications. DO NOT SCALE DRAWINGS. The drawing is protected by copyright.

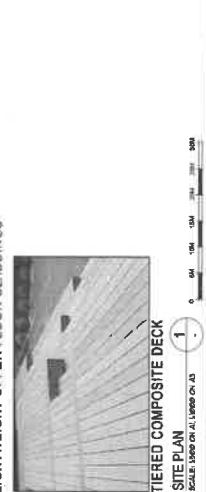
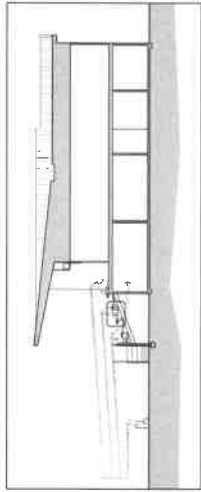
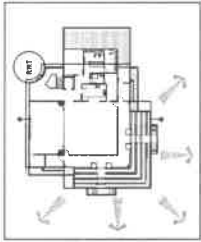
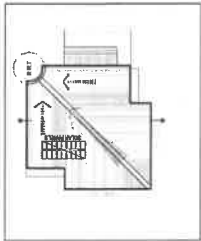
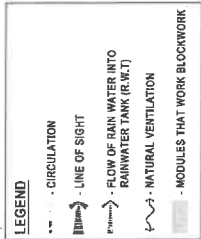
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 E-mail [memor@ericarch.com.au](mailto:memor@ericarch.com.au)





# DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION PHILOSOPHY FOR NEW HEATHERDALE PAVILION



## BUILDING DESIGN

- The building site is bound by the existing two sports ovals, car park to the west, trees and carpark to the north.
- The existing building is currently too close and intrudes onto the smaller oval.
- Sufficient circulation space is required adjacent to both ovals and the existing carpark.
- These constraints necessitate a compact two storey building form to meet accommodation requirements.
- The two storey building form facilitates raised player and spectator viewing over both ovals.

## GROUND FLOOR

- The ground floor essentially provides facilities for players, umpires, and the public including change rooms, amenities, medical room, public toilets, equipment storage, canteen, and entry foyer with stairs and ADA compliant lift to the up floor function room.
- Convenient Player access is achieved from the respective change rooms to both ovals without crossover of player circulation space from participants on the other oval.
- Player and umpire change rooms are spacious and cater for both sexes.
- A dedicated medical room services both ovals.
- Public toilets including a unisex disabled facility is provided within the building.
- A canteen is located adjacent to the spectator circulation space overlooking the main oval.
- Two equipment storage rooms cater for both football and cricket.
- A waste and services area is concealed from view yet conveniently located to the canteen and carpark.
- Minimal external doors are provided for improved security.

## FIRST FLOOR

- The first floor provides multi-purpose facilities large enough to support game day events and functions such as the phs stumps day breast cancer fund raiser, club functions as well as providing for other community uses.
- A multi-purpose function room provides for a seating dining area overlooking both sports ovals, an area for a small dance floor, an end wall for presentations and can be split into two rooms.
- A meeting room of a size to cater for committees and team selection is located for privacy but close to the entry foyer.
- A kitchen space suitable to cater for small functions is centrally located close to the stair and lift.
- Male, female and disabled amenities are private but conveniently located to the function space.
- Two storage rooms about the function room to store items such as tables and chairs.
- The two storey building form facilitates an elevated scores/lineup room overlooking each of the ovals capable of seating 4 persons.
- The upper floor is designed to be inclusive and accessible with lift access and an external walkway allowing for disabled access and viewing over both ovals with dedicated wheel chair viewing positions.
- Central to the proposal is the tiered spectator and participant viewing area that is facilitated by the two storey building form. It is designed to provide flexibility in allocation of seating for home and away sides if required and conveniently accessed from both ovals. The stepped form allows for clear view lines over both sports ovals.

## Building Form, construction materials, and ESD features.

- Pivotal to the building design is the thoughtful use of low maintenance long lasting materials that are economical, prefinished, hard wearing inside and out.
- The building is designed to be sustainable using Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) principals capturing natural energy for reuse within the building minimizing operating costs.
- Central to the building is an inverted butterfly trussed roof form designed to capture almost the entire area available for rainwater collection to a feature precast concrete rainwater tank beside the main entry to the building. This rainwater tank is a great way to provide a solid entry feature that is economical at the same time as providing the building with a substantial sustainable design element. These elements create an interesting and articulated building form from all angles.
- Collected rainwater is to be used for all amenities throughout the building.
- The roof form is also conducive to capturing north sunlight to solar panels servicing the hot water needs of the building.
- It is proposed the lower level be constructed from coloured blockwork both inside and out providing an economical, prefinished, hard wearing surface both inside and out. The building is designed to blockwork modules ensuring efficient construction with minimal cuts.
- The building form closely resembles a square which maximizes floor area to external wall perimeter further improving construction and cost efficiency.
- It is proposed that the upper floor be of lightweight construction consisting of steel and timber including precast concrete slabs to provide shelter over the tiered seating area. Lightweight timber claddings from the Hardie or CSR range of building products are intended for the upper floor external walls.
- The tiered seating is proposed to be constructed from lightweight steel framing with durable and low maintenance composite decking which is anticipated to facilitate moderate maintenance and reduce the need for heavy concrete construction approach away from heavy concrete construction.

## DESIGN PROPOSAL SITE PLAN DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION PHILOSOPHY FOR NEW HEATHERDALE PAVILION

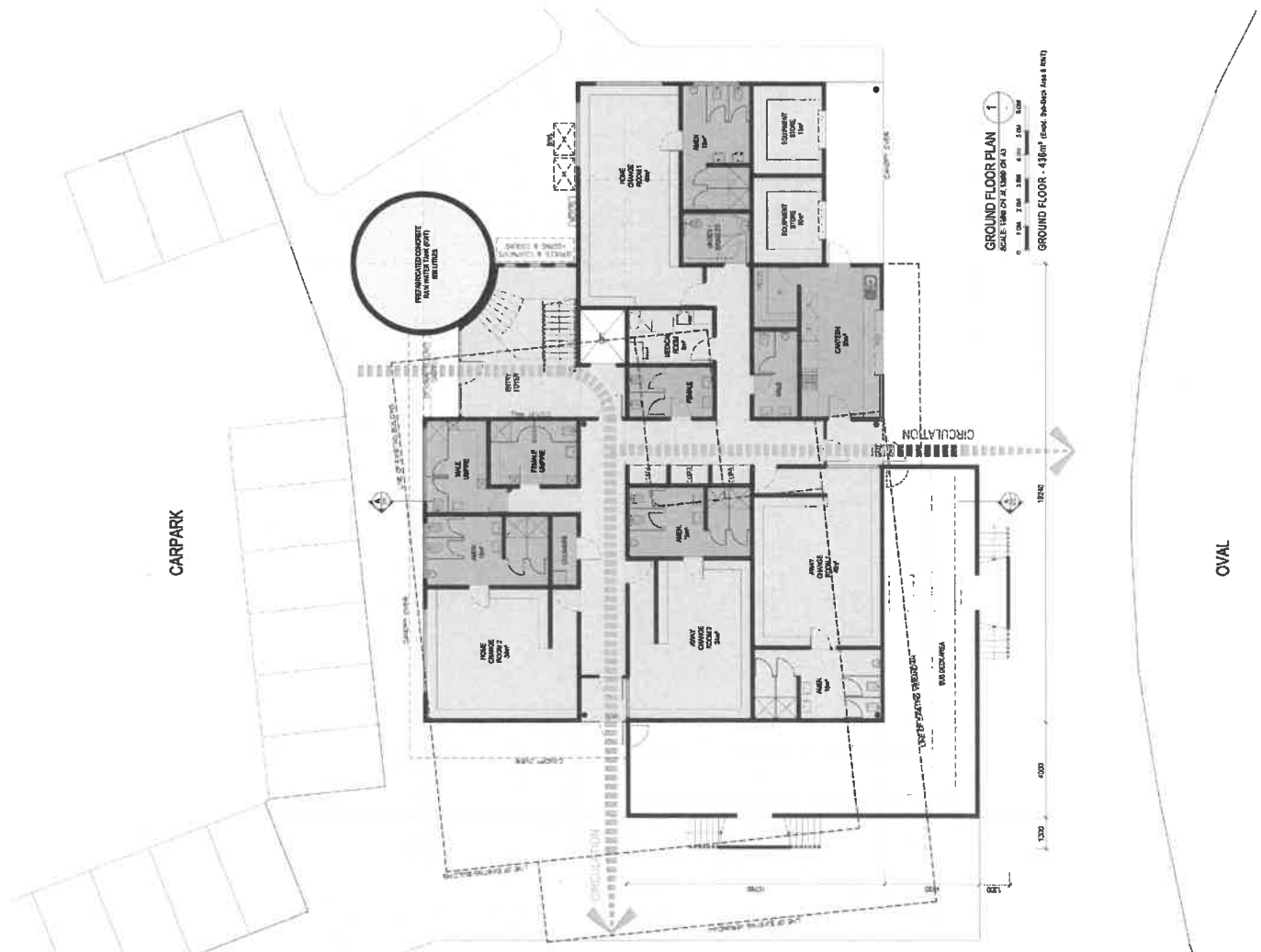
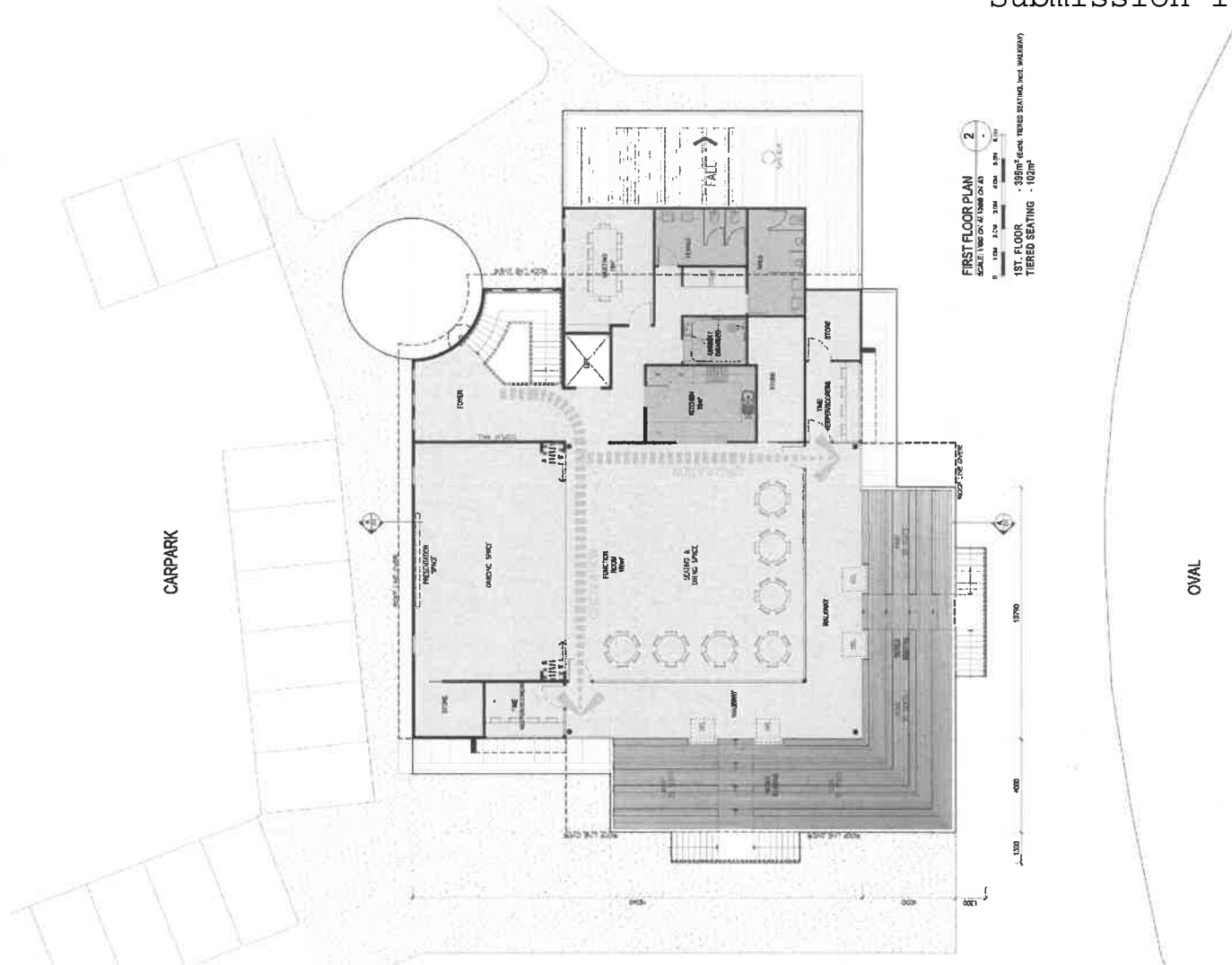
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Project: Heatherdale Pavilion	Project: Heatherdale Pavilion	Project: Heatherdale Pavilion
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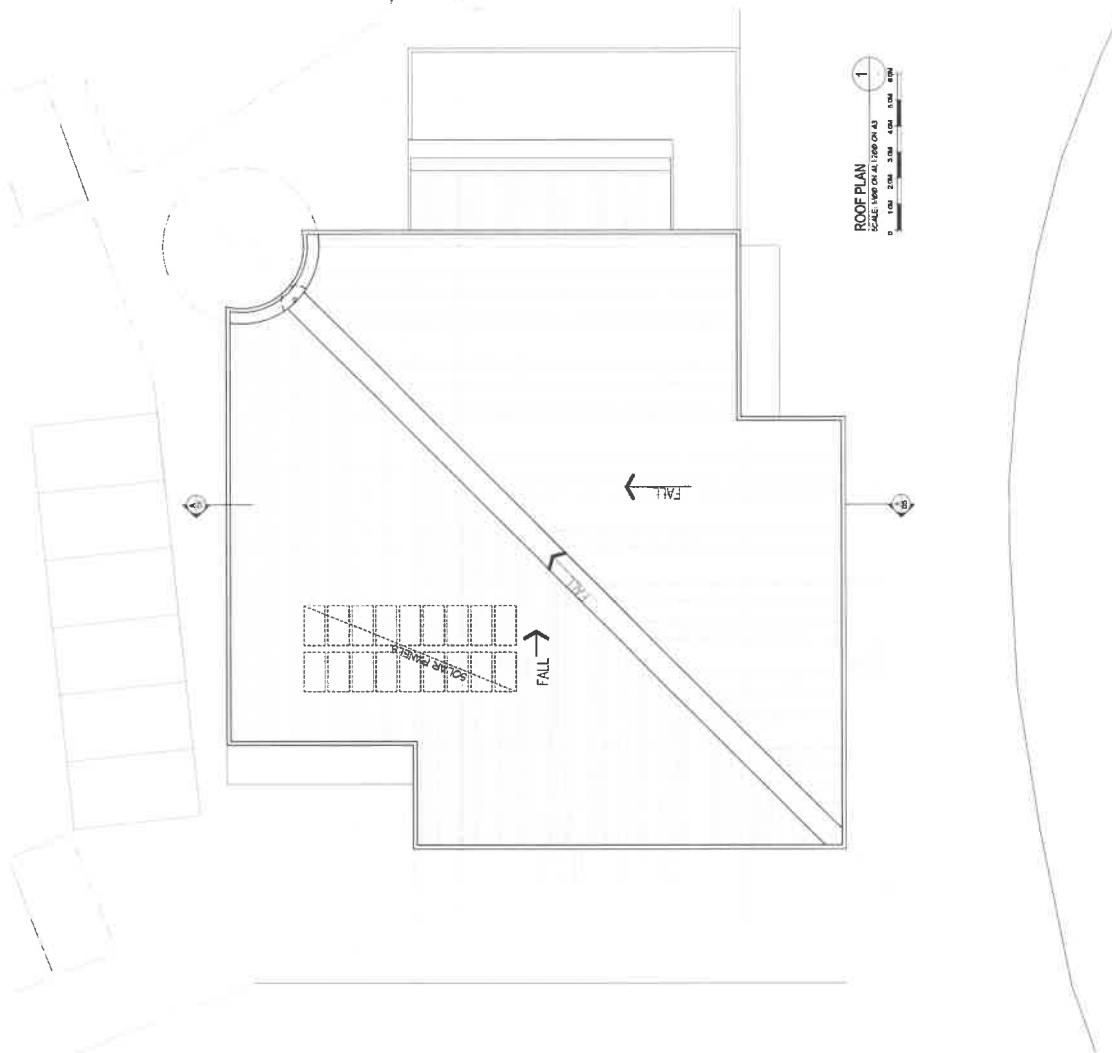
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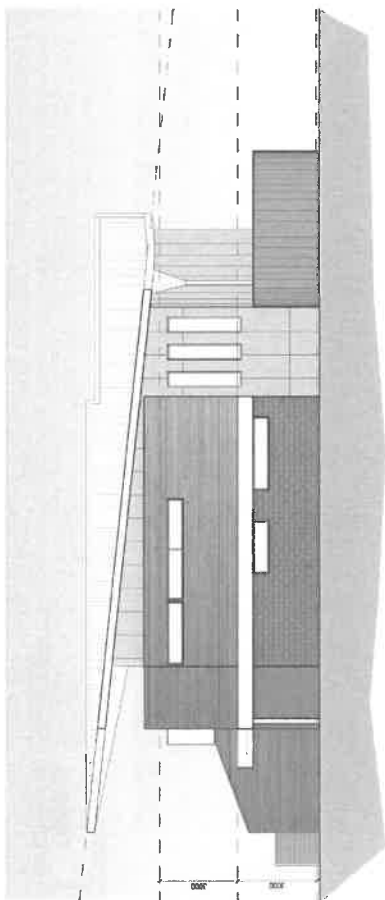




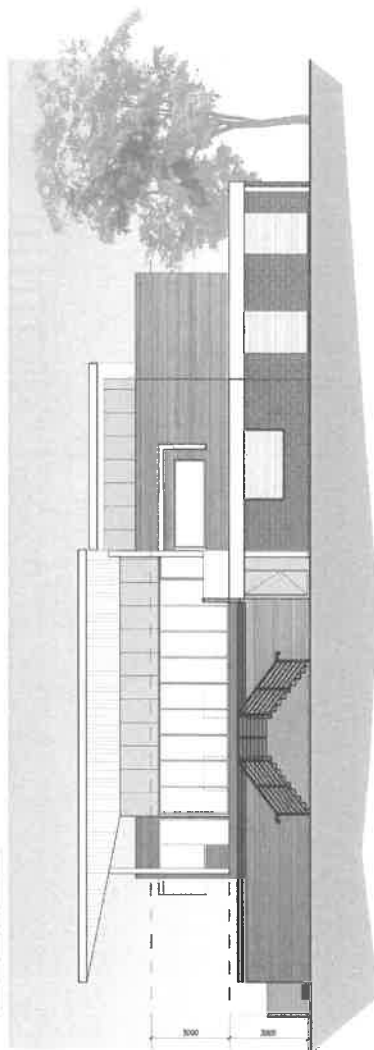


	makolm elliot ARCHITECTS 1000 West 10th Avenue, Suite 200 Denver, CO 80202 Tel: 303.733.8800 Fax: 303.733.8801 Email: info@makolmelliot.com		REV. DATE: _____ ANS/CORR. BY: _____ _____ _____		FULL REV. DATE APPROVED BY: _____ _____ _____			Check and verify all dimensions and layout on this plan prior to construction of any work. If any dimensions or layout are not shown on this plan, the contractor shall contact the architect for clarification. No work shall be done until the architect has approved the work in writing. All work shall be done in accordance with the approved drawings. The architect shall be responsible for the accuracy of the drawings. The architect shall not be responsible for the construction of the work.	PROJECT: <b>WEATHERDALE PAVILION</b>	DRAWING: <b>DESIGN PROPOSAL</b> <b>GRD FLOOR &amp; 1ST FLOOR PLAN</b>	DATE: _____ JULY 18 Drawn: AG Title: _____ Job No. _____ Drawing No. _____ Rev. _____			





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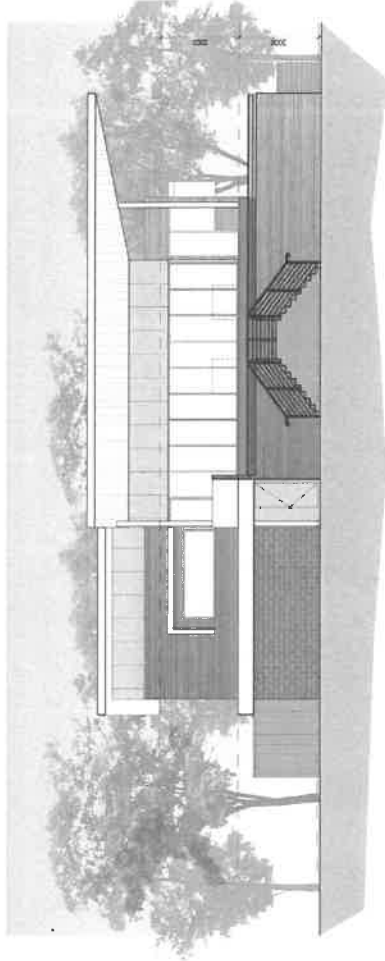


**EAST ELEVATION**

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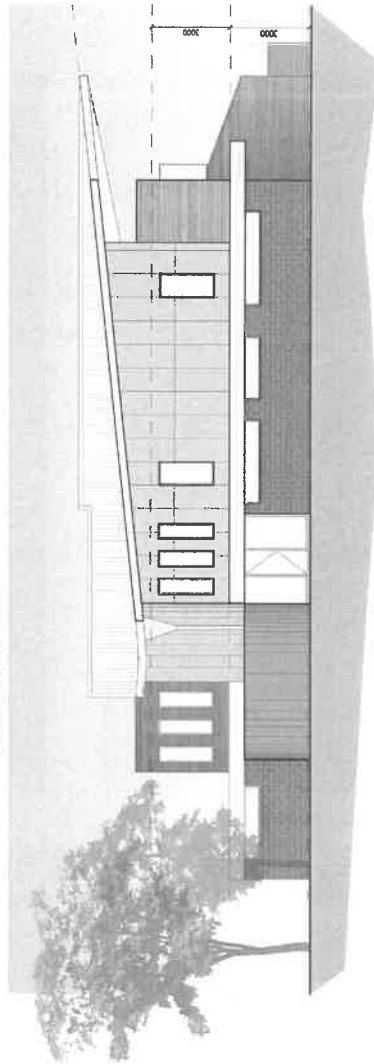


**SOUTH ELEVATION**

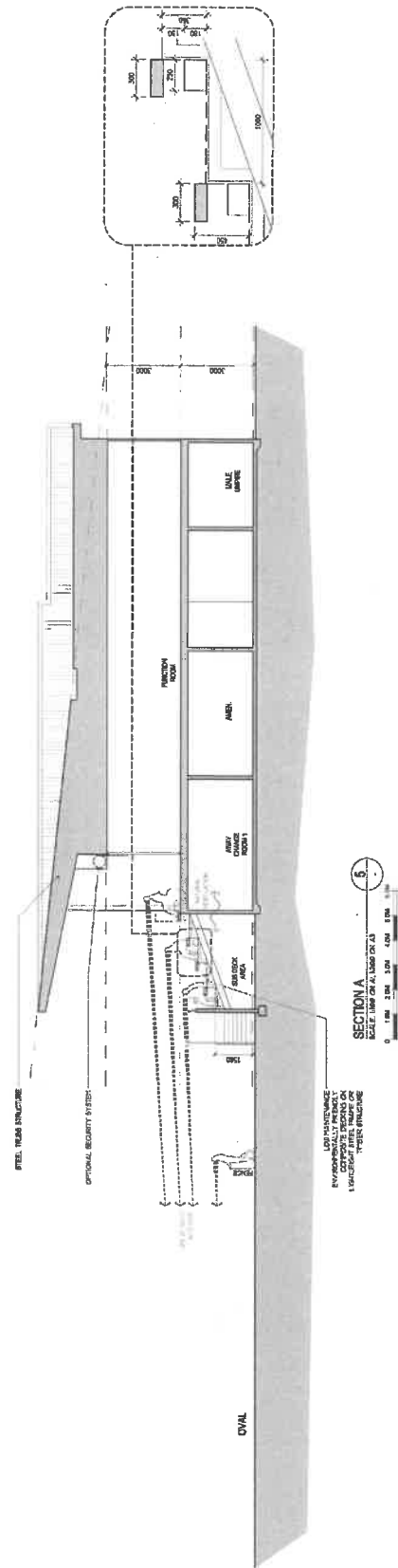
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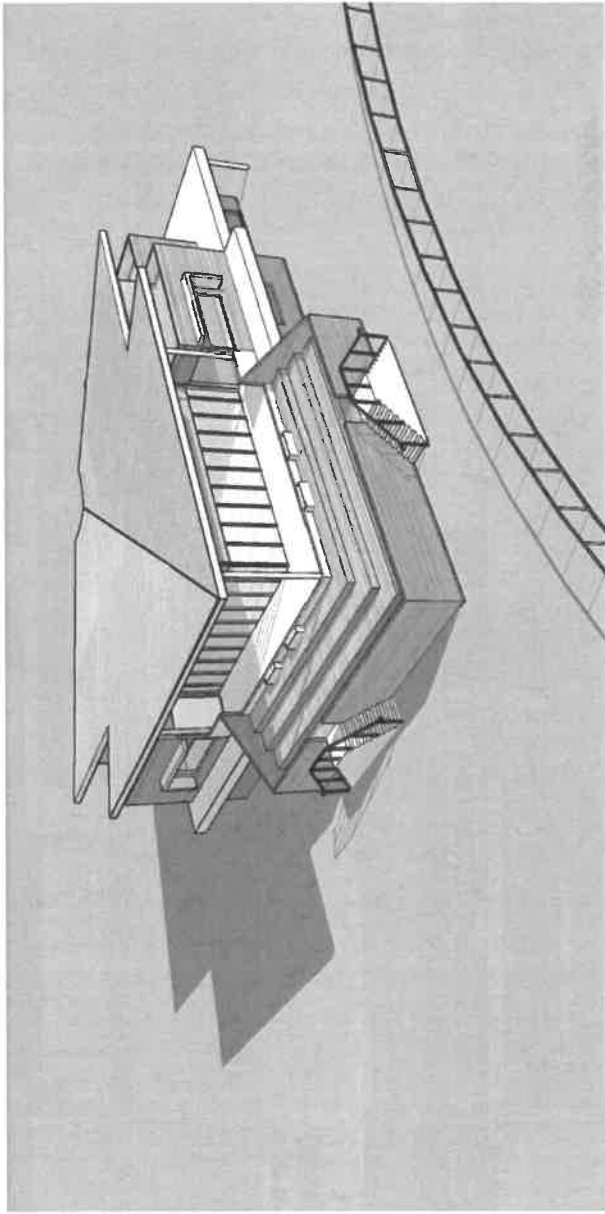
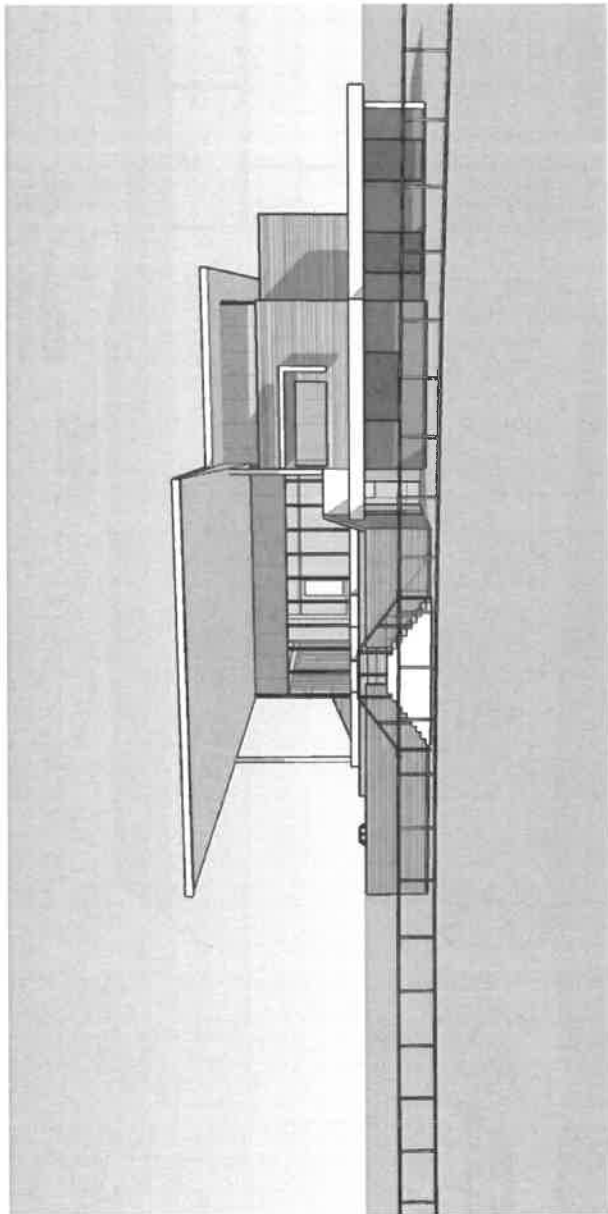
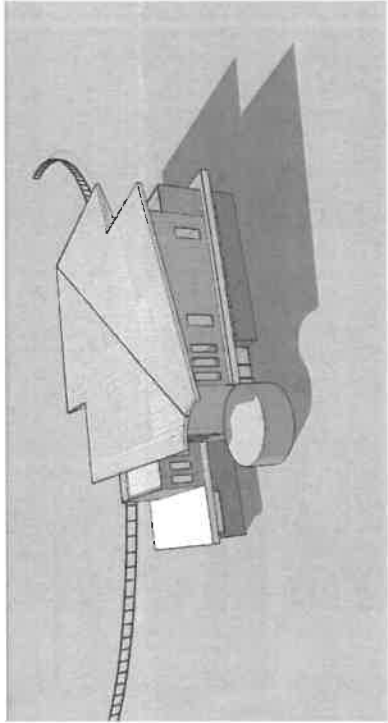
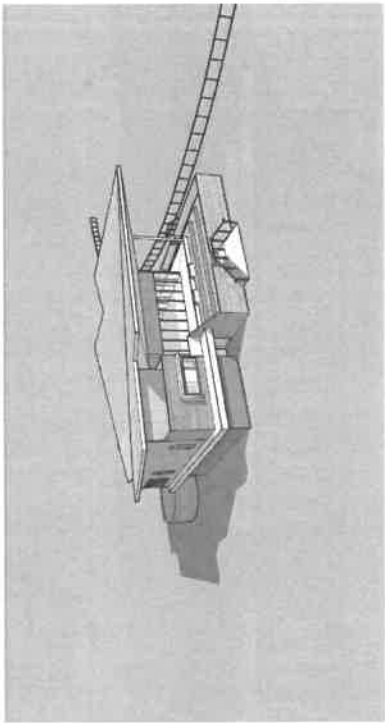
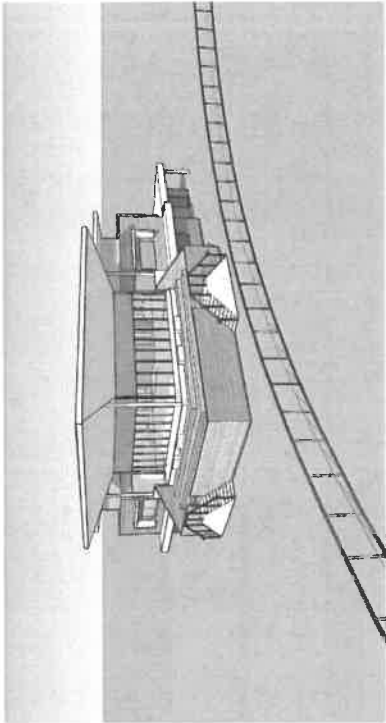
SECTION A  
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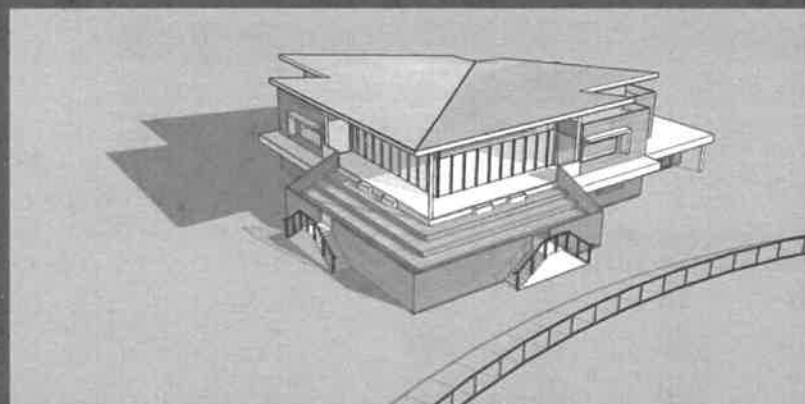
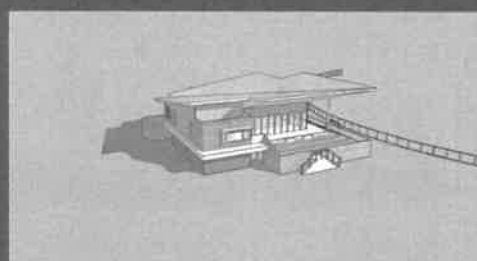
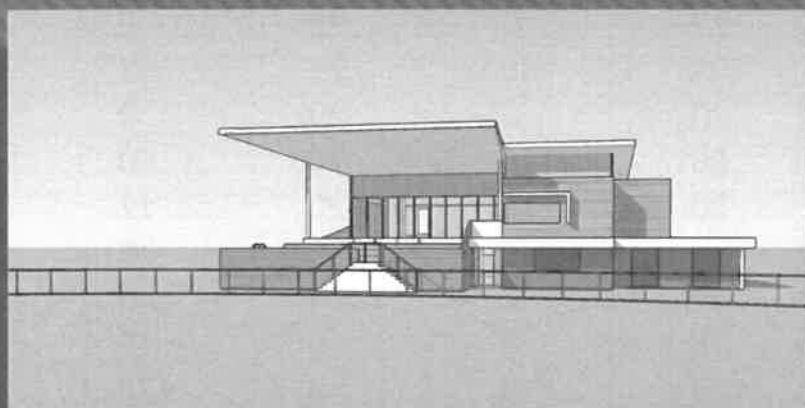




# Heatherdale Reserve

## Facility Development Plan

August 2018



Heatherdale Cricket Club  
Heathmont Junior Football Club



# Participation Profile

Age	Players	Male	Female	Football	Cricket
U05	35	30	5	35	0
U06	32	30	2	32	0
U07	33	30	3	33	0
U08	75	55	20	25	50
U09	21	21	0	21	0
U10	124	86	38	84	40
U11	22	22	0	22	0
U12	140	104	36	75	65
U13	20	20	0	20	0
U14	86	86	0	26	60
U15	32	20	12	20	12
U16	41	15	26	26	15
U17	24	24	0	24	0
U18	15	15	0	0	15
Senior	120	120	0	0	120
Veterans	15	15	0	0	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>835</b>	<b>693</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>443</b>	<b>392</b>
<b>% Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>53%</b>	<b>47%</b>
<b>% Junior</b>	<b>84%</b>	<b>81%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>66%</b>

Club	Male	Female	Total
Donvale Crusaders Football Club	46	1	47
Heatherdale Cricket Club	330	62	392
Jets Junior Football Club	298	75	373
Mitcham Football Club	19	4	23
<b>Total</b>	<b>693</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>835</b>
<b>% Total</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>100%</b>

- The Playing Fields and Pavilion supports 835 local residents in structured sporting activity across the year PLUS visiting teams, supporters, parents and siblings.
- It is estimated that 25,000 unique individuals will participate in structured sport at the ground across the year.
- 17% of participants are female with focus on junior ages (20%).
- 53% of activity is Football related vs 47% Cricket.



# Heatherwood Reserve



## Heathmont Jets Junior Football Club

- 373 Players
- Teams from U09 –U17
- Junior Girls Football teams across multiple age groups

## Heatherdale Cricket Club

- 392 Players
- Founded in 1965
- Part of the Box Hill Reporter District Cricket Association
- 6 senior teams, a Veterans team, up to 14 junior boys teams and 3 junior girls teams

## Other Users of Heatherdale Reserve

- Donvale Crusaders Football Club
- Heathmont Jets Netball Team – the Jetballers
- Heatherdale Tennis Club
- Mitcham Football Club



Current  
Facilities



Jet's  
Family  
Night





Dated and undersized pavilion and social facilities



Storage is limited and cluttered

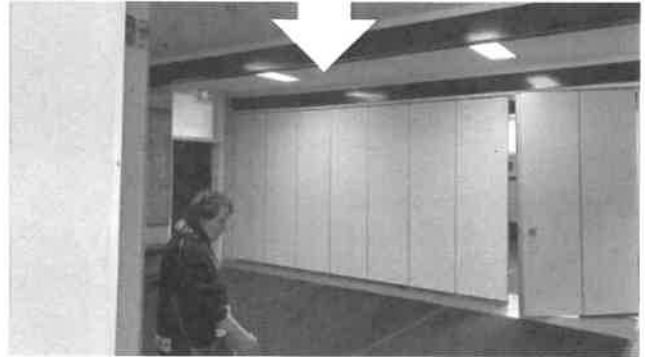


Coaches boxes represent an OH&S risk to the public



Scoreboard and playing surface are adequate

Limited, non-female friendly changing facilities



Kitchen is cluttered and undersized



Female bathroom facilities are inadequate



Change rooms are shared with social area



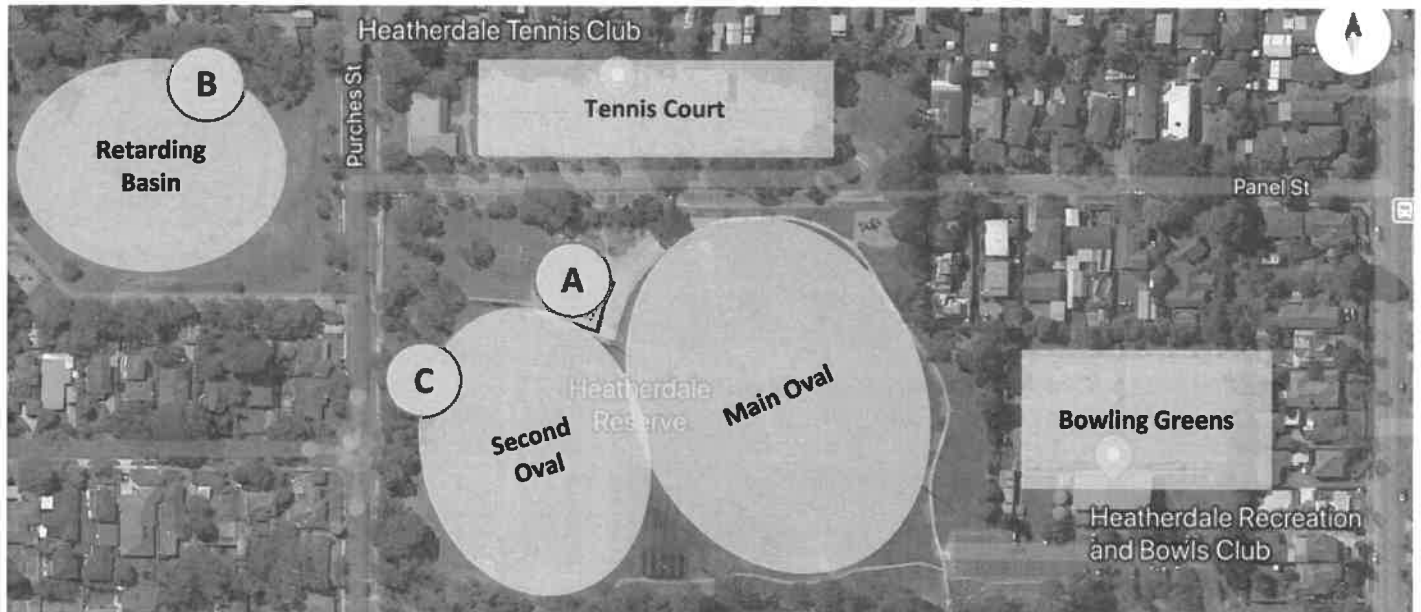
# Our Community



McGrath  
Foundation

Pink Stumps Day



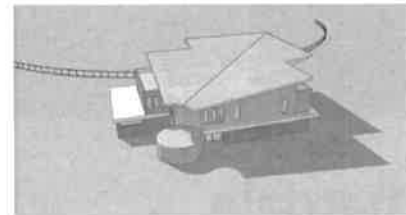
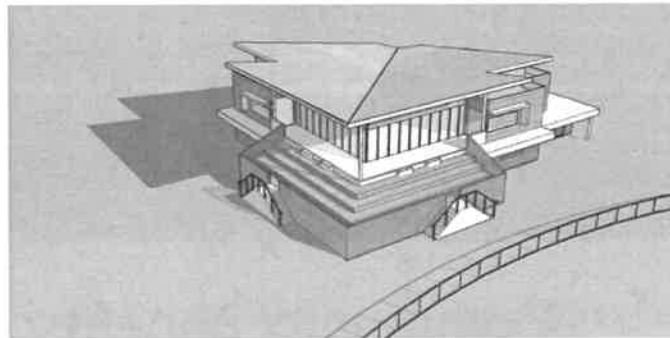
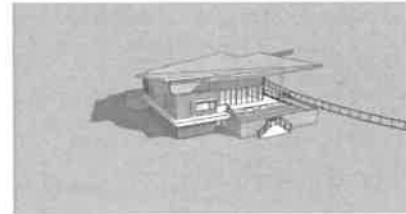
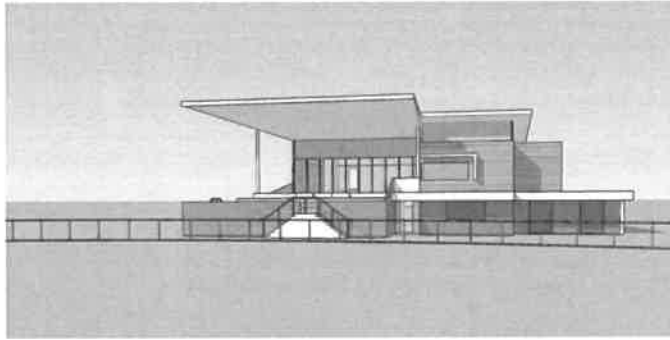


## Heatherdale Reserve *Development Plan*

- A. New Pavilion to service three (3) playing fields
- B. Better utilization of Retarding Basin Field
- C. Upgrade Coaches Boxes to meet OH&S requirements

## Community Benefits:

- Provide upgraded and adequate facilities for >25,000 Community Users
- Facilitate the growth in female participation by providing suitable changing / toilet facilities
- Improved family facilities will make the venue more user-friendly to young families within the community
- Create a flexible, modern venue for other Whitehorse community groups to use



## Indicative Cost Plan A Elemental Summary

**Project:** Heatherdale Pavilion

**Details:** 18266 Heatherdale Pavilion - Copy

**Building:** Heatherdale Pavilion

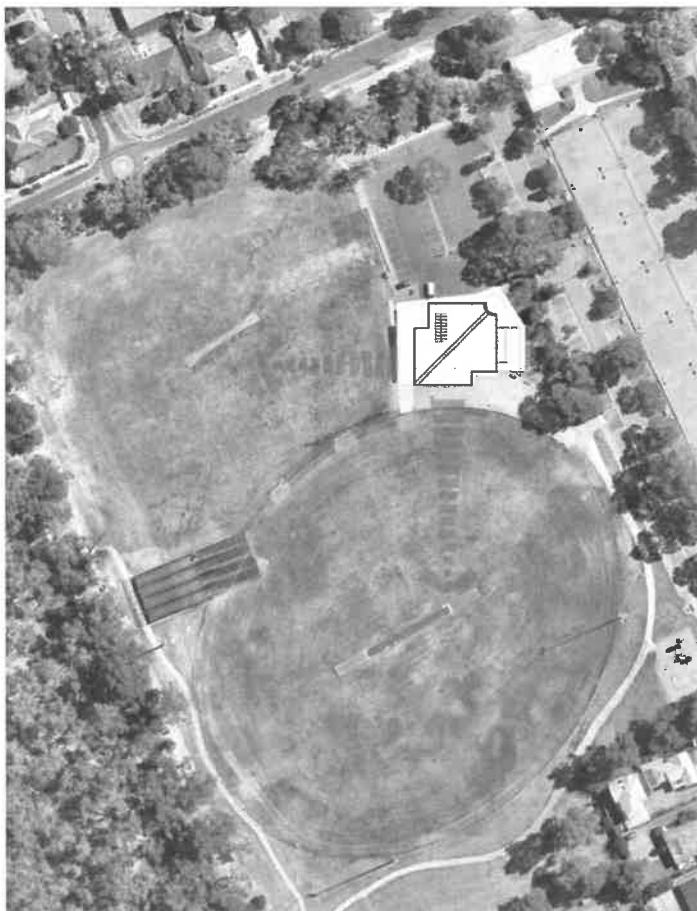
Copied from 18266 Heatherdale Pavilion

Code	Description	%BC	Cost/m2	Quantity	Unit	Rate	Subtotal	Factor	Total
		0.00%	0.00				0		0
	SUBSTRUCTURE	5.70%	170.00	1,091	m2	170.00	185,470		185,470
	COLUMNS	1.68%	50.00	1,091	m2	50.00	54,550		54,550
	UPPER FLOORS	7.04%	210.00	1,091	m2	210.00	229,110		229,110
	STAIRCASES	1.68%	50.00	1,091	m2	50.00	54,550		54,550
	ROOF	5.36%	160.00	1,091	m2	160.00	174,560		174,560
	EXTERNAL WALLS & WINDOWS	10.72%	320.00	1,091	m2	320.00	349,120		349,120
	EXTERNAL DOORS	1.01%	30.00	1,091	m2	30.00	32,730		32,730
	INTERNAL WALLS	5.36%	160.00	1,091	m2	160.00	174,560		174,560
	INTERNAL DOORS	1.85%	55.00	1,091	m2	55.00	60,005		60,005
	WALL FINISHES	3.62%	108.00	1,091	m2	108.00	117,828		117,828
	FLOOR FINISHES	3.52%	105.00	1,091	m2	105.00	114,555		114,555
	CEILING FINISHES	2.18%	65.00	1,091	m2	65.00	70,915		70,915
	FF&E	5.70%	170.00	1,091	m2	170.00	185,470		185,470
	HYDRAULIC & GAS SERVICES	9.38%	280.00	1,091	m2	280.00	305,480		305,480
	MECHANICAL SERVICES	5.03%	150.00	1,091	m2	150.00	163,650		163,650
	ELECTRICAL & COMMUNICATION SERVICES	5.70%	170.00	1,091	m2	170.00	185,470		185,470
	FIRE SERVICES	1.01%	30.00	1,091	m2	30.00	32,730		32,730
	SECURITY SERVICES	0.67%	20.00	1,091	m2	20.00	21,820		21,820
	LIFT	3.02%	90.00	1,091	m2	90.00	98,190		98,190
	EXTERNAL SERVICES	2.68%	80.00	1,091	m2	80.00	87,280		87,280
	<b>NET TRADE COST</b>	<b>82.82%</b>	<b>2,473.00</b>	<b>1,091</b>	<b>m2</b>	<b>2,473.00</b>	<b>2,698,043</b>		<b>2,698,043</b>
	PRELIMINARIES	12.43%	370.95	1,091	m2		404,706		404,706
	DESIGN CONTINGENCY 5%	4.77%	142.20	1,091	m2		155,137		155,137
	<b>TOTAL CONSTRUCTION COSTS (EXCL GST)</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>2,986.15</b>	<b>1,091</b>	<b>m2</b>	<b>2,986.15</b>	<b>3,257,886</b>		<b>3,257,886</b>

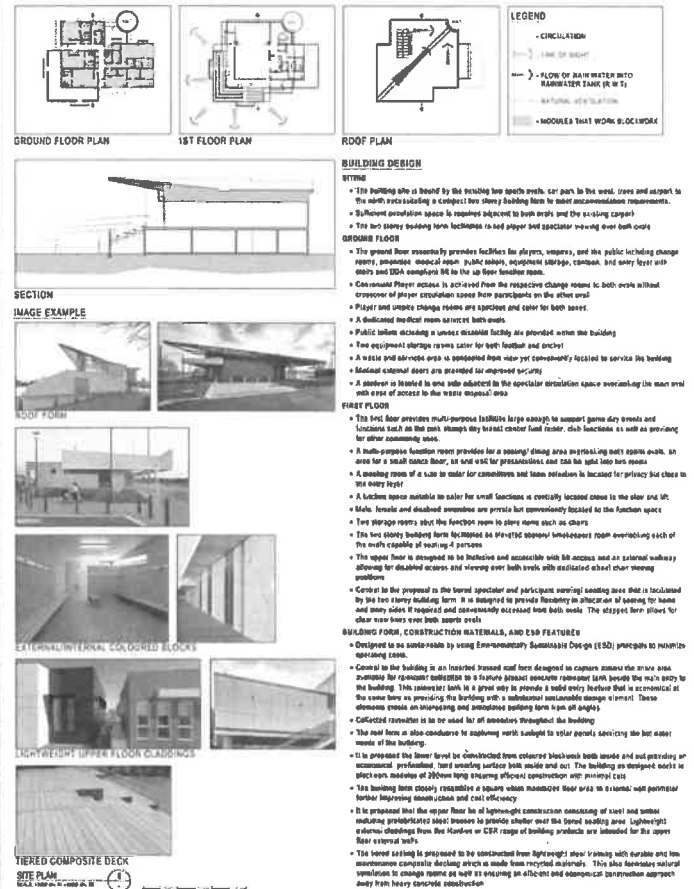
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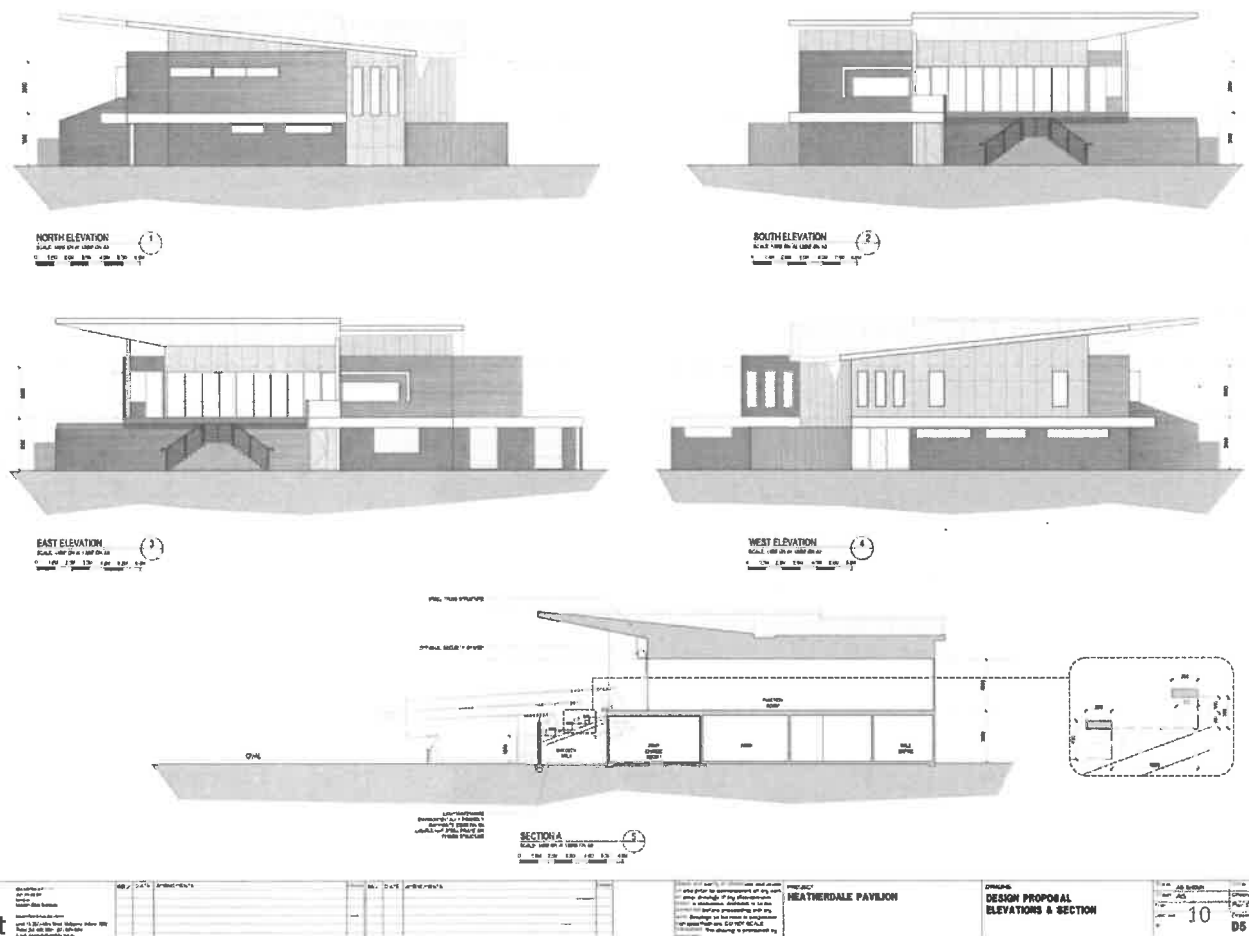
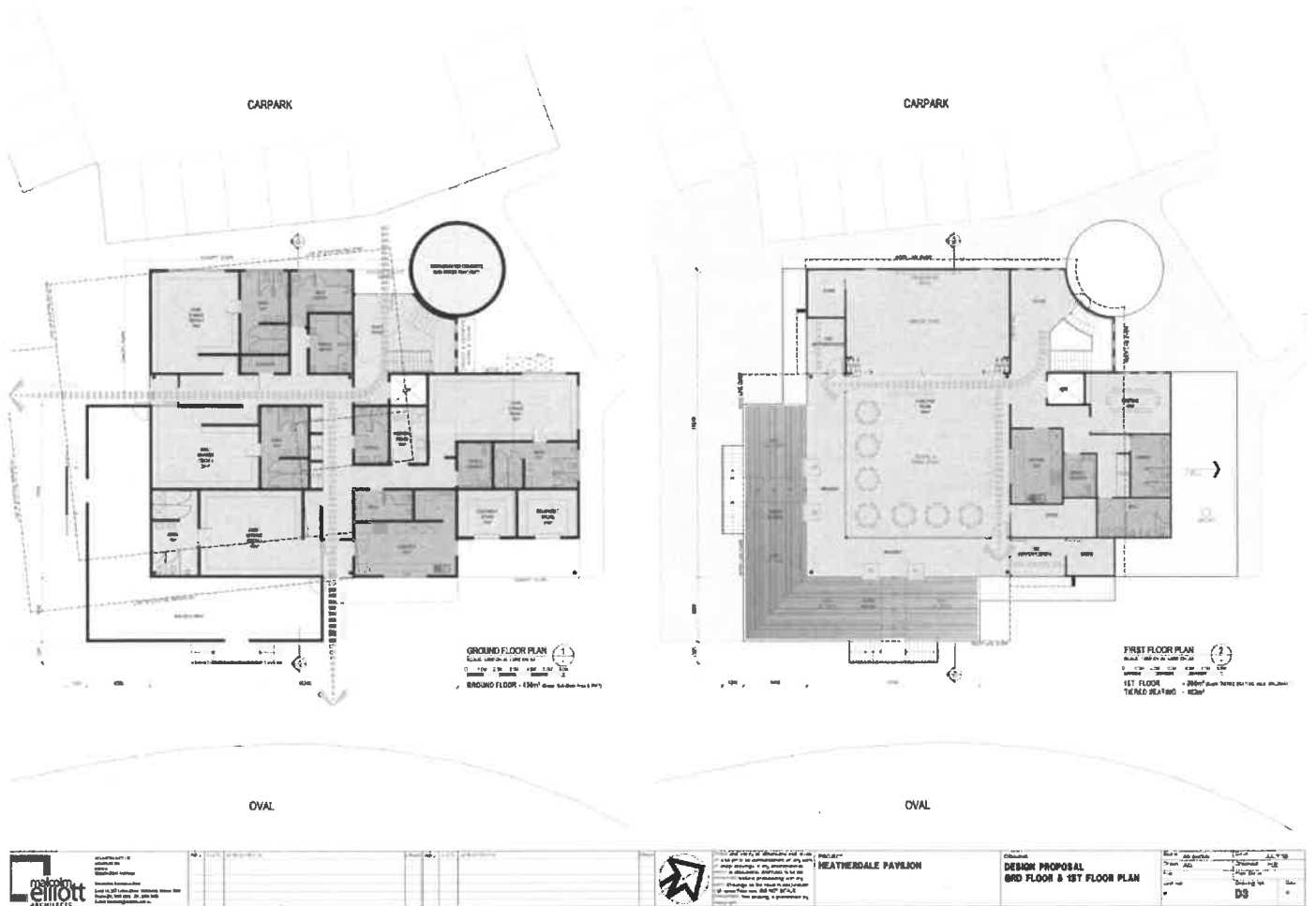
3 257 886





#### DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION PHILOSOPHY FOR NEW HEATHERDALE PAVILION







## Malcolm Elliott

- Bachelor of Architecture with Honours.
- Registered Architect
- Associate member, Royal Australian Institute of Architects.

Malcolm completed his degree in Architecture at Deakin University in 1987, graduating with honours. In 1986 was a finalist for an Australian Student Design competition. He went on to work in a medium sized private practice with John Herniman and Associates from 1985 to 1989 on a range of projects from residential to commercial. When Malcolm left JHA to establish his own practice in 1989, he was second in charge.

Since its inception in 1989, Malcolm Elliott Architects gradually expanded its range of work from housing and small multi residential dwellings to include larger residential townhouse projects, apartments, serviced apartments, offices, business parks, retail shops, restaurants, showrooms, factories, warehouses and processing plants ranging in construction value from \$20,000 to \$30 million. Completed projects are primarily in Victoria but extending to NSW, QLD, SA, and the NT. The practice has been awarded several design awards for excellence in medium density residential design by a number of local councils including the city of Whitehorse and Boroondara city council.

The diversity of projects and experience has included:

- Numerous individual houses and extensions in the Practice's early years.
- In excess of 2000 multi residential townhouses in projects from two to one hundred dwellings.
- Several Office buildings, Warehouses and Business parks.
- Eleven Serviced Apartment complexes, including Quest Serviced Apartments.
- Export distribution complexes for Bonlac Foods and SCT Logistics.
- A number of satellite distribution centers for Pivot Fertilizers in remote areas of Australia.
- Multiple apartment buildings up to storey's totaling in excess of 1500 apartments for a range of clients.

The extensive experience gained since 1989 has seen Malcolm's practice now focusing on working exclusively with a small number of long standing clients providing a high level of service and expertise on residential and commercial development projects.



## Building Design

### Siting

The building site is bound by the existing two sports ovals, car park to the west, trees and carpark to the north necessitating a compact two storey building form to meet accommodation requirements.

Sufficient circulation space is required adjacent to both ovals and the existing carpark.

The two storey building form facilitates raised player and spectator viewing over both ovals.

### Ground Floor

The ground floor essentially provides facilities for players, umpires, and the public including change rooms, amenities, medical room, public toilets, equipment storage, canteen, and entry foyer with stairs and DDA compliant lift to the up floor function room.

Convenient Player access is achieved from the respective change rooms to both ovals without crossover of player circulation space from participants on the other oval.

Player and umpire change rooms are spacious and cater for both sexes.

A dedicated medical room services both ovals.

Public toilets including a unisex disabled facility is provided within the building.

Two equipment storage rooms cater for both football and cricket.

A waste and services area is concealed from view yet conveniently located to service the building.

Minimal external doors are provided for improved security.

A canteen is located to one side adjacent to the spectator circulation space overlooking the main oval with ease of access to the waste disposal area.

### First Floor

The first floor provides multi-purpose facilities large enough to support game day events and functions such as the pink stumps day breast cancer fund raiser, club functions as well as providing for other community uses.

A multi-purpose function room provides for a seating/ dining area overlooking both sports ovals, an area for a small dance floor, an end wall for presentations and can be split into two rooms.

A meeting room of a size to cater for committees and team selection is located for privacy but close to the entry foyer.

A kitchen space suitable to cater for small functions is centrally located close to the stair and lift.

Male, female and disabled amenities are private but conveniently located to the function space.

Two storage rooms abut the function room to store items such as chairs.

The two storey building form facilitates an elevated scorers/ timekeepers room overlooking each of the ovals capable of seating 4 persons.

The upper floor is designed to be inclusive and accessible with lift access and an external walkway allowing for disabled access and viewing over both ovals with dedicated wheel chair viewing positions.

Central to the proposal is the tiered spectator and participant viewing/ seating area that is facilitated by the two storey building form. It is designed to provide flexibility in allocation of seating for home and away sides if required and conveniently accessed from both ovals. The stepped form allows for clear view lines over both sports ovals.



# Building Design And Construction Philosophy For the new Heatherdale Pavilion

## **Building Form, construction materials, and ESD features.**

Designed to be sustainable by using Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) principals to minimize operating costs.

Central to the building is an inverted butterfly trussed roof form designed to capture almost the entire area available for rainwater collection to a feature precast concrete rainwater tank beside the main entry to the building. This rainwater tank is a great way to provide a solid entry feature that is economical at the same time as providing the building with a substantial sustainable design element. These elements create an interesting and articulated building form from all angles.

Collected rainwater is to be used for all amenities throughout the building.

The roof form is also conducive to capturing north sunlight to solar panels servicing the hot water needs of the building.

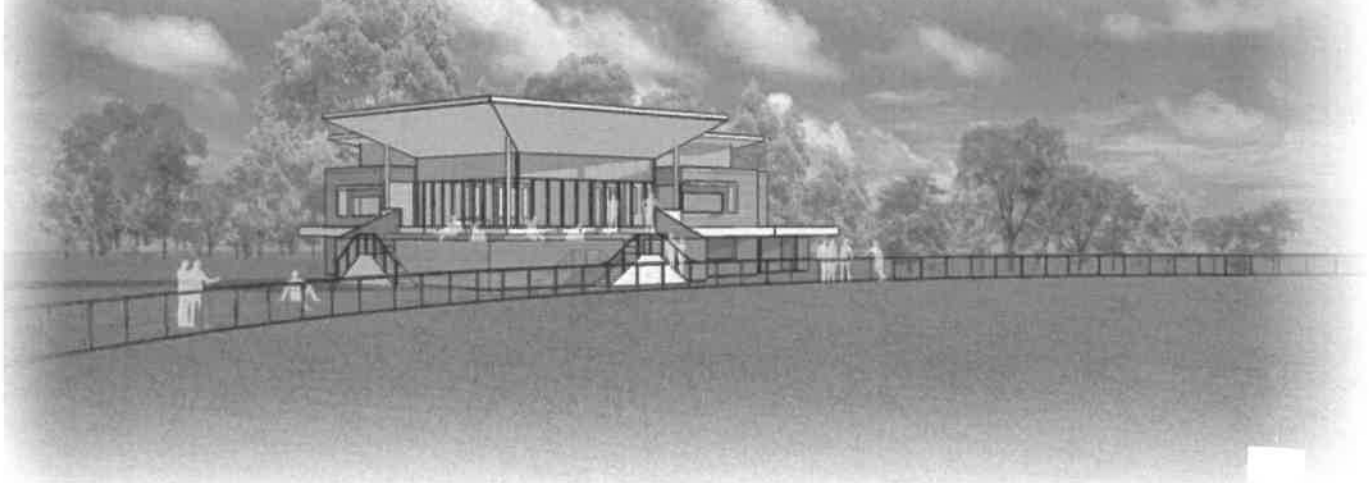
It is proposed the lower level be constructed from coloured blockwork both inside and out

providing an economical, prefinished, hard wearing surface both inside and out. The building as designed works to blockwork modules of 390mm long ensuring efficient construction with minimal cuts.

The building form closely resembles a square which maximizes floor area to external wall perimeter further improving construction and cost efficiency.

It is proposed that the upper floor be of lightweight construction consisting of steel and timber including prefabricated steel trusses to provide shelter over the tiered seating area. Lightweight external claddings from the Hardies or CSR range of building products are intended for the upper floor external walls.

The tiered seating is proposed to be constructed from lightweight steel framing with durable and low maintenance composite decking which is made from recycled materials. This also facilitates natural ventilation to change rooms as well as ensuring an efficient and economical construction approach away from heavy concrete construction.





Anthony Nicholls

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(President)

president@jetsjuniors.com

0405 277 053



Kevin Oakey

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0410 572 494



northwind<sup>TM</sup>

QUANTITY SURVEYORS

MAXIMISE YOUR PROPERTY PROFITS

**Proposed Residential Development**

At 145 Johnston Street, Collingwood VIC  
3066

29 August 2018  
Ref: 18266 Heatherdale

Suite 1303, 401 Docklands Drive,  
Docklands VIC 3008  
T 1300 388 088  
W [northwindqs.com.au](http://northwindqs.com.au)  
ABN 48 138 237 173

29 August 2018

Malcolm Elliott  
Malcolm Elliot Architects  
Level 14 257 Collins Street  
Melbourne Vic 3000

**RE: Proposed Heatherdale Pavilion**

Dear Malcolm,

As requested, we have attached herewith the Cost Plan A – Indicative Costing. A tabulated summary of the construction cost estimate as below;

Total Building Element Cost	\$2,448,327
Builders Preliminaries	\$367,249
Construction Contingency (10%)	\$284,058
Design Contingency (10%)	\$284,058
<b>Total Construction Cost</b>	<b>\$3,381,192</b>
Professional Fees	\$338,119
Authority Fees	\$67,624
<b>Total Estimated Cost excluding GST</b>	<b>\$3,786,935</b>
GST	Excluded

Gross Floor Area (GFA) summary

Ground Floor Area	458 m2
First Floor Area	399 m2
Seating Area	102 m2
<b>Total Gross Floor Area (GFA)</b>	<b>959 m2</b>

Comments:

- Based on the Total Construction Cost of \$3,381,192, the cost per square meter rate is \$3,525.75/m2.
- This cost estimate has been priced based on, in our opinion, the current market rates as at August 2018 applicable for this type of project
- This cost estimate has been prepared and measured based on preliminary information provided. Please see attached Costing clarification.
- Medium quality of finishes have been allowed and priced.
- This Cost Plan has been prepared for the use of the client and other authorized consultants. Northwind will not accept any responsibilities for the use of this document by other parties.

Documents:

Our cost estimate is based on the following documents received on 7/8/2018:

- Design Proposal D1 – D5 by Malcolm Elliot Architects dated July 2018
- 3 D render image by Malcolm Elliot Architects
- Construction methodology, materials and ESD features by Malcolm Elliot Architects

We trust that this report meets your present requirements. Should you have any query or wish to discuss further, please do not hesitate to contact Harry Nguyen of this office.

Yours sincerely,



Northwind Quantity Surveyors



## CLARIFICATION LIST

### SUBSTRUCTURE

Assumed building works start on reduced level  
Allowed concrete slab with piles  
Allowed concrete pathway around the building

### UPPER FLOOR

Bondek slab  
Lightweight steel framing and composite decking for tiered seating

### STAIRCASES

Allowed concrete staircase with handrail/balustrade  
Incl tiered seating staircases with handrail/balustrade

### ROOF

Timber roof truss to building  
Steel roof trusses over the tiered seating area

### EXTERNAL WALLS & WINDOWS

Allowed smooth face coloured blockwork at lower level  
Allowed single glazed window and glazed wall  
Allowed lightweight stud framing and light weight external claddings to upper level

### EXTERNAL DOORS

Allowed single glazed door  
Allowed timber solid core door  
Allowed manual roller shutter door

### INTERNAL WALLS

Allowed block wall to ground floor  
Allowed lightweight stud wall to upper floor  
Included operable wall

### INTERNAL DOORS

Allowed timber solid core doors

### WALL FINISHES

Wall tiles to wet area  
Paint finish to all internal wall lining

### FLOOR FINISHES

Floor tiles to wet area  
Vinyl/carpet finishes to entire area except wet area

#### CEILING FINISHES

Allowed paint finishes to ground floor bondek soffit except wet area and entry  
Allowed plaster applies to entry foyer bondek soffit  
Allowed set plasterboard lining to upper floor entire area except wet area  
Allowed moisture resistant ceiling to wet area

#### FF&E

All Joinery  
Commercial kitchen appliances  
Lockers

#### HYDRAULIC & GAS SERVICES

Incl. prefabricated concrete rain water tank  
Allowed solar panel for hot water

#### MECHANICAL SERVICES

Allowed ducted air to entire upper level and limited split A/C units on lower level  
Allowed ventilation system to change rooms and toilets

#### EXTERNAL SERVICES

Allowance for connection to nearby existing services

#### EXCLUSIONS

GST  
Legal fees  
Latent conditions  
Excavation in rock  
Escalation of cost  
Staging allowance  
Finance costs  
Land costs  
Out of hour works  
Loose furniture  
Landscaping  
Earthwork including bulk excavation/filling  
Remove and relocation Authority's assets  
Upgrading of existing services

## Cost Plan A Indicative

**Project:** Heatherdale Pavilion  
**Building:** Heatherdale Pavilion

**Details:** 18266 Heatherdale Pavilion - Cost Plan A Indicative

Description	Quantity	Unit	Rate	Total
CLARIFICATION				0
DEMOLITION				25,000
SUBSTRUCTURE	959.00	m2	170.00	163,030
COLUMNS	959	m2	50.00	47,950
UPPER FLOORS	959	m2	210.00	201,390
STAIRCASES	959	m2	50.00	47,950
ROOF	959	m2	160.00	153,440
EXTERNAL WALLS & WINDOWS	959	m2	320.00	306,880
EXTERNAL DOORS	959	m2	30.00	28,770
INTERNAL WALLS	959	m2	160.00	153,440
INTERNAL DOORS	959	m2	55.00	52,745
WALL FINISHES	959	m2	108.00	103,572
FLOOR FINISHES	959	m2	105.00	100,695
CEILING FINISHES	959	m2	65.00	62,335
FF&E	959	m2	170.00	163,030
HYDRAULIC & GAS SERVICES	959	m2	350.00	335,650
MECHANICAL SERVICES	959	m2	150.00	143,850
ELECTRICAL & COMMUNICATION SERVICES	959	m2	170.00	163,030
FIRE SERVICES	959	m2	30.00	28,770
SECURITY SERVICES	959	m2	20.00	19,180
LIFT	959	m2	100.00	95,900
EXTERNAL SERVICES	959	m2	80.00	76,720
<b>NET TRADE COST</b>	<b>959</b>	<b>m2</b>	<b>2,553.00</b>	<b>2,448,327</b>
PRELIMINARIES	959	m2		367,249
CONSTRUCTION CONTINGENCY	959	M2		284,058
DESIGN CONTINGENCY	959	m2		281,558
<b>TOTAL CONSTRUCTION COSTS (EXCL. GST)</b>	<b>959</b>	<b>m2</b>	<b>3,525.75</b>	<b>3,381,192</b>
CONSULTANTS & PM FEES - TBC	959	m2		338,119
AUTHORITY FEES (2% of construction costs)	959	m2		67,624
<b>TOTAL PROJECT COSTS (EXCL. GST)</b>	<b>959</b>	<b>m2</b>	<b>3,948.84</b>	<b>3,786,935</b>

## Budget submission from the Heatherdale Tennis Club Submission 20

Dear Sir / Madam

My name is Peter Clark and I am the Treasurer of the Heatherdale Tennis Club and as such I would like to put forward our case for an amendment to your current budget. I would like to acknowledge and thank Councillor Andrew Davenport for not only encouraging us to make this submission but also for instructing us in how to submit it. This encouragement from a councillor not even in our district helped us to get to this point. Please note I would also like to speak to this submission at the meeting of the Special Committee of Council on the 11<sup>th</sup> of June.

The Heatherdale Tennis Club was founded in 1966.

We have a long and distinguished history in our community and have produced a Wimbledon champion and many Australian and European Champions. At one stage we had 5 junior Australian / European champions at the same time and according to Ian Barclay, our coach at the time, this club was the most well know local tennis club in the world.

Here is a very short video made on our club by Tennis Victoria which goes over part of our distinguished history. I must admit that I get emotional every time I see this video because it makes me feel incredibly proud to be part of this club. I also believe you all should be proud that this club is in the Whitehorse District.

<https://www.tennis.com.au/video/2013/12/09/my-first-club-ian-barclay>

Six years ago we were in the top 10 clubs in Victoria. This was based on the number of members at the time. Since then we have fallen outside the top 50 and we believe this is due in part to the surrounding councils putting millions of dollars into building new clubhouses and upgrading facilities. When playing at these clubs, one can see the visual impact when walking up to them.

I have talked to the members of these clubs and have been told their membership numbers have shot up since the upgrades.

They all also said they didn't even ask for the upgrades. In the case of Greythorn Tennis Club, who at the time had only 60 members, the council erected a 2 story club house with an elevator. On its completion the members couldn't afford the electricity bill. However with the increase in membership numbers since then, they have no problem in making payments now.

With the rising cost of running the Heatherdale Tennis Club and the falling numbers of members, we find ourselves heading towards a critical point where our costs will overtake our income. If we don't make changes I can see the possibility of such a situation happening in this coming year. Should this occur we will be forced into a situation where we won't be able to properly maintain the club, in which case members could well choose to go elsewhere. With fewer members even less can be maintained and the cycle continues. We look at the Mitcham Tennis Club as an example of this.

We have identified 2 things that will dramatically change the direction in which our club is now headed.

Firstly the proposed deck /viewing platform / entertainment area, which will not only be visually attractive when approaching the club, will also significantly modernise the look of our 30+ year old club house. In addition this area will be of great benefit to our members, friends and family and visitors for socialising, viewing the tennis or just enjoying a relaxed atmosphere with a great outlook.

The club fully intended to fund this deck ourselves and we brought in Jeremy Booth from the council to advise us on what we could do and how to go about it. Armed with his advice we started getting prices and proceeded to try and raise funds for it. We soon realised that it would take many years to raise sufficient funds, so we went back to the council asking for financial assistance. Beate Matthews and Jeremy Booth both visited Heatherdale Tennis Club. By this time we had quotes, concept plans and a builder lined up to do the job. Once again we got great advice on what we were doing but no financial assistance from the council was available.

The total cost of the deck is \$65,000

The good news is that we now have an offer of a grant for \$25,000 from the Federal Government towards the construction of the deck. The club also has \$25,000 from fundraising and long term savings to contribute.

So we are now requesting of the council the remaining \$15,000

The second thing we have identified to ensure the future of our club is to change the court lighting to LED lights. Our current lights are extremely expensive to run and the maintenance cost is also very high. Of course both of these costs are constantly increasing. The saving we could make each year will enable us not only to put money aside for bigger projects, but also to make ongoing updates at the club. In addition the LED lighting is far more environmentally friendly.

We will be seeking funding from Tennis Victoria, Tennis Australia, Dustin Halse (state member of parliament) and however wins the Federal Election for the LED lighting.

The deck is our number 1 priority, however if you do have addition funds available to go towards the lighting it would go a long way to assisting us.

According to Tennis Victoria the number one source for funding for tennis clubs in Victoria is their local council. They state some councils have an annual budget for tennis, while some have a rolling budget, where different sports get funded each year. They also mention there are exceptions to this.

In the past when our club has come to the Whitehorse Council for financial assistance it has always been denied. The reasons for this seem to lie in the current policies or guidelines which I would like to address.

I would also like to say this has been going on for many years and I by no means blame the current Mayor or Councillors for the way in which they are required to go about decision making. I realize that these guidelines would have been in place when you were elected and you would be expected to follow them to the letter.

The first comment is on: *"We treat clubs with privately constructed community buildings on council land differently."*

The council has identified over 125 such buildings and even made up a name for them, which is PCCB's.

The guidelines dictate that only a relatively small budget is set aside each year for all the so called PCCB's collectively, with additional funds made available for essential safety measures. These guidelines don't take into account what each building is used for or of what value they are to the community. Nor do they acknowledge the dedication of the people, both past and present, who have been involved in their development and use, and the future value they will be to the public at large.

The classification of PCCB's is based solely on the origin of the club house. In reality, this branding only affects the people who use the club and others who the club reaches out to, because they are the ones "treated differently" as second class citizens.

I am 100% sure every Councillor at Whitehorse would not tolerate these same guidelines if we substituted the title PCCB's with the word Jew or Muslim or Indigenous Australian. It would, and should be totally unacceptable to treat anyone with less respect and consideration based solely on their origins. In these matters people and clubs should be judged by their actions and the value they provide for the community and not by where or how their club house originated.

Next: *"Our funding goes to multi-use venues "*

Let's look at the multi-use venues which are used for both soccer or football and cricket. They seemed to have little problem getting funding. First of all these two sports are not played at the same time. Soccer or football is played for around 7 months of the year, then around 4 months of the year the facility is used for cricket. People who play soccer or football and not cricket don't get to continue their activity for the whole year and the reverse is also true. The age range of people playing these sports is also very limited.

Tennis is the chosen sport of people from a wide variety of age groups – it is played by pre-school children as well as those in their eighties. Some people in their eighties still play competition tennis. It's a sport that can be played as a junior and be returned to at any age. I personally took up tennis at the age of 52 for the first time. I am now playing against people from 18 to 80 and holding my own. I can now proudly say I can finally beat those eighty year olds. Neither I nor most people around my age could dream of taking up any of the big funded sports.

Besides this the Heatherdale Tennis Club is a multi-use venue. We not only provide tennis and tennis coaching, but through our strength and conditioning coach Heatherdale Tennis Club is a registered venue for This Girl Can, a VicHealth initiative that gets activity back into the lives of women and girls. Some of them will never progress past just exercising, which in itself for many participants is a great thing, but for those that want to go on, we can integrate them into tennis.

Our strength and conditioning coach is now working with children and adults with intellectual and physical disabilities helping them to develop movement and co-ordination. Working together with our head tennis coach, some have progressed into tennis and some have even been integrated into playing in competition teams. We also offer cardio tennis which is primarily a cardio program with a racket and ball making it a lot more enjoyable than just straight cardio. It can be done and enjoyed by those with little or no tennis skills.

So as you can see Heatherdale Tennis Club is a multi-use venue, but regardless of that, if it were only a single use club like most tennis clubs, why would you give so called multi-use venues that have sports aimed primarily at a limited age group and don't allow you to participate all year round all the sports funding? Why is a club and sport that offers participation for all ages and skill levels, and is also available all year round given no funding at all? Surely a sport that encourages participation like this shouldn't be discriminated against.

**Next: *"If clubs want the facilities to be exclusive, then they have to bear all the costs. On the other hand, if council contributes then the facilities are accessible to the public. Strictly no funds for casual users/groups."***

Let's look at the Soccer or football / cricket clubs again as an example of this. The majority of the funds supplied to these clubs go towards their clubrooms followed by scoreboards, lighting and other buildings, none of which is accessible to the public. The user of these facilities would need to be a member of a club, which would require a membership fee.

Of course it would be ridiculous to expect the buildings to be open to the public because we all know what damage would occur. The grounds are open to the public, but what real damage can be done to them, and the public does not get to use the scoreboard or the lights.

Let's look at Terrara Park and Walker Park.

Both are in the process of getting funding from the council. If you want to use either to play a casual game, a booking must be made and paid for. The buildings which all the funds are going to cannot be used by the public at all. They are exclusive to the clubs playing there. In fact at Terrara Park they have signs on them saying no public access, just in case you think you can walk in when they are open. At the Heatherdale Tennis Club we have welcome signs on our entrance and on our clubhouse and we do mean welcome to everybody.

Let's also look at the council owned Aqualink centres. I believe swimming is one of the only activities that can compare to tennis.

It is suitable for all ages. You can go at your own pace and as you improve you can increase your intensity. You can go back to it at any age. Maybe taking it up at an older age could be a problem with the fear of drowning though. The big problem however is the cost of going there. \$7.50 for a single visit is very restrictive to a lot of people and it's certainly not free for a casual user.

Now let's look at the Heatherdale Tennis Club.

We have the latest state of the art synthetic clay courts which offer not only the most enjoyable surface for the average person to play on, but they are also easier on the body than the older en tout cas courts. If vandals were to get to them or even if they were used in ways other than what they are intended for, immense damage could be caused and this would disable the club. Therefore the courts are only open to the public when there is supervision. If they're not open, all one has to do to come and try out tennis is to make a phone call. We will even have someone come and play with you if you don't have anyone else.

We offer our club house free of charge to many community groups, for example the "Keep Australia Clean" day volunteers.

Let me compare the Heatherdale Tennis Club charges to those of your Aqualink centres. An adult membership at Heatherdale works out to be just under \$3.50 a week and with that there is unlimited access to the courts 7 days a week. You are covered under Tennis Victoria's sports injury policy whenever on the courts. Competition tennis is available on weekends, night or during the week day if you wish.

For a family of four it works out to be around \$2.00 a week each and less if you have more children and covers all of the above. For a family that just wants to play with friends and family socially it works out to be \$1.00 a week for availability 7 days a week. All of the above covers 52 weeks of the year.

In comparison, the Aqualink centres charge \$7.50 for a single visit.

Once again why are we told we won't get funds because we are exclusive? Tennis is probably the most inclusive sport of them all. There are possibly more policies or guidelines that I haven't mentioned which discriminate against tennis, but are any of them what we should continue to accept?

I'm asking you all to help one of the greatest if not the greatest sporting club in the Whitehorse district to survive. I have the utmost respect for you all and the positions you hold and I thank you for taking the time to read this.

Peter Clark



**Michael Rodda** (Ba.H.Sc. Nursing), Level 1 Strength and Conditioning Coach, NDIS registered provider, Level 1 Sports trainer Contracting to Tennis Victoria

**Lifestyle Strength and Conditioning**

**Strength and Conditioning Coach**

**M.**

**E. lifestylestrength@**

**Date: May 16, 2019**

**Re: Budget submission from the Heatherdale Tennis Club and request to speak to the councillors at the meeting on June 11<sup>th</sup> 2019.**

Dear Whitehorse Councillors,

My name is Michael Rodda and I am writing to inform you of the Programs we have running at our Club. This is directly in support of the submission prepared by Peter Clark of the Heatherdale Tennis Club.

I have a 35-year history in health care as a Division 1 Registered Nurse with a post graduate certificate in paediatric Intensive care nursing. I remain registered as a Nurse (non-practising), but now operate as a Strength and Conditioning Coach out of Heatherdale Tennis Club. My involvement is very much associated with my drive to offer better health opportunities to the public through exercise. Heatherdale Tennis club offers an exercise supportive environment with its current facilities but these need to be maintained and developed at a level that meets the current community's expectations.

New buildings are designed to have both functional as well as aesthetically appropriate structure. The public has expectations that the places they visit will also model modern looking, clean facilities as well as be environmentally structured to support environmental concerns. To this end, we seek Council's funding support in order to achieve the conversion of the current court lights to LED lighting. This conversion will serve multiple purposes;

1. environmentally uses less energy;
2. reduce running and maintenance costs so the club can use these funds to improve the appearance and facilities;
3. better safer court lighting for night use. Lights are used for training as well as play.

My understanding is that previously council funding requests have been declined based on policies which allow support only for multi use sporting facilities. Facilities seen as single use, or exclusive were not consistent with the policy vision.

My submission will consider 3 main points in our need for supported funding by the council to maintain a safe physical and aesthetically inviting social environment at the Heatherdale Tennis Club.

- 1. Supporting women's sporting and active lifestyle**
- 2. Supporting disability integration**
- 3. Reducing youth sporting injury**

### **1. Supporting women in sport and activity**

Gender inequality is a significant current social issue.

"Men in a "masculine society" dominate accessibility to sport and infrastructure. Attitudes towards and between genders are at opposite ends of the spectrum with regards to image and identity. Societal history has developed an environment that does not encourage or support women's participation in sports wholeheartedly." Gender Defender – Women in Sport, Anthony Seibold,

Sport has been identified as one of the major contributors to female stereotyping and discrimination due to historical attitudes towards females in sport. It has also been highlighted as one of the key modalities to change social beliefs and attitudes.

In her book *Breaking the Mould*; Angela Pippas, 2017, Affirm press, Angela quotes information from the 2006 Senate Committee report "About Time! Women in sport and recreation in Australia" identifies a range of factors directly responsible for the low participation rates of women and girls in sport recreation and physical activity. Some are practical (lack of time; lack of childcare and awareness of childcare options; lack of money; lack of access to appropriate, accessible and affordable facilities and services), some are personal (lack of confidence; body image issues) and others are social and cultural (social stereotyping; lack of female role models; reduced leisure time owing to family responsibilities; harassment; lack of culturally appropriate facilities or programs)."

All of the items put forward in the 2006 senate report are raised in the "This Girl Can" literature. Some additional items are put forward.

- Activities need to be social;
- Many women are intimidated by gymnasium and similar environments;
- Many women dislike traditional club (male dominated) atmosphere
- Many do not feel comfortable exercising in open public space.

Vic Health fund many major health initiatives. They are currently in their second year of the "This Girl Can" program. This Girl Can published data suggests that "62% of women in Victoria say they want to become more physically active." (This Girl Can Victoria: Helping women and girls get active. <https://thisgirlcan.com.au/>.) This girl can focus is on being active not just participating/competing in an organised sport. In March this year they launched "This Girl Can Week" and Heatherdale Tennis Club hosted 7 free events that were advertised on the This Girl Can Web Page. Both Heatherdale tennis Club and Lifestyle Strength and Condition have advertised "This Girl Can" activities in 3 local social medial community noticeboards.

In a study published by Deakin University; Why do Young Women Drop out of Sport and physical activity? A social ecological approach. M. J. Craike, C. Symonds, J.A.M. Zimmermann, May 2012, Seven strategies were identified that could be undertaken to

increase the participation of young women is physical activity. I would like to highlight two of these.

1. "appealing to young women's need for socialisation through opportunities for informal physical activity";
2. The "provision of accessible sport and physical activity facilities, programs, and services."

What does all this have to do with Heatherdale Tennis Club? Why do we require an equal amount of funding support from local councils and governments?

Heatherdale Tennis Club is already female friendly and supportive. Three out of five executive positions in the club committee are held by women. (Currently President, Secretary and membership Secretary, and in the recent past 2 Treasurer positions.) This shows that Heatherdale Tennis Club is supportive of gender equality and is an inviting female friendly club environment for women who may view clubs as male dominated.

Heatherdale is registered as a "This Girl Can" supporting club.

Heatherdale Tennis Club has a great mixed and family friendly social culture.

Monday night tennis is an all female competition evening. 8 courts are full every week of ladies being active, and the club rooms offer a social opportunity during and at the end of play.

Midweek ladies' tennis - Mid week ladies tennis is a long-standing tennis tradition and offers social events as well as physical activity for all ages. The club rooms are used for luncheons which are attended by members and non-members and even nonplaying community members as a social meeting place.

These social meeting areas also require modernisation to keep pace with more modern community perceptions of public meeting places. Expanding this area with a modern, up to date Alfresco viewing/lounge area assists us to better meet current community expectations of clubs and public venues. This deck space is considered a very important practical and aesthetic upgrade which will assist us meeting these modern community expectations.

Our Club Coach, JTS Tennis Coaching offers Tennis Victoria's officially recognised Cardio Tennis program. Cardio Tennis is attended by 98% females and provides a fun social atmosphere with physical activity that is non-competitive. JTS also runs a very popular Friday morning tennis game/lesson. Very fun and very social. Significant numbers of these participants are not club members but just members of the community utilising this facility.

Primary Movement and Balance sessions. This is run by me, the Strength and Conditioning coach. The program is developed around 3 research based concepts.

1. reducing back pain in 64+ age females
2. Victorian health guidelines on recommended levels of activity and sedentary behaviours in 18 to 60 year old's
3. Reducing the risk of dementia through exercise. (neurological stimulation.)

It is attended by 98% women. This is a specialised training program designed as an entry point for inactive people. Some have difficulty walking when they first attend. Many of these participants have body and self confidence issues. They are the epitome of the This Girl Can demographic. They have verbalised their dislike of gyms and clubs and fears of training in the middle of a public park. We train on the more distal courts which provides relative security for these participants from passing eyes and traffic, the fence provides a sense of

security and allows mothers of young children to participate without the need for child care as the children can play and occupy themselves in a secure fenced, yet open space which is safe. Most participants are not club members. Whilst some choose to stay at this level of activity, many move on to the Adult Court Movement program.

**Adult Court Movement** – This is a development of mine to assist Adults to stay active in their chosen sports by the use of scientific training programs and principals. It is attended by 99% women, age range 13 to 53 years. It is designed to limit sporting injuries through the use of correct body mechanics and fitness programming. It provides good information on health, diet and activity guidelines from Vic Health. It also involves high intensity interval style training so safe quality of court surface is important. The artificial classic clay courts provide good traction, soft cushioning underfoot and a gentler fall zone should someone fall. It is fun and social.

### **Summary of point 1. Supporting women's sporting and active lifestyle**

Heatherdale Tennis Club support women. We provide an excellent environment which is socially comfortable to women of all ages, („appealing to young women's needs for socialisation through opportunities for informal physical activity" and the provision of accessible sport and physical activity facilities, programs, and services." ). We provide a safe and secure location with a range of differing physical activities that can be competitive or non-competitive. We offer women with young children options to be involved in physical activities without the added expense of childcare because we have fences and gates that provide that security. This has previously been seen as excluding use but as can be seen it also provides inclusion by its very design. Our programs are very women friendly yet not exclusive of men. Women's activity and sport equality is a very current social issue. Heatherdale Tennis club is helping to directly address this issue by providing targeted activities that support this community program.

## **2. Supporting disability integration**

**I am registered with the NDIS as a provider**

**NDIS Provider No: RA6864122706 Service code 12\_029\_0126\_3\_3.**

Australian Government Australian Sports Commission publication 2005 – Coaching Athletes with Disabilities

Chapter 1 . Terminology - Inclusion, Integration and the Integration Process

“The term inclusion is relatively new to Australia and is being used more and more. The term integration and mainstreaming have been used more frequently to describe programs or initiatives designed to enable people with a disability to have access to regular community activities. “

Heatherdale Tennis Club is a supporter of disability inclusion.

Inclusion is not always about actually being active in a sport. It can mean enjoying being involved with a community activity. Recently we had a local community member with MND, fast moving variety. Three years from diagnosis to passing away this February. Prior to diagnosis he was an avid tennis player of high calibre. He loved his Tennis. When he used to come down to the club to watch he had to swallow his dignity and allow at least two members to manually handle him and his wheelchair into the club rooms to join the social environment. During winter he had to watch from indoors to maintain his temperature. This



again require manual handling to get him inside. Once he progressed to the motorised chair, he had to provide his own ramps to enter the club room. His wife was a supported member of the club and remains active within the club due to the effort of many club members who made them feel welcome.

Australian Government - Australian Sports Commission publication 2005 – Coaching Athletes with Disabilities.

#### Chapter 1 . Terminology – Ability verses disability

“There has been effort within the sport for people with disabilities movement to encourage coaches and administrators to focus on the abilities of an athlete rather than the disability”.

#### Physical disability.

We already have a program that has been specifically designed to assist athletes with physical disabilities. As the Strength and Conditioning Coach, I was introduced to a junior club member with a physical disability which limited his running speed and greatly increased his injury risk. I approached the AIS and the Paralympics community for advice on how to improve the physical training of this individual. I was successful in learning how this could be done, and we have now greatly enhanced this players enjoyment and inclusion in an age appropriate team with peers. We have greatly reduced his injury potential evidenced by a large reduction in his injuries and pain. It would appear that we have also removed the need for extreme surgery.

#### Intellectual Disability

Tennis Victoria was approached by a parent of two special needs children looking for a tennis club for her children to play tennis. The club coach and I are working together with tennis Victoria to provide physical training as well as tennis coaching to these children. Our plan is for full integration into existing lessons and our Friday night round robin competition. If we are unable to progress them to this level of play, we are looking for other ways to include them in club activities and social programs. As I am registered with the NDIS, the children's parent has requested support funding through the NDIS to cover their term fees with Speed and Agility training.

### 3. Reducing sporting injury

Most reports indicate that sporting injuries are up. One Catalyst program report indicated that orthopaedic repair of ACL injury is up 74% in the last 15 years.

“As ACL injury remains a significant problem, especially in young female athletes, procedures for improved prevention and management are needed” From an article, Non-contact ACL injuries in female athletes: An International Olympic Committee current concepts statement. P Renstrom, et.al, Br J Sports Med 2008; 42:394–412.

There are a number of scientific studies that indicate that a significant number of non-contact ACL injuries can be prevented by the correct training.

Netball Australia in response to the large numbers of knee injuries has introduced its “Knee Program” which it encourages all netball coaches to promote and offer.

ACL injuries in AFL have scientific research articles written on how to reduce the injury risk through correct knee training.

At Heatherdale Tennis Club I offer 15 training programs based around correct body mechanics which are designed to prevent injuries and promote healthy sports practice.

I currently train both domestic and rep level basketball players, netball players, football players, runners and tennis players.

My training demographic involves me training more alternate sports other than tennis. This training is provided at the Heatherdale Tennis Club facility. Why, because this style of training is not available at other venues. The courts surface and its maintenance is of key importance in this training. The lighting is important for winter training under lights.

People also request me to become involved in retraining individuals following major and minor sporting injuries. The maintenance of the court surface and lighting for night time training is an important factor in my practice.

### Summary

There are many aspects of the Heatherdale Tennis Club which are not singular. The Heatherdale Tennis Club and its surrounding grounds is offering multidiscipline training to many sports and members of the public who are not club members. As I have discussed in previous sections the fence whilst viewed as exclusive is an important part of providing security and a level of privacy to women who are not comfortable in a gym, male dominated clubs and open parks. The fence offers young mothers the opportunity to be active with their children secure behind the fence. In these cases, the fence is inclusive not exclusive. The club and club coach have seen the value and allowed strength and conditioning coaching to be available at this venue. This has increased the overall utilisation of the club grounds and facilities and is certainly not exclusive to tennis players or club members.

I urge you to assist in the remodelling and modernisation of this community facility not just now but into the future so that we can continue to service our local community with services that are not available at many other venues. I would also suggest that what Heatherdale has had the foresight to do, be monitored as a potential model for other tennis facilities as they do offer some significant benefits to many people in our community.

If you have any questions regarding this submission, please feel free to contact me or visit me at Heatherdale Tennis Club.

I look forward to meeting and speaking with you at the meeting.

Regards,

Michael Rodda

Lifestyle Strength and Conditioning

m.

e. [lifestylestrength](#)

## SUBMISSION ON DRAFT 2019/2020 BUDGET CITY OF WHITEHORSE

I have been a resident of the City of Whitehorse for over 57 years and am a self funded retiree

On page 6 of the Proposed Budget an amount of \$3.26m has been allocated to the Whitehorse Centre redevelopment. What is this money actually going to be used for? In the Leader on 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2018, a design competition was announced for the Centre – what happened to all the original plans which were widely publicised at great expense? The costings for the Centre were made on these original plans 2 years ago when the third option in the survey was that the Centre would have to be closed after 2 years. It may be 30 years old (but not nearly as old as the Box Hill Town Hall) and is still operating successfully. Why should Whitehorse ratepayers finance a massive Arts Centre which benefits, according to our interpretation of the survey results, less than 10% of Whitehorse residents? If the Centre is to be ‘world class’ then the government should be making a significant contribution. What a total waste of ratepayers money!!

On Page 9 \$3.46m has been allocated to New Operational Budget Initiatives.

- \$0.45m for year 2 of a 4 year project to consider the potential introduction of a Waste Service charge. Why does it take 4 years to make a decision on a new charge which should be covered by our rate charge. Is this because rates increases are capped at 2.5% and this is a way of getting around it??
- \$0.25m for year 1 of 2 for a review and business case re the redevelopment of the Aqualink Nunawading – so much money has been spent every year on both the Aqualink facilities – the Box Hill facility seems to need continual and maintenance at great cost. This money could be spent on maintenance at the Nunawading facility rather than yet another business plan..
- \$0.15m for the preparation of a new Community Vision for 2020-2030. – thinking of new projects to spend ratepayers money on!

I do support the \$0.35m allocated to advocate for Whitehorse’s interests in the NEL project and believe this is very important.

On page 10 total rate income of \$120.02m includes \$0.31m interest on overdue rates – if people cannot afford to pay their rates on time how can Council expect to receive this amount of interest?



On page 54 budgeted increase in user fees of \$1.7m (4.4%) will adversely effect many households, particularly those on fixed incomes.

On page 38 the staff numbers are forecast to increase to 806 which is an 8% increase on the projection for 2019/2020 in last year's budget of 746. The percentage rise in total employee costs in the proposed budget is 6.2%. With the advances in technology many businesses have been able to cut the number of staff required while the Council only increase but rarely reduce staff.

Obviously the hearing of budget submissions at the Special Meeting in June, 2019, is merely a formality. Submissions are circulated via the meeting agenda but there would be insufficient time to make any changes prior to the planned adoption of the budget approximately two weeks later. Over the years I have heard some excellent suggestions on improving Council efficiency and reducing spending but to my knowledge few have ever been adopted.

#### Advertising

On page 35 of The Age on 17<sup>th</sup> April, 2019 there were two large identical advertisements side by side advertising that the Council had prepared a proposed budget for 1<sup>st</sup> July 2019 to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020. Advertising is expensive so would you please explain why money was wasted placing two advertisements in The Age.

Calendar The issue of a calendar by Council is an unnecessary expenditure as most people end up with more calendars than they can use. The calendars have been most unattractive and probably many ended up in the recycle bin as mine did. The cost of cancellation of this item would be a further cost saving. I still believe this is not what Council should be using ratepayer money for.

The purpose of the local Council is to provide necessary, essential services for local community and Councillors being accountable to residents must take that responsibility seriously and curb unnecessary spending.

#### Just a few examples of unnecessary non-essential spending

1 Installation and upgrades of traffic management devices and landscaping on local roads is not necessary.

Roads are created to drive on – speed cameras have been introduced to catch speeding motorists who pay the price with fines and demerit points.

Obstructions on roads are a hazard and a frustration for the majority of road users who are law abiding. They also slow down emergency vehicles (fire trucks and ambulances) which could be disastrous.

2. Unnecessary replacement of park furniture which does not have to be replaced just because of a stipulated renewal program – it should only be maintained in good order

3. Play Space Renewal program – cyclical replacement – should just be maintained in good order. I notice that the play equipment in Eley Park is being completely redeveloped which seemed to be completely unnecessary

4 Capital works over and above what is absolutely necessary. Capital works have to be prioritised and some deferred to future years. Councillor Munroe was quoted in the Leader of 22<sup>nd</sup> April, 2019 as saying “We have the largest capital works program underway that the city has ever seen” – that to me is a warning that Council is overspending and not being diligent in listing what needs to be done in order of importance and deferring some projects to later years.

I respectfully request that you consider and act on the issues I have raised in this submission

Please contact me if you wish to discuss any of these issues.

(Mrs) Kathleen Cummings, CPA

Blackburn South 3130

Telephone:

17<sup>th</sup> May 2019

**From:** Tanya Tescher  
**Sent:** Sunday, 19 May 2019 7:23 PM  
**To:** Annual Budget  
**Subject:** HPE CM: Whitehorse Council 2019/20 budget submission

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

There are a number of items listed in this year's budget which are ongoing from last year's budget which are disturbing, as well as some new items which require justification.

#### **ONGOING MATTERS FROM LAST YEAR'S BUDGET**

- 1. We are in year 3 of the so-called Whitehorse Digital Strategy which appears to be a behemoth costing around \$7 million without adequate justification of this extremely large spend and the value for money that this project is providing. As we have repeatedly said there has been no proper consideration of the huge costs involved in this project which many IT experts have told me could be done at a fraction of the price being paid by this council.**
- 2. Last year there was an amount of \$300,000 included in the budget in relation to costs to be incurred to determine whether there should be a waste management charge. The question we have to ask is what happened to this expenditure, and if the amount was not spent last year why has the costing skyrocketed by 50% for work to be done counting rubbish bins in Whitehorse which the council should literally have a lid on.**
- 3. Expenditure of \$3.26 million on the proposed revamp of the Whitehorse Centre- What is this money to be used for in the 2020 year, given that the building works are not to commence till a later date. We note that around \$1 million was spent on a business case and design for this, which was then put out to the public for consideration and used in a survey to justify this new build. Then an architects' competition was devised by the council costing hundreds of thousands of dollars even though a prior design had been exhibited as the purported design for the new centre. There appears to be nothing in the news released about the new design in relation to this design as to whether it is expected to come within the original budgeted cost and all the public is supplied with is a partial artist impression. Where is the transparency in all of this?**
- 4. We note that under the heading of Statutory Planning it is expected that only 50% of council decisions will be upheld at VCAT. This highlights a major issue in the planning area. It would appear that either flawed decisions are being made or that inadequate representation is being made to VCAT on behalf of council and we believe that this whole matter requires serious attention given the ramifications for residents in the city of Whitehorse who may find objectionable developments rising up in their neighborhood because their council has not adequately defended their rights. We note anecdotal information given by residents to this effect.**

#### **NEW ITEMS**

- 5. We query the need for a new pavilion at Sparks Reserve West costing in the region of millions of dollars. We understand that originally all that was requested by users of this reserve was a toilet block for players to use and that they would have been happy with a secondhand toilet block which could have been purchased for around \$27,000 plus connection costs and that this has now blown out to a pavilion costing millions. We would like to compare this to the \$200,000 spend on the book for the sister city proposed in last year's budget. We believe this to be an extraordinary white elephant that ratepayers are being asked to fund.**

5. We query why there is a need for a proposed \$250,000 spend to commence a review and business case in relation to Aqualink Nunawading and what the monies are to be spent on.
6. We note that there is a proposed budget of \$250,000 for the development of an integrated transport strategy for Box Hill and request details of what this expenditure will be used for. We strongly support the development of an integrated transport strategy for Box Hill but would like to know how the council intends to implement this
7. Why is there a need for \$150,000 being used to prepare a new Community Vision 2020-2030, and why does such a large amount of money need to be spent on this.
8. We note that there is a budgeted cost of \$1 million on an Energy Performance Contract and ask what are the KPIs in relation to this project.
9. We note that \$260,000 is being budgeted to establish an e-waste collection infrastructure at the Whitehorse Recycling and Waste Centre. We would like to know why this is costing such a large amount of money.
10. We note that there is an increase of around \$1,300,000 in the waste and recycling area which has been noted as being due to the problems with recycled waste not being able to be dumped in China. The question that has to be asked is why is the council not doing anything about alternatives either on its own or in conjunction with other councils in relation to recycling. Given that residents are carefully sorting out their rubbish believing that it is being properly recycled, can they have the confidence that this is actually happening. We have in last year's budget suggested utilising food scraps in a plant to create energy as an example, but surely it is time for councils to band together and look for solutions that they can jointly fund and save their ratepayers money as well as properly recycling waste.
11. We query the \$140,000 increase in the continuous improvement programme and ask what objective criteria are provided for this expenditure.
12. We query why there is an expected increase in the costs of executive management of \$853,000 and why employee costs are increasing by 6.2% given that in the population at large salaries are stagnant.
13. We query the objective criteria being used to evaluate the \$100,000 spend on the placemaking strategy given that we understand that the grants given for the last placemaking in Box Hill may have resulted in a large spend for the number of people attracted into the activities, to the extent that this could have been around \$400 per person attending.
14. We query why the finance and corporate performance costs are budgeted to increase in the region of \$530,000.
15. We note that given that the council is so concerned about carbon emissions and being carbon neutral, why are there not more trees being planted in the City of Whitehorse?
16. Councillor Andrew Davenport has drawn to the attention of readers of the Whitehorse Leader that costs for users of Whitehorse facilities have increased by what he considers to be an undue amount, eg car parking. We would query why Whitehorse residents should not be entitled to reduced fees given that they fund Whitehorse facilities.

Tanya Tescher

On behalf of Whitehorse Ratepayers & Residents Association

**From:** Stan Chang <Late submission>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 22 May 2019 5:07 PM  
**To:** Annual Budget  
**Subject:** Objection to the car parking fee rise in Harrow Street, Box Hill

Dear Whitehorse Council

I am opposed to the car parking fee rise in Whitehorse especially in Box Hill.

I support Council's development of the new car park in Harrow Street....it's needed, but in the 2019/2020 budget the Harrow St car park fee will be more than what is now.

Council is not in the car park business and should provide these facilities for the community at minimal cost or free.

Please do not raise the car park prices. It will continue to drive people away and people will go elsewhere with cheaper and free parking.

Regards,

stan chang  
frequent shopper

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