



" Our Community Matters"

Issue No. 117

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15th October 2022

Dear Community Member

Recent Sport and Rec meeting with LCC Mayor, Councillors and GCA Committee

This week, GCA President and some Committee members had an after hours informal meeting with Mayor Andrew Zbik, Dep Mayor Merri Southwood and Councillor David Roenfeldt to communicate resident key concerns, seek further information and try to improve the availability and completeness of information on the basis of which Council is making big impact decisions for the community.

The building of new and enhanced facilities on the site of Golf Course, with a projected price tag of \$75m, makes this a significant investment for Lane Cove.

Key concerns addressed at the meeting were:

- **Rushed progress to DA**

Council moving quickly to access a \$5m grant, resulting in insufficient, unavailable or out of date information on council's website and sketchy concept drawings.

- **For the estimated building cost of \$75m, little additional facility is gained.**

5 tennis courts currently would become 8 multi-purpose courts, with improved golf and tennis amenities, bistro, bar, outdoor terrace, multi-functional meeting rooms. Other location options, including Lane Cove West, were considered by Council and rejected.

- **The size of the capital expenditure on this one project**

- **Accuracy and completeness of forecast operating revenue**

As Council intends to take out a loan of \$10m, the facility needs to generate a substantial operating profit each year to meet debt repayments as well as cover operating costs.

- **Response from Mayor Zbik**

In response, Mayor Zbik committed to ensuring the website information (reports, drawings etc) would be accessible and up-to-date, that Council would accept community submissions past the advertised exhibition deadline of 14 Oct. He expanded on other site locations considered and the grounds for rejection as providing less value for investment. Re the \$75m price tag, the Mayor indicated that this estimate included a large no. of contingency allowances, including building costs escalation. He expressed confidence that an operating surplus would be generated to cover depreciation, loan interest and allow payback of loan capital after 10 years.

Other issues raised included current inadequate public transport servicing the location, making safe access to the facility including River Road narrow pathway where cliff restricts access, keeping the golf course open and accessible during lengthy construction process.

Re time to have your say, residents wishing to make a submission, post the advertised exhibition deadline of 14 Oct, should know that this DA will be submitted to SNPP (Sydney North Planning Panel) in Nov/early Dec so you need to be lodged with Council by then.

The GCA meeting on 19th provides you with the opportunity to ask Councillors questions about this proposed significant project.

A link to the council notice is [here](#)

Next GCA Meeting Wednesday 19th October 7.30pm

Our invited speaker is the Principal from Greenwich Public School Mr Callum Thomson.

Kind regards

Peter Deane

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