



Dear Community Member

BOB CAMPBELL OVAL DEVELOPMENT MASTER PLAN - An Update

Opposition to Council's proposal is escalating. Thanks to all of those who have signed the petition and made submissions to Council. Keep the effort up and spread the word. The GCA will be collecting petition signatures and community input at the Greenwich shops and elsewhere every day until the "consultation" period ends on 29th October.

Make yourself heard. Council and Councillor email details are below.

At this stage, Council's drop-in information session at the Terrace Room, Little Street, Lane Cove tomorrow (13 October) from 3pm to 7pm will be the community's last chance to ask Council officers and their technical expert about the detail of what they propose for Bob Campbell Oval.

If you have not already done so, we urge you to register to attend the drop-in session tomorrow (Tuesday 13 October)

<http://www.lanecove.nsw.gov.au/CouncilConsultations/Pages/BobCampbell.aspx>

The detail and images on Council's website are concepts only but we have been told that there will be no further formal opportunity for community input after this round of consultation is complete.

Here is what the images on Council's website DO NOT SHOW :

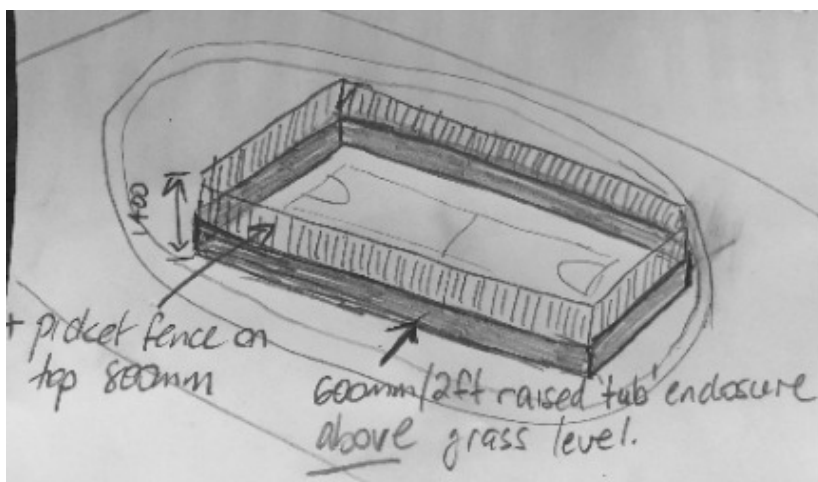
- The synthetic pitch will not be level with the existing surface
- The pitch will be constructed on TOP of the existing ground for both cost reasons (saving excavation, easier drainage pattern etc), but most importantly to ensure it is above projected flood levels from Gore Creek. (Council officer advice)
- The pitch will rise approx 400mm above the existing surface to accommodate the rock base, drainage system, shock pad, the “grass” carpet and associated infill
- On top of that will be a 200mm kerb around the ground (like a road kerb) to retain the infill that goes over the “grass” to provide cushioning and to keep the plastic “grass” strands upright
- Usually the infill is ground up car tyres, (eg Blackman Park), but it could possibly be natural rubber or an organic material – but both the latter are a good deal more costly, and in the case of organic material – often cork – it has a habit of floating away)!
- Finally a white picket fence of 800mm is built into the kerb – although Council says this will be demountable to allow for the Greenwich Village Games
- So think of the whole structure as akin to a raised garden bed. The “retaining wall” around the outside of the “garden bed” will, according to Council officers, be either concrete, stone or rock
- A sloping bank may be formed from the existing ground level up to the 600mm point – but unlike Blackman Park there will be no walkway beside the fence at the top of the slope
- So, if the bank slopes to the 600mm point, users of the oval will step from the top of the kerb on to the soccer pitch 200mm lower
- Our advisers indicate a 1 in 20 slope is required for wheel chair access to the ground - let alone the implications of a "step down"

- If the bank does not go to the top, the kerb will protrude above the surrounding bank and thus players and disabled participants will need to step over the kerb. This clearly does not work.
- If a bank is created, rising up to the playing field from the existing surface, this will impact the amount of usable level ground left between the fitness track and the playing surface for passive recreation, dog walking etc.
- Many other design issues that do not appear to have been thought through are evident - eg what happens at three of the four corners of the soccer pitch that are jammed up against either the cliff or the creek. Tough access and OH & S safety issues are evident. Spectators, dogs off leash, picnickers, joggers and walkers in the side strips competing for space - particularly on weekends - indicate a recipe for chaos, risk and disharmony.

NONE OF THE ABOVE DETAIL OR ANALYSIS OF ISSUES CAN BE GLEANED FROM COUNCIL'S WEBSITE

JUST IMAGINE WHAT OUR BEAUTIFUL NATURAL BOB CAMPBELL OVAL WILL LOOK LIKE WHEN A DIFFICULT TO ACCESS "GARDEN BED" STRUCTURE, TOPPED BY A SYNTHETIC SURFACE, IS CREATED!

IT WILL TOTALLY DETRACT FROM THE NATURAL BEAUTY OF THIS PRECIOUS RESERVE.




SO PLEASE - ATTEND THE DROP IN SESSION AND ASK LOTS OF QUESTIONS SO YOU CAN MAKE YOUR SUBMISSION WITH THE BENEFIT OF MORE DETAIL THAN YOU WILL GET FROM COUNCIL' S WEBSITE.

PLEASE GET YOUR SUBMISSIONS IN TO COUNCIL AND SIGN OUR PETITION – WE NEED TO ENSURE THAT COUNCILLORS HEAR OUR CONCERNS BY THURSDAY 5.00 PM, 29th OCTOBER 2020

Send YOUR COMMENTS AND OBJECTION to service@lanecove.nsw.gov.au

And PLEASE copy in the Councillors:

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Mean time - if you have any questions please contact me.

Kind regards

Merri Southwood

President

Greenwich Community Association Inc.

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