

Consultation Report

J H Allan Reserve

April 2023

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1 Summary

In September 2022 Council endorsed the Moonee Valley Soccer Strategy. The strategy identified opportunities to improve sports infrastructure at J H Allan Reserve. These opportunities would help Council meet the increasing needs of community soccer clubs both now and into the future.

To help determine the next steps for possible development opportunities, Council sought feedback from the community through a consultation. The development opportunities identified, that Council was seeking specific feedback on, included:

- Potential new sports lighting to the eastern sports field at J H Allan Reserve, and
- Potential repurposing of the western sports field at J H Allan Reserve

The consultation period ran throughout March and April 2023 and had a high response rate with a total of 365 people contributing to the survey.

Overall, community feedback indicated that there was a high level of support for possible new sports lighting to the eastern sports field at J H Allan Reserve.

Community feedback on the repurposing of the western sports field at J H Allan Reserve was strongly divided, with 45% of respondents strongly supportive and 42% of respondents strongly opposed to this development.

2 Introduction

2.1 Key decisions and questions for engagement

The consultation asked the following key questions of respondents.

- To what extent do you support the installation of sports lighting on the existing eastern sports field at J H Allan Reserve?
- To what extent do you support the installation of a synthetic grass soccer field (and associated infrastructure) on the western sports field at J H Allan Reserve?
- Do you have any concerns relating to this potential project or are there any considerations you want to bring to Council's attention?
- Do you regularly use the western sports field?
- What days do you usually use the western sports field?
- What time/s of the day do you usually use the western sports field?
- What activity do you use the western sports field for?
- What do you think is most important for Council to understand in relation to J H Allan Reserve?

The first two questions, assessing the level of support for each development opportunity, allowed respondents to add a free text comment to support their rating.

A copy of the survey tool is available in Appendix 6.1

3 Methodology

Community members were invited to provide feedback on the consultation through a survey advertised on Council's Your Say page, Council's website and on Council's social media. Feedback was also accepted through post and phone.

3.1 Consultation participation

The table below shows consultation participation through engagement with the Your Say platform, participation in the survey and written submissions received. A full list of written submissions is available in Appendix 6.2.

Engagement Type	Participation
Your Say Website	Total site visits: 605 Aware visits: 444

	Informed (engaged with material on website) visits: 124
Survey	365 survey responses (308 complete, 57 partial)
Written responses	16 submissions received

3.2 Social media campaign statistics

The table below provides an overview of the social media campaign that took place to support the communication of the consultation. A full list of social media comments is provided in Appendix 6.3.

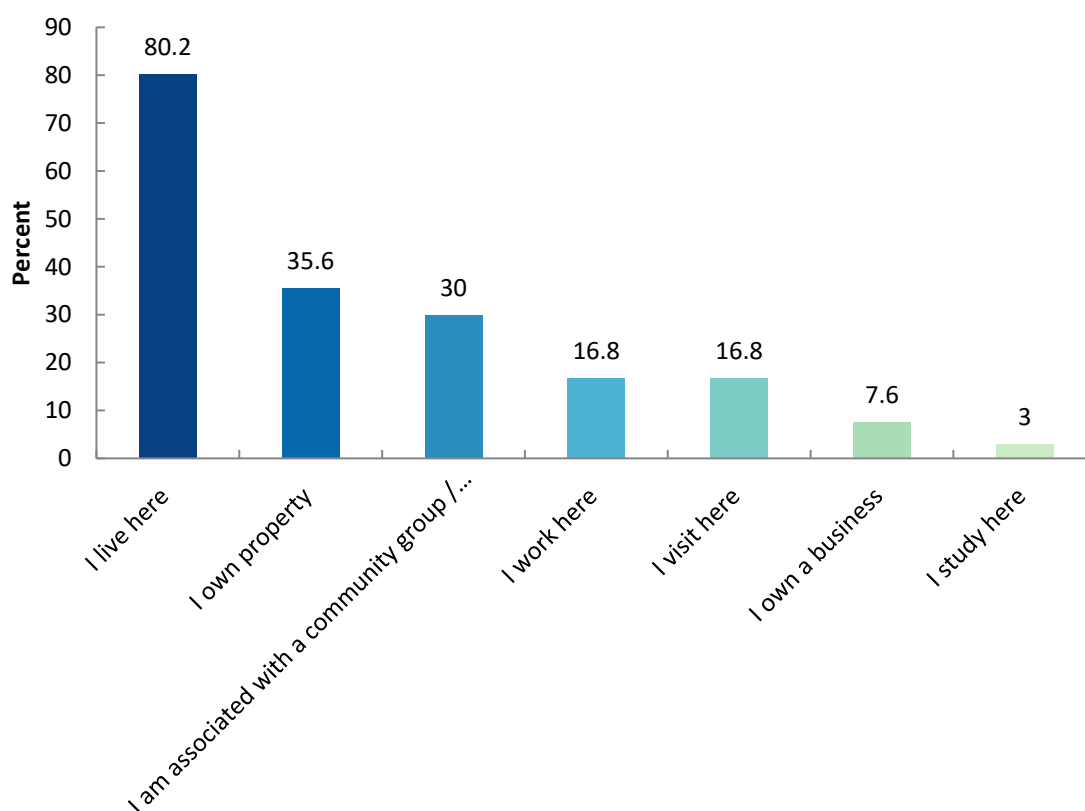
Graphic	Facebook		Twitter		Instagram	
	Clicks	473	Engagement	6	Impressions	2,131
	Comments	23	Impressions	179	Likes	18
	Impressions	3,592	Likes	0	Reach	2,011
	Link Clicks	61	Link Clicks	5	LinkedIn	
	Reach	3,592	Media engagements	NA	Clicks	14
	Reactions	16	Media views	NA	Impressions	734
	Shares	4	Retweets	1	Reactions	8

4 Survey respondent demographics

4.1 Connection to Moonee Valley

Respondents were asked about their connection to Moonee Valley. For this question, respondents were able to select more than one option. Of respondents, 82% indicated that they lived in Moonee Valley, 35.6% indicated that they own property in Moonee Valley and 30% indicated that they were associated with a community group in the area.

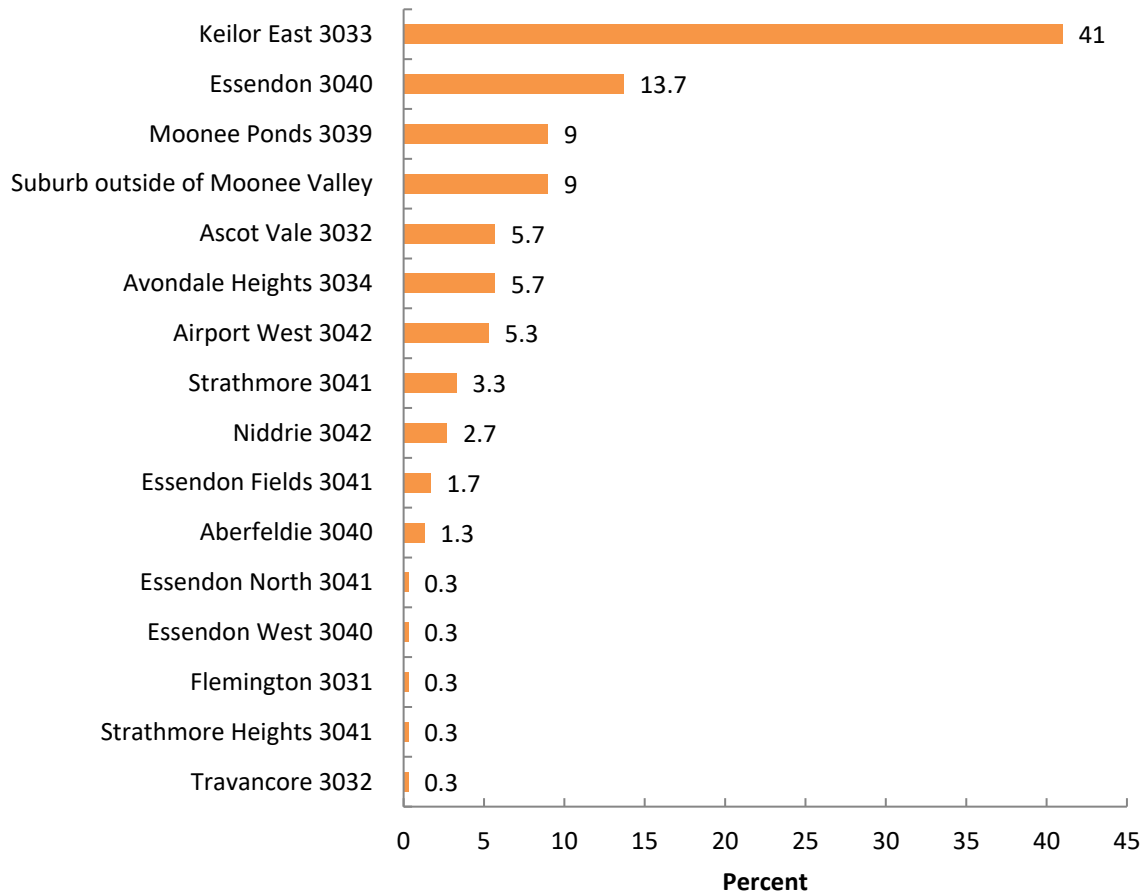
Of the 91 respondents who indicated that they were associated with a community group, 58 indicated they were associated with Essendon Royals Football Club, with 11 indicating they were associated with East Keilor Cricket Club. Seven individuals indicated they were associated with Moonee Valley Sustainability.



4.2 Suburb

Respondents were asked to indicate which suburb they lived in. The majority of respondents (41%) indicated that they lived in Keilor East, with 13.7% of respondents indicating they lived in Essendon.

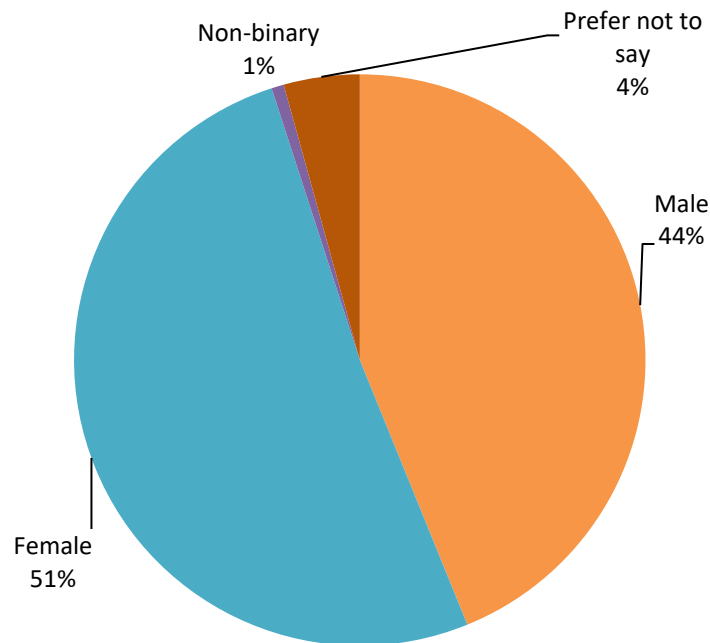
Figure 2. Suburb of residence for survey respondents



4.3 Gender

Respondents were asked to indicate their gender. The majority of respondents (51%) indicated that they identify as female, followed by 44% indicating that they identify as male.

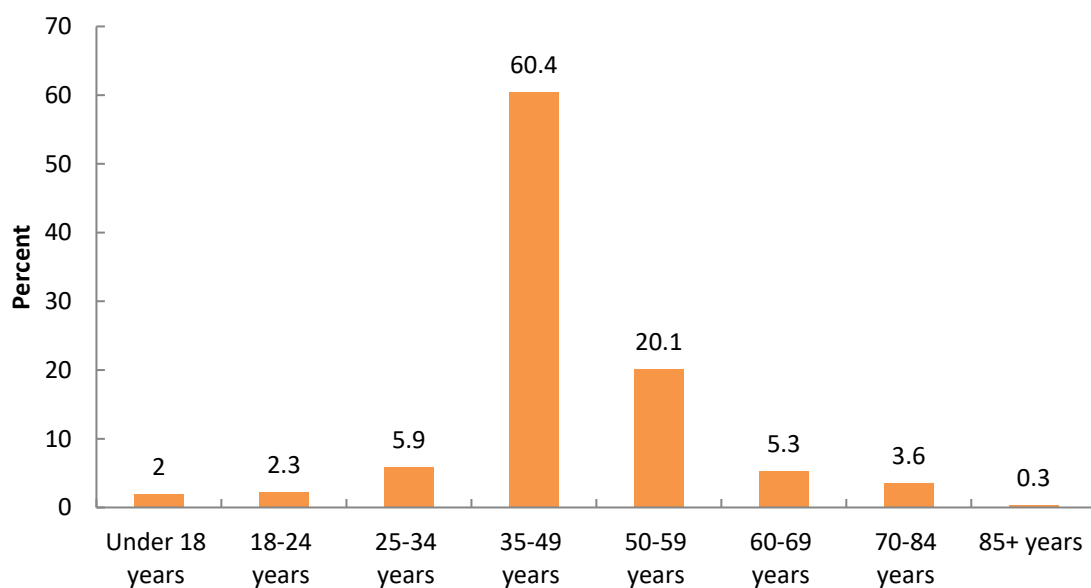
Figure 3. Gender of survey respondents



4.4 Age Group

Respondents were asked to indicate which age group they belonged to. The majority of respondents (60.4%) were between 35 – 49 years.

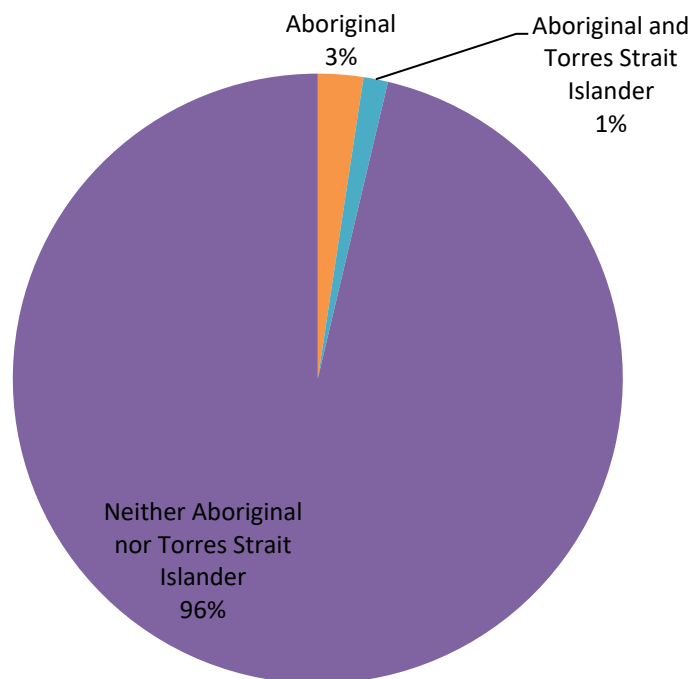
Figure 4. Age group of respondents



4.5 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Identification

Respondents were asked if they identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander. 3% of respondents (7 individuals) indicated that they identify as Aboriginal, and 1% of respondents (4 individuals) indicated that they identify as Torres Strait Islander.

Figure 5. Respondents identifying as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander



5 Findings

5.1 Installation of sports lighting on the existing eastern sports field at J H Allan Reserve

Respondents were asked to what extent they supported the installation of sports lighting on the existing eastern sports field at J H Allan Reserve. The majority of respondents (65%, 201 respondents) support or strongly support the installation, with 23% (69 respondents) opposing or strongly opposing the installation.

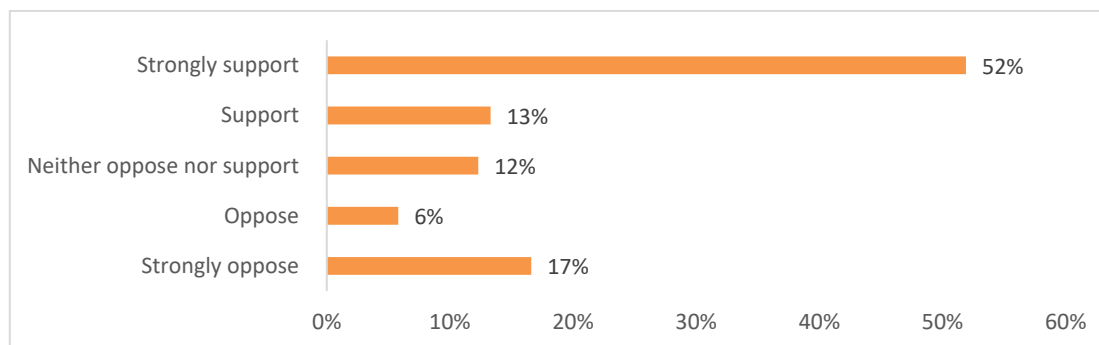
Of those that supported, or strongly supported, the installation:

- 65 individuals identified as being associated with a soccer club or cricket club; and
- 56 individuals indicated that they live in Keilor East.

Of those that opposed, or strongly opposed, the installation:

- 49 individuals indicated that they live in Keilor East.

Figure 6. level of support for installation of sports lighting on the existing eastern sports field at J H Allan Reserve.



5.2 Installation of sports lighting – free text comment themes

Respondents were able to provide a free text comment to support their rating in the previous question.

Free text comments that followed an “oppose”, or “strongly oppose” rating were primarily concerned with an increase in traffic/parking capacity (26) and light pollution/additional noise impacting residential amenity (35). Further comments noted a concern regarding a negative impact on wildlife (15) and an increase in litter (7).

Free text comments that followed a “support”, or “strongly support” rating noted that the lighting would allow for an increase in winter sport, such as soccer, games and training to take place (71), would allow for longer trainings sessions (32) and allow for more games in winter. 11 respondents noted that the lighting would increase safety in the area for walkers, players, and/or spectators.

A number of representative comments have been copied below, however a full list of free text comments can be viewed in Appendix 6.4.1.

- *I support lighting, but only on the proviso that there are curfew times, both for residents' amenity, but also for wildlife - The area around Park Drive has so many birds who need to roost and sleep at night. Also bats need darkness to come out and feed.*
- *Installation of presumably high light poles and night games till 10 PM is not acceptable in a residential area with houses so close to the park, with some houses being apex 50 mths from oval. 2) Noise from players and spectators is not acceptable till 10PM when lights go off and probably 10.30pm to 11PM before players and officials leave the area. 3) Bird life in surrounding trees will be affected by the lights being on till 10PM.*
- *Congestion of parking and traffic on games day currently is out of control add lights and now it becomes a daily problem*
- *If the lighting is used till 10pm 4 to 5 nights per week it will affect the quality of life and health of the residents. Also on environmental grounds and financial cost to the community. We should be reducing our use of energy not increasing it.*
- *With the shortage of grounds for activities such as soccer and cricket, I think the council should consider inter grading the field for both sporting activities. As a member of a Cricket Club I strongly believe the council should look at accomodating all the community. If you decide to convert the ground to a soccer field you take away from the cricket community. This cricket season 2022/2023 clubs and teams have struggled to find grounds to play on. Please try to accommodate all of the community. This will make many people especially children very happy.*
- *Extra lighting will give another sports ground in the area the flexibilty to accomodate more timeslots for sport teams for training and games.*

5.3 Potential repurposing of the western sports field at J H Allan Reserve

Respondents were asked to what extent they support the potential repurposing of the western sports field at J H Allan Reserve.

Respondents were strongly divided on this question with 45% of respondents (136 people) strongly supportive, and 42% of respondents (129 people) strongly opposed to the repurposing of the western sports field.

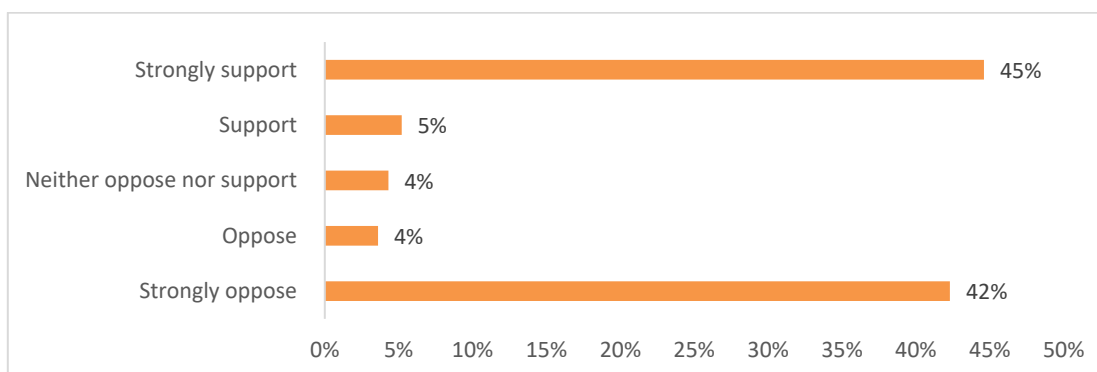
Of those that supported, or strongly supported, the repurposing:

- 56 individuals identified as being associated with a soccer club; and
- 34 individuals indicated that they live in Keilor East.

Of those that opposed, or strongly opposed, the repurposing:

- 16 individuals identified as being associated with cricket clubs or Moonee Valley Sustainability; and
- 84 individuals indicated that they live in Keilor East.

Figure 7. level of support for potential repurposing of the western sports field at J H Allan Reserve.



5.4 Repurposing of western sports field – free text comment themes

Respondents were able to provide a free text comment to support their rating in the previous question.

Free text comments that followed an “oppose”, or “strongly oppose” rating were primarily concerned with loss of natural environment to be replaced with a synthetic surface (89), impacts on the cricket club (26), impacts to passive recreation on a natural surface (22), increased traffic (17), and impacts on wildlife (17).

The majority of text comments that followed a “support”, or “strongly support” rating noted that the repurposing of the western sports field would be a good initiative for the soccer community (63), with others noting that a repurposed field would increase durability (25) which may increase safety.

A number of representative comments have been copied below, however a full list of free text comments can be viewed in Appendix 6.4.2.

- *Access to good quality grounds for my children to participate in sport is limited in Moonee Valley. In winter the current turf grounds are overused and risk of injury is increased due to lack of grass, divots, and poor playing surface. More synthetic pitches will allow turf grounds to be managed and more children to access safe playing facilities.*

- *Synthetic grass is very painful for players to fall on and also is hard on the knees, so we'll maintained grass would be preferable - but if natural grass is not an option, synthetic is better than nothing*
- *In winter if it has rained for lone periods of time the grass can not be played on as it gets to muddy and rips up the grass.*
- *As MVCC is aware native grasslands have been discovered in three reserves in East Keilor one being JH Allan Reserve. The Natural Temperate Grasslands of the Victorian Volcanic Plain are critically endangered and protected by both the state and federal law. Less than 0.5% of the original grasslands remain making the patches in our backyard extremely rare and precious. Along with the native grasslands J H Allen Reserve is home to wildlife such as possums and fruit bats along with an abundance of birdlife all of which will be displaced along with the many trees surrounding the reserve. This is a residential area not a sporting precinct. This space in used by many people for a variety of reasons it is a shared community space. This space in green space and unique due to its proximity to the CBD.*
- *used as a multi use space for various sports and as a local off lead dog park. limited parking in the street this will affect locals safely accessing their driveways. the cutting down of native trees to build the soccer field will affect the local native wildlife and they will have to relocate. Birds are seen grazing on the grass lands on the park and by installing synthetic grass this will limit their food supply and also affect the vast numbers of native birds seen living in the local parklands. visitors who are not rate payers tend to leave areas messy with rubbish. These are the people you are supporting to use the area. Local cricket clubs leave taking their own rubbish with them, These teams will be displaced by limiting the filed to one sport instead of it being a multi use space. There is not off street parking at this end of the reserve and thus will affect the quite street that is safe for elderly people and those with a disability or children to safely use to area.*
- *I'd like to see natural grass I strongly oppose synthetic grass*
- *Increase traffic congestion further. Will remove open space and reserve for all residents. Will bird life will be affected by th removal of trees and evening bright lights.*

5.5 Concerns relating to this potential project – free text comment themes

Respondents were asked if they had any concerns relating to this potential project, or anything that they wished to bring to Council's attention.

The majority of comments were connected with concerns relating to the reduction in natural open space (53), the environmental impacts of installing artificial turf (43), and traffic concerns (35).

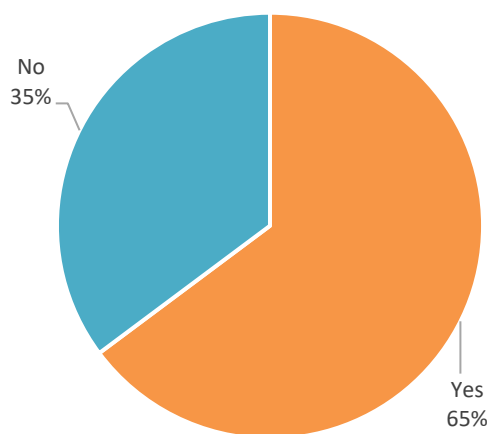
A number of representative comments have been copied below, however a full list of free text comments can be viewed in Appendix 6.4.3.

- *I think this proposal is not a responsible or sustainable use of funds. Removing established trees should not occur for the small gains. Synthetic turf leeches hazardous chemicals that contaminate soil, water and air.*
- *Natural grass, well maintained could still increase usage on the pitch without the negative environmental impacts.*
- *The increased use will cause a lot more traffic in the area. All the traffic using the oval will have to use The Crossway for entry and exit - it will simply be too much traffic on one street. Car parking will become an issue.*

5.6 Western sports field usage

Respondents were asked if they regularly use the western sports field. 65% of respondents (197 individuals) stated that they regularly use the western sports field.

Figure 8. respondents who indicated they regularly use the western sports field.



5.7 Western sports field days of usage

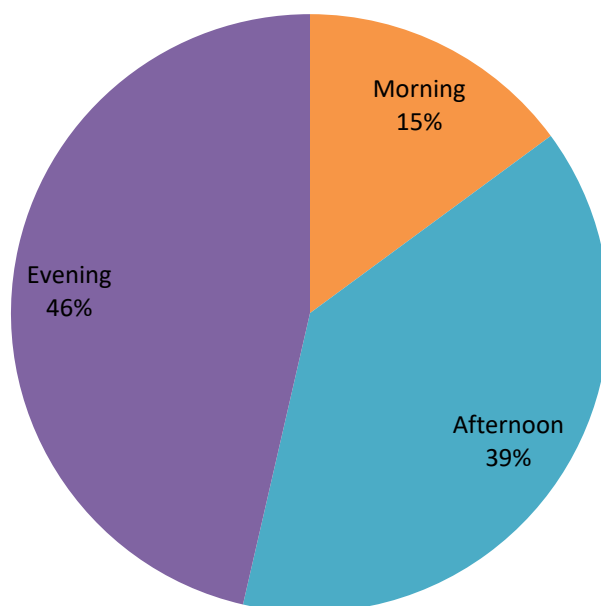
Respondents were asked to indicate when they usually used the western sports field from the following options: weekdays; and weekends. Respondents were able to select more

than one option. 83.2% of respondents indicated that a weekday (Monday – Friday) was when they usually used the western sports field.

5.8 Western sports field time of usage

Respondents were asked to indicate what time/s of day that they usually used the western sports field. Only one option could be selected for this question. The majority of respondents (46%) indicated that they use the western sports field in the evening, followed by 39% of respondents using it in the afternoon.

Figure 9. Usage of western sports field during time of day



5.9 Western sports field activities

Respondents were asked what activity they used the western sports field for. 58 respondents provided their feedback through a free text comment box, with the most popular activities being soccer (38), cricket (11), walking dogs (7), recreation with family (5), and general walking (4).

5.10 J H Allan Reserve – general comments

Respondents were asked what they thought was most important for Council to understand in relation to J H Allan Reserve. Of the respondents, 89 individuals provided feedback in this section as a free text comment.

Comments received referenced the desire to support the cricket community, contention with the usage of artificial turf and considerations of climate change, support for the growth of soccer in the community, traffic concerns and potential impacts on the environment and wildlife. A number of representative comments have been copied below, with the full list of free text comments available at Appendix 6.4.4.

- *The JH Allan Reserve is a valuable public space with multiple uses. It offers the soccer pitch, playground, nationally significant and protected grasslands and stands of trees. The western section is also used for cricket matches. It has become valuable habitat for all manner of birds. While the soccer pitch is a major public resource, it's development should not impact these other values.*
- *We need to accommodate both soccer and cricket. Both are youth sports and both need to be supported*
- *We believe that investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of the sport in our region.*
- *Open space in the community should respect all of the community; walkers, casual players, wild life as well as regular sports people.*
- *I do not believe that the Council is fully aware of this area and what it has to offer. The heritage of a Burley Griffin Estate built with the specific idea of open space and leisure. The council has changed the layout of the total area in as far as traffic access and made it difficult to access Milleara Road. People get lost and find it difficult to negotiate they way out and we are regularly stopped to be asked by drivers on directions out as they have mnade the wrong turn. Roads are narrow and with street parking, the bringing in of outer area drivers magnifies the dangers of cars driving down the narrow roads when cars park on both sides of the street, particularly when large crowds attend matches at the reserve.*

6 Appendices

6.1 Survey tool

Question 1. Potential new sports lighting to the eastern sports field at J H Allan Reserve.

To what extent do you support the installation of a synthetic grass soccer field (and associated infrastructure) on the western sports field at J H Allan Reserve?

- Strongly oppose
- Oppose
- Neither oppose nor support
- Support

- Strongly support

Question 2. Please provide any comments to support your response

Question 3. Potential repurposing of the western sports field at J H Allan Reserve

To what extent do you support the installation of a synthetic grass soccer field (and associated infrastructure) on the western sports field at J H Allan Reserve?

- Strongly oppose
- Oppose
- Neither oppose nor support
- Support
- Strongly support

Question 4. Please provide any comments to support your response

Question 5. Do you have any concerns relating to this potential project or are there any considerations you want to bring to Council's attention?

Question 6. Do you regularly use the western sports field?

- Yes
- No

Question 7. What days do you usually use the western sports field? (please select all that apply)

- Weekdays (Monday - Friday)
- Weekends (Saturday / Sunday)

Question 8. What time/s of the day do you usually use the western sports field? (please select all that apply)

- Morning
- Afternoon
- Evening

Question 9. What activity do you use the western sports field for?

Question 10. What do you think is most important for Council to understand in relation to J H Allan Reserve?

Question 11. What is your connection to Moonee Valley?

Question 12. What suburb do you reside in?

Question 13. What is your gender?

Question 14. What is your age group?

Question 15. Do you identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander?

6.2 Written Submissions

6.2.1 One

I am a resident who lives locally to both J.H. Allan and Arcade Way Reserves.

I have recently received information in regards proposed improved sports infrastructure for J.H Allan which I think is fantastic and am all for it!

However the decrepit state of Arcade Way is not only a concern but now beyond a joke. The recent attempt to improve this space by creating a gravel path around the perimeter and a couple of murals has done absolutely nothing to enhance this. I would encourage someone to take a look at this so called track as it stands now – Happy to take pictures

I am aware of the protected grass and fauna but to who's benefit is it leaving this park the way it is?? It is a horrible eyesore along with all the other issues this causes.. Fire, rodents, snakes and now the possibility of injury trying to navigate the uneven, weed infested path!

It is time to rejuvenate the park to be a family friendly space for people to enjoy rather than one to avoid.

Please pass to the relevant department for response.

6.2.2 Two

It is with great disappointment that MVCC has decided to proceed with sports field lighting at the JH Allen Reserve, Soccer Field #1. When initially proposed, many residents of the area objected to the proposal. However, it seems that MVCC has ignored our pleas. The installation of stadium lighting in the middle of suburbia will not only ruin the aesthetic of the leafy green beauty of the JH Allen parklands but will also be a nuisance to the residents of its boundary, where they will have to endure floods of strong, bright, white light streaming though their homes to 10.00pm, each and every night. Whilst there will be intentions and actions put in place to avoid the impacts of glare and intrusive spill of light, it would be most disappointing if this meant that tall fences and obstructions were built to limit the light's effects. The park is also home to a large population of bird life including lorikeets, cockatoos, magpies, grey butcherbirds, magpie-larks, corellas, red wattlebirds, galahs and honey eaters. Over recent years the populations of these birds has increased and installation of strong unnatural lighting would most definitely impact their habitats.

The cul-de-sac of Park Drive will lose its beauty and value, as it is turned into a commercial area for sports, rather than an idyllic pocket of greenery and a peaceful space of serenity for the residents of the area, as was the original intentions of Burley Griffin himself, who designed and created this area of Keilor East.

Currently, we are already seeing the lack of respect and care by the patronage of the soccer clubs. Members of the clubs park on the streets rather than use the custom built carpark of the Burley Griffin community centre, creating congestion and a hazard for the area. Rubbish is left on the grounds, which blows around the area, eventually ending up in the front yards of residents. Chairs and other furniture taken from the community centre are used whilst the games are played, however, the clubs do not check to ensure that it is returned to the community centre, creating and encouraging others to use the ground as a dumping area. What will their behaviour be of an evening? Under the cover of darkness, the lack of care will be even greater and whilst I am encouraging of our youth to engage in sports groups, I am also well aware of the intentions of that youth and their need for loitering and antics. Will the soccer clubs be responsible for the area and its members' behaviour?

Again, it is with great regret that we learn that MVCC has decided to take these steps, as there are other floodlit grounds that are not used of an evening in the area e.g. East Keilor Football Club on Parkside Avenue. Would it not be more sensible to take advantage of the grounds at this location that have already got properly set up club rooms, change rooms and stadium lighting? I have no objection to the use of the JH Allen grounds during the day, however, I have a very strong objection to their use of an evening along with the installation of stadium flood lighting. I am pleading with MVCC to re-think this decision and re-consider the installation of stadium flood lighting for the Reserve.

6.2.3 Three

We, the residents of [REDACTED], fully support the initiative. Fantastic!

6.2.4 Four

We completed the Survey on the lighting proposal and the proposal on the western pitch development.

The survey provided no option to identify ourselves or print our response so we would like to reiterate key points raised.

Following is an email after advice on temporary lighting back in March last year.

My wife and I now accept the community value and inevitability of permanent lighting provision for the existing soccer pitch.

This support is contingent on TWO matters being addressed:

1. *The DEVELOPMENT, IMPLEMENTATION & ENFORCEMENT of a professional, comprehensive traffic management plan for Park Drive. The observations below on traffic management remain valid. It becomes even more important with the expected increased use of the pitch and the potential development of the western section.*
Two photos are attached demonstrating parking activity on game day Saturday 11 March, 2023. (a) parking on the north side of Park Drive and (b) the Council parking area only about 2/3 full

2. *Guarantees that there will be no other infrastructure development on the site that will impact the amenity and public access to the J H Alan Reserve. Key examples are full height fencing (restricting or removing access at ANY time) and construction of permanent spectator stands. JH Allan Reserve is a multi-purpose public space and should remain so. Additionally it encompasses a nationally important and protected native grassland area and stands of trees.*

6.2.5 Five

JH Allan Reserve - Soccer field

Soccer Field #1 - installation of lights- we strongly oppose!

Having the lights, and the extended use of the grounds will bring heavy traffic to a residential area. Traffic congestion is currently bad when a match is on. Cars parked everywhere when it suits the soccer users. They do the use the carpark which is available. Local traffic has trouble getting in and out of their own street!

Rubbish is littered all over the reserve. Environmentally unfriendly to the neighbourhood.

We have a big cathedral window in our lounge, it will definitely cause reflections on our window and light up our lounge room! Our only chance to relax in our own home! Moreover the reflections from the installation of the lights cast on our cathedral window will bounce off into someone's room/house! How annoying it can be for someone else!

As it is, the noise generated from a Saturday match is annoying and we can't open our front door for fresh air! We can't even relax in our own home!

The installation of lights & extended use of the reserve will definitely impact on the peace and tranquility of staying at Park Drive, Keilor East.

We strongly oppose to the installation of lights and the extended use of the reserve!

Soccer field #2. - this reserve should keep it for the cricket club. We don't need another soccer area!

6.2.6 Six

I am really disappointed that JH Allen Reserve is being considered for installation of fake turf. I understand it is in the soccer strategy, and even then I objected when it went to consultation.

For the following reasons, Council should keep the surface as natural grass:

- ***Trees will be removed*** to fit a soccer pitch with synthetic turf. The impacts of loss of habitat & biodiversity will be disturbing, and tree loss will ***not help Council achieve it's 30% tree canopy target.***
- *It makes no sense for Council to continue to put money towards naturalising spaces such as the **naturalisation** of the Moonee Ponds Creek, then add fake turf in another location.*

- *There will be an increase in dangerous **urban heat**. How can this be good for the environment. Quite sad really.*
- *Sports grounds require fencing where fake turf is laid. This only makes the **grounds less inviting** for residents and other users.*
- *I am concerned about **micro plastic entering our waterways**, and people playing on surfaces with toxic chemicals such as PFAS.*

If this goes ahead, it is a step backwards for Council. Council should be leaders with environmental issues.

6.2.7 Seven

I would like to offer my submission documents for the JH Allan Reserve upgrade.

I am not a resident of Moonee Valley LGA, but a concerned citizen of the broader community with a degree of expertise in the environmental and health impacts of synthetic turf.

I have attached my formal submission, plus the Literature Review on Synthetic Turf which I authored on behalf of Climate Action Merribek (formerly Moreland) published in April 2021.

6.2.8 Eight

Following through from the email I sent yesterday. I read again the Soccer Strategy Consultation and attached are the many comments listed that oppose fake turf, yet only three comments supported it, and not even at JH Allen Reserve.

It is quite clear what the community is wanting. I am hoping Councillors and Officers take these comments into consideration before making any decisions 😊

6.2.9 Nine

I received some information about the proposed development at JH Allan Reserve.

On face value I was delighted to receive the proposal. as both my children play high grade competitive soccer. We often travel by car to find soccer pitches and have even scaled high fences to get into them. The Soccer pitch behind the Keilor East Leisure Centre is always full of kids, we really need some other options in the area.

However, today I received a knock on the door from a neighbour who is a strong objector and actively engaging with the local community about this proposal through a petition.

Their concerns are genuine and reasonable, but manageable with the right planning. Here's my feedback Pros and Cons.

Pros

- *The council and community should give strong consideration to the future demography of Keilor East, which will continue to shift from retirees to young families. As such, there is a need to provide more sporting facilities for children, with soccer having the highest sporting participation rate in Australia.*
- *As a local resident that frequents the current soccer pitch, I rarely see the adjacent cricket pitch in use, other than open land for dog walkers, so I see no issues with the removal of the cricket pitch. I can say in the last 12 months I have never seen anyone play cricket there.*

Cons

- *Parking and traffic. I can say I have observed double parking and parking issues during current game day matches. It is problematic and will only become worse with more games and a second pitch. Any development needs to consider adequate parking. For example, one game could result in 35 cars in attendance. As games overlap, that's 70 vehicles at one time (peak). So please plan for adequate off street parking. With more and more dual occupancies in the area, street parking is becoming a real issue for Keilor East area.*
- *I live on [redacted] which seems to be the main gateway to JH Allan Res. This is manifested by many of the street closures between Milleara Rd and Buckley street which divert traffic through 2 streets. Just need to consider how the extra traffic will work given the restricted road access.*
- *Noise. Training Mon-Fri. Should probably follow the same rules and practices that apply to the local football club - Overland Reserve. But you do need a plan to offer some reprieve to residents. I think 5 nights until 10pm a week is too much. Note. Soccer is a winter sport, so it may not be as bothersome as most people will be indoors, but this is something you may need to explain better to residents that are objecting. I fear the full story is not being communicated between residents.*

In terms of Parking, I think the council should consider better use of the adjacent playground. Currently alot of the parkland is full of very long and dry native grass. If you pay attention to local community groups on facebook, many parents are concerned that the long grass is harbouring snakes, and some parents even refuse to take their kids to the playground over summer.

Council could consider repurposing part of the land for car parking and perhaps improving the land use with extra play areas for kids, maybe a basketball pitch. While I respect that we want to foster native fauna, the grass is a potential hazard and should not be located so close to a playgrounds.

Finally, I only endorse this provided that the facilities being proposed can be accessed by the whole community. That means all pitches will be open to the broader public, no locked gates or high fences. If gates are locked then there is limited benefit to the broader youth community if only playing players can access. It is no longer a community facility, but a private sporting field. It must stay open to community - otherwise your taking away open space.

Happy to chat about any of my feedback, and happy to participate in any community forums, as I am concerned that the community is not getting the full story on this one.

6.2.10 Ten

Just wanted to echo [REDACTED] concerns around:

- *loss of “**significant amounts of existing trees**”*
- *increase in dangerous **urban heat right next to a kindergarten** - State mapping shows Keilor East is already at the highest level of Heat Vulnerability Index (2018) as per below*
- *lack of available research into **toxic compounds that synthetic is made** of and the impacts on human health*

Regarding discussion & consultation in general, clubs / groups who are likely to benefit from a proposal are consulted and therefore the summary is biased to their views (I understand dog clubs were also consulted). But given the clear and significant environmental impact of this proposal, I would have thought consulting a (any) local environmental group would be reasonable and fair, don't you agree?

*It would be great to find a solution for local kids to be able to play more soccer, like I spent many years doing as a kid in Moonee Valley, on a **cool, soft and safe natural grass surface**.*

6.2.11 Eleven

Resident of 39 years , a big NO

This will decrease property values/quality of life -lighting,noise, traffic congestion,etc

This area has the oldest population in Victoria, apart from Rosebud

Soccer people travel long distances for their sport, so it not a problem for them.

Suggested future location is west of Keilor Park Drive/Tullamarine--Plenty of land

We have sold 3 schools since I have been here--North rd ,Eastleigh ave, Buckley st near Rachelle & now we want to take away our parkland?

6.2.12 Twelve

My Husband & I have signed a petition opposing the proposed changes to our park, we have lived in [REDACTED] for 39 years and hope to continue living there for the rest of our lives. We chose to build our home here, across from the oval so our family can enjoy the open space whenever they want too, we understand that the grounds are for everyone to enjoy, but the proposed changes would impact the residents immensely.

Personally we object to the proposed changes to our park, there are so many reasons which was stated on the petition, please refer to the list that was signed by the community.

6.2.13 Thirteen

I am writing to strongly object to the proposed development of the J H Allen reserves. The type of development is totally inappropriate for a residential area. Keeping in mind that there is a significant number of residents that are elderly, retired or have young children and the added noise, and light pollution would have a significant impact on their quality of life.

The 25 metre light poles proposed will be too close to residential properties in some cases would only be 20 or 30 metres away from houses.

The operational hours until 10 pm 4 to 5 nights per week is far too late into the night. Some residents would already be in bed and the light pollution and noise will impact on their quality of life and health. The reality is that if the games finish at 10 pm the visitors would be there until 10.30 pm or later. In an age where mental health and general well being is a broad issue, these hours of operation are not in line with community expectation.

Park Drive is not a very wide road. There is no off road parking in the north oval. Traffic and parking will be big issues. Some visitors have complete disregard and respect for the residents. I have personal experience on this because I live [redacted] the kindergarten.

Litter is another issue. The current bins at the gazebo in the north oval and the playground in the south oval are continually overflowing and will encourage some people to put their household rubbish in them.

We currently have a variety of birds visiting and living in the area. Laying of synthetic turf will destroy the current natural habitat and the synthetic nature of the turf will increase radiant heat. Also this is not consistent with community expectations of reducing plastic going into our water ways and environment. Surely this is what will happen as the turf degrades.

Why should these community open spaces be dedicated only to one sport?

At a time when financial pressures are high, when programs like meals on wheels and healthy living programs have been cut back, how can the council justify this large financial outlay for a very small part of the community.

By going ahead with this project it will not add benefits to the broader community, it will actually detract. It will only serve a small portion of the community. At the moment cricket groups are able to use the north oval. This is during the day and does not have the same impact with noise and lighting towers.

We should be helping the environment not working against it. How much energy will these lighting towers consume. What sort of carbon footprint will it have, and who is paying for the consumption when the taxpayers are financially stretched as it is.

I have been living here happily for 40 years. Please do not destroy the residents amenity.

I respectfully ask that you consider these issues carefully before you go ahead with this unsuitable inappropriate project.

6.2.14 Fourteen

The merits of upgrading this field to synthetic turf are far outweighed by the negative impact:

- *The soccer playing community is a miniscule part of the wider community of which the reserve is a precious asset. This project is a cost to the community but will become a resource for only a very small part of the community. This is unfair and creates inequity*
- *Keeping natural grass does not preclude use of this facility by others; picnickers, walkers (and their dogs), runners and other recreation/sport users, but fencing it off and creating a soccer specific soccer pitch will exclude these other (potentially larger number) of users*
- *Synthetic turf of any type is an unacceptable change especially when the proposal includes tree removal. It does not support or enhance biodiversity, is a threat to wildlife and water tables & creeks, and is contrary to MVCC's 2040 Strategy for a healthy community, tree canopy, biodiversity and carbon emissions*
- *Synthetic turf is not healthy – it gets hot, fall burns, smell and many people are allergic*

I urge to reconsider this proposal and ensure that the reserve continues to be an asset for the whole community.

6.2.15 Fifteen

Thank you for taking the time to respond to my concerns, although upon reading your comments I feel that some of the issues I brought up were not adequately addressed.

Litter

The photos of litter around the existing soccer field, on the ground and poked into the fence, were only meters away from an empty bin. It's not just a bin issue, it's a 'soccer community' and user issue. More bins will not change this.

Traffic congestion issues on game days

To expect residents to do the council's job by reporting illegally parked cars when I have already sent you a photo of a typical "soccer game day" parking situation is unreasonable. The photo was the report. Every game day, send your traffic officers there.

Failure to complete previous works at Arcade Way

You have not addressed the boundary path which is an unusable eyesore.

Nor have you addressed the nature playground which was never done despite being part of the project.

Nor have you addressed the feature seating that was never done despite being part of the project.

Nor have you addressed the council's lack of transparency, communication, and failure to complete works in a timely manner or at all.

Actual useable natural spaces for residents

You have also failed to address the fact that this proposal takes away the ONLY useable green space for residents. Removing mature trees, and destroying flora and fauna for a synthetic soccer pitch that surrounding residents passionately oppose. This proposal ignores what should be the fundamental tenets of the council, genuine listening, transparency and community consultation.

Lastly, I wonder if a particular councillor has a connection with the local soccer community which emboldens them to put forward a self-serving proposal like this. If so, that should be made clear to all residents, otherwise, the proposal is tainted and opens the council and this proposal up to negative attention.

6.2.16 Sixteen

In addition to my submission dated 22 March 2023 for the JH Allan Reserve upgrade regarding synthetic Turf, I would like to add an addendum containing new information. This is in regards to synthetic turf being a source for airborne microplastics and its contribution to human health impacts.

6.3 Social media comments from Moonee Valley City Council Facebook

- *Moonee Valley City Council done, but you should be seeking advice from experts, not the community on environmental issues like this. This is far more than just a 'local sports' issue. Feels like it's being trivialized as one though...*
- *OMG. This never ends. When will council learn that we don't want fake turf. It is an environmental disaster. And loss of trees, wow, so wrong when they are the lungs of the earth and absorb pollutants.*

- *And why are they seeking advice from the community on that issue instead of talking to environmental and health experts on the issue of plastic grass.*
- *they are looking into more sustainable options instead of the plastic pellets. There are some trees someone on the street planted that aren't native and are clogging the drains. The street had to have overnight emergency call out during the floods to help and was advised it will constantly occur as long as the trees remain and that the bottom of park drive would be worse*
- *Moonee Valley City Council The point is not community consultation but seeking of professional advice on the impacts of synthetic playing fields. So advice from experts not lay people on the health and environmental impacts is required.*
- *Its a 'heat' thing. Its a pollution thing. Its a health thing. Its a de-naturalising like a concrete channel costing future generations billions \$\$ to fix thing. Its just the vibe.*

- *Fake grass... Again??? No one playing any sports on a field likes playing on fake grass. It's slippery when wet, hot when sunny, and dangerous at all other times (lots of serious injuries).. oh and terrible for the environment. Why do you keep putting it in your proposals???*
- *Keep the natural grass and shady trees please* 
- *Of course it's great to support local communities, but not sure spending \$4-\$5m, cutting down a "significant number of existing trees" and laying heat absorbing synthetic turf with a fence around it is the best way to do that* 
- *I agree regarding a synthetic surface. Surely this is not the best solution.*
- *Boston have actually banned it due to the toxic 'forever chemicals' that leach out.*
- *We don't want our little kids in close contact with such nasty chemicals.*
<https://www.theguardian.com/.../boston-bans-artificial...>

6.4 Free text comments

6.4.1 Installation of sports lighting – free text comments

- *Great initiative to upgrade a local amenity for residents to utilise*
- *Because I don't live directly opposite this field I don't feel I can provide an opinion.*
- *We support the enhancement of the existing pitch area. In addition to the value to local community soccer clubs, the surface provides valuable space for resident recreation. This support is subject to design and implementation of an effective traffic management plan.*

- Quiet street and this will mean teenagers driving home late at night. It will mean Park Drive will be choked with car traffic and parked cars - a street not designed to take this amount of traffic.
- 1. This is a residential area not a sporting precinct. 2. As MVCC is aware native grasslands have been discovered in three reserves in East Keilor one being JH Allan Reserve. 3. The Natural Temperate Grasslands of the Victorian Volcanic Plain are critically endangered and protected by both the state and federal law. 4. Less than 0.5% of the original grasslands remain making the patches in our backyard extremely rare and precious. 5. Along with the native grasslands J H Allen Reserve is home to wildlife such as possums and fruit bats along with an abundance of birdlife all of which will be displaced along with the many trees surrounding the reserve. 6. This is a residential area, not a sporting precinct. 7. Upon the construction of the Milleara Gardens Kindergarten located on the JH Allen Reserve MVCC gave assurances to residents that no further development of JH Allen Reserve would occur.
- The Crossway is the main thoroughfare for all traffic and parking would make this impossible if used on a regular basis for sporting events and the lighting would be intrusive in a residential area.
- Sport facilities such as lighting J.H Allan reserve can play a significant role in promoting community health in several ways: 1. Encouraging physical activity 2. Building social connections 3. Promoting healthy habits 4. Providing opportunities for youth. Overall, sport facilities can be an important resource for promoting community health by encouraging physical activity, building social connections, promoting healthy habits, and providing opportunities for youth and therefore, I strongly support this initiative.
- 1) This is a Zoned residential area and by installing fixed lights to the oval and proposing to have them on till 10PM 4-5 nights a week for trainings and game time is not acceptable to the surrounding homes. By doing this the council is effectively making this small park area a Soccer precinct. 2) The noise from players and especially spectators during the night would sound louder at night than during the day which would effect people who start work early and children who go to bed before 10PM. 3) The increased parking on both sides of the street from players and spectators of both clubs every night is not acceptable. This is happening now on Saturdays and Sundays as the ground parking allocated is not big enough to cope with the number of cars that attend. Last Saturday I had someone park on my naturestrip and I could not cut the lawn. I have a photo of the car if you require it. 4) Although the lights are due to go off at 10PM which I am strongly against, the noise and traffic will not diminish till probably about 10.30 PM to 11 PM by the time the players have left and the officials finished their duties. 5) The extra noise and nightly light will greatly impact and effect the variety of birdlife that use the trees as their home in the area. 6) Creating an additional Soccer field on the Western side of the J H Allan Reserve will duplicate the problems and issues I have raised in the points I have noted above.

- *I support the lights installation with an early cap at night and be linked to weekends only. Perhaps one night in the week as well. The western end of the park to NOT become another soccer facility. It is currently being used for junior cricket and having other/alternative sporting options on these grounds is supported. I am a resident living on Park Drive. Traffic is a problem now. Crowd behaviour and language with major games is also an issue. Suggest junior games only be played on the existing pitch please.*
- *Having usage of the field for night time hours means more noise and more traffic congestion and litter. This in turn creates an unsafe situation for residents who currently have difficulty getting safe access to and from their driveways. The litter is already a serious problem and will only increase with more usage.*
- *Soccer Field #1 - installation of lights- we strongly oppose! Having the lights, and the extended use of the grounds will bring heavy traffic to a residential area. Traffic congestion is currently bad when a match is on. Cars parked everywhere when it suits the soccer users. They do the use the carpark which is available. Local traffic has trouble getting in and out of their own street! Rubbish is littered all over the reserve. Environmentally unfriendly to the neighbourhood. We have a big cathedral window in our lounge, it will definitely cause reflections and light up our lounge room! Our only chance of relaxing in our own home! As it is the noise generated from a Saturday match is annoying and we can't open our front door for fresh air! We can't even relax in our own home! We strongly oppose to the installation of lights and the extended use of the reserve! Soccer field #2. - this reserve should keep it for the cricket club. We don't need another soccer area! â€¦..Park Drive Resident.*
- *JH Allan Reserve is located within a designated residential area, it is not a sporting precinct. JH Allan reserve is home to Natural Temperate Grasslands of the Victorian Volcanic Plain which are critically endangered and protected by both the state and federal law. Less than 0.5% of the original grasslands remain making the patches in our backyard extremely rare and precious.*
- *Traffic congestion and noise to late at night disturbing residents.*
- *It is with great disappointment that MVCC has decided to proceed with sports field lighting at the JH Allen Reserve, Soccer Field #1. When initially proposed, many residents of the area objected to the proposal. The installation of stadium lighting in the middle of suburbia will not only ruin the aesthetic of the leafy green beauty of the JH Allen parklands but will also be a nuisance to the residents of its boundary, where they will have to endure floods of strong, bright, white light streaming through their homes to 10.00pm, each and every night. Whilst there will be intentions and actions put in place to avoid the impacts of glare and intrusive spill of light, it would be most disappointing if this meant that tall fences and obstructions were built to limit the light's effects. The park is also home to a large population of bird life including lorikeets, cockatoos, magpies, grey butcherbirds, magpie-larks, corellas, red wattlebirds, galahs and honey eaters. Over*

recent years the populations of these birds has increased and installation of strong unnatural lighting would most definitely impact their habitats. The cul-de-sac of Park Drive will lose its beauty and value, as it is turned into a commercial area for sports, rather than an idyllic pocket of greenery and a peaceful space of serenity for the residents of the area, as was the original intentions of Walter Burley Griffin himself, who designed and created this area of Keilor East, providing for the local residents. His progressive urban design is only now fully appreciated and being re-created in the new estates on the outskirts of Melbourne, where housing is intertwined with green spaces, playgrounds and casual open fields for the use of its residents. MVCC should be looking to embrace Burley Griffin's legacy and highlight the exclusivity of the area and its design. In an environmentally forward project, MVCC is already preserving the native plants and grasses in the area, restoring them to these small patches that link us back to the Victorian Volcanic Plains, recreating the endangered ecosystems that once were. Shouldn't these goals be at the forefront of this suburban pocket of Keilor East? Currently, we are already seeing the lack of respect and care by the patronage of the soccer clubs. Members of the clubs park on the streets rather than use the custom built carpark of the Burley Griffin community centre, creating congestion and a hazard for the area. Rubbish is left on the grounds, which blows around the area, eventually ending up in the front yards of residents. Chairs and other furniture taken from the community centre are used whilst the games are played, however, the clubs do not check to ensure that it is returned to the community centre, creating and encouraging others to use the ground as a dumping area. What will their behaviour be of an evening? Under the cover of darkness, the lack of care will be even greater and whilst I am encouraging of our youth to engage in sports groups, I am also well aware of the intentions of that youth and their need for loitering and antics. Will the soccer clubs be responsible for the area and its members' behaviour? Again, it is with great regret that we learn that MVCC has decided to take these steps, as there are other floodlit grounds that are not used of an evening in the area e.g. East Keilor Football Club on Parkside Avenue. Would it not be more sensible to take advantage of the grounds at this location that have already got properly set up club rooms, change rooms and stadium lighting? I have no objection to the use of the JH Allen grounds during the day, however, I have a very strong objection to their use of an evening along with the installation of stadium flood lighting. I am pleading with MVCC to re-think this decision and re-consider the installation of stadium flood lighting for the Reserve.

- strongly object to this upgrade, citing the following issues: 1. There will be increased traffic activity within the park area culminating in many cars parked along the street rather than in the car park. The increased traffic activity will impact the tranquility within the park and those people who normally stroll along the park footpath. Additionally increased traffic has the potential of increased accidents, not only for the residents but also for the community at large. 2. The noise and lighting generated during the proposed time will have an environmental impact on the bird life that would be resting in the trees at that time. 3. People who bought in Park Drive did so on the basis of the existing park

set up. The proposed changes will diminish the value of the residential properties. 4. The street around the park is called PARK Drive and the reason why it was originally named that way is because it was intended to serve primarily as a park, not a soccer place. 5. As a resident, I have no objection with the current balance of park and sporting facilities in both the soccer and cricket grounds. I believe it should stay that way. I understand that there is a growing interest in soccer but am sure there are other areas close by where the additional demand for soccer fields can be met. Areas such as Keilor Park would be ideal because these are open spaces, facilities exist and are not surrounded by residential streets.

- *Dont use the ground so not relevant*
- *Lighting will not only impact local residents amenity, but uses energy (albeit renewable) and creates light pollution.*
- *JH Allan has been underutilised during the winter. Council need to install more lights across other Reserves that do not have lighting.*
- *This field is a great venue for community soccer and an upgrade would be welcome*
- *We have so much youth flooding our moonee valley suburbs with many primary and high schools at capacity. We need to support sports for their physical and mental health. My son is a soccer player and this community sports has had a big part on his healthy well-being.*
- *There needs to be an upgrade to the amount of off-street parking, so that The Crossway doesn't become a one lane road when the oval is in use. The lighting needs to have a time limit, like 10pm, for residents across the road from field*
- *I think any sports infrastructure improvements are welcome within the MVCC municipality*
- *Would love to see facilities available for Moonee ponds United soccer club. Hopefully this can be done at Aberfeldie. They are putting lots of effort into junior teams including girls team but there seams to be no council support for the club compared to essendon royals. In regards to jh reserve there is lots of space to upgrade club rooms and even build new pavilion on the other reserve where cricket is played*
- *Keep natural grass and as an oval, so we can have cricket*
- *While I live in Keilor East, I don't live in the immediate area of J H Allan Reserve, I am therefore unsure how the lighting might affect residents.*
- *Lighting needs to consider the impact on local residents and brightness levels*
- *It's a good idea. Particular attention needs to be placed on complying with Australian Standards for light spill. Show residents what this looks like.*
- *Permit people to use the playing field for more time. Do not remove any trees, work around them.*

- *It has been a fantastic space for soccer teams during the day and would be amazing for them to take advantage of the space during the night as well.*
- *Will enable training and matches to proceed safely*
- *We need more facilities for neighbourhood not new coffee bars*
- *I think it is appropriate to install lights according to FA guidelines in order to improve night time playing of soccer during the season*
- *As long as the lights are run on green power and / or use a community battery that is charged with solar power.*
- *Already have a soccer oval and the proposal is to put another one meters down the road along with a kindergarten. What an absolute nightmare for residents!!! On soccer days street parking is already limited.*
- *I don't live close enough for it to be an issue for me personally but from an environmental perspective, they should be shaded above to reduce light pollution & prevent interfering with important species such as the Bogong moth.*
- *Good for soccer could be also a backup for rugby league as well*
- *I'm natural to the lights my concern is the synthetic grass and cutting down of the trees*
- *Makes it safer*
- *MVCC does not seem to stop light spillage at other sporting fields in MV. It is annoying for local residents to have this spillage entering their properties.*
- *About time Council is starting to do something for soccer that has been neglected for decade's. The biggest sport in the world, that is played by more Australians than in other sport in this country deserves better.*
- *Lighting enables winter sports to train on weekday evenings which encourages more participation for juniors and for adults.*
- *Not enough grounds during winter for soccer clubs and would be beneficial to young kids to have available grounds to train on during winter*
- *It extends time in morning and night that oval can be used by the community. Also provides increased safety for the community.*
- *Soccer is the most participated sports in Victoria and Moonee Valley, pitches are hard to come by, handed to women's sport and cricket - soccer deserves better. Lighting would extend the times soccer can be played.*
- *No to synthetic turf under any circumstances. Based on your soccer strategy growth is expected at a rate of approximately 30 registered players in your notes timeline. However, expenditure for one sport seems astronomically biased towards it. The benefits and ROI are completely incongruous with the level of expenditure noted.*

- *there is not enough infrastructure in the area to support the incremental traffic and parking that would come with the extended hours of use*
- *1) Installation of presumably high light poles and night games till 10 PM is not acceptable in a residential area with houses so close to the park, with some houses being apex 50 mths from oval. 2) Noise from players and spectators is not acceptable till 10PM when lights go off and probably 10.30pm to 11PM before players and officials leave the area. 3) Bird life in surrounding trees will be affected by the lights being on till 10PM.*
- *If it provides an opportunity for more activities to take place at night, that sounds good to me!*
- *I have been associated with soccer in Moonee Valley for over 40 years. The sport has been growing so fast, while soccer facilities have not increased. The need for extra grounds has been an ongoing concern for years. The clubs in every other region have had more facilities made available while Mooney valley has remained the same for years.*
- *Strong lights may annoy residents living opposite the park. It may attract people to hang out at the park til early hours making noise.*
- *Not against lightning being installed as long as it won't influence surrounding housing, won't increase over parking in the streets surrounding the ground as the soccer does ever week when games are on*
- *There is already soccer with lighting in Quinn grove and speak to resideywho reside around this ground you'll be told the lights do affect their every day lives*
- *You live here with games and training most days add lights the increase in traffic and parking will impact most residents everyday No thanks*
- *The noise and parking already with weekend games of soccer is bad and I live on the western side add lighting would mean most nights this would be utilised so impacts would be a daily/nightly occurrence*
- *The impact of everyday use with traffic management already non-existent parking spaces for when games are held*
- *Could be good for the sport just not sure for locals who live in park drive*
- *Wondering if there is a need to increase light pollution along the creek. Many night birds live along there. If the lights are shaded down, it could be ok.*
- *Soccer is the no1 participated sport in MVCC yet is the least supported with new infrastructure. The growth in females playing the game has skyrocketed and with the Womens World Cup in Oz this year will continue to do so.*
- *There needs to be more facilities that are built to an acceptable standard to be available in Moonee Valley for local clubs to train.*

- *Soccer clubs need more grounds in MVCC*
- *Sports lighting uses a huge amount of energy, disrupts natural cycles for wildlife, and creates more artificial environments in our community.*
- *Don't want*
- *I oppose the installation of synthetic turf at the expense on natural grass*
- *I support lighting, but only on the proviso that there are curfew times, both for residents' amenity, but also for wildlife - The area around Park Drive has so many birds who need to roost and sleep at night. Also bats need darkness to come out and feed.*
- *I have already filled in the survey but wanted to add a further suggestion*
- *Able to be used more in the evenings. However please ensure the flood lighting does not adversely affect neighbours, it should be on a low setting*
- *Native wildlife suffer from artificial light, it makes them struggle to tell night from day. There is lots of light pollution in Melbourne already.*
- *It will assist with evening junior cricket games at the oval.*
- *lights would encourage night time use of oval - potentially more noise at night*
- *The pitch is used in the evening for cricket matches. These can end late so providing lights is a good idea.*
- *Would be great for the soccer community to have additional resources for the local clubs and players*
- *Installation of light poles and training/games on till 10pm 4 to 5 days a week is not acceptable. This is a zoned residential area, houses too close to oval to have nightly disturbance. Noise at night is too much for people going to bed early due to early rising for school or work. Increase in traffic and parking issues. A new soccer field near kinda will double the problems as above. Lights on till 10pm will affect bird life in surrounding trees on both sides of reserve.*
- *As a soccer ground used by all age groups the lights will help with when games can be played and also allow for training*
- *Lights would be great, however there is also a lack of cricket grounds within the area. J H Allan has been used for many years by the East Keilor Cricket Club, where would they be going if this is transferred to a soccer ground, doesn't seem fair to the cricket club*
- *Great to have open space for the community to use. Plenty of trees to be planted to help provide shade and help the environment*
- *My family are involved in the soccer community and I would like to see better infrastructure in Moonee Valley*

- *East Keilor Cricket Club currently use this reserve and already struggle to find enough grounds to play games on. Utilising JH Allen for soccer will reduce this further and lead to decline in children being able to play cricket. Perhaps thought should be given to using the new oval at Keilor Heights Primary - hire for soccer. Or Avondale Primary. Synthetic turf is not able to be used for cricket games, but can be for Soccer. Also what is happening with the redevelopment behind Essendon Keilor College EK campus - there is a large synthetic pitch there, and potential for more as well. I strongly oppose this as well because there has been no direct communication and consultation with the EKCC committee. As we use this ground ALL summer and have a great deal of contact with council throughout the year, i think the MVCC should have notified the committee directly and personally. These changes were highlighted to the committee through a local resident who happens to be part of EKCC. Very poor MVCC.*
- *I think this should be done based on needs if the soccer players.*
- *There's no parking*
- *My children use this field to play cricket for East Keilor Cricket Club. Lights would be helpful for matches in march as light limits matches*
- *Bad enough on weekends add lights it every day*
- *Please don't just make this a soccer pitch only. Please look at creating a dual purpose oval like JJ Holland in Kensington. They have created a synthetic soccer pitch that can also be used with a synthetic cricket pitch in the middle. Whilst there may be a shortage of soccer pitches there is also a shortage of cricket pitches and this way the oval can be used all year round by more rate payers.*
- *With the shortage of grounds for activities such as soccer and cricket, I think the council should consider inter grading the field for both sporting activities. As a member of the East Keilor Cricket Club I strongly believe the council should look at accomodating all the community. If you decide to convert the ground to a soccer field you take away from the cricket community. This cricket season 2022/2023 clubs and teams have struggled to find grounds to play on. Please try to accommodate all of the community. This will make many people especially children very happy.*
- *Don't won't the noise every night and on weekends*
- *I don't live on the street so won't affect me*
- *Traffic parking on daily basis will impact the local streets*
- *Great local venue for juniors to chase their dreams*
- *Congestion of parking and traffic on games day currently is out of control add lights and now it becomes a daily problem*
- *The lights may not affect residents but every day use would with noise and traffic & parking*

- *The lights should be turned off at night as soon as practicable*
- *This pitch is vastly under-utilised and lighting would allow for greater use.*
- *JH Allan Reserve - Soccer field Soccer Field #1 - installation of lights- we strongly oppose! - for your information, we did not receive the paper notification for the installation of lights for JH Allan Reserve. Having the lights, and the extended use of the reserve grounds will bring heavy traffic to our residential area. Traffic congestion is currently bad when a match is on. Cars parked everywhere when it suits the soccer users. They do not use the carpark which is available. Local traffic has trouble getting in and out of their own street! Rubbish is littered all over the reserve. Environmentally unfriendly to the neighbourhood. We have a big cathedral window in our lounge, it will definitely cause reflections on our window and light up our lounge room! Our only chance to relax in our own home! Moreover the reflections from the installation of the lights cast on our cathedral window will bounce off into someone's room/house! How annoying it can be for someone else! As it is, the noise generated from a Saturday match is annoying and unsettling. We can't open our front door for fresh air! We can't even relax in our own home! The installation of lights & the extended use of the reserve will definitely impact on the peace and tranquility of staying at Park Drive, Keilor East. Therefore we strongly oppose to the installation of lights and the extended use of the reserve as a soccer field! Soccer field #2.- this reserve should kept for the cricket club activities. We do not need a second soccer field in our area! [REDACTED PERSONAL INFORMATION]*
- *Able to utilise facility to support soccer in Australia a grossly overly sport due to the undertones of racism in all our local councils. Majority of funding seems to go to Aussie rules football despite soccer being THE WORLD's most popular sport with more than 3.5 billion fans around the world. What does Aussie rules have? a couple of hundred thousand? Then there is cricket. Once again coming in at around 2.5 billion fans globally falling short of soccer by a cool BILLION fans. Council should be supporting so that money does not need to be generated privately and truly offers youngsters the opportunity to play THE WORLD'S BEST SPORT - SOCCER.*
- *Soccer is a fast growing sport in the state and country and there are certain clubs that cannot accept any more kids, due to space constraints*
- *Lack of soccer facilities/grounds in Moonee Valley*
- *The Essendon Royals provide opportunities for over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources.*
- *A new synthetic soccer field and improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community.*
- *My son participates with Essendon Royals SC, which has over 800 players participating in soccer. We train there during the summer months but as soon as it gets dark early,*

trainings were cut short. The current allocation of 1 training pitch for every 7 teams is already challenging, in addition to no lighting at this ground makes it more difficult

- *The Essendon Royals provide opportunities for over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources. A new synthetic soccer field and improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community. The current allocation of one training pitch for every seven teams and one gameday pitch for every 11 teams in 2023 is insufficient for our needs. We believe that investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of the sport in our region.*
- *Football has one of the biggest participation sports in Australia. Children require adequate facilities that support their sport through daylight savings and ever-growing clubs. Extending daylight hours via lighting will help support the growth of football for both clubs and children's participation in sport.*
- *More soccer pitches required, currently not enough to meet demand*
- *FOR WINTER AS DAYLIGHT SHORTENS KIDS NEED LIGHTING TO TRAIN. ALSO IT KEEPS KIDS OFF THE STREET .*
- *Better lighting enables evening training during winter*
- *Better lighting is needed for safety. All training is scheduled during evenings so it makes sense to have better lighting.*
- *Sport is strongly encouraged in our communities by local state and federal governing bodies. Therefore, the appropriate facilities must be provided especially for the progression and development of individual sports, for example soccer which has above average participant registrations making its widely played sport. Without facilities the standard will drop as children and teenagers cannot obtain the appropriate training.*
- *I've coached soccer for Essendon Royals over the last number of years, we train at 4 different venues and it's unsustainable. I'm currently training a team at J H Allan Reserve & it's a perfect venue.*
- *A new synthetic soccer field and improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club (Essendon Royals) enabling us to better serve our growing community.*
- *There isn't enough soccer fields in east keilor . Training for kids starts late and in the winter it affects training because of lack of lighting. Lights would be a great idea for the community.*
- *As a member of Essendon royals soccer club we do need the extra ground for training and playing on match days as we have more than 800 kids playing soccer*
- *Largely a winter sport, the grounds require suitable Lighting post 5.30pm.*

- *Increase the amount of usable training space in the suburb during the darker winter months.*
- *Great for the kids to keep active*
- *The Essendon Royals provide opportunities for over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources.*
- *Bright lighting to 10pm would impact neighboring residences too much. The increased use will cause a lot more traffic in the area. All the traffic using the oval will have to use The Crossway for entry and exit - it will simply be too much traffic on one street. Car parking will become an issue.*
- *We need lights! The Essendon Royals provide opportunities for over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources.*
- *The Essendon Royals provide opportunities for over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources. A new synthetic soccer field and improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit the club, enabling them to better serve the growing community.*
- *Much needed for growth of sport and encourage participation*
- *We need a local ground that can guarantee lights at night. My son plays for Essendon royals and they have to scrape around to find a ground that they can play at night. Last night they played at Fairbairn Park and the lights cut out early so I got a call from my son asking to be picked up early. The same has happened in the past and it's happened at Cross Keys Reserve also. We need a dedicated space with guaranteed lighting so that our children can have the freedom to play a sport uninterrupted. After hardly no sport for 2 years in Covid times my son really suffered so please don't hold these kids back any more!*
- *I believe that sports lighting is very important so that you can grow community sport in the area. Our team the Essendon Royals would be a perfect fit for this ground.*
- *Improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, Essendon Royals, enabling us to serve our growing community better.*
- *Not enough facilities in our area to allow all sports teams (soccer in particular) to train during winter.*
- *The Essendon Royals provide opportunities for over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources. A new synthetic soccer field and improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community. The current allocation of one training pitch for every seven teams and one gameday pitch for every 11 teams in 2023 is insufficient for our needs. We believe that investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of the sport in our region.*

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- *I believe that investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of the sport in our region.*
- *We are members of The Essendon Royals Soccer Club and currently use these ground as part of a suite that we have allocated by MVCC in lieu of an actual home ground. This club provides participation of over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources. The proposal would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community and continue to support youth engagement in sport. This is particularly important with our growing female teams (of which there are 15) and as research shows, supporting young girls being active is highly desirable. The current allocation of one training pitch for every seven teams and one game day pitch for every 11 teams in 2023 is insufficient and hinders the clubs ability to grow (with many families on a waitlist) and hinders supporting the participation of Moonee Valley residents in this sport. Investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of the sport in our area and importantly gives supports to us as rate paying residents, in engaging our local community and diverting our youth to purposeful and meaningful sporting activities and a family friendly & community focused club in Essendon Royals.*
- *Community and club need great facilities to grow as one and compete to the highest level*
- *The Essendon Royals provide opportunities for over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources. A new synthetic soccer field and improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community. The current allocation of one training pitch for every seven teams and one gameday pitch for every 11 teams in 2023 is insufficient for our needs. We believe that investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of the sport in our region.*
- *My son plays cricket there, to date it has been ok but we need to make sure games are finished up so there's enough light*
- *"â€¢ The Essendon Royals provide opportunities for over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources. â€¢ improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community. â€¢ The current allocation of one training pitch for every seven teams and one gameday pitch for every 11 teams in 2023 is insufficient for our needs.*

“ We believe that investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of the sport in our region. ”

- The opportunity to provide sporting facilities to all young people in the area is a significant one. As a parent of two and strong participant in the local community, I can see the growing number of participants in what is the World game.
- Synthetic turf is absolutely unacceptable in that location, size and purpose; both health wise and environmentally. We need more natural green space in the west/north west, not less. Green space, especially when executed properly, has public benefits far outweighing the expansion of a sports field for one small section of the community. Even if there were, for example, replanting of trees, the old growth is lost, along with the established ecology. That is a devastating blow that I have been seeing on a regular basis throughout MVCC. May I suggest a deep dive into Melbourne City Council and Eastern suburb councils on the subject. The funds required for this project and the numerous negative impacts, particularly for such little benefit, can't be justified. Residents across the MVCC have implored council for years, nay, decades to; install public toilets in active parks. Parks where there are playground, bbq and leisure facilities. This is never satisfactorily addressed. Even when there are quite large green space developments, public toilets are not included. As a woman, I cannot spend time in a public park to bbq with family, or shoot hoops, or use the public gym equipment. I cannot walk any significant distance with my dog, or walking group. All because, I need access to a toilet on a regular basis. Unfortunately women cannot, as I have seen unknown men do often throughout mvcc, simply urinate wherever and whenever they have the urge, even though our bladders are much more susceptible to over activity and loss of control due to but not limited to tiny things such as childbirth. Not having that access has had serious, consequential health impacts, which multiplied by many others who are in similar situations, puts a strain on our medical services, both physical and mental. That's just me. As a woman. There are elderly, disabled or sick people who are impacted every day by this. Melbourne City Council, in Royal Park, alone, have multiple public toilets placed throughout and much of that is bush, where it would at least be easier to hide if you needed to go without access to a toilet. There really isn't an excuse. They come as self cleaning pods now, minimal work required. Yet even though a necessity such as toilets have been overlooked for years by mvcc, you think it is reasonable to spend \$4-5 million (let's face it, it won't happen within budget, so more \$ than that) on an extremely limited, publicly beneficial project when we are currently in an economic, physical health, mental health, housing and aging crisis. Perhaps mvcc need to reconsider who they think they're representing and what is actually important in serving and servicing our community, especially as this is not the first sport related upgrade with little benefit to the wider public, that has happened or is planned to happen within mvcc in the near future. The funds should be allocated to a more community inclusionary project.

- *Further investment is needed to continue to keep our community active and engaged in team sports.*
- *Football is played by so many kids we need facilities so these kids can keep active.*
- *I think the grounds are lacking*
- *The Essendon Royals provide opportunities for over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources.*
- *Trainings are in the evening so the kids need proper lighting*
- *We are a young family residing in the area, often utilising JH Allen reserve. My boys are avid soccer players and are also registered players with Essendon Royals. In its current condition, the western oval is barely usable as it is not an even surface, which presents injury risks. The repurposing of this oval to synthetic soccer grounds with appropriate infrastructure would be welcomed by many residents and sporting associations. It would become a high use asset to the local community, Essendon Royals and other local soccer clubs. It is hoped that the supporting infrastructure would include lighting, toilets, seating and a communal area to promote a community gatherings and the building of community spirit/people. The installation of lights on the Eastern ground would increase its usability, making it ideal to run training and host games. The overall development will also bring opportunities for MVCC based clubs to host gala days, promoting soccer in MVCC and ultimately bring revenue into local shopping precinct with the many visitors that would attend training nights, game days and other specialist training or club initiatives.*
- *For the soccer club to better serve the community and increased demand for the sport*
- *Currently Essendon Royals has insufficient allocations for its number of players. This would help the situation*
- *It's a community space and houses nearby. Residents need to be given priority*
- *Will not be using soccer facilities*
- *Providing there are provisions that these lights are not on at unreasonable times of the evening impacting residents in the immediate area there are no real concerns but the limited parking does impact and if the usage is not considering local residents then this is not ok*
- *Lighting will provide the opportunity for clubs to utilise the space during winter months which will allow more kids to access sports as clubs will be able to conduct training and games on this ground during darker winter conditions.*
- *Additional lighting can only benefit the children and youth using the grounds. Allows for longer play, and safety when perhaps it's starting to get dark. If it's heavy cloud cover - sometimes it can seem like it's almost evening.. at midday.. so would be great to have additional lighting.*

- *Essendon Royals provide the opportunity to participate in soccer for over 800 participants including my children, but do not have enough pitches to accommodate all the current teams, I believe it is One pitch per eleven teams. The growth of the sport in our area is incredibly hindered because of this and the proposed development to JH Allan reserve would be of huge benefit to both the Essendon Royals and the community at large.*
- *So many children can benefit playing sport. In winter lighting is essential.*
- *Installing lighting at the ground will allow the ground to be used for night games and training in the winter months giving players more use of the ground over longer hours and not overly reliant on other grounds in the area.*
- *improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community.*
- *The Essendon Royals provide opportunities for over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources. A new synthetic soccer field and improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community. The current allocation of one training pitch for every seven teams and one gameday pitch for every 11 teams in 2023 is insufficient for our needs. We believe that investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of the sport in our region.*
- *The Essendon Royals provide opportunities for over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources. A new synthetic soccer field and improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community. The current allocation of one training pitch for every seven teams and one gameday pitch for every 11 teams in 2023 is insufficient for our needs. We believe that investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of the sport in our region.*
- *Increases the availability of the site, particularly during winter months. Allows the area to be used for many more hours each week.*
- *Of all the ways I think money could be put into the space for the betterment of our community. This is not it.*
- *Soccer has always been overlooked in ground allocation. Is always second to cricket and football, but looking at numbers of female teams emerging out numbers those two codes. We just don't have facilities available to train let alone hold games for male/boy games and now sharing that small space with the increasing female/girls games is a struggle. With the World Cup in Australia, the support and interest is just going to grow exponentially.*
- *We do not need a soccer pitch. The east keilor cricket club needs that ground for there 9 junior teams.*

- *The Essendon Royals provide opportunities for over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources. A new synthetic soccer field and improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community. The current allocation of one training pitch for every seven teams and one gameday pitch for every 11 teams in 2023 is insufficient for our needs. We believe that investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of the sport in our region.*
- *The Essendon Royals provide opportunities for over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources. A new synthetic soccer field and improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community. The current allocation of one training pitch for every seven teams and one gameday pitch for every 11 teams in 2023 is insufficient for our needs. We believe that investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of the sport in our region.*
- *The area is crying out for more cricket grounds where the local club has 10 junior teams. The Keilor East ground gets very very very little maintenance as it is*
- *Increase in traffic and parking problems around JH Allan Reserve. Cars are already parking on nature strips on both sides of the roads making it dangerous for pedestrians and children.*
- *It gives the Essendon Royals the opportunity to provide a high standard of facilities for all the kids at the club.*
- *The council really needs to act to improve soccer facilities and access to them in Moonee Valley so I am strongly in favour*
- *My daughter is an Essendon royals player under 11's and the improvement and access to good facilities is imperative for her to achieve her potential*
- *We currently have 2 children at the Essendon Royals. The Club is growing in popularity every year and the single amenities can be a struggle at times for training space and game days. The Club has a fantastic reputation in the Soccer/ Football community for producing future talent. This would be great addition to a great club.*
- *Lights are needed to support greater use of facilities in the evening*
- *New lighting should not be prioritized as it is not essential. Lighting already exists so additional lighting is not necessary. The money could be better spent elsewhere, as it would not be cost effective for the small gains of a few more hours of playing time for local sports activities. This proposal for new lighting seems to me to be an excessive request.*
- *It's a perfect place for locals to enjoy a weeknight of soccer training. Plenty of parking, lovely grass and a good spot all round make this ideal to fulfill the growing demand of*

soccer. At times during the week there are hundreds of kids at any one time at cross keys which is essentially not large enough for the demand of the sport in Moonee valley.

- Necessary to ensure community clubs can operate training during the winter months
- The Essendon Royals provide opportunities for over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources. A new synthetic soccer field and improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community. The current allocation of one training pitch for every seven teams and one gameday pitch for every 11 teams in 2023 is insufficient for our needs. We believe that investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of the sport in our region. Essendon Royals is a professional and supportive community group that offers a supportive and safe environment with positively guided growth to our younger community. It should be supported by the council and greater community for the benefits it offers to these younger community members
- The high lighting towers placed around the oval would emit illuminating lighting that is too close to residents housing that face the park. This is evident as the tower lighting on the Overland reserve can be seen from homes in Park Drive and light up the sky, so lighting in the JH Allan reserve would be a totally inappropriate lighting system to be placed so close to homes
- Extra lighting will give another sports ground in the area the flexibility to accommodate more timeslots for sport teams for training and games.
- I am a resident of Park Drive. The soccer ground 'as is' and 'as proposed' does not consider the impact to local residents of park drive. The material provided by MVCC seriously over emphasises the benefits and is completely silent on the serious negative impact to the local residents, nor how you will attend to these should the council pursue this proposal. 1. Parking is extremely insufficient currently even before the upgrade and extended usage proposed in the letter. The current usage requires significant remediation of the current parking facility immediately. The current on site parking fills and all the streets fill with cars (during training and also during games) on both sides of the road. You will need to treble the current parking, perhaps into the grassland. This results in a very dangerous roadway through out the length of the Park Drive all around the reserve. Children playing on the playground run between the cars so the risk of severe injury is severely heightened. The proposed plan for night lighting will only add to the current risk significantly increasing the possibility and probability of a fatality occurring. 2. The light poles (@25m) will light up the whole area at night and will cause disruption to sleep patterns. of residents and potentially bird life. 3. The noise and cheering of the players currently can be heard during the daytime and at night it will be exacerbated, it is like they are cheering directly into your lounge room. Even today games (or practice) are often played early evening. This proposal advantages the soccer enthusiasts and their families while adversely and seriously impacting and

ultimately disadvantaging the residents of Park Drive. The existing parking needs to be remediated now, it is an extreme risk daily and it is only a matter of time before a fatality occurs. I vehemently oppose the extended usage of this soccer ground and also its current usage should cut back..

- *I support increased soccer facilities and being able to use this area at night. I would be cautious about tree removal and would want minimal removal of established trees.*
- *I am a resident of Park Drive. The soccer ground 'as is' and 'as proposed' does not consider the impact to local residents of park drive. The material provided by MVCC seriously over emphasises the benefits and is completely silent on the serious negative impact to the local residents, nor how you will attend to these should the council pursue this proposal. 1. Parking is extremely insufficient currently even before the upgrade and extended usage porposed in the letter. The current usage requires significant remediation of the current parking facility immediately. The current on site parking fills and all the streets fill with cars (during training and also during games) on both sides of the road. You will need to treble the current parking, perhaps into the grassland. This results in a very dangerous roadway through out the length of the Park Drive all around the reserve. Children playing on the playground run between the cars so the risk of severe injury is severely heightened. The proposed plan for night lighting will only add to the current risk significantly increasing the possibility and probability of a fatality occurring. 2.The light poles (@25m) will light up the whole area at night and will cause disruption to sleep patterns. of residents and potentially bird life. 3. The noise and cheering of the players currently can be heard during the daytime and at night it will be exacerbated, it is like they are cheering directly into your lounge room. Even today games (or practice) are often played early evening. This proposal advantages the soccer enthusiasts and their families while adversely and seriously impacting and ultimately disadvantaging the residents of Park Drive. The existing parking needs to be remediated now, it is an extreme risk daily and it is only a matter of time before a fatality occurs. I vehemently oppose the extended usage of this soccer ground and also its current usage should cut back.*
- *The light poles are extremely tall and would be very bright at night, lighting up both sides of Park Drive, especially if the oval is being used until 10pm. This would also create unwanted additional noise with players, umpire whistles and cheering from spectators and this is unacceptable for me as a parent of a young child who would be trying to sleep.*
- *More soccer facilities needed. Our 9yo son was declined a position on a team by Essendon Royals even though we are Essendon residents and ratepayers. I'm told this is due to lack of ground access. This is unsatisfactory.*
- *The improved lighting would strongly benefit our soccer club Essendon Royals*
- *I strongly feel that the community currently does not appropriately cater for our children to actively participate with adequate facilities in Moonee valley. In particular as a parent*

of a child in the Essendon Royals the availability of pitches for training and games means we have to travel a lot more

- *The Essendon Royals provide opportunities for over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources. A new synthetic soccer field and improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community. The current allocation of one training pitch for every seven teams and one gameday pitch for every 11 teams in 2023 is insufficient for our needs. We believe that investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of the sport in our region.*
- *Due to current registration numbers and following*
- *Inadequate facilities to support training and playing under lights*
- *Soccer training at night*
- *More areas to play at night provides clubs and players with more development time*
- *It would improve access to reserve, safety and increase use.*
- *Lighting will be helpful for flexible training time during and during winter months.*
- *During winter months the reserve can be used for soccer training*
- *The ground at JH Allan Reserve is of a quality condition, however, it would be complete with lights to service community soccer at night particularly as daylight savings is due to end.*
- *With the end of daylight savings and winter approaching, soccer teams will no longer be able to safely train at this facility in the evenings.*
- *Great location and would be very useful for the kids and families in the area*
- *Every other code has full support, our kids also need extra lighting so they can train in a safe manner.*
- *As Moonee Valley residents, my children all play soccer at Essendon Royals and use JH Allan reserve regularly for training and matches. The more infrastructure that JH Allan has, the better the community will utilise the Council property, with benefit for more children to participate in organised sport.*
- *By having the lighting installed it will also make the pathways around the reserve easier to navigate, especially during the winter months.*
- *More visible for night matches or training sessions*
- *The Essendon Royals provide opportunities for over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources. A new synthetic soccer field and improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community. The current allocation of one training pitch for*

every seven teams and one gameday pitch for every 11 teams in 2023 is insufficient for our needs. We believe that investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of the sport in our region.

- *Field lights would be amazing as there could be much longer training sessions.*
- *Providing this will allow for training and games to be played later in the evening. Given soccer is a winter sport and evenings get darker earlier this will support children being able to exercise and maintain a healthy lifestyle if there were more opportunities to use the area with lighting at night.*
- *The ground could be utilised more*
- *team sport is pivotal for a child's development on so many levels and soccer is a global sport that deserves space to grow in this country. Allowing this facility will increase opportunities in the area and can only be a positive thing in the long run.*
- *Installing sports lights will provide increase access to facilities required by large number players participating in soccer withing Moonee Valley. It provides a flexible and safe option, in particular to the large number of female and young players in the area.*
- *I would like to see solar panels to provide free energy for the lights used. I'd like to see the inclusion of an EV charger to also utilise the solar panels. This would eliminate the need for council to pay for electricity. I'd like to see many more trees planted to ensure this is a cool environment for everyone to use year round. Thank you*
- *JH Allan needs major upgrades to be a decent soccer venue and the installation of lights is way overdue Council needs to install more lights at sports grounds so clubs can use unutilised ovals for training and/or matches.*
- *I am in favour of solar powered night lighting*
- *Opportunities for sport to be played later - more teams more opportunities for people to play*
- *Great to have opportunities for local sport to be played at night*
- *This will create more opportunities for kids who want to play sport. I'd rather have active kids not kids always on devices.*
- *They need increased parking options. Each game day means residents struggle to get out of their driveways. Drive down the road. Or park at their own homes. Especially detrimental to elderly and those living disability who require support staff you park.*
- *bright lights for residents to 10 pm bird life will be affected by bright lights and is full of native trees attracting native birds. increased parking on both sides of the road and visitors to the area from outside ethe area do not look after the park, they park on nature strip do not take home their rubbish. After some soccer games there has been lots of rubbish left by non residents of the area. Visitors have complete disregard for both the*

park land and the local residents , parking on residents nature strips, parking on both sides of the road making it unsafe for locals to return to their homes

- *will affect locals as visitors park on nature strips, affecting them to safely get access to their home. Bright lights until 10 pm will affect the local native bird life which facilitates is a high population of native wild life . noise from whistles and calling out till 10 pm will affect locals in the area. rubbish will be left at the park lands by visitors as locals look after their park lands and remove thier rubbish themselves.*
- *bright lights to all hours affecting local wild life and residents. Mise to all hours also affecting locals and wild life. Parking being on the road, nature strip and visitors dont care about the local park leaving rubbish.*
- *NATIVE BIRDS AND LOCALS AFFECTED BY THE LIGHTS THAT WILL BE ON UNTIL 10 PM also the noise driven by the teams training or playing till 10 pm will also affect us and native bird life. Parking will increase in the area and locals will have limited access to their own properties due to visitors parking on nature strips and on both sides of the street. noise of training sessions and games played to 10 pm will also affect the native bird life and the local residents.*
- *This will vastly affect the wild life that the council supports through their area of native grass lands that are to support their RAP plan and the local Wurundjeri peoples who were the first occupants of this land. The bright lights to 10 pm and the constant noise will have an adverse affect on the wildlife living in the trees and native grasslands directly adjacent to the field. I moved into Moonee Valley because I could see that the council strongly commits to this notion of respecting the land and the elders both past and Present. I know that through working with the council that they do have a strong notion to this and that this is embedded in their daily practice. I am shocked then to hear that through the installation of lights at the current soccer field to 10 pm will thus affect the wildlife that the council strongly supports through the growth and maintenance of native trees and the native grass lands located at the west end of the grass lands. This installation will affect the local living in the area due to the noise it will bring to 10 pm, the bright lights and visitors to the area parking on both sides of the street and on nature strips cause their is not enough off street parking offered to support the vast number of visitors that this installation will bring. the visitors to this area are not local rate payers and do not leave the local park lands clean and free of rubbish. Locals who use this are will be faced with rubbish littering their park lands from over use of the area, tis will also affect the native wild life by bringing in non native birds and scavengers to the park lands.*
- *The Light Poles are 25metre poles & would be very bright at night to light up the oval, & night useage of the oval till 10:00AM is unacceptable, in particular to the houses adjoining & opposite the oval, where young children are going to bed.*
- *Concerned about lighting at night... I wouldn't want it to be too bright and impact the darkness of our house at night*

- *With young children training there on a regular basis it is a must for safety*
- *If the lighting is used till 10pm 4 to 5 nights per week it will affect the quality of life and health of the residents. Also on environmental grounds and financial cost to the community. We should be reducing our use of energy not increasing it.*
- *I have some concern about the bird-life in the area. Currently there is a large and diverse bird community around Park Drive and it would be a real shame for the birds to lose their habitat due to the extra lighting at night, and for those of us living in the area to lose this diversity in local bird-life. Additionally, having the lights being used most nights of the week would be disturbing to the local residents of the area. There is also already much light pollution from the football ovals on Eastleigh Avenue. With all the extra use of the soccer field, it may also be difficult for residents of Park Drive to be leaving their own drive-ways.*
- *I believe that adequate light at a facility opens it up to be used more fully during all seasons. It also contributes to safety for players and spectators*
- *Area is a residential area, but daily traffic visiting the adjacent shopping centre and Community Centre already creates noise & traffic problems for the area during the day, and night. To add additional traffic, on-street parking, spectator noise, harsh lighting, rubbish generation, etc. to the area "after dark" is a further erosion of residents rights to peaceful enjoyment of their homes, especially at night and weekends. The peaceful environment of the area is already being eroded by the increase in traffic, congestion, & noise by the increasing dual-occupancies permitted in the area, with no corresponding capacity increases in services to the area, e.g. water supply, sewerage & waste disposal, on-street parking, etc., etc. It seems that Council is prepared to impinge on residents way of life to accommodate 'visiting' soccer supporters who neither live locally or pay Council fees and charges. This should not be allowed if Council is "working on ratepayers behalf".*
- *When the temporary lights were up recently they fundamentally changed the area and were very visible in our house.*
- *The area will be dominated by one sport and local streets are already unable to cope with traffic during training and game events*
- *While I strongly support local & community sport - the amount of cars already present during matches makes parking impossible for residents. I do not believe the street parking is sufficient to manage the proposed upgrade.*
- *The Essendon Royals provide opportunities for over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources. The current allocation of one training pitch for every seven teams and one gameday pitch for every 11 teams in 2023 is insufficient for our needs. We believe that investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of the sport in our region.*

- *There are not enough sporting facilities in the areas to cater for the increase in need. At the moment some clubs need to turn away players as they simple don't have access to enough soccer pitches to accommodate the extra teams that they could field.*

6.4.2 Repurposing of western sports field – free text comments

- *Great initiative to upgrade a local amenity for residents to utilise*
- *I support the ability for more opportunity for a multipurpose field for sporting activities*
- *We support this proposal. This support is subject to design and implementation of an effective traffic management plan.*
- *I have lived at number [redacted] for over 50 years and gradually witnessed council gradually erode the park area and its original planned purpose Firstly a chunk of parkland was taken for the kindergarten The soccer club already has taken over the mid section of supposedly park land The crazy idea of "grassland" on the eastern end makes this unusable so all we have left is the western end and you want that as well better rename the street Soccer Drive as Park drive is no longer appropriate*
- *As MVCC is aware native grasslands have been discovered in three reserves in East Keilor one being JH Allan Reserve. The Natural Temperate Grasslands of the Victorian Volcanic Plain are critically endangered and protected by both the state and federal law. Less than 0.5% of the original grasslands remain making the patches in our backyard extremely rare and precious. Along with the native grasslands J H Allen Reserve is home to wildlife such as possums and fruit bats along with an abundance of birdlife all of which will be displaced along with the many trees surrounding the reserve. This is a residential area not a sporting precinct. This space is used by many people for a variety of reasons it is a shared community space. This space is green space and unique due to its proximity to the CBD.*
- *The oval is used by children to play cricket, people to picnic, walk dogs and kick the footy why should these people be denied?*
- *Please see the response above.*
- *1) We are also strongly apposed to the Establishment of an additional soccer field #2 (Synthetic Grass) as it going to remove the cricket pitch which is used by cricket clubs and for general recreation by children and residents and the neighbouring area. 2) We can't understand why council would even consider creating another Soccer ground within meters of the one on the Eastern side, which is going duplicate the noise and traffic being created at present. 3) What council is proposing is creating a soccer precinct at the expense of another sport namely Cricket. 4) Removing established trees to make a Synthatic grass soccer pitch is madness.*
- *Absolutely not. The upgrading of the current pitch is enough. Parking is still an issue. The parking on both sides of park drive presents a significant traffic hazard and it is inevitable a fatality will occur to a child.*

- *Already have a full-size synthetic grass soccer field with lights in Keilor East as well as a soccer field across the road and one in Avondale heights. Four soccer pitches within a km radius, seriously? Where are the basketball and netball courts, which are both far more popular than soccer? This feels like a councillor has a specific agenda and reeks of abuse of position.*
- *We should let the other sport activity to use the reserve. Keep the cricket match that is using the reserve!*
- *JH Allan Reserve is located within a designated residential area, it is not a sporting precinct. JH Allan reserve is home to Natural Temperate Grasslands of the Victorian Volcanic Plain which are critically endangered and protected by both the state and federal law. Less than 0.5% of the original grasslands remain making the patches in our backyard extremely rare and precious. JH Allan reserve is a habitat for wildlife including birds, fruit bats and possums.*
- *Currently being used by all of the community, and installing a synthetic grass soccer field which will have fencing and gates will remove the open park space to the community.*
- *With strong opposition, I firmly believe that the installation of synthetic grass along with other infrastructure will turn a green space currently used by residents, families, local schools and casual sports clubs into a commercial sports area. The installation of man-made plastic grass on the western sports field will disturb the natural habitat of the birdlife in the area and will become an eyesore for the green space intended for the use of the residents of the area. Opening this up to official soccer clubs will only increase the congestion of traffic that will be travelling around Park Drive and create parking issues for the patrons and residents alike. If there clubs are seeking out synthetic grass soccer fields, my suggestion to those clubs would be to utilise the already operating indoor soccer arenas that are set up for this exact purpose. I again ask the MVCC to seriously consider its proposal and the effects it will have on suburbia.*
- *Understand that this upgrade will result in removing some or all the trees as well as the rotunda. Both these two things will adversely impact the environment and diminish the recreational aspect. There will be a significant increase in traffic and noise pollution.*
- *We use the ground for cricket games and we are already short of grounds*
- *Looks like the ground needs upgrading to keep the kids safe and playing sport.*
- *Synthetic turf is an urban heat disaster. It is significantly hotter than natural grass, is made of toxic PFAS "forever chemicals". The removal of a significant amount of tree canopy is unforgiveable in a climate emergency. A recent article in The Age noted that Moonee Valley is already 9.63Â° hotter than non urban areas and knowing that heat is deadly and kills more than any other natural disaster combined, means there is no excuse to do anything that will lead to an increase in urban heat.*

- *The western sports field has been sitting idle for well over a decade and a new soccer synthetic pitch would be ideal. About time Council is looking at developing unused open space.*
- *Allowing training in all seasons and conditions would be great, including lights*
- *We do not have enough grounds and existing grass grounds are not maintained by council. Its a winter sport with with constant water issues.*
- *Parking is already an issue, doubling the soccer crowds would make the local traffic in the area, a nightmare. The crossway is used as a bridge to get from Milleara Road to the houses out the back of East Keilor. Whenever both fields are in use, cars are parked on both sides of the road between the fields and the road becomes a 1 lane road.*
- *2 large reserves with lots of potential*
- *No synthetic grass please*
- *It concerns me that a synthetic surface would have a negative impact on the environment & greenhouse gases. Council should be looking at keeping our existing parkland as natural as possible, while also catering for sport for the community.*
- *Please keep the natural grass fields as adding synthetic turf will not keep our green spaces green and cool.*
- *Sorry I oppose more concrete and synthetic grass. It's overly hot to play on, look at Boeing reserve and Strathmore High. It acts as a heat bank. Surface will cost to replace too. Could it also effect the river near by and how water flows from the houses.*
- *This oval is regularly used for cricket matches over summer, if a synthetic surface was installed, could cricket still be played there over summer? If not, then I oppose as we do not have sufficient ovals for cricket in the community either*
- *Use real grass, synthetic surface is short sighted and disappointing for future generations.*
- *Synthetic grass is very expensive, high maintenance and means that the area cannot be used by other users when not being used for sports purposes. Preference is for natural turf*
- *Soccer is a growing sport and needs to be supported in MV*
- *Full support this*
- *There is absolutely no good reason to pull up trees and actual grass/plants/shrubs/habitat to install synthetic turf. It's has a huge carbon footprint from the manufacturing process, increase the heat island effect as it's like essentially installing a massive green plastic mat into parklands. Then, when it's reached it's used by date, becomes damaged etc.. it needs to go to landfill. There is also some research studies which suggest that artificial grass increases the risk of injury to people playing*

sports on its surface. Overall, it's a very bad idea and does not reflect councils green plan of increasing tree canopy and reducing local carbon emissions. This will be a big backwards step.

- *Not environmentally friendly.*
- *Artificial turf is made from petro chemicals, it breaks down into micro plastics and pollutes our soils and water ways, contain PFAS which is linked to cancer in kids AND retains heat much more than grass. Generally running around 15 - 20 degrees warmer as surface than natural grass, it contributes massively to urban heat island effect which Moonee Valley is already experiencing on average 10 degrees warmer than baseline temps.*
- *Not environmentally friendly. The mvcc let's grass grow long at one end of the street to protect the natural grasses, ecosystems and is going to do the exact opposite with this proposal. Synthetic grasses emit toxins into the environment.*
- *It's bad for the environment. I think we all are aware that we need to reduce our plastic/synthetic usage as it gets into the environment & takes hundreds of years to breakdown. We currently consume plastic equivalent to a credit card sized piece of plastic a day, which has now been linked with a number of diseases such as IBS & other gut problems and some cancers.*
- *I support the soccer strategy*
- *Absolutely opposed to this ridiculous plan. And reduction of trees. Have you not heard of global warming? Real grass or nothing*
- *Synthetic grass is an atrocious idea. I can't believe this is actually a serious proposal from council. Nobody wants to play sport on synthetic grass not to mention the environmental impact. What's wrong with actual grass to play on??*
- *It's not needed . Just have natural grass , it's not a indoor stadium.*
- *As this is used as a cricket ground for Junior teams as there is a shortage of grounds I am wondering what the plan is for cricket grounds if this is turned into a soccer pitch.*
- *Increases heat in urban green settings Increases micro plastics in waterways Is too hot to play on in summer Kills micro ecosystems It uses toxic chemicals*
- *Has MVCC investigated the health and environmental impacts of synthetic 'grass'. If not why is MVCC seeking opinions from the community when it should be seeking expert advice. Lazy attitude by officers of MVCC!*
- *Council should do similar developments at other unused fields. Even consider installing synthetic soccer pitches at other reserves. Example Strathnaver Reserve where the club has over 300 players for a small field that will get chopped up.*
- *Synthetic grass has harmful impacts on players and on the environment (micro plastics into waterways as synthetics break down over time). Also, synthetic grass does not have*

cooling property that actual grass has, which is super important in urban areas for climate change mitigation.

- *Synthetic tug is hot in summer A non renewable resource. Also prevents opportunity for ecosystem services of natural plant materials.*
- *Great idea as ground may be used during winter and summer*
- *Reasons: Environmental- less plastic, natural aircon (we already have a heat problem with a lack of green in the west) and a healthier ecosystem in general. Comfort/safety- falling on synthetic turf really pulls the skin off! For these reasons a maintained grass turf would be a much better option.*
- *It's awful. It's a cost cutting measure and synthetic turf is terrible to play on, slippery when wet, too hot when slight sun hits and stepping us even further away from nature. Please stop installing fake grass everywhere.*
- *This is absurd. With the world's current environmental issues, who in their right mind would even suggest fake turf. I would also like to point out that fake turf includes toxic chemicals such as pfas, and will increase micro plastics to our waterways. And we need to remember, that this space is shared with cricket. Cricket players would die from heat exhaustion from playing on synthetic turf in summer. So not only is it an environmental disaster, it is cruel.*
- *Soccer needs more grounds and i support another pitch however a grass pitch is preferred. Synthetic is hard on players causing injury and unnatural*
- *Synthetic grass is not an environmentally friendly installation. It increases surface temperature, provides no habitat for insects, and contributes to plastic pollution.*
- *The environmental impact particularly with the current scientific data outlining the severe impacts of climate change make this a threat to community wellbeing and use of ground. Will locals who use the reserve for play and exercise be locked out?*
- *The land in this area was originally sold under the guise of open space, parklands and community garden areas to which land buyers paid a premium, These areas have already been heavily reduced with the land being sold off to house nursing homes and residential properties*
- *1) The loss of this community open space, its trees and Cricket pitch will be lost if the Synthetic Soccer field is installed on the Kindergarten side of JH Allan Reserve. 2) Also the 2nd Soccer field within meters of the existing one will double the potential problems that will occur when lights are installed on the Eastern soccer field. 3) A lot of birds will lose their homes when the trees are removed to make way for the soccer field and associated supporting infrastructure which I assume would be the club rooms and toilets etc.*
- *Synthetic grass is really bad option. Natural grass is so much better for environment, temperature etc.*

- *2 soccer grounds with lights and change room facilities that cater for women, men and the disabled as well as a canteen that is actually set up and designed properly with ovens, fridges, freezers, stoves, deep fryers etc.*
- *It's unnatural and unnecessary.*
- *Parking is already a concerns with the amount of new housing not having enough room to park on their properties and utilise the street. Parking when a soccer game is being played on a weekend now is already out of control add another ground will be ridiculous.*
- *You cannot take from one upcoming sports especially with female participants (cricket) for another sport. There is other local areas of land that could be utilised without taking away from the cricket. Also this ground is utilised by a lot of people exercising and walking their dogs*
- *Soccer on weekend with parking already impacts the ability to enter and exit my property with peoples cars everywhere. Can't even park out the front it drives most of us who live here crazy then add the noise No thanks*
- *I live on western side and already struggle with parking and traffic when soccer games are running*
- *Environmental impacts removing most trees and only planting five trees as a replacement plus property prices will decrease then there is parking and traffic*
- *This space is used by many locals and already and is used for sport cricket which is getting bigger every year especially with girls now taking the sport up*
- *I would like to see the plans, look into how it affects house prices and potentially get permit parking only for the houses side of the street*
- *Synthetic turf is not environmentally safe. It deteriorates over time and will become a pollutant in the creek Also these surfaces are harder on the players than natural grass, causing severe "carpet burns" when people fall.*
- *Terrible for the environment*
- *Bad environmental choice. Not pleasant to play with children in the summer. Please consult science before taking away natural environments.*
- *Is playable all year round and requires little Council upkeep and maintenance. The East Keilor Leisure Centre has to be one of the most used sporting places in MV by kids having a kick. With that pitch going and no firm plans there, something is required for year round Soccer. Soccer requires a playable surface (the ball is on the ground!). A synthetic pitch provides this all year round.*
- *We need more facilities in Moonee Valley for soccer and the current synthetic pitch at east Keilor is not up to standard*

- *Synthetic is harmful to play on, more long term injuries. Professional teams don't use it. Grass fields if maintained correctly can support more use and cost less in long term. Grass supports more increased recreational and passive use to increase health and well being of community*
- *Synthetic allows players to play all year round and gives community the advantage of also using it*
- *Really? Still? Synthetic turf that absorbs heat, repels water to create more runoff, and is the absolute opposite of a natural environment. No way.*
- *There is a synthetic soccer field in Quinn Grove with lights. There is soccer fields in Avondale not even 2 kms away we don't need the extra traffic and parking congestion that is already there with the sports facilities*
- *I oppose synthetic turf*
- *Synthetic grass holds heat and contributes to urban heat islands and it's less safe and comfortable to play on than natural grass (have you ever FALLEN on this stuff, it is brutal on skin).*
- *Just no! Synthetic grass is just putting more plastic into our environment and creating more urban heat. The Park Drive area is a natural environment with native grasslands, mature trees and shrubs - it is constantly alive with birds, who also find food on ovals. Synthetic turf is a wasteland - just as bad as concrete! Also, I played hockey on fake turf - so dangerous!*
- *Parking will become a problem particularly if both grounds are used at the same time. Established trees will need to be removed Other recreational activities will be sacrificed, off lead dog walking, picnics, social sports, open space access*
- *My children played at a soccer gala late last year on synthetic turf (in Knox) - it was awfulâ€¦ the surface cut the kids legs and hands when they fell, it was hot and the speed and bounce of the ball was very different - not an authentic experience. What is wrong with grass?! With everything going on in MV, the financial crisis etc, how is synthetic turf even a priority? How is this serving the wider community? How is this environmentally friendly with what we now know about the impact of synthetic turf? MV has lost its way if they think the instillation of synthetic turf is urgent business or the way forwardâ€¦*
- *There is absolutely no need to rip up natural, carbon catching turf and replace it with cancer causing plastic grass. Plant hardier grass, improve the drainage leave the trees alone.*
- *I have already filled in the survey but wanted to add a further suggestion*
- *Synthetic turf has serious potential health impacts and is not required for a soccer field. Regular grass is fine for a soccer field.*

- *We do not need more plastic. We need more real plants to suck up the excess carbon in the atmosphere. If anything, there should be more real greenery in Moonee Valley, not less. Climate change is worsening.*
- *Synthetic grass is unattractive, bad to play on and not environmentally friendly*
- *East Keilor Cricket Club has had a very successful 22/23 season with 8 junior teams and 4 senior teams. All of the junior teams made finals and three junior teams won their grand finals. One senior team won the grand final. The club's aim is to continue to grow and develop young players. The club needs the additional ground at JH Allen to allow their teams another ground to play at.*
- *My objection is that the area should not be fenced off (to facilitate public access) and there should be no use of fake grass. We are in a climate crisis - fake grass is made using fossil fuels, it significantly adds to warming and plastic waste.*
- *There is no way that your ways to 'manage' some of the environmental impacts of a synthetic grass field (in your FAQs) are actually practical - especially having "Raised edges and shoe-cleaning grates could be installed at all entry/exit points, to keep material within the field perimeter." I think anyone can see that. It also kills the soil nutrients and inhabitants (i.e. worms) under that large area that will, for all intents and purposes, be suffocated by the plastic mesh because of the heat that the plastic attracts. There is no way to manage that except to not have it in the first place. Why do you keep saying you care about the environment when you keep proposing or humouring things like this?? It's baffling...*
- *As a Keilor East resident and a member of the East Keilor cricket club that have to use the reserve. Synthetic grass would be detrimental to our club and the sport. It just doesn't work with cricket unfortunately. I do however feel that there is a major need to be bathroom facilities at that ground.*
- *the cricket club make good use of this area with no changes required - where would they play? they currently use existing water taps, toilets and trees for shade. car parking is an issue an off lead area for dog owners*
- *Let nature be nature*
- *Synthetic grass is not environmentally friendly at all. Furthermore, it traps the heat and can result in skin burns.*
- *Fantastic idea*
- *As a coach for junior teams in cricket the ground was all we had to support home games being played. East Keilor cricket club only has one ground for junior and with 6 junior sides we need another cricket pitch. Better use would come by investment in the ground to have it better playing surface so kids can enjoy and play without injury.*
- *As per my previous comment, lack of cricket pitches within the area, this ground is currently used for Cricket, where would the cricketers go?????*

- *There is already a lack of suitable cricket ovals in the area.*
- *This would allow sport to be played in any weather*
- *See previous for my concerns*
- *Synthetic grass is artificial and not good for the soil as it may leach polymers into the soil. My preference would be for natural grass.*
- *Lights will keep me up*
- *This oval is used for junior cricket and needs to be kept for this purpose*
- *Environmental impact. Loss of trees. My children use this field for cricket playing for EKCC- with 9 teams there are not enough ovals at overland reserve. We have trained here once a week and played home matches here fortnightly. The oval is in need of resurfacing*
- *The area is too small there is no parking*
- *As per my previous comment please create a synthetic cricket pitch and make the oval dual use like JJ Holland reserve in Kensington.*
- *Cricket is played there*
- *This goes against every environmental goal MVCC claims to have. Synthetic turf is proven to significantly increase ground temperature, kill soil ecology, creates plastic burns on players when they fall, and then needs to be sprayed with toxic chemicals to manage the weeds that will still grow through it! I cannot oppose this enough!!!*
- *Would be taking away one sport for another Area is also use for local being an off leash park which would be available with a synthetic sports ground*
- *Oval should be left as is with grass*
- *Environmental impacts nurture the ground that is there*
- *It should be a shared field for more than one sport.*
- *Congestion with parking the noise on game days can be heard from streets away*
- *I live in this part and use the area with my children regularly most days and night also there already is residents parking in street as families are growing and no where for them to park on their own properties so games days would hugely impact those living around the park and surrounding streets*
- *Artificial turf had no environmental benefits poisons the soil and reduces biodiversity*
- *There is an increasing need for more soccer pitches in Moonee Valley and in particular synthetic grounds that are able to be used all year and regardless of usual weather cycles. This is a common sense solution to start addressing that need.*

- *The only way I would support synthetic grass is if it's multi purpose and can be utilised by East Keillor cricket club as well. There is a chronic shortage of grounds for junior cricket teams and they can NOT afford to have another one taken away from them without redeveloping Overland reserve to accommodate multiple synthetic pitches.*
- *Soccer field #2.- this reserve should kept for the cricket club activities. We do not need a second soccer field in our area*
- *Able to utilise facility to support soccer in Australia a grossly overly sport due to the undertones of racism in all our local councils. Majority of funding seems to go to Aussie rules football despite soccer being THE WORLD's most popular sport with more than 3.5 billion fans around the world. What does Aussie rules have? a couple of hundred thousand? Then there is cricket. Once again coming in at around 2.5 billion fans globally falling short of soccer by a cool BILLION fans. Council should be supporting so that money does not need to be generated privately and truly offers youngsters the opportunity to play THE WORLD'S BEST SPORT - SOCCER.*
- *Any soccer pitch built in the area to allow more kids to play this growing sport is needed*
- *Lack of soccer facilities/grounds in Moonee Valley with such a huge demand, this should be a no brainer situation*
- *A new synthetic soccer field and improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community.*
- *A new synthetic soccer field and improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community.*
- *The current allocation of 1 training pitch for every 7 teams and 1 gameday pitch for every 11 teams is insufficient for our needs*
- *The Essendon Royals provide opportunities for over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources. A new synthetic soccer field and improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community. The current allocation of one training pitch for every seven teams and one gameday pitch for every 11 teams in 2023 is insufficient for our needs. We believe that investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of the sport in our region.*
- *provide a safe playing service for children training as well as less maintenance costs for council.*
- *as above*
- *The Essendon Royals provide opportunities for over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources. â€¢ A new synthetic soccer field and improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community. "*

- *Be great to help out our local soccer club with another venue to use for the game.*
- *Artificial turf displaces natural grass, consumes petrochemicals, is highly CO2 positive, and creates heat islands. Artificial turf also makes a ground single purpose, as other sports or community users cannot use it.*
- *The current allocation of one training pitch for every seven teams and one gameday pitch for every 11 teams in is insufficient for our needs. I would prefer another well maintained grass pitch over a Synthetic pitch, but definitely another pitch is needed.*
- *Synthetic grass is known to be environmentally destructive - micro plastics in the waterways, heating the soil to a degree that life cannot exist under it, creating radiant heat, producing toxic chemical off gassing that our children will then inhale as well as take in through broken skin injuries. There is nothing good about this choice*
- *Again, without the appropriate facilities, and soccer being a winter sport a synthetic pitch would benefit all types of training and matches without having to worry about muddy surface etc. In the long term I believe this would be more cost effective approach as servicing and maintaining a synthetic surface would cost less in the long run*
- *As above.*
- *In winter if it has rained for lone periods of time the grass can not be played on as it gets to muddy and rips up the grass.*
- *We need these grounds for training and for the kids to play soccer*
- *The environmental impacts are not worth it. Microplastics, altering the current environment, removal of a significant number of trees and vegetation, even if every tree is being replaced with 5 more.*
- *Synthetic grounds promote more use of grounds.*
- *A hybrid solution would be a greener option and doesn't get as hot in summer.*
- *Get children of technology will be fantastic*
- *A new synthetic soccer field and improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community.*
- *Will this increase maintenance costs and result in an increase in Council Rates.*
- *A new synthetic soccer field and improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community. Soccer is proven to be more popular than AFL now.*
- *The Essendon Royals provide opportunities for over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources. A new synthetic soccer field and improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit the club, enabling them to better serve the growing community.*

- *As stated earlier, we need a dedicated local sports field where our children can play. We don't have enough training pitches for our teams at the Essendon Royals. We need the council to realise how important a sports field is for the next generation. I'm sick of these young kids staying indoors glued to their iPads. It's about time we take a stand and provide our children with healthy alternatives rather than leading a whole generation to distraction*
- *The Essendon Royals provide opportunities for over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources. â€¢ A new synthetic soccer field and improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community. â€¢ The current allocation of one training pitch for every seven teams and one gameday pitch for every 11 teams in 2023 is insufficient for our needs. â€¢ We believe that investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of the sport in our region. "*
- *Synthetic grass adds to the heat island effect and we have enough issues with climate change already.*
- *A new synthetic soccer field at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, Essendon Royals, enabling us to serve our growing community better.*
- *Again, not enough soccer pitches in area to allow all soccer teams to train*
- *The Essendon Royals provide opportunities for over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources. A new synthetic soccer field and improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community. The current allocation of one training pitch for every seven teams and one gameday pitch for every 11 teams in 2023 is insufficient for our needs. We believe that investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of the sport in our region.*
- *The Essendon Royals provide opportunities for over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources. A new synthetic soccer field and improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community. The current allocation of one training pitch for every seven teams and one gameday pitch for every 11 teams in 2023 is insufficient for our needs. We believe that investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of the sport in our region*
- *I refer to my previous commentsâ€¦ We are members of The Essendon Royals Soccer Club and currently use these ground as part of a suite that we have allocated by MVCC in lieu of an actual home ground. This club provides participation of over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources. The proposal would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community and continue to support youth engagement in sport. This is particularly important with our growing female teams (of which there are 15) and as research shows,*

supporting young girls being active is highly desirable. The current allocation of one training pitch for every seven teams and one game day pitch for every 11 teams in 2023 is insufficient and hinders the clubs ability to grow (with many families on a waitlist) and hinders supporting the participation of Moonee Valley residents in this sport. Investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of the sport in our area and importantly gives supports to us as rate paying residents, in engaging our local community and diverting our youth to purposeful and meaningful sporting activities and a family friendly & community focused club in Essendon Royals.

- *As above*
- *The Essendon Royals provide opportunities for over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources. A new synthetic soccer field and improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community. The current allocation of one training pitch for every seven teams and one gameday pitch for every 11 teams in 2023 is insufficient for our needs. We believe that investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of the sport in our region.*
- *There is already a soccer field there and another on Rachel Rd EK I would prefer it stays grass as we need it for cricket*
- *The Essendon Royals provide opportunities for over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources. â€¢ A new synthetic soccer field and improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community. â€¢ The current allocation of one training pitch for every seven teams and one gameday pitch for every 11 teams in 2023 is insufficient for our needs. â€¢ We believe that investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of the sport in our region. "*
- *It would be extremely popular and well used. Soccer is a winter sport but one that is played throughout the year, a synthetic pitch would support this and provide a safe play area for organised and recreation sport.*
- *See initial statement.*
- *Provide vital and necessary training facilities is important in growing community engagement and harmony.*
- *Low maintenance and is great in winter for the kids to play on.*
- *Why don't we use Rachelle rd sinthetic ground*
- *We really need this level of soccer pitch*
- *A new synthetic soccer field and improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community.*

- *Poor environmental outcome and potentially hazardous to health. Synthetic pitches are a retrogressive step and belong in the past.*
- *We are a young family residing in the area, often utilising JH Allen reserve. My boys are avid soccer players and are also registered players with Essendon Royals. In its current condition, the western oval is barely usable as it is not an even surface, which presents injury risks. The repurposing of this oval to synthetic soccer grounds with appropriate infrastructure would be welcomed by many residents and sporting associations. It would become a high use asset to the local community and in addition to Essendon Royals and other local soccer clubs. It is hoped that the supporting infrastructure would include lighting, toilets, seating and a communal area to promote a gatherings. The installation of lights on the Eastern ground would increase its usability, making it ideal to run training and host games. The overall development will also bring opportunities for MVCC based clubs to host gala days, promoting soccer in MVCC and ultimately bring revenue into local shopping precinct with the many visitors that would attend training nights, game days and other specialist training or club initiatives.*
- *Better training conditions that are easier to maintain and usable for the soccer clubs and various other potentials activities to kids and adults active*
- *The ground at Quinn Grove is being removed. An alternative is required*
- *Toxic off-gassing associated with strong odour, microplastic pollution, heat, destroys natural environment etc instead improve soil and keep grass its way cheaper (see YouTube Mick Battam). it also is single, exclusive usage only to the exclusion of dog use etc*
- *As it is the oval is boggy in parts and in poor condition overall.*
- *This is terrible for the environment. It will increase the heat in MV. Council needs to do better and be more environmentally conscious.*
- *The loss of more tree canopy and natural grass in the area is beyond comprehension when we are increasingly looking for ways to improve natural habitat this looks to remove this for residents to enjoy. Synthetic grass is known to contain chemicals and toxins that are not environmentally friendly nor are they safe for humans and pets alike. Additional infrastructure being created without consideration for local residents*
- *I would prefer new natural turf being installed over a synthetic surface.*
- *Wouldn't we be trying to work out how to be more environmentally conscious? Why would we install fake grass? Micro plastics are a thing*
- *Hopefully then the surrounding grasslands will be improved. This area is atrocious with its overgrown grassland. Synthetic grass is a great option, rather than wasting water to keep the grounds up to proper playing conditions.*
- *Please see previous comments*

- *Essendon Royals lost so much space at their home ground at Ormond Park. This could help regain space and confidence in council.*
- *Great idea! The field is very rarely used and would be a could solution to provide an additional facility to soccer which is enormously lacking in the council*
- *There are not enough soccer pitches.in the City of Moonee Valley despite the high participation rates of kids playing soccer - it is clearly disproportionate to the facilities available. My children play junior soccer and are always relocated to different venues to train as there are not enough soccer facilities.*
- *Synthetic grass is very painful for players to fall on and also is hard on the knees, so we'll maintained grass would be preferable - but if natural grass is not an option, synthetic is better than nothing*
- *A new synthetic soccer field at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community.*
- *A new synthetic soccer field and improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community and the current allocation of one training pitch for every seven teams and one gameday pitch for every 11 teams in 2023 is insufficient for our needs.*
- *The Essendon Royals provide opportunities for over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources. A new synthetic soccer field and improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community. The current allocation of one training pitch for every seven teams and one gameday pitch for every 11 teams in 2023 is insufficient for our needs. We believe that investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of the sport in our region.*
- *The use of PFAS in synthetic grass, forever chemicals, exposure to children. Bad for the environment and health of people!*
- *This should be easier to maintain and increase usability. I'm not sure on the upfront cost though.*
- *When we know so much about the chemicals in these synthetic turfs, not to mention the impact on the local biodiversityâ€¦. It's a terrible idea.*
- *It allows for a Year round training/playing surface that is unaffected by weather, is tolerable to over use unlike grass and open space for the community and local schools to use*
- *This is not needed. East keilor cricket club need this space to provide training and games for the future if cricket. They need this ground for there junior teams without it they would have to resort to Playing away every week.*

- *The Essendon Royals provide opportunities for over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources. A new synthetic soccer field and improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community. The current allocation of one training pitch for every seven teams and one gameday pitch for every 11 teams in 2023 is insufficient for our needs. We believe that investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of the sport in our region.*
- *As previously stated*
- *Increase traffic congestion further. Will remove open space and reserve for all residents. Will bird life will be affected by th removal of trees and evening bright lights.*
- *This is very much needed*
- *Soccer is in desperate need for improved facilities*
- *This would allow training and games to take place without damaging the grass grounds. Less maintenance overall and would put Essendon in line with many other clubs with synthetic pitches.*
- *It's in line with the soccer strategy and will be a good resource for community soccer clubs*
- *I strongly oppose the proposal for the installation of a synthetic grass soccer field (and associated infrastructure) because of the many negative impacts it would have on the environment and local species. It is not a sustainable option and should not be considered if a "significant number of existing trees" (2 large groups of trees plus others) would be removed. The many detrimental environmental repercussions of this unnecessary proposal include: -Increase in dangerous urban heat -Loss of tree canopy, habitat & biodiversity -Kids in close contact with toxic "forever chemicals" (PFAS laced synthetic grass) -Increase of micro-plastics in local waterways -Funding diverted from other essentials eg solar for apartments, saving food from landfill, safe cycling etc*
- *We need more soccer pitches in general*
- *Necessary to ensure fair access to soccer infrastructure for local clubs, as community participation levels soar*
- *The Essendon Royals provide opportunities for over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources. A new synthetic soccer field and improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community. The current allocation of one training pitch for every seven teams and one gameday pitch for every 11 teams in 2023 is insufficient for our needs. We believe that investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of the sport in our region. Essendon Royals is a professional and supportive community group that offers a supportive and safe environment with positively guided growth to our younger community. It should be supported by the*

council and greater community for the benefits it offers to these younger community members

- *The Essendon Royals provide opportunities for over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources.*
- *Totally unacceptable as it is replacing an existing cricket pitch that currently caters for boys and girls in a local cricket competition. Why is one sport more desirable to take over an oval space when the council is advocating youth participation in a variety of sports. This is giving a dominance to one particular sport in preference to another. This goes against council philosophy of equality for all*
- *Gives more options for teams to train and play games. Helps sporting clubs to have more facilities to encourage kids to keep on playing sport.*
- *The natural grass is fine.*
- *As a soccer player of over 30 years, and having reviewed the literature on synthetic fields, i am very aware of the significant increased injury risk to all players on this surface. A well-maintained, properly draining, grass surface is much better from a player, injury and environmental perspective. Removal of trees to install this surface would go against all current environmental policies. Replacing established trees with up to 5 new trees does not solve the issue. Trees take > 10 years to fully grow and we are in a climate emergency without that amount of time to reduce climate warming.*
- *I like the grass that is already there. Synthetic grass is just that ...FAKE.*
- *The open space that we access on the western field as a community would be taken away - no rotunda/picnic areas and the parking problems on both sides of Park Drive would only get worse. Currently this pitch is used for a local cricket team which we are comfortable with as the games are not very frequent and spectators sit around on picnic chairs but pack up when they leave therefore the community can continue to use the space again straight after, unlike if there was a soccer field here.*
- *Same as prior answer.*
- *A new synthetic soccer field would greatly benefit our soccer club*
- *As per previous comments - there is inadequate pitch availability to cater for the growing community and participation in soccer. Essendon Royals in particular*
- *The Essendon Royals provide opportunities for over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources. A new synthetic soccer field and improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community. The current allocation of one training pitch for every seven teams and one gameday pitch for every 11 teams in 2023 is insufficient for our needs. We believe that investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of the sport in our region.*

- *It is more important to have usable facilities rather than spending on removing grass for synthetic*
- *I think it would be great for kids sport.*
- *Significant shortage of adequate soccer fields harming opportunities for children to play community sport, be healthy form friendships and integrate into a multi cultural community. Disproportionate facilities for other sports with small participant base*
- *More areas to play at night provides clubs and players with more development time*
- *I would prefer an upgrade an maintenance of the existing grass pitch more suitable for soccer, better surface*
- *Wet weather can damage the grass pitch. By having synthetic pitch will eliminate this problem.*
- *Css as be used as an alternative gtt try our to cross keys reserve*
- *Synthetic grass fields at JH Allen reserve would provided community soccer with further grounds to utilise and are generally suitable for all different weather conditions (minimal damage) particularly during the winter season.*
- *Clubs/Teams are finding it difficult to find space to train and play matches so more facilities are required.*
- *Very handy in the horrible winters we get*
- *Having synthetic will support our children*
- *Access to good quality grounds for my children to participate in sport is limited in Moonee Valley. In winter the current turf grounds are overused and risk of injury is increased due to lack of grass, divots, and poor playing surface. More synthetic pitches will allow turf grounds to be managed and more children to access safe playing facilities.*
- *The Essendon Royals provide opportunities for over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources. A new synthetic soccer field and improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community. The current allocation of one training pitch for every seven teams and one gameday pitch for every 11 teams in 2023 is insufficient for our needs. We believe that investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of the sport in our region.*
- *Same as previously advised. The more available pitches and lighting the more opportunities for children to exercise and maintain a healthy lifestyle.*
- *An additional synthetic field would provide more stable access to soccer grounds in the Moonee Valley area. Moonee Valley is significantly underrepresented in terms of synthetic pitches comparative to other councils and with inclement weather cycles, access to grass pitches are limited and dangerous to player safety.*

- *I'd like to see natural grass I strongly oppose synthetic grass*
- *This should have been done 10 years ago but Council have continually ignored soccer's growing needs. The 2nd oval is not used and soccer will benefit as it requires more pitches. Council should consider the installation of synthetic pitches at other venues including but limited to Cross Keys Reserve, Strathnaver Reserve and Doyle Street Reserve, where the municipality has good soccer clubs playing at the top levels of the state.*
- *Soccer is the future for our kids, the game has transformed widely in Australia and its a world wide game, we need to invest heavily towards the future, to engage more young kids into a sport that is attractive and well rewarded More pitches mean more participants more kids away from their couches and devices, more healthy generation more well mannered kids, it's not a brainer. Invest now for better future*
- *Synthetic grass is environmentally harmful with respect to heat, ecosystem and use of plastics. It is a non sustainable choice*
- *To produce talent and opportunities we need appropriate facilities that are competed to a high standard to reduce injury and to enhance skills and training*
- *Concerned about use of artificial grass. Aside from natural grass being a nicer, softer surface to play on, artificial grass won't stay cool compared to natural grass. In a time of climate change, encouraging natural surfaces is the necessary approach to assist with biodiversity, flood management and some potential for carbon sequestration. Ensuring natural grass is available in our community spaces is important for people who do not have access to private backyards. Natural grass is an important community investment.*
- *Refer to previous comments. Creating more opportunities for kids to play sport shouldn't require surveys or battles with councils. It should just happen*
- *It encourages outdoor activity however no further infrastructure is available to support attendance. Also would you not need to consider erosion.*
- *Local cricket teams will be displaced from this area if the pitch is dominated by only one sport. there are areas in moonee valley esp where the mooney valley bowls club is where there are multiple uses for the sports are. The soccer users have movable nets to use. thus allowing for afl, cricket and soccer . Also the fact that the council is unable to maintain the area as is due to their being mosly weeds growing and not grass. Maybe maintail what is there first before making it not usable for locals at all. I see the local native birds constantly feeding off the grasslands and living in the native trees in the area. Please look after this local treasure better and make the space beautiful like other park areas in Mooney Valley like Lincon park. Its a shame that in Keilor eAST WE SEEM TO BE FORGOTTEN AND DONT RECEIVE THE NECESSARY UP GRADES TO BEAUTIFY ALREADY EXOSTING PARKS. ALSO this park is currently used daily by us and other local residents to exercise our dogs in an off lead park. This is why we moved*

into this street for its park land. Having the park land solely for the use of one sport will affect us being able to use this space to walk after school and on the weekends.

- *synthetic grass will affect the local bird life possibly killing them as they may eat the fake grass to try to get to grass that is growing through the fake grass. That the council can't maintain the area as is what makes us think that they will look after the fake grass area. That this will affect us using this with our dogs as it is currently an off lead park. That there is no off street parking and the local native trees that support local native bird life will be felled to make room for this field to be installed.*
- *Used by native birds feeding on the trees and grasslands. used by local cricket clubs that will be displaced. That it should not be dominated by a SINGLE SPORT. THAT IT is an off lead dog park. That synthetic grass is not environmentally friendly and does not promote local wild life to thrive in the area. My daughter goes out every day and watches the local native birds feed on the parklands and this will be taken away from her. By looking at the scale of the aerial picture you have provided to make this area into a full sized soccer field then it looks like most of the native trees to this end of the park will need to be felled. This means that the local bird life will need to relocate so they can survive.*
- *used as a multi use space for various sports and as a local off lead dog park. limited parking in the street this will affect locals safely accessing their driveways. the cutting down of native trees to build the soccer field will affect the local native wildlife and they will have to relocate. Birds are seen grazing on the grass lands on the park and by installing synthetic grass this will limit their food supply and also affect the vast numbers of native birds seen living in the local parklands. visitors who are not rate payers tend to leave areas messy with rubbish. These are the people you are supporting to use the area. Local cricket clubs leave taking their own rubbish with them, These teams will be displaced by limiting the field to one sport instead of it being a multi use space. There is no off street parking at this end of the reserve and thus will affect the quiet street that is safe for elderly people and those with a disability or children to safely use the area.*
- *I love watching the native birds grazing on the grassland on the field, love hearing the calls of the native birds singing their beautiful tunes. This will all disappear as the proposal for the installation of a synthetic field for the sole use of one sport soccer. There will be the digging up of the grass lands that native birds graze on, there will be the removal of long standing native trees that support a vast amount of native bird life. This is a quiet street and that is why we moved into this area. This will be ripped away from the locals who love hearing the bird life and love the tranquillity of living in a quiet street without much vehicle traffic. There is 1 km of park land at our door step for us to use and we use it several times a day, to walk to school where my daughter talks about the native birds she sees and talks about their beautiful calls that she hears on a daily basis. we use it to exercise ourselves and our dogs as it's an off lead park. this is also used for this purpose by hundreds of residents daily that are in the immediate area or walk from neighbouring streets. I am shocked that this proposal was even considered*

as I know that the council puts in a great effort to recognise and show a visible respect for country. This redevelopment does not show that the council is acting and following their RAP and are not encouraging native areas to support local wild life local grace lands through allowing open spaces to be spaces where we can just be, be one with nature, to hear nature , to see nature. We will have to travel to do this if you remove the established native trees that have been in the area before it was even developed. I'm sure that and hope that their is local indigenous consultation with this project as it directly affects their native bird life from country and affects the development of the local grass lands for the purpose of supporting and sustaining country as it once was when occupied by its first nation peoples.

- *Community open space, trees, rotunda & laid cricket pitch will be lost if a synthetic soccer field is installed on the western end/kindergarten end of the reserve. By duplicating of the fields, this will only exacerbate the parking problems in the street. The question of why should all the open space & reserves be dominated by the one sport. The removal of the cricket pitch & the opportunity of a local team competition playing their matches there in the late afternoon with parent spectators in a picnic atmosphere be denied. On completion they take home their chairs & rubbish & leave the area clean unlike the out of area soccer fraternity. Bird life in the surrounding trees on both sides of the J.H. Allan reserve will be affected by the bright lights in the evenings. This is then compounded by the suggested removal of trees & structures should a second soccer pitch located on the western end. The removal of trees will deplete carbon capture & the increase in traffic will add to carbon pollution in the area running contrary to the councils own green policy, a conflict of interest.*
- *Nothing beats the feel of natural grass. My children love running across the field once the soccer training has finished. Its natural and cool to touch and lovely. I live nearby and the streets are hot due to lack of tree canopies, at least the ovals provide some natural cooling*
- *As a member of Essendon Royals this is a great initiative*
- *It will damage the habitat of a variety of bird species that live in the area. It will increase radiant heat in the summer. Also plastic will inevitably end up in our water ways and environment as the synthetic turf degrades*
- *Currently, this area is being used as a free open space for everyone. Lots of people take their dogs to run around. There are community cricket matches played. It's nice to have this space open - even just for those walking around the exterior. There are more young families in the area and the wide space is great for general playing and running. Synthetic grass will be difficult to maintain in a community area and it is less welcome for general play. Additionally, buildings and car parking spaces will be built and the lack of free space will be a great loss. It was never the intention that this area should be a formal sports facility which will then exclude some members of the community. Soccer*

facilities would perhaps be better suited in an industrial area where there is a lot of space for parking, building and no-one will be affected by lights/parking at night.

- *This area is well used by local residents as open space, dog walking and play, family get togethers, picnics, etc.. It is also adjacent to the Milleara Gardens Kindergarten, which already creates traffic and street parking problems for residents. The open expanse of grass, plus the trees surrounding the area, contribute to the air quality of the neighbourhood. The existing cricket pitch is often used by children for 'fun' ball games and to just "let off steam". Many senior citizens of the area also take advantage of the seats on the area to sit and relax, and watch the world go by. For Council to remove these amenities and access to the site for a limited, and i'm sure restricted, access and use by the area residents is further erosion of why residents like living in this area as it is. Having a second soccer field in close proximity to the existing soccer facility, with its attendant noise, light, traffic, parking, rubbish problems, which will be of little or no benefit to local residents, does not seem to be something Council should foist on its ratepayers and residents.*
- *Environmentally destructive - I thought focus was on preserving green spaces? Our dog runs and frolics in both sides of park - that dog park is used by so many leashed pets! Synthetic turf for dogs? On game Saturdays and weekday games and training days, it is impossible to drive down Park Drive. On numerous occasions I have had to reverse back down street to let a car coming towards me pass. It is downright dangerous. Children walk out between the cars - not to mention adults. So Dangerous! Occasional cheering is fine but constant whistles and noise on weekends is already disruptive, to extend it to more days and nights? Please no! Litter, litter, litter. The original vision for this area - designed by Walter Burley Griffin - should be preserved. It is a neighbourhood, not a sports precinct.*
- *See previous comment*
- *A new synthetic soccer field and improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community.*
- *There are not enough sporting facilities in the areas to cater to the increase in need. At the moment some clubs need to turn away players as they simply don't have access to enough soccer pitches to accommodate the extra teams that they could field. I believe there is only one soccer pitch (East Keilor Leisure centre) that can be used all year around for all the clubs in Moonee Valley. This would double the capacity.*

6.4.3 Concerns relating to this potential project – free text comments

- *Nil, in fact as a local resident in close proximity to the proposed development I would encourage further improvement of local council facilities*
- *I have been living in this area for the past five months and have come to appreciate the open space that is available in this area. I would hope that this proposal would not*

diminish that available open space. Also I hope there would be minimum removal of vegetation. In fact I think there should be consideration given to more planting especially dense low shrubs to encourage more small birds because the area is dominated by Noisy Miners which discourage other birds.

- *2 concerns: ** Traffic management ** Despite our regular past feedback, spectator / player carparking still occurs along the northern side of Park Drive (both sides of the road), despite there being plenty of spots available in the carpark provided for the purpose by MVCC. Play and practice times make it difficult for through traffic (particularly larger vehicles) and difficult for residents to enter and exit driveways. Additionally it is a hazard for pedestrians crossing the street. This situation will only get worse with the expected additional span of hours that the lighting facilitates. We need to see a comprehensive traffic management plan DESIGNED, IMPLEMENTED & ENFORCED. ** Future potential infrastructure ** Our support is premised on guarantees that there will be no additional permanent infrastructure put in place that prevents full and open public access or impacts the amenity of the area. The key examples are permanent spectator stands or full height fencing.*
- *Yes major concerns regarding car noise and car parking Also rubbish there are already water bottles littering the area from existing soccer matches We bought into this area for the pleasure of living in an open park environment but it is being taken from us Another concern is that by the time we were advised of this " development" it was already approved and funded no public forum provided for residents to voice concerns*
- *Upon the construction of the Milleara Gardens Kindergarten located on the JH Allen Reserve MVCC gave assurances to residents that no further development of JH Allen Reserve would occur. This space in green space and unique due to its proximity to the CBD. This area is documented to support rare native grasses as confirmed via MVCC. This is a residential area not a sporting precinct.*
- *The oval was designed for public use not to be allocated to sporting clubs that come from out of the area*
- *As part of the redevelopment, public transport will be a great way of avoiding traffic congestion. The bus stops are only less than 5 minutes away by foot. If the direction to JH Allan reserve is clearly indicated at the bus stops (next to Milleara Mall), it will encourage people to use public transport*
- *Yes . We would like council to leave things as they are on both the Eastern and Western sides of the JH Allen Reserve. We are managing to put up with the traffic and noise particularly on game days on the weekend, but any further changes, traffic and noise, would be intolerable.*
- *The current preserve of the "grassland" denies non soccer people access to a park to enjoy other leisure activities - at any time. Duplicating the ground denies the community of necessary urban space to enjoy. As already noted, the risk of a child running into the*

path of a vehicle from the playground is significant. Please involve Vicroads in a risk assessment. I willâ€¦

- *The residents can't access the vast majority of J.H.Allan reserve because it is covered with metre-high indigenous grasses which are a dangerous fire hazard, especially with all the extra litter being caught in it as well as attracting snakes, which is situated right at residents' doorsteps and just a metre from a children's playground. Currently, I only have access to the western sports field because it doesn't have a soccer pitch (can only access it when not in use), a playground or indigenous grasses. Take that away and my family has no green spaces to access despite living opposite.*
- *Soccer Field #1 - installation of lights- we strongly oppose! Having the lights, and the extended use of the grounds will bring heavy traffic to a residential area. Traffic congestion is currently bad when a match is on. Cars parked everywhere when it suits the soccer users. They do the use the carpark which is available. Local traffic has trouble getting in and out of their own street! Rubbish is littered all over the reserve. Environmentally unfriendly to the neighbourhood. We have a big cathedral window in our lounge, it will definitely cause reflections and light up our lounge room! Our only chance of relaxing in our own home! As it is the noise generated from a Saturday match is annoying and we can't open our front door for fresh air! We can't even relax in our own home! We strongly oppose to the installation of lights and the extended use of the reserve!*
- *MVCC assured residents that there would be no further development of JH Allan reserve upon the completion of Milleara Gardens Kindergarten. Any further development would greatly impact the property value of properties in Park Drive, Keilor East. Park Drive, Keilor East could not accomodate increased traffic.*
- *Why doesn't council concentrate its effort in removing the native grass adjacent to the children playground that not only looks atrocious but is also a hazzard to children as it is always left very long increasing the risk of severe trip hazards, open grass fires, etc.*
- *Both projects for the two spaces of JH Allen Reserve, albeit having good intentions, are not suited to suburbia and the reasoning above supports my stance on this issue. Let's protect the natural beauty of Park Drive with the increasing bird life, the preservation of native grasses and embracing Walter Burley Griffins urban design for Park Drive, which focused on installing green spaces amongst residential homes within suburbia, encouraging the family picnic under the trees, the circuit walk around the park, the flying of kites by kids with their Dads, the shrill delight of children on the playground whilst their mothers have an opportunity to chat, the cheers of the Bocce seniors as they play of an afternoon into dusk, the panting of dogs walking with their owners and the serenity that this Reserve brings to us, its residents. As a newly married couple, moving into Park Drive 25 years ago, these are the moments that resonate with me and the neighbouring residents of what this space means to us.*
- *Please refer to the issues raised earlier in the survey*

- *Yes an adding to an already shortage of cricket grounds*
- *No concerns - I think many sporting facilities in Keilor East need upgrading and the area is forgotten about.*
- *Spending \$4 - \$5 million of our money on this single project, yet less than \$1m is allocated to preventative climate action such as saving food from landfill, safe cycling on our streets etc is absurd.*
- *No. Great initiative by Council.*
- *No concerns*
- *Hurry up and start actioning this has been ongoing issues for sports in this council.*
- *The roads and parking do not support 2 active soccer ovals. Parking is already an issue, doubling the soccer crowds would make the local traffic in the area, a nightmare. The crossway is used as a bridge to get from Milleara Road to the houses out the back of East Keilor. Whenever both fields are in use, cars are parked on both sides of the road between the fields and the road becomes a 1 lane road.*
- *As long as funding does not get allocated form other more needed projects in the council area that's fine*
- *Need change rooms available for our kids when training. When kids are training at JH the toilets are sometimes locked. Kids need availability of toilets at all times. It seems football grounds have great facilities compared to soccer*
- *Synthetic grass is more plastic for the landfill we don't want that*
- ** Greenhouse effect (synthetic grass) * Does lighting affect residents * Parking/traffic*
- *We should be maximising the green open spaces and natural habitat we already have, not destroying it for synthetic surfaces*
- *Think it's a good idea. Worried about the environmental impacts.*
- *I am concerned about further loss of mature tree cover in the municipality. Work around existing trees*
- *Any redevelopment should not be exclusively for the benefit of a sports club. Other residents should be able to use the parks for other purposes*
- *No*
- *No*
- *I think council needs to focus more of facilities for the youth, the neglected demographic in moonee valley, not just certain minority groups in the youth but the majority of all youth*

- *I have many concerns around removing existing vegetation on and/or around the precinct/oval. Everything should be done to preserve our green space as well as improve the sports facilities and make it useable for the ray of the community. When the field isn't used for sports, it will obviously be used for other leisure activities including dogs playing and walking on it. Synthetic turf does not absorb and break down urine or faeces, gets hot in the sun. Retaining and upkeeping the natural grass and habitats around and on the oval is the best option here. Improving lighting is appropriate and warranted.*
- *The clearance or established trees and disruption to the natural environment.*
- *I think artificial grass is the concrete channels of the 2020s, leaving a legacy of environmental damage accompanied by a huge bill to rectify by future generations. On one side of the municipality the Council and other agencies are spending billions to re-naturalise a creek having learnt that the decision to concrete it in, in the 1960s was a really stupid idea. Yet here you are seriously considering the further de-naturalising of a green space. How does that make sense to you.*
- *Parking, reduction in natural environment, traffic flow, noise, pollution, cost. Having two soccer ovals and a kindergarten in one street (suburban) across from a shopping centre is very silly and is being driven by one particyclunsrllors own needs.*
- *As previously mentioned above*
- *Lights at night vs the houses nearby*
- *See my previous comments. No fake grass*
- *I have huge concerns that this is the best idea our council can come up with. Does someone on the council work for a synthetic grass supplier? It's the only reason I can think of as to how such a proposal got this far.*
- *Build it in natural surroundings Save as many trees as possible Synthetic lawn is not the future for soccer*
- *I want to support the upgrade of the park and increase soccer participation- especially for girls but I strongly urge you to do it with natural climate friendly solutions. We cannot afford to be cutting trees down. They take too long to grow and the climate emergency is upon us now.*
- *As above - MVCC should seek expert advice rather than from the community.*
- *No concerns. Great initiative. Hope to see more synthetic soccer pitches in Moonee Valley*
- *Support council putting money into community sports facilities to increase access and utilisation. Just not synthetic turf !!*
- *Concern of removal of mature trees with the development. There is currently an unexpectable tree canopy in Moonee Valley. Moonee Valley have a poor rack record of*

succeeding to support the growth of new trees to develop a sufficient canopy. So it's not good enough to just plant more trees, when the trees you plant often don't succeed.

- *none*
- *I would like environmental and user friendliness and safety to be at the forefront. With safety I mean lighting etc™,*
- *Just as mentioned. Please leave natural landscapes as much as possible.*
- *Yes. Loss of tree canopy is not cool when MVCC are trying to reach their very own 30% tree canopy targets. Fake turf will eventuate in loss of habitat & biodiversity, and contribute to urban heat.*
- *Parking*
- *Council should not be installing synthetic grass anywhere*
- *Cr Sharpe should answer how the synthetic turf was included as urgent business. There are far more pressing concerns associated with climate change, community well-being and environmental sustainability which require budget. Turf slips, trips and falls are noted as having the potential for greater levels and impact of injury and in areas where include oftentimes result in community lockout of previously accessible spaces - let me know if you want links to the research!*
- *The area was not designed for high traffic. The EKFC (in close proximity) is an example where the streets get blocked on weekends when games are scheduled blocking local traffic, and taking up the very limited street parking that guests to residents should be able to utilise. The area was designed by Burley Griffin, to promote open space and parklands. This proposal is contained within Park Drive, named because of the parklands.... not soccer ovals.*
- *I believe who ever is behind these outrageous projects at the Council, to create this quiet residential area into a Soccer precinct, is either not familiar with the area or has clearly disregarded the local residents lifestyle, living conditions and wellbeing.*
- *None*
- *If the purpose of the upgrades is to hold more sporting events on the oval where will the participants park?*
- *There is other areas that could be utilised which won't have the same effects look at Rosehill park (Rachelle Rd) lots of land also the existing carpark could be extended so as parking won't affect the local properties*
- *Impacts on residents, parking is already hard and impacts of traffic*
- *Rachelle Rd no sure of name skate park area has so much more land and parking could be extended to allow for this project and won't impact locals as much*

- *Noise, Traffic, Parking. Also the park is already utilised for cricket and for locals to exercise or walk pets put a soccer field there and locals can't do those activities anymore as I'm sure this will be a fenced project*
- *Environmental impact concern me*
- *Yes will not beautify the area with a fenced soccer pitch and most trees will being destroyed, not to mention the increased traffic in park drive. Soccer brings big crowds who park everywhere and anywhere including making it difficult for locals getting in and out of their properties already.*
- *The four pine trees that clog the drains that had to have an overnight guy come drain during the floods could be the first trees to go. [REDACTED PERSONAL INFORMATION]*
- *Plant more trees don't take any out*
- *No synthetic grass. Please replace trees that ate blocking water pipes.*
- *The sooner this project is completed the better in my opinion.*
- *In regards to local facilities and pitches for soccer I think the pitch and facilities at Doyle St are in dire need of a renovation.*
- *Fencing is not a mandatory standard for football victoria. Temporary fencing or roping can be used on gamedays. No gates should be lockable*
- *The removal of significant trees is appalling - given the crisis we're in, Council's disregard for climate action, as seen in examples of archaic design like this one, is embarrassing. Where is the consideration to contemporary solutions to community design that supports the environment and urban cooling (which will literally keep us alive) and is also fit for purpose? Let me guess, it's too expensive.....*
- *Yes you want to replace on growing sport with another at least with the cricket it less traffic compared with the soccer*
- *Do not spend rate payers money on one section of the community (soccer club) at the expense of the wider community*
- *I would hate to see trees removed go this. The cricket oval is much larger than a soccer field, so it shouldn't be necessary to remove trees. These trees provide much needed shade in a suburb with sparse green cover. The Park Drive area provides an important link to the river reserves for birdlife. We feel very fortunate to have this open space near our home.*
- *As mentioned, is this really a priority for MV with the current financial state, the impact of synthetic turf on the environment, the removal of trees for the installation (double environmental whammy). How many will this installation serve? The balance of cost for the wider community. There is seemingly a disproportionate amount of money spend on*

sporting facilities, infrastructure, strategies etc compared with what is invested in the health and well-being of the wider community.

- *Plastic grass, filled with cork.or not, contains PFAs which are known carcinogenics. And to expect ratepayers to fund it? Football Victoria didnt get the plastic pitch they wanted at Hosken Reserve in Moreland, so now they have come to Moonee Valley for same. They want more pitches, then they should be sourcing the land and the funds to do so. Public open space is for all, passive and active recreation. Not just for organised sport.*
- *I have already filled in the survey but wanted to add a further suggestion*
- *Health impacts of synthetic turf*
- *Please consider environmental impacts. We are in a climate crisis. We should be ensuring every community investment shouldn't come at a cost to the animals that live there and the established greenery. This city needs more plants, not less.*
- *Please refer to previous answer.*
- *Yes - the potential repurposing of the western sports field at J H Allan Reserve is environmentally and socially irresponsible. Knocking down trees, and using more plastic, is ridiculous. This is a perfect example of do as I say, not as I do. Why will residents care about their local environment if this it the message you're sending?*
- *That it will affect other sports and clubs within the moonee vally community*
- *I live in the next street and walk around the park there daily. I have observed multiple cars parked in the street when matches or training on and YET the current car park is half full!!!! with plenty of spaces. Cars parked on either side of street making it hard to drive through the street.*
- *No fake grass*
- *The pitch is already currently used. Refurbish the existing one next to the leisure centre.*
- *No only positive for the sport in the local area*
- *Installation of synthetic grass will result in loss of community park which is currently being used for cricket and recreational use by community.*
- *Answered in previous comments. Only extra to add is we will loose more vegetation in an area where we as home owners have very little to look at apart from a child play ground surrounded by long grass.*
- *Lack of cricket grounds.*
- *No*
- *No*
-

- *See previous for concerns*
- *I think it should be taken into consideration that there is much birdlife in the park - I frequently see lorikeets on my walks in the park.*
- *Noise*
- *Oval is used for cricket not soccer*
- *The oval is used by EKCC.*
- *Parking won't be able to use the grounds anymore*
- *Removing another cricket pitch from the Moonee valley region will prevent local teams playing cricket in the area. A dual purpose oval will help grown both sports and help keep kids active and involved in local sports*
- *As mentioned in previous comments. Would live to see the council accommodate the community as a whole.*
- *How bout you water the grounds and do the cricket pitch up which won't require trees being destroyed*
- *This does not align with greening our public spaces, reduction in urban heating, I really believe this is an awful proposal that is not good for anyone much less our environment!*
- *You want to kill one sport for another surely there is more available land better such as Rachelle Rd*
- *Lack of parking around oval. Increased use will be disruptive to local homeowners*
- *Environmental impacts on park grounds Not good*
- *Don't be narrow minded about choice of sport. Many codes should be able to use these grounds.*
- *Parking congestion Area is a free space that most locals utilise and is being used for cricket which is enough*
- *See previous reply*
- *Trees provide shade and benefits for non players also making the area attractive for families and kids and walkers when not playing S precious outside space like this should have multiple functions benefitting members of the community not just soccer players for a short time each week*
- *I acknowlege environmental concerns about synthetic grass and would encourage Council to look at ways to offset any harm done by installing this synthetic pitch.*
- *Why does this have to be redeveloped solely for soccer? Why can't you do what has been done at Holland Reserve in Kensington and have a multipurpose venue? Soccer is not all year round, and neither is cricket. Why can't they share?? Works well in*

Kensington. To utilise only for soccer, when they already have a ground in the precinct, is ridiculously short sighted. Where are you going to send the surplus of junior cricketers to play? Off to another club with room?

- *JH Allan Reserve was originally set to be a recreational park not meant to be a competitive sports ground. Mr [redacted] Keilor East, has documents to support this.*
- *Yes I do - I'm concerned that as per the demographic of most local councils the middle aged, white, anglo saxon men will oppose any develops which would directly allow for the opportunity and inevitable success of soccer.*
- *None*
- *no*
- *The current allocation of one training pitch for every seven teams and one gameday pitch for every 11 teams in 2023 is insufficient for our needs.*
- *No, definitely not.*
- *I would support this project to encourage participation in the sport to promote active lifestyles and many other social benefits within our region*
- *None*
- *only if it is enough for soccer*
- *No concerns at all as its being used for the good of kids and community and also great reveune to the moonee valley region.*
- *no*
- *My son plays with the Royals but I find the club management to be arrogant and belligerent in relation to other sports and community users.*
- *If the decision is made to go with a synthetic pitch over a grass pitch, please consider the injuries that occur on hard synthetic surfaces and participants getting sick from the heated up rubber on warm days.*
- *All of the above*
- *This could be great for Essendon Royals as well as other clubs in the area.*
- *No*
- *No concerns just that Essendon royals soccer club and the kids need these facilities*
- *Environmental concerns. Also the question of all the other community support projects that could be achieved with \$4-5 million?! And why is the price that high? Building a house with plumbing and electrical installations costs 1/8 - 1/10 of that price.*
- *No*

- *No concerns the quicker the better*
- *i believe that investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of this sport*
- *Bright lighting to 10pm would impact neighboring residences too much. The increased use will cause a lot more traffic in the area. All the traffic using the oval will have to use The Crossway for entry and exit - it will simply be too much traffic on one street. Car parking will become an issue.*
- *The current allocation of one training pitch for every seven teams and one gameday pitch for every 11 teams in 2023 is insufficient for the Essendon Royals Soccer Club. We need more grounds and better facilities.*
- *NA*
- *Is this the only locationâ€more than one facility is needed*
- *I believe the Essendon Royals would be the perfect fit with 800 players both boys and girls playing the game.*
- *no*
- *No. Please. Please. Please invest in soccer. This is about keeping kids active and healthy regardless of the sport they play.*
- *"The Essendon Royals provide opportunities for over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources. â€ A new synthetic soccer field and improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community. â€ The current allocation of one training pitch for every seven teams and one gameday pitch for every 11 teams in 2023 is insufficient for our needs. "*
- *I believe there are more concerns if this project DOES NOT go ahead than I can for see if it does.*
- *No*
- *The Essendon Royals provide opportunities for over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources. A new synthetic soccer field and improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community. The current allocation of one training pitch for every seven teams and one gameday pitch for every 11 teams in 2023 is insufficient for our needs. We believe that investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of the sport in our region.*
- *"â€ The Essendon Royals provide opportunities for over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources. â€ A new synthetic soccer field and improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community. â€ The current allocation*

of one training pitch for every seven teams and one gameday pitch for every 11 teams in 2023 is insufficient for our needs. " We believe that investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of the sport in our region. "

- *Soccer is very underserved in this community, the facilities available in this suburb are frankly embarrassing compared to much smaller communities.*
- *See initial statement*
- *This needs to happen to help promote and help deliver an active moonee valley community*
- *no*
- *No*
- *We are in desperate need of proper facilities there are over 800 kids participating*
- *Just that the soccer pitch happens , we need it*
- *The current allocation of one training pitch for every seven teams and one gameday pitch for every 11 teams in 2023 is insufficient for our needs.*
- *No concerns*
- *Natural grass, well maintained could still increase usage on the pitch without the negative environmental impacts.*
- *No*
- *No concerns*
- *The impact on the grasslands should be minimised*
- *No value for money, lifecycle costs need to be incooperatete.its way more expensive than natural grass. Contains PFAS and 300 chemicals of which 50 are identified as highly toxic. ECHA recommended ban and some European countries ripping them out again. Especially in middle of residential highly inappropriate see WA report Synthetic turf vs Natural turf*
- *.no concerns anything would be an improvement.*
- *How about solar panels with batteries to light up the fields? Plant more trees so there's more shading for spectators and families using the field when a game is not on.*
- *As stated the concerns are around further removal of grass and replacement with synthetic turf that is known to be toxic. I would be concerned around drainage and impacts from heat in a warming environment and water run off to local residents who will be impacted by this.*
- *Preference natural turf to a synthetic surface as we should be creating more natural environments to cool our suburbs, rather than using artificial products.*

- *That the grasslands surrounding the soccer fields are looked after more. Synthetic grass is such a great thing for the future.. the initial costs far outweigh the cost of maintaining real grass to the standard required. I just hope the council take on the necessary maintenance of the synthetic field*
- *No*
- *Support girls and women playing sport!*
- *No*
- *No*
- *No.*
- *no*
- *No*
- *More soccer fields are required in the municipality to support the largest participating sport in children.*
- *Do not use synthetic grass, it has PFAS chemicals. It's bad for the environment and people's health.*
- *no*
- *No. It's an existing sporting facility at a time when new locations are not available and more sport should be encouraged, e.g. for mental health reasons.*
- *There are so many families in the area. I would love to see the play spaces updated and expanded.*
- *Parking needs to be included in the plan, to limit local congestion of streets on game days and training nights. Toilet facilities for all genders.*
- *The Essendon Royals provide opportunities for over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources. A new synthetic soccer field and improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community. The current allocation of one training pitch for every seven teams and one gameday pitch for every 11 teams in 2023 is insufficient for our needs. We believe that investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of the sport in our region.*
- *No*
- *Well maintained cricket grounds are required to become on par with all other associations*
-

- *25 meter light poles would be very bright at night till 10pm making it unacceptable for surrounding houses. Noise pollution till 10pm will be detrimental to the community living around the oval and impact on the children trying to sleep at night.*
- *NA*
- *Yes - several! - Parking during soccer games is terrible on one side of Park drive. It is unsafe - Quality of walkways and footpaths around Park Drive - often see elderly walking on the road because the footpaths are so bad - Bins near the children's park are often overflowing especially after the weekend so not being emptied as much they should - Native grass near the park is very dangerous and snake risk. Maintenance and the burn off does not happen often enough*
- *No*
- *No*
- *My concerns are that the kids will eventually drop out of the support if the facilities aren't there to get the best out of training and games. Hard to grow if you are always feeling congested. Secondary pitch would be largely beneficial.*
- *No*
- *No as it supports soccer in the East Keilor community*
- *I think this proposal is not a responsible or sustainable use of funds. Removing established trees should not occur for the small gains. Synthetic turf leeches hazardous chemicals that contaminate soil, water and air.*
- *Shelter for parents watching would be handy.*
- *Soccer is a growing sport locally, especially for girls - additional space needs to be allocated to clubs so they can continue to be supported to provide opportunities for girls/youth in sport*
- *It is a much needed space for the Essendon Royals Soccer Club that supports a large number of community members*
- *A new synthetic soccer field and improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit my club, Essendon Royals in enabling us to better serve our growing community. The current allocation of one training pitch for every seven teams and one gameday pitch for every 11 teams in 2023 is insufficient for our needs.*
- *The Essendon Royals provide opportunities for over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources. A new synthetic soccer field and improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community. The current allocation of one training pitch for every seven teams and one gameday pitch for every 11 teams in 2023 is insufficient for our needs. We believe that investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of the sport in our region.*

- *All of the area around the J.H. Allan Reserve is zoned as OPEN SPACE for Leisure Activities. The original Permit was refused on the grounds that the land use was not appropriate to the location and would prevent proper future development. The proposal was not appropriate one for the land because of its effect on the amenity of the neighbourhood. The proposed use is not appropriate use of the land having regard to the primary purpose for which the land is zoned.*
- *I am a resident of Park Drive. The soccer ground 'as is' and 'as proposed' does not consider the impact to local residents of park drive. The material provided by MVCC seriously over emphasises the benefits and is completely silent on the serious negative impact to the local residents, nor how you will attend to these should the council pursue this proposal. 1. Parking is extremely insufficient currently even before the upgrade and extended usage porposed in the letter. The current usage requires significant remediation of the current parking facility immediately. The current on site parking fills and all the streets fill with cars (during training and also during games) on both sides of the road. You will need to treble the current parking, perhaps into the grassland. This results in a very dangerous roadway through out the length of the Park Drive all around the reserve. Children playing on the playground run between the cars so the risk of severe injury is severely heightened. The proposed plan for night lighting will only add to the current risk significantly increasing the possibility and probability of a fatality occurring. 2.The light poles (@25m) will light up the whole area at night and will cause disruption to sleep patterns. of residents and potentially bird life. 3. The noise and cheering of the players currently can be heard during the daytime and at night it will be exacerbated, it is like they are cheering directly into your lounge room. Even today games (or practice) are often played early evening. This proposal advantages the soccer enthusiasts and their families while adversely and seriously impacting and ultimately disadvantaging the residents of Park Drive. The existing parking needs to be remediated now, it is an extreme risk daily and it is only a matter of time before a fatality occurs. I vehemently oppose the extended usage of this soccer ground and also its current usage should cut back..*
- *I support the increased soccer facilities, it should just be on grass rather than synthetic.*
- *I am a resident of Park Drive. The soccer ground 'as is' and 'as proposed' does not consider the impact to local residents of park drive. The material provided by MVCC seriously over emphasises the benefits and is completely silent on the serious negative impact to the local residents, nor how you will attend to these should the council pursue this proposal. 1. Parking is extremely insufficient currently even before the upgrade and extended usage porposed in the letter. The current usage requires significant remediation of the current parking facility immediately. The current on site parking fills and all the streets fill with cars (during training and also during games) on both sides of the road. You will need to treble the current parking, perhaps into the grassland. This results in a very dangerous roadway through out the length of the Park Drive all around the reserve. Children playing on the playground run between the cars so the risk of*

severe injury is severely heightened. The proposed plan for night lighting will only add to the current risk significantly increasing the possibility and probability of a fatality occurring. 2. The light poles (@25m) will light up the whole area at night and will cause disruption to sleep patterns of residents and potentially bird life. 3. The noise and cheering of the players currently can be heard during the daytime and at night it will be exacerbated, it is like they are cheering directly into your lounge room. Even today games (or practice) are often played early evening. This proposal advantages the soccer enthusiasts and their families while adversely and seriously impacting and ultimately disadvantaging the residents of Park Drive. The existing parking needs to be remediated now, it is an extreme risk daily and it is only a matter of time before a fatality occurs. I vehemently oppose the extended usage of this soccer ground and also its current usage should cut back..

- *Visitors have no regard for local residents and often take up all the car spots in front of our homes - there are many residents who have been forced to park elsewhere instead of in front of their home where they normally would when these soccer matches occur at the moment. The suggested removal of trees and structures should a second pitch be constructed on the western end of Park Drive is also concerning. We have beautiful birds and other wildlife who live in these trees.*
- *Cycling infrastructure requires an upgrade in order to get us to our facilities - we shouldn't be driving there*
- *No. Please be aware of NIMBYs and that this is for kids to play soccer. Well-being of local children, especially post Covid, should be paramount.*
- *Soccer facilities should be invested in. It is frustrating that AFL facilities have prevented the use of sites such as Ormond Park*
- *No*
- *No concerns*
- *None*
- *No*
- *This proposal will enhance the players experience and give them the opportunity to train regardless of the season or weather conditions.*
- *No*
- *No*
- *Please do it!*
- *No*
- *No please go ahead with the supply of new lights and synthetic pitch*

- *This project should form part of a larger strategy to enhance infrastructure in Moonee Valley for soccer, given the number of participants in the municipality and the relative lack of high quality, safe and accessible sporting grounds for junior soccer.*
- *No concerns*
- *None*
- *No*
- *No*
- *No*
- *no*
- *Please consider environmental impact. Solar, Ev charger, plant more trees*
- *No as there is only benefit to the community as synthetic pitches requires no maintenance and can be played all year round. We see the growing issues of grounds being unavailable due to poor pitch conditions be it from rain or summer drought, including recent floods on the Maribyrnong River that impacted so many sports club with nowhere to train.*
- *No*
- *Concerns about artificial grass being considered*
- *Council should want to create an active community. The royals are able to assist in achieving this initiative.*
- *Car parking for people attending that reduces impact on those who live there. I dont want to see restrictions which means my guests can't visit on the weekend reducing my emotional support.*
- *Yes the foot paths in the area surrounding the park and in the crossway and parkside drive - towards st peters are in a state of disrepair. My husband uses these paths to ride his recumbent bike for someone with a disability. I am unable to let him undertake this by himself as the foot paths are so un even, the footpath on the south side - cnr of the crossway and park drive, where he goes across the cross way towards the shops. The part of the footpath where he crosses is unsafe as there are raised parts in the middle where he can miss judge his bike and thus cause an accident. the foot path on the corner of west gwy and the cross way is on such a poor angle that it is very hard for him to safely walk his daughter to school or to ride his bike with her to school. The footpaths have just been audited in the area, a section was marked outside our property at 75 park drive. The repair was done with filling the raised gap with black road tar making it look terrible and unsightly. Just a poor job done for a seeming forgotten area of Mooney Valley. There is no maintance of the weeds that have over taken the park lands at the kindergarten end of the reserve. When this area is left unmowed it is mostly weeds that are seen to me growing. their is some weed control but only minimal in the area. It is*

totally over taken by weeds especiall on the naturestrip. An audit of this needs to be done and some ratepays money spent to rectify this and beautify the area.

- *yes that at the moment its a multifunction sports area that is used by local cricket teams and locals using it as an off lead dog park . that tjis area is used moring through tho night by locals from the street and surrounding streets. that i constantly see native birds grazing on the grass in the field at the western end of the reserve. These birds will relocate dure to bright lights, over use of the area and the installation of synthetic grass.*
- *Yes to local parking as the streets are narrow and there will be increased parking to the area making it hard for locals to then access their own drive ways or for them to be able to park outside their own home. yes that local native trees will be lost thus affecting the abundant local wildlife that is supported by these trees and grass lands. Yes that the use of the local parks will not be there for local paying residents to use but will be supporting visitors to the area instead who dont pay rates. that it will no longer be an off lead park for dogs wich is one of the main reasons why we moved to the street*
- *The local wild life will be affected and this clearly has not been considered when proposing a local native reserve for the future use as a synthetic soccer field. That we understand the need for increasing the amount of soccer fields but this can be don with the best intentions to all usurers of the reserve. In other playing fields in the moonee valley area they are multi use fields where soccer goal s are mobile and not fixed thus not preventing other uses of the area ie as a dog park or as a local area for LOCAL sports teams to continue to use the field. we moved to the are cause there was park lands at our door step for our use as a resident but by re developing these open space areas you are restricting the local rate payers from using the open space for what it was originally designed for - local residents getting out and about using the open space.*
- *Yes that we are loosing a valued piece of land that are few and far between. That people can use for recreation, can hear and see local native birds thrive in the foliage of the native trees, undergrowth areas and on the grass lands so provided for this sole purpose.*
- *The increase in traffic & parking problems on both sides of J.H Allan reserve. Cars now park on the nature strips of homes & on both sides of the road making it dangerous to travel down the road for locals returning home. Visitors have complete disregard for local residents & their properties. Spectators want to be close to boundary fences & do not use vacant spaces in the car park. Noise from players, umpire whistles & cheering spectators resonate loudly in the open space & stillness of the evening as they will be on until 10:00pm if allowed, & this is unacceptable.*
- *I wish for the ovals to be accessible to public, not just sporting teams.*
- *nil*
- *This is a community open space which is used by various groups eg cricket clubs. By redeveloping it as shown will only benefit a small portion of the community*

- *Rather than synthetic grass and extra buildings/parking built in this area, I would prefer care given to the grass and maybe some more plants/flowers to make the area more attractive.*
- *I ask Council to explain the drivers and reasoning behind these proposals, elaborate on why residents should be penalised for the benefit of "mostly out-of towners" by providing elaborate sporting facilities for their occasional use, and what advantage these changes to existing infrastructure,(and attendant construction and upkeep costs) will provide to local residents. The existing facilities are important to locals and should not be taken away from them for commercial or public relations reason by Council.*
- *I have many concerns - primarily the damage to the environment, wildlife and bird life. Also don't understand why one special interest group is allowed to take over the neighbourhood. What about the groups who use the cricket stumps? If you tried to drive down park drive on a game day now, you would certainly reconsider making the situation worse.*
- *See previous comment*
- *We need more sporting infrastructure especially for soccer in the area. This seems like a simple solution to better use an existing soccer pitch and upgrade the western oval.*
- *Council struggles to maintain this recreational space as it is. The estimated cost is excessive, all the more so in light of the increasing demands on more critical council services that fail to fulfill on their promise. The installation of lighting and expanded window for usage of these facilities will make for an unpleasant living space for residents in close proximity. Most of those who will benefit from this proposal are not residents of the area and will not endure the downside of such an exercise.*

6.4.4 J H Allan Reserve – what is important to understand – free text comments

- *The JH Allan Reserve is a valuable public space with multiple uses. It offers the soccer pitch, playground, nationally significant and protected grasslands and stands of trees. The western section is also used for cricket matches. It has become valuable habitat for all manner of birds. While the soccer pitch is a major public resource, it's development should not impact these other values.*
- *That we simply cannot keep cutting down trees and making urban heat worse. No matter what.*
- *Council will need to consider development of adequate car park space to support additional use of the area, especially in the evenings. There is significant land that could be used for car space. Also, Council need to consider the construction of a Sports Pavilion with female friendly changerooms at JH Allan.*
- *Lights would be great, especially when daylight savings is over*

- *That the use of artificial turf on this oval and any other is a really dumb idea. You make think it reduces the upkeep and controls the conditions to enable more intense and all year round use. But the truth is, the plastic grass still has to be cleaned to stop leak litter and weed seed from building up on it and growing. The grass will be so hot in summer people wont be able to use it. The plastic layer will stop the natural soil nutrient cycle within the park and the mature trees in that space (the remaining ones you arent going to cut down) will get sick and potential die, reducing our canopy even further. Street and reserve trees need plant diversity to create soil microbe diversity to create the nutrients they need. They do not need plastic grass. It does nothing for our environment and effects residents health.*
- *Lights*
- *Understand how to vision a climate friendly future when making decisions about green spaces.*
- *If trees are removed, plant more. Community infrastructure that makes urban heat worse will be a disincentive to participation. People are drawn to naturally vegetated spaces.*
- *Lots of different people use this space. Please keep this a good space for everyone and leave grass as grass. I don't want my rates going to maintaining plastic turf.*
- *That parkland is for everyone. It is public space. No one club or person is entitled to this space. It is shared and needs to remain shared. Us parkland users do not want to walk on fake turf. It is horrible and terribly bad for the environment. We are not objecting to council improving the parkland for soccer users, we are just wanting the space to remain natural as possible so we can all enjoy it too.*
- *This is community space - not a ground for soccer to assume is theirs. It should remain open as green space which can be equitably accessible for multiple uses. Cr Sharpe appears to have a clear bias to soccer and growth forecast does not reflect the ongoing expenditure being allocated to assuage the egos of aggressive teams and board members.*
- *Open space in the community should respect all of the community; walkers, casual players, wild life as well as regular sports people.*
- *That the cricket Club requires the ground for their teams to play in*
- *Given the latest IPCC report we can't simply proceed with business as usual. We are in a crisis and need urgent action. Synthetic grass is an environmental hazard. Aside from that the \$4-5 million should be spent on tree planting, EV charging and other projects that go some way to addressing the climate crisis. The planet and the future of our children is far more important than the short term needs of soccer players. Given the nature of synthetic grass, for much of the warmer months the pitch will be far too hot to play on in the near future.*

- *Toilets and ground maintenance, it feels like a barren plot of land with no facilities.*
- *have you asked the cricket club how it would impact them???? noise level for residents lack of cars utilising car park and over parking the street*
- *Listen to the residents who are ratepayers and keep both sides of reserve the way they are.*
- *We need to accommodate both soccer and cricket. Both are youth sports and both need to be supported*
- *Community requirements for cricket*
- *They already have regular users (EK Cricket Club) of the field and have NOT provided any direct and clear communication to these users, despite having numerous discussions with them throughout the year. If JHallen is removed from being able to play cricket then the council is responsible for sorting out new wickets for the cricket club to play on. Perhaps working on the plans for the current Cricket club would be of high priority???*
- *Cricket availability*
- *Impact on EKCC. There is an existing soccer pitch over the road. Environmental impact. Would be great if it could be a shared grass oval for different sport seasons- not a space that excludes one sport*
- *Removing the cricket pitch will create major problems for the east keilor cricket club as they will not have a second ground to play on*
- *If you turn it into a soccer field it limits the usage to only soccer. Would be great to see it be assessable for other sports as well.*
- *Listen to locals*
- *The current under-utilisation of the space. I have family that live opposite this space and I never see it being used. Walkers/recreational users walk around using the concrete paths. - The growing need for more soccer grounds in MV - The uncertainty over the only other existing synthetic soccer pitch in MV at EK. - The fact that the existing synthetic soccer pitch at EK is potentially MV's most booked sporting facility and comes nowhere near meeting the existing demand.*
- *That it is needed not just for soccer, but there are junior cricket teams that rely on it to enable them to play at their local club. Take that away and not only will kids need to go elsewhere, worse, they are likely just to stop playing altogether. The world doesn't revolve around soccer. Why can't this facility be shared??*
- *J H Allan reserve is currently where several female soccer teams are training. Again as I've already stated soccer is a grossly over looked sport in Australia then add to that the lack of opportunity for females to participate in soccer due to lack of facilities and lack of funding. Improve the facility. Provide adequate and SAFE toilet and bathroom facilities.*

- *Soccer field need to be maximised, as I lights for evening training etc*
- *We believe that investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of the sport in our region.*
- *It is currently under-utilized because of no lighting and western side is not the best shape to be used more frequently*
- *The Essendon Royals provide opportunities for over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources. A new synthetic soccer field and improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community. The current allocation of one training pitch for every seven teams and one gameday pitch for every 11 teams in 2023 is insufficient for our needs. We believe that investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of the sport in our region.*
- *To allow local soccer clubs to use as an additional facility.*
- *Don't cover it in artificial turf.*
- *consider all the above and community sentiment for the what is in the best interest for our young players and aspiring sportman and women*
- *The Essendon Royals provide opportunities for over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources.*
- *To allow Essendon royals to be allowed to use these grounds*
- *The ground currently is not being used to its full potential*
- *It would be used more if lighting and synthetic grounds were employed.*
- *Investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of the sport in our region.*
- *I believe that investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of the sport in our region.*
- *The effects of climate change on any changes made to these facilities*
- *The Essendon Royals provide opportunities for over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources. The current allocation of one training pitch for every seven teams and one gameday pitch for every 11 teams in 2023 is insufficient for our needs. We believe that investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of the sport in our region.*
- *There needs to be an equitable number of sporting fields for soccer training*
- *The Essendon Royals provide opportunities for over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources. A new synthetic soccer field and improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, enabling us*

to better serve our growing community. The current allocation of one training pitch for every seven teams and one gameday pitch for every 11 teams in 2023 is insufficient for our needs. We believe that investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of the sport in our region

- *We are members of The Essendon Royals Soccer Club and currently use these ground as part of a suite that we have allocated by MVCC in lieu of an actual home ground. This club provides participation of over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources. The proposal would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community and continue to support youth engagement in sport. This is particularly important with our growing female teams (of which there are 15) and as research shows, supporting young girls being active is highly desirable. The current allocation of one training pitch for every seven teams and one game day pitch for every 11 teams in 2023 is insufficient and hinders the clubs ability to grow (with many families on a waitlist) and hinders supporting the participation of Moonee Valley residents in this sport. Investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of the sport in our area and importantly gives supports to us as rate paying residents, in engaging our local community and diverting our youth to purposeful and meaningful sporting activities and a family friendly & community focused club in Essendon Royals.*
- *Need for 12 month all weather soccer facilities*
- *The Essendon Royals provide opportunities for over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources. A new synthetic soccer field and improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community. The current allocation of one training pitch for every seven teams and one gameday pitch for every 11 teams in 2023 is insufficient for our needs. We believe that investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of the sport in our region.*
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- *We believe that investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of the sport in our region.*
- *The western oval in its current condition and lack of facilities does not promote use, it is a wasted space. The development to both the eastern and western ovals would be embraced by the local community, ultimately promoting a sense of community, and will be a welcome investment to Essendon Royals and other local soccer clubs. The overall*

development will also bring opportunities for MVCC based clubs to host gala days, promoting soccer in MVCC and ultimately bring revenue into local shopping precinct with the many visitors that would attend training nights, game days and other specialist training or club initiatives.

- *The increased demand in soccer fields our kids and supporting them with enough opportunities to be active throughout the year and day and evening times*
- *Investment in local soccer*
- *That sport is one of the most important glues that holds a city or town together. It is a core obligation of council to provide enough spaces and fields to accommodate its residents to participate in the sport of their choosing.*
- *We need to keep kids (and girls especially) active. Dogs can be walked and exercised anywhere!*
- *To provide proper sized soccer fields and adequate parking*
- *The Essendon Royals provide opportunities for over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources. A new synthetic soccer field and improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community. The current allocation of one training pitch for every seven teams and one gameday pitch for every 11 teams in 2023 is insufficient for our needs. We believe that investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of the sport in our region.*
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- *I think they need to understand how crucial this space is to the cricket community. The community of Australia's sport.*
- *The Essendon Royals provide opportunities for over 800 players to participate in soccer, despite facing a critical lack of space and resources. A new synthetic soccer field and improved sports lighting at J H Allan Reserve would greatly benefit our club, enabling us to better serve our growing community. The current allocation of one training pitch for every seven teams and one gameday pitch for every 11 teams in 2023 is insufficient for our needs. We believe that investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of the sport in our region.*
- *Give the children an opportunity to train in an environment that is of high quality, space and minimise injury.*

- *I believe that investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of the sport in our region.*
- *I do not believe that the Council is fully aware of this area and what it has to offer. The heritage of a Burley Griffin Estate built with the specific idea of open space and leisure. The council has changed the layout of the total area in as far as traffic access and made it difficult to access Milleara Road. People get lost and find it difficult to negotiate they way out and we are regularly stopped to be asked by drivers on directions out as they have mnade the wrong turn. Roads are narrow and with street parking, the bringing in of outer area drivers magnifies the dangers of cars driving down the narrow roads when cars park on both sides of the street, particularly when large crowds attend matches at the reserve.*
- *The specific requirements of the soccer club accommodating their respective programs, age groups*
- *Investing in soccer facilities is crucial for the continued growth and development of the sport in our region*
- *Soccer facilities*
- *That the money is directed for it to become a user friendly sports precinct*
- *The need for better infrastructure to assist with community demand for the sport of football (soccer).*
- *There is a lot of movement from multiple soccer teams who train there nightly would be nice to have regular ground that is supportive of these rising stars*
- *Make it more useable all year round and all times (or as much time of the days as possible.*
- *Importance of high quality, well lit safe, facilities for the community*
- *The flood lights are the most important feature and will allow community soccer access to this ground at night (during the week and weekends) for training and matches. This feature would reduce the number of community teams that train at Cross Keys.*
- *The turf playing surface is in great condition but lacks supporting infrastructure. The addition of a synthetic pitch will ease the load on the turf pitch and other Council reserves, thereby improving the quality of a number of Council reserves.*
- *Provide adequate lighting around the grounds*
- *Very good place to play soccer and the families can have a nice place to gardening*
- *The needs of the community and the growing interest in soccer with the lack of infrastructure to support the interests of all children.*
- *It will be a fantastic facility for the Essendon Royals as they're a great community club that need the extra facilities to help with the demand for the club and families*

- *Providing increased access and flexible facilities that cater for the needs of thousands of young boys and girls and well as men and women that play soccer within Moonee Valley*