



Council Resolution Action Memo

Meeting Date: 14/09/2022
Report Heading / Item No. 7.9 **HOCKEY FEASIBILITY STUDY (D22/370965)**
Confidential Status: Public
Department: Director Community
Further Report Required: No
Notes

7.9 HOCKEY FEASIBILITY STUDY

Executive Summary

In 2021, the Brunswick Hockey Club approached Council seeking support for the construction of a second synthetic hockey pitch. Council resolved in June 2021 to commission a feasibility report to investigate and identify a suitable location.

The report has now been received and is at **Attachment 1**.

The feasibility report recommends Parker Reserve in Coburg North and MacDonald Reserve as the preferred sites for further investigation. Costings in the report suggest \$8 million - \$12 million (depending on scope) for Parker Reserve, and \$10 million - \$14 million for McDonald Reserve (depending on scope). This significant scale project is not currently funded in Council's forward capital works program and other projects would need to be deprioritised in order to fund it. Council continues to face significant financial pressure on its capital works program.

The costings in the feasibility report require further analysis and more detailed costings will be required to further inform the possibility of a second hockey field in Moreland.

The study also further highlighted the need for more detailed site planning particularly in relation to ensuring a greater analysis of the triple bottom line - environmental, social and economic - assessment of not only the playing field surfaces options but the social benefits of this project.

In addition, since this study was commissioned, Council resolved in August 2022 to request a report and development of a policy on managing sports fields and open spaces surfaces. a report to consider a policy regarding sports playing surfaces across Moreland. This report will consider Council's current demand for, use and management of all sports surfaces – natural and synthetic - with consideration of Council's stance on the Climate Emergency, Integrated Water Management, Urban Heat Island Effect and zero waste by 2030 goals.

This officer report recommends deferring decisions on the outcomes of the Hockey Feasibility Study until the second half of 2023. Between now and then, funding options can be investigated, the capital works program will be reviewed as part of the annual budget process, and the report on sports playing surfaces will be completed.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Notes the Brunswick Hockey Club Second Hockey Field Feasibility Study, at Attachment 1.

2. Notes that Parker Reserve North Coburg and Macdonald Reserve Coburg are recommended by the feasibility study as possible sites for a second hockey field, subject to further consideration, community engagement and funding availability
3. Defers further consideration of this study until the second half of 2023.

Motion

Cr Bolton moved, Cr Conlan seconded –

That Council:

1. Notes the Brunswick Hockey Club Second Hockey Field Feasibility Study, at Attachment 1, and supports in-principle the provision of a second field for the Brunswick Hockey Club.
2. Notes that Hockey is a growing sport particularly amongst gender and culturally diverse communities, in particular South Asian communities and international students, which form a large component of our growing community.
3. Notes that Parker Reserve North Coburg and McDonald Reserve Coburg are recommended by the feasibility study as possible sites for a second hockey field, and supports in principle McDonald Reserve Coburg as the preferred site subject to further detailed site investigation, including of industrial land through the current open space review, community engagement with other clubs using the reserve, Coburg High School, nearby residents and people who use the reserve for dog walking and passive recreation and funding availability
4. Notes the Hockey Feasibility Study's estimated capital costs and that more detailed cost planning will be required based on site conditions, potential staging of works and further efficiencies in delivery in consultation with users of the reserve.
5. Notes that Hockey is played on synthetic grass fields with recyclable options and that Moreland council is in the process of reviewing the environmental sustainability of different sports playing surfaces.

Amendment

Cr Tapinos moved -

6. Council resolves to receive a future report on the consultation and benefits or otherwise of a phased approach that could allow the construction of the hockey field and the installation of temporary facilities in the first phase, followed by a permanent pavilion in subsequent phases.

Cr Tapinos's amendment was acceptable to the mover and seconder and becomes part of the substantive motion.

Amendment

Cr Carli Hannan moved, Cr Tapinos seconded -

7. Notes the demand for community sports infrastructure, and willing to explore the project to include a synthetic training field for football codes adjacent to the hockey field to ensure a multipurpose space for other sporting codes to benefit from the upgrade.

Lost

Cr Riley called for a division.

For

Cr Davidson
Cr Yildiz
Cr Carli Hannan
Cr Tapinos

Against

Cr Bolton
Cr Panopoulos
Cr Conlan
Cr Riley

Total For (4)

Cr Harte
Total Against (5)

Substantive Motion

That Council:

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4. Notes the Hockey Feasibility Study's estimated capital costs and that more detailed cost planning will be required based on site conditions, potential staging of works and further efficiencies in delivery in consultation with users of the reserve.
5. Notes that Hockey is played on synthetic grass fields with recyclable options and that Moreland council is in the process of reviewing the environmental sustainability of different sports playing surfaces.
6. Council resolves to receive a future report on the consultation and benefits or otherwise of a phased approach that could allow the construction of the hockey field and the installation of temporary facilities in the first phase, followed by a permanent pavilion in subsequent phases.

Amendment

Cr Panopoulos moved -

7. Notes that the North Coburg Rebels Baseball Club has year-round allocation at Parker Reserve.

Cr Panopoulos's amendment was acceptable to the mover and seconder and becomes part of the substantive motion.

Amendment

Cr Tapinos moved -

That the following wording be removed from point 3 as follows:

'Including of industrial land through the current open space review.'

Lapsed

Resolution

Cr Bolton moved, Cr Conlan seconded -

That Council:

1. **Notes the Brunswick Hockey Club Second Hockey Field Feasibility Study, at Attachment 1, and supports in-principle the provision of a second field for the Brunswick Hockey Club.**

2. Notes that Hockey is a growing sport particularly amongst gender and culturally diverse communities, in particular South Asian communities and international students, which form a large component of our growing community.
3. Notes that Parker Reserve North Coburg and McDonald Reserve Coburg are recommended by the feasibility study as possible sites for a second hockey field, and supports in principle McDonald Reserve Coburg as the preferred site subject to further detailed site investigation, including of industrial land through the current open space review, community engagement with other clubs using the reserve, Coburg High School, nearby residents and people who use the reserve for dog walking and passive recreation and funding availability.
4. Notes the Hockey Feasibility Study's estimated capital costs and that more detailed cost planning will be required based on site conditions, potential staging of works and further efficiencies in delivery in consultation with users of the reserve.
5. Notes that Hockey is played on synthetic grass fields with recyclable options and that Moreland council is in the process of reviewing the environmental sustainability of different sports playing surfaces.
6. Council resolves to receive a future report on the consultation and benefits or otherwise of a phased approach that could allow the construction of the hockey field and the installation of temporary facilities in the first phase, followed by a permanent pavilion in subsequent phases.
7. Notes that the North Coburg Rebels Baseball Club has year-round allocation at Parker Reserve.

Carried

Cr Riley called for a division.

For	Against	Abstain
Cr Bolton		Cr Harte
Cr Davidson		
Cr Yildiz		
Cr Panopoulos		
Cr Conlan		
Cr Carli Hannan		
Cr Riley		
Cr Tapinos		
Total For (8)	Total Against (0)	Total Abstain (1)