

Submission Cover Sheet

North East Link Project EES IAC

197

Request to be heard?: No, but please email me th

Full Name: Peter Knox

Organisation: Mont Albert Cricket Club (MACC)

Affected property: Elgar Park North East

Attachment 1: MACC_NELA_EES

Attachment 2:

Attachment 3:

Comments: see attached



June 2019

Mont Albert Cricket Club (MACC) currently use both the North East and North West ovals at Elgar Park adjacent to the Eastern Freeway.

Current plans for the proposed North East Link Project indicate that the Elgar North East oval will be required for the entire construction phase of the project (up to 7 years) for use as a depot and plant storage area. Required changes to the Elgar North West Oval to support further possible flood mitigation will mean this oval will be unavailable for multiple years.

Loss of these two ovals will have a severe impact across our club as these grounds are used for our Junior, Senior and Veterans XIs on both Saturdays' and Sundays. To date, early stage alternatives proposed by North East Link Project officers will not meet our needs.

The purpose of this submission is:

1. Place on record that MACC is a stakeholder in the Project who will be adversely affected and has legitimate requirements that need to be addressed.
2. Indicate that proposed and preliminary alternatives to date do not meet MACC requirements and will bring into serious doubt the viability of significant sections of our club if acceptable alternatives are not developed.
3. Raise alternatives that will require further development but do have potential to meet our requirements and which will significantly upgrade local facilities to the benefit of the local community.
4. Emphasise that MACC is ready to fully engage with the Project and other stakeholders to jointly develop solutions that not only meet our immediate requirements but also upgrade local facilities to the benefit of the wider community.

Elgar Park North West

MACC proposes the use of nearby Springfield Park West whilst Elgar Park North West is unavailable. Details of this proposal are contained in a submission made by the President of Kerrimuir United Cricket Club (KUCC), Mr Graham Holinger. MACC support the KUCC proposal.

Elgar Park North East

There is already a short fall of grounds suitable for Junior Cricket in the locality and more grounds are needed to meet the demand for Junior sport in general.

Elgar Park North East is used for U10 and U12 Cricket. Younger players have different needs and play under modified rules. Game locations are typically grouped close together as Parents strongly favour nearby venues located close to where they live, minimising travel. Therefore, venues not located close by will simply not be supported by parents who have several other sporting options available.

Mont Albert Primary School (MAPS) is located close to MACC and has an underutilised oval that is currently in poor condition, that with appropriate upgrading would be an ideal solution to the loss of Elgar Park North East.

Upgrading would not only meet MACC's requirement but would represent a very valuable long term all year round asset for the use of the school and the local community.

The Principal of Mont Albert Primary School is strongly supportive indicating that any proposal from the North East Link Project around upgrading the oval would be welcomed. Cricket Victoria and the Eastern Cricket Association also support the proposal. Discussions with Whitehorse Councillors indicate good prospects for a positive outcome in the context of a wider solution.

All the indications are that an upgrade to the MAPS oval could be readily and quickly undertaken and would represent an ideal example of how the North East Link Project can have positive spinoffs .

Regards,



Peter B. Knox
President
Mont Albert Cricket Club