

# Submission Cover Sheet

North East Link Project EES IAC

# 726

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Request to be heard?: yes

**Full Name:** Matthew Green

**Organisation:** Football Victoria

**Affected property:**

**Attachment 1:** NELP\_Submission

**Attachment 2:**

**Attachment 3:**

**Comments:** See attached letter



7 June 2019

North East Link Project  
Julia Jenvey  
Project Advisor Sport & Recreation

Dear Ms Jenvey

**Letter of Support – North East Link Project, Environment Effects Statement Options**

I refer to the public submissions process in relation to the North East Link Project (NELP) and provide this letter in support of the impacted football clubs – Watsonia Heights FC, Bulleen Lions FC and Templestowe United FC.

The Football Victoria (FV) Strategy highlights Facilities and Infrastructure as a core pillar in ensuring that our vision for "Football for all, anywhere, anytime" is achieved. I attach a copy of our strategic plan – FootbALLways for your reference.

Accordingly, FV is very keen to see that the clubs impacted by the NELP are adequately relocated during the construction phase, but also see this project as an opportunity to help address the chronic underinvestment in football facilities in this area and meet the future needs of football in the region.

To this end, FV last year released the 'State Football Facilities Strategy to 2026' which highlights the need for 420 additional pitches across Victoria to meet demand ([www.footballvictoria.com.au/sites/ffv/files/2018-12/FV\\_Facilities\\_Strategy.pdf](http://www.footballvictoria.com.au/sites/ffv/files/2018-12/FV_Facilities_Strategy.pdf)). This report also identified the need to:

- Increase the current carrying capacity and quality of existing venues;
- Increase the number of venues/facilities by converting space to football pitches;
- Acquire land for additional grounds;
- Efficiently use grounds in conjunction with Schools; and
- Provide lighting, drainage, irrigation, pavilions and the installation of artificial turf fields to existing facilities.

Specifically, the facilities strategy identified the infrastructure needs of Councils within the zone of the NELP:

- Manningham City Council (including the clubs, Bulleen Lions FC and Templestowe United FC) – an additional 12 pitches are required to meet demand; and
- Banyule City Council (including Watsonia Heights FC) – an additional 10 pitches are required.

FV would welcome further consultation in collaboration with Councils and clubs to ensure the opportunities the NELP provides are leveraged for the long-term benefit of community sport and football.

In relation to the relocation of the clubs and their shorter-term needs, FV would like to strongly endorse and support the requests made in submissions by the clubs.

We understand the following relocation requests have been provided through the discussions to date and submissions made by the clubs:

- Watsonia Heights FC (Gabonla Reserve, Watsonia):
  - Greensborough Secondary College
    - Artificial turf pitch
    - Floodlighting
    - Change rooms with female friendly toilets and showers

- Club to retain access to GSC after completion of NELP
- Additional ground
  - Floodlighting
  - Change rooms with toilets and showers
  - Referee change rooms – female friendly
  - Commercial Kitchen and Canteen
  - Social Room
- Central Park
  - Upgrade pitch and facilities for use
- Elder Street Reserve
  - 12 months access required during works
  - 1 Artificial turf pitch
  - Floodlighting
  - Carpark expansion
  - Additional pavilion
- Veneto Club submission on behalf of Bulleen Lions FC and Watsonia Heights FC
  - Bulleen Park
    - 2 Artificial turf pitches
    - Floodlighting
    - Pavilion
  - Veneto Club
    - Convert grass pitch at front of VC to full size Artificial Pitch
    - Floodlighting
    - Upgrade change rooms adjacent to pitch to cater for additional players
  - Driving Range, Templestowe Rd
    - 2 Artificial turf pitches
    - Floodlighting
    - Pavilion
    - Carparking
    - National Premier League Facility Standard venue

The displaced Clubs are all long standing, well established and well run, and have strong community connection, including positive relationships with the Councils.

We welcome the opportunity to work collaboratively with the NELP and the Councils to ensure a smooth relocation for the clubs and help address the needs of the community into the future.

If you have any questions or require any further information, please contact Mr Matthew Green on (03) 9474 1825.

Yours sincerely



Peter Filippolous  
Chief Executive Officer