

## **THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT**

**Name:** Beth Roberts

**Date received:** 4 April 2024

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I'm writing to let you know my dismay at removing half of the Moore Park golf course to create more parkland.

There are very few 18 hole golf courses accessible to the general public in Sydney. Most of us can't afford to pay for a private golf course.

I'm also a regular user of the surrounding parklands for running, walking, cycling and dog walking. I'm in centennial park multiple times through the week and at weekends. There is always enough space for everyone to share the space for activities and find quiet places to be alone.

The other green areas such as Robertson Road Fields and Moore Park West, adjacent to the golf course, are nearly always empty of people. Until these are utilised properly I can't understand why so much money would be spent on another green space that also takes away an important and historical asset from the public.

Please do not go ahead with the plan to reduce the golf course to 9 holes.

THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT

Name: Garry Robinson

Date received: 15 and 30 March 2024

Build a raised green walkway along the south of the golf course, use the golfers bridge over Dacey, use the hill near the green keepers shed to cross Anzac.

Leave the rest for golfers [map].



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As per the diagram, build an aerial walkway to the shopping centre over the highway to the roof of the shops.

Continue the walkway on the slopes of the par five at the south end of the course.

Cross to the walkway the golfers use to cross Dacey. Use the elevation to cross Anzac and when you reach the other side follow the road to return to ground level to avoid the tram lines. Now provide access to Centennial Park as you have a completely car free path to the park for everyone in Zetland.



## **THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT**

**Name:** David Rodd

**Date received:** 5 April 2024

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I oppose the plan to reduce the size of Moore Park Golf Course. The data shows that almost 500,000 players use the course in the year. It is used everyday of the year and all day long. The same cannot be said for park users who walk their dogs, have picnics or just sit. Centennial Park is a short distance away and certainly large enough for these types of pastimes.

The myth that golf is an old person's game cannot be taken seriously with the number of young players coming to the course. 500,000 players walking 6 km is healthier than a 20 minute walk with the dog.

## **THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT**

**Name:** Massimiliano Rodella

**Date received:** 28 February 2024

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I am writing to share my disappointment for the decision to reduce the size of Moore Park golf. The public golf was created to give the opportunity to working class or not wealthy people to have the opportunity to play golf without paying outrageous fees. It is disappointing to see that all the free land in what used to be Victoria park, now Zetland, has been turned into an overdevelopment without enough green space for the benefit of greedy developer and government. The government that failed the tax payer to oversee a reasonable subdivision of green space and development is now reducing the ability of middle class people to enjoy the game of golf. Without mentioning that in the proximity of Moor Park golf there are two main parks like Queens and Centennial. These will force people to use cars to reach the green space as it has all been placed one next to the other while areas like Green Square are left without much nearby.

## THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT

**Name:** Anne Roy

**Date received:** 20 March 2024

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As a regular user of this public golf course I feel very strongly that this public sporting facility should not be halved for golfing purposes. The overdevelopment of “Green Square” and its environs, knowing that sufficient green space would not be available due to site contamination is a serious planning folly which has led to a shockingly overbuilt area. It is an ugly disgrace to developers, planners, council and state government. Moore Park Golf course is an asset to the golf loving public and to Sydney tourism in the same way as the Opera House is. There is a vast area of public space around Moore Park Golf Course that is significantly underused. In addition the vast public space that is Centennial Park is largely underused. One constructive proposal is for the periphery of the 18 hole golf course to be made into a public walking area (at own risk) as is the arrangement in many public courses In Scotland, Ireland and the UK.

I cannot believe that the government and planners are considering the 9 hole option. Such limited foresight is a sad indictment on all involved and a reflection that government has been only focusing on commercial interests.

A disgrace gave to all involved!

**Submission  
No. 256**

## **THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT**

**Name:** Enrico Rumi

**Date received:** 5 March 2024

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The area is already over developed for existing infrastructure. Residents have faced endless construction for years with no end in sight. The light rail is a sardine can before it reaches the university and the 18 story buildings are not complete. Obviously there is no consideration for the locals. Do the people that come up with these concepts live in the area. The proposal is terrible. If it passes I will vote against the present council and all associates.

**Submission  
No. 257**

## **THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT**

**Name:** Ben Sanders

**Date received:** 8 April 2024

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In the face of a rare threat to a beloved public institution like Moore Park Golf Club – a sanctuary offering respite from Sydney's relentless expansion and expense – we must unite in fierce defense. Let us not tolerate those who prioritize profit over community well-being. We must hold accountable and expose anyone who dares suggest anything other than preserving Moore Park Golf Club entirely intact for the benefit of all.



**Submission  
No. 258**

**THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT**

**Name:** Matta Scard

**Date received:** 10 April 2024

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Submission attached

10-April-2024

Submission by Matthew Scard. *This submission is my personal view and is not a representation of my place of work.*

[contact details withheld]

## **Submission to 'The Future of Moore Park South' - February 2024**

### **Comment**

I have lived in the Randwick, Zetland and Rosebery Area for 20 years with my wife, and have raised two children. We have never felt there is a need for more open space. It is extremely important to have good quality open spaces close to where residents live. We also need access to public sport and recreation areas that are connected by good active transport links and regularly serviced public transport options. This has been done well in the past, but for some unknown reason, the City of Sydney and Department of Planning Housing and Infrastructure have realised they need more green space to offset the increased housing densities, but don't have the space, or the funding to acquire the land to put the open space on. It appears the only option is to take the land from the local golf course.

I am against the removal of 9 holes of the golf course but support the need for more housing and well-located quality open space areas.

However, I believe there is a solution where everyone can benefit from a restructure of the golf course to retain 18 holes and create a contiguous quality and connected open space area of 20 hectares.

### **Issues**

1. There is no other suitable options for an 18 hole golf course where memberships are available. I know of people who will need to travel further away to join new clubs that are of the quality for the cost of membership at Moore Park.
2. A golfer who has a handicap and joins a club needs to play 18 holes. To maintain a handicap allows a golfer to enter competitions at their home club, or against other clubs in the area.
3. The Discussion Paper has not considered the Centennial Park parkland area, relative to the location and density of homes in the suburbs of Rosebery, Zetland, Green Square and Waterloo. This is important due to the distance and time for users to access the proposed new open spaces.
4. Sadly, the Discussion Paper has not even raised the option to reconfigure the golf course. Nobody has tried to solve this main issue. I believe the '20 hectares' can be delivered and still maintain an 18-hole golf course.

## Proposed Solution

Below are options/solutions for how the area of Moore Park South could be developed. The key points of my concepts are:

- 1. Open Space proximity to density is key.** Refer **Attachment A – Distance Rings to Density Map** for proximity to open space for Rosebery, Zetland, Green Square and Waterloo. This shows the centre point of the open space needed is near the intersection of Dacey Avenue and South Dowling Street/Eastern Distributor.

Using this concept, the idea for the open space to be along the western edge of Moore Park south down to the open space south of Dacey Avenue (behind the Supa Centre) makes the most sense. This would connect Kensington to Surry Hills and allow east-west links from the densest housing areas into the parklands. Only two additional over-road pedestrian bridges would be needed to connect all these locations.

The benefits of this new open space allocation are:

- i. 20 hectares can be provided (key area figure noted in the Discussion Paper)
- ii. Allows space for the golf course to be reconfigured
- iii. Provides access to more open space, closer to the housing density towards Rosebery, Zetland, Green Square and Waterloo.

- 2. We can have both – an 18-hole golf course and 20 hectares of new open space**

Below are my arguments and concept design for a reconfiguration of the golf course. Refer to **Attachment B – Golf Course Reconfiguration** for the plan.

In summary the changes are:

- i. The 20 hectares is split into 5 hectares south of Dacey Avenue, and 15 hectares north of Dacey Avenue. Refer to the marked up green area.
- ii. All the Moore Park golfing facilities (Pro Shop, driving range, club house, car park etc) would be retained in their current location and without the need to upgrade. This would save the NSW Government considerable expense.
- iii. Relocate the existing Greenkeeper Maintenance Facilities and construct new Moore Park Golf Course and Moore Park South maintenance facilities (refer to purple area, marked M for Maintenance). Centralising the maintenance facility would be a more efficient use of resources and staff.

This would save the NSW Government considerable expense. Access would be from Dacey Avenue.

- iv. Reconfiguring the golf course to maintain 18 holes. My design is efficient as it aims to retain as many holes, tee boxes, greens and fairways as possible, and it would minimise the removal of vegetation. Below is a summary of the reconfiguration:
  - i. The start and end of both 9 holes would be at the clubhouse (standard course design).
  - ii. The course would be slightly shorter than the previous course, but would still be a challenging course to play. Water features, bunkers and other obstacles can be added to make the course more challenging.
- v. Retains 5 complete holes: tee, fairway, green (1,2, 3, 9, 14 – marked all yellow)
- vi. Retains 4 greens (8, 10, 13, 18 – marked yellow circles)
- vii. Retains 4 tee boxes (4, 7, 10, 15 – marked yellow boxes)
- viii. Needs 5 complete new holes: tee, fairway, green (5, 6, 11,16, 17 – marked all blue)
- ix. Needs 3 new greens (4, 7, 15 – marked blue circles)
- x. Needs 2 new tee box (8, 18 - marked blue circles)

Keeping existing golf infrastructure and minimizing the new construction would save the NSW Government considerable expense.

### **Other Items to consider**

1. The next round of community consultation should:
  - a. clearly articulate how the Moore Park Proposal will support and deliver on the City of Sydney – Sustainable Sydney 2030-2050 – 10 Directions. [*It should be noted that the City of Sydney community surveys to guide and support the strategy were accepted by Council only 4 years ago, and it did not mention the golf course taking up too much open space as an issue.*]
  - b. show the results of surveys and count assessment of visitation and use of areas within the overall Centennial Parklands. These assessments should be completed over 12 months and during different seasons. This is the same concept as biodiversity surveys, to understand annual patterns.
  - c. show the results of surveys and count assessment of visitation and use of open space areas around Rosebery, Zetland, Green Square and Waterloo. These assessments should be completed over 12 months and during different seasons. This is the same concept as biodiversity surveys, to understand annual patterns.

- d. describe the proposed cost forecast for the 20-hectare park. Other options should be provided for how the funds could be spent.
2. The 23 hectares of open space south of Dacey Avenue and east of the Moore Park Supa Centre has been ignored in the discussion paper.
3. Council should provide an update on the redevelopment of the Moore Park Supa Centre and how it contributes to and connects to the adjacent open space.

**Attachment A – Distance Rings to Density Map.**



**Attachment B – Golf Course Reconfiguration**



**THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT**

**Name:** Shane Scott

**Date received:** 27 March 2024

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I can't believe that you want to take away half of the Moore Park golf course. It is one of the busiest golf courses in Sydney and thousands of people play there each week getting plenty of exercise and fresh air. There are hundreds of hectares of parkland in Centennial Park you don't need any more. Also wake up to yourself, Moore Park golf course is profitable and what would it cost to convert it to parkland and then pay for its upkeep. Don't be so stupid with my rate payer money. I Live in Waterloo, pay my rates and use Moore Park golf club on a regular basis as do thousands of others each week. Keep Moore Park as 18 holes or we will be looking for a new mayor.



**THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT**

**Name:** John Shanahan

**Date received:** 1 March 2024

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Please ensure the following are incorporated into the new park:

1. extensive bicycle paths.
2. more tennis courts.
3. barbq facilities with fixed, covered tables & seating.
4. water features, preferably with some swimming areas & change facilities.
5. public toilets.
6. native trees & plants, particularly flowering gums.

## **THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT**

**Name:** Angie Shaw

**Date received:** 31 March 2024

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What are you planning to do with the green space already there exactly? Heard someone this morning on radio trying to protect it... so now I believe there is no good in what you are planning to do!... provide a plan of intention and I suggest you stick to it and don't try to pull the wool over our eyes... none of us trust the government anymore and rightly so... are you going to fill it with surveillance for your 15 minute cities? Take away the natural space we currently have? It's green, why do you need to touch it at all?... I've lived here for many years and that golf course has been here longer. Leave it alone and let us decide what we need in the area... massively over populated already and you are still putting more apartments up... the apartment next door has been empty most of the 8+ years (literally they have visited maybe 4 x for no more than 2 weeks) I have lived here... somewhere an Australian family could have lived if your policies looked after the residents of your own country!

WE DO NOT WANT YOUR 15 MINUTE CITIES... WE DO NOT WANT YOUR DIGITAL ID... WE DO NOT WANT YOU TO CONTROL US... WE DO NOT WANT YOUR QR CODES... WE DO NOT WANT YOU TO REMOVE CASH... WE WANT YOU TO GET BACK IN YOUR PRAM AND REMEMBER THAT YOUR ROLE IS TO PROVIDE THE POPULATION OF THIS COUNTRY/STATE WITH WHAT WE DO REQUIRE... LEAVE THE PARK ALONE!... The public pays for this.... and our taxes can be better spent elsewhere right now... like housing Australians... or will this new space allow for tents?

Why is common sense not so common? because we have greedy politicians paid and controlled by big pharma and tech.... so stop! Opposed to whatever you plan to do... a park is a natural place... let it be so!!!

## **THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT**

**Name:** Diana Simmonds

**Date received:** 27 March 2024

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Moore Park Golf course is the only course where ordinary members of the public can play the game in this part of Sydney. The only alternatives are private clubs that not only restrict membership to the “right” people, but also charge exorbitant membership fees and annual charges. The average Sydneysider has no hope of playing on one of these courses.

That City of Sydney Council - primarily the Lord Mayor (who has been after Moore Park Golf Club for years) - has been lax enough to not provide open space for the developments on the other side of South Dowling Street is a failure of retro-planning. Those who use Moore Park Gold shouldn't be penalised for this.

I'm not a golfer, but I do think this course is an important piece of infrastructure in this part of the city.

The use of the main part of Moore Park - around Kippax Lake - as a de facto car park for the sporting codes and other users of the stadiums is far more concerning. that's what needs careful scrutiny and restriction.

**THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT**

**Name:** Alan Skelley

**Date received:** 22 March 2024

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Given the almost unanimous response in favour of retaining Moore Park Golf course as an 18 hole golf course, no surprise, it appears that only Clover Moore, Chris Minns and Alex Greenwich are the only people that support this terrible decision supported only by lies.

Not the only expensive error of judgement made by these politicians.

Surely there is not a hidden agenda to rename the proposed stolen park after one of them!

Fortunately, there are elections coming up.

## THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT

**Name:** Steve Smith

**Date received:** 10 April 2024

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Please see attached my submission for the Future of Moore Park South.

I am writing to express my disappointment of the announcement by the NSW Government to repurpose 20 hectares of land from the existing public 18 hole Moore Park Golf Course. The historical and public significance cannot be understated when considering the future of the public Moore Park Golf Course.

Moore Park Golf Course was the very first municipal golf course in Australia when it was completed and open for play as a 9 hole golf course on 24th May 1913. At the time, when council aldermen were looking to build the golf course on the land at Moore Park, a report needed to be prepared and submitted to the Health Committee of the council which put forward the numerous public health benefits of the sport of golf. The benefits were both for the physical and mental health of the local community. The essence from the council for constructing a golf course at Moore Park was that it must be, and remain, accessible and cheap to play for the public, the working class, who could not afford the expensive alternatives that were nearby including that of The Australian Golf Club, Bonnie Doon Golf Club and The Lakes Golf Club to name a few. This was the point of difference and the main reason behind building a golf course on public land at Moore Park.

The golf course was built specifically on land at Moore Park that was considered unsuitable for the organised sports of cricket and football, specifically the sand hills of both Mount Rennie and Mount Steele, and the course would also be routed around the adjacent city rubbish dump on the north side of the tram tracks which are now Dacey Avenue. In 1922, under pressure from congestion of too many people wanting to play golf on the Moore Park Golf Course, the council moved to expand the golf course from 9 to 18 holes. There were also plans to expand the course further to 27 holes such was the popularity of golf during the earliest years, although this did not eventuate.

Today, Moore Park Golf Course continues to be such a popular course for the local and visiting public to play that it is currently one of the busiest 18 hole golf facilities in the nation. The golf course is revered as a high quality 18 hole championship facility that is comparable to its neighbouring highly esteemed private golf clubs but is open to the public and any one who wishes to play it.

The Centennial Parkland website states that "Moore Park was founded as a recreation ground in 1866 to assuage pressure from the people of Sydney for a public space for outdoor activities and organised sports". Golf is an organised sport and outdoor activity, thus it follows the original details for which Moore Park was created.

Our modern society has recently gone through one of its toughest times, Covid 19. This pandemic saw immense pressure on the mental health of individuals and society more broadly. The sport of golf, in particular public golf, offers great opportunities for improving mental health and general longevity of life. This has been proven over many decades and was one of the original premises behind building the golf course at its inception. Playing golf offers a human connection that park land space does not, nor ever will, it offers the ability for people to interact with each other in a recreational pursuit.

Taking away 20 hectares of the golf course land will obviously reduce the golf course from 18 to 9 holes thus halving the amount of golf that can be played. It is very puzzling to me that any government department would consider reducing such an enormous revenue stream. The revenue from Moore Park Golf Course clearly goes into the maintenance of Centennial Parklands and one wonders where exactly this amount of money would come from to continue to maintain Centennial Parklands? Or is it assumed that the maintenance budget of the whole Centennial Parklands would be cut by the amount of revenue forgone?! A reduction of the number of golf holes available for public play would reduce the supply of golf to the public. A basic understanding of supply and demand would have the lay person easily understand that this type of action will only have a negative effect on the price of public golf at Moore Park ultimately raising the cost of golf. This goes completely against how Moore Park Golf Course began, being a low cost offering to the working class of Sydney's public.

In conclusion, it absolutely beggars belief in my opinion that the NSW Government would consider reducing the Moore Park Golf Course from 18 holes to 9 holes by repurposing 20 hectares of the current golf course land in what can only be described as a deliberate act against what Moore Park itself was founded to be, a public space for outdoor activities and organised sports. This announcement also goes against the very essence of why the golf course was built and opened over 110 years ago back in 1913, as a low cost accessible golf course for the working class of Sydney. Not only is Moore Park a golf course that is held in the highest regard as an 18 hole championship golf course in NSW and Australia, it is one that anyone from all walks and abilities of life has the opportunity to play and enjoy at any time and without prejudice. In a modern world where inclusion and mental health are of high importance, it again appears to be a decision from the NSW Government that goes against these values of society.

I urge the NSW Government to reconsider its position of repurposing 20 hectares of the Moore Park Golf Course land and retain the 18 hole championship golf course as it is. Moore Park Golf Course is a shining light as to how public golf can be provided to the public community in a way that is inclusive, benefiting physical and mental health, and a low cost recreational sport that everyone of all ages can play and participate in.

## **THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT**

**Name:** Andrew Sroufe

**Date received:** 28 February 2024

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I'm writing to ask the NSW Government to reconsider its decision to cut Moore Park Golf Course in half.

The golf course, and more importantly the community within Moore Park Golf Club and the Moore Park Golf Course facilities, play a central role in my daily life.

When I moved to Sydney in the greater Moore Park South precinct in 2017, the golf course quickly became the focal point of my recreation, exercise and even social life. Over the years as first a public-access player and then eventually joining the club as a member, I had the privilege of meeting groups of people whom I'm proud to call close friends to this very day.

The impact that Moore Park Golf Course has reverberates far beyond the game of golf. As a naturally introverted person, I often find it difficult to connect with others. MPGC has helped facilitate those connections that span professional and personal relationships. I've worked with other members, attended their weddings and other celebrations, gone on holidays together, and more.

The sad reality of NSW Government's announcement to reclaim half of the course is that those community ties will inevitably fracture. When the course is reduced from its current state, members will (some already have) move out of Sydney, join exclusive clubs that are not open (or affordable) to all, and those ties will begin to dissolve without a common interest and place to come together.

Multiply that by the nearly 1,000 members who have similar relationship bonds, and we will experience a consequential blow to "mateship" in central Sydney.

Parklands are important, but so are the forums and platforms to foster communities that would not otherwise intersect. I can count on one hand the number of strangers I've interacted with during a picnic or while walking my dog. But the lasting relationships I've created whilst a member of Moore Park Golf Club are far greater, both in quantity and quality.

I urge the NSW Government to reconsider its decision and to also consider the community value and benefits to physical/mental health that is being lost by dismembering a working-person's social and recreational pursuit.

As I've said to one of my closest groups of mates (which we've dubbed "The Champions League"); I came for the golf, but I stayed for the chat.

## **THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT**

**Name:** Mark Stanley

**Date received:** 10 April 2024

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The Moore Park Public Golf Course is widely recognised as the premier public golf course not just in Sydney, not just in NSW, but in all of Australia. It is of championship level quality. It is something that Sydney residents, the state of NSW should be extremely proud of. This is something that I did not see recognised in the development discussion paper.

It is a sporting facility that is enjoyed not just by locals, but visitors from interstate and overseas. It is by far the most accessible 18 hole golf course for anyone staying in and around the CBD area visiting Sydney.

Once it is chopped in half, that is it. It will cease to be the icon and gem that it is. Gone forever.

If Moore Park Golf course is redeveloped, it will destroy one of the great golf courses in Australia, one of the few in the Sydney metro basin that ANYONE can play.

The notion that a 9 hole variant played twice will be the same is simply wrong. Golf is a game played over 18 unique holes. Moore Park personifies this, with no hole representing a similar shape or distance.

It should be cherished as a sporting excellence facility, providing young up and coming future golfing stars a course to hone their skills, not just the ones from wealthy families who are fortunate enough to have rare memberships to the private clubs.

Residents realise when they live in an inner city area, that there is not going to be as much open space compared to the outer suburbs. It is a compromise.

Apartments are being sold right now in Rosebery with the brochures saying, "Luxury apartment living within walking distance to 18 Hole championship golf course". People moving into the area are doing so on the premise that there IS a public 18 hole golf course nearby.

Centennial public park across the road from the golf course provides more than ample open green space and activity areas.

There are also many public green space areas dotted throughout Waterloo, Zetland, Rosebery and Beaconsfield for dog walking, child play and recreational sports etc.

Golf is a unique and beautiful game that can be played by all genders, ages and physical ability, at the same time, together. The public nature of this course makes it inclusive to the whole community.

Moore Park Golf Course is a prized asset to Sydney. There is only one. Please preserve it.



**Submission  
No. 267**

**THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT**

**Name:** Alan Stewart

**Date received:** 31 March 2024

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I am in favor of keeping all 18 holes of the golf course.

## **THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT**

**Name:** Christopher Still

**Date received:** 28 March 2024

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As you have no doubt been told and seen, Moore Park golf course is busy from dawn till dusk.

It is my view that at least on weekdays, more people use the park as is (ie golfers) than would use a parkland located on site. It is one of only two golf courses in that region of Sydney that is open to public golfers.

Rather than shutting down nine holes, one compromise option would surely be to do what is done at St Andrews Golf Course in Scotland: that is, the course is closed on most Sundays so that residents and visitors can walk the course.

Would it not be sensible to at least try something like this (ie shut off part of the course on Sundays) before cutting in half a fine golf course-you may find that in fact the site is not popular as a parkland? Once the decision is made, it will be impossible to reverse it no matter how detrimental the decision is to the welfare of the city's residents.

## **THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT**

**Name:** Paul Stout

**Date received:** 30 March 2024

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Moore Park golf course should be left alone, for the following reasons:

1. it brings in visitors who spend money in the area both local and overseas.
2. there is a huge amount of surrounding parks, including Centennial Park, Queens Park etc.
3. the cost
4. and future cost of maintaining the park vs the income derived from keeping it as a golf course

## THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT

Name: David Stuart

Date received: 31 March 2024

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**“The Road to Hell is paved with good intentions.”**

This proposal is misconceived in many ways: **downgrading a unique, widely-used public asset which has served residents of the inner city for over 100 years and which, contrary to the assertions in the discussion paper, already attracts broad community participation with over 100,000 users annually, will only work against the recreational and environmental goals set forth in the discussion paper and articulated in the government’s vision for the urban and natural environment around the Moore Park golf facilities.**

*2. I retired to Surry Hills seven years ago in part because of the green space in Moore and Centennial parks. I walk or ride a bike through this area (both the parks and the adjacent suburbs) virtually every day and regularly use many of the precinct’s facilities including the golf course where my wife and I have spent many hours on afternoon walks, and in the last three years, trying to learn to play golf. Much of my working life was spent in large cities including New York and Vienna with similar issues of finding or at least preserving recreational areas accessible to high density populations and I considered that having developed a readily accessible and widely-used public golf course was something that distinguished Sydney’s park space as an outstanding “green lung” for the city.*

3. Notwithstanding uninformed comments by some elected officials about “restoring land to the public”, **Moore Park Golf (MPG) is a rare example of popular public sporting facilities available to residents of the city’s inner south.** In contrast, there are extensive areas of Moore Park that are conspicuously under-used, and which provide many opportunities, including unused existing infrastructure and underutilized areas in all sectors of the park between South Dowling Street and the SCG and Allianz stadium, and further south, between Anzac Avenue and Centennial Park, to cater to “recreational offerings” raised in the discussion paper such as youth facilities and to expand amenities such as children’s playgrounds, picnic shelters and BBQs. Judging from the discussion paper and the public consultations I have attended, this potential has been ignored. Another conspicuous omission from the discussion paper is any reference to managing the financial aspects of the proposed changes, in particular the impact on golf course revenue which at present subsidizes the costs of maintaining the Moore Park precinct and its other facilities. **Why then is it essential to remove a substantial part of the golf course when there is so much existing potential to meet the recreational uses flagged in the discussion paper?**

4. While the discussion paper acknowledges that golf is one of our most popular forms of recreation and attracts a diverse range of participants, it understates the value of the existing facility, not only as a unique public asset in the inner city but, just as importantly, as a major

green area with many rare and well-managed older trees that contribute to this part of Sydney's only substantial "green lung" and the city's stated canopy goals. It fails to assess the extent to which the public can and does use the golf course or consider the lack of alternatives for those of us who actually live in the area. From the perspective of a local resident with a keen interest in a range of sports and recreational activities, the numbers using the golf facilities (including children and teenagers) are much higher than those of any other sports accommodated in Moore Park. Indeed, in many respects, the golf course and driving range already meet the "Measures of Success" set out in the discussion paper's introduction.

### **What's wrong with this proposal?**

5. The proposal circulated makes several assumptions about the urban and natural environment in which MPG is located that are ill-founded. It claims to be directed at the need to supply more accessible outdoor opportunities for the growing population of Surry Hills, Kensington, Redfern, Waterloo, Alexandria, Green Square and Zetland. Most anticipated population growth in these areas will be in the suburbs south of Lachlan Street, yet the announced changes explicitly target the northern part of the golf course. In analysing demographics as a consideration, they take little or no account of the differences between these areas, in particular the contrast between surrounding suburbs in existing recreational areas and facilities (that is, not part of the Moore Park/Centennial Park precinct), in these suburbs' age and family profiles or significant issues such as distance or public transport access. If creating a larger green space near these areas was truly at issue, why then target the section of the Moore Park Golf (MPG) course that is further from these suburbs than the section south of Dacey Avenue?

- The general area of Moore Park (including the existing golf course and driving range) and nearby Centennial Park already provides a convenient outdoor facility for those living in Surry Hills, East Redfern and Waterloo. In contrast to the golf course, many of the facilities in the park precinct, such as the tennis courts, are underused for much of the year and some, such as the many cricket fields, cater primarily to a limited number of players and generally are only used on weekends.
- The high-rise developments between Phillip Street and O'Dea Avenue already include many parks and other outdoor facilities and are well-connected to the Moore Park/Centennial Park precinct; in this respect, they compare well with the best examples of medium and high-density development that I observed during more than a decade living in New York and Vienna.
- If providing more recreational opportunities for the residents in this part of Waterloo and Alexandria is the goal, there are significant areas of undeveloped land that the State Government could make available for such facilities in this immediate area, for example, the large unused area on the western side of Bourke Street, north of McEvoy.
- Green Square is 2.6 kms from the MPG centre but only 1.7 kms from the much larger Sydney Park area which, as a cyclist or on foot, provides a more convenient, well-developed park area with relatively well-developed amenities such as playgrounds. Access to these from Green Square could readily be improved by linking bike and pedestrian paths from Botany Road to Sydney Park.
- Simply from the perspective of protecting the extent of inner city parkland, tree canopy and biodiversity goals, the golf course is already one of the most dense and diverse areas of established trees, some of which are amongst the oldest surviving trees in this part of the city. It is, by a large margin, the most canopied area of Moore Park, and, as a well-maintained golf course (see below), the best guarantee of

retaining this character is its present use, including the existing arrangement of using greenkeepers and the land management expertise from the Greater Sydney Parkland and Centennial Parklands. **As a local resident, there is nothing in the discussion paper or the government's announcements that gives one any confidence that an alternative use of the existing golf course space would ensure these environmental values are respected as well as under current arrangements.**

### **Why is the existing 18 hole golf course a unique and unreplaceable public asset?**

**6. MPG is a well-administered public golf course, unique in the inner city as the only public course which is at a level to hold competition golf.** As such, it offers a much-better maintained and challenging course than other public courses at Botany, Little Bay and Rose Bay. **For those of us who live in the inner city, none of those courses are within ready access on public transport. MPG is also popular because it genuinely caters to golfers at all levels, with an exceptional commitment to public and corporate access (including tolerance, even encouragement, for novices to play the course) and to community inclusiveness,** notably for younger players but also for older residents who have taken to golf in their senior years.

7. As the proposal neglects to mention, as a public course, MPG can be (and is) walked by the public, requiring only a modicum of common sense in finding a route away from fairways. It is highly misleading and blatantly tendentious to situate the future of MPG with that of the private golf courses in Southeast Sydney. The level of membership and course fees and their restrictive policies on allowing visitors to play (for example, requiring a handicap) mean that very few of the residents of the suburbs close to MPG will ever be able to use these courses. The proposal to take away more than half the current course will, of course, end this unique facility; even if a 9-hole course survives, it will inevitably fall away in standard and use if not kept at competition-level, which will deprive the great majority of residents in this part of Sydney of an affordable option of playing golf on a well-maintained course, and, for those so-minded, of playing competition golf without being forced to join a suburban club.

- MPG is the **most used (public) golf course** in Australia and is considered one of the premier public courses in the southern hemisphere. Between 70 to 80,000 rounds are played a year, the great majority (roughly 70 per cent) by non-members. Together with those who use the driving range, something in the order of 100,000 to 150,000 people use MPG facilities every year.
- The game of golf is supposed to be played over 18 holes, and arbitrarily reducing a competition-level course developed over many decades will remove the only local option for promising young players to learn to play well without relying on private courses.
- The proposal purports to limit the course to a 'minimum nine" holes (even though there are in fact only seven holes in the southern part of the course). This does not accurately present the changes intended, which will remove around two-thirds of the current course for other (unspecified) purposes. This will mean that **course capacity will be much more limited**, with less availability for players, especially for those only able to play on weekends and holidays, and inevitably, longer wait times and more crowded tees.

8. The approach taken recently, for example, the Anzac Park fiasco, has only heightened community concerns about governments' lack of transparency in urban planning and reinforced our expectation that governments should commit to, and be able to implement, such changes within a reasonable budget and meeting public standards.

- **Nowhere in your current proposal is the justification for reducing the course by 20 hectares, almost a third of the Moore Park precinct between Cleveland Street and Kensington, made clear.**
- If it is intended to limit and dislocate the golf course in this manner, what new facilities will be needed in the southern section of the course, and, if so, where will they be located? At present, on the southern side of Dacey Avenue, there are no toilets, car parking or other facilities to support the downgraded course contemplated by the government. Plans – and funding - for these as well as revised public transport links and disabled access will be needed if the government's proposal is implemented.
- How long will implementing these changes take? What guarantees will the State and City governments provide that they will be done in a timely manner, appropriate to the nature and history of one of the city's oldest golf courses?

### **Why aren't the many alternatives to providing additional facilities canvassed?**

9. An hour or two walking around Moore Park would make clear just how many options exist for developing the various recreational options flagged in the proposal. For facilities like new tennis courts, training centres, skateboard parks and minigolf, the areas identified above in the parkland on both sides of Anzac Avenue offer numerous open sites that are currently unused. Instead of destroying a much valued and well-utilized public facility that will never be replaced in the inner city, you should consider the following suggestions:

- i. In the area near the corner of Anzac Avenue and Cleveland (opposite Sydney Girls High, near the lower level car park below the golf club), there would be scope to use open space or convert the existing infrastructure for such purposes as youth facilities;
- ii. Even allowing for the commendable efforts to remove paved car parking from the parkland near the Allianz Stadium and SCG, there remains considerable scope to better use this part of Moore Park to support the proposal's goals (noting another conspicuous omission from the discussion paper is the existing plan to transform Moore Park East, which only reinforces the question about why downgrading MPG is necessary);
- iii. Upgrading the small children's playground and nearby shelter (gazebo) at the top of Moore Park (near the junction of South Dowling Street and Anzac Avenue) and look at replicating these in other parts of the park, where there are many suitable spots with shade, safety from nearby sports fields and public transport and bicycle access;
- iv. if you are serious about improving access from Green Park, Zetland, Waterloo and Alexandria to Moore Park and Centennial Park, build a proper, safe bikeway to improve cycle and pedestrian access from Lachlan Street/South Dowling Street to Anzac Avenue and improve the unsafe pedestrian and cycle crossings that connect pedestrians and cyclists to Centennial Park and the south-eastern section of Moore Park.

### **What are the financial implications of the proposal?**

10. MPG revenue currently fully covers the cost of maintaining Moore Park and its facilities. With the reduced revenue from falling use of the course (and some related reduction in use of the driving range), how will this shortfall be covered? For example, has the government considered whether the current arrangements to allow the Roosters and Swans to dedicate a substantial area of the park for training facilities make adequate provision for public use of these areas, and what scope there is for these clubs to do more to support the Moore Park precinct upkeep?

11. The planned reduction of MPG to a nine hole course will, as set out above, bring its own costs, at a very minimum for the decommissioning of a substantial part of the existing course. **Noting the State Government's stated intention to resume this area by mid-2026, greater transparency is needed about how this process – including any new facilities that might be required – will be funded. Given that the proposed changes are mooted for 2026, when will plans and associated funding proposals be presented for these changes?**

Surry Hills, 31 March 2024



**THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT**

**Name:** Adrian Sue

**Date received:** 9 April 2024

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Moore Park is one of the few large public courses still remaining in Sydney.

It is central and east to get to and offers a lot of facilities.

If it loses half of its space, it will become more crowded and difficult to get a tee time especially for those who cannot afford to join a private club.

Perhaps the council and govt should have considered including more green space in their development approvals?

## **THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT**

**Name:** William Swanston

**Date received:** 11 April 2024

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The Issues to Consider

### **1. The importance of large Green Areas.**

The importance to provide Open space in the Planning and Development of Cities is undeniable. But, any appropriation of land requires a balance between large and small areas to satisfy active and passive needs of the community. The provision of land for green open space needs to be purposeful .... It should not just be a land Grab by governing controlling authorities.

Nowhere in the completed survey and published data is there a detailed audit of the City of Sydney's Open Space which would dictate a need to procure land to offset any deficiencies.

Council is misinformed to suggest subjectively that "that small parks don't provide the same opportunity as large open spaces to stride out, relax, and connect with nature." There are many examples of small pockets of open space that provide wonderful opportunity to relax and recharge. There would appear to be a myopic view that hiving of a portion of Moore Park Golf Course will alleviate any deficiency of open Space.

### **2. Putting Public Parkland to best use**

The Centennial Park area is a large complex of various size spaces which should ideally be seen as a Sporting Precinct & Moore Park Golf Club is pivotal to this complex, being a Championship Course maintaining a Group One status in Sydney's Golfing Community

The Golf Course has & still should host Qualifications for National & State Events

Why wouldn't the Council support & promote a Golf Sporting Academy as part of the expanded Moore Park complex?

On attending the Australian Open it was evident that Golf is rapidly becoming a young persons sport, evident by the Champion young Golfers representing Australia now, including Minjee Lee; Min Woo Lee; Harrison Crowe; Cameron Davis; Grace Kim; Cameron Smith; Adam Scott & Jason Day

Sydney City Council's assertion that an 18 hole Golf Course (Moore Park) only provides for 80 golfers at any given time, is not a fair reflection of the reality. 80 Golfers, is only 20 x groups of 4 playing at 6 minute intervals – a truer indication would be double that amount

The patronage of the Driving Range gives a fairer reflection of the numbers attending the complex.

Golf through Covid provided for greater participation in the sport. NSW Golf Clubs are thriving as a result. Many of the Sydney Courses have now closed off their books for new membership

What plans does Sydney City Council have for all the disaffected members of Moore Park with their Championship Course being shortened to 9-hole – how does it plan to compensate the Members?

### 3. Golf Courses in the Area

Although there are 12 other Golf Courses in the Sydney area, none of these are Public Courses comparable to the Moore Park Championship Golf Course. In fact, there are No Group One public accessible Courses in the Inner Sydney & Eastern Sydney area

The accessibility to the City of Sydney's fine Hotels allows for great visitation of International & Inter State Visitors

Victoria Park Golf course in Brisbane is not a good example to use as comparison for repurposing a Golf Course. This course was not a Championship Course as Moore Park is.

Victoria Park was equivalent to a Group Three Course in Sydney.

## **THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT**

**Name:** Andrew Sykes

**Date received:** 31 March 2024

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1. There is already a huge park called Centennial Park in close proximity, vastly under utilised in my opinion. I use it. Plus I use the golf course.
2. Centennial Park has plenty of current and future opportunities for recreation.
3. The reason why the population is so dense and keeps growing is largely because you keep approving new apartment blocks!
4. This is just spending my hard earned rate payers money for the sake of it!
5. You comment it will transform the area into green open space for community recreation, am I missing something? Isn't that what it already is!!

Can think of numerous other reasons but obviously waste of time.

## **THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT**

**Name:** Diana Szetu

**Date received:** 5 April 2024

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The rationale behind the proposed closure of 9 holes of MPGC is completely spurious and ill-conceived. The creation of additional open space is, obviously, a good thing provided that the space is used by the public. Adding to the already extensive open space at Moore Park will NOT attract more people. Firstly, not many people use the existing area because there is very limited free parking. Secondly, why would a family, having packed up the car with bicycles etc, go to Moore Park, with its limited parking and no bike tracks etc, not drive a further half kilometer to Centennial Park, with ample parking and excellent facilities?

Is the proposed augmentation of Moore Park going to be properly done, with an adequate parking lot, roads, toilet facilities, bike tracks, children's playground etc? No information in this regard has been provided. In fact, your own Survey, which asks members of the public how they would use the area, is proof that Council/State Govt itself has no plan.

**THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT**

**Name:** Megan Taberner  
**Date received:** 23 March 2024

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This response to the Moore Park South proposal, my feedback is focused on the golf course and is informed as:

- An owner of a [address withheld] apartment facing the Moore Park south side golf course.
- A resident in a Raleigh Park apartment facing the Moore Park south side golf course.
- A 20 year resident of Kensington, 2033 (and love it)!

Overall, I have no issues with evolving the Moore Park space to be more functional and accessible for Zetland residences.

Key preferences:

1. Daytime golf only, course stays on the South side, build a toilet block.
2. Night golf is placed on the North side, so the floodlights and noise is away from families and residences
3. No matter what design is decided build toilets on the South side, golfers urinate in the bushes

Detailed feedback

Topic	Comments & Suggestions
Daytime golf (Preferred option)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• IF daytime golf stays on the South side then build toilet facility, currently golfers urinate outside the Boronia Street apartments.</li><li>• Plant low screening plants along Boronia St to obstruct the view into the ground apartments</li></ul>

Topic	Comments & Suggestions
If night golf feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Night golf should be situated on the North side of Moore Park, away from residences as floodlights and noise would impact the families in the apartments and houses along the course perimeter</li> <li>• If night golf is on the South side then limit floodlight / business hours to shutdown at 9pm as the light will go into bedrooms and lounge rooms.</li> <li>• If night golf is on South side then plant screening plants and low / medium trees along the Boronia Street fence line as there is no cover between the golf course and apartments and people can see straight into the ground apartments. This would create a sight screen.</li> <li>• If night golf is on south side then plant screening trees or large shade trees (eg. Morton Bay Fig trees) along the Raleigh Park fence line as the trees in Raleigh Park are deciduous and there's no light / sound separation in winter.</li> <li>• Build toilet facility on the South side in any final design</li> </ul>
If the South side is for recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Secure screening and fences to stop people jumping into apartment and house gardens</li> <li>• If creating a walk-way around the south side with lights then any walkway lights should be shut off at 9pm as the light will go into family bedrooms and lounge rooms.</li> <li>• Café would be good down at the SuperCenta / Dacey Ave corner or in the middle (way from residences).</li> <li>• Plant screening plants and low / medium trees along the Boronia Street fence line as there is no cover between the golf course and apartments and people can see straight into the ground apartments. This would create a sight and noise screen</li> <li>• Plant screening trees or large shade trees (eg. Morton Bay Fig trees) along the Raleigh Park fence line as the trees in Raleigh Park are deciduous and there's no light / sound separation in winter.</li> <li>• Build toilet facility on the South side in any final design</li> </ul>
Access and other ideas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Underground Dacy Ave &amp; traffic to create a continuous parkland</li> <li>• New walking overpass from Zetland to Super Centre</li> <li>• New walking overpass from the storage facility into the North side park</li> </ul>
Native vegetation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The parklands should use native eastern Sydney grasses, bushes and trees.</li> </ul>

Topic	Comments & Suggestions
Strategic green space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="608 241 1362 421">• The Zetland town planning and developments should include more green space specifications. The councils have consistently allowed density housing to be build and not upgrading the infrastructure and maintained suitable amounts of green space.</li></ul>

Happy to chat about any ideas.



**THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT**

**Name:** Anthony Taylor

**Date received:** 1 March 2024

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Keep the golf course, there has never been any issue with a shortage of recreation space, this is an unnecessary change, removing by far the best 18 hole public golf course in NSW. The Golf Course is one of the busiest in the state and is constantly full, a testament to the need to keep it as it is. It's a gross misuse of taxpayer money to create further parkland when there is clearly no issue with the amount available. There is plenty of accessible parkland at Moore Park and nearby at centennial park or even Hyde Park and the domain or botanical gardens in the city. This is a political move and not practically taking into account how the space is currently used to great effect.

## **THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT**

**Name:** Isaiah Tharratt

**Date received:** 9 April 2024

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I am writing to have my say on the proposed changes to Moore Park Golf Course, which I vehemently oppose. There are several reasons why I think the golf course should not be reduced from an 18 hole course to a 9 hole course:

- The stated aim of giving the public more green space is absurd, given how much green space is available in close proximity in the area in the first place (i.e. Centennial Park). I'm all for green space, but the green space is already there.
- Part of the land is being reserved for future residential development. There is already unit development adjacent to the park (i.e. a Meriton across from the Golf Course) and I see this reclamation of land for new public green space being a ruse for the Government to sell land to developers in the future.
- The Moore Park Golf Club is an icon of the city, with rich history and character. The diminishing size and scope of the golf course is a blow to the heritage of the area.
- The golf course is a public golf course, open to all and with its CBD location, easily accessible to all. The course is well used and affordable golf course, available for the enjoyment of all. Members of the community have the right to play golf on a public course and not be restricted by high fees at private golf clubs.
- Golf promotes health, fitness and social interaction.

**THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT**

**Name:** Elizabeth Trotman

**Date received:** 29 March 2024

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I live in PADDINGTON near the park

I'd like to keep my feedback very simple

Please dedicate as much space to girls / womens sports eg NETBALL as you do to traditional men's sports. eg RUGBY

Thank you

## **THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT**

**Name:** Brad Turek

**Date received:** 9 April 2024

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I am at a loss to why this plan has been proposed. There are huge parklands in the area for public use, have you ever been to Centennial Park? 95% of the time it is a ghost town, and even when there are people there, there is always plenty of room for more. It has tonnes of parking, plenty of access away from main roads and is a stone's throw from Moore Park.

Golf is a sport that can be enjoyed by women and men of all ages and abilities. The handicap system means that beginners can compete against experts. It's challenging to the mind and healthy for the body. It is getting harder and harder to get a game of golf on a decent public course these days. Moore Park golf is very hard to book if you don't do it in advance. This shows how well the land is being utilised. Many tourists also like a game while on holidays, and Moore Park's location near the city is perfect for them.

As an average golfer and an average income earner I can't afford to be a member of a golf course. I am a member of a golf social club which books games all over Sydney, plus trips away in the regions. We book up to 2 years in advance to get our games. We are also proud to call Moore Park our home course, as we play a majority of our games there. Reducing it to 9 holes will ruin the experience for people who want to play a full round as it is meant to be played.

In summary, if this proposal goes through, you will ruin a great golf course, limit the opportunities of many to enjoy golf and the positives that come with it, damage areas of tourism, and create a lovely green ghost town 95% of the week. Please reconsider!!

## **THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT**

**Name:** Trevor Turk

**Date received:** 10 April 2024

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From the information that I have received about this golf course thus far and is well understood, concise in the description of and for the future planning for this golf course.

It is not encouraging to see this golf course reduced from eighteen 18 holes down to nine 9 holes when it is apparent that the amount of people that play this course would have reserved objections for the local and state government in it's planning to consider this option.

It is no doubt an issue relevant for a combined circumstance between economic and financial requirements comming from the green fee and other financial status of golfers that play at this course. Also it needs to be considered about what both the local government and state government prefer for the future funding required to be accounted for in relevance of upkeep, maintenance and ground keeping staff.

As a keen social golfer I am noticing "the change" in the way of some courses disappearing all together from the changes required by local government and state governments. This is making it difficult for someone like myself who is disabled with a prosthetic leg to be able to go to a golf course and play publicly and not be able to play on elite private courses where you must be privileged to be invited to play on.

I can only encourage both the local government and state government of N.S.W. to achieve an acceptable outcome for all involved for the Moore Park golf course.

## **THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT**

**Name:** Peter Tzannes

**Date received:** 7 March 2024

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Firstly, I would like to put on record that I am a supporter of the Lord Mayor Clover Moore, Alex Greenwich my State member and Ron Hoenig my previous State member.

They are on record supporting the halving of Moore Park Golf Course to increase the parkland for the local high-rise residents.

**I believe there is a better way of achieving extra parkland space without destroying the historic Moore Park Golf Club.**

### **Background**

Moore Park Golf Course is one of very few Tier 1 championship public golf courses in NSW and indeed Australia. It is a public golf course which allows access to the public at very little cost to them. Prominent Tier 1 golf clubs nearby include The Lakes, The Australian, NSW and further afar Royal Sydney. These are all private clubs with very high membership joining fees and annual membership fees.

The reality is that Moore Park caters for the very many less well off people who like to play on a well presented first class golf course.

Reducing the 18 hole course to a 9 hole golf course would destroy the course and would immediately substantially reduce the income from it because it would lose its appeal.

Moore Park caters for young players all the way to the elderly players. Many of our top players have started their golfing career on courses such as Moore Park.

The local populations of Zetland, Redfern Alexandria have a high proportion of residents of Asian background who do not participate in the football codes but are drawn to golf and the less aggressive sports. If one were to look at the world's top golf players many of the top lady players are of Asian decent. They represent not only Asian countries but also proudly represent Europe, USA and Australia.

Many of the top male players also have Asian heritage.

### **Alternate way off achieving extra accessible parkland.**

I am a frequent visitor to our parks and I have observed that Moore Park - West, South East, and South West which cater for sport have very few members of the public using them for recreation when sport is not being played.

These parks have little aesthetic appeal nor comforts which are normally associated with parkland recreation. One does not see people with kids, dog walking or just exercising in these parks because they are not people friendly. Hence they lie idle for much of the time.

If these parks were reconfigured with sensitive and sensible landscaping we would have a massive increase in usable public parkland without the need to destroy the golf club.

I have spoken at length to an eminent landscape architect about transforming these parks into multi-use parks as I am suggesting.

He responded that it would not be difficult to landscape the parks to still allow the sport to be played by using templates of the fields needed and to then plant trees, place park benches and tables strategically so as to provide shade, rest places and a better park ambience. These areas would allow spectators and supporters of the sporting teams to sit in the shade while watching their friends play. Today's paddocks would be transformed into beautiful parks at comparatively no great cost.

It should also be noted that Centennial Park is only a relatively short walk from South Dowling St

### **Finance**

The Moore Park Golf Club contributes substantially to the funding of Centennial Park, Moore Park, Queens Park and now also Callan Park.

The drive to make the parklands all self funded suggests that any loss of revenue would be strongly felt. Presently our parks are not optimally presented - much due to financial constraints. Any loss of income plus the need to fund extra park space would adversely affect the quality of our parks.

### **General park availability**

Today much of Moore Park is occupied by the elite sports and their needs. Moore Park East has leased parklands to the NRL, AFL etc.

The Tibby Cotter Bridge has caused the loss of vast areas of cricket fields, the bus interchange has decimated vast areas of parkland - all serving the SCG and SFS. Much public parkland is not available to the public.

### **The development of Zetland Alexandria and Redfern**

The bailing out of the developers by offering extra parkland signals clearly that they need not provide proportional open space in their developments. There is still undeveloped land that could become parkland.

Sydney is a great city and we should protect our history and heritage.

## **THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT**

**Name:** Phillip Vavasour

**Date received:** 07 April 2024

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Unfortunately the motivation to take away our green spaces almost always comes back to financial gain but not for the general public that stands to lose the course. But it should be noted for many as the age golf is an exercise that maintains a greater health benefit with golfers remaining healthy and playing into the eighties even longer and as such this has a positive impact on the states health bill. Green spaces are essential for city's health with respect to better air quality and global warming. Do we want more infilling or are we concerned with Australians quality of life and how we should live into the future.



## **THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT**

**Name:** Sarah Vorchheimer

**Date received:** 11 March 2024

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I have read the download and your report concerning the plans for Moore Park South.

In my opinion, it is excessive to resume 9 holes of the 18 holes of the Moore Par Golf Course, but what is needed are more pedestrian crossings at the corners of Lachlan Avenue, Dacey Ave and South Dowling Street, more and wider pedestrian/cycle bridges over South Dowling Street and also over Anzac Parade so that people from South Sydney can more easily access not only the golf courses, but also the tennis courts and other playing fields, and Centennial Park by walking or cycling.

Why ruin a perfectly good golf course when better pedestrian and cycle access across the area will make Centennial Park and the other areas of Moore Park easily accessible?

Also, your discussion paper pictures a spotted pardalote. These precious little birds nest in sand hollows and tree hollows such as found around the golf course. Disturbing the habitat for redeveloping it for other "recreational use" will endanger it. I doubt there are many in the Eastern suburbs.

Moore Park Golf Course is a PUBLIC 18 hole golf course. There is NO OTHER PUBLIC 18 HOLE GOLF COURSE in this area. If you want to give a fair go to the residents of Surry Hills, Waterloo, Redfern and Alexandria, so that one or two may one day become champion golfers, they need a public golf course nearby to develop their skills. No way could they go the Royal Sydney! However, with the natural ball skills of the boys and girls from Redfern (and I taught, years back, at Cleveland Street Boys' High and at Marrickville Girls' High) mean that it is not an impossible dream for several of them to become great golfers, so long as the FULL public Moore Park Golf Course exists.

I love Centennial Park and am aware that it has all the sorts of facilities proposed for Moore Park South. With greater ease of access across the roads and through or across the golf course, everyone will be able to make full use of all the parks around Moore Park, including Centennial Park.

**Submission  
No. 284**

**THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT**

**Name:** Gerhard Vorster

**Date received:** 8 April 2024

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PLEASE retain the one decent public golf course in central Sydney!

## THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT

**Name:** Joanne Waller

**Date received:** 9 April 2024

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**\* Keep the current green space 18 hole public golf course unchanged.**

\* Encourage the public to use the already available and under-used Moore Park north green spaces.

\* Change planning laws to include greater areas of planned green space as part of the proposed high density developments.

\* Government to re-task their own current vacant land i.e. Metropolitan Board of Water Supply, Waterloo. (property bordered by Bourke Street No 921, McEvoy Street and Young Street). It is closest to the high concentration of apartments.

\* Vacant land in the Zetand area to be used as green space instead of high density housing. It's in amongst the apartments.

## **THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT**

**Name:** Bob Walsh

**Date received:** 28 March 2024

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Hi, I have been playing golf at Moore Park for over 30 years.

I do NOT support the proposed reduction to 9 holes noting:

- the course has never been as busy as it is today - player numbers significantly outnumbering all the users of the substantial "open space" recreation areas surrounding the course [not warranting more of the same]
- it is not a course for "elites" with the vast majority of players being from the general public - not members
- it is an iconic course attracting visiting tourists

## **THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT**

**Name:** Patrick Walsh

**Date received:** 11 March 2024

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I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to express my profound concern regarding the proposed plans to alter the current 18-hole golf course at Centennial Park, a decision that has come as quite a shock to myself and my 8-year-old daughter, who are regular patrons of this facility.

The course is a bustling hub for golf enthusiasts of varying backgrounds, not limited to the affluent, and serves as a cherished location for my family and I to engage in a sport we love. The proposed reduction to 9 holes, in my view, will severely limit accessibility to an already popular amenity, detracting from the community's enjoyment and potentially excluding many regular users.

I also wish to highlight my disappointment with the lack of public consultation prior to the election regarding this significant change. As a labor voter, I believe in the importance of transparency and community involvement in decisions that affect our public spaces. Had I been aware of this plan, it would have influenced my voting decisions.

The rationale for diminishing one of Sydney's busiest and most inclusive golf courses by half, especially given the vast expanse of Centennial Park, is perplexing. My family does not epitomize affluence—we do not own luxury cars nor do we own our home—yet we find immense value in the inclusivity and accessibility of this facility.

I earnestly implore you to reconsider this decision. The 18-hole golf course is more than a recreational space; it is a valuable community asset that fosters family bonding and encourages outdoor activity amongst Sydney's diverse populace.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my concerns. I, along with many others who share my sentiment, hope for a resolution that maintains the integrity and accessibility of Centennial Park's golfing facilities.

**THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT**

**Name:** Amanda Walton

**Date received:** 7 April 2024

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Hello, I've consulted with two boys of 9 and 7 and a 5 year old girl.

Here are their suggestions for the park:

Some giant slippery dips

A skate park

A circular route for mountain bike riding

A petting park, and chooks

Some flowing water, ducks and a mud kitchen.

I think these suggestions show that young and teenage kids love parks and use them differently and would appreciate some planning to include them.

Please acknowledge this message so that I can let my interlocutors know they have been heard.

## **THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT**

**Name:** Stephen Walton

**Date received:** 5 April 2024

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Firstly I think it's a wonderful initiative to transform the park into something that the whole community can use. Aside from nice parkland and barbecue areas, Sydney's east needs a proper BMX track.

Currently the closest BMX track is in Olympic Park, which makes it inaccessible for a lot of children. Sadly there is little infrastructure for any competitive cycling in Sydney's East, yet nearly every suburb has facilities for cricket, netball, basketball, football etc.

Creating proper infrastructure for BMX and cycling in general will help to promote healthier and greener community where people need to be less reliant on cars.

## **THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT**

**Name:** Jieli Wang

**Date received:** 10 April 2024

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I am writing to express my deep concern and opposition to the proposed development plans at Moore Park Golf Course in Sydney.

Moore Park Golf Course is not only a historical landmark but also a vital green space that serves the community and local wildlife. It offers a rare escape from urban development, providing residents and visitors alike with a place for recreation, relaxation, and connection with nature. The proposed development threatens to erode this invaluable asset, impacting our community's well-being and biodiversity.

History suggests council usually turn green spaces to parks, and parks to residential property development. As a local resident, I can say the area is surrounded by parks and it doesn't need another one.

Furthermore, green spaces like Moore Park Golf Course are essential in combating urban heat islands, filtering air pollution, and offering mental and physical health benefits. As our city grows, preserving these areas becomes increasingly important to maintain the quality of life for Sydney's residents.

The potential environmental impact of the proposed development cannot be understated. It risks damaging the local ecosystem, disrupting habitats, and reducing the area's natural beauty. Moreover, the increase in traffic and noise pollution would significantly affect the surrounding neighborhoods, detracting from the peaceful environment currently enjoyed.

I understand the need for development and progress within our city. However, it is crucial that such development does not come at the expense of our cherished green spaces. There are undoubtedly alternative solutions that can meet the city's needs without sacrificing Moore Park Golf Course.

I urge you to consider the long-term consequences of this development on our community, environment, and the future generations who will inherit the decisions we make today. Please oppose the proposed development at Moore Park Golf Course and work towards preserving this essential green space for the benefit of all.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my concerns. I am hopeful for a positive outcome that aligns with the interests of our community and the environment.




**Submission  
No. 291**

## **THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT**

**Name:** Phill Ward

**Date received:** 28 March 2024

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You need to leave the golf  course intact as there is no better use for it. You have centennial park next door and there is more than enough space with the rest of Moore Park has to offer. Mark my words if you go ahead with this proposal you will have near a million golfer baying for blood at the next State and council elections, You have been warned.

## **THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT**

**Name:** Vivien Ward

**Date received:** 9 April 2024

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I am concerned about the proposed changes to Moore Park South and the way they have been presented.

### **1.Value of the Parklands:**

I value the Centennial Parklands (including Moore Park) very highly. They are areas of most significant Environmental, Ecological, Historical and Cultural value. They are lovely, varied areas open for everyone to enjoy, with opportunities for a wide range of activities. I do not live near the Parks, but I am still able to make my way there. I did not think that these Parks were like Council Parks, predominantly for local residents. However this proposal seems to push that concept.

I also find the sudden decision to change the use of 20 hectares of Moore Park quite frightening, as a possible precedent for further Parkland use changes in the future. I had assumed that there were protections for the Parklands.

### **Public sport:**

I do not play golf, or even watch golf. However, it is obvious that the Golf Club, established over 100 years ago, maintains the land well. Very importantly it provides some funding to the Centennial Parklands. For a long time now Governments have required the Centennial Parklands to be self funded.

Moore Park is a public golf course. I expect that the 18 hole course allows for this sport to be taken seriously if wanted. If reducing the course to 9 holes reduces this opportunity it would be a big change. The options suggested for the golf future, such as mini-golf and night golf, seem to suggest very lessened public sport activities. It looks more like an entertainment focus.

### **Professional sport:**

Moore Park provides facilities for a range of public sports. It is also bordered by facilities for professional sporting bodies. Clearly a lot of government money has been given to the SCG's facilities, and to the Sydney Swans' \$70m refurbishment of the public-owned Hall of Industries. Even the current work in Moore Park East to restore this area to public parkland continues to support the professional sports. From the \$2m budget a new electricity

substation will be installed to improve lighting for the Easts training field, and improve lighting for people going to Alliance Stadium.

And of course car parking on the grass is allowed to continue.

To reduce any public use of the Parklands' sporting opportunities while professional sports are continually enhanced seems wrong.

I object to the proposed reduction of Moore Park Golf Course.

## **2. Proposals for the new park:**

The Lord Mayor of Sydney, Clover Moore, says that the NSW Government has accepted her proposal to return 20 hectares of the Golf Course to the rapidly increasing sites of Green Square, Redfern, Waterloo and Zetland. She has presented pictures of how that new park may look. Your document suggests possibilities for the new use of the 20 hectares.

I have not seen any clear reference to anticipated costs, and who will be paying for the changes. It would be unrealistic to expect the largely unfunded Centennial Parklands to be responsible, but at the least there will surely be spending impacts on the other parks. I believe that an explanation of this should be made public.

## **3. Difficulties:**

Of course it could be lovely to have further accessible parkland if the Golf Course is allowed to retain its 18 holes. There are areas of South Moore Park that could possibly provide facilities and environmental changes.

Your document refers to difficulties that need to be considered. Access is a key difficulty. Obviously the existence of roads that totally surround the area, and allow for hugely busy traffic, is a problem. This must make the creation of wildlife areas risky.

Your Section 3 'About the Location' looks at Constraints. "Dacey Avenue is dark, noisy and unattractive to pedestrian and park users"

I hope this does not mean that you would consider removing trees beside that road.

## **4. What you should not do:**

I very much believe that you must not take the opportunity to increase car parking on Park land. This area of Moore Park must not be turned into car parking in any form. As well there should not be an overwhelming laying of more roads and paths and hard surfaces. Moore Park East has many roads and paths and hard surfaces, largely to provide access for the SCG.

You must not cut down trees.

The Entertainment Quarter provides the opportunity for evening activities. There should not be a need for expansion into Moore Park South, as a permanent fixture. If you have any genuine concerns for wildlife this should be seen as an issue. Perhaps the SCG could provide for a skate park at the Stadium. There would be some supervision for safety, and I

believe they did offer public facilities near the entrance in their original plans. Nor should there be another stadium as was mentioned by a member of the EQ.

**Conclusion:**

Clover Moore has written that the City is creating 40 urban parks and playgrounds in Green Square. The Centennial Parklands are already available for everyone to access. The Premier has said that no other Golf Course in Sydney will be reduced.

With a future of increasing housing density in Sydney this whole proposal must raise the question of what developers should be required to provide. Surely you can't use this as a start for making huge changes to the five iconic and wonderfully lovely parks in the GSP. The Moore Park Golf Course should stay as it is.

In 2015 The Albert Tibby Cotter Bridge was rushed through for the SCG in advance of the World Cup. I believe that it cost the Government \$38m. It is rarely used.

There must be no risk taking in this current proposal. Our Parklands are too precious.

## **THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT**

**Name:** Greg Waters

**Date received:** 4 April 2024

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This morning, I rode my bicycle from the Moore Park Garden pedestrian bridge, around the football oval and through Moore Park to Centennial Park for morning exercise. Then, as in many mornings I rode through Moore Park to get to work in Paddington. This afternoon I'll ride back the same way and in all likelihood run around the oval and do a bench workout at the top of Mount Steele so I can watch the sunset while I - unsuccessfully - fight off middle age spread.

Most days I will use the park multiple times, and without fail will be surrounded by joggers, stretchers, walkers, children, dogs, AFL players, cyclists, boot-campers, hill-runners, yoga practitioners and people who just want to wander among some trees. They are there in their hundreds, crammed into the limited space between the fenced off golf course and the oval, negotiating the two shared paths through the park and trying to avoid inconveniencing the many others sharing the space.

Since the potential expansion of public space in Moore Park was floated years ago, I have made it a point to pause on the Moore Park side of the pedestrian bridge to see how many golfers are present on the course. On that whole South Dowling St fairway from Davey Ave to Mount Steele the majority of the time I will see not a single golfer. The rest of the time maybe a pair or a foursome. Seeing multiple groups of golfers waiting their turn for the hole is vanishingly rare. Maybe once or twice over the years and then only on a weekend.

When I read the paid lobbyists and media flaks organised by the Moore Park Golf Club talking about the heavy usage of their golf course, I can only think of Mark Twain's quote - lies, damned lies and statistics. It is no surprise that people being paid to lie about something are doing so, but as a regular user of the area I can say without any doubt in my mind, the number of golfers getting out of the clubhouse and driving range and onto the course proper is a tiny fraction of the many people crammed into the other parts of that precinct.

The golf course doesn't only force hundreds of daily users into limited and peripheral spaces. It creates blocks of dead space that aren't being used by the golfers but are also made unattractive or unavailable for other users. The tree lined avenue along Anzac Parade is utterly dead space, cut off from residents by the golf course and never used except as a barrier to traffic noise for the golfers. Davey Avenue has the narrowest imaginable paths along either side impossible for a cyclist and a jogger to share and made unattractive by teetering on the edge of traffic and the barriers of the golfers personal pedestrian bridge and many fences.

The other Mark Twain quote that comes to mind is - golf is a good walk spoiled. In my case that is absolutely true. I can ride to Centennial Park, but it is really too far to squeeze in a regular evening walk so instead local walkers compete with the shared pathways, run around the oval or walk along the fence line of the golf course. The downside of the fence-line is the rolling fairways and clumps of woodland visible but inaccessible on the golf course. To add insult to injury, there are packs of people competing for space on the public side of the fence, while the gently undulating walkways of the golf course are uninhabited.

Golfers don't share. Joggers, cyclists, dog walkers, pram pushers even AFL players all share their space. When there isn't an actual game in play, other users are free to exercise on the oval. Even when there is organised play, other park users are free to jog around the edge of the oval or pause to watch the game. Golfers don't only exclude other park users from their holes and fairways, we aren't allowed to use their walkways or wooded paths or pedestrian bridges. High wire fences push pedestrians and cyclists to narrow perimeter paths close to major arterial roads.

While I'd love to see the whole of the Moore Park Golf Course turned over to public use. A conversion to a 9 hole course south of Dacey Avenue with the clubhouse and driving range remaining in situ seems a reasonable compromise.

The very least that should be done is to provide public pathways, cycleways and public areas within the golf course. Golfers manage to move between holes along wooded pathways. Spectators seem to move around golf courses when watching competition golf. There should be some way to arrange the space so that the golf course is sharing more equitably with the thousands of local residents who are already park users and the tens of thousands of new residents and future residents who would be park users if the amenity was improved.

I believe a priority should be paths, walkways and cycle ways through the whole of the space. Except for the obvious exceptions like the driving range, the golf course should be redesigned with wooded walkways and cycle paths that allow flow through the whole park. Where paths go through the golf course, joggers and walkers will need the protection of trees, but helmeted cyclists are better protected from golf balls than golfers themselves.

Moore Park should be an inviting way for pedestrians and cyclists to travel from the densely populated apartment blocks of Green Square and Zetland through to Centennial Park, Kensington Ponds and all the transport and leisure options it currently cuts off. The combination of the Supa Centa and golf course, turns what should be a public space into an impenetrable barrier dividing tens of thousands of residents from theoretically nearby public spaces. The pedestrian bridge over Dacey Avenue that is currently fenced off the ensure only golfers can use it, should be part of a link between Zetland and Moore Park. The wooded verges that separate the golf course from E.S. Marks, the Supa Centa and the apartment blocks on Todman Avenue should be public space and part of public access to the park and through the park.

There should be a separate cycleway and jogging track around the whole area bordered by South Dowling, Dacey, Cleveland and Anzac currently occupied by the oval, clubhouse and golf course. If the dead zones along Dacey Avenue and Anzac Parade were part of a tree-lined circuit separated from the busy traffic, they'd soon have comparable usage to Centennial Park cycleway and walking track. If a golf course must remain within the parklands, it should be set back far enough that an attractive and usable circuit can be built

around the perimeter of the whole site and pathways and cycleways can be built through the course so the public space isn't locked away from the public.

While I am not a dog owner, one of the saddest sights in Surry Hills must be the forty to sixty dog owners crammed into Edmund Resch Reserve of a morning or evening. It really is wall to wall. If there were to be a dog friendly space on the Moore Park side of the pedestrian bridge it would attract hundreds of users immediately.

The area around the clubhouse carpark and tennis courts has been a bare and useless dead zone for decades. It is a terrible waste to have the area around the oval being used to the point of saturation while a hundred metres away a space that could be open for public leisure is instead set aside for parking overflow (almost never used) and a place to watch grass die.

Looking out my window on Danks St I see two massive residential towers being built on the old Sydney Water site. Thousands upon thousands of apartments have come on line or are soon to come on line in Waterloo, Zetland, Alexandria, Green Square, Surry Hills and Redfern. Moore Park is the public open space that is already serving these communities - despite the many limitations imposed by the golf course. These new and recent residents need appealing and multi-functional green spaces for exercise, for community interaction, to walk their dogs, to give their child fresh air and sunshine, to play organised sport, to access transport and leisure facilities. They need parklands that they can share.

Golfers don't share. As the sport of golf dies, strangled by its own elitism and selfishness, it is time to return the public land that has been alienated to a single use back to the multifarious, shared uses that the residents of this area desperately need and want.

**Submission  
No. 294**

**THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT**

**Name:** Lara Waterson

**Date received:** 18 March 2024

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My submission is that this should remain a golf course.



## **THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT**

**Name:** Nick Waterworth

**Date received:** 11 March 2024

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Moore Park Golf Course is a wonderful public access facility.

The course and driving range (plus all the other facilities) offer so much to so many people and have done for many, many years.

It is not an exclusive club, anyone can go, and contains walking track for non-golfers.

There are plenty of wonderful parks in the area, including Sydney's biggest at Centennial Park. But also Moore Park West, Fearnley Grounds, etc which are nowhere near used to capacity.

Please don't let politics get in the way of common sense – if Moore Park goes to nine holes, it will lessen the experience and we'll never get it back – it is a one-time only move when there are so many other options.

**THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT**

**Name:** Graham Webb

**Date received:** 31 March 2024

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I live in the Sutherland Shire and look with envy at the whole of the Moore Park parklands. It seems to me that there is already a beautiful balance in the varied uses of this extensive open land. To take part of the Golf Course for open parkland would forever damage this balance. Surely the existing open areas are adequate for non-golf users. I assume the Government is receiving pressure from the residents of Zetland and Redfern, can't they simply walk the extra 500 meters to either Centennial or Moore parks? Large areas in these parks are empty for long periods, whereas the golf course is constantly used.

Please reconsider.

## **THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT**

**Name:** Kerri Weekes

**Date received:** 8 April 2024

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I would like to provide feedback for the Moore Park South transformation. Things we would love to see are:

- Access from Todman Avenue behind the Supa Centre (why? Because on a hot afternoon the road is burning for pets paws, if there is no access from Todman and only access from Dacey Ave, I imagine every man and his dog will start walking through the Supa Centre to stay in the shade, disrupting parking and traffic - and also no one wants to walk along the narrow sidewalk next to the extremely-busy traffic of South Dowling next to the Supa Centre, it's not pleasant)
- Shady pathways for walking & exercise
- Large fenced dog run with shade and water features to keep pets cool in summer
- Shady play area for kids with water features - also fenced to give parents peace of mind for their children playing that dogs will not be able to approach
- Lights along pathways for safety at night & to deter any vandalism

There are no fenced dog areas for off-leash play within walking distance of Zetland/Waterloo. With the amount of dogs in the area and all the apartments (soon to be 70,000 in Green Square alone) there needs to be a space for dogs to go and stretch their legs, without bothering people. A safe space fenced from busy roads. And please don't let us lose any more green space to parking, this is an easily walkable space for so many.

## THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT

**Name:** Geoff Wenborn

**Date received:** 28 February 2024

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The following is from the governments owns description.

The NSW Government has announced its decision to transform an area on the western side of Moore Park Golf Course, north of Dacey Avenue to public open space while retaining the 9-hole golf course, driving range and clubhouse.

Currently there are almost 690,000 people within a 5km radius of Centennial Parklands, with the population projected to rise to almost 790,000 in 2041. This makes it one of the densest residential communities in Australia, with the majority of these people living in apartments, townhouses or terraces.

As a resident of nearby areas for a number of years I have watched with dismay while government allowed so many units at such density to be built without adequate green space, roads or traffic flow management solutions. Next you decide to steal green space reserved for golfers because of inadequate forethought and planning. Green space should have been provided when over developing areas in Zetland and surrounds. The government should not be stealing golf land to make up for such shortcomings.

You can see by your own map there is already plenty of green space adjacent to Moore Park golf course e.g. Centennial Park.

It is so disappointing to be let down by government and one way decision making based on short sighted money grabbing developer friendly decisions.

Who loses are residents that were there at the start. The people government is meant to be serving!



It is so wrong, its disgusting and prevalent in other areas of Sydney as well.

## **THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT**

**Name:** Paul Whalen

**Date received:** 27 March 2024

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I am opposed to the redevelopment of the Golf course into a 9 hole course.

\* The current significant green areas which surround the good are hardly used by the people living in the area - except for the occasional dog walkers. What was the basis for determining a need for more green space?

\* The proposal refers to “green open space”. It is not clear if there will be provision for recreational and social facilities for families. The population growth predicted for the South Sydney area will be largely comprised of young families - if there are no recreational and social facilities, they will not use the open space.

\* With the extensive development of high density housing in the area over recent years, Council has failed to ensure that these developments provide adequate open space for residents. They are now trying to make up for this by taking away a long established recreational venue.

\* Moore Park golf course is one of the, if not the oldest “public” golf courses in Australia. It is used as a recreational facility by Sydney residents from all walks of life - it is not an exclusive club for the wealthy.

\* Centennial Park is very near the proposed development - and it also has significant and lightly used open space.

\* I am a member of the local target community for the redevelopment. I am also a member of the golf course, which allows me to play both socially and competitively. Competitive golfers in particular will not be interested in joining a 9 hole golf club.

\* So my current recreational benefit is being taken away from me, and I will need to find an alternative course to join. I've heard it said that there are a number of other courses in the area that members can move to. This is a false premise, as these are exclusive private courses with long waiting lists for joining, not to mention that they are very expensive to join - and well outside my financial means.

In summary I feel that this proposal is based on the false premise that the space will actually be used by the target group of young families living in the South Sydney area. And that it is taking away a current recreational facility which is widely used and highly valued by the local community.

## **THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT**

**Name:** Joel Williams

**Date received:** 12 March 2024

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There are very few sports men and women over 50 can play.

Golf is one of them.

Golf offers the opportunity to maintain fitness and agility, spend time in green space, and socialise. All important as we age.

Moore Park Golf is one of the few public golf courses anywhere near the city of Sydney. The population within an easy drive or public transport to Moore Park is huge.

Nine holes halves the capacity of the course and considerably detracts from the game overall that is designed for 18 holes.

The last thing the City of Sydney or the State Government should be doing is removing access to public golf courses given the benefits to players.

The City of Sydney and the State Government should have planned for adequate green space for residents of Waterloo and Zetland when they approved the high density developments there and not try to steal it from what is already a recreational sport space now.