

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

**Name:** Selda

**Date received:** 29 March 2024

---

Sharing feedback as an owner and resident of Kensington/Moore Park area for over 30 years.

As a resident who lives and overlooks the Moore Park golf course, I am not of favour of introducing night golf as this will only create increased noise and lighting will need to go up in order for people to golf, which will mean residents nearby will be impacted.

I've also signed a petition against night golf and hope that this will be addressed.

Thank you for your understanding

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

**Name:** Fabian A

**Date received:** 26 February 2024

---

Just wanted to say I was very disappointed by the lack of detail in the discussion paper.

The lack of detail makes it pretty much impossible to make a proper submission on the future of the area.

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

**Name:** Peter Abbott

**Date received:** 28 February 2024

---

I use Moore Park golf course and driving range weekly it gives me plenty of exercise and a good social life with other people at the age of 72 it is a great way to stay healthy. There is plenty of parkland surrounding the course already and I hardly see anyone use it and furthermore when the planning was done for all the tall buildings with thousands of apartments were was the planning for green space for those buildings and now you want the golf course I am still alive and VOTE.

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

**Name:** Vincent Acton

**Date received:** 8 April 2024

---

The proposal to turn half of this golf course into a park is a shockingly short sighted, knee jerk response to poor planning by government.

This public golf course is a jewel - a priceless asset to an international city.

Please don't let this be lost.

## THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT

**Name:** Julianne Adamo

**Date received:** 21 March 2024 and 7 April 2024

---

I am not a golfer, but I am an observer.

Why is the council and State Government getting rid of:

1. One of Sydney's biggest Tourist Attractions Tourists love this golf attraction that is SO close to the CBD.
2. My hubby is a member of Moore Park Golf Club. Nearly every time he plays, his game is joined by visiting overseas golfers...This week it was 2 Americans ... last week some Canadians.
3. It just does NOT make sense to remove such a fabulous tourist facility and turn it into very little used parkland.
4. Has the council and State Govt decision makers ever observed the use of the CBD course... the Golf Club is surrounded by parkland ... often with only one walker taking a dog for a walk!! Yet the golf course is heaving with people!! the car park is totally full cars are also parked on the grass.
5. It does not make sense - because of a few people's whims. To slice up a wonderful Tourist Attraction, to give the public more parkland (while the surrounding green parkland is very poorly used. Remember - Centennial Park is only around the corner...
6. There is NO other public golf course that is in the City that is close to the tourists.

\*\*\*

Why is the Sydney City Council Destroying one of Sydney's Major Tourist Attractions... being the Moore Park Golf Course.

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

**Name:** Sandra Alexander

**Date received:** 5 March 2024

---

I am totally opposed to any changes to the Moore Park golf course NORTH of Dacey Avenue, as per the marked area in the map provided in the Discussion paper.

I would support a proposal to provide public parkland in the section of the golf course SOUTH of Dacey Avenue.

Areas adjacent to the section proposed offer substantial space to people living in adjacent areas. A park is more urgently needed in the area SOUTH of Dacey Avenue.

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

**Name:** Gulay Algin

**Date received:** 7 March 2024

---

I highly recommend that Moore Park Golf Course to remain as a public 18 hole golf course.

Night golf will draw lots of outside people into Moore Park. It will be lit at night which is distracting for people trying to have a good night sleep that live near the Golf Course - plus increase in noise levels etc.

Lights will be very disturbing for people who own apartments facing the Moore Park.

I object to this new development. It should stay as a 18 hole golf course as being Raleigh Park resident and owner.

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

**Name:** Robert Allen

**Date received:** 6 April 2024

---

All that I can see is green, green, green all around the Course. Centennial Park, Moore Park Recreational Reserve and the area to the North of Sydney Boys High School are extensive and would fit into places where people living in the area could simply relax or exercise. There is no where else in Sydney that affords such a massive area for these activities.

To me it appears that some woke, self serving, petty minded people are hell bent on destroying a golf course (a game that they are not skilled enough or interested enough to play) which has a history of State pride offering to overseas visitors a place close to the CBD where one can get a game of golf.

It will serve no positive purpose to destroy Moore Park Golf just to provide even more space than most suburbs have for sport, recreation, functional activities etc.



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

**Name:** Dominic Antico

**Date received:** 19 March 2024

---

As a cyclist, can I insist that the current shared track around Moore Park is far too narrow to cater to pedestrians as well as cycles. The problem begins on the passover bridge. Added foot traffic would make the path almost impossible to share.

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

**Name:** Michael Arcidiacono

**Date received:** 5 March 2024

---

Please make no changes to Moore Park. Stop building pathways and buildings! It's a park. Specifically regarding the proposal to bulldoze part of the public golf course, informed people such as myself are opposed.

1. The public golf course is one of the main reliable sources of income for the Centennial Parklands. That land is held in trust permanently, or it's meant to be. Decreasing the size of the golf course jeopardises the viability of Centennial Parklands. It's outrageous that you're even considering it. How dare you.
2. This is the only public golf course in the area. Clover Moore seems to have an ideological bias about golf, that it's only for millionaires. Please, disregard your blatant bias against normal people who play golf and leave them alone. Leave them be. Why do you hate low income people?
3. Golf is an in-demand, structured, social, low-impact health activity for elderly people. Removing a public golf course? Why do you hate old people?
4. Putting careless dog walkers adjacent to a golf course is a public liability nightmare. Everyone hit by a golf ball if you change this should personally sue Clover Moore and Alex Greenwich.
5. There are already dog walking parks all over the place. Don't steal Moore Park.
6. Sydney Council hosts dozens of hectares of existing parklands, as they say regularly in their regular advertising to residents. If Sydney Council feels they are deficient in parklands for Waterloo, that's their terrible urban planning to blame. Thousands of hectares of industrial and commercial land was rezoned by them over the last 40 years to create high density apartments which will dominate the landscape for a dozen generations. If they want extra parkland, they should have planned properly and purchased a rezoned block of industrial land in Waterloo or Zetland to create another park. If that's what this is really about - parkland for future apartment residents and securing votes. If their urban planning has failed, don't take it out on existing land users such as the common people who drive 15 year old Toyotas to the public golf course. The wasteland bounded by Danks St, Young St, McEvoy and Bourke Street has been derelict for 30+ years, perhaps zone that to parkland and: LEAVE US ALONE.

Happy to be contacted regarding this. I love my city, stop destroying it.

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

**Name:** Julie Armour

**Date received:** 20 April 2024

---

I heard a fantastic BBC podcast on Radio National this morning about the design of children's play areas at a school in Illinois, USA by Danish designers. An essential part of that program was to allow children to design elements of the play areas in conjunction with the designers. It would seem like a great opportunity to involve local state primary school kids in the design of such areas. Just a suggestion!

## THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT

**Name:** Saurabh Arora

**Date received:** 8 May 2024

---

I am writing to express my **enthusiastic support** for the city's plan to **replace** 20 hectares of Moore Park Golf Course with a new park. This initiative demonstrates a forward-thinking approach to urban planning that prioritizes green spaces and community well-being, and I commend the city for considering such a positive change.

As a resident of North Sydney and regular commuter to the eastern suburbs, I believe that converting part of the golf course into a park will greatly benefit our community. Parks play a crucial role in promoting physical and mental health, fostering social interactions, and enhancing the overall quality of life for residents. By creating a new park in this area, the city will provide much-needed green space for recreation, relaxation, and enjoyment for current and future generations.

Furthermore, I urge the city to strongly consider an additional proposal to build a wide walking-cycling bridge over the M1 expressway and Anzac Parade much like the Albert 'Tibby' Cotter Walkway which already exists in Moore Park West. This bridge would serve as a vital connection between the inner suburbs of Waterloo, Zetland, and beyond to the Eastern Suburbs and Beaches via the new park. Additionally, it would establish a link between this new park and Centennial Park, effectively addressing the east-west divide created by past car-centric design choices.

Such a bridge would not only improve accessibility and connectivity within the city but also promote sustainable modes of transportation, such as walking and cycling. It would encourage residents to embrace healthier lifestyles while reducing traffic congestion and carbon emissions, aligning with the city's goals for a greener and more sustainable future.

In conclusion, I **urge** the city to move forward with the plan to replace Moore Park Golf Course with a new park and *to seriously consider the proposal for a walking-cycling bridge*. These initiatives have the potential to enhance the livability and vibrancy of our city while promoting environmental sustainability and social equity.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to seeing these exciting developments come to fruition.

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

**Name:** Andrea Austin

**Date received:** 22 March 2024

---

I will be really disappointed if Moore Park is turned into a 9 hole course. To say it is elitist is rubbish - this is a public course that anybody can play at. The busiest golf course in the Southern Hemisphere and somewhere Sydney should be proud of.

This week I played 9 holes at Cammeray- a 9 hole course on the North Shore. It was an absolute waste of time and I will never go back there.

No park is ever used 24/7.

So much parkland locally.

Within 1km Moore Park Bat & Ball oval, ES Marks Athletics, Tramway Oval, Redfern Park, the big strip of green between the tram and the big stadiums SCG, SFS and the old Sydney Showground not to mention the beginning of 189ha at Centennial Park!

At 2km we can now include Randwick Racecourse, Redfern Park and other smaller green areas.

At 3km we now have Hyde Park in the city, Rushcutters Bay & more.

Please keep the golf course for those who want to play and not be a member of an exclusive club. This is an affordable option for many people. If you need to let more people use it – extend the hours by lighting.

Have you ever been past Moore Park and not seen anybody there? Unlike many of the other parks I have mentioned.

The golf course also provides far more natural habitat than any of the ovals, stadiums or the racecourse nearby.

Golf is an amazing game -apparently golfers live an extra 7 years... face it people are out in the fresh air, exercising and socialising.

So many benefits.

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

**Name:** Albert Babazogli

**Date received:** 28 February 2024

---

I recently reviewed the discussion paper regarding the reclaiming of Moore Park Golf Course. This proposal is nothing short of a disgrace. Moore Park is, and has been for many years, an extremely important recreation facility for Moore Park members and public golf enthusiasts.

### **IT SHOULD BE LEFT ALONE.**

There is plenty of green space next to Moore Park so there should be no need to reclaim half of the golf course. The fact people think there's more green space required probably stems from bad city planning. That area has been over developed and clearly no thought was given to green space prior to approving all the developments.

Please do all golf enthusiasts a favour and leave Moore Park alone. It's a terrific recreational facility serving the community well.

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

**Name:** Laurie Baldwin

**Date received:** 7 April 2024

---

Maybe you could trade giving up the driving range. Caged practice nets as an alternative. I play a 9 hole course. Works very well.

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

**Name:** Martin Barbon

**Date received:** 27 February 2024

---

I'm finding it interesting that nobody has ever mentioned the cost of remediation or ongoing upkeep.

This project will cost millions of dollars and to be honest I just don't see more people utilising the space than the golfers who currently do so.

On top of the land remediation the ongoing upkeep will cost millions. This is money not well spent when you see the amount of unused green space that is in the vicinity.

I'm finding it hard to not be cynical and expect that after years of disuse all of a sudden high rise apartments will be miraculously approved on the site.

Also having a championship golf course that is publicly available in the city is a great asset. The others are private and it is a massive draw card for visitors to the city.

FYI I am not a member of Moore Park Golf Course.



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

**Name:** Doug Bellingham

**Date received:** 29 February 2024

---

It seems to me that the decision is already made and part of the golf course will be returned.

However Moore Park and the NSW government has a unique chance to be at the forefront of changing golf.

The course should be changed to 12 holes, not 9. 12 holes would still allow for the front/back experience in a way 9 holes doesn't.

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

**Name:** Annie Benjamin

**Date received:** 10 April 2024

---

I am about to retire and have been anticipating more time to commence playing regular golf which has until now been a less regular pastime.

I love the Moore Park golf course and appreciate its inner city ambiance and historic value.

I strongly oppose reducing it to a 9 hole golf course. There are currently many large parks and areas of recreation in the same vicinity; I do not believe that the need to increase public parkland is sufficiently urgent to reduce the golf course. The course is available to the public and is a wonderful amenity for those of us who cannot afford a private membership.

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

**Name:** Shane Benton

**Date received:** 8 April 2024

---

I must vocalise my sheer disappointment at the decision to take away half of one of the best inner city public golf courses in the world. In an area where public green space is in abundance, I can clearly see this is a political move to appease property developers and other business leaders with financial interests at heart.

It really is a shame that golfers who cannot afford a membership at a private club in the city (which is most people earning under \$180,000 a year, the vast majority) will have the best public course taken from them. Moore Park golf brings in a lot of money to the taxpayer, making record profits for the council owned land each year. Now this is to be taken away at the cost of the taxpayer, who will also no doubt foot the bill for these new ideas that are being circulated. It really is scandalous and there is absolute shame on the decision makers behind this atrocity.

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

**Name:** Michael Bernhardt

**Date received:** 5 March 2024

---

I totally disagree with the Moore Park South proposal and don't want it touched at all. It's a nice golf course and is perfect as is and suits the area completely well.

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

**Name:** Stephen Bibby

**Date received:** 25 March 2024

---

What an asset for any city to have! I have only walked part of the course on a visit to Sydney but would readily play next time I am in the area. Closing facilities like this that are so well used and enjoyed by so many is short sighted and an insult to forebears. For those who think it is an indulgence to a particular group – maybe we should apply the same criteria to theatres, cinemas, public parks, botanical gardens etc. Once this asset is gone, it's gone.

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

**Name:** Gene Black

**Date received:** 7 April 2024

---

I have already added my name to the list 'opposing' the changes to Moore Park Golf Course from 18 holes to 9!

Now I would like to submit the following to back up my opposition.

Having a 19 hole public golf course that currently offers green space to those living in the area, those who do not and those who visit Sydney city and considering cutting the course to 9 holes will ...

Limit the enjoyment to golfers their freedom, relaxation and peace of mind.

Could the Government be considering exchanging more open space from Moore Park Golf course site to benefit those living on the East Village side that has been overbuilt without including sufficient open space?

Now the Government further wants to have the 9 holes available nite and day with the lighting, extra noise, more groundsmen on the job with both day and night golf to be played will not allow peace of mind, sleep with the extra noise and lighting effecting those living in each of the Raleigh Park unit blocks along this course.

Night and day golf would best be offered to those wanting to play 9 or 18 holes in an area with more open space!

Perhaps the Government might consider including a city venue offering 'inside' golf that would be available to all and allow play night and day as well as on rainy days?

A concerned owner

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

**Name:** Zahava Bloch

**Date received:** 4 March 2024

---

I am going to get straight to the point with this one. Accept my apologies but I am getting tired of City of Sydney Council do things without thought for their current and future residents. I oppose the reduction of the golf course to 9 holes for the following reasons.

I have been a local to this area all of my 58 years. While I don't play golf, my father did and I have lots of family and friends who do. In fact a number of them are regulars to the Moore Park Golf Course.

I fear that you are only going through the motions as you have already given the idea of having a recreational park on half of the golf course a proper name.

I am tired of how council and government are taking established green spaces, in this case a well used public golf course which has a number of businesses on site, and claiming the space for public use. This shows a complete lack of planning on behalf of council and government as they should have thought of the green space when planning the medium to high density housing been approved.

I fear that the remaining 9 holes will disappear as the families who have businesses on site will have to close. As usual, council and government have no concept at how much time, energy and money it takes to run these businesses and council and government seem to have no issue ruining peoples lives.

A 9 hole golf course will never be taken seriously. You can not run competitions on a small course and it will never attract any international interest.

This is a public course for a reason. It is surrounded by many private courses which are unaffordable to quite a large portion of the golfing community.

This brings me onto the big point. It is the start of then claiming the remaining 9 holes and selling it off for development. I think the area has had enough of that.

There has been no increase in things to support the increase of population like Public transport, Hospitals, Schools, Improvement to sewerage and electricity and other utilities, Roads and footpaths And lets be honest, there will be no improvement

to the above because there is no room to do it and council and government do not want to spend the money on this. If they did, we would have better services already.

In conclusion, I want council and government to drop this idea. Plan your growth better.



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

**Name:** Andrew Borschtsch

**Date received:** 15 March 2024

---

Keep Moore Park south as an 18 Hole golf course, there is so much parkland on offer in the area already (centennial park is literally a 5 minute walk from the location). Adding more parkland adds absolutely no additional value and removes the value that the course already provides to those who use it.

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

**Name:** Roger Brighton

**Date received:** 9 April 2024

---

I am a regular user.

Moore Park is unique in being the most readily accessible course to the CBD and accessible to the general public. It is ALREADY available to all and a very valuable green space.

Why remove a very popular recreational space and interfere with “the lungs of the City “just to create another?

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

**Name:** Michael Britt

**Date received:** 6 April 2024

---

A recent 12 month survey of bird species, both local and migratory, supported by Lingen (Ems) golf course in Northern Germany identified over 140 species, some near extinction.

Has such a comprehensive survey of birds, insects and animals been conducted at Moore Park?

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

**Name:** Les Browne

**Date received:** 4 April 2024

---

I am a keen golfer and have a passion for the preservation of the history of the game in Australia.

Over the years I have enjoyed, playing the 18 hole course so I strongly object to the proposed 9 hole course for the following reasons:

- It was founded in 1913 and became the first public access golf course in NSW. Preserving the history of the game, via early courses is paramount.
- The course is easily accessible and within my budget.
- Some years ago the whole course was upgraded, at considerable cost, to a championship standard which has made it a good challenge for my game.
- In inner Sydney and the Eastern Suburbs there are a number of golf courses, most of which are private. Moore Park provides the opportunity for myself and others, who are not able to join an expensive club, a top class course to play at a reasonable cost.
- Such a reduction would result in significant loss of availability of tee times.
- I don't understand the requirement for additional open space. From my observation there is significant areas adjacent to the course, mostly with very little usage.

Please don't destroy a wonderful facility that has served Sydney for over 100 years.

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

**Name:** Christine Byrne

**Date received:** 5 April 2024

---

Put a drone up and see how used and busy the golf club is compared to the parkland next door that is never used.

## THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT

**Name:** Geoff Byron

**Date received:** 29 February 2024 and 10 April 2024

---

Representations from long term resident.

I am somewhat alarmed to hear of this news, of the planned reclaiming of the Moore Park Golf Course, considering this same proposal was raised in 2020 / 2021 and which was defeated, by the public voting against the biased proposal. I question how Clover Moore, and her council can once again, go against public sentiment, and submit this proposal to the Minns Labour Government, who without public consultation, announced his Government would re-claim half the Moore Park Golf Course, and return it to the local residents of Sydney South only, and not the people of NSW, as open green space.

We the local public have already submitted our objections to this proposal in 2020 / 2021, including myself. Although not being a golfer, with this proposal once again being submitted to a new Government for consideration, I find it somewhat offensive, bordering on corruption. I perceive both Clover Moore and Linda Scott are attempting to use their public office, to influence the new NSW State Premier, Mr Chris Minns, and agree with this revisited proposal. The public have already spoken on this matter, and the 2022 result should be respected, and this proposal rejected, and abandoned.

Reasons why this proposal should be rejected include:

1. The 2020/2021 survey conducted by the City of Sydney Council, and ordered by the sitting Mayor, Ms Clover Moore, was of a poor standard, with only 402 residents within the City of Sydney Council area phone surveyed, and I question whether or not it was conducted by an independent organisation;
2. Of what Online surveys, along with written submissions were taken, 50% were opposed to reclaiming land from the Moore Park Golf Course. This failed proposal should be respected, and accepted by Governments, at all levels.
3. The Moore Park Golf Course is a Public Golf Course, which is owned by the people of NSW, and not just a couple of suburbs within the City of Sydney Council area. The Moore Park Golf is therefore well utilised, with many golfers not being able to afford the high prices charged by surrounding private Golf Courses.
4. The council areas surrounding the Moore Park Golf Course, already enjoy sufficient parkland to enjoy, and toilet their dogs, except for the Green Square and Rosebery areas perhaps, and who in my opinion, would not be willing to walk the distance to the section of Moore Park Golf Course which is ear marked to be re-claimed.
5. It was a failure by the City of Sydney Council and NSW State Government to ensure sufficient green space was set aside, when developing the presidential areas in question. Instead of lobbying developers to set aside sufficient green space, both government entities appear to want to take the easy way out, by simply re-claiming sports grounds from the people of NSW.

6. Should both government entities not be brave enough to reclaim half the surrounding football fields / cricket grounds, for the purpose of returning it to the people as 'open green space', how can they justify it acceptable, by targeting one sport, being Golf?
7. Our past great leaders divided up these lands fairly, and equally, when it was donated back to the people many years ago. All future sports, and recreational needs, were taken into consideration, and I would suggest these such allotments remain fair and equitable today. No one sport should be targeted alone, without other sports agreeing to return land as well.
8. I submit the Moore Park Golf Course is aesthetically pleasing to the eye, by we passing residents who are walking by in the surrounding parkland. Its grounds are untouched by cemented footpath, sealed cycleways and children play areas, which already exist and surround this golf course. The golf grounds are well maintained, unlike the poorly kept parks under the control of the City of Sydney Council, who appear not to have sufficient enough funds to maintain what parks they currently have.
9. I respectfully submit the Moore Park Golf Course would be left untouched and remain as open green space for the sport of golf, and for we residents to admire.

Please feel free to contact me and discuss this proposal, and my objection.

\*\*\*

I am writing to object to the proposed reclaiming of the Moore Park Golf Course, under the false claim more open green space is required to cater for future increases in the population along the Sydney South corridor. I totally reject this claim, when it is clearly evident there is sufficient open green space already available in this area it wit, Bat and Ball Park/Oval and surrounding green space around its borders, Moore Park West, Moore Park East, Moore Park, and Centennial Park, along with the nearby Sydney Park should those residents of Green Square wish to have a choice. As such, I submit, these existing green space spaces are more than sufficient to cater of any future increase in the population of Sydney City South corridor.

I was somewhat alarmed to hear of this news, considering this same proposal was raised in 2020 / 2021 and which was defeated, by the public voting against the biased proposal. I question how Clover Moore, and her council can once again, go against public sentiment, and submit this proposal to the Minns Labour Government, who without public consultation, announced his Government would re-claim half the Moore Park Golf Course, and return it to the people as open green space. What makes this proposal more offensive and less credible, is the fact the proposal seeks to reclaim the largest section of the Moore Park Golf Course

We the local public have already submitted our objections to this proposal in 2020 / 2021, including myself. Although not being a golfer, with this proposal once again being submitted to a new Government for consideration, I find it somewhat offensive, bordering on corruption. I perceive both Clover Moore and Linda Scott are attempting to use their public office, to influence the new NSW State Premier, Mr Chris Minns, and agree with this revisited proposal, for personal gain. The public have already spoken on this matter, and the 2022 result should be respected, and this proposal rejected, and abandoned.

Reasons why this proposal should be rejected include:

1. The 2020/2021 survey conducted by the City of Sydney Council, and ordered by the sitting Mayor, Ms Clover Moore, was of a poor standard, with only 402 residents within the City of Sydney Council area phone surveyed, and I question whether or not it was conducted by an independent organisation;
2. Of what Online surveys, along with written submissions were taken, 50% were opposed to reclaiming land from the Moore Park Golf Course. This failed proposal should be respected, and accepted by Governments, at all levels.
3. The Moore Park Golf Course is a Public Golf Course, which is owned by the people of NSW, and not just a couple of suburbs within the City of Sydney Council area. The Moore Park Golf is therefore well utilised, with many golfers not being able to afford the high prices charged by surrounding private Golf Courses.
4. The council areas surrounding the Moore Park Golf Course, already enjoy sufficient parkland to enjoy, and toilet their dogs, except for the Green Square and Rosebery areas perhaps, and who in my opinion, would not be willing to walk the distance to the section of Moore Park Golf Course which is ear marked to be re-claimed, with the nearby Sydney Park for suitable for their needs.
5. It was a failure by the City of Sydney Council and NSW State Government to ensure sufficient green space was set aside, when developing the presidential areas in question. Instead of lobbying developers to set aside sufficient green space, both government entities appear to want to take the easy way out, by simply re-claiming sports grounds from the people of NSW.
6. Should both government entities not be brave enough to reclaim half the surrounding football fields / cricket grounds, for the purpose of returning it to the people as 'open green space', how can they justify it acceptable, by targeting one sport, being Golf?
7. Our past great leaders divided up these lands fairly, and equally, when it was donated back to the people many years ago. All future sports, and recreational needs, were taken into consideration, and I would suggest these such allotments remain fair and equitable today. No one sport should be targeted alone, without other sports agreeing to return land as well.
8. I submit the Moore Park Golf Course is aesthetically pleasing to the eye, by we passing residents who are walking by in the surrounding parkland. Its grounds are untouched by cemented footpath, sealed cycleways and children play areas, which already exist and surround this golf course. The golf grounds are well maintained, unlike the poorly kept parks under the control of the City of Sydney Council, who appear not to have sufficient enough funds to maintain what parks they currently have.
9. I respectfully submit the Moore Park Golf Course would be left untouched, and remain as open green space for the sport of golf, and for we residents to admire and enjoy.
10. The existing open green space is sufficient to cater for any increase in the population of Sydney City South area.

Please feel free to contact me and discuss this proposal, and my objection.



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

**Name:** Lawrence Cannings

**Date received:** 28 March 2024

---

I will say at the beginning I am not a golfer and do not have any interest in golf. I note however a lot of people like golf and I have signed the petition to leave Moore Park golf club as is and to oppose the government's plans to cannibalise the course.

I have driven around the area of Zetland and the area bordered by Bourke Street, Lachlan Avenue and South Dowling Street. There are many blocks of units and all quite close together. There are a lot of tree lined streets but I doubt the trees will grow to be substantial, like Moreton Bay figs etc. The trees do not look as if they will be a haven for birds or wildlife. There are a few parks in the area but I could not see any sporting facilities such as basketball courts which seem to be a favourite of young people these days.

The government proposal is for half the Moore Park golf area to be dedicated to the residents across South Dowling Street. It is said they need the green space. I do not disagree with this but if they do need this why was this not taken into account when the area was first mooted for development? Isn't that called planning? How is it the NSW Government and City of Sydney are only thinking of this now? Who exactly is the authority responsible for all the buildings in this area? I didn't think it was Sydney City Council although it may be. I thought some private corporation had been given control of the area. Whoever was and is in charge, what plans did they and the state government make to cater for the influx of people? Why take away an existing facility from golfers who do not have the money to go to one of the private clubs?

I see the old Municipal Water Board site is still empty. Why cannot that be made into a park instead of cannibalising what already exists. There is enough room there for a football pitch plus basketball courts. It looks however that it is going to be developed into units as well which is a lost opportunity to have a park there.

If the golf park gets converted what facilities will there be there and how will people access it? Will access be through the area where the golf club house presently is or will there be another access road from Dacey Avenue? Walking across what is now basically a freeway is a somewhat arduous task. Is there going to be a tunnel under South Dowling Street or a bridge over it? I have no doubt people will go by car. That will mean more congestion in an already congested area. Does it also mean that a fair chunk of the new park will be taken up with a car park? When I look at Heffron park I can see over the years it has shrunk from a green space to a car park with sporting facilities. Is that what is going to happen to this part of Moore Park?

I trust this plan, if that is what it is, does not go ahead. Develop the old water Board site into a proper green and sporting space for the residents that side.

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

**Name:** Martin Carey

**Date received:** 9 April 2024

---

I have been playing golf at Moore Park for over 35 years and joined as a member in 2019.

As a long term resident of both Sydney City and the Inner West, I have been fortunate to have convenient access to this amazing facility. I have hosted many work, family and friendship groups at this course. The general reaction from my guests is how Sydney is blessed to have such a high quality golf course, so close to the city, yet easily accessible to all.

My experience as a member is very positive. The golfing club is run by a dedicated group of volunteers who bring professional and modern attitudes to the game. All age groups, gender, handicap level, background, in general all walks of life, are treated equally. There is no wealthy elite that dominate membership, if anything it is truly representative of 21st century Sydney. The board and all members support and encourage the diverse and harmonious collection of individuals who make up the over 700 regular members of the club.

Recently retired, I am looking forward to becoming a more regular player, and benefiting from the social, mental and physical aspects of the game of golf.

So it was with great dismay I heard our elected politicians were planning to re purpose half the course into passive recreational land for adjacent residents. In doing so this excellent 18 hole layout would be reduced to 9 holes. 9 hole golf is not worth the trouble for majority of players. It would not qualify as a course suitable for competition use, either internal or external competitions. Our highly competitive pennants teams, interclub golfers, youth development squads would not have a club if the layout was reduced to 9 holes. And the literally hundreds of members who now call this club home would cease their involvement and the Moore Park Golf Club would likely not survive. There are other golf clubs in the area, but they are either private or over 10k from city centre. Not only would current members and social players be de motivated from playing at Moore Park, they would have a challenge finding a suitable new course to join. In summary, net result of Moore Park being reduced to 9 hole course is decimation of great layout and denial of high quality golfing experience for thousands of member and social golfers annually.

I understand the need for recreational space within any town or city. And there is probably pressure from developers to see council and state government spend money collected from developer contributions on creating open space. But I don't understand why the golf course has to be cannibalized to achieve this target. Both council and state government have had ample opportunity over the decades to put aside land for future use as

recreational space. But for some reason this has not happened. Classic example is the Sydney Water property surrounding the pump station at Bourke St being sold off to developers when it would have been ideal size and location for park. Even now there are substantial holdings in Alexandria and Waterloo being sold off as potential residential development sites. A quick check on internet shows sites for sale in Botany st, Waterloo and Ricketty Street Mascot. Why are these properties not purchased by governments for use as parks?

And Moore Park, while adjacent to residential area can only be accessed safely by one bridge, there is nil provision for any vehicular access, anyone living more than a few hundred metres of Southern Cross Drive would rarely venture with pram or dog on leash to this park. I feel future residents of Alexandria and Waterloo would be better served with smaller local parks containing a playing field for locals sporting club with a playground or passive recreational space adjoining. Surely these smaller pockets of land (max 2ha in area) could be excised from the existing jumble of buildings the authorities plan to demolish and reconstruct. Or purchase land that is currently on market and use for parkland.

The other question I have is has cost for repurposing golf course been considered? The course was remodelled over 20 years ago and there is evidence large amounts of toxic waste and asbestos were buried on site. Possibly the mound between 17th and 18th fairways. Also the cost of amenities blocks, lighting, services, furniture, design, consultants, remediation, detailed landscaping, could easily range between 50 to 100 million dollars and take 5 years from inception to completion. These figures are based on a recent project, the transformation of one hectare of Callan Park being repurposed to a modern passive recreational space, cost about \$10 million, duration about 4 years (still not finished). This is not a criticism of anyone, just a statement of fact of construction process and cost in Sydney. And if an additional pedestrian bridge across Southern Cross Drive is deemed necessary to provide safe access, don't expect any change from \$50 million.

I'm not confident authorities have undertaken business studies or commenced detail planning and costings for the proposal. The day will come when the back 9 is fenced off, a new government comes in and says there are insufficient funds and the once great back 9 becomes an overgrown wasteland lying idle for years.

I believe there are better ways to provide for the outdoor recreational needs of the thousands living west of Southern Cross Drive and preserve Moore Park as it is.

Best option as discussed above is authorities purchase or allocate smaller pockets of land 1 to 2 ha, and create local parks and playing fields. Easier access for all and sporting fields for various codes.

If golf course has to provide for recreational space within its boundaries, I suggest shared pathways around perimeter, mainly down south of 6th hole and west of 7th and connecting Southern Cross Drive with rear of TS Marks field. Safety fences can be erected. A good example of this is Massey Park golf club at Cabarita. This golf course happily and safely co exists with popular waterfront promenade. Maybe other pathways could be created within the golf course using suitable safety screen's. From recent observations of adjacent open space near Sydney high school, the vast open areas are empty. I have observed on numerous occasions, different times different days not one person using the wide open grasslands adjacent to high school. From my observations, the modern park user is either cycling, walking, jogging along pathways or sitting under tree, shaded, maybe reading or using bbq facilities.

So I urge the leaders and decision makers to leave this golf institution as is, for over 120 years it has provided for the common man and woman to pursue golf in its higher form.

Please consider other options for recreational space for the residents west of southern cross drive. I'm confident if these residents were consulted they would agree with the importance of preserving Moore Park as it is, and local parks to be created within the existing residential precinct.

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

**Name:** Chris Carr

**Date received:** 27 March 2024

---

The old Avoca golf course was replaced by schools.

The old Randwick golf course was replaced by the upper campus of UNSW.

And now they want to reduce Moore Park which is surrounded by acres of open space!

## THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT

**Name:** John Cater

**Date received:** 30 March 2024

---

I am against the change to the golf course

1. Council has the funds to buy or re purpose other areas
2. Council collects developer contributions and should be using these and reserve areas from developers to provide space
3. There is the option to redesign the course and still keep 18 holes
4. If the 18 holes is lost there will never be an opportunity for a public course this close to the city
5. This course and driving range generates substantial revenue will be lost and is used to fund maintenance in the parklands
6. This is an affordable way for people to play golf
7. The government also collects developer contributions which could be used together with council to buy or repurpose assets
8. The course is used by a wide section of the population not just nearby residents and a large cohort of NSW residents should be canvassed not just city of Sydney residents.
9. This proposed change has been rushed and other alternatives and reports have not been produced.

I look forward to your response.

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

**Name:** Colin Chapman

**Date received:** 8 April 2024

---

Thank you for the opportunity to have my say in regard to the proposed change of Moore Park Golf Course from the existing 18 hole championship course to a 9 hole average course.

Golfers of all genders and age constantly travel to play golf at significant golf courses around the world and Moore Park golf club welcomes so many of them to our great city of Sydney.

Along with many, many thousands of Sydney side residents and interstate visitors this historic golf club welcomes them all, it is a club and course that is open to the public, women, men and children of all ages and golf competency are welcomed.

This 18 hole public golf course is a huge asset to Sydney and NSW.

The difference playing between an 18 hole course and a 9 hole course is immense, and it is completely understandable that non golfing people have no idea of the difference, and can easily propose a change to 9 holes.

After 84 years of my life experiences and golf playing I'm confident I can predict that no international or interstate players would travel to Sydney or NSW to play at a 9 hole golf course and indeed many thousands of local residents I'm sure would feel the same.

To virtually neuter the existing golf course to create more park land is ludicrous, there surely is more current undeveloped and not used parkland spaces within the Centennial Parklands that could be developed by far sighted men and women in power to do so.

Such areas could be developed into many, many fabulous boutique picnic and BBQ areas with easy access parking from the existing road networks within Centennial Park, we need today's visionaries to pursue other options than just cutting up the 18 hole Moore Park golf course.

In today's society I'm sure very few families walk to a park to have a picnic or bbq and if as we are told the users of the new park will come mainly from the new high density areas of Green Square, Zetland, Rosebery etc if they are walking to the new park how will they cross The Eastern Distributor Motorway?

Most modern families drive to their picnic sites, just look at any existing parkland in Sydney metro area to see this.

If indeed they drive, how will they access the new park and where will they park their vehicles, will much of the newly proposed park land be cemented and bituminated over?

How much of what is now beautiful grass land and gorgeous mature trees will be lost to create roads, parking areas and picnic table and bbq plots and other amenities.?

One proposal I have seen is to build a "Put Put" golf precinct, how much grass land will be concreted over to build this?

Surely the people who have the power to make such significant changes for the future, I sincerely hope, have the energy and far sightedness to explore other options than just cutting Moore Park golf course in half.

Far sightedness to be able to see like our founding forefathers did!

As the wonderful city of Sydney and the great state of NSW moves into the future with a public Golf course, historic and substantial at Moore Park that makes an attraction to all local, interstate and international people, creating an offer that surely will be unique amongst cities of the world.

My hope is that just one powerful person who can effect change reads my comments and opens further discussions.



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

**Name:** Paul Chappell

**Date received:** 25 March 2024

---

You want to close an accessible public course next to high density housing that your planning completely messed up. You've got to be kidding.

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

**Name:** Chen Family

**Date received:** 07 April 2024

---

We are expecting the future parkland should be open for all ages group of people. Here are our suggestions as following:

- 1) Bicycle and scooter park for kids and safe.
- 2) 10KM Jogging lane.
- 3) Outdoor sport facilities, such as stretching, ping pong.
- 4) Indoor multipurpose sports facilities, gymnastics, rock climbing etc.
- 5) Adventure playground for all kids, includes water features, sliding, climbing.
- 6) Cafe, Toilets, sitting area with cover, drinking bubblers
- 7) A maze garden for kids and walk.
- 8) Picnic area, restricted from dogs.
- 9) Dogs park to be separated.

## THE FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH – EARLY ENGAGEMENT

**Name:** Lucy Child

**Date received:** 9 April 2024

---

### SUMMARY

This submission strongly recommends *retaining Moore Park Golf Course as an 18 hole championship public course*. Sensible reasons and options are provided further below, and summarised here;

Option 1 - Do nothing; retain existing golf course

Option 2 - Modernise; make safer by improving existing paths (pedestrian and cycle) surrounding the golf course and retain the existing golf course

Option 3 - Future Proof; add an additional 6 holes to the existing 18 hole championship public course catering for population growth and long term revenue.

I encourage the NSW Government via GSP to

- a) Extend the lease asap well past 2026 on the Moore Park South Land for the purposes of continuing the 18 hole championship public course.
- b) Properly do a current analysis, including an economic cost benefit and timeline, and present proposals to everyone's benefit that include retaining the 18 hole championship public course.

### BACKGROUND

NSW Government via Greater Sydney Parklands, (GSP) which manages Centennial and Moore Parks, have requested public feedback on The Future of Moore Park South proposal. As a local resident and or a frequent visitor within 3km of Moore Park Golf Course for the most recent 25 years, I feel my thoughts and experiences documented here are relevant to the topic and should be strongly considered/acted upon. I have used these parklands, including the Golf Course, regularly per month. Please note I am a member of the public that has no expertise in government public consultation processes.

### CURRENT PROPOSAL

[https://www.centennialparklands.com.au/getmedia/9cd6fdfe-b5b7-4adc-8154-63c986822ef2/SYD23087\\_Moore-Park-Discussion-Paper\\_FINAL\\_240223.pdf.aspx](https://www.centennialparklands.com.au/getmedia/9cd6fdfe-b5b7-4adc-8154-63c986822ef2/SYD23087_Moore-Park-Discussion-Paper_FINAL_240223.pdf.aspx)

#### Facts noticed

1. The proposal and media statements by the Premier appear to be at odds in the eyes of the general public. It could seem that due diligence hasn't been followed by the government by announcing they have 'decided' what they want to do with the land that has Moore Park Golf Course (MPGC) before any thorough analysis and public consultation. This is confusing and a rescind/apology and restart, if necessary, should occur.
2. Greater Sydney Parklands (GSP) have not shown any public support for this proposal (up to Feb 2024) and in fact the current Master Plan for Moore Park 2040 <http://moorepark.sydney/masterplan/> clearly includes 18 hole championship golf course layout which is the last noted support for MPGC from GSP. The relevant body,

GSP, knows the land area and current uses much better than the incumbent Minister for Planning and Public Spaces.

3. No costings or timeline of the proposal have been provided so this misleads the public as to return on investment.
4. This proposal is not a direct strategic priority for the NSW Government so thus no time or money should be spent on this especially when there is no obvious community need for extra park spaces.
5. Despite inadequate green space planning by the City of Sydney within high density development within 3km radius of MPGC so far this century (when almost 6 fold has the population increased to the 2021 census statistic of 29,003 people in postcode 2017), and , the small by comparison, in progress development west of Bourke St Waterloo, the fact remains that outside of NSW Covid-19 restrictions, parklands (Bat and Ball oval and parkland north of Cleveland st) adjacent to MPGC has ever been and continues to be underutilised by local residents. This is all the while where MPGC has continued to be a space in constant use 7 days a week from sunrise to sunset. None of the parklands within Moore Park precinct can say the same about usage. In 2024 approximately 100,000 rounds of golf is expected to be played at MPGC and is the most popular golf course in Australia.
6. The proposal doesn't call out the impact to the existing large and diverse communities of golfers (including an ever increasing women participation in the game <https://www.golf.org.au/golfs-participation-grows-again/>). Communities of golfers that includes juniors, seniors, multicultural etc. A significant negative impact to these groups in this area will occur should the proposal proceed.
7. The transformation plan actually does the reverse regarding social, cultural, economic and ecological contribution to Sydney.
  - a. It gives the public and tourists alike no options for an 18 hole public accessible and affordable championship course within striking distance from the CBD.
  - b. By reducing the number of holes, it's clear that there will be a significant revenue reduction (as well as job losses) that MPGC brings to GSP.
  - c. The ecological contribution that MPGC has brought for more than a century would be undone and negatively impact the current space if the proposal was to proceed. Its well documented the environmental benefits that golf brings to communities  
[https://assets.ctfassets.net/3urhge2ecl20/1FKUA6FS7hPslngP5ejXAv/cee3a6cb2cb96192b849656811c49057/Attach\\_5\\_Golf\\_Benefits\\_to\\_the\\_Environment\\_2020\\_Final\\_June20.pdf](https://assets.ctfassets.net/3urhge2ecl20/1FKUA6FS7hPslngP5ejXAv/cee3a6cb2cb96192b849656811c49057/Attach_5_Golf_Benefits_to_the_Environment_2020_Final_June20.pdf)
8. The proposal overstates the Measures for Success (see section 1.2) with almost half of those stated already met hence not new. See points 2-4 inclusive.
9. The proposal acknowledges in section 3.1 that "MPGC is a popular public 18 hole golf course used by golfers of all ages and levels of experience" - this is correct so why change something that is not broken or needed?
10. Section 3.2 Site analysis is not correct. It overstates the opportunities where items 2 and 4 already exist. Regarding the constraints, it incorrectly states the site is not serviced directly by public transport - there are a number of bus and light rail services that stop outside MPGC.
11. Section 4.1 'A new park' is grossly overstated within the existing Centennial and Moore Park Parklands as the following already exist; Informal Play and exploration, Open space play, Native grass meadows/places to dwell, Youth Facilities, Walking and running tracks, Outdoor Fitness.
12. See appendix that displays a sample of considerable amount of community support for retaining the 18 hole championship public access golf course. This is in addition to the petition by MPGC that has collected over 23,000 signatures in support.

## CONSIDERATIONS FOR FUTURE OF MOORE PARK SOUTH - SENSIBLE OPTIONS

### **Option 1 - Retain 18 hole championship course - “do nothing”**

Why?

- i) Current adjacent green space has been underutilised for over 20 years and new development (west of Bourke St Waterloo) is not expected to fully utilise this space into the future.
- ii) Lowest cost option and retains existing revenue it produces. IE ~\$15m/pa.
- iii) Not on NSW Government Strategic priorities to do anything with this space
- iv) Sustainable in the short - medium term for the ever growing sport of golf.

### **Option 2 - Retain 18 hole championship course and improve access - “modernise”**

**Improve access by;**

**Modernise the existing paths (pedestrian and cycle) surrounding the golf course and provide adequate lighting infrastructure.**

Why?

- i) Current adjacent green space has been underutilised for over 20 years and new development (west of Bourke St Waterloo) is not expected to fully utilise this space into the future.
- ii) Cost benefit option for increasing community accessing the existing adjacent parklands to Moore Park and the golf course.
- iii) This would meet the Active Transport strategy  
<https://www.future.transport.nsw.gov.au/future-transport-plans/active-transport-strategy> for increased accessibility of this course

### **Option 3 - Increase the existing 18 hole championship course to 24 holes and improve access - “future proof”**

**Future proof by:**

**Installing additional 6 holes to cater for increased local population that is likely to translate to increased participation in golf at this public accessible course.**

**Modernise the existing paths (pedestrian and cycle) surrounding the golf course and provide adequate lighting infrastructure.**

- i) Current adjacent green space has been underutilised for over 20 years and new development (west of Bourke St Waterloo) is not expected to fully utilise this space into the future.
- ii) Cost benefit option resulting in greater revenue in the long term for the course and increasing community accessing the existing adjacent parklands to Moore Park.
- iii) This would meet the Active Transport strategy  
<https://www.future.transport.nsw.gov.au/future-transport-plans/active-transport-strategy> for increased accessibility of this course

Except for option 1, all options should be further reviewed by the government and provide cost/revenue estimates in a revised proposal to the public for consultation.

## APPENDIX - SIGNIFICANT COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR RETAINING 18 HOLE CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE

[images withheld – contains personal information]

As at 19th March 455 comments were on this post. 95% of them were in saving the golf course as is.

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

**Name:** Thomas Clark

**Date received:** 4 March 2024

---

I advocate nighttime safety lights be installed on the park footways. That is, movement detection lighting on the footways and access points from Anzac parade and Mount Steel. This would also be effective in nocturnal animal observation.

New tree planting, again with regard to native animal habits, should be planted. The present trees, fig species, could be complimented with other fruit trees, such as bananas, mandarins or apples, which the birds will celebrate. Homeless people would also appreciate fruit trees.

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

**Name:** John Clayton

**Date received:** 28 February 2024

---

I oppose changes which result in the destruction of the current, or any, 18 hole golf course on the site.

- The course is one of the best public courses in Sydney and is very well-used; it makes no sense to destroy such a popular facility.
- Change can be achieved to give greater passive access without removing 9 holes. Land on the southern boundary can be reclaimed. Space on the north of the area and east of the clubhouse can be better utilised. Holes can be reconfigured to free up space. Shared access can be managed (at different times).
- The proposed changes seem to remove the 9 holes nearest the driving range and clubhouse. This, in itself, would be absurd.

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

**Name:** Alex Cleave

**Date received:** 8 March 2024

---

An historical course such as Moore Park, with its close proximity to the CBD is an incredible asset. Once removed or reduced to 9 holes, it cannot be recovered and will be lost forever. Golf courses give wonderful enjoyment and exercise to thousands, especially a public access course like this.



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

**Name:** Les Cohen

**Date received:** 3 April 2024

---

Why is it that we have to suffer changes to the status quo to make up for the inadequacies of official organisations that cannot do their job properly.

The proposal to provide additional green space for residence in the newly (over) built up area west of South Dowling Street is a result of the council giving permission to large developments that do not include sufficient undeveloped areas for the residents of those developments.

The Moore Park Golf Course is one of the few 18 hole golf courses in the eastern suburbs that is open to the public. As a result, it is one of the highest usage courses in Sydney. To change this course to a 9 hole course will significantly affect the attraction of this course. The Bat and Ball Field does not attract a large number of users at present and it is not known if there is a high demand for use of part of the existing golf course.

As for expanding the usage at the course, not all the ideas are necessarily practical. Night golf does not have a large following in many countries around the world. Not as many play at night as during the day. The cost of lighting a course is very significant and not ecologically sound.

Mini-golf is a good idea. Areas for this smaller layout could be found at the corner of Anzac Parade and Cleveland Street - behind the clubhouse and along the side of Anzac Parade. Outdoor Entertainment area would be better suited to an amphi-theatre type area - say near the Bat and Ball Field. The hillside beside the field would be useful for sitting out and watching the entertainment.

Of course, increasing the options and usage in this area would need to consider increased parking (the existing car park for the golf course is often full) and better access. Attracting a broader demographic to the site would entail more traffic as many would prefer to use cars than public transport. The provision of cycle paths has not reduced the car traffic in this area.

There are plenty of options for more activities in the Moore Park precinct without impact on the existing golf course layout. Grabbing an area in the middle of the South area shows a great lack of imagination and planning.

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

**Name:** Rhys Coles

**Date received:** 9 April 2024

---

I am writing to offer my perspective, in that I emphatically oppose the plans to transform any area of Moore Park Golf Course (MPGC) from its current arrangement for the purposes of creating a new park space. I hope that my perspective proves to be relevant as I am i) a resident of the area, living in the Todman Avenue area of Kensington ii) a current full-paying member of MPGC and iii) a frequent user of all the parklands in the area.

My opposition is largely based on the following points:

- A. MPGC, specifically in its current configuration as a championship 18 hole golf course, is very unique and deserves to be protected, and the proposed changes fail to recognise this uniqueness and the benefits that it brings to both the local community and the sport of golf in Australia.
- B. The benefits to be gained from transforming the 20 hectares currently used by MPGC are at best marginal and do not outweigh the significant loss that will come from altering MPGC.

Regarding point A, MPGC is an incredibly unique offering and should be held in high esteem for what it offers the city of Sydney.

I moved to Australia ten years ago, and have spent all that time in Sydney and in the Moore Park surrounds. I have enjoyed playing MPGC both initially as a public visitor, and for the last three years as a paid member. MPGC is unique in that it would be difficult to find a comparative course in most major cities globally, because most inner-city golf courses are reserved for the enjoyment of the obscenely rich and high-born. There are hundreds of examples globally that I count point to, but for the sake of brevity I would point to the local examples of Royal Sydney, The Australian Golf Course, and The Lakes golf course as golf courses in close proximity to the city, that are unfortunately exorbitantly expensive and prohibitively exclusive golf courses that the majority of golfers will never get the opportunity to enjoy. That this point is lost on the people proposing this change is evident, in that one of the justifications for tearing MPGC in half is that there are so many other courses nearby to choose from.

MPGC is unique in that it is a championship, 18 hole golf course that is only 3km away (as the crow flies, using Town Hall as the reference point) from Sydney CBD and it is a public access golf course with membership fees that are far cheaper than what is offered at other courses locally. In a city that is becoming increasingly an enclave for the rich, a pay-to-play city that is pushing the life-force of the city, its residents, further and further afield to work, live, and play, Moore Park is one of the last bastions of accessible, affordable golf for our

local community. This makes MPGC uniquely egalitarian in its nature when compared to other golf courses, and should be celebrated as a part of the local community. The irony of calling a golf course egalitarian in opposition to public parklands is not lost on me, but I believe MPGC should be held in the same vein as any proposed parkland, as within the world of golf it is incredibly unique in its accessibility, affordability, and its longstanding history of welcoming all people from all backgrounds.

I have had the pleasure of enjoying rounds of golf with all sorts of people at MPGC. Its proximity to both the Sydney CBD and Sydney Airport means that it attracts a lot of international visitors. I have played golf with Korean and Japanese tourists, where we have made lasting friendships that have transcended languages and borders, and I look forward to their visits to Sydney where we always take time to play at MPGC. I have played with Sydney residents of all sorts of different socioeconomic, ethnic, educational backgrounds, and most importantly different skill levels. MPGC is an important feeder course for the sport of golf. As a professional in the technology industry, I have attended a number of corporate golf days at MPGC with colleagues and customers that have gone on to take up the sport of golf. This has been true for a number of female colleagues of mine, bringing more women into a sport that has historically been, and still remains woefully underrepresented. At a time where Australian golf is going through a renaissance period, with popularity at an all time high, and with six Australian men in the Men's Top 100 golfers rankings, and five Australian women in the Women's Top 100, we should be leaning into the sport of golf and taking every measure to protect public access courses that afford young people the opportunity to participate in the sport of golf.

I hope these reasons illustrate how Moore Park Golf Course is unique and deserves to be protected in its current form. Those in support of the proposed changes might say that MPGC will continue to have a presence in the area, and so the benefits I have outlined above will continue to be had from the new, nine-hole golf course. This is simply not the case. A nine-hole golf course would undermine all of the benefits I have stated and more. MPGC is already an incredibly popular golf course, and operates at near full capacity at all times of the year and all days of the week. Halving its holes means halving its capacity. This means less capacity to support corporate events, less access for new and aspiring golfers, the loss of international visitors (who, as people who are keen golfers are generally uninterested in playing courses that are not 18-hole courses), less relevance as a viable alternative to the expensive golf courses that Sydney has on offer, and for those wishing to enjoy a championship course, travelling further afield. The density of the surrounding suburbs is a justification for keeping MPGC an 18-hole course, not a justification for halving its capacity and therefore its ability to serve the residents of those surrounding suburbs. The proposed changes for the "newly reimagined" nine-hole Moore Park Golf Course are also poor substitutes for its current offering. In a time where people are increasingly sedentary, cutting MPGC in half is not in the interest of public health. Golf simulators do not offer the same enjoyment, connection with nature, or simply the same walking exercise that 18 holes of golf provide, and night golf will quickly become a nuisance for the surrounding residents and is again, a poor substitute meant as an olive branch to accompany a poorly considered proposal.

Regarding Point B, the benefits of an additional 20 hectares of parklands for the area are unclear, and likely to be insignificant when compared to the loss of MPGC as a unique offering as outlined above.

As a resident of Kensington in the Todman Avenue area, and as someone who has previously lived in Zetland and Redfern, I frequently use the parklands in the area. I play weeknight cricket at Robertson Road Fields, and Moore Park West, I walk, run, and relax in Centennial Park, I walk dogs at the Bat and Ball oval directly north of MPGC, and I play tennis at the tennis courts there. I have never felt that there is an undersupply in the area of parklands. Viewing the proposal document's illustrations of the local parklands, or a simple Google maps search, is enough to dispel any claims to the contrary.

There is an abundance of the proposed offerings for the new parkland in the surrounding existing parklands, Centennial Park has an abundance of child play areas including a very unique and fantastic wet play area for kids. There is an abundance of sporting fields and open parklands. The area (Moore Park and its surrounding suburbs) is well supplied in outdoor spaces and parklands, and attracts huge numbers of visitors. I dispute the claim that there is an issue of parkland access for the area, and the areas or suburbs that could be considered undersupplied, for example, Beaconsfield or Zetland, will not stand to benefit from this proposed change as there is an access issue for those residents, as the new 20 hectare parkland is no more convenient for them than any of the existing parks immediately surrounding MPGC.

And on the issue of access, as outlined in the proposal document, the proposed site of the new parklands is not an ideal site for a park, and is likely to not be fully utilised to the extent that it is currently enjoyed by thousands of golfers annually. There are access issues, it is beset on all sides by busy and noisy roads and this makes access to the park by pedestrians, at least, a costly challenge that will require significant changes to infrastructure, and at worse, dangerous.

And on the subject of danger, again, it is clear that those both proposing this change and those in support of the change, are unfamiliar with the specific considerations that are presented by having a golf course and public park share a site. Having golfers surrounding park-goers presents a significant risk to both, as errant golf balls represent a substantial injury risk. The proposed configuration of the course and parkland would place park-users in direct risk of golf courses from both the driving range (the existing 18th hole being a prime example of what is proposed to be parklands but is usually littered with hundreds of golf balls from the driving range) and the 1st and 18th hole (proposed to run alongside the new parklands to provide access to the rest of the course south of Dacey Avenue, and providing ample opportunity to cause injury to the public). Golf balls also represent a risk to dogs and children that will frequent the new parklands, as they will be seen as toys and present a risk of choking.

All of these issues will amount to the proposed changes resulting in a costly, dangerous, underutilised, and ordinary parkland that offers no unique benefit over the existing parklands in the area. Unfortunately, this would also be at the cost of an incredibly unique, historical, iconic, and important sporting venue. These costs far outweigh any minimal benefit that the new parkland will provide.

I would urge those in the position to decide the fate of Moore Park Golf Course to respect its position as an institution of Sydney, its unique offering within the world of golf and its rich heritage in the area, and afford it the respect and protection that it is due. I would urge those same people to reflect on the loss that cutting this unique course in half represents, and the

limited benefit to be gained from a new parkland at the location when weighing up its lack of impact, differentiation or relevance to the local area.

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

**Name:** M Collins

**Date received:** 9 April 2024

---

As a regular visitor to Sydney I can't imagine what is wrong with the government that they are willing to pretty much destroy this top class golf course.

Centennial Parklands are enormous.

Moore Park brings so much business to Sydney.

And it's very prestigious to have this beautiful city course.

Why do it?

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

**Name:** Michael Connelly

**Date received:** 28 February 2024

---

I am strongly against converting any of Moore Park golf course into public parkland. There are significant parklands in the immediate vicinity of Moore Park (such as Centennial Park) which are not at capacity and are far more accessible to the public.

The golf course is used by 1000s every week as a recreational space to exercise by way of participating in golf. The course is accessible to members and the public and there is no other 18 hole golf course open to the public in the city area.

We do not need to destroy half the course to create park space that will not be greatly used given its unsuitability for public to attend due to a lack of public transport and parking.

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

**Name:** Hubert Cooleman

**Date received:** 7 March 2024

---

Sydney Council has simply been duped by the developers of Green Square. The developers should have provided sufficient green and open space for the residents but instead they filled the area with apartments as densely as possible for maximum profit and now Sydney Council must fill the gap at the expense of a beautiful and affordable golf course.



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

**Name:** Doug Copp

**Date received:** 8 April 2024

---

The proposal to halve the Moore Park Golf Course and transform 20 hectares into a new public park is obviously to give people living in the high-density suburbs of Zetland, Waterloo, Redfern and Surry Hills access to public open space.

I believe the proposal is **flawed** and there is a **better way** forward. Consider the following.

1. The abovementioned suburbs are already over populated.
2. Failure of past Planning.
3. There already is ample green space in Centennial Park and Sydney Park.
4. Under Utilised green space in the immediate area that could be converted to park lands.
5. Destruction of Sydney's leading 18-hole public access golf course. An icon of the city.
6. Politics.

### **1. OVER POPULATION**

Zetland, Waterloo, Redfern and Surry Hills are already high density with a population density of over 12,000 people per square kilometre. Do we really want to keep pouring people into the inner city and expect quality of life to be maintained?

### **2. FAILURE OF PAST PLANNING**

Allowing developers to build high rise residential buildings (some of poor quality) without providing adequate green space is a failure of planning.

Allowing property developers to over develop without providing adequate green space then to remedy the situation by grabbing half a golf course could be viewed as 'policy sloth'.

Consider the words of former Victorian Premier Dan Andrews, "The notion that it's Moore Park as an 18-hole golf course or more housing, I don't see how a park gets you more housing. It doesn't."

### **3. AMPLE GREEN SPACE EXISTS**

The Centennial Park web site states 31 million people visit the park every year. Premier Minns stated that 35 million people visit. That is between 85,000 and 96,000 people visit Centennial Park per day, every day of the year. Driving past the park almost every day and visiting the park at least twice a week, I find these figures doubtful.

Parts of Zetland, Waterloo, Beaconsfield and Green Square are actually closer to Sydney Park than Centennial Park.

#### **4. UNDER UTILISATION OF EXISTING OPEN SPACE**

Under-utilised open space and sports fields in the immediate area could be repurposed into parklands including Moore Park Bat & Ball Oval, Moore Park 3, Moore Park West, Mount Steele and the overflow parking lot near the tennis courts.

#### **5. DESTRUCTION OF MOORE PARK GOLF COURSE. AN ICON OF THE CITY.**

Moore Park Golf Course is a leading, 18-hole, public access golf course. It is an icon of the city. An 18-hole, public access so close to the CBD is a feature of our great city. The golf course has existed since 1920 – 104 years of history.

The NSW Government's own website states:

“Moore Park Golf Course. Sydney's leading public golf entertainment complex, offering seven-day access to enjoy their first-class golf course and entertainment facilities.”

Consider the fallout in reducing Moore Park to a 9-hole golf course:

- Substantial Loss of Revenue. The golf course is a substantial contributor to the Centennial Parklands budget. It is estimated that revenues would reduce by two-thirds.
- Currently 93,000 rounds of golf are played each year. A 9-hole golf course will not support that number. Green fees for 9 holes of golf are a lot less.
- Members would walk away. Membership fees revenue would be slashed.
- Representative teams including women and juniors would disappear.
- Corporate events would be negatively affected.

There is a better way and it is possible to reconfigure the golf course, retaining 18 holes and giving public more access. (Proposal – A Better Way).

#### **6. POLITICS**

And yes, there is politics. Premium Minns heads a minority government. Did Mr. Minns speak to Clover Moore? Is this a deal to get votes?

On reducing MPGC to a 9-hole course, Dan Andrews says “It means you get less golf and a golfing community that's pretty upset. And I know a thing or two about upsetting a golf community ....”

The golf course Operating Agreement expires 30 June 2026. The next state election must be held between 30 January 2027 and 27 March 2027. Golfers have long memories.

#### **PROPOSAL – BETTER WAY:**

- **Moore Park Golf Course be reconfigured with the aim of (a) retaining an 18-hole golf course, (b) turning some of the golf course over for public use.**
- **As a public golf course, the land could be shared with the public on Sundays or even daily before, say, 8am and after 4pm.**
- **The under-utilised Bat & Ball Oval, Mount Steele, Moore Park 3 and Moore Park West be repurposed as parkland.**
- **Land in the N.W. corner of the golf course, bordering Mount Steele and the Bat & Ball Oval be turned over for public use and be part of the Bat & Ball – Mount Steele Park with walking and running paths, nature play, native grass meadows, outdoor fitness etc. This would give residents using the South Dowling Street bridge direct access into the park.**

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

**Name:** Walt Coulston

**Date received:** 8 April 2024

---

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposal to close 9 holes of the Moore Park Golf Course and convert the land into public parkland.

While I understand the need for green space in Sydney, Moore Park already boasts significant green corridors. Instead of sacrificing a cherished public amenity, let's focus on utilizing existing areas for passive recreation.

Moore Park Golf Course is one of the very few public courses remaining close to the city, making it accessible to a wide range of residents. It provides exceptional value for money and a healthy outdoor activity for people of all ages and skill levels.

The course's closure would have a detrimental impact on the community. Here's why I believe the full 18 holes should be retained:

- **Public access:** Public courses like Moore Park are vital for making golf accessible and affordable. Don't take away this opportunity for people to enjoy the sport and its benefits.
- **Existing green space:** Moore Park already offers ample parkland. Let's focus on maximizing the use of these areas before diminishing a well-established recreational facility.
- **Health and wellbeing:** Golf offers a fantastic opportunity for exercise and social interaction. Closing the course would be a blow to public health in a densely populated area.

### **Alternative Solutions:**

- Consider other areas for parkland development that are not currently serving a valuable community function.
- Explore ways to improve accessibility within Moore Park to encourage use of existing green space.
- Investigate partnerships to offer golf clinics or programs that promote the sport to a wider demographic.

Thank you for considering my views. I urge you to reconsider this proposal and find alternative solutions that meet the needs of the community while preserving this vital public amenity.

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

**Name:** Craig Coyle

**Date received:** 26 February 2024

---

How about putting the hand in the pocket and buying back land to create green spaces this is nothing but a joke where initial planning has not taken on the consolidated requirements of parkland over 100k rounds of golf gets played on Moore Park Golf Course every year.. if greenspaces are required to be utilised by new or existing development then we should be buying back private/residential land not just stripping public spaces! Zetland construction and developers have been eyeing off this land since they put plans into action they should have been made to develop greenspaces prior to construction!!!

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

**Name:** Philip Crain

**Date received:** 23 March 2024

---

I would like to take the opportunity to provide my feedback on the plans to 'reimagine' golf at Moore Park.

In the discussion paper, the following information appears on page 4, referring to the 690,000 people who live within a 5km radius of Centennial Parklands:

The large majority of these people live in higher density housing forms such as apartments and terraces, with limited access to private open space.

The fact is that these people have chosen to do so of their own free will. Furthermore, they made this choice knowing full well that there is an 18-hole golf course at Moore Park.

Many public parks already exist. If a public park is what would meet "the needs of the growing community", then they can move somewhere closer to such a place. No doubt there are thousands around NSW, many more than there are golf courses.

One last thing. The Lord Mayor described Moore Park Golf Course as being for people who drive Rolls-Royces. Nothing could be further from the truth. It's an accessible, affordable championship golf course available to average punters like me, and everyone I've ever played with there.

The golf course must stay as it is.

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

**Name:** Keith Crews

**Date received:** 28 February 2024

---

This proposal I find rather strange. The purpose of the proposal is to provide green space, but this space is adjacent to Centennial Park.

The 18 hole golf course is the only public golf course close to the city and it extremely well patronised.

I cannot see the logic of taking 9 holes of the golf course for parkland when Centennial Park (a much larger space) is virtually next door.