

Queen Elizabeth Reserve Masterplan – Ku-ring-gai Council community consultation

The 416 Group is an action group of residents of Killara and Lindfield living west of Lady Game Drive to ensure that current and future developments and activities do not degrade the natural assets or living environment of the area and that the local quality of life is maintained. More information is at <https://416group.org>. The area contains some 750 homes, the Moore Avenue shopping area, one primary school, five pre-schools and the CSIRO National Measurement Institute.

The 416 Group distributed a flier to all residents (attached) in late October which encouraged residents to complete the survey on the masterplan for the reserve.

The 416 Group has previously proposed that:

- The Children's play area be fully fenced (currently it is not fenced on the southern and eastern (Bradfield Rd) sides).
- Basketball not be designed for in close proximity to homes as the thumping noise of the ball (louder than tennis) would be intrusive and unacceptable.
- After dark use of the reserve be restricted to early evening activities only.
- Planning to take into account occasional antisocial night time activity in summer months which has resulted in residents calling police.
- Construction of pavements on at least one side of all residential streets be prioritised to ensure safe pedestrian access to the Reserve. The new footpath on Bradfield Road between Charles Street and Carramar Road is welcome. However, Council has yet to provide a timetable for the remainder of Bradfield Road.

The playing surface of the Reserve has been degraded and upgrade should be a priority to provide a high-quality pitch as one of the home grounds for Lindfield's football teams. Seating for spectators should be provided within the playing field.

The scale of activities on the Reserve and for users from outside the area is limited by the parking provision. Eg the small car park off Bradfield Road and right-angle parking off Edmund Street.

Retention of the four tennis courts is supported.

The mature tree canopy at the southern end of the Reserve is attractive, provides shade and habitat and is valued by residents.

The ablution block provides the only public toilets in the area (there are none at the Moore Avenue shops), however the facility is in original condition, is worn out and ready for reconstruction. The provision of toilets mean that the location is the only one suitable in the area for a variety of activities. For example, the start/finish of occasional local orienteering events (usually Sunday morning or Wednesday evening in summer).

The Reserve is close to but has little relationship with the Moore Avenue shops. The latter lack activation, and currently have weak commercial viability. It is understood Council is due to undertake a planning review in 2023.

The Reserve is close to the CSIRO site on the other side of Bradfield Road. The previous Federal Government announced the intention to relocate this facility at a future date to near the new Western Sydney Airport. Planning for the Reserve should allow for this possibility and alternative uses of the CSIRO site. This site includes an oval at its northern end which may be underutilised and could in future be integrated with the Queen Elizabeth Reserve.

Strongly worded signage should remind dog owners to pick up after their pets. Consideration to be given for the provision of a supply of bags which would reduce the current problem.

Julian Ledger

President