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RE: DA2020/1063 - 2 / 0 Bennett Street CURL CURL NSW 2096

I strongly object to the Proposed DA for the lights on John Fisher/Frank Gray ovals on the following grounds:

SAFETY
TRAFFIC and PARKING
PRIVACY
NOISE and AMENITY

SAFETY:

There are no footpaths in the area and the streets are narrow. Children (and their parents) often step out from behind parked cars to access their equipment and put themselves and other drivers in danger during the daytime. At night time, with poor street lighting, this situation will worsen.

Additionally, as mentioned in previous submissions, these fields are overused in the winter time and they become dangerous. Hockey players regularly fall as a result of uneven, well worn and overused fields.

The consultant preparing the Statement of Environmental Effects for Council (who in this case, is the applicant, the owner and the determiner) seems to have taken the liberty of separating "intensity" of use and "duration" of use. Common sense would suggest if the fields are being used for longer periods, by more people, more regularly, then the intensity of the use would increase. This would then have an impact on the grass cover, wear and tear and degradation of the fields over the busy winter months, thereby creating further safety issues.

TRAFFIC and PARKING

The following is from the consultant's report in the Statement of Environmental Effects in the application. Much of this analysis is inaccurate, as can be witnessed by any resident, visitor, or indeed consultant, who visits the area on weekdays during school hours or weekends during sport.

Consideration of potential traffic and car parking impact

The sportsground is an existing and long-established land use of the land. The provision of sportsground lighting does not increase the intensity of the use of the land or change the capacity of the sportsground to accommodate an increased amount of people when it's in use. Similarly, the provision of sportsground lighting does not trigger additional vehicle movements or increased traffic within the local road network beyond the existing levels. In accordance with the DCP's car parking requirements, there are no specific provision for carparking associated with sportsgrounds. However, the sportsground is an existing and long-established land use

and the proposal does not involve increasing its intensity, therefore the number of car parking spaces associated with the sportsground is not assessed as significant matter in the consideration of the proposal. The provision of sportsground lighting is intended to extend the hours of use of the playing fields, and in doing so, the existing and associated demand for traffic and car parking may be extended by the proposed development from nightfall (depending on the time of year), up until 9.30pm at night. Therefore, the impacts would be equivalent or similar to that already experienced during the use of the reserve up to night fall. In this regard, the extension of the existing parking and traffic situation from night fall till 9.30pm is considered to be consistent within normal residential expectations for environs surrounding a public sportsfield. In summary, the provision of sportsground lighting is ancillary to the established land use function of the site and does not intensify the use of the land. The extension of car parking demand associated with the sportsfields during their proposed extended hours of use (until 9.30pm) does not trigger the need for more car parking at the location. Furthermore, the extension of traffic demand during these times is appropriate, noting that it will occur outside of peak evening traffic times, will be reflective of the sportsfields current usage capacity and therefore reflective of current demand on the surrounding streets during usage times. Based on the above, it is concluded that the site is appropriately served by the existing access and car parking provisions and these DCP provisions are satisfied by the proposal.

TRAFFIC

With narrow streets, poor lighting, limited parking, use by Freshwater High students parking on the streets on Monday to Friday, AFL football and hockey on weekends and during the week, netball on weekends, bowls and Futsal during the week (Futsal until sometimes 11pm), the area is already overly congested. By bringing the lights to the ovals, **CONTRARY TO THE CONSULTANT'S VIEW, THIS PROPOSAL WILL INCREASE AND EXTEND THESE TRAFFIC PROBLEMS WELL INTO THE EVENINGS**

PARKING

The area is insufficiently serviced for car parking now. Already, the only option for overflow parking is on the streets and residents driveways are regularly blocked for a good part of the weekend and weekdays.

The Bowling club carpark is already full with patrons and Futsal, while the AFL car park is also full with users.

Garbage collection is made on a Tuesday, with garbage bins lined up on the cul-de-sac streets of Manuela and Holloway, already taking up much of the existing parking from 3pm on. Will this mean we cannot put bins out until parking clears after 9.00pm?

Whilst it is an honourable initiative to gain access to the high school oval parking, the school car park cannot cope as it is during the week days. The overflow parking for students already causes problems on Bennett Street, Holloway and Manuela Places. Sport attendees will not use the high school car park unless they have an activity directly adjacent to it. Once that park is full, or if the activity is not close, they will simply park on the surrounding streets, as they do now.

The residents should not be expected to unreasonably cope with more activities and should reasonably expect to be able to find a parking spot close to their own house in the evenings.

CONTRARY TO THE CONSULTANT'S VIEW, THIS PROPOSAL WILL EXTEND THE PARKING PROBLEM INTO THE EVENINGS.

PRIVACY

We live adjacent to the park with our fence line about 10 metres from a proposed 30m high light pole. Whilst we appreciate the light itself will be designed to cast light onto the field, the number of people who will now have direct sight into our property in the evenings, while we are in our home, will significantly increase.

WE DISAGREE WITH THE CONSULTANT'S VIEW THAT PRIVACY WILL NOT BE IMPACTED.

NOISE and AMENITY

Also from the Statement of Environmental Effects:

In summary, the provision of sportsground lighting does not trigger additional noise emission intensity at the location but rather, a modest extension of the time within which noise is likely to be generated. The extension of the time to 9.30pm is considered to be acceptable based on being outside of the noise sensitive hours of 10 pm to 7 am. Based on the above, it is concluded that: ▪ Noise associated with sports usage from nightfall to 9.30pm will be typical of that associated with the existing sports and recreational use of the land. The proposed sportsground lighting will not result in any significant increase in noise levels or noise generation within identified sensitive times. ▪ The current use of the sportsfields over the past 50 years (approximately) does not represent an unreasonable residential amenity impact. The additional hours of use will not result in unreasonable extension of existing impacts on the basis that play on the sportsfields does not occur in the noise sensitive hours of 10 pm to 7 am, when sleep disturbance may be an issue. ▪ The proposed sportsground lighting is ancillary to the established land use function of the site and therefore consistent with reasonable expectations for residential environs surrounding a public sportsfield.

Whistles, cheering, shouting, kicking balls, clashing hockey sticks and coaching instructions are all activities that generate noise. Once again, anyone who takes the time to visit the area on any night of the week will experience the noise already generated by the Futsal courts until late in the evening. Increasing the duration of the sports activities on the adjacent fields will further change the existing amenity of the area.

WE DISAGREE WITH THE CONSULTANT'S VIEW THAT THE PROPOSAL SEEKS A MODEST EXTENSION OF TIME AND THAT NOISE AND AMENITY IN THE AREA WILL NOT BE IMPACTED AS A RESULT.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

It's an easy task to gain support by way of numbers for this DA. Several local clubs and schools, with large memberships, simply send a link to their email data base and ask their membership to support the proposal. People who live out of the area and who will not have a long term commitment to the club by way of their children(s) involvement, register their support with a one line, four word email in support of the proposal, because they have been encouraged to do so by their clubs and schools.

The local residents must live with the long term consequences of any decision made by council and should be considered over and above simply the volume of submissions, made by people who do not live in the area and will probably never use the fields on an ongoing basis.

As neighbours of this development, we are not against use of the park. We are not against recreation. We are not against organised community sports. We already coexist with them every day. We are however, against bright floodlights, increased noise and the resulting traffic and parking problems that will occur adjacent to our property for 7 nights of the week.