From:DYPXCPWEB@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.auSent:14/06/2024 1:03:03 PMTo:DA Submission MailboxSubject:TRIMMED: Online Submission

14/06/2024

MR Chris Moorman 12 / 19-23 - Delmar PDE Dee Why NSW 2099

RE: DA2024/0675 - 84 Mona Vale Road MONA VALE NSW 2103

I support the application for the conversion of this area into dedicated Pickleball Courts. I am the Membership Secretary of Northern Beaches Pickleball. In the last 18 months, our club has grown from 269 member in Dec-2022 to 982 as at mid-Jun-2024 and we are growing at a rate of 80 new members per month. We are now the largest Pickleball Club in Australia and need the support of the local community to continue to provide playing opportunities for our members. NB Council is facing concurrent growth in basketball, from 2500 active players (pre covid) to over 4000 active players now, and both sports compete with futsal for indoor facilities and netball for outdoor facilities. Council has been unable to allocate suitable additional facilities to pickleball to keep up with our increasing demand and we are maxing out on available court time at suitable non-council venues (Dee Why PCYC, Sokol in Frenchs Forrest, Oxford Falls Grammar, Warriewood Sports Hall). We do not have access to any dedicated pickleball courts in the Northern Beaches, nor do we have a home-base, and have been working with Pittwater RSL to address this shortfall. To give an understanding of the phenomenal growth of our sport, we currently offer our members over eighty 2-hour sessions of playing time each week and require an additional 5 new sessions per month just to give one playing session a week to our new members. In the USA, pickleball is now played regularly by 10-15% of the population, so we need to plan for over 15,000 players in the Northern Beaches in the medium term and do not see our growth rate slowing any time soon. This proposal will deliver dedicated pickleball courts that are available throughout the day and evening: lights are important as they extend the hours of play and provide playing time for working members - which is a major pinch point. Whilst PRSL have agreed to sponsor Northern Breaches Pickleball and provide priority access for the new courts to our club, they will also be a resource that could be booked by the general public and other clubs - which will also reduce conflicting demands on council facilities. It should also be noted that pickleball aligns with NB Council's objective to foster Health and Fitness for Seniors - our average age is currently 59 and we have 12 active members over 80 years old and a further 123 active members between the ages of 70 and 80! We need dedicated pickleball courts as soon as possible and request this DA approval is expedited.