WHITEHORSE
CITY COUNCIL

Consultation report
RHL Sparks West Sports field and Lighting - Project

Thank you to everyone who shared their feedback and suggestions for the RHL Sparks West Sports Field and Lighting Project.

We received 190 survey submissions.

We gathered valuable information to help us work towards the final designs for sports field and lighting. We will continue to work through the information and suggestions received to inform the detailed design.

Engagement snapshot

- Almost 1000 visits to the Your Say Whitehorse project page, where people were able to learn more about the project.
- 190 submissions received.

Promotion of engagement:

- Social media advertising reaching over 700 views
- Letters sent to nearby residents
- Hosted one public pop-up information session RHL Sparks West Pavilion - Thursday 27th April 2023 - 5pm-6pm followed by an engagement directly with bordering residents 2024.
- Sent out e-newsletters to more than 1,600 subscribers to our engagement and sports mailing lists.
- Direct contact with sporting user groups, local schools, and other relevant stakeholders.

Your feedback

Below is a summary of the feedback we received (not an exhaustive list):

- **87%** of respondents supported the upgrade to synthetic turf.
- **87%** supported the proposed lighting upgrade.
- **120 comments** emphasised the need for improved playing field facilities to sustain usage levels.

- Community sentiment highlighted a desire for the facility to remain open to the public and not be allocated to a single user group.
- Strong feedback from residents requested sealing of the current gravel car park.
- Suggestions to include ball protection netting for bordering residents.

Additional suggestions focused on using high-quality synthetic materials sustainably, as well as high quality lighting, which has been incorporated into the project design.

The pitch will be available to the public, schools, and user groups outside of scheduled club allocations.

We appreciate the time and effort you have taken to share your insights and suggestions. The information gathered from this survey will be carefully considered in our long-term planning processes. Your input will help us create a space that meets the needs and desires of the community.

Project Features

We are pleased to announce that the RHL Sparks West Sports Field and Lighting Project will include the following features:

- The new pitch will have perimeter fencing but will remain unlocked and open to the public.
- Sealing of the gravel car park.
- An accessible path of travel from the pavilion to the pitch.
- A circulating path to the north, providing accessible travel from the sealed car park at the rear to the pitch.
- 5 Junior Pitches (Under 8, Under 9, and Under 10).
- 1 Senior Pitch.
- Improved lighting to enhance safety for twilight and night use.
- Lighting installed in compliance with AS/NZS 4282:2023 standards for controlling the obtrusive effects of outdoor lighting.
- Behind-goal netting along the northern boundary to protect bordering residents.
- Improved goal storage for clubs to help keep the site well-maintained.

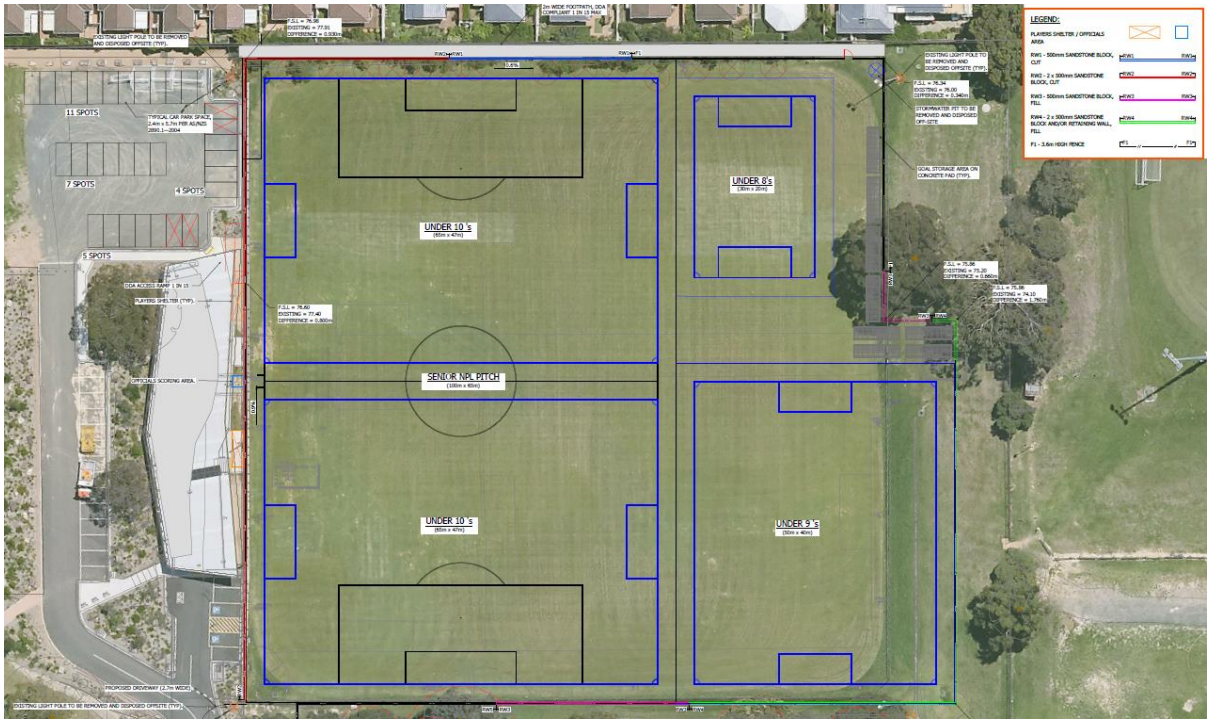


Figure 1, Final Concept Plan

Next steps

The final alignment for the northeast oval has been prepared. We are now continuing to develop the detailed design for the project.

- **2024/2025**: Progress into the detailed design phase.

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