

Resolution of Council

26 June 2023

Item 15.2

Getiela Park

The original motion was moved by Councillor Jarrett, seconded by Councillor Davis.

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) Getiela Synthetic Sportsfield, consisting of basketball courts and sports fields, is a shared-use recreation facility developed by the Department of Education and the City of Sydney;
- (ii) the City entered into an agreement with the Department of Education in 2018, and School Infrastructure NSW designed and delivered the project;
- (iii) the NSW Department of Planning approved the Alexandria Park Community School redevelopment in February 2019;
- (iv) since the completion of the Getiela Synthetic Sportsfield and basketball courts upgrade, the sports field and courts have been extremely well utilised by local sports groups with consistent bookings after hours on weekdays and for several hours per day on the weekend;
- (v) whilst the local residents support the use of Getiela Synthetic Sportsfield and basketball courts, they have extreme concerns about the current conduct and operation of the facilities during the usage of the field and courts including:
 - (a) the current noise levels and anti-social behaviour exhibited by many of the current sports teams hiring the use of the field and using the courts;
 - (b) the operating hours of the field and courts;
 - (c) the light pollution and operating hours of the lights on the field and courts; and

- (d) the height of the school fence and lack of security and enforcement of the field and courts;
- (vi) City staff have met with residents of the area to discuss the impacts of the usage of Getiela Synthetic Sportsfield and basketball courts on the liveability of the area and have come to several agreements regarding determining the appropriateness of groups who hire the field and enforcement of the Conditions of Use;
- (vii) City staff have also:
 - (a) met with and written to sporting clubs asking them to reduce noise levels and be respectful of neighbours;
 - (b) reduced the sports field and court lighting levels to 75 lux;
 - (c) investigated increasing the fence height and will report to the Department of Education;
 - (d) added two additional security patrols at 11pm and 1am, every night;
 - (e) visited to assess noise and found it to be consistent with other sports fields;
 - (f) organised for additional access to the accessible toilet within the school, in addition to the public toilet that is open next to the sportsfield until 10pm; and
 - (g) investigated reducing weekday hours from 10pm to 9pm; and
- (viii) the residents have explicitly expressed to both City staff and Councillors that even with the small changes made to the use of the field, the current operation of Getiela Synthetic Sportsfield and basketball courts is unsustainable and unbearable, with more changes needing to be assessed and implemented immediately to create a balance between the liveability and recreational use of the area; and
- (B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to investigate resident concerns about noise, lighting, fence height, hours of use, after-hours access, and lack of toilets at Getiela Synthetic Sportsfield and report back to Council via the CEO Update on actions taken.

The amended motion was carried unanimously.

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