

Item 12.11

Notices of Motion

Support for Grassroots Sports

By Councillor Miller

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) in 2005, 20 to 25 per cent of children were overweight or obese and the figure is growing by 1 per cent per year;
- (ii) sports participation for children has fallen since the 1980s from 82.5 per cent to 60 to 64 per cent;
- (iii) the City of Sydney's Open Space, Sports and Recreation Needs Study 2016 found that the demand for sporting facilities often exceeds supply, which is underscored by a high population of young people and 74.5 per cent of residents living in high-density housing;
- (iv) in response to this demand, the City has implemented a program of projects to provide additional sports facilities and enhanced existing facilities, including new multi-purpose synthetic sports fields and a new Aquatic and Leisure complex at Gunyama Park, Green Square, new synthetic sports fields at Perry Park Alexandria, new synthetic sports fields and sports courts at Alexandria Park in partnership with the NSW Department of Education, and a new multi-purpose synthetic sports training field at Federal Park, Annandale;
- (v) there is currently no consolidated database of grassroots sports organisations in the City of Sydney;
- (vi) there are low-cost, high impact ways to support grassroots programs. One such program is the Carnival of the Codes, which aims to expose children to new sports and increase uptake amongst new demographics e.g. women's AFL which has the fastest growing participation rates in Australian sports;
- (vii) City of Sydney staff have planned to prepare a policy for the allocation, management and use of sports facilities in 2021;
- (viii) this will involve consultation with relevant community stakeholders, including grassroots sports clubs to better understand their needs, as well as looking at utilisation rates and where facilities and available times can be re-allocated to new teams and clubs; and
- (ix) it is critical the City of Sydney consider the health and wellbeing of workers who travel to Sydney when granting access to our sporting facilities;

- (B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:
- (i) investigate the listing of all sports clubs within the City of Sydney on the City's website so that people looking to participate can easily connect with local groups and vice versa;
 - (ii) investigate further work that connects grassroots sport programs with existing City spaces, to ensure that whilst we are looking to develop new areas, existing areas are fully optimised;
 - (iii) investigate the availability of the Alan Davidson Oval at Sydney Park for the Carnival of the Codes - an inclusive event that allows children to trial and learn about various sporting codes; and
 - (iv) as part of the ongoing Open Space, Sports and Recreation Needs Study, continue to work with local schools, grassroots sporting organisations and alliances, as well as other Councils and the NSW Government, to further support participation in sports and increased health outcomes.

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