

Item 14.3

Notices of Motion

Getiela Park – Ongoing Issues

By Councillor Jarrett

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) at the 26 June 2023 Council meeting, Councillor Jarrett moved a Notice of Motion asking Council to investigate the current operation of Getiela Synthetic Sportsfield. This Notice particularly asked the Chief Executive Officer to 'commission an external sound consultant to conduct acoustic testing at Getiela Synthetic Sportsfield on:
 - (a) a weekday evening during training on the field;
 - (b) the weekend during a men's football match;
 - (c) the basketball courts on a weekday evening; and
 - (d) the basketball courts on the weekendto ensure that the noise level and pollution is not exceeding residential noise limits and to determine whether the installation of a noise mitigation sound barrier wall would be beneficial for the residents surrounding the area.' This request was not carried;
- (iii) this Motion was amended and carried unanimously calling on the Chief Executive Officer to 'investigate residents concerns about noise, lighting, fence height, hours of use, after-hours access, and lack of toilets at Getiela, and report back to Council via the CEO Update on actions taken';
- (iv) in the 18 August 2023 CEO Update the investigations of Getiela Park's current operation concluded that 'staff have taken proactive measures including writing to and meeting with key hire groups to reinforce the need to comply with the conditions of use, including the need to respect the amenity of the neighbourhood. City staff have worked with the clubs and sporting associations to relocate the noisiest teams and continued breached may result in cancellation of the hire agreement';

- (v) at the December 2023 Council meeting, after continued numerous complaints about the unsustainable and unbearable extreme noise still coming from Getiela, Councillor Jarrett presented a Question on Notice which asked the Chief Executive Officer if the City had conducted an acoustic report or an investigation of a similar nature;
 - (vi) the response from the Chief Executive Officer stated 'the City does not undertake acoustic testing of its parks and recreation facilities and has no plans to undertake acoustic testing at Getiela sportsfield. The City's after hours call service shows that one to two calls per month were received in the last six months regarding after hours noise at Getiela. The City's security service visits the site three times per night to close and monitor the facility';
 - (vii) for the past few months email responses from the Chief Executive Officer have directed residents that "for any noise during Monday to Friday 6pm-10pm hours of use please email getielasyntheticfield@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au. Or call 9265 9182 (which is Perry Park)". This bypasses the City's after-hours service and completely undermines the City's current complaint figures for Getiela Park;
 - (viii) 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 particularly regarding:
 - (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; and
 - (b) the City's lack of enforceability of its Conditions of Use for noisy hirers and whistle usage;
 - (ix) the residents surrounding Getiela Park have now taken it upon themselves to keep an acoustic noise level log whereby at 7:30pm on Friday 19 January 2024 a men's soccer game reached 80dB which clearly breaches the accepted 50-55dB range for urban neighbourhoods;
 - (x) it is clear that despite the plethora of noise mitigation solutions available to the City that would not impact the ongoing use of the Sportsfield, the City does not consider the wellbeing and liveability of nearby residents a priority or a concern; and
 - (xi) it has now been almost 12 months since Getiela residents first raised this issue with Council and it is blatantly evident that the City has once again prioritised profits and ideology rather than the real mental, emotional and physical wellbeing of those proximate residents; and
- (B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:
- (i) commission an external sound consultant to conduct acoustic testing consistently over a period of two months at Getiela Synthetic Sportsfield on:
 - (a) a weekday evening during training on the field;
 - (b) the weekend during a men's football match;
 - (c) the basketball courts on a weekday evening; and

(d) the basketball courts on the weekend;

to ensure that the noise level and noise pollution is not exceeding residential noise limits;

- (ii) if the above acoustic report finding determines that the noise levels and noise pollution from the use of Getiela Sportsfield during any one of those accounts exceeds residential noise limits, investigate the installation of a noise mitigation sound barrier wall;
- (iii) streamline the advice provided to residents on which points of contact affected residents should use to lodge complaints and receive assistance from the City and circulate this to all previous complainants;
- (iv) write and issue an apology to the residents of Buckland Street for the City's severely delayed response in investigating all forms of appropriate noise mitigation options and for the severely negative effects the noise produced from the usage of Getiela has had on their mental, emotional and physical wellbeing;
- (v) review and amend the City of Sydney's Gatiela Synthetic Sportsfield Conditions of the Use to reflect the findings of the above recommendations; and
- (vi) report back to Council on all investigations mentioned above in a timely manner via CEO Update.

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