

Report to City of Ryde

Amendment to Generic Plan of Management

Christie Park

Report on a Public Hearing

Prepared by:

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INTRODUCTION

Under section 35 of the Local Government Act 1993, public land classified as *community land* is required to be used and managed in accordance with a *plan of management* applying to that land. An important function of plans of management is to identify the *category* of that community land. The defined category of community land is a key overall identifier of future use and management. There is a proposal before the City of Ryde (Council) to amend Council's Generic Plan of Management 2001, as far as it affects Christie Park. The proposed amendment is intended to allow development of Christie Park into the future in accordance with recent masterplanning for the park which Council has been undertaking with relevant sporting groups.

PUBLIC HEARING

Where a change in the categorisation of community land is proposed, it is a requirement of section 40A of the LG Act that a public hearing be held. Section 47G(2) of the LG Act provides that for public hearings of this kind:

The person presiding at a public hearing must not be:

- a) *a councillor or employee of the council holding the public hearing, or*
- b) *a person who has been a councillor or employee of that council at any time during the 5 years before the date of his or her appointment.*

In accordance with the above provisions I was appointed to preside over the hearing into the draft plan of management for the subject land, and prepare a report on this for Council's consideration. This document is intended to comprise the hearing report.

The general administration of the public hearing was undertaken by Council officers. I understand that appropriate notice of the public hearing was given in a local newspaper. In accordance with this notice, the hearing was held on the evening of Tuesday 2 August 2016 at Eden Gardens Centre, Macquarie Park. Council had also invited interested parties to notify Council should they wish to make a submission to the hearing.

I commenced the hearing at 6pm in accordance with the foreshadowed arrangements. At that time those in attendance at the hearing comprised Council officers only. Council officers Ian Andrews and Michael Longworth were in attendance and had brought along documentation to explain the proposal. I was also advised then that no interested parties had expressed prior interest to Council in attending or making submissions to this hearing.

Soon after the hearing commenced, Mr Frank Marchi, a board member of the Gladesville-Hornsby Football Association attended. I queried Mr Marchi on his interest and he indicated his association were fully supportive of the proposal. Rather than make a submission Mr Marchi indicated he had attended to assist with the hearing and any inquiries which may have arisen from others. With no evidence of the likelihood of any submissions I closed the hearing at 6.30pm.

THIS REPORT AND FUTURE COUNCIL DECISIONS

There were no submissions made to the hearing and therefore this report brings no new information forward in regard to Council's deliberations on this matter.

5. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Council be advised that:

1. A hearing was held into the proposed amendment of Councils Generic Plan of Management 2003 as it affects Christie Park.
2. There were no submissions made to the hearing and therefore this hearing brings forward no additional matters for Council to consider in its deliberations on the proposal.



4 August 2016

Peter Walsh

Appointed Chairperson