

Community Feedback Comments Benedikt Reserve Hockey Proposal – February/March 2021

Please note this document may not include all comments sent to individual Councillors and does not include comments from social media pages. Names have been redacted and all comments were transcribed directly from each submission.

We write to you all as extremely concerned residents of [REDACTED], Scoresby.

It has recently come to our attention that you, the elected council representatives, are analysing the possibility of Benedikt Reserve being transformed into a home for the Knox Hockey Club. We understand the importance of the hockey club having a home base for their many members and can sympathise with the situation they find themselves in currently. The need for community sporting clubs and the positive impacts on physical, social and emotional wellbeing is not lost to us.

We are also long standing and current committee members, coaches and participants of various sporting clubs, also based here in Knox. We have three young children of our own, all participating in local sporting activities within the council buildings and grounds.

We wish to express our concern regarding the proposal to locate a major hockey facility in Benedikt Reserve.

We ask Council to consider the following matters before making a decision which has the potential to inflict significant impact on the local residents of an entirely residential area:-

- The plan includes parking for 58 vehicles. This suggests that Council are expecting a large increase in traffic flow into Rosehill Street. This will inevitably lead to disruption in the surrounding streets.
- Rosehill Street is a two lane road designed for local domestic traffic (O'Connor Road, Zerfas Street and Anne Road are wider roads constructed to accommodate higher volumes of traffic designated at the time of road construction for through traffic) It is entirely inappropriate for large traffic volumes to be encouraged on Rosehill Street.
- There appears to be no provision to limit on street parking local residents only. If this is not done then then the residents will be severely impacted.
- There is potential for noise from the facility, both from training exercises and games. It is likely that this would happen late into the evening, possibly every day of the week. This would again impact on the nearby residents especially those with young children.
- Although not mentioned on the plans, it appears likely that floodlighting would need to be upgraded for night games. More impact for locals!
- The proposed hockey pitch is located at the north end of the site, very close to Benedikt Court. There is an obvious potential for this street to be bombarded with hockey balls. This of course is completely unacceptable. The only solution would appear to be an unsightly high fence along the north boundary of the reserve. This does not appear to be planned and would in any case be a severe impact on the amenity of the residents.
- This reserve is the only opportunity for passive recreation in Scoresby east of Stud Road. It is currently well used by many locals to just relax and exercise.
- Particularly during the Covid lockdowns this reserve has become a gathering place for families. This development would restrict local use of the only facility available to an unreasonable degree.

We have been residents of the area for in excess of 50 years and have always believed that our Council had very high regard for preserving the amenities on behalf of residents, this seems not to be the case now. We have been regular users of Benedikt Reserve, first with our children and now with our grandchildren. They would all be devastated to see this area have freedom of access restricted by the activities of a sports club.

We know and understand that the hockey club need a place to meet and play but this site has so many negatives that we believe the local impact would far outweigh any benefits. Surely a

location such as Gilbert Park which is already an active sports facility located in a predominantly industrial area would be far more suitable for this facility.

We trust that you will consider our concerns when reviewing this matter

We have lived close to Benedikt Reserve since 1988 and now we are retired we walk our dog around / across the reserve almost every day. Since the completion of the new playground, undercover area, half basketball court & tennis court this reserve is used extensively by numerous people and groups. During the extended lockdown last year many families and small groups used the oval to play games, picnic, walk etc. Personally we love seeing the growth in the use of the reserve and this had a positive impact on our mental health to see families & young people having fun (especially last year).

This year the court(s) are in regular use as is the oval, playground and undercover area.

Last weekend the oval was being shared by a group involved in running Milo in2Cricket program with lots of youngsters and a group of adult males playing a cricket game supported by their families.

We are very concerned about the loss of the green space, the increased traffic and the impact of noise, lighting etc on local residents. Please consider Gilbert Park for the Knox Hockey Club rather than Benedikt Reserve.

We are living in [REDACTED] since 2014. We got to know that Knox Council is considering Benedikt Reserve ground to convert to a hockey field.

As residents in Benedikt Reserve, we would like to notify you our objection for this proposal due to the following reasons.

1. Highly residential area and noise pollution created by year around will have negative impact on the residents living around. The park.
2. Narrow two way streets surrounding Benedikt court/Reserve will increase traffic and also vehicle park by the side will also make things worst. We even now have this issue when there are practices (Cricket/Soccer) on the ground. Even you can see considerable traffic on the junctions entering to the main roads (Stud road and Frenre Gully road).
3. Benedikt Park is currently one of the very few quite tranquil green areas in this part of Scoresby, which is used by locals as an ideal place to exercise, walk their dog, play Cricket/Soccer, annual gatherings etc.
4. Adding artificial lights and noise to the environment which is currently and historical peaceful.

Above are the some of the facts that we think why building a Hockey field is not suitable in Benedikt Court ground.

So we urged relevant authorities, not to consider Benedikt Court for this proposed plan and look in selecting alternative place for the hockey field.

To whom it may concern:

I'm writing to appose the proposed development at Benedict Park for the hockey field.

The proposed location in my opinion is not appropriate due to the proximity to residential property.

The impact the the general community far out ways the benefit to a minority of people.

By using this location, not only are you taking away the green space, currently dedicated for the general public to use as a free space to meet, be active and enjoy, you are also impacting on the environment.

The wildlife who currently reside in the park will be affected by the noise, lighting and general activity which will be taking place late into the evening every night of the week.

There are a number more appropriate locations to home the hockey club which will not impact the general community or the environment such as Gilbert Park or Wantirna Reserve.

Please don't hesitate to contact me should you require any clarification.

To whom it may concern.

I've lived in Scoresby for most of my life and I love this area.

For decades I've played footy, cricket and many other activities at Benedikt Reserve.

Way back before Covid hit us all for six last year, this reserve has helped all of us both mentally and physically.

I like walking my dog up at park as much as I can, I like it when lots of people are there freely walking their dogs but I also like it when it's quiet.

Yes, peace and quiet are very much part of the reasons why I'm concerned about the proposal of a Hockey feild.

The plans that I've got access to show that it obviously will take up most of the oval space, leaving a much smaller open grass area for people playing sports.

I'm concerned about the extra traffic that it would bring to an area that feels safe.

The noise and lights going late into the nights would take away a lot for those us that live close by.

Please don't take away one of the best spots in Knox.

Think of everyone that this will effect.

To Council,

I am writing re. the proposal for Benedikt Reserve in Scoresby.

My family (including 2yo and 4yo) reside on Kathryn Road in Knoxfield which is a 10-15min walk from the reserve.

I strongly oppose the development of synthetic hockey pitches at this reserve.

We love this reserve so much, it is our favourite in walking distance. The combination of playground, fenced tennis courts and open footy oval means there is always something new to do here. It is my fail safe when we have friends visiting as it caters to all age groups, and people always comment how lucky we are to have such a great reserve so close. The footy oval is perfect for the dogs too, not to mention the hours I've spent walking a sleeping baby around it in a pram! It is a beautiful well used relaxing space.

Furthermore, we are one of the many residents in Knoxfield/Scoresby living in a unit. I appreciate these beautiful open natural spaces all the more because my kids aren't lucky enough to have a backyard to play in. These spaces are becoming all the more important in our area as families move into the units being built.

If you replace 2/3rds of this space with synthetic hockey pitches our community will lose all of this!

Thankyou

Re: Benedikt Reserve – Hockey Field proposal

I understand you are considering building a hockey field on the open grass area of Benedikt Reserve.

This reserve and the surrounding area is not suitable for a sports club with over 350 members. I wish to object to this proposal on the following grounds:

- Benedikt Reserve is situated in a highly residential area with houses in close proximity on all sides of the reserve. The additional traffic, noise and light pollution will have a detrimental effect to both residents and the area.
- Benedikt Reserve is used regularly by the local community and became particularly important to the locals during COVID-19 lockdowns. Having this open space to use during the COVID-19 lockdowns, has aided my mental health significantly during this time, as I am sure it has for others. Having such a large area of the park sectioned off with an artificial surface and high fences will reduce the open space available for general exercise and well-being. Any space with a fence around it tends to be avoided and the fence will inevitably have advertising hoardings on it, further reducing the ambiance of the reserve.
- Benedikt Reserve is home to, and visited by, many native birds. The reduction of grassland as well as the traffic, noise and light pollution will likely drive many of these birds away from the reserve.
- The introduction of such a large sporting community into the reserve will result in the upgraded facilities at the reserve (picnic area, playground and tennis court) being over-run with hockey club members. This will reduce the opportunity and likelihood for local residents, for whom these facilities were provided, to enjoy them.

As outlined on your own website, this reserve has historic significance with the line of pine trees along the park's eastern boundary being part of Rosa Benedikt's property Glennifer. While the plans do not currently impact these trees, as the hockey club grows and expands, there is concern

these trees may be impacted.

I understand insideEDGE Sport and Leisure Planning conducted the Melbourne Outer East Hockey Feasibility Study in 2018 for the Knox, Maroondah, Monash councils and the Shire of Yarra Ranges. As stated in the report, “A catalyst for this report (although not the sole driver) is the pending closure of the Knox Hockey Club pitch currently located at the Knox School, until October 2021. Knox will use the findings from this study to inform decision making to support the Knox Hockey Club in finding a new home.”

At no point in the 2018 report, was Benedikt Reserve considered. The report recommends Wantirna Reserve or Heathmont Secondary College with the local impact for Wantirna Reserve being positive, stating the closest residential house being approximately 400m from the site, on the other side of Eastlink. It would be more appropriate for the Knox Hockey Club to be re-located to a site such as this and not a local park such as Benedikt Reserve in a highly residential area.

RE: Benedikt Park

I write in response to Knox Council’s recent discussions with the Scoresby community regarding the identification of Benedikt Park as a proposed site for the relocation of Knox Hockey club. It is my firm belief that our Park should be protected from such an intrusion, and instead be preserved as a haven for our community.

Introducing the hockey field will have a significant negative impact on the Scoresby community as it will:

- Restrict access to public open space

By council’s own admission, as per its Annual Masterplan, public open space has multiple benefits for the local community and “the importance and value of open space will continue to increase over time as a result of emerging pressures on population growth, demographic change, urbanisation and climate change.” There is significant need to preserve the existing open space at Benedikt Park, particularly with the increasing population and more densely packed residences as a consequence of multiple subdivisions. Under the current proposal, the open space currently available to residents will be significantly compromised by the fencing required to enclose the synthetic hockey field, which the feasibility study suggests will range in height from between 3 to 5 metres –easily taller than the surrounding houses and thus preventing the area from being considered to be ‘open’ in practice. The synthetic nature of the hockey pitch will also limit access to this space, given that the range of activities and type of footwear that can be used on such a surface will be restricted. Furthermore, given that the site is intended to be used for Hockey, it is difficult to see how the space will be readily available to residents who will hardly be able to engage safely in leisure activities in this area whilst a hockey game or training is in progress.

- Reduce the useability of the park for residents

As mentioned above, access to the oval area of the park will be significantly limited given that hockey training and games would presumably be occurring at the very same times that people would like to use the park, namely after work/school and on weekends. The remaining oval space would become difficult to access, requiring people to go past both the hockey field and the carpark in order to access it. The size of green space would also be greatly reduced – both by the proposed hockey field and the associated expansion of parking into existing green space - limiting both the types of activities that can be safely done in this area and the number of users who can concurrently have enjoyment of the space. Furthermore, junior members of the hockey club along with children of adult members will likely seek to use the other features of the park including the playground and multi-use court, meaning that children living in the neighbourhood will find it very difficult to use and enjoy their playground at the times they are most likely to want to. With no

other playgrounds or multi-use courts readily available in this area, and with limited backyard space, local children will suffer a significant detrimental impact on their health, sense of community and mental wellbeing.

- Significantly decrease the liveability of homes

The installation of the hockey field and subsequent use by the Knox Hockey club will have a significant impact on the liveability of surrounding homes. From 4pm – 10pm on weeknights and regularly on weekends, noise from hockey training and games will permeate the neighbourhood, meaning that people are unable to quietly enjoy their own backyards and loungerooms.

Furthermore, the sports lighting towers that would be installed will cause the intrusion of light pollution and change the character of the area which is currently a quiet, safe and peaceful neighbourhood.

- Significantly increase congestion and traffic

As it stands, the area where Benedikt Park is located currently has no traffic light access in order to exit onto the major surrounding roads – Stud Road or Ferntree Gully Road. Traffic regularly backlogs at the streets that feed onto these roads (Rosehill Street, Evans Street, Glenifer Avenue). Additional cars using these roads will add to these backlogs and increase the volume of cars driving in the surrounding, residential streets. Furthermore, as a result of the increased housing density in our area, there are already multiple cars parked on each of the abovementioned streets (and almost all of the streets in our area) and the increased traffic that would come with the proposed development will compound this, significantly increasing the likelihood of accidents and making our suburb more dangerous.

I strongly object to the proposal of a Hockey Pitch being located at Benedikt Park as it would negatively impact on what is currently a quiet, safe and peaceful neighbourhood.

please find the following objections to proposed hockey field :-

Loss of open space for neighbouring residents, a large part of the park will be fenced off, locals will be locked out for the enjoyment of a few hockey players who may not even live in the area.

Open spaces are important for mental health as last year showed us, as suburbs now have extra residents due to sub-division of house lots, parks have become even more valuable.

Potential traffic problems and parking issues around roads that are minor and not designed to facilitate extra traffic.

Night games would cause interference to local residents eg noise, lighting and easy access to their properties

large mature healthy trees are to be sacrificed, to make way for fencing, including many roosting trees which provide shelter, food and protection for birds.

By removing this green space have you made any plans to create another park to offset this loss to local residents.

I would appreciate your response to my questions

<p>no comments in email. Dear Councillor</p> <p>Knox hockey club means the world to my friend Ash, so please save the club</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>My son trains at Benedikt reserve (with Knoxfield Knights Cricket Club) and his club plays junior matches there.</p> <p>I don't want to see the oval chopped up, laid with fake turf and/or fenced off with excessive traffic on the local street. I certainly have no issue with hockey and feel there are better locations for their facilities.</p> <p>I've lived in Knoxfield my whole life, attended Scoresby SC and have enjoyed the reserve. I do not want to see it changed demonstrably for the benefit of few and at the inconvenience/loss of many</p> <p>If I can help just let me know how.</p>
<p>My name is ██████ and I am a resident living in Scoresby near Benedikt Reserve. I recently heard of the plan to build a hockey field near Benedikt Reserve and believe that this should definitely not go ahead.</p> <p>Firstly, I want to say, I understand why this was proposed – The hockey field would be a local attraction for people to come visit and help generate revenue as well improving the wellbeing of the people in the area.</p> <p>Whilst it is a good idea in theory, there are many complications that come with this project.</p> <p>1. The locals around the area would be adversely affected – the noise from the hockey games being played will cause a negative externality to those living here, especially the older adults who sleep earlier. Additionally, this would really congest the traffic in this area. If you've come here before through Stud Road, you'd know how congested it already is especially during peak hour. Not only would this affect those who live here, but it would also affect those living in the surrounding suburbs such as in Wantirna South and Rowville.</p> <p>Last but not least, many people already use Benedikt Reserve for many things such as to exercise, play with their pets. Removing this source of free space would mean people would have to go elsewhere.</p> <p>2. Reallocation of funding – The funds that could be used for this project could instead be used for something better; if our objective is to help improve the wellbeing of those around us, we could allocate to provide a better education to the high schools around us and subsidise education programs or excursions. The students would be happier and learn more easily and as a result, perform better in their studies. The net effect is more students being able to find better jobs and being happier. We could even use the funds for other purposes such as improving healthcare facilities or even boosting funding for small businesses in our area. The funds have numerous better applications than to go to a hockey field that many people are objecting to.</p>
<p>My husband and I have been local residence of Scoresby for over 45 years and strongly oppose the development of the new sporting complex at Benedikt Reserve due to the following:</p> <p>1. High volumes of traffic congestion which will impact the already large volume on Rosehill Street and Zerfas Street. Also including the surrounding streets Arnold Street, Joelson Ave, Armin Street, Cavell Street, Benedikt Court, Rumann Ave, Rosa Street and Evans Street.</p> <p>2. Public Safety concerns of children and local families will also be impacted by the heavy traffic conditions.</p> <p>3. Benedikt Reserve has always been a local park where I take my granddaughter to play which is only a 5 minute walk for us both. Benedikt reserve should remain a green open tranquil space for play and exercise critical to physical & mental health and well being of all local residences both young and old.</p>

<p>4. Timing of 5.30pm-10pm five -six days a week will impact on noise, car pollution, artificial lighting and synthetic ground taking away our nature green space and streaming into local residence homes.</p> <p>5. Knox Hockey should be able to access a sporting facility more appropriate and suitable for all their sporting activities.</p> <p>6. We believe Parking would be an issue for traffic congestion, even with the proposed increase in parking as our streets are high in volume due to new townhouses and apartments that are being built and continue too.</p> <p>7. Benedikt Reserve newly build playground and facilities should be for the enjoyment of local community. This is a residential area, not a commercial area.</p> <p>I believe the petition I have undertaken with the local residence is and should be taken seriously and will the utmost of care and respect for Scoresby residence.</p>
<p>My husband and I are feeling quite concerned at the prospect of a hockey training area at Benedikt park. We live in Rumann Avenue which has a pathway through the park, we have lived here for 43 years and fee the peace and quiet will be compromised with noise, bright lighting and extra parking in Rumann Avenue spilling over from the park, which is bvery likely to happen. This hockey training area should be relocated to a more industrial area or more wide open space, as it is the park is surrounded on four sides with houses. It is a nice green spare which is used for various activities such a cricket, childrens sport, dog walking, kit flying and various other exercises. More recently the park has had an updgrade but he high fencing situation of this hockey club and bright lighting will down grade our park, all the good work the Council has done. What an eyesore. Objectiong very strongly.</p>
<p>My family of 7 (myself, husband and 5 children aged 4-12) live a 7 minute walk from Benedikt Reserve (Collins Close, Scoresby) and strongly oppose the development of a hockey club on this site.</p> <p>We have very few green open spaces with the facilities that Benedikt Reserve has in Scoresby, and would be devastated to lose this. My husband and I both grew up in Rowville (we bought our first house here in Scoresby in 2007 and don't plan on leaving any time soon), where there is an abundance of parks and open spaces, and being an older area we have found this to be lacking in general in Scoresby. The recent re-development of Benedikt Reserve has reinvigorated the space and was an absolute life saver throughout the covid lockdowns. It is also unique for this part of Scoresby, with the closest park for us after Benedikt being O'Connor Rd, which is quite rundown and unsafe for smaller children and has none of the facilities Benedikt has (basketball, tennis, undercover tables etc).</p> <p>I would absolutely hate to be a resident backing on to the reserve IF a hockey club was to be built. How can the council potentially rationalise the impact of noise, traffic, light and environmental damage on the area as being acceptable? These residential streets are not made for the traffic that a hockey club and it's facilities could bring.</p> <p>Thanks for your time and consideration.</p>
<p>My family and I wish to continue to have access to the open grass area of Benedikt Reserve. This is where we play frisbee and where my daughter loves to run, bird watch, and just simply enjoy the wide open space that is a mere few minutes walk from where we live. We value and appreciate the tranquility in our neighbourhood, it's one of the reasons we chose to live here in the first place. I fear a hockey club would put an end to that, and more. I strongly urge the council to reconsider its plans and keep Benedikt Reserve as is - accessible to all, quiet, tranquil and safe.</p>
<p>█ called to pass on her suggestion to you that the Hockey Club be relocated to Gilbert Park Reserve rather than Benedikt as it is a more suitable site being flat and would be less cost to Council.</p>

<p>She advised she had emailed Paul, Cr Seymour and other Councillors and will be attending Monday night's meeting.</p>
<p>Knox Council Please don't spoil a great place in our suburb. My children previously spend many happy hours playing in Benedikt Reserve. I now spend time with my grandchildren in Benedikt reserve for the following reasons :-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Close to home. - A quiet place to play and spend time. - A park to fly our kite. - A safe place to ride their bikes without danger of cars. -Using the playground facilities. -Using the basket Ball ring. - Observing the many birds which visit the quiet greet place. Yellow tail black cockatoos for one which use the trees for food and rest. - The beautiful trees. -The large green grassed playing area. -All of these enjoyments in a quiet and peaceful location. <p>The council proposal to turn this quiet green space into a hockey reserve, will damage beyond repair all of these current great attributes.</p> <p>It will also impose an horrendous impost on the local residents and current users of the beautiful quiet place. These include :-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This is currently a quite total residential area - Noise year round of people, noise pollution of whistles etc, cars coming and going. , till late into the evening. - Noise pollution for those people who currently enjoy sitting in a quiet and beautiful place. - The flood lighting pollution which will impact on the local adjacent residential housing. - The impact of the flood lighting on the local birds who use this area for the quiet night rest. - The potential loss of many trees to increase the size of the expanded pavilion. - All the additional traffic using the narrow two way residential roads to access this area. - Loss of the grass area to create additional car parking. - Impacting on those lucky residents who are lucky to have a beautiful park view from their properties. - The loss of the existing cricket and football facilities.
<p>Just watched Nicole's video on Facebook and I was very thankful at how informative it was.</p> <p>I'll keep this short as I presume you'll get a long winded emails.</p> <p>I am not closed to the idea of a hockey club opening if it takes up half of the field area.</p> <p>Anything more is taking away one of the reasons we moved to the area. It's difficult to find a place with open space for dogs, hanging with family and even picnics.</p> <p>As for noise complaints, lightings concerns etc. I'm not backed up onto the field so it may not impact me too much but I know a lot of two story townhouses are being built (I am one of them) and we can hear everything from that oval. It may deter people from wanting to buy/build two stories.</p>

Just wandering when residents of Rosehill Street Scoresby will be notified of the outcome of Council Meeting last night and the discussions about proposed hockey development at Benedikt Reserve Scoresby. Residents have not received any response from Paul Reading Knox contact in regards to their emails so we have not been given any alternative to communicate or be kept updated on this. Please advise.

Just email regarding the news development of the hockey facility.

1. Highly populated area the lighting, whistle, traffic with by quite annoying with the time frame of the games.
2. The fence along is terrible no being able to look over the back fence and enjoy the space which is available for our families to enjoy.
3. At the moment it's a friendly family space where the community can go play in a safe area.

Please don't re develop it!!

I'm am writing to strongly oppose the redevelopment of the Know Hockey Club at Benedikt Reserve.

Not only is it a highly residential area, the time in use is incredibly long which will impact all of the families whose houses back onto the property, along with restricting their view by placing a 5m high fence around the perimeter. There will also be increased traffic which will impact local residence, but also putting child safety at risk with more cars on the road in a residential area is incredibly dangerous.

This area is a quiet area with the large open grass space now proposing to be utilised by the Hockey Club is devastating for the local residences and their young families growing up.

I think it would be more appropriate, but also safer for the children from a road safety perspective that an alternative location is sourced.

Thank You

I'm a resident on Rumann Avenue near Benedikt Reserve.

As a resident, I oppose the construction of a hockey field for the following reasons:

1. After the establishment of the club, there will be more people and more cars, which will affect the rest of the nearby residents and make the road more crowded, causing inconvenience for the nearby neighbors.
2. The reduced green space gives people in the neighborhood less space to exercise.

Of course there are a lot of negative effects that I think other neighbors will let you know about.

The more important point I want to make is , as people who already live nearby, don't we have the right of first use? Do all decisions have to be profitable? People walking on the green field with their families, dogs running freely on the green field, children playing happily on the green field, all these are not more important than a Hockey Club?

Thanks for your time to have a look at my opinion.

I'm a local resident that backs on to Benedikt Reserve and I'm absolutely opposed to the redevelopment

The main reasons for our opposition are:

- It's a highly populated residential area.
- Under newly install LED lights training and games will be played throughout the week between 5pm -10pm and weekends.
- Newly installed 5m fence around the perimeter of the synthetic hockey field
- Increased traffic to the area with a new car park being installed and the overflow into our local residential streets as the club has hundreds of members to cater for.
- Impact on the flora and fauna in the area.
- The synthetic turf will take up ¾ of the current grassed area.
- A huge increase in noise which is currently and historically peaceful

We do completely support the Knox Hockey Club in finding a home. Why do five other sporting clubs and locals who use it daily uninterrupted have to lose their reserve to cater for the Knox Hockey Club?

Is it possible to please have a copy of the minutes taken from the meetings you have had in relation to the redevelopment of Benedikt Reserve in the prospect of relocating the Knox Hockey Club?

I would also like to know as we were originally informed there was other potential areas other than Benedikt Reserve however the council representative wasn't able to provide that information at the time. What are the other locations? As there appears to be a lot of discussion on line but no definitive answer to this?

I've been playing hockey for over 50 years, and have played for several different clubs as well as interstate & represented Victoria & SA. I have been a proud member of the Knox Hockey Club for almost 30 years and can remember changing our club name from Eastern Hockey Club to Knox hockey Club specifically to represent the local area.

I am a player and I also coach junior teams - Knox Hockey Club Academy and the U12 Girls team. Our club is now facing the critical problem of having no ground/home and we need the Knox City Council to honour their promise of providing facilities to the community of which we are part of. Not every council can boast a hockey club as part of their local area.

As a concerned member I beg the council considers our needs and the commitment it made to provide us with a ground for 2022 as our need is critical and the time is now. A pitch must be started so our club does not evaporate after such a long history in the area.

If a ground is not provided our club will no longer be able to function. We have grown stronger and committed to community events at our current 'temporary' home but the time is NOW to provide a permanent home of our own that can be held up as a demonstration of a council & its community working as it should - providing facilities for the residents.

Benedikt Reserve is a perfect location for our club which doesn't have issues with its members behaviour. We would be an ideal sporting club to develop that under-utilised sports ground. In conclusion I implore the Knox City Council to honour its promise to provide our club with a permanent home before Nov 2021 as we have been led to believe it was going to do for the last 2 years. Please don't let this section of the community down when we have been such a big part of the community for so long.

Hockey is an amazing game that develops team spirit and lifelong friendships.

I'm writing to you in regards to the proposed development of Benedikt Reserve in Scoresby.

I have examined the plans, and object strongly to the development of the hockey pitch and additional carpark. One main reason I object is due to noise concerns. Hockey is an extremely loud sport with loud whistle and impact noise, and although my residence is 4 blocks down Olga Street, the noise heard from all backyards in the community will be significant. Benedikt Reserve is currently a peaceful haven, family-friendly, encourages our community to be active, with walking track playground, tennis and basketball court. It's my dog's favourite place to explore, sniff and enjoy his walks. If the Hockey Club with 350 members is to be located at Benedikt Reserve, the peaceful haven will be no more.

Further, the local road infrastructure of Rosehill Street and surrounding through roads such as my own at Olga Street (there are limited through roads in this pocket) simply is not planned or appropriate for the increased traffic and parked vehicles Knox Hockey Club require. There is already significant traffic and parked vehicles on Olga and Rosehill Street, a bus route that has to dodge parked cars constantly, and inadequate and unsafe exit routes onto arterial roads of Stud Rd and Ferntree Gully Road. Some days it takes 5 mins to safely turn left (or heaven forbid, right) onto these roads from our pocket. The increase in traffic to our area will simply be unsafe and a total gridlock in local streets.

Also, aesthetically this will be an absolute eye-sore staring up into 5m tall hockey fences, not to mention the tragedy to lose the beautiful established trees that bring so much tranquillity and a home for native fauna in our neighbourhood. The air is so unbelievably crisp and clean at the park, it's beneficial to the mental health of our neighbourhood. It's a shame that our usual view of beautiful tall trees may be replaced with car parking and a new clubroom.

It would be wonderful if you could consider finding an alternative location for the club, such as the State Basketball Centre or at Knox Park, locations that have the space, traffic light entrance and exit access and adequate room to house a club of 350+ members, with ambition to grow. Please support the view of so many residents living here and do all you can to reduce traffic, noise and overdevelopment of a lovely, quiet neighbourhood.

I hope that you will take these concerns into account and that Knox Hockey Club find a more suitable home, away from the quiet neighbourhood around Benedikt Reserve.

I write to you as a concerned resident in regards to the plans to rehome Knox hockey club to Benedict Reserve in Scoresby.

My home borders the entrance to the reserve on Rumman avenue. I have been a resident of Knox in the same home for over 50 years. I use the reserve daily for walking and all of my children and grandchildren enjoy this space when visiting.

My concerns are with the noise and lighting aspects of approving such a move, as the residents have been advised training occurs every evening until 10pm. My main concern is around traffic congestion on the surrounding streets, including Rumann avenue on which my home boundary is located.

If the plans go ahead, it will mean a loss of space on the reserve that so many residents enjoy, as well as impact on the natural environment that the reserve currently offers.

The recent works to the playground and tennis court that run adjacent to Rosehill street has already seen a reduction in parking, I do not wish to see all surrounding streets now filled with

cars at all times of day and night by persons that do not reside within the area.

Let's keep our pocket of Scoresby and the reserve for the residents that it was donated to. I am confident that another location, such as the no longer used Carrington park, with ample space and parking would be a more suitable solution.

I would like to strongly voice my opinion on the hockey club NOT taking over our wonderful Benedikt Reserve. I have been a citizen of Knox for well over thirty years. I came from an area much closer to the city, but chose this place to bring up a family that is much quieter, more closer to nature.

We have had many dogs in our time and have enjoyed the short distance where we can take our dogs and once upon a time our children. We were thrilled when the oval had the upgrade and only last week commented on how lovely it was to see the groups of people enjoying a local game of cricket, with spectators also enjoying the game.

My vocation is in the mental health industry and it is for this very reason I think it is so important that we keep the oval free for the locals. It is a place to meet other locals, as we have over many years. A brief chat, a smile and a nod as we venture down to the reserve on a more than weekly basis is sometimes all people need in these troubling times. The fact that there will be so much more traffic, no parking, noise pollution, (and most likely garbage) alone should be enough to warrant passing the hockey takeover idea. Mental health has never been more prominent in our society than over the past year and we need to do more to help people, not push them aside even more with a high fenced area that used to be a place where they were free to roam.

I pay my rates to live in a suburb where people can feel free to do what they like in this area which has recently been upgraded to make everyone feel so much more at ease to use the facilities and feel safe as there are so many more people around. We have watched people having their own little personal training sessions, individuals doing tai chi, kite flying, cricket games, football games, dog training, golf practice, drone flying, people meditating, reading a book, having a picnic, kids learning to ride their bikes. Please don't take these simple pleasures away. We really need to come together, not be pushed aside.

I would like to object to the proposed hockey development at Benedikt Reserve. I live at [REDACTED], across the road from Benedikt Reserve, and I oppose the development for a number of reasons:

- I have a strong concern regarding the additional traffic the development of the hockey facility would bring to the area. Whilst the increase in traffic would impact the safety of all children in the neighbourhood, it would bring significant difficulties for my son. My son is twelve years of age and has additional needs. One of his disabilities is a neurological condition that involves significant difficulties with visual and spatial processing. As a result, he finds it difficult to judge the distance to cars and the speed at which they are travelling towards him. Over a number of years and with considerable effort, my son has proudly learned to ride his bike to his grandparents' and friends' houses through our quiet streets. This has been a huge achievement for him. Were this development to go ahead, my son's hard-earned independence would be lost and I would have significant concerns for his safety. He could not manage the increase in traffic that the hockey facility would bring.

- Benedikt Reserve is in a residential area with houses surrounding it on all sides. As a residential area we enjoy a beautiful, quiet and peaceful neighbourhood. The noise, whistles and light pollution, until 10pm nightly and on weekends, that the hockey facility would bring would be high and unfair. How are children supposed to sleep? How are we to enjoy our own outdoor

space? This is not an appropriate development for a residential area.

- Benedikt Reserve is a highly valued place in our community. It is used by many in the neighbourhood for exercise, sporting games, dog walking and there are often children kicking footballs, hitting cricket balls, and running around. During Covid it became a place for my family to meet and have a picnic. The hockey development, along with high fences and the high usage that would accompany such a facility, would unfairly and severely restrict our community's access to Benedikt Reserve. We love our open space and we use it.

I can certainly appreciate that the Knox Hockey Club needs and deserves a home, however Benedikt Reserve is not an appropriate place for this. Benedikt Reserve sits in the middle of a residential area where the impacts of such a significant development on the local community would be unfairly high. Surely there is a much more suitable area for this facility, one where lights, noise and traffic would not impact others. Is a sporting precinct, such as Gilbert Park, a far better option?

I would be more than happy to discuss my concerns further and can be contacted via email at

[REDACTED]

I would like my voice heard and what strongly oppose the redevelopment of Benedikt Reserve. I visit that park regularly with my grandchildren to play, ride bike, bird watch, collect feathers it has a beautiful safe feel to the park and it's the only reserve in the area. The Hockey Club will increase traffic with the overflow going onto the street It's a highly populated residential area not commercial Take away our open space for synthetic material and a huge wire fence Take away numerous other sporting clubs which don't impact on the park being shared by the locals Excessive training and games during the weekdays and weeknights till 10pm at night Lightning shinning into residents home till late in the evening

We do agree on one thing you need to find them a home but it's not our home, I'm absolutely disgusted that it's come to this you have had 5yrs of discussion to help them and know you our going to destroy our safety and our home.

I would just like to express my concerns regarding the proposed sporting upgrades to Benedikt Reserve in Scoresby.

Benedikt Reserve has become a fantastic asset to the local residents following the upgrades and pathways that have been added to the space over the last few years. The improvements to the facilities have made it the focal point of local afterhours and weekend recreation activities for the local residents. It was a godsend during lockdown! This area is made up of a combination of the older original residents, and new younger families, with many families having dogs. Benedikt Reserve is an excellent shared space that caters for these different family groups. Of an evening or weekend, the playground and sporting facilities are full and there will be various groups walking around the paths or playing cricket or football on the oval.

I have several concerns with the proposed relocation of the Knox Hockey Club to Benedikt Reserve. One of my concerns is the extensive time the facility will be in use with lights on. The peak times for locals to use the Benedikt Reserve facilities are after work hours and on the weekends. These are the proposed times that the hockey pitch will be in full use. As someone whose house backs onto Benedikt Reserve, I am not happy about all the extra noise and activity that will bring to our relaxation times. I am also not thrilled about the proposed expansion to the carpark and the extra traffic that will bring to the area. We are already having issues with increased high speed and other hoon behaviour in our quiet streets, where there are small

children and pets. I personally would find the extra activity a deterrent to using the area to walk in. I like that it's a peaceful and relaxed place to be.

I wish to state my objection to the proposed plan to build a hockey field on Benedikt Reserve.

I believe that the hockey field, and the increased traffic that will be introduced, will significantly alter the open and tranquil nature of this part of the Knox neighbourhood, and also bring about increased risk to the safety of residents in the area.

As a cyclist, I have travelled extensively in the Knox area and I believe that are locations such as Gilbert Park and the park along Bunjil Way where a hockey field can be built with less adverse impact on the local community.

I wish to state my objection to the proposed plan to build a hockey field on Benedikt Reserve.

I believe that the hockey field, and the increased traffic that will be introduced, will significantly alter the open and tranquil nature of this part of the Knox neighbourhood, and also bring about increased risk to the safety of residents in the area.

As a cyclist, I have travelled extensively in the Knox area and I believe that are locations such as Gilbert Park and the park along Bunjil Way where a hockey field can be built with less adverse impact on the local community.

I wish to respond to the information sent from Knox City Council sent to residents regarding the proposed hockey field to be built on the Benedikt Reserve.

I am concerned about the development of a hockey facility on the Reserve for the following reasons:-

It appears that two-thirds of the oval area will be taken up by the hockey field with a loss of the remaining cricket pitch as well.

The area is already well used by family groups for exercise, dog walking and playing area enjoyment.

The areas surrounding the Reserve have seen a steady increase of multi unit developments on previously single home site.

Access to open and peaceful green spaces is even more important for health and wellbeing.

The streets surrounding Benedikt Reserve are intended to service the residential properties.

The proposed 58 space carpark would entail more traffic activity and loss of more green space.

The high fences required for a safe hockey area impact on the street frontage to Benedikt Court both visually and by limiting in physical access points.

The noise and lighting issues are not new to this reserve. I recall it was setup for football training nights which were mostly over the winter, but only once or twice a week.

While I support community sport and exercise, I urge the Knox City Council to consider an alternative to Benedikt Reserve.

The development to date that has occurred at Benedikt Reserve was the result of Knox City Council inviting local community input.

It is wonderful to see families, groups of friends and even community social groups using the park facilities and surrounds. It is important to retain this space.

I thank you for the opportunity to respond to the Hockey Field proposal.

I was wanting to give feedback about the proposal of the hockey club being relocated to Benedikt park.

Firstly the impact on local streets through greater traffic flow and the parking arrangements. Even with additional car parking this will make the area difficult for locals to access, along with the local bus route which often finds it difficult to navigate due to cars parked along the street already.

I don't live in close proximity to the immediate area, but I feel for residents who do. I certainly wouldn't like the added noise or disruption of lights till late in the evening upon my door step.

I am, however, part of a family who uses this facility frequently with our children. We enjoy the green space to kick a football, have picnics and ride bikes around the fantastic walking path. We use the tennis court, basketball court and play ground and love the natural feel. Having the hockey pitch would certainly stop us from wanting to join what would be lots of people attending matches and training in and around the current facilities, making an already popular recreation area too busy to enjoy easy access. Given the upgrades to Benedikt reserve the council has invested in during recent years, it would be a shame to change the feeling of such a well used and loved area by locals.

There is no other multipurpose recreation reserve like this one in the area and I would urge you to reconsider the use of this location.

Thanks for your time.

I wanted to share my views and thoughts on this proposal.

A hockey field is required for the local hockey community and a replacement for the one at Knox Private needs to be identified. There is no doubt or concerns about the need.

However the proposed location, Bendikt Reserve is not the right candidate for a number of reason(s)

- It is in the midst of a housing area (natural disturbance and in-convenience to the neighbourhood)
- Games and/or training happen most days 5-10 PM - Again huge disturbance to the local community
- Open area will be lost to accommodate additional parking (as they will likely need to be built to allow the players to come and play. The local community needs green open spaces.
- Traffic on Rosehill street would increase dramatically (not in line with its natural and current character)

What are the other candidates? Are those candidate locations shared with the local community?

The caribbean market is a huge area with ample parking available (and it has been closed for over a year now)? Isn't that a good candidate

Isn't Knox Regional Sports Park another good candidate? Having a few sporting activities at the same place allows one to share and re-use the change rooms, parking facilities etc?

If you look at this area, bounded by Harcrest, Stud Rd, Fern Tree Gully this is the only large oval in the neighbourhood. Losing that Oval will certainly hurt this local community.

In summary, I would like to register my NO to this proposal and request the Knox council to look

at alternatives.

Can i also request the council to provide us with detailed information on the candidates and the steps taken so far in identifying alternatives?

I understand that Knox Council need to find a new home for the Hockey Club, but please not Benedikt reserve.

I believe there is a much better location for this new facility. Why can't the existing unused area on High Street Rd, on the South Side adjacent to the new Basket Ball Centre be used for this new Hockey facility.

There are many advantages to this location :-

- Zero impact on any residential areas.
- No where near residential areas so NO impact on any local housing and impact on residents
- Easy access to a major road High Street Road, so NO impact on local residential streets.
- With clever design, be able to share some of the existing car parking spaces.
- Flood lighting will not impact on any residential areas.
- Minimal impact on existing bird life. Perhaps you could plant some suitable bird attracting trees for roosting and feeding.
- Will turn this area into a major sporting hub for Knox with Basket Ball, Soccer and Hockey.

Please take Benedikt Reserve OFF you Draft Development Proposed location for the Hockey ground. There is a much better location adjacent to the Basket Ball Centre.

We look forward to a positive outcome for this relocation, not the negative outcome of destroying Benedikt Reserve.

I strongly oppose the redevelopment of Benedikt Reserve, you will destroy this reserve for all the local residents and other sporting venues it will also:

Decrease the value of homes where a lot of homes are being developed which brings money and infrastructure to the residential area Increase traffic with the overflow going onto the surrounding streets It's a highly populated residential it's not a commercial area It takes away our open space for synthetic material and a huge wire fence It takes away numerous other sporting clubs which don't impact on the park being shared by the locals Excessive training and games during the weekdays and weeknights till 10pm at night Lightening shinning into residents home till late in the evening The affect it will have on the fauna and flora due to noise and increase in traffic and pollution

Don't destroy our home, please find another home for the club.

I strongly oppose the redevelopment of Benedikt Reserve for use by a Hockey club, and wish that it remain available in it's current form, for local residents, cricket and football clubs with far greater members.

Personally, my 7 year old and 4 year old boys attend Woolworths Cricket Blast with Scoresby Cricket Club. On several occasions each year the club must make use of Benedikt Reserve as an overflow when matches are scheduled at the clubs regular ground. Without access to nearby reserves such as Benedikt they would potentially miss out.

I have grown up in the area, and as a child I regularly played informal sports on the large open spaces of Benedikt reserve; I flew my first kite there around 35 years ago; and I now travel from Wantirna South with my own children to do the same. It is a fantastic, quiet, local park that should remain as it is for the local residents within Knox. My children love that it is away from busy main roads, it is quiet, with large open space, and I appreciate the minimal traffic around it for the safety of my children. It is hugely valued in it's current form by a majority of rate paying local residents, and altering it would only serve a handful of people.

Honestly, the best solution for the soon to be homeless Hockey Club, and one which makes great use of a huge area of underutilised land is a redevelopment of Lewellyn Park. It is a very large open space with great vehicle access, is used as an overflow for cricket and football clubs (although I am involved in both and neither use it out of desire, only necessity), but Lewellyn Park is not highly regarded by either football or cricket clubs, nor is there a desire to use it regularly due to it's terrible, uneven grassed surfaces and the lack of clubroom facilities. Putting a permanent sports club and facilities there would be an excellent result not only for the sports club (eg. Hockey), but also for the immediate local area and residents, who would appreciate it's development.

I strongly oppose any further development of Benedikt Reserve for Hockey, and I hope an alternative location is found for Hockey.

I refer to Knox City Council's current community consultation in relation to the relocation of Knox Hockey Club to a new pitch to be built on Knox City Council land.

Knox Hockey Club welcomes the Council's decision to allocate \$125,000 in 2020-21 in order to undertake this planning and consultation study in ahead of development of a new facility in early 2021-22.

I note that the current consultation in relation to the Council's preferred site continues to on Benedikt Recreation Reserve, and that you have today posted to Facebook inviting further consultation on this option outside of the existing process established by Knox City Council.

Given that Knox Hockey Club and our membership of over 350 members and supporters are a major stakeholder in this decision, I seek the opportunity to meet with you and discuss further our interests and concerns in relation to the project continuing to the schedule required for our club to survive.

Please let me know as soon as possible when this opportunity can occur.

I hope this finds you well.

I am a resident of Rosehill st in Scoresby and I would like to get in contact about the proposed Hockey club relocation to Benedikt reserve. I live at 58 Rosehill Street, Scoresby, and this proposed redevelopment is a major concern to the residents in the street and my family.

In particular council will be aware of residents voicing concerns that are significant and impact on all negatively on Rosehill st and local area.

The proposed redevelopment has several issues that need to be highlighted and make the Benedikt site simply inappropriate for this type of redevelopment. I expect upon community consultation the Knox council will have highlighted these concerns and will not progress with the proposal.

This space is a much loved local park with access for the entire community- the open oval and entire play space/tennis courts are used extensively and this proposal takes away the equity of access to all residents in the area.

I have young children who enjoy the space and the removal of this space to replace with access only for Hockey club is appalling. This is not in the interest of local residents and removes the passive and active recreation opportunities for children and residents alike.

Secondly, another issue is the increased road traffic in an already busy street with busy bus lines and car volumes- causing significant safety issues with children enjoying the park and additional noise issues from traffic.

Noise issues will also appear with the use of proposed facilities with multiple training times a week and I also suspect the huge lighting towers will impact badly on adjoining properties.

It is quite simply the role of council to maintain a safe road environment, provide spaces for equal use recreation and additionally not actively add to noise issues/traffic volume.

Adding car parks to aid with increased traffic volume acknowledges this will be a key impact and it simply cannot be allowed. It poses undeniable and very unnecessary risk to the local children and residents which council must avoid.

This reserve is also known for its wildlife in the form of wild birds, this cannot be positively impacted by this proposal also.

This proposal is simply inappropriate for this reserve and poses major issues for local residents. Community consultation must be listened to and the Knox hockey club must not be given priority over hundreds of local concerned residents and local children.

I look forward to your attention to this matter and feedback as to how the reserve will be maintained as is.

I have been staying in Rosehill St, Scoresby for the past 12 years. One thing i like about this street is that it is quiet and peaceful. We use the benedikt reserve regularly for our morning walks and exercise.

I seriously request that Council to reconsider the plan to build a hockey field on Benedikt reserve. I don't think this should be build in a quiet residential area. I cannot imagine the amount of cars that will be passing and parking along our streets when the hockey field is built. We will lose the peace and quiet evening with the regular trainings and games that will be held there. While i understand that the hockey club is desperate for a new home but it has to be a suitable location. A quiet residential area is definitely not suitable.

The council has classified this area a Neighbourhood residential zone and came out with many regulations to protect this plan. So i am not sure how this increase in traffic and noise with the new hockey field can fit into this neighbourhood residential zone planning? Pls do not take away what we are currently enjoying now.

I have been a resident and rate payer of Scoresby for the past 48 years and I have always appreciated all the Knox Council has achieved for the area.

BUT I AM EXTREMELY CONCERNED WITH THE PROPOSED PLANS FOR THE CHANGES TO BENEDIKT PARK.

MY CONCERNS.

1. Benedikt Park is a wonderful green open space and home to many bird species. It has been a saviour for many to have this in our area for mental health especially during lock down but has always been used by walkers,bike riders,dog walkers,children and exercise groups etc.

The Cricket and Auskick have been a tradition for many years and an enjoyment for locals plus they are non intrusive.

2. Open green space is so very important. Having an artificial fenced hockey field taking up 3/4 of the park with the possibility of advertising plaques on the fence is definitely not supporting our fight against Global Warming.

3. Roads. There has been a huge increase of on-street parking in the area due to the increased number of cars per home, leading to a weave in and out situation. The car numbers would double or triple each training day/night plus games,thus making the area more like a permanent car park.

The car park proposed in Benedikt park would not cover the number of cars for the games/training PLUS it would be destroying more of the green area.

4. The LED lighting that is proposed for 5 nights a week till 9pm would be an invasion of privacy to those living in the adjoining residential area, particularly the older age group and families with young children.

PLUS the adverse addition of the noise echoing from the park during that time.

I do ask the Knox Council to think of the residents and rate payers of Scoresby before any decisions are made. I am sure there is a better alternative that is not close to a residential area within in Knox that would be more suitable for all.

Please Save Benedikt Park.

I am writing to you to inform you that I strongly object to the plans for Benedikt Reserve to become the new home for Knox Hockey Club.

I moved into the area in Jan 2001. One of the selling points for us was the lovely open space across the road. We loved the park so much that in 2018 rather than moving house we did a knock down and rebuild and happily remained in the area. We have 3 children of various ages that regularly utilise the park and its lovely facilities. We have used the oval for many activities over the years, from playing football with our kids to having picnics with our friends.

With many houses around us subdividing it's so nice to have such a lovely open green space for everyone to enjoy. The importance of the open space was highlighted over the Covid lock down, having the passive, open space did wonders for the communities' mental health. Personally for me at the end of the working day after being stuck inside behind my computer, being able to go to walk around the oval and see the leafy green park with vast open skies and native birds flying around was what kept me sane. My desk at home was intentionally set up to look out onto the park. All day, every day I observed people getting out and enjoying the space, it makes me feel proud to have such a special space where the whole community could benefit from the peaceful atmosphere.

I have read the Knox Council Open space plan 2012-2022 where it alleges that Council prides itself on its vision for open space.

I quote "Open space is a significant part of our city's landscape. It benefits our community and our environment on many levels including simply enjoying the outdoors, participating in active recreation ... and protecting our natural heritage."

3 extremely important points made in the document are;

- Social Sustainability - Knox's open space contributes to community wellbeing, social interaction, belonging and identity.
- Economic sustainability - Knox's open space makes Knox a desirable place to live and work.
- Environmental Sustainability - Knox's open space creates habitat, supports biodiversity, improves storm water quality and may help to reduce the effects of climate change.

I have grave concerns that over half the oval will be replaced with a bright blue synthetic surface, with 3 to 5 metre high fences surrounding it, making local residents feel on the outer. The bright lights at night will affect many residents, I am particularly worried about trying to get my young children to sleep with the light pollution and the constant noise of traffic, whistles, coaches etc. I also worry about how busy the park will become. The facilities were planned and designed to cater to the very local community (small playground, one basketball ring, one tennis court). The addition of a hockey club will stretch these facilities and make them regularly unavailable to the very people they were implemented for.

Additionally, our streets are already busy and struggle to cater to existing traffic and will only further suffer with increased usage. That is without even mentioning that it caters to a bus route which requires ease of access to remain on schedule.

I'm devastated that Knox City Council is considering changing our park and essentially taking it away from all the local residents. To have people training five days a week until late and playing all day over the weekend. I will never be able to escape hockey or escape into what used to be a peaceful salvation. I hope you will reconsider any plan to move forward with the draft proposal. Benedikt Reserve is not an appropriate location for this type of development.

I am writing to you to get a better understanding of the council's stance for the Knox Hockey club.

I received a letter dated 18th January 2021 "Have your say- Benedikt Reserve on possible future sporting upgrades"

In the letter you mention a number of options are being considered for the club and council wishes to have a discussion with the local community about the possibility of using Benedikt Reserve.

As a resident who will be directly impacted if the plans go ahead, I am requesting more information, so we can make an informed decision and can join the discussion you invite.

Where are the other sites you are considering? (I really hope we are not the only option.)

What is the best way for me to obtain the council's plans?

What is the deadline for residence to send in their response?

I was unable to attend the meeting 30th Jan & Wed 3rd Feb. So I hope that our voices will still have time to be heard. I understand the importance of the Hockey Club finding a home, but we need to be provided all the relevant information to make it fair for the community.

I look forward to your prompt response.

I am writing to you in regards to the plan for the Knox Hockey club to relocate to Benedikt reserve. As a long time local resident I am opposed to this proposal for many reasons. The loss of green space will have a big impact on the local families that use this space daily, including ours. We love to spend time here with the kids & our dog. During lockdown we were so fortunate to have this beautiful open space to enjoy and we met quite a few other local families in the area.

The increase in parking & traffic will be very frustrating to the locals too.

If the hockey training is done 5 nights a week the lights & sound coming from the field will also be a disturbance to local residents.

The Hockey club would perhaps be better off in a location that is not so residential such as Gilbert Park or somewhere closer to the George Street Basketball Stadium. Neither of these locations will have such a negative impact on the locals. Some sport is already played in both of these areas & they both have much better parking options.

Please consider the local residents objections before a decision is made.

Kind Regards,

I am writing to you as a concerned resident of Scoresby (731 Stud Rd) with regard to the proposed hockey relocation to Benedikt Reserve.

Benedikt Park is a safe green space in a residential area that families enjoy every day of the week, all times of the year. Parents, grandparents and children are among the people who benefit the most from this space.

Of particular concern is the increased traffic that the Knox Hockey Club will bring into an already very congested area. There are no lights for traffic to get out of the area at Evans Street and Glenifer Avenue onto Stud Rd or Rosehill Street onto FTG Rd.

The floodlights (on until 10pm at night) will make life less pleasant for the local residents and the bird life that call the park home. Noise late at night as a result of the hockey club will also negatively impact local residents and bird life.

It seems that the council has a number of options open to it, particularly adding to the already impressive sporting complex at the State Basketball Centre on High Street Rd and Cathies Lane which is not in a residential area and therefore does not impact on the lives of Knox residents.

Thank you for taking the time to read my email and I hope you consider my concerns when making your final decision.

I am writing to provide my input / submission as a concerned resident who has lived a few streets back from Benedikt Reserve in Scoresby for the past 15 years.

I understand the Council is considering a new location for the Knox Hockey Club and Benedikt Reserve is one of the locations being considered. Whilst I feel empathy for Knox Hockey Club members and understand the need for the Club to relocate, our local residential community would be very negatively impacted if Benedikt was the chosen site.

We are a family with two young boys who are highly involved in community sport, so understand the importance of sporting club communities and how they positively influence all members.

Our family utilizes Benedikt Reserve every week to play tennis, shoot basketball, use the playground, kick the footy. My kids and their friends in the neighbourhood like to walk or ride their bikes up to the park to enjoy the quiet green space. If a large hockey centre was built, it would significantly and negatively impact traffic, noise, child safety riding bikes, loss of flora for local wildlife to live and reduce the green space available to our local community.

I believe there are other parks / recreation reserves in the Knox area which are not in the middle of residential zones which would be far better suited to relocate the Knox Hockey Club, without negatively impacting local residents (eg Gilbert Park on Ferntree Gully Road already a dedicated sports field but under-utilized, Llewellyn Park a vastly larger area of land, again under-utilized).

I am strongly opposed to the re-development of Benedikt Reserve.

Thank you

I am writing to object to the development proposed at Benedikt Reserve I feel a club this size is not suitable for a small reserve in a heavily populated area with residents on all sides and can't understand why a different location that is better suited to the Knox Hockey Club to grow into the future is identified.

I've spoken to some of our Knox councilors and Gilbert Park has been mentioned a few times and think this would be a good location for a club of this size as they would be able to share the park with Softball & Baseball while growing there members and not having a member cap placed on them when they out grow the pitch as would occur at Benedikt Reserve, it is close to a main road and the freeway rather than busy narrow local streets.

Gilbert Park has ample parking which is needed for a club with over 350 members and opposition teams on game nights, this is another issue I can see with Benedikt Reserve due to the lack of parking options therefore the streets will be clogged up with cars and the Buses will not get through Rosehill street.

Hockey is a loud sport with the hitting sound of the ball, whistles which is proposed too close to the rear fences of homes with spectators cheering and the voices would be directed towards the homes with the layout put forward. Residents would be trying to get their children or self to bed and the noise will impact sleep with the hours the club operates.

This is not an issue at Gilbert Park as there is no homes close to the park.

Lights at night until at least 10pm, the lights will shine into homes & bedrooms this is not expectable this late at night, Gilbert Park will not have this issue each night opposed to a major problem for residents in the Benedikt Reserve area.

Benedikt Reserve is a busy place already with cricket and football along with the local residents utilizing the reserve if a fenced in pitch is placed there and a large sporting club 6 nights and on weekends the reserve is no longer available for passive local use with club members and opposing teams using the playground and tennis court plus the loss of the open space used to walk dogs, fly kites, run & play sports etc by locals & sporting clubs.

I hope the council can see that Benedikt Reserve is not a suitable location for a large sporting club operating so late at night 6 nights a week including weekends as the impact to the residents is significant and unfair. This location is also unfair to the Knox Hockey Club as they deserve a home that will provide them with expansion options, ample parking and facilities they require to grow hockey and for their members without the negative impact on the surrounding area.

Thank you for your time and I trust that a suitable location that fits the needs of both the club and local residents is found and I feel Gilbert Park ticks all the boxes for the Knox Hockey Club.

I am writing to convey my strong objection to the proposed development of Benedikt Reserve, Scoresby and to express the myriad of reasons why it would be inappropriate and ill-considered for Council to even contemplate progressing past the current draft stage.

Firstly, I bear no grudge against the Knox Hockey Club who, through no fault of their own, are in need of a new home. However, I found it staggering to discover that the developments at the Knox School which have triggered this need have been known to Knox Council since late 2017. It would seem Benedikt Reserve is not and never has been the best option for the new home of the Knox Hockey Club but rather the only option left to a City Council which has sat on its hands for too long and requires a quick and cheap solution.

There are many reasons why Benedikt Reserve is an inappropriate location for the proposed development and I will list them below. It is my hope that the strength of the arguments of locals will carry the weight they deserve and the Council will consider more than just the total number of Hockey club members for the proposal, against the total number of residents against it, for surely Council agrees that sound policy comes from calm, considered decision making, not the counting of heads.

Reason 1. Benedikt Park is located in a highly residential area with many houses backing directly onto the park. The lighting, whistles and noise pollution created by year round hockey would have a disproportionately negative impact compared with a sporting field outside such a dense residential space.

Reason 2. The proposed development would increase cars on streets ill-equipped to handle the additional traffic. The two-way streets surrounding Benedikt reserve can already be quite busy. When cars are parked on the street, it will only allow traffic to flow one direction at a time. This situation would of course be exacerbated with the inevitable increase in traffic to the area driven by the hockey club moving in.

Reason 3. Adding a sporting club to Benedikt Park would rob the area of rare and vital quiet space. Benedikt Park is currently one of very few tranquil, green, open spaces in this part of Scoresby. This open and quiet space is vital to the mental wellbeing of Knox residents which has been acknowledged by Knox Council in its own documentation.

Reason 4. The time in use would rob Benedikt Park's neighbours of the quiet enjoyment of their property. The properties surrounding Benedikt Reserve were purchased in the knowledge that come the evening they would have peace and darkness in which to spend their evening hours. With hockey training to be completed under light towers until late in the evening 5 nights a week, this will be an unacceptable intrusion which will have a significant impact on their standard of living.

As a local I can only hope that the process from this point forward is transparent and we Knox rate payers are enlightened with the specifics of what (if any) other locations are being considered, why possible options, for which expensive feasibility studies have been undertaken, have been disregarded or abandoned and finally the timeline for when the proposed sight must be finalised to ensure completion in time to avoid Knox Hockey Club having nowhere to go.

I am writing this email to voice my disapproval for the hockey ground development for Benedick Park. This ground is currently being used for cricket and football. Knoxfield C.C. has been a long standing tenant and would be severely impacted by having to play elsewhere. Being a residential area, we fit in well with the locals as we only play on Saturdays and don't train there. This appears a perfect balance. Look forward to your response.

I am writing this email to raise my concerns and objections to the plans for the Benedikt Reserve.

As a local resident within walking distance of the reserve it is the closest one I can get to to take my kids for a run and play and on their bikes etc. it is within walking distance and quite easily the closest to me.

The proposed changes would make it too hard to take our kids up for a cycle in a safe space. I have reservations about the amount of additional traffic this would create along Rosehill St.

Please find an alternate location for the hockey club which doesn't destroy an area used by many families for gentle exercise whilst staying close to home without having to drive all over

I am writing in relation to the proposal to build a hockey field at Benedikt park

I believe that this park is not an appropriate place for a hockey field.

- The area is surrounded by a residential area, with Rosehill St the only through street surrounding the park, with a small dead-end street on the north side.
- The park is currently used as an exercise/walking area for the locals, who also use it as an exercise area for their dogs. Children also use it to play football and cricket.
- The amount of time that a hockey field would be in use would have a high detrimental impact on the residents who live in the vicinity of the park, both from noise and the use of lights at night.
- I have been to the Knox School while hockey was being played at the weekend. I do not know the parking capacity at the school but from recollection, there must have been 100-150 cars in the various car parks. There is no way that this volume of traffic could be accommodated at or near the park without causing huge congestion in the area.

Submitted for your consideration.

I am writing in regards to the proposed plan to build a hockey field at Benedikt Reserve for the use of the Knox Hockey Club.

As a current resident of Scoresby in close proximity to the reserve i am opposed to this development and disappointed that the Knox City Council would feel that this area of natural green space that is loved and used frequently by our community would fit the need for such a purpose. To take away one of the few green areas in Scoresby (specifically to the East side of Stud Road) to facilitate a fenced off sporting club is not appropriate or considerate to the local residents. The traffic issues, noise pollution, excessive lighting that this development would bring along with the loss of a safe tranquil place for us residents to exercise, walk our dogs, play outdoors with our children to me seem reason enough to look to other options for this facility.

Having lived in the city of Knox for 40 years i have seen the changes in terms of housing development in the area with many units being built with little to no backyards, i feel that the availability of outdoor green spaces for local residents should go hand in hand with council approving and allowing the area to be overwhelmed by these types of developments.

I am sure that there are other locations in Knox which would be better suited with less impact on current residents. Areas such as the Gilbert Park Softball complex which is within a commercial area and already considered a sporting hub. The Carrington Park Leisure Centre which is already home to sporting facilities that include lighting and sufficient parking. I am certain there would be similar areas to these examples throughout the Knox municipality. Why not try to keep this off unsuspecting residents doorsteps and set this up in an already known sporting complex or a commercial area with minimal local impact.

I do hope that our opinions are heard and respected and that the Knox City Council can forgo the proposed development.

I am registering my deep concern over the proposal to consider Benedikt Reserve as a site for the relocation of Knox Hockey Club's training field.

The piecemeal and inadequate communication from council over this proposal has resulted in much worry for local residents bordering and adjacent to the reserve, none of which has been eased by what we have heard from councillor Seymour despite her efforts to allay our concerns. Benedikt Reserve is entirely surrounded by long-term settled residential streets and is a quiet peaceful haven from the appalling traffic thundering along Stud Road and Ferntree Gully Road. It has also been a refuge for most of us during the stress of the covid lockdowns and is regularly used by local families for picnics, walking, playing and even small group exercising. To consider dropping a blue coloured hockey field onto this lovely expanse of open field is entirely inappropriate to the needs of the local residents and adjacent community.

The 'feasibility' study overlay if implemented, will destroy the best part of the Reserve, which is the area to be cleared for an expansion of the car parking on Rosehill Street. This banked grassed area below the magnificent row of pine trees affords the best view of the hills as well as the most shaded and ambient part of the reserve, ideal for family picnics or to walk during hot weather. The trees were part of Rosa Benedikt's original donation. The existing parking bays are already regularly littered with fast-food rubbish and the occasional vandalised car. To increase the parking bays for the benefit of hockey training five nights a week will:

- Create a larger area for litter and hoons
- Destroy the grassy embankment which is the only fully shaded part of the reserve
- Add to the creep of cars parked on upper Rosehill Street itself, impeding local traffic and the bus service further
- Unquestionably lead to the removal of some or even all of the magnificent pines to facilitate construction.
- Leave residents opposite the site with nothing but a big car park to stare at where once would have been a lovely grassed embankment
- Displace large numbers of native birds, which local residents and children have come to regard as an integral part of this area.

I would further suggest that the light and noise pollution caused by 5-night-a-week training would utterly ruin the surrounding resident's right to quiet enjoyment of their homes, with LED lights and the noise of training sessions as well as the nuisance parking of cars on Benedikt Court (people are NOT going to carry sports gear all the way from Rosehill Street up to this field). The club I believe has over 350 members.

The proposal to fence this field will inevitably result in sponsors and advertising hoardings and discourage people from even walking on this blue surface. The moment someone does make a mess on it, the hockey club will probably want it gated off as well.

While councillor Seymour has sought to reassure concerned residents that Benedikt Reserve is only one of several sites whose 'feasibility' is being considered, she was at pains not to reveal any of the others due to 'confidentiality'. I find it puzzling why the Benedikt proposal is out in the open but no others are. She has also stated that she, as our ward representative, wants to hear our concerns but remain impartial, until plans are brought before the council but has also mentioned that the hockey club has an active advocate, the councillor in who's ward the club currently sits.

As more and more of the old blocks here are redeveloped into medium density housing with smaller gardens, the influx of people wanting some green space and peace to let their children play in increases yearly. Those people will be ratepayers and voters. The amenity offered by quiet backwaters like Benedikt Reserve is one of the great attractions for people to relocate out here. A hockey training field used 5 nights a week under LED lights is not an 'amenity' anyone wants to live with.

The debacle of council installing and having to remove rumble strips on Rosehill Street due to unbearable noise pollution, is another indication of how noise affects the area due to Benedikt's unique acoustics. Anyone living in Knox knows the city is full of empty spaces away from

residential streets. It is beyond my comprehension how the small, quiet and peaceful Benedikt Reserve so thoughtfully bestowed by Rosa Benedikt could even be put on a list for a proposal like this. I hope the council will take note of local concerns and reconsider this plan in light of local residential needs, rather than simply wait for vested interests to make a louder noise.

I am formally placing an objection to the hockey club taking over our park. With the sports areas we have in Knox.

Surely there is enough space for a hockey court in one of these precincts

1. Ferntree gully Rd Knoxfield
2. High-street Rd Wantirna
3. The basketball centre off Burwood Hwy

Here are my objections.

1. This is a quiet well settled area
2. With an overbuild in this area by too much division of ¼ acre blocks.
3. With so many people cramped into properties with no yards more people are using this park.
4. I myself have used it for my children , grandchildren and now my great grand children.
5. Now at 87 years of age I find myself wheelchair bound so this is my only access to a place I can use to get out of my home for relaxation and to meet folk to chat with.
6. Not to mention the traffic hazard this would cause.
7. Parking. Where do you propose all these cars will park?
8. With the bus using Rosehill St and residents cars parked on the streets (no plan for their cars. Each new house/unit built) has at least two sometimes three cars per family and the overflow is onto the roads. The school oval is inaccessible in a wheel chair and it is not available during school hours.
9. Noise pollution would be a nightmare for residents living opposite the park.
10. The hockey club is large and is too big for this area.

I am currently residing on Rosehill Street, with my house and master bedroom facing Benedikt Reserve.

It is very concerning and shocking that the Council is considering developing a major portion of Benedikt Reserve into a hockey facility.

Inappropriate Location

Benedikt Reserve is a prized green lung in the middle of a peaceful and quiet residential area. The open field is well loved and constantly used by residents far and near.

The field is surrounded at all sides by residential houses, most of which are single story and occupied by families and retirees. Many of these houses have habitable areas, including bedrooms and living rooms facing the Reserve. In many houses, these habitable areas are mere metres away from the field. As you well know, once a hockey facility is built on the Reserve, there will be increased traffic and crowd. The noise which will accompany hockey matches include cheering, whistles and shouts. These will be heard in the habitable areas of surrounding homes and will be a constant source of stress and disturbance. The recurring noise from crowds outside the hockey facility (people coming and going) will also be a constant source of stress.

Pursuant to the Environmental Protection Act 1970, it is an offence to make unreasonable noise from a residence. Noise is deemed unreasonable if it can be heard in a habitable room of a home, especially if the noise is recurrent. Based on this legal standard, it is obvious that the recurring noises produced in hockey matches and/or by the crowds coming and going, which can be heard by residents of surrounding houses in their habitable rooms, will be considered as unreasonable as well.

In addition, although car-parking bays are available, it is common for crowds to park their cars along the roads. The roads surrounding Benedikt Reserve are narrow. Rosehill Street is one of the roads next to Benedikt Reserve and buses (Bus 753) run on that road. With increased traffic and cars parked along the road during matches, the peace and quiet of the neighbourhood will be jeopardised and this will be a constant source of stress for hundreds of residents in the area.

Building a hockey facility in such an unsuitable location will be very unreasonable and irresponsible.

The Reserve is already used for current purposes

For your information, the field is constantly used as a place of respite from the stress and busyness of everyday life. It provides a refuge for people to take their walks, jog, play, fly their kites, picnic, kick a ball, exercise, play team sports such as football and cricket, and conduct outdoor exercise classes and allow their dogs to have a run. In addition, the wide open field which is surrounded by trees provides a tranquil space for people to simply rest and calm their minds.

During these trying Covid times, Benedikt Reserve has become an important place for people and neighbours to gather outdoors (where outdoor gatherings are deemed safer by the health authorities), hold picnics, family gatherings, allow their children to run and play safely and generally connect with their neighbours so that they do not feel so isolated. This is of utmost importance for mental health and physical well-being. Many retirees and families, especially those with young children, use the field everyday.

Since the Reserve is already being utilised for many purposes by so many people, it is completely unreasonable and inappropriate for the Council to take away a large portion of the field and deprive the current users of the enjoyment of the wide, open space.

Hockey facility contradicts established characteristic of neighbourhood

I am contacting you with regards to the Benedikt Reserve and the plan to build a hockey field there for the Knox Hockey Club. I am not in support of this proposal and I believe you should keep looking for a more suitable location for the Hockey Club that is not in a residential area. We often meet here with our kids and grandkids to spend time together in the beautiful open green space there is to enjoy. It is the perfect area for them to safely run around & play on the oval and playground. We also like to sometimes bring the dog for a walk around on the path too. The reserve brings some beautiful birds into the area too which are lovely to watch & listen to. The extra traffic & parking that the Hockey club will bring to the surrounding streets will be very frustrating as will the noise that will come from there. I believe flood lights are to be installed which will impact on the surrounding houses. There are already reducing play areas for families to enjoy in Knox. It would be a shame to take one more away. There are many concerns local residents have, so please consider these when making the final decision and look into other potential sites for the Hockey club.

I am against the development of Benedikt reserve, to become the Knox Hockey Club, reasons being, Highly Residential Area, Lighting , whistles and noise pollution, Increased traffic, narrow streets with buses travelling raises safety concerns

Year round Hockey use takes away from local access.

Access to green space provides a calm restorative and serene refuge.

Even by just visual access, green spaces exposure provides a respite

for over stimulated minds. Mental health being so important to old and young.

Walking the dog, exercising, and playing with the kids. We need Benedikt to remain our haven from everyday stresses. There are many other options

Gilbert Park plenty of room for the Hockey Club, why is that not considered to be viable?

Knox regional sports park

Knox Park

Lewis Park

And there are probably many others, others which will not impinge on

local residents in the same way that having the Club at Benedikt.

Hoping this request is not ignored, and sanity prevails.

I am a resident of [REDACTED] scoresby. I am writing this email to explain why I do not wish for the new Hockey Field to be built in Benedikt Reserve.

Firstly I am a renter for one of the properties opposite the park. As such I have been locked into a 12 month contract that cant be void without a penalty. One of the worries is the increase of traffic. There are 2 residents in this house with only one parking space, meaning one of us must park in the street. We are unable to park on the front lawn as 1) we do not own the property and 2) if we destroy the grass we risk losing our deposit. If traffic increases we could lose our normal street parking spot.

Adding to this point Rosehill is an active Bus route. If there are cars parked on both sides of the street the bus struggles to maneuver between them. The street just isn't wide enough. This can cause damage to cars, causing us to pay out of pocket for something that should not happen.

Secondly this will increase more traffic down a quiet, calm street. This causes danger for younger residents, elderly and the local wildlife. This may lead to a deter of local residents from being more active outside their own property. With an increase of traffic it will cause far more hindrance than help in the long run.

Thirdly I am currently working from home. Due to covid i don't have the luxury to work in an office during normal weekly working hours. With construction brings noise, loud noise that can be a distraction. I am working in finance meaning I need to concentrate on everything I do. I also can have daily meetings via a video program; this means not only I will hear but those I am meeting with will too. I can not afford to have this construction interfere with my only source of income.

adding to the above point; this hockey field will increase the noise in this small quiet community. This will upset not only residents but also local wildlife. This will mean we will lose birds, possums and other wildlife that call this area home.

Forth Benedikt is a small park as it is. It is nestled in a highly built up area. As i have said I live across the road from the park. Everyday I see many locals taking their children to the playground, using the half basketball ring, tennis court and field. For a small park it is very active all day every day. People train, play, meet and enjoy this small beautiful park that was donated to us. With the new field this will mean we lose a large part of the park that is very much loved and used. The field won't be able to be accessed by the community meaning we are unable to enjoy what we sacrificed. I believe restricting locals to a tiny area is unfair. Not only will the Hockey club increase more people around the park but locals will again be deterred. During this time that covid is still active isn't a good idea.

Finally I believe there would be a far better area suitable for this situation. As said before this area is small, it is highly built up and very actively used. It would be cruel to ask the locals to give up what small beauty we have,

I understand that the Hockey club needs a new home. This is in no way to attack them or against the club themselves. However I believe that they and the locals of Rosehill St deserve a better location for this project.

Please reconsider Benedikt park and allow us to live in the peace we are used to. Thank you for your time.

I am a resident living in [REDACTED] Scoresby. Our family is enjoying the tranquil environment and facilities in Benedikt Reserve, where we always play with family and neighbors. I was shocked to hear that the reserve will be developed to be a hockey field. My family is strongly against this drafted plan as it will disturb the peace and tranquility of the community. This reserve was designed and built for the local community and not designed to accommodate hockey teams. The completion and operation of this hockey field will cause complete changes to traffic, hygiene, the community, education and many others.

The local roads were designed for the local people and not to accommodate sports teams. If the hockey field was built, there will be a lot of traffic and it will cause the congestion of local roads reddening them useless for the people from local communities.

The noises generated by the traffic and outsiders will disturb the quietness and calmness of the local area. The presence of outsiders may also cause some security issues since they might have some terrible habits like drinking, smoking and cursing. Not only will their bad habits cause security problem they will also be bad influences on the local children. The outsiders will also most certainly generate waste that will make the park dirty and unusable for the local people who has to use that space everyday. We also wouldn't know what things they might leave behind, I've seen beer bottles and needles scattered around public toilets at sports fields.

In conclusion, we strongly disagree with converting the reserve into a hockey field. If it is completed not only will it cause a complete change with local traffic, community, environment, and others. The damage caused by these problems and outsiders will inevitably influence our kids and environment in a way which cannot be reversed. The huge loss will not be assessed and compensated in financial methods.

Please take a deep consideration for this critical decision.

I am a mother of 4 now adult children

When they were young my husband and I would take them to netball, Tball, tennis, football, jazz ballet, ice skating, cricket and all the sporting venues were suited to the relevant sports they participated in.

I can't for the life of me understand how you would even contemplate putting a Hockey Field on Benedikt Reserve.

Such a highly populated area of homes.

I have a Question how many of you have sat till 10 PM at the Knox Hokey ground?

Whistles, people yelling, the loud cracking noise of the hockey sticks, bright lights, the noise carry's late at night it can be heard in streets across Burwood Hwy and beyond 6 nights a week.

And you want to plonk it amongst peoples homes, not even 20 or 30 metres from their backyards. How can they have a BBQ dinner in their own yards without the constant loud noise just over the fence till 10 OCLOCK at night, let alone trying to put their children to bed?

PLEASE PLEASE find the correct home for the Knox Hockey club so it will suit everyone's needs instead of ruining so many family homes surrounding Benedikt reserve.

Hope the email finds you well.

I am a resident on Rosehill St and my family have been here for 5+ years. After council upgraded the old tennis court and playground, there are much more traffic on the street than before, with much more left rubbish around.

As a father of two little kids, I love the peaceful and quiet environment here and the open space around. And I really dont like the plan of the hockey field which will put fence around. And definitely more traffic as well.

You may know the traffic is getting worse and worse on Stud Road on commuting hour. It's not uncommon now the queue sometimes all the way along from Ferntree Gully Road to Harcrest. Some drivers detour through Rosehill St occasionally. The hockey field will make this even worse.

Please reconsider the plan and find somewhere more suitable.

Thank you so much for your time.

Hope all is well with you.

I came to know about this project in the neighbourhood and would like to express my concern & disappointment of the location selected for following reasons.

Benedikt Reserver underwent major renovation recently.

- Kids play area was recently renovated.
- New Basketball & Tennis court installed.
- location is nestled within a very close neighbourhood
- a go to place for recreation in the footy, cricket ground with kids & families
- it's a local habitat for birds such as cockatoos, parrots, galahs, lorikeets, magpies

building a huge complex means

- more noise/light pollution especially in early mornings or late evenings/nights.
- more traffic
- road infrastructure is very narrow to support this development
- destroying the nature habitat

A simple question, why was the State Basketball Centre not considered given it has lots of space and the vicinity was built for that purpose.

Hi,

I'm a local resident that backs on to Benedikt Reserve and I'm absolutely opposed to the redevelopment

The main reasons for our opposition are:

- It's a highly populated residential area.
- Under newly install LED lights training and games will be played throughout the week between 5pm -10pm and weekends.
- Newly installed 5m fence around the perimeter of the synthetic hockey field
- Increased traffic to the area with a new car park being installed and the overflow into our local residential streets as the club has hundreds of members to cater for.
- Impact on the flora and fauna in the area.
- The synthetic turf will take up ¾ of the current grassed area.
- A huge increase in noise which is currently and historically peaceful

We do completely support the Knox Hockey Club in finding a home. Why do five other sporting clubs and locals who use it daily uninterrupted have to lose their reserve to cater for the Knox Hockey Club?

Regards

Hi Paul,

I'm a local resident to Benedikt Reserve,

I oppose having a Hockey Field take over our peaceful neighbourhood.

The traffic would be horrific and cause excessive blockages which are already an issue because council allow multi dwelling with one car space. There are ridiculous amounts of cars on the road rather than in driveways.

I would suggest this would be a major concern for emergency services.

I live on Stud Road in a townhouse with no backyard . I have two children and we frequently go to the reserve for our recreation.

It was primarily one of the reasons we moved into the area.

Council need to reconsider the ludicrous decision and relocate the idea to a location more appropriate. How about the land around State Basketball? Plenty of land and room for car parking?

Regards

Hi Paul / Knox City Council

I am writing to provide my input / submission as a concerned resident who has lived a few streets back from Benedikt Reserve in Scoresby for the past 15 years.

I understand the Council is considering a new location for the Knox Hockey Club and Benedikt Reserve is one of the locations being considered. Whilst I feel empathy for Knox Hockey Club members and understand the need for the Club to relocate, our local residential community would be very negatively impacted if Benedikt was the chosen site.

We are a family with two young boys who are highly involved in community sport, so understand the importance of sporting club communities and how they positively influence all members.

Our family utilizes Benedikt Reserve every week to play tennis, shoot basketball, use the playground, kick the footy. My kids and their friends in the neighbourhood like to walk or ride their bikes up to the park to enjoy the quiet green space. If a large hockey centre was built, it would significantly and negatively impact traffic, noise, child safety riding bikes, loss of flora for local wildlife to live and reduce the green space available to our local community.

I believe there are other parks / recreation reserves in the Knox area which are not in the middle of residential zones which would be far better suited to relocate the Knox Hockey Club, without negatively impacting local residents (eg Gilbert Park on Ferntree Gully Road already a dedicated sports field but under-utilized, Llewellyn Park a vastly larger area of land, again under-utilized).

I am strongly opposed to the re-development of Benedikt Reserve.

Thank you

Kind regards,

Hi Nicole, I've just watched your video regarding the relocation of Knox Hockey Club. Thank you for providing me with a wonderful lesson for my students in how to persuade your public with emotive language to agree with you without actually stating your position. Very clever! Paint a picture of a community enjoying a calm community space and throw in a few words like 'synthetic, large spaces' and you've done your worst. This is NOT a balanced view or argument as you state it is. You obviously DO NOT support Knox hockey club, despite representing Knox!

I completely understand the residents point of view but please allow the hockey club a 'fair playing field' - they need a pitch.

Basically, do your job. Find them one! As you said this has been going on for a FEW YEARS. Why is this taking so long?

Your page states you are not into politics, you support 'grassroots'. Really? Because you couldn't get any more grassroots than Knox hockey club. A club that supports young and old, mentors their juniors and encourages families to get involved in healthy competition and fitness. The club is called 'Knox Hockey Club' we deserve to be supported by a Knox councillor!

Hi I just wanted to say how much Knox Hockey Club means to me and my family. We have been a part of the club since my eldest son started playing in U9's in 2003. Out of all the sports a kid can play my 8 year old son chose hockey. We knew nothing about the sport with me having played netball all my life. So we went to the club and it was the best thing we ever did. It was such a family orientated club that made us feel so welcome.

My son just loved it, he learnt so much and made the most amazing friends who he is still friends with now at 25. My second eldest son joined as soon as he was old enough, didn't look back. The same amazing experience at a wonderful club. It's close to home a wonderful environment and a very successful club. Both boys have many many memories and lots of success stories as well.

Knox council please need to keep its promise of a new home for the club. I must say when traveling around playing and thinking how lucky all other clubs are with their own pitch and facilities. Knox Hockey Club is such a huge part of the Knox community all the kids and adults playing is such a wonderful experience.

It was great for the boys during their teenage years, training and playing twice a week kept them focused and a good outlet away from school and homework.

With the amount of footy ovals, cricket pitches and netball courts etc in the Knox area ONE Hockey ground should be an automatic yesssssss! All the Soccer fields down at SBC and around the area. The 100's of parks around the area that the majority of people have a couple to choose from in walking distance from their homes.

So why penalize hockey kids and families for choosing a sport that might to some people be not as important to people who play footy etc. For ONE Hockey field!

There was/are residents that back onto the hockey field now and they haven't complained. The club has rules and regulations regarding lights, noise etc

To everyone involved at the club it's home away from home, great community with local families who all pay taxes and council rates!! The funding is there!

Both my boys have made amazing friends as well as my husband and I. So I please ask again that Knox council keep their promise and build the new Hockey field.

Why should they have to travel out of Knox area to join another club come the end of this season...it's a no brainer the answer is YES you can please keep your PROMISE and build the new field for the club. Thanks for your time and I look forward to watching my sons play on the NEW field that belongs to KNOX HOCKEY CLUB ✓✓✓✓✓

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Hi Councillor & all VIP Leaders representing Knox

I wish to submit my concerns/worries of my beloved suburb. We loved this suburb & looking forward to a peaceful homely area to retire, my husband & family/friends want to voice out that this Reserve is not appropriate for a Hockey Club, due to highly residential & nearby busy Stud Rd, We need our precious Greenery of Field for our kids to play casually or formally with Open Space. During our depressing state of previous Lockdown with distance restriction, we have been using the field often and so for others. Please do not take that away from us. We do not need artificial lighting & environment noise instead maintain a current peaceful/quiet environment for some of my elderly neighbours & us. This goes to our wellbeing of the tiny Scoresby community. Please protect our piece of greenery field for Scoresby residents.

Having seen the proposed plan for the Hokey Club to move to Benedict Park my wife & I are upset, with what we might lose. We walk around the park daily and benefit from it, we love seeing native birds, and life at the park. Occasionally will play kick to kick with my nephew on the lawn. This idea of fencing off and building synthetic pitch is bad. People should take note this long weekend at how many different activities happen at the park. Where will people fly kites, kick the footy or have a picnic & walk around a lovely spot. As someone who lives in Arnold Drive I hate to think of the extra traffic and noise at night.

Having lived In Rosehill Street nearly 48 years, my children grew up here, using the park as their playground. My grandchildren and friends now use it all the time. I have watched the area grow with a lot of great amenities but, our streets are getting busier, with more cars, and I am right on the corner of Rumann Avenue, which is just 2 houses away from Benedikt Reserve and I object greatly to a Hockey field being built and used there. I do not want my surrounding streets to be clogged up with cars, parked, as there will be limited parking at the actual park. So therefore my objections are as follows

1. Safety, children ect.
2. The amount of cars, traffic in the surrounding streets.
3. The noise level.
4. Big Lights if installed.
5. Destroying our peaceful existence.
6. Parking in front of my house, Rumann Ave and Rosehill Street as I am the corner house, myself and my family, always park in Rumann Ave. from the corner up.
7. Parking generally concerning neighbours

Have just watched Nicole's video re possible relocation of the Hockey Club.

We live in Rivette Street and this is the first we have heard about two formal consultations and one informal consultation. We received one notice that the move was being considered.

Five nights a week until 10pm and then games on weekends. Does this also mean constant whistles and other noise.

Bright lighting will disturb and probably scare away the birds that come to the reserve and roost in the pine trees at night. Lights shining into private homes.

Parking and traffic in surrounding streets will be a huge issue.

During Covid lockdowns the reserve was the immediate neighbourhood go to place for walking.

Money has been spent on the new playground, tennis and basketball courts and all are well used. We don't want this taken over by the hockey club as non-playing folk will take over these facilities.

Definitely not.

What other sites have been considered please?

Hand written letter of objection - As long term home owners (53 years) in Benedikt Court we protest the idea of a Hockey Club taking possession of the park. The Glenifer Estate is zoned residential not a "Sports Precinct" and with this is not suitable for Hockey practice - with lights, noise, and traffic congestion five nights a week and matches on the weekend. The fact that Hockey must be played on a man made surface with fences - player huts at, and more concrete areas is abhorrent. What does Council know about the Park - Bird Life (20 native species use the Park). All ages and nationalities use the park for passive recreation - which would be lost for a large part of the year if it is overrun by teams - from who knows where using it. The proposed "Parking area: is another problem why do we need to lose green space - which has become even more precious with "COVID". Once lost can never be replaced. It disappoints us that so little information has been passed on to the Community about this, when it is obvious Council have been making decisions for some time. Please say no!

Good Luck x

Good Afternoon,

I am writing to you in relation to the proposed use and further development of Benedikt Park for Hockey purposes to raise our objection.

We have been a resident that backs onto Benedikt Park for 45 years at [REDACTED] and have many concerns on this proposed development that is being imposed on our local space.

- Fear of crime - with the increase in traffic in our residential area which is currently quiet we are concerned of the increased threat to our safety and our homes, as the development will attract people to the space that are not local, specially increasing traffic behind our property.
- Hockey has openly confirmed that they would be having training during the week 5 times a week to 10.00pm at night, we are not in an industrial area, the lighting and noise that would be generated at these times is unreasonable.
- Within our sub division this space has been allocated as natural green space that is utilised by the local community, by families, by children and by animal lovers, significantly reducing this space and fencing off the area as proposed will cut the size of our green space area significantly and will reduce the activities that currently occur in the space, not to forget the local wildlife that will be impacted.
- The proposed development will detract from the value of our homes that would back onto the facility and are on the perimeter, due to the disruption that will be caused, increased traffic on our local roads, significant increase in noise, increase in safety with non locals being attracted to the area.
- Benedikt Park is a space in its current form is a place that as an elderly person I can safely walk and exercise, I'm fearful that the space will be reduced which will affect my health and wellbeing as I will no longer be able to safely exercise myself and my dogs, I'm concerned with the increase in people to the space, and those that are not local.
- The Hockey club has over 350 members the space does not accommodate parking for this capacity for events and tournaments that they are proposing.
- Our fear is our space will now have a loss of privacy, and the proposed visual amenities will impose on a lovely open green space that is currently enjoyed by locals.
- Loss of Trees - this impacts the wildlife and overall outlook of our current leafy space, and does not support nature conservation.
- Noise and disturbance resulting from proposed use.
- Knox Council have already initiated a sporting precinct at the site of the State Basketball Centre and the Soccer community, adequate space amenities and car parking in that area would be more suitable and will not have a residential impact as the proposed Benedikt Park site.

As a long standing local backing onto Benedikt Park for 45 years we object to the proposed development of Benedikt Park and look forward to continuing to use our space as it has been for the next 45 years.

Further to my previous email.

Apart from the spare land adjacent to the Basket Ball Centre on George Street, I understand that Gilbert Park would also make a far superior location for the Hockey Club, instead of wrecking Benedikt Reserve.

As Gilbert Park is in an existing park present, and adjacent to an industrial area, it would eliminate to impact on the local residents and users of Benedikt Reserve.

The benefits of Gilbert Park would include :-

No light or noise pollution concerns for the local residents, as most are commercial businesses that operate during the day time.

Minimise the impact on the local bird life, with night time lighting and noise interrupting their night time rest requirements.

It is in an existing sports precinct and would complement the existing Baseball and Softball.

Is in a prominent location on a major road to maximise public exposure.

It has ease of access to public transport along Ferntree Gully Road.

Is located on a major road, thus elimination the potential overcrowding of cars on the narrow residential streets.

Existing parking can be utilised.

The night time training would not impact on local residents as the adjacent properties are commercial and potentially closed during the night time usage.

Room for potential growth and development for the Hock Club.

We ask the council to reconsider your proposal to take over our lovely quiet place, Benedikt Reserve and use Gilbert Park instead, as the new permanent home for The Knox Hockey Club.

DEAR SIR I WOULD LIKE TO OBJECT STRONGLY TO DIGGING UP BENEDIKT RESERVE FOR A HOCKY FIELD AND REMOVING A PUBLIC TENNIS COURT FOR EXTRA PARKING, WHEN THERE ARE OTHER SPORTING COMPLEXES IN KNOX LIKE THE KNOX REGIONAL SPORTING COMPLEX AT 291 GEORGE ST WANTINA WERE THERE IS A LOT OF VACANT LAND TO HOUSE THE HOCKY TEAM AND SURPLY PARKING AND BE CLEAR OF RESIDENTIAL AREA, I HAVE LIVED IN SCORESBY SINCE 1978 AND WOULD LIKE TO KEEP BENEDIKT RESERVE AS IT IS AND NOT DUG UP FOR A HOCKY FIELD.

Dear Knox Councillors,

Words cannot express how I am feeling tonight and what the sport hockey means to my family and I. The idea of no longer having a place to call "home" and play the sport we love is just heartbreaking.

I have played hockey since I was 6 years old and almost my entire adult life since moving from country Victoria with KHC, not to mention my husbands family who have been associated with this club for well over 30 years.

We are Knox residents and have a young family who are just starting out in the Juniors section. They have been looking forward to playing hockey since they were old enough to hold a stick.

It breaks my heart that with all the delays and indecision by Council over the many years the club has been consulting with you, may now result in our children not getting the opportunity to play for KHC if we no longer have a "home".

All I am asking is that you please stick to your word and help Knox Hockey Club secure a suitable location for our new home ground in time for the 2022 season thus allowing the club to continue to grow as the next generation of players begin (& us oldies continue) their hockey careers.

Thank you for your time.

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Knox Councillors,

Knox Hockey Club is the best sports club I have encountered in Australia. I have quite a few to compare it to, as a former professional squash player.

KHC have been very welcoming of my two boys, ██████ (9) and ██████ (11), in their first two years of hopefully a long hockey career. The coaches and managers have invested massive time into my boys for zero financial reward. During COVID the coach kept up a Zoom hockey-based meeting for more than 15 weeks, and has given my boys several one-on-one coaching sessions. The club has just started an amazing junior hockey academy, managing to attract a couple of Australia's best coaches with experience coaching Australian and Victorian state teams. More than 50 kids fill the pitch each Thursday night. The boys' coach is already helping to prepare my boys for regional and ultimately state trials in the next year or two.

As you know, KHC is about to lose its hockey ground in November 2021 and needs a new pitch in 2022. I understand there is now a risk that this will not happen and ask for your support in seeing it through.

The development of my boys and their ability to practice the sport they love is already being significantly stunted because there is not one single hockey pitch available in Knox for them to train on, outside of the once-a-week session at the Knox School. They would love to be training by themselves or with team-mates another couple of days a week. There is not even a single astroturf surface anywhere in Knox that we've found to practice on. (We practiced on the astroturf basketball courts at Scoresby Secondary College for a few weeks during lockdown but then the gates were locked and have been locked ever since)

We are extremely excited by the prospect of a pitch at Benedikt Reserve - a 10 minute bike ride from our house. Our boys would be down there at every opportunity. I appreciate that non-hockey players in the surrounding area wouldn't share our excitement, but wouldn't that be the norm when facilities for a particular sport are constructed in a suburb? The people from that sport will be happy, and some who don't play that sport will be unhappy.

Indeed, having a hockey pitch in Knox would influence our decision on where to live in the longer term. We have had occasional thoughts about moving elsewhere, but having a hockey pitch down the road as the home for the excellent Knox Hockey Club, would make it very hard to leave the area - I imagine we would stay for the next 9 years or so while the kids work their way up through the junior ranks. Other hockey families may feel the same way.

I ask that you would hear KHC and its community as it works to assist parents in providing a healthy upbringing for the next generation of children. I hope you will be able to place an appropriate weight on our collective voices as local Knox residents, as you also listen to and take into account the concerns of other residents.

From my perspective, a pitch at Wantirna Reserve in 2022 would also be better than nothing, but Benedikt Reserve, being in a residential area in the heart of Knox, allows greater access and training possibilities for my family and many others.

I would be delighted to discuss this further. Thank you for all you do for my family and the people of Knox in your challenging role as Councillors!

Dear KCC Councillors,

I am writing to you as a desperate member of my beloved Knox Hockey Club, to appeal to you to please, please, please help us find a new home, where we are welcomed and wanted within the Knox LGA.

I have been a member of the Knox Hockey family since 2004, when I was welcomed with open arms, having escaped the distressing toxicity of the Dandenong Hockey Club (now merged and known as Springvale Noble Park Hockey Club).

I say family, not club, when I refer to Knox Hockey Club, because that is a far better description. The family at KHC are my safe place and people whom I feel supported and cared about by and KHC is the home I know I can always return to.

This little community for a space in time, was all I had, not long after moving to Melbourne. I have played as a young single woman new to the area, a married woman living in another LGA, as a new mother and as a divorced woman and single mum. I have also played with KHC throughout my various stages of fitness and have always been supported and encouraged to play at whatever level I felt comfortable playing within, with amazing co-players and coaches during the past 17 years. Most recently in past years, the offers of child minding on the sidelines at home and away games have been heartwarming and so helpful.

I've always been so grateful for the financial support (payment plans to ensure the fees are manageable for me as a single mum) and overall support and love from all the amazing members and supporters of our family at KHC.

Having suffered mental health issues of anxiety and depression intermittently throughout my life, I can honestly say that I have never felt safer or more supported anywhere than at KHC. I deeply cherish the stability and support this club provides, especially when I am struggling.

When I am at my best, I am thriving on mentoring and encouraging the younger girls I play with and watching with delight as they improve and move up through the grades and I am working on my fitness and I am pushing to play to my best ability. When I am at my worst, I am intermittently attending practice, attending what matches I can and struggling with my fitness. Either way, I am accepted, I am welcomed and I feel the love. I don't know where I would be, without such an amazing institution backing me.

This year, my son, who has watched me play from the sidelines over the past 7 years whilst being minded by club members, has asked to start playing too. This fills my heart with such happiness, to know that the home and family I love are firmly now his also and to realise that after being able to watch me play and enjoy the game, he wants to become a player at the club too.

This club's survival having a permanent home ground is crucial - not just to myself and my son, but to many others who likely have their own story to tell.

If we don't have a home, how will we keep our family alive and how will we encourage new members to join? If we can't keep our family alive, then there will be many homeless hockey players, rate-paying Knox residents and their family and friends (not to mention many other hockey clubs throughout the state) wondering why we and our beloved sport and club weren't considered to be as important as the more widely supported, mainstream sports and clubs within the LGA by KCC.

Please, don't let this chance go by to save the rich history of a proud club that is strong and good and does wonders for the people within your community. Please help us to continue supporting and enthusing hockey players within KCC area to play the sport they love and most importantly, please help us to embed hockey within the community once and for all and in doing so, to provide a fantastic, friendly and beneficial option to those kids and adults who may wish to play a sport other than Cricket, footy, soccer, Tennis or netball! - [REDACTED] - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillors,

The Knox School informed the Council and the Club of their intention to develop the school further encompassing the hockey pitch way back in 2016. The Club were told they would likely need to find a new home at the end of 2018. Council have been well aware of this since then. While The Knox School got Board approval and had plans developed, they gave the Club an extension until the end of 2021, a further 3 years, since the original date. According to comments on Social media a poorly implemented Community Consultation was slated for late 2020, way too late in the scheme of things. Stop dragging your feet and hoping that this will just go away. Benedikt Reserve was a ridiculous ill conceived idea bound to fail. Who came up with that genius location? What about Llewellyn Park? Wantirna Reserve? Come on guys lift!! Don't just let a proud, hard working Club made of Knox residents and rate payers that has been around for 45 years fade off into the wilderness. Find an alternative location and quickly please. Wherever this pitch is going, needs to be determined now. I am not a member of the Club, I just hate seeing Clubs get stuffed around by Councils who just seem to be going through the motions with no sense of urgency. As the late Hawthorn Coach John Kennedy said "Do. Don't think, don't hope. Do. At least you can come off and say, 'I did this, At least I did something....Do. Act. Don't think, act..." Make something happen!

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillors,

My daughter is a playing member of the Under 12 girls team at Knox Hockey Club. I act in a volunteer role as junior defensive and goalkeeping coach. We joined the Knox Hockey Club after my daughter discovered the sport at the Knox Festival some 4 years ago.

During this time, the club has become an intrinsic part of our family life for winter competition and training in the pre-season months. My daughter has formed strong bonds with her team mates and my wife and I have formed friendships within the club that are not restricted to club based activities..

The current home of the Knox Hockey Club, being the Knox School, has been open and honest in its plans to redevelop the pitch area thus requiring the Knox Hockey Club to move venues. During this process, the Knox City Council has made promises to assist with that relocation, using the club for individual publicity photos and "good news stories" about what they do for the local community. Amazingly, Councillor presence and photos seem to ramp up around election times. Now we are being informed that at the eleventh hour, Knox City Council is contemplating renegeing on a promise to assist the Knox Hockey Club to relocate.

This club is so much more than merely a place where people go to play the sport of hockey. Knox Hockey Club is an inclusive, family orientated environment that is forged on the ethos of team, friendship and equality. It would appear that unless a club is involved in a mainstream sport such as Australian Rules or Cricket, they are viewed as much less equal in the eyes of the bureaucracy. Knox City Council advertises itself on community, yet holds meetings and "consultation" in camera, asking participants not to publicise then surreptitiously attempting to make deals behind closed doors which have the potential to dissolve a community based club whose membership (unlike football) is not made up of paid players from all over Melbourne, it is made up of rate paying and voting residents of the Knox municipality.

Such a decision would have an obvious flow on effect of taking away a sporting outlet for children and adults alike. This would also have a flow on effect of what the club brings to the municipality as a whole. Participation in the Knox Festival, School outreach programs, participation in school fairs and fetes etc. Non-mainstream sports such as hockey add to the diversity of an area, providing real alternatives for people who are not drawn to the environments that exist with football etc.

Whilst the above are the benefits to a community, there is also the underlying issue of any community group being able to trust the word of its Council. If a promise is made it should be

kept. Society evolves and grows for the better when people exist in a basic trust of those who are elected to represent them. Especially those who cast a net for votes based on a promise of what they will achieve if elected.

Now is the time for Knox City Council to live up to the promise that was made.

Dear Councillors,

I play for Knox Hockey Club and it's so important for me and our club to continue to be able to have somewhere to train and play and represent our community. A new pitch will also no doubt draw in new players from the community to further support our club and the City of Knox. Knox City Council has PROMISED to ensure a pitch is ready for us to use by November 2021, we will do everything we can with you to ensure this happens. You need to uphold your promise and make this happen NOW, not later Melissa Knox Hockey Club

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillors,

I am writing to voice my absolute frustration with the current predicament the Knox Hockey club finds itself in. Knox Hockey Club is a family club. It is a club that welcomes one and all. Over the years my family has been involved, they have provided excellent coaching, a friendly voice to their juniors, and a welcoming place to new members. Any member regardless of age, gender or talent is welcomed with open arms. It is unbelievable that once again the club is facing a future without a pitch! Knox City Council has made a promise to the club that a 'home' will be constructed in time for next winter and I plead with you all to follow through on this promise.

In the world of hockey, 'Knox' battles the bigger clubs and does not back down. Everyone conducts themselves with pride when wearing the team shirt. It is a club where the senior members support, encourage, and mentor the juniors. It is a club to be proud of and I can honestly say I am so proud to have my son be supported by and represent this club.

Please select a suitable ground for us to play next winter. Every other sport is catered for, why not hockey?

Please Knox councillors. You promised!

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillors,

I write to you as both a concerned local and as the president of Knoxfield Cricket Club to express my concern with your plans to turn Benedikt Reserve in a hockey ground.

Firstly let me start by saying on behalf of the cricket club, Benedikt Reserve has been a part of our club for many years providing the scene for many of our clubs stories. Benedikt Reserve also provides Knoxfield Cricket Club with a second oval in a perfect and close location to our main ground at Carrington Park. We as a cricket club think it is short sighted to take away a park that is already set up for cricket only to then have to find us a second location when you could set up a whole new park specifically for hockey.

As a resident who lives close to Benedikt Reserve (Glenifer Ave) I question how this ground could even be considered for something that would carry this much traffic. The ground is currently used for cricket on Saturday and occasionally on a Friday and Wednesday, this involves such a small amount of traffic, to use it for hockey would introduce a lot more traffic on roads that are not designed to carry traffic. After all the work done recently on the reserve including reducing the parking, it seems like a real backward step to rework the parking.

We use this park as local residents to play many outdoor sports as a family, by turning this space in a single use purpose, hockey, you will take away the community use space, which there are not

many of this size in the area.

I would have thought with the space at Gilbert park or Knox regional sport Park and the abysmal state of Llewellyn park that any of these venues would make for a better alternative than Benedikt. All options would need work but are a much better long term proposition as they are distant from local housing and will not devalue any housing in the area, in fact will probably increase housing value. Llewellyn Park could not only house hockey but with the huge space could be developed into quite the sporting complex.

I am happy to discuss any of the issues raised further if this helps make the right decision for Cricket, Locals and the Hockey Club, please contact me on [REDACTED].

Cheers,

Dear Councillors

I am writing in regards to the future of Knox Hockey Club. We are a family who play & coach with Knox Hockey. My kids are teenagers now but have been playing since they were 6 or 7 with Knox. My husband has been playing for as long as I can remember. Our family are at the Knox ground at least 3 - 4 days a week. This club is a massive part of our life, community & future. My kids are aspiring to play for the Vic Squads & put so much love & passion into the sport. The committee & coaches are just amazing at this club & that is why we choose Knox. We love the family culture of this club.

With Covid & no sport last year it was very difficult & now that we are back training & playing again my kids are back to being the happy kids they were prior to Covid. I cannot understand why a community would not want this new field to go ahead they may discover they have children who want to actually join the club & play!!! The benefits of this sporting club is huge. This club cannot be taken away from us.

Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

To Whom it Concern,

Both our boys play for Knox juniors. We believe that providing a good physical outlet for increasingly sedentary youth of today is critical for their balanced development. After trying a number of sporting clubs and sporting codes, our boys have found a second home with Knox Hockey club. The club makes a real effort with all the families and have succeeded in creating a real community. This club deserves to see Council keep their promise of providing a new facility. Ultimately, the players and their families are themselves Knox rate payers. Please don't let one of the more successful sports clubs in Knox down - keep your promise.

Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] - Knox Hockey Club family

<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>This is such a wonderful family orientation and community club. Would be such a tragedy to loose the club.</p> <p>█ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>This is needed for the community and its families. It has been giving joy to many for years and provides physical entertainment to many generations.</p> <p>█ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>The Knox Hockey Club has been an important part of my own and my family's life, for 15+ years. My 2 sons started playing Juniors, and within a couple of years, I started playing Seniors, as well as Veteran's. The club has always been welcoming and supportive, without all of the 'clickiness', that you often find in sports clubs, these days. The importance of teamwork, involvement and encouraging others, are important parts of what I enjoy about the club. The physicality of the sport and the social activity within the club, are what keeps me wanting to be part of the club. Hockey is an Olympic sport and Australia has been, and still is, a worldwide leader in the sport. The talent required to keep Australia as a leading hockey nation, comes from local hockey clubs. Without the support of local councils, hockey clubs can't grow the talent required, to keep us at the top. So I respectfully request that Knox Council, help us to find a new home, as soon as possible.</p> <p>█ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Please save Knox Hockey Club !</p> <p>We joined the Knox Hockey Club Community for our sons despite having a club a little closer to home. The reason for this is that we enjoyed the family atmosphere it has. It is a very inclusive club and encourages all players to perform to their best ability. Our sons have made some very good friend at the club and We would all be absolutely disappointed if the club was forced to fold. Knox Council, I implore you to keep to your word and find Knox Hockey Club a new home.</p> <p>Kristen</p> <p>█ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Please keep to your promise and deliver them a new home ready for next season.</p> <p>█ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Please deliver your promise on making sure the new home is ready by next season it's very important to people i know.</p> <p>█ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>

<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Local sport is critical to building strong community ties. Please help support the Knox Hockey Club by securing them the facilities to operate out of in time for next years season to continue.</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Knox Hockey Club is a large part of my social circle, enjoying watching close friends play and catching up with friends is a great way to build community. The club is an accepting and very positive place to be.</p> <p>Council needs to keep their promise to the community because it is more than just a sport to so many people.</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Knox hockey club is a great club and it is vital to continue with it. It gives those at the club a sense of belonging and keeps us physically and mentally fit as well as healthy. It is necessary for us to have a new home ground by the beginning of next season.</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Knox hockey club has been my home away from home for eight years now. I've made some of my greatest of friends here and couldn't imagine a day that this pitch is no longer a pitch. It would mean everything to me and everyone at the club for it to stay. Or even have a a fresh new pitch to play on. The community and family of this club is a different nature than any other club I've been to or played for. It's a strong, hardworking, enthusiastic and loveable club. Please, a new pitch would be so greatly appreciated to keep this live and energetic club alive.</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Knox hockey club has been like a second family to my husband and I. Despite having no hockey skills they encouraged me to play and I have never felt so included. The knox hockey club will be an addition to any new location as it includes people from all age ranges from kids to masters of all ability levels.</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Keep this for my guy ██████</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>

<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Keep it going ❤️🙏 # ytg</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>I know how much this club means to a coworker, would be really cool to see it stay up</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>I have been involved with Knox Hockey Club as a parent. I sent both of my kids to play with Knox hockey which they have always loved participating. It is important that Knox council provides sporting facilities including hockey to local residents I am asking Council to please keep its promise and deliver us a new home ready for next season.</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>I have been a member of this club for over 30 years, as a player, coach and umpire. I was overjoyed when I was told Knox council were onboard and helping our club to look forward and finally get our own " home". Now I hear council may not follow through with their commitment to the club! Please Knox Council, don't let us sink into the abyss and become the club that people say " I wonder what happened to them?"</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>I hadn't heard of Knox hockey club until my co-worker and good friend Ashleigh was telling me about her love for her sport and her team! As her friend and fellow supporter it would be very disheartening to see her lose her club and her sporting home! I'm asking the Knox city council to open their hearts and keep their promise they've made to the Knox hockey club by delivering their beautiful brand new home in time for their next season which will hopefully hold great wins for them! Thank you!</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>I am 7 years old & this year will be my first year of playing hockey at Knox Hockey Club in the Under 10's. My Mum & Dad both play at Knox and I'm so happy now I can play here too.</p> <p>I really want to keep doing drills and learning more skills to get better at hockey. I like the games we do & play at training too.</p> <p>I need the Knox Council to stay true to their word and find my hockey club a new home in Knox so my hockey journey that has just started doesn't have to end. Please help get us a new home for 2022.</p>

<p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Hi my name is ██████. I am 15 years old and currently play hockey at Knox hockey club I have been play since I was 7 years old. Over the years I have grown to be very good at hockey I couldnt have done it with out this club. At this moment I am at Knox hockey club 3 times a week because I love hockey that much. If we have no club I don't know what to do I didn't get to play last year because of Covid19 and I really missed it and I don't want that to happen again. I hope we can keep our club. Thanks Caiden</p>
<p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Hello from England.</p> <p>I was taken in and looked after by Knox hockey club on two occasions when I was over from England. I played two seasons, including coaching a junior team for one of them. It's a number of years ago now (2009 and 2012) but still this was the best time of my life. The club gave me a home and allowed me to belong. I met some of my best friends at this club and the impact it had on me and my life can't be understated. The value and what it means to the people in the local community is hard to put into words. It's my dream to come back and thank the club for what they did for me, and the thought that I might not be able to do that is devastating. To think that other people, locals and visitors, might not get the chance that I had, and the effect it would have on this community to lose this club is deeply saddening. For me, this club is everything I associate with what is good not just about Knox and Melbourne but about Australia. The club is a credit to the community and it's loss would be unforgivable.</p> <p>Thanks</p>
<p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>

Dear Councillor

Good afternoon

I am writing to express my concern that the Knox Hockey Club may not be supported in establishing a new home and as such may no longer exist.

Having lived my entire 48 years in Knox, my sporting experiences have begun in local clubs. Football, Cricket, Basketball, AFL Umpiring, Golf, Athletics, Swimming, gymnastics all set the foundations for my love of sport. For the past 25 years I have taught Physical Education and coached sport and individual athletes. I never had the chance to play hockey as a child and my experience coaching school hockey and the positive community it has founded, encouraged me to sign my two boys up to the Knox Hockey Club.

Of all the sports I have been involved in, hockey has been the most professional and community/family oriented I have experienced. We were made to feel welcome and part of the Club family from the moment we joined. The boys have had outstanding coaches and as an example, during lockdown last year when all other sport ceased, our U12 Coach had weekly Zoom meetings to keep the boys connected and interested.

There is mentoring and pathways created for the younger players to commence coaching, the culture of the club and the standards they set is reflective of the values that we should aspire to in society. The friendly and respectful competitiveness ensures sportsmanship is always upheld. I have not witnessed one instance of the 'Ugly Parent' at games or training, it's just not accepted.

The potential for this to no longer exist is of great concern to me and many others. It is sometimes hard for those within the community who are not immediately connected to the club to appreciate the impact it has. I hope I have been able to express this in my message above.

Putting my Physical Education hat on, it further concerns me with an increasingly sedentary community, that another choice to be active, one often chosen due to the traditional sports of footy and cricket not appealing, could be lost to the Knox region. I truly hope a positive outcome can be found in time to save our Club.

Thank-you for your time
Kind regards

██████████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

██ ARE THE BEST FAMILY AT YOUR CLUB- love from bennett :)

██████████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

As a parent of two kids that have grown up loving hockey and particularly the Knox Hockey I would be very disappointed if they did not have a new home by next season. Hockey is very different to joining the local footy club where you have lots of different options. There is only one or two options in the eastern suburbs for a hockey club and we picked Knox as our home. It's a great family club and really needs a new home. Please don't disappoint all the members and

particularly kids that don't fit into the norm of playing football or netball.

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

We just want a home 😞

As a player Knox Hockey Club embraced me when I left another hockey club nearly 10 years ago due to not feeling like I was part of the group.

Knox Hockey Club showed me what it was like to be part of a wonderful community spirit in sport which I didn't even know existed.

As a parent my 2 kids now play seniors and juniors for the club, my eldest is in the 1s squad. She came to the club and started attending hook into hockey with her sister, they love the club and the people and will be devastated at the prospect of being split up from their long time friends and family at Knox Hockey Club

As a supporter it's great to see how many friends and family come down and support every grade, be it ones men, women or my kids at juniors, this is part of what drew us to the club in the first place, it's a real family.

Please don't leave my family homeless, just give us a home, any home. We have many life long friends at this club now - we don't want to be split up.

Thanks in advance...

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Knox Hockey Club has been a huge part of my life, I have been playing since I was 8 and never stopped. I have made lifelong friends from this club and a lot of good memories. To lose our home ground and not get a new one would be devastating, and I wouldn't see myself playing hockey for another club. We have worked so hard, both women's and men's sections to improve our teams and get more players so that more can benefit from a new home.

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

This club deserves a home as it means so much to so many players and plays such a vital part in people's health.

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Hello Knox City Council,

I have been playing hockey at Knox Hockey Club for a little over 15 years and yet I'm only 24. It has literally been my home for more than half of my life. And whilst I've loved playing at my home ground at the Knox School, I envy my football and cricketing mates who get to play at a facility which is all theirs. That is all we want, a facility which we can call our own. It would mean the world to all of us if we could rock up each week at our own club rooms and not have to worry about whether we can still use it in a year's time. All we want, is a facility to call our own. Given the amount of other sporting clubs that already have this, I don't think it is too much to ask.

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Dear Knox City Council,

Knox Hockey Club has played a huge role in helping me maintain my stress (especially during year 12) and fitness. It is a place for me to forget everything else (good or bad) going on in my life and just focus on what's happening in front of me. Given the mental health crisis that we are experiencing in Australia, small things like this are really needed to help us stay focused and connected. I'm sure many of the other members feel the same way, so I urge you to continue your support for the relocation of our club.

Thanks for reading,

■■■

■■■ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Knox hockey NEEDs a new home! Keep to your word and find somewhere for this amazing club

■■■ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

dont close down the hockey club ■■■ wont have anything to do

■■■ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

As a local and hockey player it's so important that a new pitch is built in time so that the club doesn't die.

Despite its horrible current pitch and facilities the club has hundreds of people rely on it who really care about the nights and days they spend at the club every week. They all need somewhere to call home. All other councils in this part of Melbourne have been able to work out places for their community hockey clubs to exist and expand for a long time. Why not Knox?

■■■ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

You must save this club! The club was pivotal to my well-being in my 20s. I made life long friends and I know how much it means to so many friends in that area of Melbourne.

■■■ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Will be a sad day to see the Knox Hockey club become no more. Always enjoyed watching friends play and supporting the locals in what is an under represented sport!

It would be a tragedy for the Council to renege on their word to give the club a home. It would be a loss to a much wider area than just Knox as well, given that these fields are few and far between. The players, the fans, the coaches they all deserve a home for their beloved club.

■■■ - Knox Hockey Club family

<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>We need more sporting facilities, not less. Council must find a new home before removing the current one. Don't let this club disappear!</p> <p>█ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>We need Knox HC to continue in the metropolitan competitions to keep your locals active and socially connected. Best wishes to Knox HC. For a new home. From Footscray Hockey Club President on behalf of all our members.</p> <p>█ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>We have been involved with Knox Hockey club for 32 years. We have members representing not only Knox but Victoria in competition. Please support the club in getting a new ground. Thank you.</p> <p>█ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>We have been a part of Knox Hockey club for over 10 years. My kids have grown up with the club and made so many memories. Please find our club a new home as promised. We love the Knox area and we are so proud to call Knox Hockey our home.</p> <p>█ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>We are adaptable, we can play anywhere. But please, please, please allocate a location that will be ready for us to play at!</p> <p>█ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>We are adaptable, we can play anywhere. But please, please, please allocate a location that will be ready for us to play at!</p> <p>█ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>

Dear Councillor

To whom it may concern.

I wish to express my concern that the Knox hockey club is not getting a fair go at being able to operate to the best of its ability. I've always enjoyed coming down to watch some of my closest mates play over the years and I love seeing how passionate they are about the sport. Many a good times have been had at the club and it would be a disgrace to see the club forced to fold because of a failed promise by the Knox council.

Please give them what was promised so that we may continue to come down and support our mates for years to come.

Regards,

██████████

██████████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

To whom it may concern,

My name is ██████████, I'm 48 years old and have been playing hockey since high school for various clubs. I've played for Knox for 15 years now and have found the club to be full of friendly, helpful and generous people. We are a large club that is currently based in The Knox High School. This has been OK for us but has held the club back from developing further and reaching the potential that we could. Having our own ground would let us have events, run development programs, set up things the way we want (cafeteria) and grow our numbers. Since we found out that Knox High School were kicking us out the club has made a dedicated effort to find a home that we can call our own and to improve the Club as much as we can. This has been a real "call to arms" and has been great to see. People are more motivated than ever before, we are doing more training programs, we have more teams playing and we have been getting better results on the field. We now have a 1st's team in State League One, a new Coach (Con) who also plays in and coaches Vic teams and have had skills coaching programs from ██████████ (Hockey Australia game development manager). I know that people have said that they didn't want a hockey ground to be built near them but they would find that Hockey is not noisy or disruptive at all. I feel that they would find that it would be a "good fit " for the neighbourhood in no time at all. You might find that they, their children and grand children and even their parents might come down and play! I hope that you take all these points into consideration.

██████████

██████████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

To whom it may concern,

Being a Life Member of this amazing club i have witnessed its many changes.

I was originally involved in a "home ground" discussion with Knox council over 20 years ago....and still no home !

Knox area NEEDS a hockey ckub and hockey ground.

Many other sports are becoming less desirable to parents as injury, especially head injuriea become a huge concern.

Hockey has none of this.

Clean sport, clean fun grear for many many reasons, The Knox Hockey Club need a home NOW.

I am also a Life Member of Knox BMX Club and when i compare both my sports and history the difference is ridiculous.

Please get this done and get it done quick,

Many kids, parents and young adults depend on hockey for thier fitness, mental health and community interaction.

Dont take this away from them

Happy to discuss re past history or expectations.

Regards

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

To whom it may concern,

I write regarding the proposed new location for the Knox Hockey Club.

As a player of 10+ years and coach of three years, I can safely say Knox Hockey Club offers the most unique and community-based sporting experience that I have been a part of. None of the many sporting clubs I grew up around held community engagement and youth development in such high regard. KHC's focus on these areas enables an environment for one's physical, social and mental health to thrive.

I'm certain the consequences of KHC's promised and prompt relocation not being granted are clear; the club ceasing to exist, forcing hundreds of members to travel well outside the city of Knox to play hockey, depriving them from this special source of community involvement. However, a new home would not just be imperative to our survival, but allow us to thrive as it would attract new (and returning) players across all age groups and abilities. This would in turn help our Men's and Women's first teams push to enter the state's top division, and establish our club as the place to be for hockey in the south east.

In the interest of the wellbeing of KHC's members both present and future, I urge the Knox City Council hold their commitment on this project, thus ensuring that we can continue to provide the community with an open door to this amazing club.

<p>█ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>To whom it may concern, we need a Hockey field somewhere within Knox to accommodate our club. My son has played with the club since he was 9 years old (27 Now). We need answers now please.</p> <p>█ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>For over 10 years now, Knox hockey Club has been somewhere of great significance to me, my family and my friends. It has been home to 3 generations of hockey players from my family alone, providing opportunities for physical recreation and being a gathering place for hundreds of men, woman and children to be constructive with their time.</p> <p>As a player, it offers ways for us to be active increasing quality of life. As parents it offers opportunities for kids to make friends, develop life skills and grow making a positive difference win the community. Lastly as a supporter this club is home to thousands, a place of refuge where people can come and feel supported.</p> <p>Losing our pitch and not having a new one by the new year would be devastating for the club, community and council likely harvesting negative community impacts.</p> <p>Please keep your promise of providing us a new home so we can community to provide physical recreation opportunities for hundreds every year and we will continue to harvest our community atmosphere of being a safe place for many to be around friends and family.</p> <p>Kind regards, █</p> <p>█ Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>To the Knox council</p> <p>I have been a member and current player with knox hockey club off and on for many years,I am enjoying my hockey at the school but are looking forward to a new ground that has been promised off and on for the last couple of years, please give a new ground where we can introduce new players and help coach and encourage younger players into a game that I have played and enjoyed for over 20 years ,help us keep our hockey family together</p> <p>█ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>

Dear Councillor

To the councillors of Knox,
Our son has been playing at Knox Hockey Club for two years along with at least a dozen of his school friends from St Josephs College, Ferntree Gully. The Club has been incredibly welcoming and supportive of him as a new player and us as parents. We have been so impressed by the dedication and sheer number of volunteers at the Club, and the willingness of a range of people to train and manage the teams. It's this strong team ethic that makes us feel like a community. We are desperate to have a site for the Club to ensure its continued success. Please consider Wantirna Reserve if the residents oppose Benedikt Reserve. But whatever you do, please don't let this decision get bogged down. If you delay this, you put our Club in jeopardy.

Best regards

██████████

██████████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

To the council, to say I feel let down by your consistent lack of action for my hockey club is an understatement. I have been involved in this club for over 30 years, it has been my home and the people became my family for as long as I can remember. My father was involved from the beginning, as a result I've literally grown up within the club and its social network and now I have the benefit of watching my kids getting the same privilege. Do not take this away from them. This is not the first time you, the council, have failed this club either. I still remember the false hope we had thinking we were getting a lifelong home for the club with a ground at Knox Park next to the athletics track, seeing the plans and getting excited by the potential only for the council to back out. As a result we ended up as a major tenant at the Knox School to save our club, an option that while lasting 20+ years was always going to have an end date with the school eventually expanding. Now after around 5 years of inaction we are almost homeless yet again and to rub salt into the wound, we see relentless advertising of all the money being given to multiple sports which either have substantial facilities or multiple facilities already. 25mil towards upgrading what is already the state's best basketball facility is a prime example. What could possibly be the reasoning behind letting this club potentially fold, there are multiple areas of unused land within this council, it doesn't take long sitting down with lifelong Knox residents to come up with a bunch of suitably sized areas of unused land. It really shouldn't be this hard to get a commitment from the council that will save this club and this sport existing in Knox before its too late.

██████████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

To the council group.

I am writing to you to let you know how important Knox hockey club is to me and my entire family. Sisters, parents, partner, and child.

I have played at multiple clubs, but none that have ever made me feel as home as it does at Knox. Every person there cares for one another and go for the love of hockey but most importantly the love of each other.

Growing up this was always my home away from, I spent 3 days a week playing and training, and soon spent an extra two days coaching.

5 days, no question, hockey was on.

To grow up with all of my best friends still to this day is super big part of my life. It is also where I meant my fiancé in which we now have a kid with together.

By you honouring your word and having the availability of a pitch for us by next year would mean

the world to not only me and my immediate family, but my extended family, being that the Knox hockey club.

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

To our council representative (s),

Please support us in rehousing our hockey club before it's too late.

As a child I never took to sport, particularly 'ball in the air' sports. And hockey was not an accessible option where I grew up. How blessed I was that in my early 20s my husband (then boyfriend) introduced me to the sport he has played and loved since age 8.

As a regular spectator of his games, along with other wives and girlfriends, we floated the idea of starting a team. The then Eastern Hockey Club provided us with a coach, developed our skills and confidence and supported us to enter a 3rd Women's team in to the Vic Hockey competition. Our club now boasts 4 senior women's teams.

When my husband and I moved out of our respective parents houses in to inner city share accomodation, we continued to commute back to Knox for training and games. It was this community of long time members and friends that saw us returning to Knox to establish our family some years later.

We couldn't even contemplate leaving Knox when we grew out of our first home; so much were we embedded in the hockey community.

At every significant event in my adult life, the hockey club has been there to support me. My children have grown up on the sidelines and have a family greater than any could imagine.

Both my husband and I have held committee positions, coached and supported the development of our juniors. We've temporarily accommodated international players. My eldest son has taken to the field in the under 10s and my daughter will this Wednesday pick up a stick in our grass roots 'Hook in 2 Hockey' program. And their parents now of an age where we play in our over 35s (masters) competition.

I want nothing more than for my kids to have access to this incredible sport, and to play at the club in which their dad grew up. We are frightenly close to this not being an option.

As long time Knox residents we have seen the investment in many sports and new facilities; some of them state of the art and suitable for international competition. But hockey has been overlooked.

Dear Councillor

To Knox council- I would really like to ask you to keep on schedule the proposed new hockey ground for Knox Hockey Club for season 2022. It is important as a family for me / us to continue as a supporter. I enjoy the team's vibrant energy each week. It is such a joy to be part of it. Please keep your promise to us!
Thanks

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

To Knox City Council,
I have been a player at Knox Hockey Club since 2018. A lot of my friends play there too, and every summer we play in mixed teams which combine A grade players with juniors and parents. Knox is a great Club with a really good spirit and we really need a place for the Club to be based from 2022. We don't mind where it is, just as long as we have a Club to go to when we finish at The Knox School in November. That's only 9 months away, so we need a quick decision please.
Cheers

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

To Knox City Council,

I have lived in the city of Knox my whole life and been a member of Knox hockey club since 1992 (29yrs). As this club has been operating under it own steam with no fuss for so long I am not surprised if you may not have herd of us.

Just to give you a brief run down the club was first established in the city of Knox in 1975, and now has over 350 members ranging in age from 5 - 65 years old.

Our committee of community volunteers has now been speaking with Knox city council for many years to try and find a solution to the loss of out home ground at the Knox school. With this deadline now only months away I am extremely disappointed to see Cr Nicole Seymour trying to yet again put up more hurdles, and offering No solutions! This project will be increasing infrastructure and facility's within her ward. It should have been cast as an exiting new project showcasing all it has to offer.

It seems the only way to get action, in the city of knox or get the council on board is to winge, wine, and make scene! Not the way we like to operate..... but happy to if that is what's needed.

Knox council needs to stop with the excuses, and get on with building this ground before the start of the 2022 season as promised.

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

To Knox City council members,

As an older member of Knox Hockey Club who only started playing at the age of 49 and still going at 62, I got into this sport after watching both my kids for years playing at this same club. This club has the best family friendly atmosphere that you can't help but get involved, we have made many new friends through our involvement. This club/family desperately needs your help with a new home as our present site will be shut down and no available to us as of the end of this year.

I play in our men's vet team with most of our team being over 60 but still enjoying and looking forward to the coming year.

In conclusion please give this very serious consideration as many kids, adults and family groups will be missing out on a club and sport that we all love much. Thank You

Kind Regards

Louis

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

To know councillors, I have been involved with the Knox hockey club for over 25 years. I started as a supporter of my partner's role in the men's team and was blown away by the friendship and welcome I received from both players, supporters and family members of both.

I became a player as a young veteran, over 40 and having never been involved in sport of any kind, this was a major step for me. Well I'm still here and Well and truly in the old farts league and a goalie.

My daughter also joined a women's team and became a gun goalie, wish I could say she took after her mum!

I have seen soooo many young people, who came to watch their parents play, pick up a hockey stick and become team members, as well as movers and shakers in the club, as they have grown and matured in a safe, supportive, motivated and team oriented club.

I ask that you fulfill your commitments, as promised to the Knox hockey club, to ensure that this wonderful sporting environment can continue to imbue the values of team work, responsibility, exercise and support to not only the younger generation but also those like myself, who can reap the benefits of involvement and activity into the future.

Regards

██████

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

This is an important part of the community and must be saved

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

This is a family club with great ethics, they have always supported the club members and the wider community.

They deserve a site to continue the club and encourage the community to get active and meet new people after 2020 this is so important for everyone.

<p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>This hockey club means the world to my daughter Abby and to our family. It's where she has found confidence, friends, and family. It has its own community where everyone band's together and helps each other with whatever each family may need. The kids and families have found something special. They all look forward to seeing and playing and supporting one another as a team effort. To take this away would be unbelievably sad and really not fair at all. Please keep your promise Council and deliver us a new home ready for next season.</p>
<p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p> <p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>This hockey club means a lot to my partner and his family/ friends. They have all been playing for 10+ year and grew up together. Its so amazing to see these friendships maintained through sports rather than social media, texting, calling etc. my partner enjoys knowing he will see his friends a minimum 3 times a week whilst playing a sport he loves. Cmon lets do something about this, so i can grow a family around this sport too and let my children create the same memories my partner has.</p>
<p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p> <p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>This club needs the support of council and the local community. Please contribute to their dreams.</p>
<p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p> <p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>This club means the world to so many of us in the Knox community. Please deliver us our new home in time! Our future depends on it!</p>
<p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p> <p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>This club means so much to so many local families - Council MUST ACT NOW to secure a new home for the club !</p>
<p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p> <p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>This club is important to family members of mine, so please keep your promise and provide them a new home</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>

<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>This club is exactly what councils should be spending money on. Help families stay active and involved in the community</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>This club is an excellent family sports club. Must keep it going for the wellbeing and health of the future generations Find a new home please for this very grest club..</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>This club is amazing!! The people who play are dedicated and hardworking!! Since this is a girls hokey club more girls should be inspired!!!</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>This club has been in my family for over thirty years now with the second generation getting the opportunity to play with the first generation. Treasured memories have been made with many families and friends.</p> <p>Please you said you would provide us with a new home ready to play by 2022. Please don't let us down as a member of the Knox hockey club, a resident of Knox and a multiple rate payer for this council.</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>This club has been a home for so many people for many many years, myself included. I can't think of a group of people more deserving of a place to get away from their day to day lives and just enjoy themselves. Please give us a fair go.</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>This Club has been a big part of alot of peoples lives. Something has to be done.</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>The Knox hockey club is such an important part for so many people in the community, my friends rely on the club as it brings them so much joy and togetherness and if it was to no longer exist it would just break them and way too many people so please allow them to do everything they can to keep this club up and running</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>

Dear Councillor

The Knox hockey club is extremely important to my family. This club has helped us and so many others past and present in fitness, mateship & support on and off the field.

The Knox hockey club needs to continue it's legacy in providing this for all ages, whether it's playing, coaching or supporting. This can only be achieved by the council ensuring a home for the Knox hockey club.

Thanks.

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

The Knox Hockey Club is an amazing family and friends club and it's unfair for this club to go homeless. Knox City Council and Councillors PLEASE keep your word and find this Fantastic club a home. These kids and their families need this club.

Hasn't there been enough heart aches with COVID 19. Do the right thing for your community that's what the residents pay you for. Look after your community and don't let them down.

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

The Knox hockey club is a very inclusive group. They cater for young children in the hooked into hockey space through to masters. They welcome new players regardless of experience. I started playing at age 40 after our children saw hockey in the Olympics and wanted to give it a go. We checked the Knox council guide to find the contact. This was the start of a long term relationship for our family with the club.

Hockey is a sport that can be played at all levels of experience and Knox has certainly delivered in this area.

If we lose our ground there will be NO hockey facility in the Knox area. The nearest grounds at Doncaster, Box Hill and Casey are all not close for people from this area. The Croydon club also play out of a private school so their future is also not secure.

So not only is hockey an Olympic sport but it caters for all abilities so please find us a new home. We have funds to contribute to the ground and have been in communication with Council for a number of years so all we need is the land and the Councils support.

Please don't let other children miss out on this sport as it is too far away to join a club.

Jeanette Barton

Parent and player

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

The Knox Hockey Club is a very important part of our community so please, please prepare a new home for the club in readiness for the upcoming season

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

The Knox Hockey club is a place where everyone is accepted regardless of age or hockey ability. In a world where kids are often lost in social media and gaming, it has never been more important to have these sort of facilities that enables kids to exercise, socialize and have fun. What sort of message does it send to our children if the local council does not place any importance on kids to participate and exercise doing a sport that they love?

The Knox Hockey Club is paramount to my children's and my own mental health, we all play from age U12's to 45+. There are not too many sports where a parent can play sport with their children! The Knox Hockey Club enables this to happen, it brings families together. This is priceless!!!

Please don't take this away from our kids and their families.

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

The Knox Hockey Club has provided my family with a stronger, healthier, happier, and safer upbringing. It is so important to support local sporting clubs like this so they can thrive, providing the next generation of girls and boys with a true sense of community and mateship. This club has stuck with me through my highs and lows and it deserves our backing now more than ever.

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

The Knox Hockey club has been my home for 10 years, this club means so much to me and to everyone involved. we are the most supportive and fun-loving sporting club out there and would hate for it to no longer exist. please try your hardest to let us to continue to play the sport we love with the people we love.

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

The knox hockey club has been a big part of my life for 26 years now, joining as a teenager in 1995. I have played juniors, seniors and Vets over the years. This club has been so much more to me than just a sporting club. Its also a family. I have met my now closest friends here, my now husband here and now my son is now playing U10s here. My story is so similar to the many club members that have been a part of this club through the years and is such a large part of the knox community. Please to Council, continue your support in helping us gain a new facility to extend this family into the community. Hockey is such an amazing sport that unfortunately gets overshadowed by the more ' well known sports' in the area. Please help us grow our community and family as we know. By taking prompt action to gain a new ground ASAP.

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>The impact of sport and mental health is extremely important and something that should be a big focus in our community of young people.</p> <p>Especially with the covid pandemic this is a real escape for some people and even though restrictions have eased, going outside for activities you love can still seem like a privilege.</p> <p>This club is important to a lot of people, and more should be done to support them, this is about expanding and building onto communities not kicking out the minority.</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>The hockey club is really important for all players and the community. A new home for the if not delivered will mean players will not have a team to play for and that is unacceptable</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>The future of Knox club needs to be secured as it provides so much benefits to young teenagers.</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Start serving the communities needs please. Other councils give millions to their hockey clubs and you've done nothing.</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Stand by the Knox hockey club I have been a friend and supporter of the club for years and it is unacceptable to let them fall by the way side!</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Sports clubs are a vital part of our community especially in these challenging times. They keep our community spirit alive. Please keep supporting the community which you represent.</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Sport is an essential and integral part of all our lives. Do not take away a club that means so much to so many people!!!</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>

<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Save This Club! Hockey is a great game, enjoyed by children and adults alike. Better off on the sporting field than creating mischief on the streets. People need sport in their lives. Save This Club!!</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Save the club! Follow through on your promises.</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Save the club</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Save the club</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>save the club homies</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Save Knox Hockey Club</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>save da club this is a very important matter !!!!!!!</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Please, save the knox hockey club! Love hockey and people who are involved.</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>

<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Please save the Knox hockey club.</p> <p>The Knox hockey club is an amazing club that needs a new pitch to continue to grow and develop into the future.</p> <p>The club is a part of our community and a place our children can feel safe, to learn and focus their energies in a positive way.</p> <p>When any child is in sport they are learning positive life skills and staying out of trouble.</p> <p>The Knox hockey club is a large club which has a number of teams competing at a high level as well as players involved in state teams representing our electorate.</p> <p>With a new pitch we will attract new members and teams and strive towards a premier league club currently not achievable due to the condition of our ground.</p> <p>I note we have one of the worst grounds in Victoria which leads to injuries and yet we are still competitive against the best funded clubs in the league.</p> <p>Please find us a new home</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Please save our club. Both my boys play hockey. The only sport they love to do. We need our local club.</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Please save Knox Hockey Club xx</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>please save Caitlins Hockey Club</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Please provide a home turf as hockey in this country is getting harder each year due to rising costs and being a minority sport, the exposure is minimal. Please help Knox HC.</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>

<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Please keep your promise to provide a new home for the Knox hockey club. It is extremely important both to players and supporters.</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Please keep your promise for the kids. Thank you</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Please keep your promise council , in these days of people constantly on their phones we have to encourage exercise in any form .</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Please keep your promise and keep this community alive by delivering the new home for the squad</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p> <p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>As a former player and current supporter on the knox hockey club I can say without a doubt that the loss of this club will be unfortunate for the surrounding community. It is a safe place for people to receive an active lifestyle while at the same time become part of a bigger family. A new home will allow knox hockey club to continue it's efforts to improve our local community health and well-being. Thank you!</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Please keep your promise and deliver the club and community a new home ready for next season. As a supporter of the club and it's players, this is extremely important.</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Please keep the hockey games going, really great entertainment and some are inspiring players</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>

<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Please give them a new home, We so wants to start Hockey and we need a local club.</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Please find us a home ground! All we want to do is play hockey!</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Please don't let this club become homeless. This is great community club, running fundraisers for other groups and bringing people together, whilst having fun and keeping fit.</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Please do not change the pitch! It has brought so much joy to so many and is an invaluable asset to the Knox school and community promoting health and well being. Please preserve it for future generations as I know it is something special and worth having in our community. Also, it saves the Knox school team from constantly travelling far to other schools (often 30min + by bus) to play hockey at their pitches; saves time and money for school. Thank you for taking the time to read my email as I am very passionate about the hockey program and what great quality and value it brings to everyone who uses it. PLEASE reconsider!</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Please deliver Knox club a new home as promised, this club is important to so many people.</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Please complete the facilities for the hockey teams. The sport is under appreciated in Australia. It is highly skilled and should really be shown some love</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Please be aware that the Knox Hockey club is a valuable source of sport and fun in our community. The new promised home should be constructed ASAP to ensure that this amazing club is valued and the kids involved are given facilities they deserve.</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>

<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Please allocate a ground for my sisters to play on. Time has been ticking forever and now time is up</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>One of my friends plays for this club and I haven't seen someone give so much of their energy into something until now. As a supporter and as a friend, not having a home constructed and prepared for next season would be extremely tragic. so I plead to you, the Knox city council, to deliver and construct the home in time for next season</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>No comments</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>No comments</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>my team needs a place to play please help us find one for next year</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>My son in law played for Knox as a child. My daughter also played for Knox. Now my two grandchildren have started playing and most of their friends are from part of the Knox Hockey family. It would be such a shame for this club to disappear. Please make every effort as if a new home is not found the club will fold and never re-open. Thank you.</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>My son has been playing hockey for the last 4 years now! He loves it & it is the ONLY sport he plays! Please find us a new ground!!!!</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>

<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>My son and granddaughter are involved with Knox Hockey Club and would be devastated if a new home is not available for the club next year.</p> <p>■■■■ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>My family plays hockey and enjoys it so I'm doing this for them I guess. They'd want me too. Anyway just save the field.</p> <p>■■■■ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>My family and I have been part of this amazing club for 8 years. My husband and both children play and I have been an active committee member for 3 years. Knox Hockey Club and its members have become our family. Its our home away from home 5 days or nights every week. For a long time now, it has been known that we needed a new home. Why is this so hard ? We have done everything that has been requested of us and now with the door closing at the Knox School we have no where to go. What happens to our members, some of whom have been with the club from inception. Please save our club, our members, our family. Find us a space to grow our club as it can only get bigger, better, stronger.</p> <p>■■■■ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>My daughter loves her hockey and would love to continue to play with the wonderful players that she had made friends with during her hockey journey. Please keep the teams playing in the Knox area if we cannot stay where we have been in the past.</p> <p>■■■■ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>My children play hockey and we are deviated that there will be nowhere for them to train or have a home field to play. Taking away a field will mean that people will leave our club. Please help us to get a ground up and running before t the next season</p> <p>■■■■ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>my best friend has played at this club for so long and hockey means the world to her!!!!!! so please please please keep your promise to keep her playing!!!!</p> <p>■■■■ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>knox is my home and i don't want to have to leave it</p> <p>■■■■ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>

Dear Councillor

Knox is a wonderful hockey club, I have been part of several around Melbourne and this is the best. Without Knox there is no hockey club in the outer eastern suburbs of Melbourne. Give us a club for me and my kids to play at. We paid our rates in Knox, give us a sporting ground we want instead of the sporting grounds you think we want

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Knox Hockey Club runs in the veins of the Hollow Family...

My Father has played at the club, coached at the club, been President at the club (along with other committee roles) & is a Life Member of this wonderful Family Club. He currently has a perpetual Trophy named after him too as a sign of respect to his efforts and devotion to the club over many years.

For all the years we've been involved, so was my Mum too. Be it as Club Secretary, Team Managers, Canteen Coordinator, Uniform Coordinator, or whatever task she has ever been asked to do. Mum is also a Life Member of Knox HC. Mum too has a perpetual Trophy named after her too for everything she did in her life to help the club (The actual overall Club-person award is the one named after Mum for the person who's gone above and beyond the call of duty over the year, each year, to help the club)

I have been involved at this club since I was 5 years old and first picked up a hockey stick (doing what was then Minkey, but now referred to as Hook in2 Hockey). I have also played, coached & been on the committee for many years previously in Sponsorship & Mens Coordinator roles (not currently serving on committee in 2021). I have poured many, many hours into this amazing club & I have many truly dear friends from my involvement there. I cannot, and hope never to have to, imagine my hockey life & career not being alongside that of Knox Hockey Club.

I now have a 7 year old boy who has done his time in the Hook in2 Hockey program and will this year play his first season in the U10 competition. The 3rd generation of Hollow to continue at Knox Hockey Club. He got his first pair of "Knox Socks" the other night and you should've seen the smile on his face and pride beaming from him.

Please do whatever needs to be done to keep this wonderful club alive within Knox as my family, and many others, truly need it. It's a part of what we do and who we are every year...

There's been enough negative things happen over the last 12 months, let's get a HUGE positive injection into the community with the support of Knox Hockey Club from Knox Council, by staying true to their word, & delivering on a promise of a new home - ready for season 2022. I know that once the council delivers on their promise of this new home, as a club we will deliver on ours by forever continuing to "Come out hard with heaps of pride, and that's the way it stays". These words are from our club song, let us continue to "stay" in Knox! #goknox

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Knox hockey club is one of the most wonderful, accepting and family-like clubs i have ever been apart of. It's always been a safe space for every person. It has been a huge part of my life since I was young and has been a home out of home. I have learnt a lot from members of this club and it has ALWAYS believed in me even if i didn't believe in myself. Not only do we come together to train and play amazing hockey we come together for each other. I have made some of my closest friends at this club as well as met my biggest role models/mentors. I have grown up with this club and so has my family. This club has made my family and i apart of its bigger family and without it MANY of us would feel so displaced. Knox hockey club has given a lot of us purpose in sport, taught us never to give up and keep fighting to strive to do our best. These are qualities that are only developed through sport. The joys of playing hockey or any sport in particular is never always about winning. It is about the journey and the work you put in TO win. Knox hockey club has always, always supported individuals in that journey no matter who you are or what your skills are. It would be devastating to so many members of this family if the council chose not to allow knox to continue the amazing work it has done for the community and sport for our future.

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Knox Hockey Club is my second family after playing there my entire childhood and most of my adult life I'm currently living interstate but when I make my return to Melbourne I want to return to my Knox family. I know that the people will be waiting with open arms but we need somewhere to call home! Please make sure that I have home to come back to!

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Knox hockey club is more than just a sporting club for my family. It provides my family with friendship, fitness and fun. Whilst also teaching my children the values of team work, commitment, sportsmanship , hard work and determination. It took quite a while to find such a sporting club with a mix of good values and competitiveness .

I trust that as elected members of our community , that you will hold good on the promise you made to Knox hockey club and it's members to find us a new home prior to the 2022 season. Now more than ever our community especially our children need to have something to look forward to and focus on. On behalf of of my family I ask that it is the building of our new hockey home.

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Knox hockey club is important as other sports in our community, it's brings friends and family together and starts social skills in younger people. I want you to keep your promise so we can continue growing sport involvement in our community

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Knox hockey club is an integral part of the community. It is home to many young players who have a passion for hockey and a love of team sports. It provides an atmosphere that is very important to the development and happiness of its players and can not be matched by another club. Please deliver on the promise of finding the club a new home and keep the community and it's players and supporters in sport and around their friends and team mates.

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Knox Hockey Club is an important club in Melbourne's outer east, as it provides opportunities for hockey in a locale that is otherwise bereft of the sport.

A new permanent base will allow the club to grow. Hockey clubs that do not have their own home ground inevitably fall away and disappear from existence. Hockey is an important sport as it is equitable and does not discriminate with people of all ages and abilities able to participate at community clubs such as Knox.

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

I'm a supporter of the club and the sense of community surrounding it is why it is so important. keep the promise and Save the club!

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Knox hockey club is an amazing club from the beginning when my youngest daughter started then my other daughter joined her in u13s, both playing together then in different teams played in their junior years then graduated to the seniors they have coached and umpired. Great family atmosphere and support. Very caring and supportive club. Lifelong friendships and community support. Please don't let us not have a club.

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Knox hockey club is a very important asset to the local Knox community where it currently provides a safe and fun environment for many, including young children and families. We are at risk of losing this club and the community benefits it brings if a new home facility is not developed soon.

Knox Hockey Club is an inclusive and encouraging place and I feel that it is exactly the sort of thing that strong communities build around. Unfortunately to grow, or even to continue to exist, the club will soon need a new home.

An investment by Knox council, our council, to build a new local facility for the club would benefit many and promote a healthy sport that is widely enjoyed by men's, women's, and junior sections. (While hockey isn't unique in this, it is a sport that's very widely participated in by male and

female players, leading to a great family environment around the club.)

Please support Knox Hockey club to continue to grow and to promote healthy and safe sport participation by developing a new facility in one of our great local areas.
Thanks for your support!

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Knox hockey club is a very family friendly club. Hockey can be played from U8's to over 70's which makes it a sport all family members can play both competitively and socially. Please support Knox in establishing their new home ground, so the club can continue to build its member base and support the local community with a family friendly place to develop friendships which will last a life time.

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Knox Hockey Club is a Knox community institution. I've grown up playing hockey against Knox and then for Knox. My kids now play for Knox with all of their friends that live in the vicinity of the grounds. Generations have benefited from this club community and its Positive activities organised. Knox Hockey Club must have a home ground,. The hockey family is a huge positive for the greater local community and MUST continue .

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Knox Hockey Club is a fantastic, family focused club that is in desperate need of a new home. We have thrived even with sub par facilities compared with a lot of other hockey clubs which goes to show the spirit of the club.

There is no excuse for the council to not provide a decent facility for us and as a club of several hundred members (not including all the family and friends of the club members) we deserve a facility

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Knox hockey club has been very important to my family over the last 7 years as hockey is the only sport both boys love to play. We originally approached another club when my eldest wanted to play but they were not as welcoming as Knox was. Having one in juniors and one in seniors we are very involved in the club and have made many friends. It will be heartbreaking to my boys to have the club fold.

Please ensure we have a location and club for 2022. It's important!

<p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Knox hockey club has been a major turning point and influential venue that has made me the active, sport enthusiast I am today! I was first introduced to competitive sporting during interschool sports where I played hockey for the very first time at Knox! It was such an incredible experience and inspired me to further pursue hockey as a hobby which evolved into trying out for soccer and discovering my love for that sport as well! Many years later and here I am playing Victorian state league soccer living my dream and following my passions, and none of that would have happened without the Knox Hockey Club! The council really needs to do well by this amazing community and uphold their promises to the Knox Hockey Club. I hope going forward this incredible center will continue to inspire, flourish and thrive! Dont leave them hanging!!</p>
<p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Knox Hockey club has been a huge part of my life. They deserve a permanent home where they can continue to thrive. From juniors through to vets there are a lot of people, mostly Knox residents who will benefit from a facility in Knox. Please stick to your promise of a ground by the start of winter season 2022 or the impact on a local community group could be quite damaging</p>
<p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Knox hockey club had a great environment that many call home! Relationships, friendships and connections have been made here and will continue to until close, This club means so much to many people, it is more then a sports club, it is a getaway, it's an escape. Do not take this away from those who rely on this institution and need it</p>
<p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Knox hockey club does so much for the community many ways more than just providing a safe nurturing place to learn a new sport, get active and make friends. Please allow us to keep our community whole!</p>
<p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>

Dear Councillor

Knox Hockey Club (KHC) needs a home.

As you should already be aware KHC is being vacated at the end of this year from their current home of 23 years at the Knox School.

I personally have been playing at Knox Hockey club for coming up 31 years. I started when I was 9 and now about to turn 40. My wife joined the club after meeting me and now my son (9) and daughter (6) are also getting involved.

Knox Hockey Club is my everything. Please do everything you can to help relocate and not lose hockey in our community.

I know there have been discussions between our committee and council over numerous years but the time is now to keep your promise and deliver us a new home ready for next season.

KHC are not just another small sporting club. We are a club with around 350 PLAYING members, female and male, from 6 years old to 65 years old. Don't let this family club die.

■■■■ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Knox HC has been through hell trying to get a true home for decades. They're a true community club that are here to stay and deserve the same recognition and respect that other significant local sports clubs are given. Please sort this out with your council, give the club a fair go.

■■■■ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Knox has been an inclusive and friendly club to be part of since I joined. Save this club and deliver it a home please.

■■■■ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Knox Council...what are you doing to help KNOX Hockey Club?..it is my understanding you have told them their new facilities will be built by next season..? This club cannot be forgotten about and just hope they all wander off to other clubs further away..they are KNOX people..they deserve your help..what I dont understand is why they weren't relocated to the sports centre in High Street Rd?..I seem to recall that was the original plan in stage 3? So easily could have been put in there and was just forgotten about.. why can't somebody from Council help us, it always seems to be someone elses problem.

■■■■ - Knox Hockey Club family

<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Knox Council you have been talking to our club for many years now about relocation options. The club has done everything possible to accommodate and to work with council in the hope to find a new home. It really is time now for Council to step up and support a club and its members that is so loyal to our municipality. Please Knox find us a new home soon.</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Knox Council please honour your commitment to the Knox Hockey Club and fulfill your promise to avail the Club of a ground for the 2022 season. Knox can't afford to lose the only Hockey Club in the area.</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Keep Knox hockey club alive</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>Just give the kids what they want, a fair go at being able to play an incredible sport and let people who enjoy playing hockey be able to continue doing so.</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>I've been playing hockey for nearly 10 years and this would be a tragedy if your council is not able to get its act together.</p> <p>We need a home for hockey in our area and you can't keep treating the sport we love as a second class citizen.</p> <p>The club has hundreds of members and just needs a home. I've played cricket too and the cricket clubs have a home or even two homes with so many less members. It makes no sense to me.</p> <p>Cricket literally 11 in a team stand on the field all day for one game. In hockey we have 16 in the team and play six or more games in the same space of time.</p> <p>So be fair and keep your promise please.</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>I've been playing for Knox hockey club since I was 16 years old. I've met long life friends there who I would not of otherwise met if it wasn't for the club. We have become like a little family now, it would be all to sad if if we're to be split up.</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>

<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>I've been part of Knox hockey club since I was 16, my sister since she was 14 and my brother since he was 12. When we first moved to the area, Knox hockey club welcomed us with open arms even though none of us had ever picked up a hockey stick. This club represents everything community sport is about; participation for all, being part of a community and playing for fun, health and being your best self. Knox hockey club is what young people, people of all ages and families in Knox need. Sport is for everyone and Knox hockey club is an integral part of the Knox community. Don't let this great part of our Knox community lose a place to call home, support our local sporting community and give this great club the place it deserves to call home.</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>It's where I grew up</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>It is extremely important for the future of the Knox Hockey club to have a ground within Knox. This club represents Knox in the State League competition and many overseas players see us as a great place to play when they visit Australia. We have juniors playing for Victoria past & present, who we may lose if we have nowhere to play. This is an urgent situation as our current ground will become unavailable in November 2021.</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>It is critical that council take all steps necessary to ensure this beautiful community and family based hockey club is not left to close it's doors.</p> <p>It is time that council supports all sporting code equally and start to invest rates payers money to great sporting clubs like Knox hockey club.</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>It has been with a heavy sense of disappointment that the fate of a strong, viable, family focussed sports club is yet again being decided by those who know little about this great sport in which Austalian Men and Women have been world champions and the envy of other nations across the world.</p> <p>Local clubs like Knox are the seedbed for players from the age of under 9 through to Masters, playing for fun, competitively or at a representative level and we should be striving to support an inclusive club which caters for all ages and abilities not diminish their ability to provide a local facility at which to play when there are masses of under used under utilised playing facilities provide for football, tennis, cricket,netball, softball et al.</p> <p>Knox as a club utilise the existing facility at Knox school 7 days/nights a week pre and during the season....how many other sporting codes could suggest an equivalent level of utilisation ansd be refused an appropriate and safe surface upon which to play.</p> <p>As a migrant family from the UK and NZ we were welcomed into the heart of the club, have played, coached and represented the club at committee level to see it thrive and grow. Please</p>

allow other families such as ours to participate and enjoy the sport and remain active and involved into our 60's. Please review and consider ALL possibilities and be an inclusive council supporting a wide diversity of sporting codes in a genuinely fair and equitable manner. Thanking you in anticipation for a positive result to our playing surface problems.
 [REDACTED] current masters player and former womens coordinator and committee member.

[REDACTED] - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

In an era of over weight children and screens ruling children's lives it is imperative that local councils continue to offer kids every opportunity to play sports and remain active. YOU must keep your promise to offer a new home for the club.

[REDACTED] - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

In 1986 I joined the Sherbrooke hockey club as a junior and at the time we had a paddock in kings park to play on before we moved to another tired paddock at guy turner reserve Bayswater. Although appreciative to have somewhere to play the amenities left a lot to be desired. especially after moving from the kew hockey club who had everything. As I entered my senior year of hockey, Knox were again told to move on and despite numerous fundraising events and promises of a homebase the club were left without a place to call home. Tired of travelling Victoria to our home ground I left the sport for about 20 years and have returned as a veteran only to discover the club is still in limbo and the council which is great place to live still wont help the club . My eldest daughter has recently enjoyed playing hockey at Knox and I see history repeating.

[REDACTED] - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

If you don't play hockey, you may not be aware of our amazing community at the Knox Hockey Club. You may not realise how important it is to so many people. It is fitness, a social outlet and a place where we belong. For some, it is the centre of their whole life. Please find our club a new ground. It's more important than you may realise.

[REDACTED] - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

I've had great experiences playing with this club in men's teams. Do everything you can to make sure that a new home is built so they don't die

[REDACTED] - Knox Hockey Club family

<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>I've been a member on the Knox hockey club for most of my life (almost 15 years) and its been the best and most memorable parts of my life. Through life long friendships, having a laugh, playing a team sport, and learning from so many different people, it has shaped a big part of who I am and the Knox community will only grow stronger from this club continuing on. Please allows us to continue to be apart of the Knox community and continue to grow together for the 2022 season!!!</p> <p>█ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>I've absolutely loved watching my mates here. It would be an absolute shame to see the club go. Hockey is an amazing Australian sport and should be receiving all the community support it can get!</p> <p>█ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>I'm calling to the Council to keep their promise to Knox Hockey Club! As a supporter of the club this is important to me as my friends and family can come together because of our love for hockey; which can only be possible with a new home next season as promised by the Council.</p> <p>█ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>I'm a supporter of the Knox hockey club. There are members of this club who have been playing hockey for 20 years. In the same club. They really need their own facilities so they can continue to play in the club that they love</p> <p>█ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>I'm a supporter and love watching the game. They need somewhere to call home and I'm glad to read that you are going to do that. Please don't make it an empty promise. We do need to believe.</p> <p>█ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>I'm a big supporter of the Knox Hockey Club and to say the least, it would be a shame to see such a club miss opportunities to play in the years ahead. I firmly believe that the council must provide the chance for this club to have a pitch as it will enable players to have a voice and help them to continue to flourish their involvement in the club.</p> <p>█ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>

Dear Councillor

I write to you today to implore you to do as you said you were going to and rehome the Knox Hockey Club before their season opening in 2021. The club is an imperative part of our community. The club members and families need this club! Please, keep your promise!!

■■■■ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

I wish to strongly urge you to delivery on your promise to deliver a new home for the Knox Hockey Club.

I have been involved with the club for more than 20 years as a player, coach and committee member - in fact the season before the club moved to it's current home and the Knox School. In that time the club has played a significant part of our lives. We have established strong and lifelong friendships. Both of our children have and continue to play the sport. It has played a significant role in their development into well rounded adults. It has taught them how to live a healthy life style, the importance of teamwork, how to win with grace and how to deal with losses and setbacks. They are both more resilient individuals as a result. It has also provided an opportunity to develop leadership and organisational skills as they took on on captaincy and committee roles. I have no doubt that their success as adults has been significantly impacted by the opportunities that the game of hockey and the Know Hockey Club has provided.

For me directly, from the outset the club welcomed and included me (and the whole family) and encouraged me to try. Having played squash at an elite level, playing a team sport was quite different, and despite my obvious skill limitations I was included and supported to continue to develop. The club and the game of hockey quickly became a lifestyle, one that I have never regretted and continue to learn from (more through coaching now)

It would be a tragedy if future children of Knox were to be denied the opportunity that the club provided our children - particularly as our world seems to be pushing our children to be more sedentary, less resilient and less connected.

I have now doubt that if we have no home ground, the club will ultimately disappear. As I said a tragedy and unnecessary. I understand that there are acceptable locations for us to move to and it appears that the only thing that seems to be missing is a decision (a difficult one I accept). Time is quickly catching up with us and any delay in deciding a location for our new home could be disastrous.

I understand that we have been promised by council that it would deliver a new home for us.

I respectfully urge and request that you fulfil this promise and act quickly to select a location and move to invest and develop the site in time to ensure we have a home to compete out of in 2022.

■■■■ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

I went to that school and played on that pitch for 8 years just as many others have. It's become a staple of not only the sporting, but also school community and should not be erased.

■■■■ - Knox Hockey Club family

<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>I support the Knox Hockey Club to build a new pitch in the local area. Hockey is the sport of choice of three women in our family.</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>I really do hope to see this new home ready for this upcoming season. I love to come down and support my friends playing hockey- especially now more than ever that it is so important to break free from isolation. Sport is the best way to get people together in unity.</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>I played for KHC a few years ago and this club is something special. The community feeling and inclusion that this club brings to the Knox area is great for both children and adults alike, they need a new ground to play on, please provide them with what they need. Losing KHC would be a devastating blow to the wider community and future generations within this community.</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>I play hockey in Ballarat and have competed against Knox at their home field in the Vic League competition. Without a doubt their current facility is one of the worst playing surfaces with substandard amenities and does not reflect the high standards of hockey that Knox Hockey represents. A new facility is imperative for Knox Hockey</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>I might not be a hockey player myself - but I know how crucial my tennis was and continues to be throughout my upbringing. I started playing when I was 4 and believe playing tennis was pivotal in moulding me in to the person I am today. To know that this club has been exactly that for so many people is the exact reason why we need it needs a new home! Keeping fit, finding love in a sport and having a sense of community are just some of the multitude of reasons why the relocation of this club is so important.</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>I loved playing hockey at Knox growing up and would hate for the next generation to miss out on playing too. I know lots of awesome people from the club have devoted massive chunks of their lives to this club and deserve to see the club exist and succeed for years to come</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>

Dear Councillor

I love watching my mother play hockey. I like seeing her get excited as she prepares for training and games.

Knox Council, can you please, please have a ground for Knox Hockey Club to play and train on?

Thank you.

█ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

I know several members who have been part of this club since they were kids and now as adults are fighting to keep their club alive.

Help them Knox Council.

Save the decades of history! They deserve some support

█ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

I hope we have a hockey home ground for 2022 season.

Please help Knox Hockey Club rebuild a new home.

Please help our community club continue to enjoy the sport and to grow.

█ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

I haven't been apart of Knox Hockey club since the year I moved from South Africa to Australia, that was over 11 years ago, the club has played an very important part in my life growing by up in Australia, giving me the opportunity to meet new people on a yearly basis, make new friends and old friends who have become more like family. I travel 3-4 times a week from Mentone to play hockey at the Knox Hockey Club, I have much easier choice to join the southern United club, 5 minutes down the road but choose to travel 30 minutes to play with friends and family.

Giving the club the opportunity to build a new home which still remains local to the original location will only impact the community which surrounds the new ground Positively, the club will bring forth community engagement, community fundraising and many more family friendly events.

All we ask for is a fair go

Thanks for listening

█ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

I have been involved with with Knox Hockey Club for nearly 20 years, it is a fantastic family oriented club that draws people from all areas and is the only hockey club in Knox. Please don't allow this wonderful sport to disappear from Knox and provide us with a new home as promised and expected by so many.

█ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

I have been involved with the Knox Hockey Club for over 10 years with Juniors (Team Manager), seniors (player) and i even played masters. My whole family play and have really enjoyed the atmosphere at the club. My children have made life long friends this is something that they didnt get from playing tennis or basketball. I am just disappointed that it has taken over 5 years since we got told to move and there is still no decisions made. If we build over the overflow ovals the cricket and football use, they can just move to a school. Every school has an oval but every school has not got a hockey field. Please help us, our families are depending on you. My family will not play anymore if the club folds.

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

I have been involved with Knox Hockey Club since 1984. I have seen literally thousands of people get great joy from playing hockey at Knox. Young men and women from many cultures have played at the club. During that time, Australia has been a powerhouse of world hockey winning many championships. This success has been built on the back of local clubs like Knox. The club has always been inclusive and community minded. However, we have never had a proper facility. Now, our very existence is under threat. On behalf of all many hundreds of people who played under the Eagles banner playing hockey. Please give us a proper home!

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

I have been involved at Knox hockey club for approximately 25 years in the capacity of player, team manager and coach.

Knox Hockey has given me the opportunity to participate in a sport that I love. Not only does it provide me with fitness and enjoyment, but the club is very social and I have made some good friends.

I have introduced my children to Knox hockey as well.

I am a resident of Knox council and I would be devastated to lose the ground and the club.

I was so relieved when Council promised to deliver us a new home ready for next season and I hope they fulfil that commitment.

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

I have been at Knox Hockey Club for 20 years now and it has been one of the best things to ever happen to me.

It is where I met some of my best friends, I have learned communication and leadership skills, it has led to interstate and international travel with various representative teams, and it has been a great place to meet people every week to socialise and get exercise outdoors in the fresh air.

Before hockey I tried a dozen different sports with my brother, and none of them fulfilled me the way hockey has.

I work a lot with our younger players in helping them grow not just their hockey skills but also their maturity and leadership potential.

I can't imagine the how many kids would miss out on their chance to shine if hockey were taken away from them.

Please find us a new home, and fast!

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

I have been a member of the Knox hockey club for over 15 years. The club has been an amazing social environment to both play sport and socialise.

The club is very family orientated with a large juniors program, and many family groups playing together in the annual summer of fun competition. The club also does an amazing job of community outreach, working with schools to encourage sport and healthy activities amongst children.

The Knox hockey club has been a critical part of the Knox community, and failing to provide the club with the facilities it so desperately needs will irreparably damage the club, with member leaving to go to other clubs that receive community and council support. This will leave the Knox area without this great community group.

I cannot wait until I can begin including my 2 year old daughter in the club and neither can she. Please ensure that this club is still around so that I can show her how great it is.

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

I have been a member of Knox Hockey Club for the last 23 years. I am a player, have been a coach and am now a parent of young kids who just want to have a hockey club to be a part of.

Knox Hockey Club is an all inclusive place for people of all ages and abilities in our community to be involved in something positive.

Knox council, it doesn't matter where you put it, we just need a pitch to call home so that the future generations of hockey players have the facilities available to allow them to participate in our great sport.

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

I have been a Knox Hockey club member (player) for more than 10 years. For me it is not only is it somewhere you come to get fit and develop your skills, but it is a place to feel part of a community, and an opportunity to form social connections and good friendships. The importance of this was never more poignant during lockdown when connections were maintained by zoom meetings for training sessions (fitness sessions and team structure) and teams formed social media chat groups that supported each other through those tough times. At our recent hockey camp for the women many (particularly young women) commented on how the club was a mental refuge for them.

For me, I am still working from home and training sessions provide a much needed opportunity to have contact with real people help me get my body moving.

Two years ago I hiked the Overland track with friends I made through the club, being a great place to meet like minded people who like getting fit doing outdoor activities. In winter when it is cold and grey, hockey gets me out of the home and outdoors.

Please make sure our ground is ready as promised next season. So many people have worked so hard for this and so much will be lost if this doesn't happen.

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

I have been a Hockey in my youth and played with this club before the transition from Sherbrooke to the current club Knox. I have played for other clubs on the west side of Melbourne and found this club to be very family friendly, and now both my sons are now starting to play it would be a great disappointment, given the last 12 months with covid-19, if the club didn't have a new home ground next year. With your assistance a new state of the art pitch and club rooms would put both Knox Council and the Knox Hockey in a fantastic position to expand the club and be a jewel in the crown of the Knox Council, keeping all those families in the Knox area and not moving out of the area to play the game we all so love to play, and playing in the Knox area is what we all love to do.

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

My kids are playing a team sport that they like.

Please find a new ground ready for next year, so that they can play

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

I have been a big supporter of Knox Hockey Club for the last 10 years. It is so important to have a hockey ground within the Knox hockey club, not only for the current players but for generations in the future.

I am asking Council to please keep its promise and deliver us a new home ready for next hockey season.

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

I grew up playing hockey with Knox Hockey club and it was a fantastic community club which facilitates friendship, leadership and community unity. As an adult I have played summer hockey and have found it to be a positive part of Knox's community. Without a local club, players will either have to move further or not play at all which would be a massive loss for the council

■■■■■ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

I got the opportunity to watch my sisters boyfriend play in the finals before coronavirus came about and it was one of the most fun days I've had ever! The atmosphere was amazing and just being a supporter in the crowd was so exciting, it'd be such a loss to not only the players but the coaches, parents and supporters of Knox hockey for this to be taken away. I'd hate for so many people to lose the opportunity to play a game that makes so many people happy!
#SaveKnoxHockey

■■■ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

I came over from England play hockey for Knox's and wow what a club they are. Please make sure that they are able to provide hockey to the local community. It is vital especially after the lockdown and C19 that people get to play sports and by upholding your end of the deal.

■■■ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

I beg the council to support hockey and our club. We have been languishing for years due to the uncertainty around the pitch, it is hard to attract & keep members in a situation like this. All we ask is for the same support as other sports get in the areas, I am involved with cricket & footy and the funding, support & resources they get from multiple sources outstrip our best hopes by far.

The club will easily double in size with a certain future and I hope you can provide this for us. There must be something that can be done with Wantirna Reserve or Llewellyn.

I have been involved with the club for nearly 20 years, raised 2 kids and hopefully a 3rd with Knox Hockey Club.

Please help us.

■■■ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

I assume the Council is aware that in the mid 1990's the Knox Council pushed the Knox Hockey Club to join with the Knox School to survive as a hockey club in the Knox area. The Club's previous ground was closed.

The Knox council was unable to assist the Club back then and now after 20+ years the school has decided it wants the land to use for other purposes.

Hockey is an Olympic sport, something our young people could aspire too. The sport provides for residents of all ages (male & female) from Prep age school children to adults up to 60+ years of age.

It is said that Benedikt Reserve is being used more by residents during Covid virus. What happens when people return to their busy lives?

I have played tennis at the tennis court at Benedikt Reserve often and never seen anyone using the oval. I'm sure the Hockey club will not impact on the tennis court or basketball half court. The Hockey Club would be an asset to the Benedikt Reserve.

The Knox hockey club is a great family club. My son has grown up in the Club's environment and been involved with the club for the past 30 years. I know have grand children playing at the Club.

I sincerely hope the Knox Council does not desert the Knox Hockey Club, but grant them the land to make a permanent home. It is most important for the Club's continued existence.

Yours faithfully

Resident and rate payer of 46 years.

█ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

I am writing to express my concern with the continual delay with finding Knox Hockey club a new home.

My son has come through from the hook into hockey program 5 years ago and has been lucky enough in the last few years to make state teams.

This has had a lot to do with the great development that he has been offered by all the people at Knox.

We as a family love the club and we do not want to be forced away to another club simply because council can not back up what they have promised a new pitch for next season.

I am the Football Operations Manager at the Vermont JFC which is one of the biggest sporting clubs in the eastern area and deal with local council on a regular basis re playing grounds so understand the issues you face.

Saying that however football and cricket clubs are always looked after.

So these days are Basketball and soccer.

It is only fair that council back up what they have been promising for a few years now and get the new pitch sorted straight away.

I know where is not the issue we are a family club and will bond as a club where ever you relocate us.

But that is the issue we need to stay as a club and not be forced into having nowhere for us to continue come next year.

█ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

I am so disappointed in Knox Council for not taking seriously the hockey club, it's hundreds of members, and even more supporters. My kids have enjoyed playing hockey so much over the years. For my daughter it's been the only sport that she's been able to feel comfortable playing and enjoy with friends.

Sport in Knox is so male dominated and it's really frustrating that a hockey club which provides opportunity for women is neglected. There are dozens of footy and cricket ovals for small clubs, but not even one in the whole area for hockey. It's not just not equitable. Please find a home Knox Hockey Club as a priority.

██████████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

I am a resident of Knox council and have always supported the Knox Hockey Club.

There are so many other sports facilities in Knox and only the 1 hockey club. It would be a sad to day if Knox hockey club lost its home.

I am asking Council to please keep its promise and deliver us a new home ready for next season.

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

I am a life member of the Knox Hockey Club and lived in Knox for 39 years as a rate payer.

At 63 years old I am still participating, playing 2 nights a week. I started playing at 10 years old. I am still representing my State at Aust Championships in the Over 60's.

My son is still playing at Knox, started at 6 years old to currently 37 years old.

My two grand children are playing at Knox also. They are 6 and 8 years old.

We would all like to keep playing in our municipality.

Please make sure we will still be able to enjoy our sport, keep healthy, support our Club and friends next season.

Regards,

██████

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Hockey is such a great game. The absolute best of all team sports in my opinion.

People living in the inner suburbs on in the West of Melbourne are quite lucky that there are numerous clubs they could join. Our family lives in the outer suburbs - in the beautiful Dandenong Ranges. Knox Hockey Club is our closest club, and if it did not exist I don't think we could participate in this sport due to the excessive distance we would have to travel to attend training.

Our children have made fantastic friends at Knox Hockey Club. They love attending training and games, and I love watching their hockey skills develop and their experience of being part of team grow. They have fantastic dedicated coaches and an excellent junior development program underway.

I was lucky enough to be selected in the Victorian team when I was a junior player. I would love for my children to have the opportunity to trial for selection also. This certainly can't happen if

they don't have a club to play with.

It would be extremely disappointing if Knox Hockey Club was unable to exist due to council inadequately supporting this hockey club. There needs to be opportunity to play hockey for those living in Knox and the outer east.

There is obviously a deadline for our club to move from its current location. We urgently need Knox council to act on our behalf.

█ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Hi,

I have recently become involved in the Knox Hockey Club from a supporter point of view due to my partner being a player. I have seen how much passion and care there is for each other within the Knox hockey club community. It would be devastating to lose this home they have built over many years. I would hate to see the impact on my partner, his friends and others who rely on the club as a means of interaction and physical fitness.

Please keep your promise to the club, it's players, and it's families to find us a home before the start of next year.

█ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Hi to the Councillors at Knox Council, I'm █, my daughter Lisa and I've been members at Knox Hockey Club for the past 6 years, and we are wanting so badly for Knox Hockey Club to continue as a thriving family oriented club because I play in the masters over 45s team, and Lisa my daughter played in until 2016, and we both are wanting Knox Hockey Club to have a new home ground with your help to find a new home ground for our club to be able to continue our club's history, because I am really happy playing hockey for Knox Hockey Club, and made good friendship with my team members, and I'm asking you again to find a suitable ground for Knox Hockey Club to continue. Knox Councillors please find a new home ground for our club this is or I'm asking from you. You can reply to my letter to █, I looked forward to receiving your reply.

Yours Sincerely

█ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

A local sporting club who needs their help finding facilities shouldn't be treated this way. Half the footy clubs who have no money get treated better!!!!We aren't involved with the club but hope to have our girls play with Knox one day. Being part of another community club in the area I know how hard it can be to get help, but to not have a home to play at the club will die

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Hi there,

My name's ██████ and I play hockey for Knox Hockey Club.

I wanted to send a personal message to let you know what this club means to me and how important it is for our club to have a home pitch next year, as promised by the council.

I've played hockey since I was 11. It has been a constant and will forever be my favourite sport. I've only been with Knox since 2017, but this club and its community have quickly become one of the most important parts of my life.

The Knox Hockey Club have supported me as a new member, through my dad's battle with cancer, followed by his death, and also through my mental health issues that followed. This club has played a part in literally saving my life.

I'm only one person. But everyone has a story and a different reason for how important this club is to them.

We all need a family and we all need a home. I've found family in the Knox Hockey Club, but we still need a home. Please help us find that. Do it for the youth like me who have found family through community sport.

Thank you

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Hi Knox Councilors

I have been a member of Knox Hockey club now for 6 or 7 years. It is a great and welcoming community club, that allowed me to participate in hockey and improve my fitness, despite not having played hockey for 30+ years when I first joined. Since then, I have played in Masters teams, seniors teams, Knox Hockey Club run social competitions that allow everyone to play games together and have 3 children who have participated in hockey, from Hook into Hockey up to now in the U14 and U16 teams.

I was very disappointed to hear that time is running out for the relocation of our club, especially considering this has been a known issue for many years. It is the only hockey club in Knox. There is nowhere else we can go to play hockey locally. One of my children plays cricket and over the summer I have come to see just how many cricket pitches there are in Knox, often not being used.

Please continue to pursue options to relocate our hockey club so we can continue to play and enjoy the great community.

Regards

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Hi Knox Council! Knox has been an amazing club to play hockey for with such a lovely family culture, it would be a huge shame to see us homeless next year so please get on board, for Knox and for the families that live and play hockey within your council.

Thankyou

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Hi Knox City Council,

Knox hockey club are seeking a new home for our family and we have heard you are able to help us. The new field will allow our ever growing club to continue to build our family. Knox is a very family oriented club and we as a club like to make sure everyone feels welcome an part of the family. Many individuals come for all sorts of families of our own (e.g. broken families) but the Knox family is one that is hard to break.

I have recently left the area and moved to regional Victoria but Knox means that much to me that I travel 2 hours to train and play for the club. This club is my home away from home and I have friends that I will call my family forever. The Knox family.

Please help us with getting a new field as quick as possible so that we can continue to play the sport we all love.

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Hi I am player, mother of a player and grandmother of two very excited grandchildren who can not wait to play their first game of hockey, we are a family orientated club that is very inclusive and we welcome everyone of different ages, skill sets, beliefs, race and personal orientation. Building / refreshing the existing ground will help the wider community in many ways, a ground to help build a sport that is inclusive and family orientated, help build friendships, team spirit and self worth.

A ground that can be used for other activities or for people to exercise, family walks etc.

Please save our club and our big family unit.

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Hello,

I have no kids that play at Knox Hockey Club but I do have someone who is like a daughter to me that is affiliated with this club, her name is ██████. I have known her for her entire life and she has always been a part of KHC. She is now 36. Not only has she been a part of this club so has her entire family. Her own mother has an award in her memory for best club person as her mother ██████ was what KHC is all about. Come every winter you would hardly see Sue because she was down at the club helping being the canteen manager, being club secretary or team manager for whichever team her daughter was in alongside making sure other team managers were doing their bit with team sheets etc. Even to this day 12 years on "Aunty ██████" is still a well known name around this club. This club has so much more meaning to it than people realise. It's not just another sporting club it truly is a family. To not give this family a home would be a big mistake for all involved and all that aren't involved. We encourage our kids to get out and be more active so please help this club stay strong by giving them a home that they need and deserve. We owe it to the ones here that love and bleed this club and to help keep the memory alive of the ones who are no longer here to have their voices heard.

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Hello,

I have been apart of Knox Hockey Club my entire life. I'm currently 36 years old. We need a home. We need your help. I understand there will be people unhappy with some decisions but my club needs a home. Everyone voices how kids need to be more active and play sport well I'm asking you to please help support this sport. We may not be as well known as your "regular" sports but I challenge you to come to a home day and you will fill the love, support an welcome that Knox Hockey Club brings. We truly are a family away from your normal family. Please don't let us go homeless we need a home.

We have a range of juniors, seniors and masters. We need your support. Personally I need the support from you an my club. I don't know where I would be with out my hockey family please help us

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Hello,

My 16-year old daughter, [REDACTED], has been a part of the Knox Hockey Club family for almost 4 years. Being new to the country and the sport, [REDACTED] was apprehensive about joining the team. But all the coaches, staff and other players were so welcoming from the beginning. Vibha has developed over the years and plays for both the Junior and Senior squads now. Knox Hockey Club means a LOT to her - for the deep friendships she has created and the feeling of belonging to a community of active people.

It pains me to realise that we won't have a home at the end of the 2021 winter season. I understand you are actively considering 2 options to help us establish the club, rather than being a nomad. Outdoor sports is especially important for the growth of the children and the community alike, especially during these Covid times. I respectfully urge you to consider the voices of the Knox Hockey Club and help us find a home.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Hello Knox Council- can you please promise to have Knox Hockey Grounds ready for the hockey club for next season. My mum plays and I am very interested in wanting to learn to play.

[REDACTED] - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Got many friends that rely on this club for social reasons and mental release, I know how painful it would be to lose my sporting team, and I don't want the players to feel that pain.

[REDACTED] - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Be better council. Just be better

[REDACTED] - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Good evening, My name is [REDACTED] and I am a founding member of the Knox Hockey Club in 1975. I am a life member of the club and have been involved with the sport as a player for over 50 years and also a coach and umpire. Being a non major sport sporting club the Knox club has over the past 45 years struggled to maintain a voice and a fair go with councils especially for ground allocation. We have moved from Monbulk to UFTG to Bayswater and with the emergence of astroturf fields our current location of The Knox School. During that time we have had to battle to keep our identity and a place to call home. A struggle which no major sport has to ever cope with. Please help us find a new home. The same problems occur every time we are forced to move and I don't believe if you ask past neighbours of our grounds you will find we are a problem. We stand out not only in the hockey community but also in the sporting community as a FAMILY oriented

club. This is very apparent with our no alcohol at junior games policy a policy not supported by many other clubs in any sporting code at their home grounds. Please assist in finding a permanent and lasting home for our club. I will gladly speak to any one who wishes to help us over come once again a need to replace our home. Yours in hockey [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

From an Altona Hockey Club member. It's crucial we support hockey in Victoria and a great club such as Knox

[REDACTED] - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Everyone needs to be able to play thier chosen sport regardless of size of club.

[REDACTED] - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Don't let us all down, you promised people something that they love and deserve! Please allow friends and family to enjoy what they have been promised

[REDACTED] - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Dear Knox Councilor's,

Hockey is an Sport Played by Children at 4 years old to Adults at 80 year young.

I have been involved in Hockey for more than 45 years, being a Board Member and club member and just a Parent, supporter, official, umpire, team manager and helper at Clubs including Footscray, Altona, Kew and even the Australian over 45 Masters team.

My family has moved across to Knox Hockey Club to continue being involved in this fantastic sport who they have been with for the last 4 years. We are not local to the area, but have found this Club to be one of the best in the state.

We have found them to be a very welcoming, family orientated, multicultural, supportive, accepting of all, and this Club really has an amazing Club community.

This Club is exceptional and deserves your support and the ability to continue in this community.

Please find a Home Ground for this Community Club as it deserves your support.

[REDACTED] - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Dear Knox Councillors, I've been a member of Knox Hockey Club for over 20 years I've been a coach and a player throughout those 20 years and I've met life long friends out of it. I also met my fiancé with who I share a daughter with. We've always been a club hindered by pitch hiring and not having the right amenities with no access to areas which we could benefit from. I personally think it's time we finally gain a permanent home for this family club. I love Knox and I'm proud to be a member. Please keep your promise and deliver us a home for next year. Regards [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Dear Knox Council,
Is the promise to Knox hockey club going to be another council promise that is abandoned?

[REDACTED] - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Dear Knox Council,
I'm sending this message because as the mother of a long term and exceptionally dedicated member & player of Knox Hockey Club - I strongly urge you to honour your previously made promise to deliver the club a new home ready for next season. Currently two possible options are available.

For years the club's home ground has been at the Knox School where they can use the change rooms on training & game days only. The school requires them at other times. The club has no home clubroom & later this year its tenure at the school expires & it will have no home ground either!

Knox Hockey Club has more members who reside in Knox than any other sports club in the municipality - surely that deserves a fair go AS PROMISED!

Please approve & provide the club with a new ground URGENTLY!

[REDACTED] - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Dear Knox City Councillors, I urge you to act quickly to decide on a new home for Knox Hockey Club, to ensure this active and growing Club has facilities to nurture its Junior and Senior teams and their passionate supporters who have made it into one of the most successful sporting Clubs in the area. Since our son started playing for Knox we have seen so many examples of the committed volunteers who spend time training and managing players of all skill levels. It's more important than ever to have strong sporting clubs to ensure the residents of Knox stay fit and focussed and retain a sense of community through sport. If there is opposition to Benedikt Reserve being our new home, would you please consider Wantirna Reserve? But whatever the decision, please move quickly to ensure we have a new home at the start of 2022. We have the resources to make a new Club ground flourish, if you can give us the chance.

[REDACTED] - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Dear Knox City Council,

I am writing to give my 2 cents on the importance of Knox Hockey club having a home.

A decade ago I arrived in Australia from the UK wanting to play a hockey season in my year before university. Having reached out to various clubs I couldn't have landed on a better decision than Knox Hockey club.

They are more than just a hockey club, but a family, a place where you feel home within weeks of joining. Everyone is so welcoming, and it is an atmosphere like no other I have experienced at any other hockey club I have been a member of. Every team supports every team and it is somewhere you can go to relax and be a part of something special surrounded by loving people where you can be yourself and unwind after a week of hard work.

It is such an important place for so many people and especially in these crazy times where everyone is so distanced and mental health issues are on the rise, Knox hockey club is an amazing antidote to these issues. Without a home I fear how tragic an effect it would have on the members of the club I joined and came to love.

Thanks for your consideration,

■■■■

■■■■ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Dear councillors,

I am a member of the Knox community and am very concerned about the future of Knox hockey club.

I myself have participated as a team member and see the value it has and all the important social and physical benefits it brings to our community.

The club has a kind-hearted, nurturing nature and makes everyone a part of it feel involved. And that's not just the players but the families and friends of players and those who volunteer their time to train, teach and umpire those involved.

I wouldn't be the person I am today without the both challenging and great experiences had in Knox Hockey.

I hope you consider this and can deliver a new home for our club next season.

Thanks, ■■■■

■■■■ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Dear Councillors, Knox hockey club is like a second home to us as my 2 daughters are not only playing a team sport but also developing into great human beings by interacting with the team mates and wonderful coaches. Please keep your promises and deliver us new home Knox Hockey club. We shall be very thankful to you for saving this wonderful community.

Regards.

■■■■ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Dear Councillors!

Please, please stick to your earlier commitment to us to find a new home this year for the Knox Hockey Club. This club has been central to maintaining health and fitness of my three children for about 15 years now, and is ongoing as they move in to senior teams. Hockey is their sport, Knox is their club, their teams are their mates, and they do not wish to go anywhere else. I feel that if Knox is taken away from them, they may drop sport altogether - and how sad would that be! Health and fitness is so important to our community. Please don't take this away from us!

█ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Dear Council,

My name is █ and I am 9 years old. I love hockey soooooo much and I want you to help us find a new ground, so I can continue to play a game I love and many other people do too.

I would be veerrrry sad if Knox shut down because we didn't have a ground any more :(It's my first time that I will get to play against other teams this year and I don't want to miss out again.

Please please find us a ground.

█ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Dear Council Members,

I am writing on behalf of my family and Aboriginal community. As an Aboriginal man I am saddened to feel I have to fight for a future for Knox Hockey Club (KnoxHC) a club the only club in 30 plus years of hockey that has created a culturally safe environment for me and my family.

I am fighting for my children's right to play hockey for a club that symbolises community, that creates a safe place for community members to feel connected and engaged.

Knox HC needs a home a promise that has been previously committed to, however I feel we face a future that will expire at the end of 2021, made even sadder the fact that in 2020 Knox HC worked so hard to keep members engaged they became a club that supported mental health of all members, your residence staying engaged and feeling connected through what is for so many people the most difficult time of their life. Knox HC created a community.

Hockey as a sport is a family sport as a community sport it creates a larger family and drives communities its more tha a club and no HOMS means YOU will disable growth, disable family and disable a chance for so many members to keep growing a club that represents your community so well and proud.

A club is a community life line its a community hub, Knox HC being homeless will see that strength this club brings to the community torn apart, it will see our members travel, join new clubs crate growth in areas around the Knox council zones or residents your members step away from sport and all the benefits it brings.

Even greater as an Aboriginal man is the respect the club has, a logo and mascot that holds strength in our community a representation on Bunjil, this means so much to Aboriginal people and is reflected well across the state as being a culturally competent club.

This club has gown and keeps growing it builds greater strength for community and it needs a home, I am begging you please follow through on your promise and ensure we have a home, a community club should not be a sell out, should not have its doors slammed shut when open doors will lead to greater growth, strength and community, your role as a council is community growth and development don't back down from that now please.

■■■

■■■ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Dear Council

I would like to voice my support for Knox Hockey Club to have a new home. It is so important for the sport (olympic sport- where Australia has had much success) continue to thrive as well as a place for the community to socialise and exercise. I trust Knox Hockey club will have a new home with resources such as club rooms by the start of the winter season as promised.

Yours faithfully

■■■■■■■■■■

■■■ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Competitive sport is more important more then ever, please stop wasting everyone's time and make a decision on where Knox hockey club will be relocated. Regards

■■■■■■■■■■ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Community sport is vitally important for the physical and mental health of our children and adults. We need activity especially in these times of isolation and withdrawal.

Knox Hockey Club has the dedicated people to achieve these goals and needs some certainty for their future.

Knox City Council, please keep your promises and find us a new ground ready to play for next season.

■■■■ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Commit Council, I am not affiliated with the hockey club, I am although a 41 yr Knox resident, I am 41 yrs old. I was born here, I went to school here, my parents lived here and paid rates, I stayed local bought a home and I pay rates. I have been involved in multiple sports in the Knox region across football, athletics, soccer, tennis, golf, basketball netball & now coach local senior football. This was all in Knox and still is. The grassroots sporting bodies build tighter stronger communities. To starve a club of opportunity will only see longer term detrimental affects to our great City of Knox. Give them a fair go, PUT IT ON THE BACK OVAL BEHIND FAIRPAK FOOTY CLUB AND INCLUDE IT IN THAT REDEVELOPMENT already approved of the sports facilities there, build a bigger than planned sporting venue, it works.

■■■■ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Children must have all types of sport

■■ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Can you please find my sisters a place to play hockey.
This has been going on for so long now, just locate and build PLEASE

■■■■ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Being a part of Knox Hockey Club has truly shaped my life to where it is now. I have been playing there for the last 13 years and still cannot get enough of the community it brings.

When I play for Knox not only do I play such and active, fun and engaging sport with a great team. I also truly become apart of the club and try to place my self in every aspect of it as I just can't get enough of it all.

I have always felt included, wanted and part of something special at Knox Hockey Club and I don't know what I would do without it. Even when days are hard and life is really really pushing you down something so small as heading down to training with your friends that will support you no matter what, and your coach who strives for you to exceed is just an amazing feeling. I have been a player, a coach and a massive supporter of this club ever since I was in primary school.

This club is growing and will keep growing given the opportunity. We don't care where a pitch goes we just hope and dream you give us a chance somewhere so we can grow and exceed as a

club as we have all dreamed for such a long time.

Please please take your time, make this a priority to help find a space that we can move to, to build and be something you as a council can be proud to call Knox Hockey Club as we represent you.

■■■■ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

As past players and as parents of children who have enjoyed playing hockey for Knox we value how much the hockey club has facilitated fitness and friendship. We strongly hope that Knox council can facilitate an easy quick transition to new grounds so the many current and future players can have some certainty around a wonderful community sport.

■■■■ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

As a supporter, please ensure this change happens swiftly. I grew up in a small town where sport was how the community came together and functioned. When sport ceased, so did that sense of community. It is vital you don't lose that. Even in a larger suburb like Knox. Please sort this so the Hockey club have a home and can continue the sport they love.

All the best,
Tracey

■■■■ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

As a supporter of Knox Hockey Club, I am disappointed that Knox City Council is allowing the actions of a few vocal residents to deny a home to this great, family-orientated club. We are all aware of the importance of keeping active at all ages, and leaving Knox HC without a home ground will severely limit the chances for men, women and children to participate in this exciting and growing sport. I ask that Knox City Council make it a priority to find a suitable home for this fantastic club, and not allow Nimbyism to deny them opportunity for people of all ages to become involved in playing hockey.

■■■■ - Knox Hockey Club family

<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>As a supporter i am urging council to do whatever it can to sort out the ground before the next season.</p> <p>The community needs this for the well being of all players, members & supporters.</p> <p>■■■■ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>As a rate payer in Knox who has friends and colleagues that have been involved with the hockey club I am genuinely appalled by the uncertainty and unnecessary community debate that is being stirred up by certain councillors on this issue.</p> <p>Please do your jobs and get this done. I voted for you just last year to put the best interests of our community first and expected much better.</p> <p>■■■■ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>As a previous club member and player across the year starting at under 17 through the highs of senior teams winning premierships.</p> <p>The Knox hockey club formed a very big part of my life, and was hoping the family atmosphere I loved, I could also invite my children to have the same experience. Please keep the club at its home so we can all enjoy it in future.</p> <p>Thanks</p> <p>■■■■ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>As a player at KHC, loosing our pitch and club ruins everything, no more socialising, no more sport. I would hate to see everything that's been built up go to nothing</p> <p>■■■■ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>Dear Councillor</p> <p>As a player and parent of 2 young kids who love hockey, it disappoints me that council have wasted years. This has been known for a while now and it seems they've left it to the last minute and a club of several hundred members and several hundred more supporters will be left out in the cold. Wherever the ground is, this needs movement and traction now so the club has a hole come season 2022.</p>

Dear Councillor

As a parent, this club is very important in relation to a responsible community culture. I have also seen first hand how much support, money and time has been, and is, put into the local football, basketball and soccer clubs over the years. Having to push for support for the ONLY hockey club in this area and for rooms where there is a good central access and our own clubroom, is, to me, ridiculous. The council should be making the new ground a priority within the time frame, as promised, as otherwise there will be a lot of very disappointed, displaced players if not. They are loyal to the club and the community of Knox and do not have a disruptive culture. The ground at Benedikt Reserve is perfect as it is central and would not adversely affect the neighbouring area. At some stage, this ground would be utilised for some sporting group anyway, so I'm not really sure why the council doesn't step up and make it so for the hockey club. It was already designated as a sporting facility so it is not altering the use. Thankyou.

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

As a parent whose children benefitted from involvement in the sport of hockey, I appeal to the City of Knox to support the Knox Hockey Club to find a new ground. Hockey is such a great game and the club has members from a wide age range. After such a difficult season in 2020 it is so important that we can return to sport and that the Knox Hockey Club can continue to exist. Please Knox City Council honour your commitment to the sport of hockey and provide us with the hockey ground that we so need for the 2022 season. Thank you in anticipation of a most positive response. ██████████.

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

As a member of a competing club, it would be devastating for the league to lose Knox HC. A state of hockey players are relying on this council to deliver its promise.

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

As a local gym owner I know what a sporting club means to a and this community. Every sporting club needs a home and a stable one. They are places their members go to feel safe, like home. Their members are their families, are their comfort zone. Ask yourself how you would feel if you were told, you are moving. But never given a destination..... Pretty Uneasy I'd imagine..... Make the commitment and stick to it. At the end of the day we are only as good as our word.....

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

As a Knox resident, and with members of my family being involved with the Knox Hockey Club for the last 10 years, I ask that the Knox Council keep their promise to The Knox Hockey Club and deliver a new home ready for next season. The club has provided my family with many opportunities from the physical skills in juniors through to continued participation in seniors and masters games, coaching and mentoring opportunities and the social benefits as parents and supporters. The club provides a positive

environment for all members throughout the year and deserves your support.

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

as a KHC player i can say the club has enabled me to play the sport i love, especially given the lack of exposure in aus to this amazing game.

a sense of community, understanding and family within the club represents one of many ways knox goes above and beyond its on pitch obligations.

the energy at the club is rapidly shifting to one of determination and excitement, given the potential we have to make a mark as a sporting club in the knox area. it is evident that we must stay on course, and not having our pitch ready for next season as promised by the council would clearly impede our upward trajectory.

we need the council to deliver on their promise and have our pitch ready for next season, so that we can flourish not only as a sporting club, but as a community. #getitdone

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

As a former hockey player, there would be nothing I'd love to see more than watching my two young daughters play hockey for a locally supported club.

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

Always love coming down and watching my mates play, the club deserves and needs a future.

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

After the year we have had, please make good your promise to Knox Hockey Club. Thank you

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Dear Councillor

- Knox Hockey Club is important to me as a supporter.

- I'm asking Council to keep its promise to deliver a new home ready for next season.

██████ - Knox Hockey Club family

Benedikt Reserve

Further to the recent information session regarding the proposed change of use for Benedikt Reserve, I would like to state the following.

Amenity

The Council has defined the park as an underutilised sporting reserve, but the park has evolved into a fully utilised passive recreation park and has become a valuable asset for the community especially given the lack of open space available in the area. This deficiency has been exacerbated by the large number of multiple residences on what were formerly single residence sites with the resultant lack of any open space in these residencies.

The Council acknowledges in its Annual Masterplan that local parks and public open spaces are beneficial in that "these benefits include protecting biodiversity, improving psychological health and wellbeing, improving physical fitness, facilitating social interaction and cohesion, promoting community pride, and enhancing child development through play. Open space also provides a location for participating in civic and community connections. The importance and value of open space will continue to increase over time as a result of emerging pressures on population growth, demographic change, urbanisation and climate change."

The park is constantly used by local residents for multiple passive recreational activities, throwing a ball to your dog, playing kick to kick with children, or grandchildren, flying a kite, sitting enjoying the bird life that visit the park on a regular basis, or taking a quiet walk. The construction of a hockey pitch would obviously severely curtail this amenity by its very nature. A large fenced compound would limit passive usage and despite council definition a fenced in area is not open space. This green open space once lost will never be recovered.

While intentions may be for multiple users in reality it will soon revert to sole usage by the hockey club as the pitch surface will not cope with multi use and the resultant maintenance costs will have to be avoided by not allowing other uses. Aesthetically the structure will be an eyesore with its high protective fencing and if other sites are to be used as an example, then this fence will also be festooned with advertising.

Apart from the loss of amenity, locals can also expect a drop in value of their property with the loss of open space, increased traffic flow and noise. Will the Council decrease their property valuations fo rates in line with this decline, I think not.

Environment

Apart from the loss of amenity currently enjoyed by local residents should this pitch be built the local residents would also suffer an adverse impact on their quality of life. The hockey club will practice five nights a week from 4.00/4.30 pm to 10.00 pm, the noise from the play, whistles etc. will radiate from the oval due to the nature of the reserve. An issue the Council is already aware of due to the disastrous rumble strip experiment in Rosehill Street. The lights that must be used every night must also interfere with neighbouring residents.

If the hockey pitch is to go ahead there will be further issues for local residents in that the already meagre resources in the playground will be overrun by children accompanying parents to hockey practice, again every day from 4.00/4.30pm.

It should be noted that the nature of this area is changing as more young families are moving in as either older residents move on or as new multi developments are completed, data from an outdated census (2016) should not be used as a basis for any decision.

Traffic

The increased traffic in an area already stressed, will create extreme congestion. Although no traffic survey has been undertaken before selecting this site, the fact that some additional 60 car parking spaces are to be constructed shows that a great deal of additional traffic is expected. The traffic along Stud Road particularly between 4.00 pm and 7.00 pm is very heavy and there are no traffic lights on any exiting road in the estate area so there is a build up of traffic trying to turn into Stud Road from Evans Street in particular but also Glenifer Avenue. The substantial increase of exiting traffic, should the hockey pitch be approved, will obviously make an onerous task much

more difficult. It should also be noted that there are further multi residence developments taking place within the estate which will only compound this problem. Exiting from Rosehill Street onto Ferntree Gully Road, also without lights is equally horrendous particularly if you are trying to do a right hand turn onto Ferntree Gully Road.

Objection

I object to the proposal to use Benedikt Reserve as a site for a hockey pitch. The site is unsuitable as it is in a residential area with houses surrounding the site in close proximity to the proposed field. It is not an upgrade for the park but a downgrade for all the local residents. The council should investigate other sites as soon as possible to accommodate the hockey club because Benedikt Reserve is not that site.

Benedikt Reserve is located in the middle of a quiet, established residential area. This residential area has been established for over 40 years and the field forms an important part of the established characteristic of the area.

It is noted that based on the Knox City Council Residential Design Guidelines, the Council places particular emphasis on Knox's highly valued "green and leafy" character. In line with the Council's own Housing Strategy, Guidelines have been established to improve the quality, design and characteristics of residential areas. For example, front gardens are open and fences must not exceed a certain height. Another example, the front set-backs of houses must comply with established guidelines. All these Guidelines are to streamline and improve the characteristics of a residential area so that it is pleasing to the eye and protect the "green and leafy" nature of the surroundings.

Based on this, It is obvious that the construction of a hockey stadium in the middle of an established 40 year old residential area will go against the very spirit of the Council's own Guidelines!

If the public is expected to follow the Council's stringent Residential Design Guidelines which is to safeguard the existing characteristics of a neighbourhood, the Council should surely abide by its own rules and not permit the construction of a facility which will be completely out of character for the area.

Other more suitable sites

The Council should look at other more appropriate sites to construct the hockey stadium. "Squeezing" the construction of a hockey stadium onto a small field which is already used by many people for many purposes is not reasonable and very unjust. No wonder so many people are upset and considering legal remedies and judicial review.

I trust that the Council will take into account the views of the hundreds of people who will be directly, adversely affected by the proposed construction of the hockey stadium on Benedikt Reserve. Please build the stadium at a more suitable location, not here.

Benedikt Reserve - Community Consultation

I would like to comment on the lack of community consultation. I see from the hockey clubs annual report in November 2020 that they were reporting that a grant of \$125,000 had been given to fund the development of plans and community consultation for their new pitch in Scoresby. Obviously, this has been on the cards for some time but the local residents only received any advice in late January and then that communication was dreadful. A letter was sent to some residents but not all as I know residents in Rosehill Street, Rivette Street, Evans Street, Arnold Drive, Benedikt Court and Rumann Avenue who did not receive a copy. It was also frustrating that these letters were not addressed to individual ratepayers, purely "The Resident" this is a totally inappropriate way for Council to contact us about a major change in our area. I also note that the communication was only in English, there is a diverse population in the area and not everyone's first language is English and I am not aware of any attempt to contact those who may not be able to read English.

Speaking of the letter, one can only describe the presentation as woeful, if one is being generous! Perhaps some of the \$125,000 authorised by Council could have been used to provide residents with a legible version of what is being proposed and further explanation of what the terms of usage for the site would be.

Given that the plans were so well advanced, the local residents should have been advised of what was afoot much earlier, even if notices were posted outlining the basics with more detailed plans to be given later.

I understand that such a significant change as this is one that merits top priority for communication with local residents in accordance with the Council's Community Engagement Program. There has been little or no information (where are the ads, factsheets, websites), consultation is yet to begin (survey, focus groups), let alone community involvement, collaboration or empowerment and yet the hockey club needs a new home next year. Benedikt Reserve seems to be the only alternative really looked at as it is the cheapest option for the Council.

Unfortunately, the Council has made us feel that a decision has already been made and that you are merely 'ticking off the boxes' to say that locals have been communicated with and consulted, without making any real effort to do so.

Benedict Park is not the location for the Hockey Club. Too close to homes, it already has sports clubs making it their home, a great place to walk around and in and if lights the noise and shining of the lights will affect residents. The excess parking on game days will put strain on local residents. I am a long time local resident I used to live near Lewis Park and the noise and lights at

night were too much so we moved.

A much better place is Gilbert Park, a larger sports area, great local transport and accessibility and room for growth. It is not near residents and can only add to the facilities there.

Attention Strategic Planning Coordinator, Active and Creative Communities

We are shocked that the Knox Hockey Club is even being considered to relocate to Benedikt Reserve.

The parking 5 days a week will run over into all the surrounding streets , creating extra traffic for the local residents.

Benedikt Reserve is the only park in walking distance for all the local families including elderly and very young kiddies to relax, eat and play. Also enjoying all ball sports both team and domestic.

Providing excellent exercise and fresh air.

Why should we have to sacrifice all this privacy to please original poor planning for a Hockey Club. Go elsewhere.

██████████, Scoresby

Attention Strategic Planning Co-ordinator - Active and Creative Communities.

With reference to Benedikt Park and the proposal to re-locate the Knox Hockey Club to this reserve.

I most strenuously object to this proposal. While I understand the Hocky Club's problem this park is totally unsuitable for the proposed hockey pitch. The grounds for this objection are many and start with the loss of amenity to the local residents. With the loss of backyards due to the proliferation of units and dual occupancy blocks the green open space is needed now more than ever.

The size of the pitch and the area to be used for car parking will render the rest of the area useless for many of the activities currently enjoyed there, scratch football, picnics etc.

The amount of noise and extra traffic in this residential area will be intolerable.

The use of lights will be disturbing especially as 10pm is quoted as the time to which these lights will be used.

The proposed car park is sited at the opposite end of the park from the pitch. It is evident that this will mean many people will instead park in Benedict Court,as used to happen at football games when the oval was used for this purpose.

Local residents use this park constantly for games, dog walking, exercise, frisbee and ball games etc.

Please take note of just how unpopular this proposal is to the residents.

<p>As a supporter of the club, I love the community engagement and team spirit within the Knox community. Hockey brings the citizens of Knox together and builds strong relationships within the community. The kids and adults alike putting time and effort into their beloved club need a club base. It would be a well earned notion to present the Knox hockey club with a place they can call home...</p> <p>A time like this with covid amidst allows for the perfect opportunity to bring the community together in a safe environment through their mutual love for hockey.</p> <p>Knox has always been a community oriented council with many public parks and areas to enjoy time together. Undoubtedly this would fit right in and be greatly appreciated by the team and members.</p> <p>██████ - Knox Hockey Club family</p>
<p>As a resident of Scoresby, I am writing to voice my protest to Benedikt Reserve becoming the home of the Knox Hockey Club. This is a totally inappropriate area for a club with games and training occurring till 10pm on week nights and games on weekends also. How the council can even consider this happening in a residential area such as is, is crazy. The lights, noise, increased traffic, insufficient parking, all adding to safety concerns for children.</p> <p>Obviously the Knox Hockey Club needs a new home, why not choose somewhere much more suitable, like Gilbert Park. This is a much better alternative, already being a sporting precinct, away from residential properties, so no concerns about safety, noise or lighting, whether it be weeknights or weekends. A prominent position on a major road, with no concerns about volume of traffic on narrow residential streets.</p> <p>I implore councillors to use their common sense, and realise the Hockey Club would be much better off at the vast expanse at Gilbert Park, and that Benedikt Reserve is totally unsuitable.</p>
<p>As a resident in a nearby street to Benedikt Reserve of close to forty six years I strongly oppose the proposed hockey field at said reserve. This is a precious and unique piece of greenery used by many residents for relaxing and well-being, local footie and cricket, play and exercise for the many families with young children and walking the dog. Fencing off close to 60% of the area for use by a single sport is absolutely not right! This is a residential area and floodlighting into the late evening, noise from training, whistles, spectators shouting, potential littering, every night and weekends will impact severely on nearby homes. Traffic in local streets will increase...streets that already have insufficient parking.</p> <p>This is totally the wrong location for this development and I strongly ask that you reject this particular location for one that is less residential and offers adequate parking and space for future expansion should the Hockey Association plan for that.</p>
<p>As a long term resident of Knox Health and Wellbeing is why we live here. Being close to the Mountains trees and green parks. Peaceful area for contemplation - little noise, big skies, sunrise and sunsets, and for me - moon walks! Clean Air, little pollution. Being able to walk peacefully around the park and connect with nature, listen to the bird calls and greeting people on their morning walks. Having access to Health care, Doctors and hospitals in the area, not having to travel miles for excellent care has even very necessary for us. A wonderful local passive gym (Aliento) for women has fostered many great friendships, and Knox Leisure Centre has provided my 87 year old husband with friendships and exercise. Thank you. That is why we live here - don't want to move but please - we don't want the Hockey Club taking over Benedikt Park - 5 nights a week to 10.30pm. We also need our sleep for Health. people in this area - Residential (not sporting) need peace and quiet, not noise, lights, cars and road congestion that a Hockey Club would create.</p>

As a long term resident living in Rosehill Street Scoresby, I am writing this as a formal objection over the proposal of Knox Council to construct a synthetic hockey field in Benedikt Park.

Our house is located [REDACTED]. We have been living here for 32 years come April, and my family and I have used Benedikt Park practically every day.

To view the plans Council has for Benedikt fills me with utter dread, bemusement and leaves me just a tad angry.

I have set out below the main areas of concern.

1/ Looking at Scoresby suburb, Benedikt Park is the only recreational space for residents living east of Stud Road. Construction of a hockey pitch would severely limit the area available to residents to conduct their daily recreational activities.

2/ The increased level of traffic to the local area would be substantial. Rosehill St is already a fairly busy thoroughfare, as it has a bus route and, because it has no speed humps, attracts a large volume of cars coming off Ferntree Gully Road.

The traffic from hockey participants - from both Knox club and their opponents - would be unbearable to live with. Benedikt Park attracts many children, and more traffic only increases the danger to them.

This area is a highly RESIDENTIAL; increased traffic load and the resulting noise is not needed.

3/ The use of lighting on regular basis, the noise of whistles - these are significant intrusions to the every day life of residents.

Lighting and game/training noise will impact particularly the residents living on the west side of the Park on Arnold Drive and those living in Benedikt Court.

4/ Loss of green space. Benedikt Park is the ideal location to walk your children, walk your dogs, have a kick of the footy or a hit of cricket etc. It is used daily by so many residents.

Once you include the 58 car parking space at the southern end of Benedikt Park, this proposed hockey extension will take approximately two-thirds of the available recreational space.

The car park element of the proposal is totally abhorrent to residents in Rosehill Street. The noise with people turning up and leaving, trying to get out of a single driveway into an already narrow street.....there are words to describe this that I will refrain from using here, but I'm sure you get my point.

I have attached a photo of this area that I took a couple of days back - how Council can possibly give consideration in developing this into a concrete car park is beyond my comprehension.

The loss of green space will adversely affect residents mental health and physical wellbeing.

5/ I have concerns about the overall time in use. With pre-season training and games, how much of the year would the Residents have to endure the intrusion of increased traffic, lights at night, increased noise pollution, etc.

If hockey is a winter sport (as was explained to us at one of the community consultations), the fear of residents is that the pitch will be made available to another sport over Summer, making its use all year round.

If Benedikt park becomes Knox Hockey's home base, what else would we have to put up with? Presentation and club function nights at the new pavilion? AGM's?

As a Knox resident and rate payer for more than 45 years (the last 26 as a resident of [REDACTED] Scoresby) I am deeply concerned by the proposed hockey ground at Benedikt Reserve. The increased traffic around the area alone sends a shudder through me. My children played on this ground and now my grandchildren are enjoying the revamped playground as well. My grand daughters first steps were filmed on the open space as she chased a ball. I was delighted on my last visit to see how many families were visiting the reserve with many groups gathered on the grass for picnics. Once run down and disused, the area is now an attractive place for families to enjoy with the new playground equipment and sporting facilities. I was impressed that council saw the need for the revamp and implemented its upgrade. I am now afraid that families won't be able to use or get near these facilities if the proposed hockey field is approved. While I appreciate the hockey club needs a home, the residents deserve theirs as well.

Please look harder for a home for Knox Hockey Club.

As a Knox ratepayer I would like my rates spent wisely on new sporting infrastructure decisions that with stood future needs and I also expect sound financial decision making from our local councillors.

So, I could not believe the blatant, short sightedness of the Council to rashly over develop Benedikt Reserve into a full on hockey field with 7 day usage from 5pm till 10pm.

Benedikt park is currently one of the few , quiet tranquil green areas left in this part of Scoresby which has an environmentally neutral community use imprint on wildlife. And promotes mental health and well being to locals as well as broader Knox residents.

So the locals strongly object to the loss of green, quiet open Benedikt Reserve is located in an increasingly developed residential area and the light pollution from the artificial light towers and the audible, ongoing noise late into week nights and weekends from whistles, constant clicking of bat and vibration of bat on ball will have a detrimental impact on large numbers of residents even those not directly backing on or affronting the park. With no breaks , 7 days a week, 52 weeks in a year. Year in year out !

Inappropriate and incompatible use of a green space.

Most residents enjoy the park after four pm and into the evening when they return from work or school the same time as the hockey club usage.

Benedikt Reserve should be protected and remain CLEAN and GREEN from becoming an overgrown, concrete car park devoid of tall mature trees and bird life.

For all existing and future generations.

With the substantial increase of greater density land use which attracts more residents to Knox also causes significant increase in traffic volume on local , narrow roads not well designed to manage such increase in traffic flow in short peak times as a car park filling up and emptying out. Rosehill street that affronts Benedikt Reserve already caters for the 753 Bus route between the busy Glen Waverley and Boronia stations until 10 pm in the evening.

A former decision to block off Benedikt, Gilbert, Bamba and Golding courts makes for local congestion of existing traffic flow. Right now. With the new peak increase of traffic volume occurring especially from drop offs and pickups the local residents will experience gridlock conditions when they are in their cars going to destinations or returning to their homes well into the evenings every day of the week year round.

The local Scoresby Fire Brigade and their trucks, emergency vehicles such as Police or Ambulance need clear access to roads when travelling to emergencies to perform their vital community service down the limited through roads. Speed is of the essence and makes a crucial difference

and any delay can add to the situation.

That is why I believe that Benedikt Reserve is not suitable for such high impact land use that would completely transform a quiet, peaceful green space donated by Rosa Benedikt, a great forward thinker and former Knox land owner into a busy Hockey field.

The new Knox Hockey Club should be built instead at Gilbert Park in Knoxfield which currently is not fully tenanted so available open space exists. A large purpose built capacity carpark is already in place too. The noise and light pollution won't have a detrimental impact on local residents as it borders onto light industrial land and the bike track.

As a concerned resident (formerly [REDACTED] Scoresby) I ask that the Council reconsider the use (and large amount of car-parking spaces allotted) of the park for hockey games and practice.

Yours Sincerely, Sandra. [REDACTED]

As a 40 plus year resident in [REDACTED], I have observed that in the last 12-18 months the usage of ALL of the Benedikt Reserve has increased significantly and is increasing more so after the redevelopment of the tennis court and multi purpose area. I assume that with the council giving increased approvals for multi dwellings on blocks that previously only had a single dwelling and these new dwellings have no front or back yard for family activities that this could be the reason for the increase in Benedikt Reserve usage. If Knox Council approve a redevelopment of the Reserve with a fenced off synthetic hockey field then this will be to the detriment of the local community. Myself and other residents in our family home strongly reject the redevelopment of Benedikt Reserve, it should be kept as open parkland for all of the community not for the exclusive use by a few who probably are not members of the local Scoresby community.

6/ I, personally, am concerned about the negative effect this project could have on the overall aesthetics of the area, leading to a devaluation of property in the area. Living next door to a lovely green open space is of far greater appeal than living next to a car park.

6/ Impact on bird life. You only have to walk around Benedikt park in the morning to view the amazing range of bird life in the park. Glass, cockatoos, rosellas, magpies, plovers - even the ducks during the winter months.

The construction of a synthetic hockey pitch and the associated noise of hockey games and practice will scare a large majority of these birds off. I don't think this is a desired outcome Council would be seeking in this day and age.

Reading comments on Facebook, it seems the club has been seeking assistance of Council to find a new home for four or five years.

Building a hockey pitch on Benedikt Park - out of desperation as a last resort - is entirely unfair on the residents, who were only advised of this proposal in January this year. Amongst the immediate community living around Benedikt Park, there is a real sense of being ambushed on this.

As someone who has been associated with football, cricket and basketball, I am sympathetic to Knox hockey's dilemma. However, Benedikt Park is not even the right fit for the club.

The relatively confined space does not allow for an increase in size of the club in future years. Has Council discussed the possibility of placing the Hockey club at Gilbert Park?

There is plenty of room for a hockey pitch to be constructed there, and car parking is not an issue either. Plenty of room for future expansion and development. AND, there is no intrusion or negative impact to the daily lives of rate-paying residents.

I am bemused by one fact, and it comes from a precedent for sporting teams having an increased

presence in residential areas.

A few years ago, Knox Basketball had proposed a plan to extend the Boronia stadium in Park Crescent.

This proposal was met with opposition from local residents in the immediate area, based on increased car traffic and increased noise to the area.

Council agreed with the residents, and this was part of the reason the project was never approved. An environmental issue with proposed removal of pine trees was also a concern.

Fast forward a few years - Knox Council is considering placing a major sporting organisation in a confined residential area, literally just mere metres away from homes, where increased traffic and noise pollution will severely impact lives of residents.

The contradiction in thinking is stark, and I believe is totally unfair on residents in the Benedikt Park area.

Thank you for reading my note. I will be attending the Council meeting on Monday night and I look forward to the opportunity of discussing this further with Council.

> We the Benedikt Reverse community are aware that a notice of motion is coming before council on Monday 22nd March regarding two additional options for consideration as a home for Hockey in Knox. Our group over the last few weeks has door knocked our area, letterboxed multiple times and gathered a petition. In addition taking feedback from our community we note that there is support for hockey in Knox however steadfast that Benedikt Reserve is not a good option using our local knowledge and community resources our group have identified Gilbert Park as being an excellent option and worthy of investigation. We have reached out to the hockey club and are trying to work with them on a solution that meets their needs but respect the Scoresby communities right, here are some of our concerns but not limited to:

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> *Highly Residential Area: The lighting, whistles and noise pollution created by all year round hockey would have a disproportionately negative impact on the local residences.

>

> *Increased Traffic: As you would be aware the narrow two-way streets surrounding Benedikt reserve can be quite busy and with cars parked on the street, often only allow traffic to flow in one direction at a time. This situation would be exacerbated with an increase to the number of cars parking and travelling on and through the residential streets. This is a huge safety concern for the residences especially those with younger children.

> *Loss of Green/Quiet/Open Space: Benedikt Park is currently one of very few, quiet tranquil green areas, in this part of Scoresby which is used by locals as an ideal place to exercise, walk their dog and just generally enjoy a peaceful, open, green space which is so crucial to mental health and wellbeing.

>

> *Time in use: This field would host hockey usage well into the evening all year round adding artificial light and noise into an environment. This will have a huge impact to locals mental health that surround the perimeter of the park that will be impacted directly with lights and noise into their living rooms and bedrooms.

>

> Attached to this email is our desktop review of Gilbert Park using the Melbourne Outer East feasibility study as the basis for our thinking. While we have been communicating with the hockey club we have also heard their concerns therefore we would hope that the council would undertake a feasibility study on both Gilbert Park and Wantirna Reserve East.

>

> We hope all Knox Councillors support this notice of motion on Monday night.



Petition – Proposed development at Benedikt Reserve

Council has received a petition with 537 signatures as at 22 March 2021 requesting that Knox City Council forgo the development at Benedikt Reserve; which Council has been considering developing to accommodate the re-location of the Knox Hockey Club.

In submitting the petition, the lead petitioner argues that a hockey facility in Benedikt Reserve would have adverse amenity impacts on residents in the area surrounding Benedikt Reserve arising from increased noise and light spill, increased traffic and associated safety concerns, and loss of passive recreation space.

This matter will be referred to the Director Connected Communities for consideration and to provide a response to the lead petitioner.

I seek leave to lay the petition on the table.

Cr Nicole Seymour
Tirhatuan Ward

22 March 2021