

Wednesday 25 June 2025

Shorten RecWest Community Forum 2



Forum summary

The evening forum held on Wednesday 25 June was well attended, with approximately 100 community members participating.

The session covered key topics, including:

- Project status
- User Group Transition Plan
- Communications
- Next steps

What we heard

The forum provided an opportunity for attendees to ask questions and learn more about the project and its potential impacts. This update highlights key topics raised during the session. These will also be added to the project's FAQ page, accessible via the QR code on the next page, or Council's website:

RecWest redevelopment

Can the community influence the design?

Yes. Council is working with user group representatives to refine the design and encourages broader member involvement through their representatives.



Why include a second indoor court?

Maribyrnong has a significant shortage of indoor sports facilities, as identified in Council's Indoor Sports Strategy. The additional court will support growth in sports like netball and basketball, which will benefit from compliant facilities.

Will there be a 24 hour gym?

Yes. The gym reflects changing community lifestyles and work patterns. Its implementation will be monitored to meet community expectations, and the design will incorporate features to enhance safety with Crime Prevention through

Environmental Design (CPTED) principles.

Will the Community have a chance to influence the landscape and plaza design?

Yes, Council will be working with the community to ensure that the landscape design aligns with community needs and values. This will be communicated via the webpage and information sessions.

How many people currently use the RecWest facilities?

RecWest attracts approximately 10,000 visits per month.

Shorten Reserve

Is the surcharge method necessary for ground improvement?

Yes. Council consulted geotechnical experts who recommended this method as the most effective and least disruptive to the surrounding area and properties.



Where will accessible parking be located?

The number and location of accessible parking bays will be finalised during the civil engineering design phase.

Has Council changed its position on the the Pavilion redevelopment from what has been proposed previously?

No. Council has made two formal decisions endorsing the site masterplan, both supporting redevelopment of the clubroom facilities. The 2024 master plan received broad community support though the engagement process, including from pavilion users

Council's 2025/26 Budget has been endorsed, and the entire project seeks to deliver the scope as endorsed. This scope is reflected in the funding agreement with the State Government.

Is the proposed playing field and pavilion compliant with sporting guidelines?

The proposed Shorten Reserve playing field is 135m long x 100m wide. This will accommodate Junior and Senior Cricket and junior football.

However, in line with community feedback, Council is investigating all opportunities to accommodate senior football on this field. Further investigations and site infrastructure movements have allowed for a 145m x 100m playing field that has received dispensation to allow Senior AFL to be played on the site.

Feasibility is being confirmed with contractors.

Where will clubs play and train during the construction period?

Council is working closely with all impacted users groups to find suitable temporary locations. Noting

that the City of Maribyrnong has no spare playing fields, interim arrangements will involve shared spaces.

How close will the proposed pavilion be to the playing field?

The pavilion is proposed to be separated by both a fence and approved run offs in line with AFL requirements.

Is the field compliant, fit for purpose and best practice?

The field has received dispensation from the Western Football Netball League, noting that it will not meet standard sizing for Senior AFL. This dispensation recognises the ground constraints and approves its use for Senior AFL.

Further information

Scan the QR code or visit Council's website for more information about the project: URL

