



# YOUR SAY

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FEEDBACK REPORT

Change of Community Land Management Plan for  
Frank Smith Park Oval

2023

## Introduction

This report outlines feedback received through recent community engagement on amending the City of Onkaparinga Sportsground Community Land Management Plan (CLMP) to include the oval area of Frank Smith Park, allowing lower impact sport.

Community consultation was undertaken in 2022 to seek feedback on the potential increased use of Frank Smith Park oval for organised sport. In general, feedback was in support of increasing organised sport use at Frank Smith Park oval. At this time a number of key considerations were raised by the community including vehicle access, parking, noise levels, oval capacity, natural environment and compatibility with other users.

Any increase in sport beyond the current primary school soccer and cricket competitions at Frank Smith Park requires further community consultation in line with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1999* to amend the Community Land Management Plan (CLMP).

CLMPs are legislative documents required by councils prepared in consultation with the community that provide direction as to the use of Community Land. Frank Smith Park oval is categorised as 'Developed Reserve' under council's Reserves CLMP. Section 198 of the *Local Government Act 1999* requires council to carry out community consultation prior to the amendment of a CLMP.

At the 4 April 2023 Strategic Directions Committee meeting, it was resolved that:

The Strategic Directions Committee:

1. Note the agenda report including research and consultation outcomes for the use of Frank Smith Park Oval for lower impact sport.
2. Approve in accordance with section 198 of the Local Government Act 1999 to undertake community engagement to seek community sentiment to amend the Sportsground Community Land Management Plan to include the oval area in Frank Smith Park to allow lower impact organised sport.
3. Note that a further report will be presented to Council with the outcome of the community engagement process to amend the Community Land Management Plan to Include the Frank Smith Park oval area as a Sportsground.

Having already undertaken previous engagement on use of Frank Smith Park Oval, this engagement focussed on seeking sentiment around the amendment of the sportsground CLMP to include Frank Smith Park Oval.

## Community engagement purpose

The purpose of this community engagement was to gauge the level of support for the change of Community Land Management Plan category for the Frank Smith Park Oval from Developed Reserve to Sportsground.

The objectives of this engagement were to:

- Engage with key stakeholders to seek comments on the change of CLMP from Developed Reserve to Sportsgrounds.
- Inform the local community of the proposed change and provide an opportunity to provide feedback.
- Gauge the level of support for the change in CLMP for the oval.
- Identify any issues that need to be addressed in regard to the change in CLMP.

Key messages as part of this consultation were:

- The proposed change of CLMP is for the oval only, to change from Developed Reserve to Sportsground.
- Public consultation is a legislative requirement when making amendments to Community Land Management Plans.
- We have previously engaged with the community in 2022 to seek feedback on the potential increased use of Frank Smith Park for organised sport.
- In general, the feedback was in support of increasing organised sport use at Frank Smith Park oval.

## Engagement techniques

As per the Community Engagement Plan, the following engagement techniques and tools were used:

- A Your Say website page developed with a short online survey and Frequently Asked Questions to inform the community and capture feedback
- Your Say banner installed on site (near oval)
- Letterbox drop to 62 residents in the immediate vicinity of Frank Smith Park on Magarey Road, Ackland Hill Road and Main Road, Coromandel Valley
- Email to:
  - 46 identified key stakeholders including local schools and the community centre, asking them to share the consultation with their networks
  - 122 registered members on the Your Say Onkaparinga platform who:
    - live in Coromandel Valley
    - participated in the previous consultation on the future use of Frank Smith Park (noting that many of the people who participated in the previous engagement chose to do so without providing an email address, so we were unable to contact them regarding this engagement).
- Public notice in The Advertiser (as required under the Local Government Act 1999 for all proposed changes to Community Land Management Plans).
- Facebook post with links to a Your Say page.

## Summary of community engagement outcomes

The community engagement ran from 14 June to 10 July 2023. A summary of all survey results is included in this report. Detailed and verbatim responses to the survey are included as Appendix A.

In summary there were:

- 359 aware participants (viewed the Your Say project page)
- 227 informed participants (downloaded a document/visited multiple pages/provided feedback)
- 152 verified responses to the Your Say survey
- 1 email received (see Appendix B)
- 5 phone calls received by the project lead.

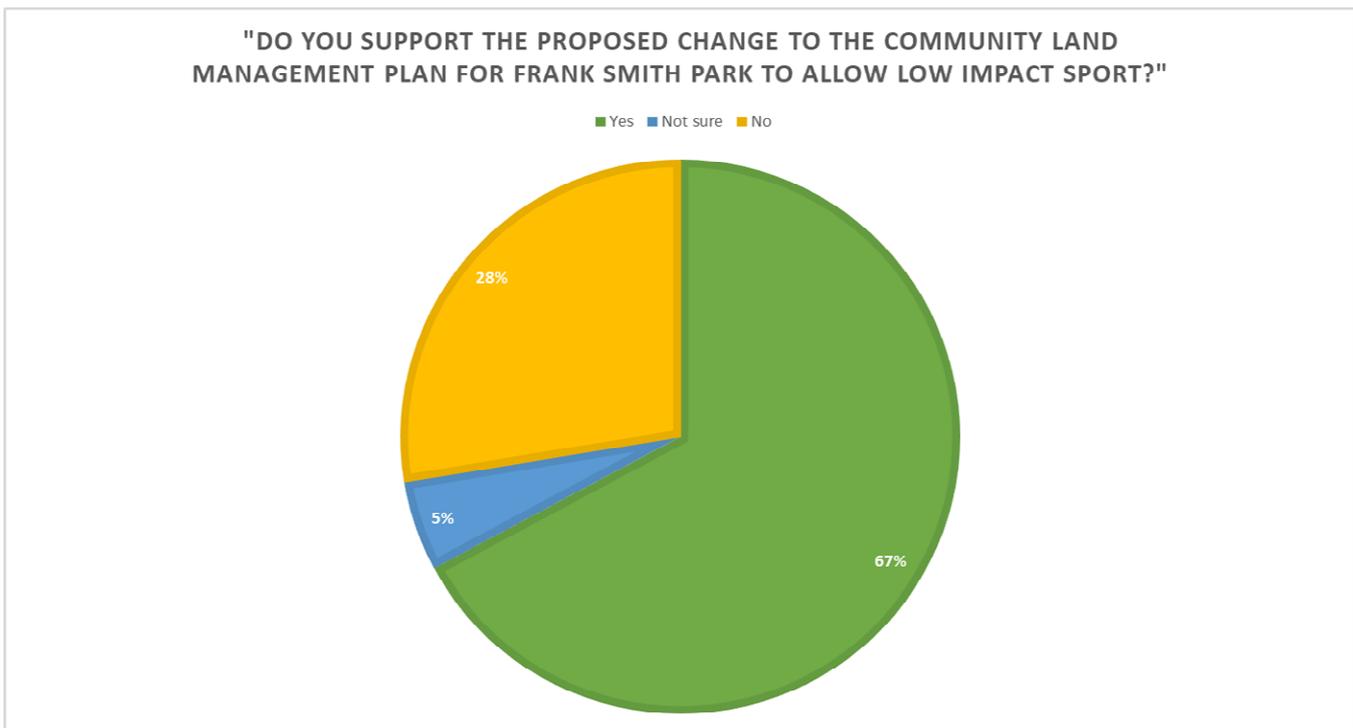
Levels of support/opposition:

The survey was designed to be short and gather sentiment and feedback on the proposed changes to the Community Land Management Plan only.

The table below shows the response to the key question asked in the survey *“Do you support the proposed change to the Community Land Management Plan for Frank Smith Park to allow low impact sport?”*

Response	Number
Yes	102 (67 per cent)
Not Sure	8 (5 per cent)
No	42 (28 per cent)
Total	152 (100 per cent)

The responses are also represented in graph format below:



As shown in the above graph, the majority of respondents (67 per cent) support the proposed change to the Community Land Management Plan.

It is worth noting that the results above are consistent with and reflect the previous engagement on the Future Use of Frank Smith Park Oval for organised sport.

Key themes:

Respondents were also provided with the opportunity to provide a comment. Detailed verbatim comments are included in Appendix A.

Respondents supporting the proposal made comments in relation to needing more sporting fields in the area, supporting local sporting clubs and supporting physical activity/ sports.

Key issues and concerns raised by those who were not in support are identified in the table below:

Theme	No. of times mentioned
Impacts on other uses/users	31
Natural environment or habitat impacts	30
Increase vehicles and parking issues	23
Increased people	5
Reduced amenity	5
Unsatisfied with consultation	4

The concerns and issues identified and captured as part of this consultation are consistent with what has been raised previously and has been well documented through previous engagement reports.

In response to this feedback and the key themes raised, a number of controls have been identified that will mitigate and manage the key considerations including vehicle access, parking, noise levels, oval capacity, natural environment and compatibility with other users. For example, license conditions can stipulate times of use by sporting clubs as well as control vehicle access and parking locations. Management through short term annual license arrangements that prescribe hours of use and conditions of use will allow council to monitor and manage the impact on the park and existing users. Further to this, there is no proposal to construct clubrooms and or sports infrastructure on site, and, in line with previous decisions of the Strategic Directions Committee it is recommended to allow use by low impact sport only.

It is proposed that a balance be found that enables Frank Smith Park to retain its natural character whilst supporting some increased used by junior level (lower impact) or by other lower impact sports such as cricket. Any future increase in use of Frank Smith Park by sporting clubs needs to be carefully considered in this context as well as aligning with permitted use under the Community Land Management Plan.

## Evaluation

We believe that the engagement results are representative of the community's views on Frank Smith Park in relation to amending the Sportsground Community Land Management Plan to include Frank Smith Park Oval.

The objectives of the engagement have been achieved.

The communication methods used reached key stakeholders including; local schools, Coromandel Valley community groups, users of Frank Smith Park, and residents living immediately adjacent to Frank Smith Park.

For a localised engagement we received a high level of traffic to the Your Say page (359 visitors) and a good level of engagement in the survey (152 original responses).

### Sign off

All feedback reports are to be reviewed by the Engagement Unit  
([engagement@onkaparinga.sa.gov.au](mailto:engagement@onkaparinga.sa.gov.au))

#### Officer who prepared the document

Name: \_\_\_\_\_Rochelle Redmond \_\_\_\_\_

Position Title: \_Team Leader (Acting) Property Transactions \_\_\_\_\_

#### Reviewed by Community Engagement Advisor

Name: \_Lisa Kemp\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_17/7/2023\_\_\_\_\_

## Appendix A: Verbatim Your Say Survey Comments

Do you support the proposed change to the Community Land Management Plan for Frank Smith Park to allow low impact sport?	Verbatim Comments
Yes	It would be silly not to support the change.
Yes	I strongly support the changes, noting the huge benefits it will have for not only community sport but the community as a whole.
Yes	
Yes	much needed oval upgrade to cater for increased playing numbers in the local community. Still very possible to upgrade the oval and carpark and still keep the nature walks as well.
Yes	
Yes	Local clubs provide more than people think to the community and are in need of open space to get kids/adults into sport.
Yes	
Yes	
Yes	Fantastic use of the oval and will bring more patronage to the local shops
Yes	No
Yes	We use the oval regularly for both school sport and recreation. The fact that the oval has for many years (over 40 that I know) for soccer and local sport doesn't impact any of the existing uses for the oval.
Yes	

Yes	
Yes	Would be great to utilise this oval more for sport. My son plays both soccer and cricket on this oval for the school
Yes	The sooner this is done the better, the community definitely needs it.
Yes	Nope
Yes	As a parent of a child who goes to the school this facility is very poor for school sports in an environment where we should be encouraging and supporting involvement in sports.  Upgrades are desperately needed.
Yes	Need to consider further development such as changing rooms and club facilities as in this day and age children/adults shouldn't have to get changed out in the open in front of everyone and anyone
Yes	
Yes	Would be helpful towards sports clubs!
Yes	
Yes	I agree with the space being used for low impact sport.....strongly
Yes	This will be great for the community
Yes	
Yes	It's a no brainer, more access for more physical activity is vital to the health of our society.
Yes	The reason to have an oval is for sport. Otherwise it would be a park. It is an oval so play sport there!!
No	For years this has been a wonderful area for local use. People meet, exercise, walk their dogs in a clean natural environment. It is well used & loved. Allowing organised sport changes the amenity of the area, brings in many more people & vehicles from further

	afield, with it comes rubbish and destruction of natural habitat.
Yes	no
Yes	Great for the community and sporting opportunities for both young and old
Yes	This is an under-utilised area that would be great for sport. It will need appropriate parking facilities.
Yes	
No	<p>The answer is in the title "Community Land", if the area is developed, then those developers could, potentially, feel some degree of ownership to that space and thus control the use of this area. As it stands now, it is used for some sporting events and is freely available to others. I would understand that those clubs who spend money on future facilities would want to see them protected &amp; maintained, perhaps those interested parties could continue to look elsewhere and leave the public space as it is.</p> <p>There is limited community space available and as more development takes place I feel it is vital to protect what we have into the future. so that it is freely available to all users.</p>
Yes	Do it coromandel are a very good club and this would be good for them and the community
Yes	It should be for all sport not just one
Yes	I think that this land is an important space for organised sport in the district and within the school community. It is vital that youth have a safe space to play sport and to develop life skills for their future
Yes	
Yes	The Ramblers as a prominent sporting club in the area with high engagement and participation rates deserve to have a facility to call their own. It's been long overdue!
Not sure	<p>I am concerned that this proposed change is a step closer to the development of facilities which are listed as being allowed under these changes. I understand that there are no current plans to add facilities but with a strong push from a Sports Club with the required funding it will be easier for their proposal to be accepted.</p> <p>I don't understand why the change is necessary. Why can't the oval area be used by the sports groups under the current land management plan? This would ensure that further</p>

	<p>development of the site to include newly built facilities cannot so easily go ahead. How will the council monitor the increase of traffic to the park? Will the council make improvements to the quality of the driveway to access the oval and will they be maintaining it? It is frequently trashed just from the vehicles who access it for school sport.</p> <p>I hope the council has a genuine appreciation of how valuable this site is to the local community as a passive recreational area. Further, how valuable this site is as an environmental delight for all to explore and particularly now that it has been established that there is a population of bandicoots living there. We already put so much strain on our native fauna and at Frank Smith there is a space for our native animals to thrive.</p>
Yes	It great for this facility to be upgraded so more sport can be played there.
Yes	
Yes	As our population increases, our sporting facilities in terms of quantity hasn't kept pace. Frank Smith Park Oval *is* an oval, defining that it should be used for sport. Particularly given the school next door and the need for more facilities by local clubs. I think a happy medium between community needs for open spaces & sport can happily co-exist.
Yes	
Not sure	<p>Under certain conditions no night time sport or oval lights there are some rare nocturnal birds near the dam</p> <p>Only at weekends day time</p>
Yes	
Yes	The proposal will deliver much needed sporting infrastructure for our community.
Yes	Having attended Coromandel Valley PS it would be great to have a local club embrace, improve and use the area enriching a community asset
Yes	Is a beautiful oval to be utilised by junior and developing sport
Yes	
Yes	I think the parking for sport matches works well and I would not like to see asphalt for parking as I think it would detract from the look of the park. It would be good for the oval

	to be maintained as a sport field. I think it is important for the wetlands to be maintained as they currently are as the wildlife in that area is precious. I would not like to see dogs off lead in that area.
Yes	I think it'll be a massive improvement to the community
Yes	
Yes	
Yes	
Yes	100% for more sport
Yes	It will be the perfect space for all local kids and adult sports. And encourage visitors more to the hills area.
Not sure	<p>we use the park several times a week to walk our dog offleash. with sport at the park this is not possible as must be on lead.</p> <p>it is one of very few safe from road off leash dog parks in the area. many dog owners would be affected if there is sport there all weekend every weekend. maybe it could be restricted to either morning of afternoon use to allow both users to have satisfactory access.</p>
Yes	
Not sure	
Yes	
Yes	Long overdue
Yes	
Yes	

Yes	
Yes	I encourage all outdoor activities, especially team sport
Yes	We are members of the Coromandel Valley Ramblers Cricket Club and would welcome the use of the Frank Smith oval for junior development.
Yes	
Yes	
Yes	
Yes	We need to see more club rooms and facilities for Adult and Childrens sport in our area. Stop the small minorities wrecking development for everyone. It is our future that we need to think of. Our area is getting left behind on so many fronts compared to other areas because of narrow minded people.
Yes	Sports are essential to our community.
Yes	Nil
No	The latest information about bandicoot sightings.
Yes	Frank smith park has great potential as a sporting venue for a multitude of sports and will provide an attraction from those from nearby suburbs to participate and engage with members of the community
Yes	Love to see the area being used for healthy fun
No	This is a beautiful tranquil open space which is utilised by many community members. Making it a Sporting venue is taking away the freedoms that exist for people to explore and enjoy. There is so much to enjoy there without the interruption of sport. Carparking would be a nightmare. It is already challenging with school traffic and parking. How will traffic in and out of the oval be managed. Exiting from Magarey Road to Ackland Hill Road to Main Road.

	<p>What was the terms of the bequest? A place for people to enjoy or a Sporting facility?</p>
Yes	
Yes	It would be great to see more sports using this space.
Yes	The whole Frank Smith Park is a lovely place and to see sport being played there would be awesome. Would really liven up the area
Yes	Sad to see how run down this facility has become. I grew up playing sport through Corp Primary. Hopefully Council will spend money to bring it back up to community standards.
Yes	Would like access to remain open to a diverse range of clubs and in particular school sport. One club dominating usage would be very disappointing. A light touch with any infrastructure to retain the natural environment.
No	<p>The sports might be low impact, but the cars within the park are not. Last year's 'successful' trial of sport on the oval left the area leading to the oval in poor state after just a few sessions of having cars.</p> <p>The proposal will probably see sport there most weekends, which will just block off most of the park to the local community and park users. The council need to appreciate this. These sporting clubs need to organise alternative parking solutions - the adjacent school has plenty of parking, the nearby orchard has a car park. The number of cars that can enter the park need to be limited to no more than 5 in order to protect the rest of the park and the (endangered) animals and nature that exists there.</p> <p>There also needs to be protections in place so the oval area doesn't get fenced off and restricted to the sporting clubs like what we have seen at Kalrynia on Shepards Hill Road, even if the area is upgraded by the clubs. If the oval is upgraded, there also needs to be an environmental assessment done on the impact of the adjacent wetlands. Conversations were had last consultation with the sporting clubs where they simply claimed they would irrigate the oval with the adjacent creek, obviously this wouldn't be acceptable.</p> <p>It's not too late to listen to the local community, as opposed to the lobbying body of the sporting clubs. The locals have no voice - I live less than a kilometre away from the park, have yet to hear anything formal from the council about this. Last year's consultation wasn't representative of the local communities wishes, and the sporting clubs have already been lobbying on social media</p>

Yes	Great opportunity to create another space in the community for low impact sport, in particular junior sporting events
Yes	Coromandel Valley Ramblers Cricket Club would love to utilise this facility as a home ground oval. They are local to the area and our named club have been operating for almost 100years. Long term I would like to see clubrooms that would serve the club, and the broader community for functions and home games etc.
Yes	Already unofficially been a low use sports park since,... since I've been alive, so let's get the red tape cleared and progress with a viable, sustainable solution and consult and manage this project effectively to use as an accolade for others!
No	<p>I like that Frank Smith Park, including the oval area, remains a freely available recreation area for all to use. I am concerned that increase vehicle traffic through the park, as well as the privately hired areas will impact me and my families ability to openly and safely enjoy the park. I also am concerned that the proposed change my impact the natural diversity of the park. This area, as I understand, is a refuge for a diverse range of birds, aquatic life, insects and marsupials (including the Southern Brown Bandicoot). I am concerned that the increase in vehicle traffic, noise pollution, and potential litter could effect the diversity. This should be extensively investigated and considered before considering proposed changes.</p> <p>There should also be other options provided in this proposal.</p>
Yes	
Yes	
Yes	We need more sporting grounds down south
No	<p>It would appear that the council can grant a long term lease under current reserve classification for public or private recreation. In essence, I understand this to mean that allowing low impact sport (recreation) is allowable anyway.</p> <p>I would like to see Frank Smith Oval utilised more. My sons used to play soccer there many years ago and it was great having such a facility close to home. However, careful consideration needs to be given to any changes that would impact on the oval and surrounding environment.</p>
Yes	
Yes	

<p>Yes</p>	<p>This will be fantastic for the local community. Will have a positive impact on sporting opportunities and junior development, which will contribute positively to young people in the area.</p>
<p>No</p>	<p>The council has not listened to any other users of the park when making this decision. With this park being used for sport, there will be less times for dog owners to come to the oval and let their dogs play with other dogs off-lead. There are no other areas nearby where this can be done, and now this is being taken away from us too.</p> <p>Can we just leave some nature alone, it's already overrun and there are plenty of other sporting areas nearby. Nature is what makes this area unique and peaceful compared to so many other suburbs.</p>
<p>Yes</p>	
<p>No</p>	<p>Because it would restrict access/use for those who already use it for recreational purposes. There seems to be a trend to try and change existing parks/ovals into more formalized sporting venues. I realize that there aren't (as yet) plans for a clubhouse or buildings, but sometimes there need to be spaces where people can walk/walk their dogs/run/enjoy the countryside without there needing to be formalized activity. I also think that there isn't the roadway infrastructure on the approach to Frank Smith Park to cope with increased traffic.</p> <p>Please don't turn all our open spaces into sports venues 😊</p>
<p>Yes</p>	
<p>No</p>	<p>The oval and unmade roadway is degraded each winter through the playing of school sport. The allowance of organised sport outside of school use will only further degrade the area.</p> <p>Despite the claim that "High impact sport and supporting infrastructure such as clubrooms is not proposed or being considered for the park", it is my belief that this is exactly why a reclassification is being proposed by Council.</p>
<p>Yes</p>	<p>I would love to see this oval being used more and the toilets and gazebo upgraded to cater for this use. It is such a beautiful setting away from housing - I think it would be perfect for increased sporting events.</p>
<p>Yes</p>	
<p>Yes</p>	

Yes	
Yes	Do it
Yes	
Yes	The toilets are a disgrace and need rebuilding immediately. I can't see why the local Coromandel Ramblers Cricket Club can't have a clubrooms built at the south west corner of the oval.
Yes	
Yes	
Yes	Important community facility for families . Inclusive community minted club
Yes	
Yes	
Yes	I am really excited about the change. Currently the area is not looked after and many times looks like an oval of weeds. I am looking forward to attending and watching sports.
No	Take it somewhere else and leave it alone.  Please leave it as it is! For walkers, runners, pets and families.
No	Limited parking. No facilities. Dirt track to the oval is already a wreck  It's a habitat for native species and more traffic and people would impact on them
No	Frank Smith Park was donated by Frank Smith to be used as open space for the public. I feel that once this area is rezoned the public will be pushed out in favour of sporting clubs.  I do not oppose sporting groups playing sports here as long as the oval and surrounds are still available to the public. I have also noted that on Saturdays when groups are here there is already rubbish and impact to the environment by cars parking anywhere they

can.

No

I am of the understanding the Frank Smith park was donated to the community for nature lovers including the Oval. If it is turned into a "Sportsground", the building of clubrooms will be permitted even though it is not proposed 'yet' and application will definitely be made to the Council for this.

There is also not enough parking outside the area and Frank Smith reserve is not amenable to local traffic so a car park will definitely be applied for. At present, when the oval is used for school sport, the paths/turf is churned up and people park all over the place – it's not meant for parking at all. If it is tarmacked, apart from making a beautiful open space look awful and damage the native plants/trees, there is also the potential for hoon drivers.

I understand Coromandel Primary School have also set up some sensor cameras to monitor the activity of bandicoots which have recently been seen there. As I'm sure you know, bandicoots are rare and they will be scared away – as will many of the native animals. Is the Council aware of this?

I think a "Sportsground" is not acceptable at Frank Smith's reserve. It is a place of nature and should stay that way. Does the Council want to take away every open space available to nature lovers and dog walkers? I use FS almost every day to walk my dog and I am also a local resident. Please, please do not do this.

If Frank Smith donated this land to the community, how can it be possible for "leases" to be acquired, plus "permits"? Does this mean that only certain sports people will be allowed on the Oval during training sessions etc? I think money talks and the Council is just wanting more money!

For years, I have been asking for a bridge over the creek as I cannot cross it with my dog but because Onka Council manage one side of the creek and Mitcham the other, nothing every gets done! I assume because the councils cannot agree who should pay. It seems easy to me - just split the cost! However, it's easier to ignore a request like this because it will cost money, however as soon as a sports club wants the oval and will pay for their "leases", it's a different story!

Please don't ruin this beautiful natural place.

No

Private Sports clubs using taxpayer funds and public lands for their own fiscal gains was not the intention of community parks. The further development of public green spaces with increased car park spaces will negatively impact the environment and reduce access to the community on whole. Nearby residents who invested into the area never expected this would happen and the increased traffic on weekends and weekday evenings will undermine their investment and lifestyle.

Places where the known sports clubs intent on using this space have and continue to

	<p>negatively impacted the residents of Eden Hills, Blackwood &amp; Bellevue Heights. Luckily their massive expansion plans into Belair National park were halted. Violent attacks by supporters the sport club have had life altering consequences for their victim as well as huge life long expenses.</p> <p>The construction company associated are just looking for a pay day. The grifting needs to stop as it does not benefit the wider community and the immediate neighbouring residents.</p> <p>There are also great concerns about the adjacent creek and contamination the upgrades, maintenance and fertilisers will have.</p> <p>The Sports clubs intending to take advantage of Frank Smith Park most likely do not have any funds of their own to pay for grounds upgrades and will be dependent on council, state &amp; federal funding. Not fiscally sound decision.</p>
<p>Yes</p>	
<p>Yes</p>	
<p>No</p>	
<p>No</p>	<p>Frank Smith park is a special place for the community and the environment. We do not need lots of traffic and people playing sport more than it is. No one objects to the local primary school playing soccer and cricket but extra use is detrimental to the environment of the park.</p> <p>I am concerned that if soccer clubs come in and play they will expect the playing surface be improved and possibly artificial turf which must never happen. It is so bad for the environment and FS park is an important environmental area.</p>
<p>Yes</p>	
<p>No</p>	<p>I have seen some winter sports there and the cars are being driven up to the oval and making the grass damaged, and the amount of cars isn't safe for other park users.</p>
<p>No</p>	<p>Any increase of sport or the like is likely to cause damage to the environment and increases calls to change /add facilities to the park</p> <p>The park MUST remain as is and not changed.</p>
<p>No</p>	<p>Reclassification should be considered after a further trial of 3 years</p> <p>The reclassification is not required, if it isn't broken don't fix it, the value of the existing is far too valuable to the local community as seen at the have your say day!</p>

<p><b>Not sure</b></p>	<p>I don't have issue with current arrangement but don't want fencing that prevents use of oval for dog walking or family recreation when not utilised for sport.</p> <p>The area is a fantastic space as it currently is, minimised mowing means the reserve maintains natural habitats and great place for families to play without formalised structures.</p>
<p><b>Not sure</b></p>	<p>We have been walking our dogs at Frank Snith Park for 10+ years and feel that the current proposal is not addressing this important use of the park.</p> <p>I applaud the use of the sports area but would like some recognition that dogs can be walked in this area as well. I certainly am mindful of cleaning up after my dogs and I have noticed I am not alone.</p>
<p><b>Not sure</b></p>	<p>I am concerned about the prospect of vehicles being allowed access to Frank Smith Reserve (as depicted in the picture for this page). It is not appropriate or safe to have multiple vehicles driving in and around the Reserve around other park users on a repeated basis.</p> <p>I also wonder what the ramifications of the recently identified endangered bandicoot species may be on the use of the reserve. Recently Mrs Sarah Todd, a teacher at Coromandel Valley Primary School, led a project that successfully identified a rare species of endangered bandicoot inhabiting the wetlands area. I'm not certain a sportsground is compatible with conservation values.</p>
<p><b>No</b></p>	<p>These changes do not benefit the wider community. The 'ownership' of the land will fall to the clubs who will control its usage and restrict the general public's use.</p> <p>Changing the plan does not benefit the broader community.</p> <p>The traffic impacts of Theo's usage on a Saturday morning is significant. This increases traffic entering and exiting Margaret road at an already very dangerous intersection.</p>
<p><b>Yes</b></p>	
<p><b>Not sure</b></p>	<p>Frank Smith used to teach the local youth to ride horses on this land. The council has a huge amount of formal sports on many grounds at a huge cost to ratepayers</p> <p>Its important for balance to retain informal openspace to support our valued native fauna and flora. Endangered bandicoots have lived in this location for years and at great risk if council is not careful. This environmental gem is to be celebrated. It may be an option to return the platypus and celebrate this location as a environmental gem for Onkaparinga. The environmental officers would be well aware of other endangered habitat in this location. Its a place to celebrate.</p> <p>Council has a golden opportunity of protecting rare and endangered species there and accessing national and state grants to contribute. This location is unique</p>

<p>No</p>	<p>Frank smith park we use on a daily basis for walking our dog and for playing with our visiting grandchildren. In the past the park has been the hub for sporting activity from Coromandel primary school. If the ground becomes reclassified the fear of restrictions will be likely.</p> <p>Yes please just upgrade the place and provide parking area for the school.</p>
<p>No</p>	<p>This is the home to many endangered wildlife. Changing this will have a significant impact.</p>
<p>No</p>	<p>This is not an inclusive way to use this area. Both Blackwood and Coromandel have multiple areas for sports including schools. This is a place known for respite and tranquility and to place sports there will totally ruin the ambience. We moved to the valley for areas like this and to stick a sports field there is absolutely typical and so unimaginable. I do wonder who wants it and who suggests it and who really benefits. Most children have access to sports at school. Is this adult led? Please look at the whole community and not those with a vested interest in sports.</p> <p>Develop the picnic area and children's area. Ensure the paths are accessible, wheel chair and stroller friendly. Do joint projects with the schools and make nature walks. Please don't ruin more natural areas. The noise and the crowds will change the whole feel and we as a family will not visit if this becomes another sport area. It is simply not inclusive as the area is inundated with sports activities.</p>
<p>No</p>	<p>This land has been used by families for years. There is so much wildlife that live here and having spot lights and extra noise will have a massive impact on their habitat</p> <p>This has been proposed once before for a different sport and the community wasn't behind it then. That is still the case</p>
<p>No</p>	<p>Because Frank Smith park and its oval, is an area for the whole community to use, and should not be reserved for a small group of individuals only. It is currently used by so many locals every single weekend for so many diverse activities such as dog socialisation groups, walking groups of the elderly, social groups, childrens birthday parties, kids nature play, bike riders, kids learning to ride their bikes, mothers groups, joggers, and families playing casual ball games together.</p> <p>When you assign this area to be a "sports ground", you are giving the oval to a sporting club of maybe 20 players. And then the 10-20 odd families who arrive to have a play on the oval, or to exercise or walk their dogs or teach their children how to kick and catch a footy - they have to arrive to see a cricket match happening and the area being full of cars, and turn around and go home again. The weekend is obviously the time when the sporting club wants the oval, but its also the time when families use the oval as well. I feel a reasonable degree of sharing the oval would be 25% of the weekend time to be allocated to sporting club use (i.e. half of one day over the weekend), and 75% allocated to non-organised sporting use (i.e. 1.5 days of the weekend) to allow the community to</p>

continue to use the oval for leisure as they currently do. But it is not a "sports ground". Its a community reserve. That term more accurately reflects how the community users perceive and use this space. It has diverse use.

One of my children was recently involved in the televised documentary about how they have been able to prove that we have endangered Southern Brown Bandicoots living just adjacent to the oval in the wetlands area. This was done through the Coromandel Valley Primary School in conjunction with their science teacher Sarah Todd. They were ecstatic to be able to prove that we had a special place in our community with a special animal living there whose numbers are critically endangered. We told them it might mean that we can help to protect their habitat.

My other concern is about cars being parked within the park and how this would safely be managed with children, elderly and dogs entering and exiting the wider Frank Smith Park.

I also have significant concerns that the cricket club are able to (and are actively doing) rallying large numbers of their club members and their families to submit supportive YourSay submissions, in contrast to the actual members of Frank Smith Park who are just individuals in the community, yet are current and long term users of the park. This doesn't seem at all fair to me when council reviews all YourSay submissions.

Frank Smith Park oval is used extensively by the elderly. These users won't be on social media and won't know about YourSay. You need to consult with the people who are walking around Frank Smith Park oval every weekend and have done for many, many years. Because otherwise, they will arrive one weekend to do their usual activity on the oval only to be met by a huge sporting club and their many cars taking over the space every weekend throughout summer. Frank Smith Park should be for everyone to enjoy, not just one sporting club to have the rights to.

No

We need to leave it without cars and extensive human traffic. The bandicoot need to be left alone without building and improvements making noise and pollution. We don't have many actual native areas left to walk dogs etc

Please leave alone this area. It is wonderful to have an old school playground and large area

No

There are already sports games held here, adding to increased vehicle activity on narrow roads. There are numerous other sports grounds, we don't need another one. I believe this will be the first change then buildings will be built to cater to the increased usage. It states none planned but that doesn't mean it won't happen in the future. There is a lot of wildlife that make this park their home, it'll be a slippery slope for them as more people invade the area. You are changing the oval but it will lead to an increase of kids in the area, some of which I've previously seen climbing through the bush and damaging the trees and plant life. Its a definite no from me.

<p><b>No</b></p>	<p>Frank Smith Park is the last of its kind in the local area where community can freely utilise the facilities for leisure, be it walking the dog, bird watching, bike riding or simply exercising in an environment that is free from boundry's.</p> <p>The current available space on the "oval" is not a suitable size for club sport, especially Cricket without improvement which will have a negative impact on the area with improvement. The park will not cope with increased traffic and probably does not meet the required traffic act with regards to access, and therefore further development would be done which too will have a negative impact on the parks ambience.</p> <p>The report I read had conflicting information with regards to low impact and high impact sport. I believe if the change goes ahead it is only a matter of time before further change is required as the park gets used and therefore the park is "lost".</p> <p>The report also made mention of a letter drop with minimal responses. I am aware of several residence within the impact area that did not receive this letter, maybe you could provide the area of where the letter was dropped.</p> <p>the report states that Sturt Lions is the club in dire need, developing Frank Smith Park will NOT fulfill their needs, by any means. look elsewhere!.</p> <p>the report states Weymouth oval is a secondary oval for Coromandel Ramblers. Why is this not being looked at for "development" it is a larger space and better maintained facility? with a bit of imagination this could be a multi sport facility?</p> <p>The Onkaparinga council has invested, and continues to invest, in the rehabilitation of parts of the Frank Smith Park ridding the area of feral species and replacing with natives, such as the wetlands. but the lack of investment on the upkeep of this part of the park has left in a disarray. what's to say this wont happen to the open grassed area that's called an oval?</p> <p>my opinion is that their was a lack of planning in the distant past of both the Onkaparinga and Mitcham Councils has left a shortage of community sporting facilities and that the better option would be to find another alternative that will deliver a facility worthy of all the clubs to utilise rather than a half baked effort that will take away a unique piece of Coromandel Valley History.</p> <p>Maybe a trip up to Summit Sports Park at Mount Barker could lead to a few ideas.</p>
<p><b>No</b></p>	<p>The rest of the park suffers as it is with the additional traffic (people and cars) when sports events are on. So anything that attracts more people can only be detrimental.</p>
<p><b>Yes</b></p>	
<p><b>No</b></p>	<p>There is a need to leave open space for unstructured, incidental, and spontaneous activity. There are socially isolated older people who use the space to keep them socially connected. They meet to walk their dogs and socialise with each other. One of the gentleman, after his wife passed away, could seek support from the friends he made</p>

	<p>from the dog group.                  It is one of the few places left where dogs can be off lead.                  There is amazing flora and fauna there which needs to be left in its natural state.                  Kingfishers and banicoots live there.                  Leave it as it is. Frank Smith (and I am old enough to remember him when he was alive and his lovely wife Hilda) would want it left as it is for everyone to enjoy, not just those who belong to a structured sport club.                  Development isnt always progress. Leave Coromandel Valley with some natural open space.</p>
No	<p>There are ample facilities around Blackwood and surrounding areas that have been leased for sports. Many of these facilities are now very busy during weekends with sports and are no longer available for locals for non sport activity such as walking and basic recreation. With schools less and less accessible during weekends we are losing options for open air activity for families etc</p>
No	<p>Impact when I can walk my dog</p>
No	<p>It is my belief that the FS oval and surrounding areas currently provide a much-loved area for general community use.                   I fear that any sports club gaining use of the ground would soon propose building club rooms or other such facilities which would ruin the current ambience of the area.</p>
No	<p>It will negatively affect the park and the many people who use it in favour of special interests.                   It's a disgrace that it was even proposed. Just pure greed.                  The people who proposed it should RESIGN immediately.</p>
Yes	<p>I am concerned that this change may be the thin edge of the wedge which will allow sporting clubs to increase pressure and push for more permanent occupation involving clubrooms etc. My support is strictly limited to use for low impact (junior) sport as outlined in the documentation. This would have an impact on casual use as currently exists but would be manageable.</p>
No	<p>We have plenty of ovals in our community for sporting.                  But we don't have many areas for dogs to enjoy.                   Leave it the way it is and that way the natural habitat will have less damage as well.                  Inviting more people here and sport groups will increase the damages to the habitat.</p>
No	<p>We've been using franksmith for 6years everyday for our dogs.                  The absolutely love their other doggy friends here and swimming in the water holes.                  There is plenty of other ovals in the community to use for sporting activities</p>

<p>No</p>	<p>It will wreck the community site and allow others to profit at the expense of the broader community</p> <p>Jason the park as it is please</p>
<p>No</p>	<p>it's a beautiful area for multiple different activities, bike riding, dog walking etc places like this are rare</p>
<p>No</p>	<p>Changing the CLMP will allow domination by private sporting clubs over the space. Private sport clubs will then be able to exclude community members from this dearly loved community asset and dictate what times community can access the space. At present the space is a haven for wildlife and is a peaceful and tranquil site which is rare.</p> <p>Why should the change take place? The area is already well used and regarded highly by community. I do not support "commercialisation" of Frank Smith Reserve as it will not benefit community or wildlife.</p>
<p>No</p>	<p>The park is unique for the area. It's a safe place for my children to explore and feel independent without close supervision. It's a lovely place to take the dog off lead to play and walk.</p> <p>I've spotted lots of wildlife, birds and koalas.</p> <p>All this would change with a sports ground. Extra traffic would make it unsafe for children. And it would definitely disturb the wildlife.</p>
<p>No</p>	<p>FROM A PEACEFUL NECESSITY TO NOISY....NOT FAIR!!!!</p> <p>It simply isn't fair to lease this calming place every weekend to sporting clubs.</p> <p>The only time of getting there with the grandkids, gone.</p> <p>The chaos of vehicles coming and going, dangerous.</p> <p>The whole experience, gone.</p> <p>I'm sure you also know of the WIDER DAMAGE of what you will be doing if this goes ahead and isn't there enough destruction happening around the world?? I ask that you please also consider the wildlife because all the extra and unnecessary chaos's will surly affect them, their tranquil lives will be affected.</p> <p>Please leave this beautiful community space for us all to enjoy on the weekends because life is stressful enough during the week!</p> <p>I implore you to do the right thing and choose not to go ahead with this.</p> <p>Thank you</p>

## Appendix B: Email received and letter of response

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thu, 6 Jul 2023 21:32:57 +0930  
**To:** "Moira Were" <Moira.Were@onkaparinga.sa.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Frank Smith Park  
**Attachments:** FSP bogged.jpg, FSP Letter 1.jpg  
**Categories:** [REDACTED] Actioning

**Caution:** This email originated from outside of the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender's full email address and know the content is safe.

Hi Moira,

I am emailing you today regarding the beautiful Frank Smith Park in Coromandel Valley – we actually met briefly there last year during the clean up that was organised by LEAN (not a member, just a local who wanted to help clean the creek up a bit). Over the course of the last 18 months the council have been investigating the prospect of opening up the park to more organised sport, via leases and an oval reclassification. Last year I presented a deputation which outlined my concerns regarding increased use of the park for organised sport (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LzTOSE8jslA&t=7s> – I start around the 2 minute mark) and petition to the council about not extending the parks use for organised sport, and investing in the environment in the park.

I have had to distance myself from the current consultation process as a result of the questioning of the validity of my petition by the cricket club during their deputation and some comments made on social media about it, which have had a pretty significant emotional toll upon me over the last 12 months. However I still feel strongly and am sending you this email with some points to consider.

1. The 'Your Say' process – Acknowledging the difficulties in engaging the local communities that councils face, I do feel that the 'Your Say' is not capturing the local Coromandel Valley community, whilst favouring the lobbying ability of the sporting clubs. I'd draw your attention to the tree that was saved from the arborists at the end of Oakdene Crescent. A much loved tree by the locals, that went through the 'Your Say' process, but was still voted to be removed. It was only after that the council had voted to remove it and people started to talk about it that the local community spoke up about it, most I spoke to about it didn't even know what 'Your Say' was. The process didn't capture the locals. Similarly when talking to people while doing my petition last year – the around 200 people that signed in opposition, few of them knew of the 'Your Say' process until I spoke to them. Indeed my wife who completed the 'Your Say' last year – wasn't even made aware of the current 'Your Say' until I spoke to her about it, it would appear that not all previous respondents have been reengaged. When I was walking at the park the other day a local who lives backing onto the park had yet to hear anything official about it either, and hadn't been consulted following on from last years trial, despite what the formal council documents have suggested. The process just doesn't seem to be capturing the local community and users of the park. Meanwhile the cricket club has actively been promoting the 'Your Say' via social media asking for help to get the oval reclassified. Their post has a reach of their over 1k followers, has been shared 8 times beyond that and at the time of writing this has

38 'done' comments. I wonder how many of those people have been to Frank Smith Park? That was one of the questions they asked of my petition last year if I am not mistaken. I have no scope to share as widely as they do to an engaged audience, the other users of the park have no dedicated forum to draw in people to flood out the 'Your Say' process with our opinion -the process is just isn't capturing us current park users.

2. Sharing the area- I do feel that my argument is against a seemingly inevitable end point now. However - as I have stated all along, there is scope for sharing. In the Cricket Clubs' deputation, they spoke about how they only wanted it two half days – both Saturday and Sunday- that unfortunately for the rest of us kind of eliminates our use on both weekend days- which is for most of us the only time we can use it. I would advocate that any lease should be limited to a single day, as had been suggested by the previous City of Onkaparinga Mayor Erin Thompson (see attached), enabling the local community a dedicated day for access. If the community know for example that Saturdays are cricket day there, then we can plan picnics and parties there on Sunday, dog walkers can plan their gatherings around it. If its ad-hoc and 2 half days – it really puts the sporting clubs before the community – we cant plan kids parties or activities there if we are going to have to leave part way through, or be dodging cars coming into the park whilst we pack up. There also should be clear advertisement on what dates it is planned for use on a notice board or social media– last year it was near impossible to find when the Soccer club was playing there. Again, if the community are planning events like parties or picnics there, which we do, it will allow us to co-utilise the oval together. The local school's soccer club have been sharing it for years and the locals know this and work around it, it works when it is regimented and able to be clearly planned and shared.

3. The Space – As I mentioned several times to you last year, you can't talk about the oval in isolation from the rest of the park. I would propose that the gate not be opened to allow cars entry into the park itself. Where the cars park in the park itself takes away space from the local and regular users of the park- its really the only easy to access flat area in the park apart from the oval. Last year the increased traffic also caused significant damage to the area – see attached photos. This is only just now being repaired naturally by the grass growing over it and leveling the soil out that way. There are options for adjacent parking that could be utilised – the school has car parking, and also car access to the basketball courts, which could provide an overflow parking area. Additionally, the neighbouring orchard has ample parking. During the consultation process last year they were quite keen to see more sport there, perhaps the clubs could discuss if their parking could be utilised. There is also the ever present fear of development and further building in the park. If the oval surface is upgraded, it simply cannot be irrigated from the creek as had been previously suggested without a thorough environmental impact study. Its all very well to state there are no current plans to upgrade it, but what happens when people start to complain about the state of the path going to the oval and cars getting bogged– will that need to be upgraded? What happens when the sporting clubs start losing balls into the wetlands and creek area- will a fence be put up? Then suddenly before we know it will end up like Karinya, where as was recommended to me by Mitcham Council, its not advised that the general public go there anymore.

Moving forward I am trying to take some steps to engage the local community in developing the rich urban environment in Frank Smith Park and will be meeting with Leanne Lawrence (from Onkaparinga Council), the Coro Primary Science teacher and Green Adelaide there in August about some local community events there. Among other things we will be discussing the prospect of potentially making a 'Friends of Frank Smith Park' style group. I was also really excited to see the work the school had done around the bandicoots there and to see it get presented on national TV.

As always I am happy to discuss these further, but as I mentioned earlier last year's process really took quite an emotional toll on me so I am trying to not get too involved anymore. I really love living in Coromandel Valley and would hate to see this cause division in the community. I think the points I've raised above should be given consideration as they are fair and reasonable.

Lastly I'd just like to remind you of the results of my petition last year – of the 200 odd people I approached at the park last year, 3 didnt want to support my petition about keeping organised sport away from the park and investing in the local environment there, I didn't call upon members or friends to help, I just spoke to the people who are already using the beautiful Frank Smith Park and I would implore you to listen to them too.

Thanks for your time and consideration,



24 July 2023  
Our ref: 6007087



[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for taking the time to contact us regarding Frank Smith Park Oval.

Your input and comprehensive response to both the current and previous engagement on Frank Smith Park Oval for future use and ongoing management is much appreciated.

It's fantastic to hear about your involvement with the local community and your plans for continued collaboration in this space, building upon successful projects like the bandicoot monitoring initiative.

With regards to item 1 (The "Your Say" process) referred to in your email, I would like to provide some information about this process and how we targeted the local community.

The Your Say Onkaparinga platform is just one way council shares information and captures stakeholder feedback on our community engagements.

For the engagement on the change of Community Land Management classification for Frank Smith oval we reached out to the local community by:

- installing a banner at the oval to inform park users of the engagement opportunity
- sending an email to:
  - identified key stakeholders including local schools and the community centre, asking them to share the consultation with their networks
  - local community groups on our Community Group Register
  - registered members on the Your Say Onkaparinga platform who:
    - live in Coromandel Valley
    - participated in the previous consultation on the future use of Frank Smith Park (noting that many of the people who participated in the previous engagement chose to do so without providing an email address, so we were unable to contact them regarding this engagement).
- undertaking a letterbox drop to residents in the immediate vicinity of Frank Smith Park on Magarey Road, Ackland Hill Road and Main Road, Coromandel Valley
- published a public notice in The Advertiser (as required under the Local Government Act 1999 for all proposed changes to Community Land Management Plans).

If you are able to provide your wife's email address we would be happy to investigate why she did not receive an email.

Regarding item 2 (Sharing the area) and item 3 (The space) raised in your email, please rest assured that we will document and consider this correspondence during the current round of community engagement and this will be included into the report to Council for consideration. Once again, we appreciate the time and effort you have dedicated to raising awareness about Frank Smith Park and its significance to the local community. Ultimately, our goal is to achieve a balanced outcome where the shared use of the oval and the wider park is sustainably managed for the benefit of all users and the wider community.

Thank you once again for your valuable input.

Yours sincerely



Moira Were AM  
Mayor