7.2 Community Services

7.2.1 JACK EDWARDS RESERVE - DOG OFF-LEASH AREA CHANGE

Responsible Manager:	Tony Oulton, Manager Active Monash
Responsible Director:	Russell Hopkins, Director Community Services

RECOMMENDATION

That Council

1. **Notes the community feedback received in relation to the proposed off-leash area change at Jack Edwards Reserve as presented in Attachment A - Consultation Report.**

2. **Resolves to change the dog off-leash area classification at Jack Edwards Reserve to:**

   (a) no dogs on the turf pitch

   (b) dogs prohibited in the spectator areas surrounding the turf and synthetic pitches as depicted in yellow in the image below, two hours before and after National Premier League Victoria games and otherwise when either pitch is being used for scheduled games or training.

3. **Adopts the amendment to Dog Control Order – Number 6 pursuant to section 26(2) of the Domestic Animals Act 1994 in the form described in Attachment B.**

INTRODUCTION

This report outlines the consultation findings on the proposed change to the dog off-leash area at Jack Edwards Reserve, Oakleigh as per its resolution on 30 May 2023.

COUNCIL PLAN STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Inclusive Services
Deliver high performing services.

Enhanced Places
Improving open spaces, bushland and street trees, including prioritising biodiversity and community engagement.

Good Governance
Ensure a financially, socially and environmentally sustainable organisation.

BACKGROUND

As part of the off-leash area review undertaken in 2022, Council proposed to change the off-leash status of the main turf pitch at Jack Edwards Reserve to a 'no dogs' area and the surrounds to both the turf and synthetic pitch to 'dog on-leash' areas. The proposed change was made on the basis of protecting the surface of the pitch which is used as premier sporting facility.

Community feedback to the proposal was divided with support for both the retention of the dog off-leash status of the reserve and for the reserve to become dog-free.

At the 29 November 2022 meeting, Council resolved **not to reduce the existing off-leash area** at Jack Edwards Reserve, with the status quo to remain, given the limited alternatives for off-leash areas in this part of the municipality.

Following further evidence of dog-related damage to the playing surface at Jack Edwards Reserve collected early in 2023, Council subsequently resolved on 30 May 2023 to:

1. Signal its in-principle support for a change to the off-leash classification at Jack Edwards Reserve to:
    1. no dogs on the turf pitch
    2. dogs on-lead in the spectator areas surrounding the turf and synthetic pitches.
2. Note the areas behind the pitches and as depicted in green in Attachment 1 are proposed to remain available for dog off-leash activity.
3. Seek community feedback on the proposed change and report the findings of this process to a future Council Meeting.

In accordance with Council's decision on 30 May 2023, Officers have sought community feedback on its in-principle decision to change the classification of the Jack Edwards Reserve from a dog off-leash reserve to:

- no dogs on the turf pitch
- on-leash in the spectator areas surrounding the turf and synthetic pitches.

DISCUSSION

Community consultation on the proposal occurred between 15 June 2023 and 31 July 2023.

Over this period the following engagement opportunities were provided:

1. Shape Monash on-line consultation – 32 on-line submissions received via Jack Edwards Reserve - Change to Dog Off-Leash Area | Shape Monash
2. Resident Letter – Direct mailout to all residences within 500 metres of the reserve.
3. Direct Email – Email to resident sporting clubs and Football Victoria.
4. Reserve Signage – 6 signs erected at the main entry points in and around the reserve with QR code link to Shape Monash.
5. Project page subscription registration – for regular project updates.
6. Email Submissions – 4 unique email submissions received via recreation@monash.vic.gov.au

During the consultation period, there were one-hundred and eighty-three 183 visitors to the Shape Monash page, thirty-two (32) on-line submissions received including four (4) uploaded submissions and four (4) email submissions.

Of the submissions received at the close of consultation on 31 July:

- 19 respondents opposed the change.
- 8 respondents indicated the spectator areas surrounding both pitches should remain off-leash.
- 7 respondents supported the change.
- 2 responses were not relevant.

All community submissions and consultation findings are detailed in Attachment A – Jack Edwards Reserve OLA Change - Consultation Report (August 2023).

Through consultation It is acknowledged that there is opposition from local dog walkers to the proposed change and support from local football club members. This is consistent with the findings of the initial Off-Leash Area Review consultation undertaken between July and September 2022.

- The proposal to make the main turf pitch at Jack Edwards Reserve as a no dog area and its surrounds as a dog on leash area is consistent with Council's Dog Off-Leash Policy 2022 and other comparable venues in Monash; and the Monash Open Space Strategy 2021 which identifies Jack Edwards Reserve as a district-level open space with a 'sport' primary function.

The proposal will also:

- Improve surface playability and reduce risk of injury to players; and
- Reduce the prevalence of dog-related damage and the associated cost of repairs.

The southern section of Jack Edwards Reserve will remain available for dog off-leash activity. New off-leash areas have come into effect from 1 July 2023, including several in the Oakleigh precinct such as Davies Reserve and FE Hunt Reserve.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Removing dogs from the main turf football pitch at Jack Edwards Reserve will result in less maintenance being required on the grass surface.

No additional resources are required to implement the recommendation in this report.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This report and recommendation is consistent with the Council Plan and strategic objective of Enhanced Places and is informed by Council's Dog Off-Leash Policy 2022.

CONSULTATION

All community submissions and consultation findings are detailed in Attachment A – Jack Edwards Reserve OLA Change - Consultation Report (August 2023).

SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no social implications to this report.

HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS

There are no human rights implications to this report.

GENDER IMPACT ASSESSMENT

A GIA was not completed as part of this consultation.

As previously noted, more data is needed to understand gender implications regarding dog ownership and how women, men and non-binary people access and use dog off-leash areas. Due to a lack of data, a gender impact assessment has not been undertaken and Council will undertake a gender impact assessment as part of the next Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAMP) consultation.

CONCLUSION

It is recommended Council note the findings of the community consultation and resolve to change the off-leash area classification at Jack Edwards Reserve to:

(a) no dogs on the turf pitch

(b) dogs prohibited in the spectator areas surrounding the turf and synthetic pitches as depicted in yellow in the image below, two hours before and after National Premier League Victoria games and otherwise when either pitch is being used for scheduled games or training.

It is also recommended Council adopt the amendment to Dog Control Order – Number 6 pursuant to section 26(2) of the Domestic Animals Act 1994 in the form described in Attachment B.

ATTACHMENT LIST

Attachment A – Jack Edwards Reserve OLA Change - Consultation Report (August 2023)

Attachment B – Amendment to Dog Control Order – Number 6

Attachment A

Jack Edwards Reserve – Off-Leash Area Change

Consultation Report
15 June 2023 – 31 July 2023

Jack Edwards Reserve – Off-Leash Area Change

Consultation Report

The community consultation and engagement program for the Jack Edwards Reserve - Off-Leash Area Change ran from *15 June 2023 to 31 July 2023*.

During the consultation period, there were 183 visitors to the Shape Monash page, 32 submissions received including 4 uploaded submissions.

Summary of Engagement:

1. Shape Monash on-line consultation – 32 on-line submissions received via Jack Edwards Reserve - Change to Dog Off-Leash Area | Shape Monash

2. Direct Email – resident sporting clubs and Football Victoria were directly emailed and encouraged to complete the on-line submission form.

3. Reserve Signage – 6 signs erected at the main entry points in and around the reserve with QR code link to Shape Monash.

4. Project page subscription registration – for regular project updates.

5. Resident Letter – Direct mailout to all residences within 500 metres of the reserve.

6. Email Submissions – 5 email submissions received via recreation@monash.vic.gov.au (including one repetition of an on-line submission)

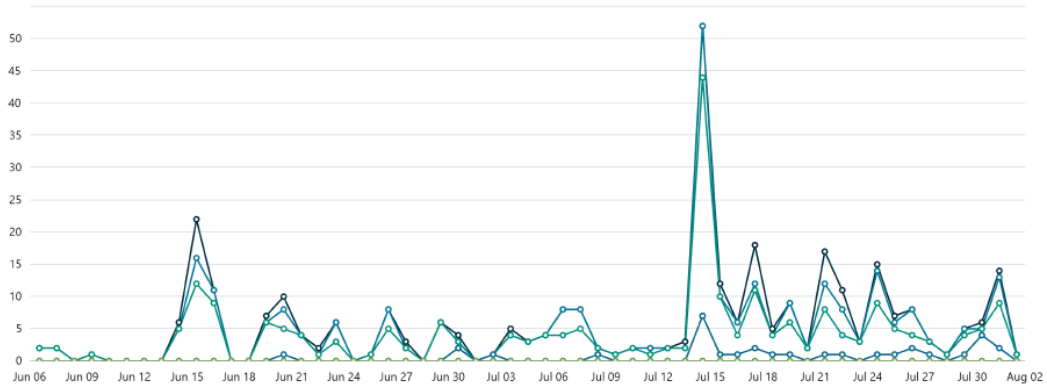
Key:

No. of submissions received	Key Theme
#7	Support OLA Change
#19	Oppose OLA Change
#8	Keep spectator (yellow) area off-lead
#2	Not relevant or position unclear

Shape Monash

Shape Monash
Report Type: Project
Project Name: Jack Edwards Reserve - Change to Dog Off-Leash Area
Date Range: 06-06-2023 - 01-08-2023
Exported: 01-08-2023 10:04:26

Performance Summary
Information regarding key visitation and utilisation metrics for your Site or projects.



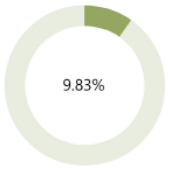
331 Views	295 Visits	183 Visitors	32 Contributions	32 Contributors	0 Followers

Views - The number of times a Visitor views any page on a Site.
Visits - The number of end-user sessions associated with a single Visitor.
Visitors - The number of unique public or end-users to a Site. A Visitor is only counted once, even if they visit a Site several times in one day.
Contributions - The total number of responses or feedback collected through the participation tools.
Contributors - The unique number of Visitors who have left feedback or Contributions on a Site through the participation tools.
Followers - The number of Visitors who have 'subscribed' to a project using the 'Follow' button.

Conversions

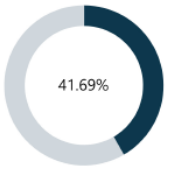
Information regarding how well your engagement websites converted Visitors to perform defined key actions.

Feedback



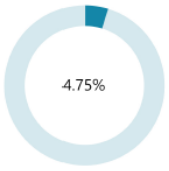
Percentage of visits where at least **1 contribution** was made.

Attention



Percentage of visits that lasted at least **1 active minute**.

Actions



Percentage of visits where at least **2 actions** were performed.

Participation

Information regarding how people have participated in your projects and activities.

Contributions by Activity
Contributions by Activity is a breakdown of contributions across each tool

Activity	Contributions	%
Form	32	100%

Top Activities
Top Activities is the top 5 tools that received the highest contributions

Activity	Page Name	Contributions	Contributors
Form	Jack Edwards Reserve - Change to Dog Off-Leash Area	32	32

Projects

The current number and status of your Site's projects (e.g. engagement websites)

Engagement Time

0	12	29
Days	Hours	Minutes

Jul 14th 2023	Friday
Peak Visitation Date	Peak Visitation Day

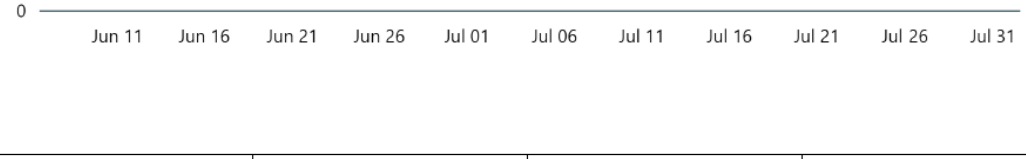
Top Visited Pages
Summary information for the top five most visited Pages.

Page Name	Visitation %	Visits	Visitors
Jack Edwards Reserve - Change to Dog Off-Leash Area	100%	294	183

People

Information regarding who has participated in your projects and activities.

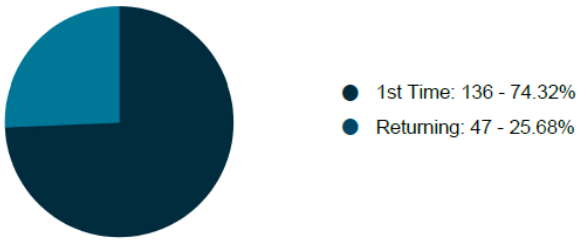
Follower Activity
Information regarding the activity of registered Members who have 'followed' or subscribed to one or more projects.



0 Total Followers	0 New Followers	0 Total Follows	0 New Follows

Total Followers - The number of unique Members who have 'followed' at least one project.
New Followers - The number of new unique Members who have 'followed' at least one project within the specified reporting date range.
Total Follows - The number of total 'follows' performed by all Followers across all projects. Each Follower may record multiple Follows.
New Follows - The number of new total 'follows' performed by all Members across all projects within the specified reporting date range.

Visitor Profile
Visitor Profile is a comparison between new visitor and returning over the selected period



First Time - The number of Visitors that are visiting a Site for the first time within the reporting date range.
Returning - The number of Visitors that have made more than one Visit to a Site within the reporting date range.

Acquisition

Information regarding the method by which Visitors arrived to your Site or projects.

Referral Types
Referral traffic is the segment of traffic that arrives on your website through another source, like through a link on another domain.

Direct - Visitors who have arrived at a Site by entering the exact web address or URL of the page.
Search Engine - Visitors who have arrived at a Site via a search engine. Such as Google, Yahoo, etc.
Websites - Visitors who have arrived at the Site after clicking a link located on an external website.
Social Media - Visitors who have arrived at a Site by clicking a link from a known social media site such as Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, etc.
Campaigns - Visitors who have arrived through a campaign (using a UTM). See your email campaign report for more details on campaigns sent from this platform.

Downloads

Information regarding your downloads, the total set of unique documents downloaded, total downloads of all files, and your top downloads.

23
Total Documents

24
Total Downloads

Top Downloads
Top file downloads in your selection, ordered by the number of downloads.

File Title	File Type	Downloads
item-6.3-report-and-attachment-council-meeting-30-may-2023-updated.pdf	PDF	16
2.2-report-and-attachments-council-meeting-29-november-2022.pdf	PDF	8
IMG_3204.jpg	JPG	0
jack edwards turf.jpg	JPG	0
funny-happy-beagle-dog-walking-playing-park.jpg	JPG	0

Email Campaigns

Information regarding your email campaigns, your total campaigns, the total number of recipients, and your top campaigns by click-through rate (clicks as a percentage of total recipients).

0
Email Campaigns Sent

0
Total Recipients

0%
Click-through Rate

No Data Available

Written Submissions

Contribution ID	Date Submitted	On-line Submission via Shape Monash
15656 #1	Jul 31, 2023, 07:46 PM	To whom it may concern, I would like to put my unreserved objection for the proposed change to the off-leash area at Jack Edwards Reserve. The reserve is part of the Monash Open Space Strategy, providing a wide range of benefits and each day you can observe countless numbers of people bringing their dogs to utilise the full extent of the grass areas. It provides a large area for physical exercise as some people choose to walk the perimeter of the park with their dogs as well as the main field. It is also a vital place for social gatherings as being dog friendly, this allows people to connect as a community, helping to improve their mental wellbeing. Having a dog park of this size within walking distance was one of the reasons we moved to the area as our dogs are an important part of our identity. By not allowing dogs onto the playing pitch what other benefits will the community gain from the 8206m2 of green space? This will be an area that, in 2023, is used for 13 games, at 90 minutes a game, that doesn't seem like a fair and equitable use of public space. Again, how else do you see the grounds being used to provide value for money to rate payers. The number of dogs that regularly utilise Jack Edwards Reserve, the proposed area will not be large enough and will quickly turn into an unusable dirt and mud pit as has been present in previous years. This will require further financial input from the council to maintain this area, as it will be overused for its land size and already shared with the local Scout group, pushing it beyond its limitations. What strategies have been considered to mitigate potential risks in containing dogs in a smaller area in close proximity to the Scout Hall? What is the rationale behind also make the spectator area an on-leash area only? This is a further 4944m2 of area that will be underutilised by the community. The only thinking I have is that your careless proposal has been made in an effort to further appease the soccer club. A club, I might point out, does not clean up after NPL games leaving the fields and surrounding areas covered in litter and food scraps, as evident this morning. I would also be curious to gain an understanding of Monash Councils consultation with the traditional custodians of the land? Finally, I would question the costs and continual maintenance that has been documented in repairing the surface. The photos provided where of an isolated repair which I witnessed but have not seen since. How then have you been able to ascertain the final figures. Was this extrapolated from this one time repair in an estimate for the rest of the period? Also what percentage of diverts where from soccer use and not from dogs digging. Is it possible that all damage been pushed onto dog use to further advance the soccer clubs cause? I look forward to further consultation in this matter, preferable in a face to face situation allowing for a fair and inclusive discussion.

15653 #2	Jul 31, 2023, 06:00 PM	Dear Monash, As a resident who uses the park daily to walk my dogs, I am surprised with the alleged information regarding the damage caused by dogs based on the 4 images required. I would have expected there was more detailed information for when the alleged incidents occurred as my views on the situation would be influenced in knowing if the damage was caused in the space of a week or over the course of a year. I feel that the evidence you have prepared for your proposal lacks any depth to the extent of the said damages and fails to provide an overview of other issues that warrant councils involvement including but not limited to litter on all areas of the reserve, damage to bins and illegal parking on game days. I am disappointed that the only option to provide feedback is online as I would assume that in light of your proposal, you would have sought to have had council representatives in person at times and days when dog owners are using the reserve and enlighten me to any data the council may have in terms of how many people are using the dual purpose reserve and for what activity. I strongly oppose the council's proposal given the lack of detailed evidence and the underhanded consultation process that I suggest is no inclusive of Monash residents and other citizens who choose to use the part to safety walk their dogs off lead. I thought that Monash Council were more progressive and inclusive when seeking out and asking community members what mattered most when they thought about the future of the Monash and would welcome an alternative option for impacted community members to express their views.
15596 #3	Jul 30, 2023, 10:56 PM	As a resident of Oakleigh, I oppose the Council's proposal to change the turf pitch at Jack Edwards Reserve to no dogs. Following community feedback just late last year, Council resolved not to change this area to no dogs and now here we are again going through the same issue. Leash free space for dogs is limited in Oakleigh and this space should be available to be shared with dogs and those that play soccer. If there are costs to Council for repairs to this pitch supposedly made by dogs and the answer is to ban dogs, then on that basis, maybe spectators and players would also be banned due to the amount of rubbish that is left on the pitch and surrounds after soccer games. The area is constantly littered with empty food wrappers, water bottles, beer cans, coffee cups following games. How much does this cost Council to clean up? Bins are provided around the area, yet unsightly rubbish is just left for others to clean up and at what cost? I took some recent photos of this rubbish but am unable to attach so will send separately. I hope that Council looks on the sharing of this space favourably and takes into account the limited leash free space in Oakleigh.
15588 #4	Jul 30, 2023, 04:59 PM	https://shape.monash.vic.gov.au/download_file/2047 I am astounded the Council is again putting forward the suggestion the Jack Edwards Reserve have access for dog off leash area reduced. This was recently voted on and should be the end of the matter.

		I use this area at least once a day almost every day of the year and the only times I have ever seen damage on and around the ground is immediately following a soccer game. I make the following comments • Most of damage to the soccer pitch is caused by players and spectators • Following a match rubbish is everywhere – both on, off and around the ground. • Advertising signs are damaged • The soccer ground has dozens of gouges made from boots of players • Damage is continually made to players and/or visitor's boxes Following are pics I took this morning. None of this damage was there yesterday morning. (Note these photos show a lot less damage than most matches so I assume it must have been a reasonably small crowd last night). As this ground belongs to the public it is wrong for it to be used solely for a small percentage of the community who play and attend soccer matches. The ground should continue to be shared for everyone's pleasure – it is a public area. I suggest the Council visit these grounds before and after matches themselves to see the amount of damage and rubbish following a match. Dogs are not the problem. See photos below. Regards

		
15586 #5	Jul 30, 2023, 03:56 PM	I disagree with the proposed changes, and do not think any changes are required. The ground gets more use from dogs than football matches, and there are no other off lead parks in Oakleigh. The current arrangement lets us choose to take our dog to an area that is less busy, and if dogs are only allowed at the back, it will likely get too crowded and increase risk of dog attacks, which poses risk to Council. I also want to complain about the constant rubbish left at the park by Oakleigh Cannons. Oakleigh played on Friday, and two days later the ground is still covered in litter. It is also not clear how the attached photos are evidence of damage by dogs, including why the ground needed perfectly square holes to be patched up in clusters.

15585 #6	Jul 30, 2023, 03:29 PM	It is a poor use of resources to stop dogs using soccer field when the soccer club only use it a small fraction of the year. Also the main off leash area is inadequate because there are areas of the fence where dogs can escape under.
15552 #1	Jul 29, 2023, 12:50 PM	I agree with no dogs on the turf pitch at any time proposal. I agree with the green, off-leash proposal. I disagree with the yellow, on lead at all times proposal. My counter-proposal is to have the yellow area off-leash at all times, EXCEPT for scheduled matches and practice sessions, when the yellow area could be on-leash during the sessions and one hour either side of the sessions. It is ONLY dog walkers in the yellow areas outside of match and practice sessions, so It makes no sense at all to have It on-leash at all times. Stupid idea. Dogs are being crowded in to fewer and fewer off-leash spaces, which are continuing to become smaller and smaller, which is unfair. Also, judging by the litter left behind after marches, humans should be banned from the yellow areas during matches and practice sessions.
15405 #7	Jul 27, 2023, 09:16 AM	I write in relation to Jack Edwards reserve in Oakleigh and the recent notifications and signage at the park to attempt to reduce the Off-leash dog usage of this reserve. I note that it has only been 6 months or so since your last attempt to do exactly the same. At that time you were told by Professionals that the two triangle areas out the back of the park is not sufficient for the number of dogs that use this park and it could, in effect, be very dangerous. The situation has not changed, and there are now even more local community members using this park for Off leash dog usage. It is the only off leash area that I am aware of in the city or Monash that is somewhat fenced. This is huge draw card for people with new pups who haven't learned road sense yet. People come to Jack Edwards for that specific reason to be able to train their new puppies in a 'Safe Place.' Now to address your recent signage posted at various places around the park. RECENT DOG DAMAGE TO THE MAIN TURF PITCH. You need to provide some level of evidence for this. The only Damage to the pitch currently is one brown mark and a reasonable sized tear/scrape below the grass level. This has been made by soccer players' boots and not dogs. The pitch has never been clearer of damage in the 10 years that I have been using these grounds. So Council, you need to provide proof, else this is just a ghosting exercise to do what you want and treat your Rate payers as if they don't exist. This is not the first time we have had to go through this process. If you Google Jack Edwards reserve you will find entry after entry where you have tried, but in vain, to reduce the Off leash dog usage around this park. It is obviously needed. Also, why in the world do you think it is O.K. to demand dogs on-leash around the outside of either of the pitches. The dogs can do no damage to those areas, it's the Soccer spectators who break seats, leave rotting food around, Smoke when there are no smoking signs

		and leave their dirty butts on the ground all over the place. Why remove us from those areas outside game times. There are only approx. 25 games played throughout the year on the Turf Pitch leaving 330 days where there is no one else in those areas other than dogs and their owners. We are already barred 2 hours before and after a game and that is the only time there are people other than dog owners using this park. Issues with the current arrangement: Community members have to beg you to get involved to get the outer areas cleaned. The grounds are not cleaned up for days after games, leaving decomposing food around, leaving the spit fire going overnight without any supervision or attempt to put the embers out before leaving for the evening. This occurred yet again this morning (27 July). Recently people got in overnight, scooped up the burning embers from the spit and spread it round the park, including setting on fire a rubbish bin that was burned down to its wheels. These people are only one brain thought away from doing the same to the Synthetic pitch. We are very disappointed in the treatment we get from Council. We get absolutely zero support from you. We have asked for signs to designate where the off-leash areas are so that non dog owners are aware of where these areas are but I have been told that you couldn't possible do such a thing! I also requested that the people who do the lawn mowing to use the Maintenance gates due to safety issue but again was told that Council cannot always take the communities safety into consideration. I have an email which states this if you would like a copy! Regarding the soccer club, rubbish is left for days and only after many, many complaints does the council get involved to get the club to do what I would expect they are required to do by council and on the same night of each game. The majority of players and supporters using this reserve on a weekend do not even live in the Oakleigh community as most cannot afford the exorbitant rate charged for a single soccer season. You are not trying to help the local community, you are trying to actively remove us from these facilities and leave us with nowhere within your so called, 300 metre radius to take our animals off leash without having to take a motor vehicle and drive 15 minutes through peak hour traffic to get to them. I also note that in my Rates notice last week, that you will be spending 6.7 million dollars on another pavilion for the reserve, when the currently one is hardly never used and has only ever been at capacity once that I am aware of and that was because of an international friendly that was being played there. That night, we had cars parked all along our street, including across peoples driveways and I live 4 streets away from the park. This cannot continue, the area around the park is not sufficient if you do manage to increase patronage to this ground. I, for one, will be demanding that you reinstate parking permits for those living very near this ground and at no cost to the community. Please stop this continued and incessant harassment.

15377 #2	Jul 26, 2023, 05:28 PM	Hi there, I would like to express my opinion about on leash area. I think this is wrong proposal as dogs do not do any kind of damage. **I'm agree with soccer ground to be dog free area as reparation cost a lot of money.** In the morning when we are walking our dogs there is no interference with people in proposal leash on area so I do not see the point of that put this in place.
15346 #1	Jul 26, 2023, 12:53 PM	I finally congratulate council on seeing logic on this matter. Jack Edwards is one of the finest playing pitches in the state and unfortunately, the dogs seem to get priority use over our children who can't play on the surface, due to the cleanup required week in week out before every training and match, not to mention the horrible look televised every week to the entire country watching. We have the room as highlighted on your plan. It's about time you treated the designated areas according to their use. Main pitch for Football and the rear fenced area is for pets. It's not rocket science, as a council do the correct thing, or keep paying rate payers money to maintain pee holes. We can coexist.
15288 #8	Jul 25, 2023, 09:38 PM	We use the playing surface of the grass pitch every single day of the year; rain, hail or shine, and have done for years. Our dog loves to run around it with her friends (who are also there every day). It is an invaluable resource for all of us, and an important community focal point. The area near the scout hall (which would be the only alternative in this plan) is far inferior. There are large dust bowls there, which the wet dogs roll in, and then come home literally covered in sand (which ends up everywhere throughout the house). Another important point is that some dogs don't get on with every other dog. At present we have two areas, which gives people options. Owners who want to keep their dog away from some other dog can do so safely and comfortably, and both dogs can get their exercise. This isn't an issue for us personally because our dog gets on with everyone. But we know of many dogs which are not so amiable. Some dogs are rescues, and need to be carefully socialised. Other times, owners of small dogs don't want them to play with the big rougher dogs. Having two separate off-leash areas makes a huge difference for all these people, and must be preserved. I understand that having dogs on the pitch causes some damage (although I'm fairly certain that soccer studs cause a lot more). It is also true that the regular dog people help the pitch. We clean up rubbish such as food wrappers, plastic bottles and cable ties that is left on it (because we don't want our dogs to eat them). And our dogs even clean up the food scraps and duck poo (gross, yes, but you'd be surprised how much of this they remove). So our presence there isn't all a negative for the soccer players. It would be very sad for us if we could no longer use the playing surface. But the second part of the proposal is completely inexplicable. Nobody has ever articulated a reason to convert the perimeter from off-leash to on-leash! What is the argument? None has been given. Let me be very clear: on-leash areas are a waste of time. To get exercise, a young dog needs to run and frolic and this just cannot

		happen on lead. You should see our dog bouncing through the rushes (like a kangaroo!) in the area that is slated to become on-lead. It is a sight of pure joy. Please don't take it away from her.
15171 #2	Jul 24, 2023, 11:40 AM	HI ALL THE DOGS ON A DAILY BASIS ARE DIGGING THE GROUND AND CAUSING DAMAGE WHICH CAUSES A RISK OF INJURY TO THE PLAYERS DURING TRAINING AND GAME DAYS , ALL THE NPL 1 GROUNDS IN OUR COMPETITION ARE CLOSED TO DOGS FOR THAT REASON DAMAGE AND RISK OF INJURIES THANKS THIS IS A SERIOUS ISSUE AND SHOULD BE TREATED LIKE IN A SEMI/PROFESSIONAL SPORT I BELIEVE WE ARE ALL RESPONSIBLE TO PROVIDE OUR SPORTS PLAYERS A SAFE ENVIRONMENT. THANKS
15068 #9	Jul 22, 2023, 03:13 PM	This survey submission form type is prohibitive and not inclusive for people of disadvantage, the elderly, or people without access to computers or who do not have an email address. Also was not publicized to the Oakleigh ward. https://shape.monash.vic.gov.au/download_file/2034 Feedback to the proposed changes to Jack Edwards Reserve Off- Leash Status I am writing this to express my **objection** to the changes, which only came into effect as of July 1st. It is disappointing that after extensive collection of feedback from the months long Shape Monash Survey. We are already undermining process by asking for changes. I understand the changes have come about due to the Soccer Club producing evidence. Evidence they couldn't produce in the month long Shape Monash Time period. I have also with my objection hope to submit evidence of "damage" caused after training. Sadly due to the short timeframe of which we must submit, I cannot supply photos of "damage" after a match not only to the field but also to the environment surrounding the field. The litter and complete disregard to no smoking is prevalent and evident after every match. I believe the evidence submitted by the club, not via a Oakleigh Councillor but an Mulgrave ward Councillor was selective in nature, a few images of urine burn patches and holes, surprisingly few considering the large number of Dog's and patrons that visit the field daily and not just 26 hours a year.

		I as the photo's I have attached show that not all damage is attributed to dogs but soccer boots too. This is understandable as the field is a living, breathing surface subject to "damage". Now I understand this repair to damage by people, dogs players and birds comes at a cost, but I think the inflated suggestion of $900 per week is yet to be proven. This could have been easily show by way of invoices, perhaps over the period of the First Shape Monash Survey. Not just in preparation of a change in policy. Rather than seem long-winded and perhaps some this message may be missed if I continue to write an essay, please see below some opinion, suggestion and questions. Due to the short timeframe for feedback submission, I will assume it was an oversight that a council meeting time fell out of the time period. I would have loved to be afforded an opportunity to attend and submit questions to council. • After extensive and I assume a costly Survey it was decide by council that they would keep the status quo regarding off leash status. This should stand for all of the reasons decided. This is why we follow this equitable format, affording equal opportunity to submit evidence, suggestion and opinion. They had no evidence and plenty of opportunity to provide it and they say that damage is historical and invoices aren't hard to produce. I ask that you visit the reserve on Saturday morning after a match and see the destruction of the field and rubbish littering the reserve. Next Match 28th July. • The change to this policy will have a negative effect on the local community as it provides many people who experience social disadvantage due to gender, women were as the council studies found are more likely to respond and use dog parks. People of all abilities will lose a facility that is accessible, as the off leash area near the Scout hall is less than adequate to facilitate their needs. (Unlevelled, covered in tree debris and boggy / unsafe) the lack of lighting and visibility for safety concerns and the potential for incidents as the scout hall is frequented by children and the amount of dogs that area will increase (potential for conflict and safety issues) • The lack of space to facilitate the community if the ban become effective as noted from council findings • The lack of suggestions of compromise and solutions and the quick suggestion of banning. • The prohibitive and lack of inclusivity nature of this feedback collection. There was no consideration to the greater Oakleigh area, only advertised by way of signage at the park. Yet Jack Edwards Reserve is still freely advertised on Facebook etc as of July First and in the Local Monash Bulletin, yet no mention of the considered changes. Allowing community wide feedback. The only provision for submission is via a computer/internet and must have an email, this may hinder disadvantaged or elderly people from submitting feedback. • Using the Grandstand build, as an argument for banning is perhaps a little premature as funding may not be available as we can see by the cancelation of the commonwealth games, also the easement land security is still in question? I also too hope that with the new reconciliation plan, this unturned land has been cleared of holding any indigenous significance? • The exclusionary nature of the club, as they clearly don't follow or has a lack of policies of gender inclusivity, LGBTIQ+ supporting people of disadvantage. Proven by the lack of a women's team or access for children with disabilities, like neighbouring clubs in Bentleigh and I believe this ban of dogs, will ban all. As the club will lock the access to the field siting keeping dogs out, this will only exclude all users of the field.

		• The field maintenance earlier in the year is an annual maintenance and is not just attributed to dog damage and was an opportunity to replace the goals. Perhaps, if the real issue as stated is the increased fees to $900 per week with no evidence can be mitigated by taking this as an opportunity for the Club and greater community to approach social enterprises like Waverley Industries or OC Connections and use their maintenance services or even local schools/Tafes to help with job prospects for local youth in our area.. We can take this as a positive opportunity to benefit all and increase social equity by engaging these services. Not only will this have a positive outcome equitably but socially. To be able to take this somewhat negative and make a positive to people of all abilities and those suffering disadvantage we can come to a solution that can hopefully help everyone. Please don't go straight to banning your community and let's take this as a learning tool and an opportunity, on how we may overcome other conflicts or issues regarding the community by working together We must remember this is Jack Edwards Reserve 24 hours a day 365 a year not just a soccer field 26 hours a year.
15023 #3	Jul 21, 2023, 05:56 PM	In light of the damage to both playing arears, it perhaps is best if dogs are not allowed on the playing arears and it would be a good idea if the players learned how to shut the gates after they have entered to ensure dogs did not wander both into the parking area and the oval/s. However, it is a ridiculous to turn the area surrounding the ovals to be on -lead areas. The purpose of off-lead is to allow the dogs to run free. exercise and explore the various parts of the area and not be restrained by a lead. Of course if spectators are watching a match then it is common sense that we keep the dogs away. I'm usually at the park each day around 9.30am and I am able to have a pleasant walk without having a dog to constrain my walking rhythm but of course having him in view at all times. Please consider my comments so both dog owners and the footballers can each enjoy the reserve. One final comment, if something can be done about the disgraceful amount of rubbish, food, bottles, cans etc. that are left on the grounds and surrounds after a match is played. This can be very hazardous to the dogs.
14740 #3	Jul 19, 2023, 03:39 PM	Why don't you consider allowing off-leash dog parks during the summer season, and making them out of bounds during the winter season, when the sports and matches are taking place? Soccer requires a good surface to prevent injury and to ensure the quality of matches. Summer sports such as cricket only really need a good quality wicket, the holes can be patched up until the winter season starts again. With the increasing number of kids playing sports like soccer, getting them off the couch and developing motor skills and teamwork, the council should be favouring soccer above off-leash parks. There are plenty of off-leash parks available in the council (45 apparently) but I doubt there are 45 soccer pitches which would service the amount of participants in the area.

		People can walk their dogs whenever and wherever they want, keep their dogs off-leash at home, and access one of many facilities in the area. I don't understand why this isn't a no-brainer?
14691 #1	Jul 18, 2023, 07:24 PM	[No comment or upload provided]
14645 #4	Jul 17, 2023, 09:16 PM	In response to your proposal to change the off leash dog areas because of the main concern of dog damage to the turf pitch, I feel it would then be a fair compromise for dog owners to have continued access to walk their dogs OFF LEASH at least in the areas surrounding both the turf and synthetic pitches. This space surrounding both pitches is very useful to dog owners like me, who wish a quieter space to exercise their dogs by walking the perimeter of the pitches , instead of using the fenced off dog space which at times can get busy. As a resident of Monash council for many years it will be disappointing and unfair if the off leash dog areas at Jack Edwards reserve were to be reduced to the extent of your proposal. I'm hopeful that your final decision will be respectful and considerate of the dog owners who having been using this space for many years.

14619 #10	Jul 17, 2023, 09:22 AM	How many times is Council going to ask the same question? The Community responded to this proposal last year and Council voted that the off-lead dog areas in Jack Edwards reserve would remain unchanged. I exercise my dog here most days, as do a large number of other residents. Every single dog owner that I have observed on that pitch does the right thing with regards the behaviour of their dog and the waste from their dog. Time after time we have provided feedback about the lack of alternate facilities in this area. So now the Councillors who are determined to get this done are trying to state that this is a cost issue. So I want the Council to answer the following questions. 1. Given that the submission states that fixing the turf costs an average of $300/week, rising to $900/week, to fix the areas of urine damage, show the evidence that the Council spent between $15,600 and $22,800 in 2022 fixing the pitch. (I have NEVER seen dozens of sod replacements and from the photos they appear quite evident, so I'm assuming that this cost has never actually happened). 2. The submission states that Council officers spent on average four hours per week replacing sod. Show the evidence that 208 hours of Council officer wages were spent on sod replacement at Jack Edwards reserve. 3. The submission took place over a 9 week period. Ratepayers have a right to know how much money was wasted on this study - how much did this cost? 2. Records show that during this 9 week period, there were 6 NPL matches played at Jack Edwards reserve (from 17/02 - 21/04). The report states that there is damage from dogs 'digging' the pitch. Did the study attempt to determine the amount of damage caused by the playing of soccer on the pitch or was this study commissioned purely to target dog owners? 3. Has the Council also done a study during the soccer season to confirm the amount of money spent fixing the pitch during the soccer season? What is the comparison? 4. All of the photos show that the majority of turf swaps are in a non-playing area of the reserve. To use these photo as evidence of the extensive 'damage' specifically to the playing surface are very misleading, given that the report refers to "the playing surface" being constantly compromised. 5. Why does "damage" to the reserve result in a proposal to limit the off-leash functionality of the spectator area surrounding the pitch? 6. How does the Council manage urine damage at Central Reserve, given that dogs will urinate whether on-leash or off-leash? 7. Comparing this decision to the one at Gardiners reserve is like comparing an orange to a potato. What significant off-leash dog infrastructure will the Council install in the same area as Jack Edwards reserve that is comparable to the space and facilities at Gardiners reserve? There are clearly several Councillors at Monash with significant ties and connection to the Oakleigh Cannons. I have no issue sharing the space with the club at Jack Edwards reserve. But ultimately this comes down to the rights of ratepayers. This is a public reserve, it is not owned by any particular sporting club, particularly not a professional club. If the Oakleigh Cannons wish to have the exclusive use of this facility then they need to buy it from Monash Council. Then they can exclude whomever they want. Until then, Monash ratepayers should not have to keep answering the same question over and over again. We have had our say. Council has voted. Councillors should respect that.

14605 #11	Jul 16, 2023, 12:00 PM	I was dismayed when I saw the newly erected signs at Jack Edwards Reserve this morning. I was particularly annoyed at the opening sentence which demonstrated the clear contention of the council. If you are seeking honest feedback, please don't start off with an inflammatory opening. 1. The 'damage' pictured on this page has been carefully chosen. I have images of the ground's damage from other causes [studs for example] as well as areas where the ground is barren from where players warm up at the sides. Cigarette butts and rubbish are on the field. There is damage to one of the sub bench huts where wooden slats have been removed. A rubbish bin was set alight....NOT dog damage. How much does this cost? Note that there are NO photos of dog faeces. This, I believe was one of the previous complaints. Now, you are clutching at other straws. 2. The Grand Stand has rubbish all through it after a game. Cigarette butts are everywhere. I didn't think that smoking was allowed near a game!! Perhaps council should erect signs telling patrons where bins are and what smoking rules are! How much does this cost? Publish these costs please. 3.If the argument is about money, then this community facility is predominantly financially drained by the soccer playing fraternity NOT the dog walking people. Obviously, there are people on council who are overly sympathetic to Oakleigh Cannons who have long wanted to limit this reserve to the soccer community only. Why is this being revisited so soon after the last decision? What is the agenda here? 4. We are all rate payers and should be able to coexist. There are ultimately very few games on the grass pitch. Surely it makes no sense to limit this pitch just to one section of the community who rarely use it? There is a synthetic pitch which has already diminished the dog walking area. Yes, I have walked at this reserve for 25 years now and I have seen the area we can walk get smaller and smaller as the Oakleigh Cannons influence insidiously infects the council. 5. We, the dog walking community [who are many and take this issue very seriously] have no other viable options in the area. We pay dog registration, where does this money go? 6. If you look at the signage at the park, it is very evident who the council listen to. There are lots of new [and confusing] signs demonstrating where dogs are NOT allowed. There are NO signs asking patrons to 'close the gates' to stop dogs from innocently sniffing their way over into an off leash area. What is the cost here? 7. Be fair. Represent ALL of your constituents. Stop presenting a biased view in the literature you put out. DOGS NEED TO BE OFF LEASH IN A CONTAINED AREA [UNDER CONTROL] AND WE CAN SHARE THIS FACILITY. LET COMMON SENSE PREVAIL!
14596 #12	Jul 15, 2023, 04:42 PM	The Jack Edwards Reserve dog park has become an essential part of many dogs days. It provides them with a space where they can socialise with other dogs as well as people in a safe way due to the full fencing. Not only is this a crucial part of a dogs upbringing, but it also provides us owners with a place to get out of the house and meet with others in the community that share a similar interest. To have this park taken away from us would have massive implications on the dogs, as many visit every day. The Oakleigh Cannons Football Club only uses the pitch 16 hours a year on average, so why would they have a problem allowing the dogs to continue to use it? Not to mention that various member of the club have spoken to dog owners in an inappropriate way, displaying disgusting behaviour in front of young children. Should these people be given exclusivity to this pitch when they aren’t even

		able to go about their day in a respectful manner? Some also many argue that dogs will still be able to use the back section of the area as an off leash park, however this space is not suitable for the amount of dogs that come on any given day. With all things considered, the park should remain off leash for dogs as we need to keep our furry friends happy.
14567 #13	Jul 14, 2023, 07:40 PM	Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback, as a frequent user with my dog of Edwards Reserve I have always been respectful of the semi-professional soccer club, picking up after my dog and all other users are very respectful of the soccer pitch. 99% of dog owners are doing the right thing by the community and the soccer club to make sure everyone can enjoy the park. Looking at the images below there is absolutely no way to prove that dogs have created those divots in the grass, that could be done by kids on bikes, soccer players falling and creating divots after wet weather. Myself as a soccer player at another club I know that is very easy to do during winter when the ground is soft under foot. What I would be concerned about as a council member is the huge amount of litter that is left behind after soccer matches on the main grass pitch and its surroundings, at least once a month the rubbish has not been cleaned up for 2-3 days. The community uses the park 24/7 365 days a year, the soccer club would use the facilities for 10 hours a week, I'm sure the community and the soccer club can continue to use the facilities together.
14562 #14	Jul 14, 2023, 06:02 PM	The soccer field should remain a dog off leash area. The field is not used frequently enough for soccer to justify a total ban. It would be fair to have soccer season as a no dog period but when soccer season is over dogs should be allowed. The current rules work well in my opinion. If the soccer field is going to be a no dog zone then extensive work needs to be done on the dog park. 1. Fixing the dog fence so smaller dogs can't get through. 2. Undercover or sheltered areas 3. More lights that are left on till 9pm for non-daylight savings times 4. Better drainage to avoid mud during winter.
14557 #15	Jul 14, 2023, 05:00 PM	Once again you capitulate to the soccer club who use this ground for 16 hours a year according to your own report whilst dog owners use this space daily. The damage to the ground caused by soccer games far outweighs that of the dogs not to mention the rubbish left from the pigs that watch the game. As a multiple rate payer in this council I am appalled at your overwhelming bias towards the soccer club. I can't believe you would deliberately marginalise a large section of your rate payers in favour of a club using the ground for 16 hours a year. You will no doubt be happy to use our rates to build the new stadium here whilst banning the very people contributing to it. The area set aside for off leash around the scout hall is not suitable for the number of people expected to used it. It also does not have sufficient drainage in wet weather to be used. To call this a consultation is a joke. This is and has always been your agenda to panda to the soccer club and by extension the Greek community. In my opinion this decision is racially motivated and very divisive for your rate payers. You can't logically look at this decision to exclude the majority or

		rate payers from a valuable local resource in favour of a small sporting club who have very limited use of the facility. To let this ground sit idle for 99% of the time and only allow minimal soccer use is unacceptable and you need to consider all rate payers when you make your decision.
14553 #16	Jul 14, 2023, 02:41 PM	The proposed plan does not provide a secure off leash area that is properly fenced and separated from general people on the soccer/ park areas. The thoroughfare to the club grounds and the small hall pose a risk of general public interacting with dogs in an unintended manner - if this is implemented there would be a need for a secondary fence area to keep dogs contained, which is what the use of the soccer pitch currently allows. Likewise the use of the pitch exclusively for soccer will remove a significant portion of green space and greatly increase the density of dogs in the area.
14548 #17	Jul 14, 2023, 11:37 AM	Interesting how the pictures don't include the large areas in the goal squares damaged in games, just a couple of small patches apparently damaged by dogs. Most people who enter the turf area with a dog do laps around the soccer pitch, that is outside the soccer playing area. I walk my dog regularly here, my sons have also played soccer for years and I have regularly attended this soccer club to watch games. I can honestly say that the dog owners who frequent this area are undoubtedly more respectful of this area than the soccer club/spectators have ever been.
14546 #18	Jul 14, 2023, 10:11 AM	This is so unfair. Our dogs need to be able to walk off-leash and the behind the pitch area isn't big enough for all dog types. We are all a community and it's completely ridiculous to ruin this for everyone. So disappointing.
14544 #5	Jul 14, 2023, 09:00 AM	As stated previously, the situation at the Jake Edwards oval is not ideal, however the issue is that there are no other fenced in dog parks in the vicinity for dog owners to use. The dog park at Jack Edwards has in excess of 50 dogs that use that small section of the park every day. The grass has turned to mud and it is not user friendly, there is the hill and only a very small space for the dogs to use. Monash council should, as requested previously, invest in a large off lead fenced in dog area, near to the Jack Edwards oval, which would solve both issues. Had the Monash council considered this previously, there would have been a sizeable saving to the budget instead of the repairs to the oval weekly.

14463 #6	Jul 08, 2023, 02:07 PM	As a registered dog owner, I am not in support of the proposal, specifically the proposed amendments to the spectator area. Whilst I understand the need to remove dogs from the sporting fields, this should not extend to the spectator areas. I would also argue that any damage to the spectator area is more likely damaged by the rowdy crowds, including those that recently set fire to a bin. There are very limited off-leash areas in Oakleigh and Jack Edwards reserve is the only option within walking distance. The spectator area is a secondary option, especially for smaller dogs that may be intimidated in the main off-leash area. If the proposed amendment is made, the remaining off leash area requires upgrading, including better turf care and removal of long grass and seeds in the warmer months. It is a pathetic excuse for a dog park.
14418 #4	Jul 02, 2023, 09:07 PM	My family support the change. We frequently visit Jack Edward reserve and many times dog owners let off-leash dogs run up to my 5 year olds face and knock him down. They seem surprised that a 5 year old doesn't like dogs knocking them down. It would seem better utilised as a regular recreational pitch than an off-leash area.
14394 #5	Jun 30, 2023, 04:41 PM	It is about time that dogs were excluded from the turf pitch at Jack Edwards Reserve. As a local dog owner, I find there is plenty of room at the rear of the synthetic and turf pitches for our dog to roam off leash.
14393 #6	Jun 30, 2023, 02:30 PM	FOOTBALL VICTORIA TO *WHOM IT MAY CONCERN* Jack Edwards Reserve - Proposed Change to Off-Leash Area Football Victoria (FV) appreciates the opportunity to offer a submission toward the online consultation process activated by the City of Monash in relation to proposed changes for access to lack Edwards Reserve. The council for City of Monash endorsed a new Off-Leash Policy in November 2022 which retained the status of Jack Edwards Reserve Pitch l as a dog off-leash area. It is noted that the council has noted numerous complaints, mainly due to dog-related damage and has recorded maintenance costs in the past months. FV understands that the City of Monash Council is now seeking community feedback to change the classification of the Jack Edwards Reserve from a dog off-leash reserve to no dogs on the turf pitch.

		If such a proposal is successful it would I bring the facility into line with best practice for such a high quality space. We note that the soccer club, Oakleigh Canons are the resident tenant at Jack Edwards and have registered frustration and concern very regularly with our clubs team asking for assistance in this regard to in fact create the fields as no go zone for dogs. FV supports this request based on the club needing to focus on getting the number of teams and players they onto the ground not worrying about inspecting the grounds before training and match day to pick-up after dog owners. Equally, to remove any possibility of divots or holes in the grounds (where not synthetic) thereby reducing the maintenance effort and cost from the council parks team. The standard of Football at this facility is National Premier League, currently the highest standard below the A League and the requirements on these clubs as it relates to facility standards are very stringent. This proposal would support the club in their efforts to ensure the best possible facility is kept clean and free of holes.
14281 #7	Jun 20, 2023, 11:45 AM	I support the change in dog off leash areas. There is still a large portion of the reserve available for dogs to enjoy off-leash, while increasing the safety of pedestrians in the higher usage areas.
Email #7	Received 04/07/2023	Thank you for advising that this reserve is being assessed for re-categorisation for dogs. The area around the pitch is an excellent off lead area and allows for de-escalation/spreading out when there are too many dogs in the triangular section. Understandably the pitch itself matters to the players but the surrounding speciality areas allow the owner to walk at a pace that raises heart rate and hence overall wellness. Reducing the area by 2/3 seems excessive. Especially when considering the state of the spectator area after the weekend. It has evidence of mistreatment - litter and even remnants of a fire a month or so ago. It doesn't make sense to make this area on lead. It serves no benefit from what I can see. Thank you for your invitation to provide feedback.
Email **Repeated Submission** Refer #14619	Received 14/07/2023	This is a copy of the submission I have made through the feedback mechanism. I will also be emailing this to individual Councillors. How many times is Council going to ask the same question? The Community responded to this proposal last year and Council voted that the off-lead dog areas in Jack Edwards reserve would remain unchanged. I exercise my dog here most days, as do a large number of other residents. Every single dog owner that I have observed on that pitch does the right thing with regards the behaviour of their dog and the waste from their dog. Time after time we have provided feedback about the lack of alternate facilities in this area. So now the Councillors who are determined to get this done are trying to state that this is a cost issue. So I want the Council to answer the following questions.

		1. Given that the submission states that fixing the turf costs an average of $300/week, rising to $900/week, to fix the areas of urine damage, show the evidence that the Council spent between $15,600 and $22,800 in 2022 fixing the pitch. (I have NEVER seen dozens of sod replacements and from the photos they appear quite evident, so I'm assuming that this cost has never actually happened). 2. The submission states that Council officers spent on average four hours per week replacing sod. Show the evidence that 208 hours of Council officer wages were spent on sod replacement at Jack Edwards Reserve. 3. The submission took place over a 9 week period. Ratepayers have a right to know how much money was wasted on this study - how much did this cost? 2. Records show that during this 9 week period, there were 6 NPL matches played at Jack Edwards reserve (from 17/02 - 21/04). The report states that there is damage from dogs 'digging' the pitch. Did the study attempt to determine the amount of damage caused by the playing of soccer on the pitch or was this study commissioned purely to target dog owners? 3. Has the Council also done a study during the soccer season to confirm the amount of money spent fixing the pitch during the soccer season? What is the comparison? 4. All of the photos show that the majority of turf swaps are in a non-playing area of the reserve. To use these photo as evidence of the extensive 'damage' specifically to the playing surface are very misleading, given that the report refers to "the playing surface" being constantly compromised. 5. Why does "damage" to the reserve result in a proposal to limit the off-leash functionality of the spectator area surrounding the pitch? 6. How does the Council manage urine damage at Central Reserve, given that dogs will urinate whether on-leash or off-leash? 7. Comparing this decision to the one at Gardiners reserve is like comparing an orange to a potato. What significant off-leash dog infrastructure will the Council install in the same area as Jack Edwards reserve that is comparable to the space and facilities at Gardiners reserve? There are clearly several Councillors at Monash with significant ties and connection to the Oakleigh Cannons. I have no issue sharing the space with the club at Jack Edwards reserve. But ultimately this comes down to the rights of ratepayers. This is a public reserve, it is not owned by any particular sporting club, particularly not a professional club. If the Oakleigh Cannons wish to have the exclusive use of this facility then they need to buy it from Monash Council. Then they can exclude whomever they want. Until then, Monash ratepayers should not have to keep answering the same question over and over again. We have had our say. Council has voted. Councillors should respect that.
Email #8	Received 12/07/2023	Dear Council, As a regular user of the facility, I find the proposed changes to the off-leash dog status at Jack Edwards Reserve to be unnecessarily complex. If the aim is to convert the turf pitch to a “no dog” status, (colour blue in the Fig 1 diagram) then that is all that should be changed.

		The addition introduction of an “on lead” section, (colour yellow in the Fig 1 diagram) is unnecessary and confusing. This section should simply remain “off lead”, (colour green in the Fig 1 diagram). i.e.: Why use three colours when you can achieve your stated objective with two? 
Email #2	Received 24/07/2023	To Whom It May Concern I would like to thank the Monash Council for its decision to change Damper Creek Reserve to on-leash. I am a dog owner and have walked our dog both on and off leash through Damper Creek for many years. The reserve is already looking much cleaner as owners are able to now clearly see if their dog has left waste during their walk (previously many dogs would trail or lead their owners by a few hundred metres and this was often missed). I have also seen people I have not seen around before, maybe feeling more comfortable walking through the reserve now that dogs will be better managed by their owners. I have still seen many owners walking their dog off leash, often with their dog running up to mine, they'll joke and say things like "we don't follow rules," or "the signs haven't changed yet so neither have we." Another comment I heard in conversation was "We've been doing this for years (and am not going to stop) because the council suddenly decides we can't." With this sort of attitude still prevalent among residents, I was wondering what communication/education will be going out by council and also when the signage would be updated please?

		Could you please pass on my thanks to the council staff who I see working on some aspect of the reserve every time I walk through. Visitors often comment about how lucky we are to have Damper Creek at our doorstep!
Email #19	Received 22/07/2023	Hi Please forward this to the right area. I was only made aware of the off leash dog park changes to Jack Edwards Reserve. The sign posts seemed to only appear in the last week and confirmed with other dog walkers they only saw that too. My grievance is that not only was this change poorly consulted - no in face discussions - but that there's NO ALTERNATIVES FOR DOG LEASH DOGS. How do dog owners raise to the council their needs for a large LOCAL off lease dog area that we don't need to drive to get there and allow other alternatives e.g. with a dog cafe business? Soccer is run only a few times during the week. Dog walking should be every morning and night - twice a day - and dogs need to exercise so they are not nuisances. If it's not the Jack Edwards reserve, then the council should provide alternatives as well as redefining in least areas. Post covid there is also a rise in dog ownership but the council keeps favouring physical (male oriented) sport activities over alternative options for the wider community including the aged and young people who don't have much yard space and other higher density living residents? We have a cricket ground, football ground and a soccer ground in Oakleigh that is used less than 50% of the time but any off leash dog area is shared with sports communities, reluctantly. There was a dog leash free area next to the soccer field but that is now small office factories. Meanwhile we have unused and vacant factories nearby that could be repurposed for off leash areas. Alternatively the design of the Jack Edwards Reserve is ad hoc. There was a new building and the cafe could have been added to that and fenced. One oval is to practice and play is enough. They rarely practice anyway in comparison to dog walking. As it's an organised sport, with many sponsors, they can also purchase the land and make it private so the council can purchase park area for all rate payers to use, not just a soccer community. Perhaps this is too late. But I feel compelled because the Oakleigh area's park design poorly serves its wider community needs. Don't get me started on cheap local kids playgrounds with equipment that only services under 5 year olds, no dog bags or water bowls and few shade covers and toilets…

Attachment B

MONASH CITY COUNCIL
Dog Control Order No. 6
(Amendment)

At its meeting on 26 September 2023, Monash City Council resolved to make an amendment to Order Number 6 pursuant to section 26(2) of the *Domestic Animals Act* 1994.

Domestic Animals Act 1994

1. **Amendment to definition of Prohibited Area in Dog Control Order no. 6**
   (1) In clause 7 of Dog Control Order No. 6 (**Order**), substitute the definition of 'Prohibited Area' as follows:

Prohibited Area means:

(a) the turf pitch at Jack Edwards Reserve;

(b) the spectator area surrounding the turf pitch and the area surrounding the synthetic pitch at Jack Edwards Reserve (designated by the low level fence) between the period two hours prior to the start time of a National Premier League Victoria game and the conclusion of that game and otherwise when either pitch is being used for scheduled games or training at Jack Edwards Reserve;

(c) the synthetic pitch at Jack Edwards Reserve;

(d) the area surrounding the synthetic pitch at Jack Edwards Reserve (designated by the low level fence) when the pitch is being used for scheduled games or training;

(e) the synthetic pitch at Ashwood Reserve;

(f) the turf pitch at Holmesglen Reserve;

(g) the baseball diamonds 1 & 2 at Napier Reserve;

(h) the synthetic pitch at Gardiners Reserve;

(i) the southern-most turf pitch at Gardiners Reserve;

(j) the area surrounding the southern-most turf pitch at Gardiners Reserve between the period two hours prior to the start time of a National Premier League Victoria game and the conclusion of that game; and

(k) Mulgrave Reserve Wetlands.

2. **Amendment to the Schedule of Designated Reserves**
   (1) In the Schedule of 'Designated Reserves' of the Order, substitute item 19 as follows:

19. Jack Edwards Reserve South (part) being the grassed areas south of the fences bounding the turf pitch and the synthetic pitch and surrounding spectator areas