



03 August 2023

Chris Sewell  
President  
Port Melbourne Cricket Club  
Via Email: [president@portmelbournecricketclub.com.au](mailto:president@portmelbournecricketclub.com.au)

Dear Chris

On 30 July, I called on the State Government to assist the City of Port Phillip in purchasing the Australia Post site in Williamstown Road for use as open space. In my speech, I also advised of Council's willingness to make a significant financial contribution to the purchase.

Council's commitment relies on the Fishermans Bend Framework, a State Government policy document that identifies key land for open space expansion including Prohasky Reserve, Australia Post and DHL sites. Within this Framework, the Australia Post site is identified for delivery now (2020-2025).

We are concerned that, without community and Council advocacy and Council funding, the State will not deliver on the commitment to open space contained in the Fishermans Bend Framework. We have to act quickly because we understand that the State Government may be looking to purchase the site and use it for a purpose unrelated to open space.

Council is advocating for a speedy outcome because the community in Fishermans Bend is in desperate need of open space. Our existing sporting grounds are at capacity. Sporting clubs are wanting to grow to meet increased demand, particularly in relation to the welcome increase in participation from women and girls. Despite record investment by council on the maintenance and upgrade of our existing open space, we are at capacity and our playing surfaces are under pressure.

As discussed, when I met with you back in May, there is an opportunity to develop a new oval at the Australia Post site if Council and the State Government proceed with the purchase.

We know there is a strong history between PMCC and North Port Oval and that your Club is growing. When we met, we discussed that there may be an opportunity for PMCC to move to the Australia Post site if this option was as good or better than the current arrangement. If the land were purchased, we would work with you to see what opportunities exist and to ensure the outcomes were beneficial for all parties.

I will keep you updated on any response from the State Government for our proposal.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you wish to discuss.

Kind regards

Heather Cunsolo  
**Mayor, City of Port Phillip**