

JOINT STATEMENT OF BRISBANE SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION AND COUNCILLOR ANDREW WINES

Released: 6 May 2021

BRISBANE CITY COUNCILLOR ANDREW WINES ENDORSES BRISBANE SOFTBALL POSITION TO REMAIN AT DOWNEY PARK

On 5 May 2021, Brisbane Softball Association (BSA) and Softball Queensland (SQ) representatives Dave Waller, Kylie Mercer-Smith and Ross Symonds, met with Brisbane City Councillor Andrew Wines to discuss the Enoggera Creek Sport and Recreation Precinct Draft Plan.

BSA President Waller had the opportunity to again formally place on record that BSA has never agreed to be relocated. BSA's clear preference has, and continues to be, to remain located at Downey Park, the home of softball in Brisbane for over 60 years.

Cr Wines accepts there was a sincere misunderstanding about BSA's position regarding their location, however BSA's position is clear to him now.

Cr Wines confirmed that he will advocate for softball to stay at Downey Park.

BSA thanks Cr Wines for engaging directly and for endorsing BSA's position to remain located at Downey Park.

A further key outcome of the meeting was the endorsement of a collaborative approach to resolving the competing interests and needs of the key stakeholders of Downey Park through the endorsement of regular monthly meetings with key Downey Park sporting association stakeholders.

Representatives from Brisbane Women's Hockey Association, Brisbane Table Tennis Association, Downey Park Netball Association, along with BSA, will be invited to form the Downey Park Sports Associations Working Party.

The Working Party will meet at least monthly with Cr Wines, to ensure that full and frank discussions can be held between all affected Downey Park sporting bodies. This communication pathway will also ensure that Council are able to provide relevant and timely updates about the progress of the plan and requests for further relevant information can be identified and responded to appropriately.

BSA thanks Cr Wines for his support of softball at Downey Park and looks forward to productive and informative discussions with the Working Party that will result in best outcomes for all stakeholders of the Downey Park precinct.

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