



Back to the Baths

Brunswick Baths Redevelopment Newsletter – June 2010

The Brunswick Baths is a popular Council facility that makes a significant contribution to the community's health and wellbeing. The Baths will close for a period of time while a redevelopment takes place to renew and improve facilities. This monthly newsletter will keep you informed about this exciting project, options to keep active during the closure, and to invite you back to enjoy the new and improved Baths when it re-opens.

Business As Usual

Business will continue as usual at the Baths for the remainder of 2010. Staff at the Baths will be briefed regularly so that they can provide up-to-date information to customers regarding renewal of membership and purchase of other products as the redevelopment gets closer.

Redevelopment Design

Drawings and images of the concept plans that have been submitted for the Council planning application are posted on the website at www.activemoreland.com/brunswick-city-baths/redevelopment/brunswick-bath-facility-design.html and displayed in the foyer of the Baths.

Redevelopment Timeline

Planning Application	Mid May 2010
Detailed Design and Tender for Construction	June to December 2010
Close for Construction (eighteen months)	January 2011
Re-open	July 2012

Program as at June 2010 – subject to change

Alternative Services Survey Results

Council recently surveyed members and users to determine the feasibility of setting-up alternative services for the duration of the closure for construction.

Over 550 members and users completed the survey. There was a high degree of support to establish temporary, dry facilities within close proximity of the Baths.

With this mandate, Council is now investigating the feasibility of establishing a temporary gymnasium within the sports hall and grounds of the adjoining school property located at 33 Saxton Street Brunswick. In addition to investigating the suitability of existing buildings and spaces for temporary structures, consideration will be given to reasonable fees and charges associated with the scope and quality of the temporary facilities.

The survey results indicated that members and users are unlikely to use other Moreland Council owned outdoor 50m pools at Oak Park Aquatic Centre and Fawkner Leisure Centre, mainly because of additional travel.

There has been some interest in use of indoor aquatic facilities at Coburg Leisure Centre, including learn to swim, so discussions will soon be held with centre management to determine if extra users can enrol with pre-booking arrangements, to continue lessons following term 4 at Brunswick Baths. Discussions will also be held with other indoor aquatic facilities within and outside the municipality.



Fees and Charges 2010/2011

Several members have enquired about the reason for price rises, particularly given the impending redevelopment. Operating such a large facility which has many utilities, contractors, suppliers and staffing is expensive and the additional fees help keep it running. A quick calculation shows that members will pay an extra \$14.00 between implementation of the price rise on 1 August and the closure for construction. Council and the YMCA will review fees and charges in conjunction with the alternative services feasibility investigation (see above).

Arrangements will be made to address any term payments that extend beyond the closure for construction.

Facility Maintenance Program

There has been limited investment in capital improvements recently except in areas needing urgent attention, or where the improvement can be partially re-utilised in the redevelopment. This has included installation of synthetic turf to prevent masses of dirt and debris entering the

outdoor pools and re-tiling of the female change rooms where tiles had deteriorated beyond patch repair.

Have Your Say - Council Planning Application Process

Many members and users have shaped the Baths design through previous Council consultations. Further comments can be made via the Council planning application process. A Council Planning Application Notice is displayed in the foyer of the baths. This notice has details of the process to make a submission to Council about the design.

Frequently Asked Questions

If you have questions about the Baths redevelopment project or services that are not answered by the 'Frequently Asked Questions' page on www.activemoreland.com/brunswick-city-baths/redevelopment/redevelopment-about.html

or available in hard copy at Baths reception, please phone Rowena Frost, Unit Manager Aquatic Facilities on 9240 2111 or at rfrost@moreland.vic.gov.au.

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