



Back to the Baths

Brunswick Baths Redevelopment Newsletter - Edition 3 - October 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 regular newsletter will keep you informed about this exciting project, options to keep active during the closure and, when it re-opens, to invite you back to enjoy the new and improved Baths.

Did I miss recent newsletters?

No you haven't missed any newsletters since the last one was distributed in late June. The newsletter was on hold while some significant changes to the project were being considered by Council.

Additional land for project footprint – Council purchase of St Antonine College

The Brunswick Baths site is constrained by roads, railway line and neighboring properties. Space and budget constraints have been the two key challenges for the project. Council purchased the neighbouring property bounded by Saxon Street and Phoenix Street for the purpose of providing additional land to the redevelopment.

This purchase also provides the opportunity to establish temporary dry facilities in the School Hall and adjacent classrooms on the Saxon Street site so that some aspects of Baths services can continue while it is closed for the redevelopment.

Planning for this temporary service includes investigating a range of options. The current preferred option is to:

- Use the school hall for the gymnasium including:
 - free weights;
 - machine weights;
 - stretching area;
 - two program consultation rooms; and
 - minor cardio machine area for warm-up.

- Use adjacent classrooms for:
 - RPM Room (cycling);
 - Cardio Room (treadmills, rowers, bicycles, cross trainers, steppers); and
 - Personal Training Room.
- Use St Ambrose Hall in Dawson Street for group fitness (eg. aerobics classes) and wellness (eg. yoga and pilates classes).

The outcome of work completed to determine the feasibility of this proposal is quite positive. We hope to be able to confirm arrangements in the next newsletter.

Redevelopment design

The project team has been working to develop a new design to maximise the benefit of additional land space, within the constraints of the project budget.

All of the key features of the concept plan currently on display have been retained (8 lane 50m outdoor pool, indoor program pool, pool ramps, expanded crèche, steam room, sauna, spa, accessible and family change rooms, additional bike parking, lift etc.) however the leisure water area / play pool has been increased from 60m² to 125m².

The design will be updated on the website and Baths foyer display when finalised.



Options for membership and other term based activities

When the design for temporary dry facilities is finalised, detailed information will be prepared about temporary gym services and a suitable pricing structure.

Staff at the Baths will be briefed so that they can provide up-to-date information to customers as the redevelopment gets closer regarding:

- options for cancellation (including consideration of pro-rata joining fee re refund) , suspension or transition of membership to the temporary gymnasium service; and
- any special conditions for purchase of other term or multi-visit products.

Discussions will be held with other aquatic facilities within and outside the municipality to prepare information regarding aquatic options while the Baths is closed for construction.

Redevelopment timeline

Council's purchase of the Saxon St site and associated requirement to revisit the concept plan has resulted in a change to the project timelines.

In the last newsletter the closure for construction was estimated to be January 2011. This date is likely to be delayed and Council will consider a report that details the proposed changes to the project program as a result of the Saxon Street site purchase at the 13 October Council meeting. The outcome will be reported in the next newsletter.

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

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

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