

Works Report No. W9/16

Bicentennial Park and Yarra Bay - Proposal for Beach Hire

We understand that:

- this is a business [not community] initiative of the local Aboriginal Land Council
- it supports employment of local indigenous youth - 2 part time (on weekends) and for half the year (on season)
- it take away key component of the amenities (kiosk) which is 1/4 of the public space of the amenities in the area – see Attachment 1
- the proposal is to lease kiosk and also to grant a licence to operate a business

We do not see justification by way of business plan, market analysis, and so on, to alienate the amenities in the park (24/7) for purposes stated.

We believe that the allocation of the public amenities on Crown Land to a business requires community consultation to ensure it is best outcome for the community, similar to the process that saw part of Prince Henry Centre alienated for the exclusive (business) use of a cafe.

Members of the indigenous community at our meeting, who also members of the Aboriginal Land Council were unaware of the plans and have expressed concerns as to the lack of information in the business paper.

We are very concerned over safety measures in respect of canoes, for example motorised boat to rescue people in overturned boats, or when blown away by strong winds.

We also feel that the impact of the business, not only on Yarra Bay but also on Frenchman's bay needs to be considered by the community. We have been calling for swimming only beach status of Frenchman's Bay to be enforced. This approval would make situation worse.

We ask for the proposal to be put for public consultation so that the interests of the La Perouse Community in relation to the proposal is taken into consideration using the established processes in place in relation to alienation of public land.

Jayasooriah

08-Mar-2016

La Perouse Precinct