

MINGARA RESIDENTIAL – FORUM

- **Who I am**

- Duncan McCubbin
- Unaffiliated member of the community
- Competed, coached, organized and run variety of sporting activities
- I am here primarily as a voice for children

- **My Background**

- Have spent the best part of 4 decades in Education (TAFE [5 years]/School Ed)
- Teacher/Head Teacher Mathematics (core subject area)
- Head Teacher Student Services (Welfare) and Head Teacher Support (Special Education)
- Prior to that (1979/80) with NSW Dept YACS
- As a teacher, I have enjoyed many Carnivals at the Mingara track, after many on school ovals

- **Benefits of attending Athletics Facilities**

- Physical – fitness and overall physical wellbeing
- Mental – reduction of stress, anxiety, depression, etc
- Social Connections – interactions, teamwork, camaraderie, social skills, etc
- Cognitive Development – concentration, application, problem solving, memory, etc

- **Impact of Removing Parking**

- Community Participation – Drop in numbers
- Accessibility Barriers -disproportionally negatively affects the disadvantaged and vulnerable, and those impacted by distance

- Reduction of personal and physical safety, particularly for the young

5) Diversity and Inclusion – Accessibility and Integration

- The story/history of inclusion – institutionalization to participation
- Inclusion of all has proved to be a rocky road over the last 50 years
- Embracing Diversity-Gender, Economic, Cultural, Disability (in its many forms), etc, is, or should be, a bedrock of community
- At the grass roots level, inclusivity is a two-way outcome, benefitting all
- Sport, including Athletics, has been at the forefront of this process
- The Para-Olympic movement opened doors many of us never thought possible or likely
- Opening door is only the beginning
- So, we to grasp the opportunities presented us to improve access for the young, vulnerable and disadvantaged, it seems, at the least, incongruous to be losing the carpark

6) Conclusion

- For a long time physical activity has been seen as way of balancing/offsetting our modern sedentary behaviours, and rightly so
- But there is a bigger picture here
- Taking away a means by which we provide access to physical activity is a retrograde step
- I understand Mingara's motivation – a Retirement Facility on the Club's doorstep
- Right now there are plenty of proposals for the establishment of Retirement Villages, but we only have one track of this quality
- You can rethink the location of the Retirement Village, but the track and parking area is already in place
- I know there a differing points of view here, and this may already be a lost cause, but these concerns and fears need to be voiced

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Role of
Clubs

Role of clubs (eg leagues clubs, rsl clubs, etc) in nsw

Clubs in New South Wales play a crucial role in the community, providing a space for social interaction, economic support, and community engagement. They offer a range of services and activities, including sports, entertainment, and social events, which contribute to the well-being of local residents. Clubs also play a significant role in supporting veterans and their families, providing services and programs that enhance their quality of life. Additionally, clubs contribute to the local economy through employment, donations, and volunteer efforts, making them vital to the social fabric of NSW.