

Port Macquarie Athletics Track

The people whose names, addresses and signatures appear below, petition the Port Macquarie Hastings Council:

Our community needs an athletics track. We understand council has started some planning for an athletics track, to be positioned at Wayne Richards Park, where the current council depot resides, and as such, no works can commence until the depot is removed.

As per the council meeting of 16th June 2022 (item 11.16) 'Council has been reviewing options for our depots for a number of years, the need to move the depot has now become a critical path for not only ensure safe and efficient facilities for our staff to deliver operational services but also to facilitate the future expansion of sporting facilities in the Port Macquarie area.' Further to this, representatives from Little Athletics and the Senior Athletics club (Port Pacers) met with the mayor in late June 2022.

In May of 2023 council staff advised 'there is funding allocated in the Draft 2023/2024 Operational Plan for the design development of the next stage of Wayne Richards Park and the Athletics track is still part of the scope of the next stages of work. We do not currently have any funding past the development of the design but once the design is completed, we will seek grant funding and Council funding on the identified next stages of the new design.'

We the undersigned ask of council to provide:

1. Clarity about when the depot will be removed, and when building of the athletics track can commence
2. If the depot is to be relocated to land that needs rezoning, when is the rezoning expected to commence, and be completed
3. Does council have the necessary funds to build the new depot, and if not, are they actively sourcing funds for the build of the new depot, and when can we expect those funds to be ready for use
4. acknowledgement from council that the completion of the Wayne Richards sporting grounds is a council priority
5. acknowledgement from council that there are over 600 members of the combined juniors/seniors athletics clubs, with no year round, permanent, maintained facilities to accommodate them.
6. an update on the design development of the next stage of Wayne Richards Park.
7. Other suitable locations that could house an athletics track in the event that the removal of the council depot will remain stalled or in limbo.

Note to people signing this petition:

Please include your name, address and signature when signing the petition, to ensure the petition is able to be accepted by Council. Be aware your details could be public record should the petition form part of a council document.

Responses to this petition:

Please address responses to this petition to Laura Philp, 20 Widderson St Port Macquarie, 0402 354 804 liaulia@hotmail.com

No.	First Name & Last Name	Street Address & Suburb	Signature
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