

**Tuesday 31 March 2020**

## Closure of playgrounds and outdoor fitness equipment

In response to recent announcements made by the Australian Government, all Glen Eira playgrounds and outdoor fitness equipment will be closed until further notice.

For the continued good health of our community and as a measure to help prevent the spread of COVID-19, we have also:

- turned off drinking fountains and barbecues;
- closed all sportsgrounds to all sports clubs; and
- closed the skate park at Bailey Reserve in Bentleigh East.

Glen Eira Mayor Cr Margaret Esakoff said residents can only go out for personal exercise and fresh air or to walk their dogs with no more than two people except for members of their household. Social distancing rules should also be observed (1.5 metres between yourself and others).

“You can still utilise our grassed spaces across the municipality, including Caulfield Park in Caulfield North and the fully-fenced dog off-leash area at Pawfield Park, which is located at The Wedge on the western side of Caulfield Racecourse in Caulfield East. For cyclists, the velodrome and Packer Park in Carnegie remains open and if you are looking at somewhere to run, the athletics track at Duncan Mackinnon Reserve in Murrumbeena is available.”

Cr Esakoff said she understands that the current situation we are all facing is hard for everyone, especially those with children who are on school holidays.

“However, for the health and safety of our community, I cannot stress enough about the importance of avoiding all unnecessary gatherings,” she said.

“Most people are doing the right thing, but there are some who are not. It’s these people who are putting lives at risk. As a result, Council will be increasing its surveillance across the City of Glen Eira.

“If you see anyone gathering in large numbers, we urge you to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or the Police Assistance Line on 131 444.

“Remember, everyone who can stay home must stay home. This is absolutely essential to slow the spread of the virus, protect our health system and save lives.”

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