

## COMMUNITY HAS ITS SAY ON POOL



The consultation for the Oakleigh Pool Redevelopment has been completed with extensive community feedback received on the four options under consideration for the site.

The first option suggested a water play facility and ancillary recreation amenities. Option two considered a 50 metre outdoor heated pool. The third option included a 50 metre outdoor heated pool and diving pool. Option four was presented as a 25-metre free-form outdoor heated pool.

Option three received the greatest support through the consultation process, with a large number of people suggesting that a toddlers' water play or pool area be added to this option. A heated 50 metre outdoor pool was reported as the most critical element for inclusion in the redevelopment.

The community consultation was conducted by Red Road Consulting and involved canvassing options for the redevelopment through a range of activities, focusing on large public and interactive data collection methods between December 2006 and March 2007. These activities involved over 900 Oakleigh residents in prioritizing and refining design

options put forth by the Council. Concerned residents also had the opportunity to suggest their own options for redevelopment of the site.

The process included survey and interview activities with plans and questionnaires placed in all Monash public libraries and the Oakleigh Recreation Centre. A stakeholders' option review workshop was conducted with 121 groups invited to make recommendations on the preferred options and three community-wide SpeakOuts were held in the area where community members had the opportunity to express their views through facilitated dialogue.

The community participants were very positive in their evaluation of the consultation processes with the majority stating that the activities were very worthwhile and well facilitated.

The consultation report will be used as a guide by the Oakleigh Recreation Centre Redevelopment Steering Committee in making its recommendation to Council on June 5. [e]

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