

# City to sell land for pool payout

OAKLEIGH MONASH LEADER 16 OCTOBER 2007

**Andrew Miller**

MONASH Council will go ahead with plans to sell two small parcels of land it owns to help pay for renovations to Oakleigh pool.

Last week councillors approved the sale of house blocks at Cabena Cres, Chadstone, and Lesay Court, Mt Waverley.

A third parcel of land for possible sale, at Sadie St in Mt Waverley, is now being

surveyed despite residents' concerns about the loss of open space.

In June, the council said it hoped to raise \$3.4 million towards the \$7 million cost of the Oakleigh pool through land sales.

Lesay Court resident Helen Dourahalis said a 119-signature petition asking for the sale not to proceed had been presented to the council as part of public submissions on October 2.

"Our rates should cover this and why

hasn't the State Government been able to assist with the pool?" Ms Dourahalis said.

"If you look on a map of the area, the pool is practically in another country.

"We don't use it, we don't need it."

Mayor Tom Morrissey said councillors agreed to the sale of Lesay Court and Cabena Cres following a public consultation process.

"A council-appointed committee comprising seven councillors considered public submissions on the proposal and determined

the sale of the residential house blocks would have limited detrimental effect on residents in the area," Cr Morrissey said.

Ms Dourahalis said residents were concerned about loss of green space and increased traffic and parking pressures.

"There is no protection there for residents against more sales. It sets a precedent," Ms Dourahalis said.

"I can just see other areas like this all over the suburbs and I can just see them going."

# Council awaits pool approval

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MONASH Council is hoping to get an early Christmas present when the State Government announces whether a funding application for the Oakleigh pool redevelopment has been successful.

Earlier this month the council made an application for Better Pools funding to cover a \$1 million funding shortfall and a decision is expected in December.

In June the council approved a \$7 million plan to restore the run-down pool after a long-fought public campaign.

Under the plans the 1958-built, 50m pool

will be restored and heated, the diving pool will also be restored and a new shallow leisure pool and water play area will be constructed.

An outdoor spa will also be built and a kiosk and change rooms upgraded. The pool's water treatment infrastructure will be replaced and new water conservation and recovery systems will be built.

The council has allocated \$6 million to the project, from cash reserves and land sales, but is banking on the State Government to provide the balance.