January 30th, 2019

The Hon. Josh Frydenberg MP

Treasurer

Parliament House

CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Treasurer,

**Bayside Regional Netball Facility Budget Submission**

I write this submission to support Bayside City Council’s proposal, for the Bayside Regional Netball Facility, for consideration in the lead up to the 2019-20 Federal Budget.

Netball is the most popular female team sport across Australia. Netball participation in Bayside has doubled since 2010, with nearly 2,700 registered players from 14 clubs playing on seven courts - six outdoor and one indoor.

Our netball courts are used every weeknight for training and games, which run until 8pm on Thursdays and 8am to 6pm on Saturdays. The courts are also used for interschool games during weekdays and representative netball training on Sundays.

Almost 200 players sit out each week due to byes for lack of court space. Bayside games are 12 minutes shorter than the national standard in order to fit all games on the fixture. The netball association also caps team numbers and restricts players to Bayside residents only.

A 2014 needs assessment identified future demand would require 12 outdoor courts with night match floodlighting and two indoor courts. In 2018 however, player numbers have already exceeded those projected for 2024.

Bayside City Council’s proposed solution addresses both the short and longer term needs of our sport. The expected cost to construct the new netball facility with 12 outdoor and two indoor courts is $20 million. Bayside City Council has set aside $11.3 million in its long term financial plan to construct 12 new outdoor netball courts and amenity facilities.

The provision of outdoor courts will go a long way to resolving our capacity issues however it will not address the need for an all-weather facility to accommodate our growing all abilities program, our elite pathway program and emerging programs for all ages, including seniors. We pride ourselves of being an inclusive organisation and the provision of indoor courts will allow us to continue to provide sporting opportunities for all ages and abilities, in our region.

To achieve this outcome, funding contributions from other levels of government are required. Other regional metropolitan netball facilities have received funding from all levels of government. Receiving federal funding support will ensure that netball remains affordable and assessable regardless of background, ability or gender.

We are therefore requesting a contribution of $9 million to complement the $11 million investment from our local council for a new regional netball facility to overcome a lack of appropriate facilities and provide us with the opportunity to increase participation across all ages and abilities.

If you have any questions or would like further information please contact myself, Shane Peters, President presidentsdna@gmail.com or Kris Pierce, Facility Project Manager sdna@krispierce.com.au

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Regards



Shane Peters, President
Sandringham District Netball Association