



25 Aug 2016
Hornsby Advocate, Sydney

Author: Jake Mccallum • Section: General News • Article type : News Item
Classification : Suburban • Audience : 47,380 • Page: 7 • Printed Size: 359.00cm²
Market: NSW • Country: Australia • Words: 253 • Item ID: 646940251



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BIG CRATER TO BE TRANSFORMED INTO GIANT PARK

Jake McCallum

ONE of the community's biggest money pits is finally about to get a new lease on life.

Hornsby Quarry has been an eyesore for the community for close to a century but new plans will see the crater transformed into what is being described as the "Centennial Park of the northwest".

The project, which is estimated to be completed by 2022, will involve spoil excavated from Northconnex tunnelling used to fill the quarry. Once full it will become a recreational precinct.

Hornsby state Liberal MP Matt Kean said "the transformation process for Hornsby Quarry starts today".

"What this project is all about is transforming 40 hectares of prime

real estate on Hornsby's doorstep into the Centennial Park of our entire district," he said.

"We paid for this hole 10 years ago, the community was levied with over \$30 million in rates to pay for a big black hole.

"And today, finally, we have planning approval to start the process of ... turning it into a public open space.

"We are about to embark on the process of turning this park into a brilliant recreational facility."

Environmental approvals were finalised on Friday, which will enable conveyor belts to funnel the spoil into the site as well as the extension of Bridge Rd.

A Hornsby Council spokesman said "the final plan of the park will not be decided until the community's wishes for the park have been determined."



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Remediation process has
begun on the Hornsby Quarry,
with work projected to be
completed by 2022.