

Ballpark FAQs

How will parking be improved as part of this upgrade?

The ACT Government has introduced parking restrictions in the area surrounding the Ballpark along Goyder Street on game days to relieve traffic congestion and to minimise disruption to local residents.

Active Canberra has already undertaken a traffic and parking assessment for the sporting precinct, and will work with Roads ACT to make improvements to the current parking arrangements including the formalisation of Kyeema Street.

How will noise be addressed?

As the Ballpark is in a residential area, the ACT Government understands the importance of keeping noise to acceptable levels, and is looking at how we can ensure disruption to residents in the immediate vicinity is minimised.

Although crowd noise is not regulated under the *Environment Protection Act 1997 [Section 8 (1) (c)]*, noise mitigation (i.e. music, PA system) will be a consideration as part of the design. We will be looking at the acoustics of the venue, along with the PA systems to make sure they are installed in the most efficient manner possible to minimise noise spill to near neighbours.

In addition, Active Canberra will work with the Canberra Cavalry in developing a Noise and Light Management Plan for the Ballpark. Approval of the plan by the Environment Protection Agency will be sought to ensure it meets all regulatory requirements.

Active Canberra will also introduce a curfew, commencing in the 2016/17 season, at the Ballpark that will introduce a restriction on how late games can be played at the venue. The Australian Baseball League (ABL) has also recently introduced new rules for ABL games that assists in reducing the length of games if extra innings are required.

Will capacity be increased? – Improvements to the car park should be able to meet demand

The objective of the upgrade is not to increase the capacity at the facility, but rather improve the existing amenities for players and spectators. The preliminary design calls for additional premium seating to be provided through the improvements to the grandstand, which will allow the Cavalry to further diversify their ticketing structure to meet the needs of their supporters.

Will lighting be improved?

Lighting at the Ballpark was addressed in the first stage of improvements in 2010.

New floodlights were installed to meet Australian Standards, taking into account any light spill on nearby residences.

Further assessment of the floodlighting system will be undertaken as part of the design process. Should any issues be identified, appropriate mitigation measures will be included as part of the final design.

What will the upgrade include?

The ACT Government is committed to improving and upgrading recreational and sporting facilities around Canberra and as baseball continues to grow in popularity in the ACT it is essential that this venue is able to meet demand.

The ACT Government committed \$4.5 million as part of the 2016/17 ACT Budget to undertake further upgrades to the Narrabundah Ballpark, which is Canberra's premier baseball facility and the home of the Canberra Cavalry.

These improvements follow the ACT Government's \$1.4 million upgrade to the playing field in 2010, which enabled the Canberra Cavalry to join the Australian Baseball League (ABL) by bringing the facility to a professional game standard.

Key elements of the upgrade include refurbishment and extension of the existing grandstand; realignment of the playing field; and improvements to public amenities, public access and car parking.

This upgrade will result in an enhanced facility that improves the experience for baseball fans and will allow the venue to cope with increasing demand as baseball continues to grow in popularity in the ACT.

The improvements to the venue amenities will help the Canberra Cavalry deliver a better spectator experience for their members as well as attracting new fans to the sport. The upgrades to Narrabundah Ballpark will further enhance the facility's reputation as one of the best in the country.

When will work commence?

Construction at the Ballpark will commence once the design has been completed. It is expected that construction will commence in the first half of 2017.

When is the anticipated completion?

The ACT Government is hopeful the upgrade will be completed prior to the commencement of the 2017/18 ABL season in November 2017.

How can I provide feedback?

Come along to the drop-in session on 2 August 2016 from 4.30 – 6.30pm at the Ballpark pavilion and/or attend the presentation to the Old Narrabundah Community Council on 9 August 2016 from 7pm at the Narrabundah Tennis Courts, Kootara St, Narrabundah or email Simon Dolejsi, Active Canberra, on simon.dolejsi@act.gov.au.