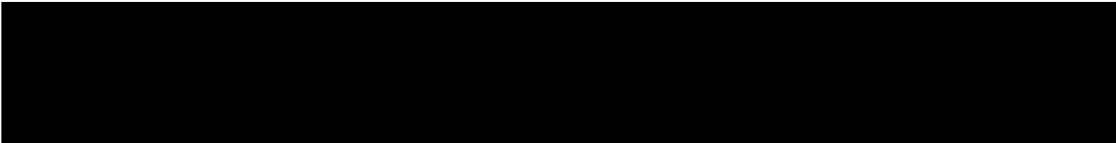


Subject: reference 2021/3105/P Highgate and muswell hill Eruv committee



Hi,

I am contacting you to let you know why I strongly support the plans to construct an Eruv in the Highgate and Muswell Hill area.

My family are observant orthodox jews, and are thus prohibited from activities such as pushing a buggy/wheelchair, carrying anything (including people, medicine, water) outside of an Eruv on the Jewish Sabbath. As you might imagine, this restriction makes participation in activities that are central to communal life (such as attending prayer services, communal dinners etc...) impossible for those that are unable to walk independently for a meaningful length of time.

The lack of an eruv in our area severely restricts the activities that my family is able to participate in, outside our home on the Jewish sabbath. Even something as simple as walking to the local park is difficult if you are not able to take a buggy, carry water/food/snacks at all. It also affects our ability to invite other observant people to our home for meals etc., as they face the same difficulties - relying on children/elderly relatives to be self-sufficient when walking, not reliant on carrying water /medication etc.. We have, on numerous occasions, thought about moving out of the area for this reason, but are hopeful that the issue will be resolved with the plans we know to be underway.

The presence of an eruv would make things that would make a huge difference to our lives, possible. Things that might not otherwise be possible, such as being able to invite an orthodox wheelchair dependent family friend to eat in our home on the sabbath, or having my wife's siblings, [REDACTED] over to share a sabbath meal. Without an eruv, many individuals are faced with the choice between engaging in communal life, or breaking the laws/rules that give meaning to our community.

As I see it, the plans are relatively unobtrusive, and should have little impact on the majority of people, who are unlikely to register its presence, but will have a significant and meaningful effect on the lives of individuals for whom an eruv would enable participation in a host of activities that would otherwise be forbidden.

I hope you give some consideration to the significance the approval/rejection of plans to enable an Eruv will make to the lives of those supporting/objecting to the current proposals.

Thank you for taking the time to read this email.

Kind regards,
Dr. Nicholas Mansfield.