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CONCORD UGLINESS STAYS

Plans to remove one of the ugliest spots on one of the world's ugliest streets — the strip of billboards at Concord Oval on Parramatta Road — have turned sour.

Concord Council's year-old decision to remove the boards when advertisers' leases expired have come to nought.

Australian Posters Pty. Ltd. wants to renew its leases claiming it can transform the strip into a commercial beauty spot in a natural setting.

Rather than laughing, Concord Council is considering a compromise.

The 100-metre-plus strip of boards hides a vista of parkland, trees and glimpses of the harbour, leaving motorists with an exhaust-fumes filled canyon of highway with the advertising slogans on one side and Burwood bus depot on the other.

The billboard company says it wants to reduce the 11 boards to six and group them in two landscaped areas.

It has offered to provide see-through fencing on the remainder of the strip.

A call from the ALP minority on council to reject such overtures out of hand was rejected.

The council is asking the Outdoor Advertising Association for a visual presentation on new style billboards before making a decision on one of the world's ugliest street's ugliest spot.