

**Submission
No 15**

INQUIRY INTO SYDNEY STADIUMS STRATEGY

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I am concerned about this proposal to knock down and rebuild sports stadiums in the Moore Park area.

I am concerned that one of the justifications for this disrepair, because it is the remit of the Sydney Cricket & Sports Ground Trust to maintain the existing stadiums, to keep them fit for purpose and in good condition. They should be called to task for this failure.

Rebuilding is extremely wasteful in cost, energy and materials, especially because the cost benefit ratio of less than one is so poor.

There is greater demand and need for these resources to be deployed in the Western suburbs. Especially if these resources were, as Peter FitzSimons has suggested, distributed to community clubs and centres, helping to engage kids and adults in sports and ward off the obesity crisis.

I am also very alarmed at other issues associated with this proposal, not limited to the government's lack of community consultation, lack of transparency, and misguided transport planning.

Concerning the transport aspects, despite the upcoming light rail connection, the apparent design intent is for patrons to drive to Moore Park, or so the widening of roads between Moore Park and St Peters suggest. This is terrible planning for Sydney: for decades now the international evidence shows that road widening simply induces more people to drive, resulting in further congestion. This is unsustainable and inappropriate for a growing city. It will result in further motorist discontent, pollution, and sedentary lifestyle. I also would like to note that the road designs involved, such as the new continuous flow intersection at Anzac Parade and Alison Rd, facilitate greater speeds and consequentially traffic deaths and injuries, especially for pedestrians and cyclists that subsequently discouraged by the design of such roads. This further compounds the problems of congestion, pollution and sedentary lifestyle related problems such as obesity. Government priority should be on building footpaths, cyclepaths and public transport, as many experts argue.