

**Submission
No 18**

INQUIRY INTO SYDNEY STADIUMS STRATEGY

Name: Mr Jean-Pierre Alexandre

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I wish to express my opposition to the destruction of Philip Cox's award-winning stadium at Moore Park and to the Government's closed-door decision to spend billions of dollars on stadiums for the following reasons:

- **The choice of location:** why is Government policy focused on creating major sports and entertainment facilities on the edge of a congested city & eastern suburbs with inadequate public transport, when the larger population and demand for such facilities is in Western Sydney?
- **The proposal is misleading:** this rebuild is not just about sports – it's about creating a multi-complex entertainment precinct. Again, why is this not located in the centre of population in Western Sydney, where there is a much greater demand and significantly fewer facilities?
- **The planning process has been rushed:** Infrastructure NSW has given a timeframe of 6 months to assess the project. This is an unusually fast determination for a project of this size and complexity. The Government appears to be fast tracking an approval so demolition of the current stadium can occur before the next election.
- **The Government failed to engage in any meaningful community consultation.**
- **The Government is unwilling to release the strategic business case** to justify the proposal
- **The project has a benefit-cost ratio of less than one** – meaning it will cost far more than it benefits
- **The project will disrupt the surrounding residential (conservation) areas and parklands** from demolition, construction and operations, which will not only include sporting events but large music concerts
- **There will be an ongoing loss of trees** to facilitate an expanded footprint of the new stadium.
- **The project will increased traffic congestion** – the combination of the sporting stadia and the widened road to accommodate the Alexandria to Moore Park Connector from St Peters Interchange to Anzac Parade is a recipe for further gridlock.
- **The Sydney Cricket & Sports Ground Trust failed to maintain the stadium** which has led to the current safety and security problems.
- **I oppose the ongoing use of the Moore Parklands for spectator parking** – all parking should be taken off the grass and be restricted to the new facility, under built-on areas (noting that light rail which will act as a new mode of transport for people coming to the stadium).
- **I support the need to preserve the former Sydney Showground**, which is now under threat of commercialisation and appropriation for professional sport, for much-needed community/amateur sports use (both indoor and outdoor).

Regards,

Jean-Pierre ALEXANDRE