

Submission
No 299

INQUIRY INTO SYDNEY STADIUMS STRATEGY

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 22 May 2018

Partially
Confidential

May 22nd 2018

Submission against the destruction of Philip Cox's award-winning stadium at Moore Park .

I am against the Government's proposal to demolish and rebuild the stadium 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?
- **Misleading proposal:** 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?
- **Rushed planning process:** 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's **failure to engage in any meaningful community consultation**
- The Government's unwillingness to release the strategic business case to justify the proposal
- A **benefit-cost ratio of less than one** – meaning the project will cost far more than it benefits
- **Disruption to the surrounding residential (conservation) areas and parklands** from demolition, construction and operations, which will not only include sporting events but large music concerts.
- **Ongoing loss of trees** to facilitate an expanded footprint of the new stadium.
- **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 failure of the Sydney Cricket & Sports Ground Trust to maintain the stadium which has led to the current safety and security problems.**
- 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).
- **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).

Yours sincerely