

**Submission  
No 202**

## **INQUIRY INTO SYDNEY STADIUMS STRATEGY**

**Name:** Mr Neil Burley

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It seems to me totally wasteful to demolish such a recently built structure as the SFS. When I read justifications like it's rusting or unsafe I wonder how the SCGT has allowed such decay to occur - after all the Harbour Bridge is around 3 times as old but there's no suggestion that it's in disrepair. I simply don't believe these claims.

The proposed new 'State of the Art' stadium has only a marginally greater capacity than the existing SFS so why bother, it's rarely filled and the playing surface area will be the same. I have yet to see any credible financial justification for this project. Why not update what's there and use the surplus for other worthy purposes. These comments are made on behalf of a sports loving family who have been corporate members of the SCG for many years.

I also strongly question the need for additional road access to this zone. Surely public transport is the better solution and the Light Rail will add enormous capacity to the existing bus arrangements.

The original designers of the Sydney Football Stadium, Cox Architecture, believe that this facility can be brought up to date for less than half the cost of rebuilding. Why is this not being taken seriously?

On the positive side I'd like to express my support for the government's recent approval of the Walsh Bay Arts Precinct. It's very pleasing to see that, in this case, the plan is to retain and improve what's there rather than knock it down and rebuild!