

Submission
No 322

INQUIRY INTO SYDNEY STADIUMS STRATEGY

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 25 May 2018

Partially
Confidential

Dear Madam/Sir:

I oppose the destruction of Philip Cox's award-winning stadium at Moore Park & below are the most important issues for your consideration:

- 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.

In addition, I raise the following concerns for your consideration:

- 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).

Thank you for considering my submission.

Sincerely,