

**Submission
No 283**

INQUIRY INTO SYDNEY STADIUMS STRATEGY

Name: Toshi Kawaguchi

Date Received: 27 May 2018

Dear Director, Public Works Committee

I'm writing to share my views in relation to the Upper House Inquiry into the Government's Stadium Strategy.

I share these views as a private citizen and would be grateful if you could kindly protect my identity and contact details, and refrain from publishing them.

I wish to make the following points:

- I believe the money is a poor investment. The stadia proposed for refurbishment are currently under utilised and there is no evidence to suggest that spending all this money on updating them will improve attendance rates.
- The refurbishment process will damage property of significant historical value, including Parramatta War Memorial Pool.
- The policy appears to have been taken forward without proper consultation with the community. The large media backlash and strong community response against the policy makes this apparent.

I urge the government to reconsider the policy. At the very least, the government should engage in proper community consultation and seek to find alternatives which will preserve the historical value of the Parramatta site.

As a parent, I'm concerned that for the first time in our history, my children are likely to grow up in a world with fewer opportunities than the generation before them. Sydney is struggling with its current infrastructure. There are far more pressing infrastructure priorities (e.g. better public transport) we need to tackle before redeveloping our underutilised sporting stadia, if we are to build a better tomorrow for the next generation.

Apologies for the late submission. I understand the official closing date was Friday, but I understand, and hope, you will still accept this submission and the concerns expressed.

Kind regards
Toshi.