

**Submission
No 326**

INQUIRY INTO SYDNEY STADIUMS STRATEGY

Name: Dr Peter Bradley

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I am writing to voice my concerns on justification, process, governance of the Stadium Strategy noting that the Brogden report of 2015 has disappointingly been ignored by the Government. Instead it appears that the SCG Trust has influenced a strategy where Moore Park and EQ will become a Sports and Entertainment Precinct. Both the Centennial and Moore Park Trust and Infrastructure NSW have questions to answer as well. There is NO public demand for a knock down and rebuild of Sydney Football Stadium. Since before the 2000 Olympics, there has been a push for Sport & Entertainment Precinct from influential SCG Trust. Neither the public nor sports fans want their money spent on a new Stadium. (Peter FitzSimon's petition attracted over 200,000 signatures) Moore Park is a public park needed for Sydney's increasing population for passive recreation. It should not be turned into a Sports & Entertainment Precinct. The inner city / Moore Park area is facing a substantive increase in the population with most new development high-rise and some precincts having the highest density in Australia. In addition, many suburbs already have the least amount of green space in Australia. As such there is a greater reliance on the regional open space particularly passive recreational areas such as Moore Park. Consequently the redevelopment of the stadium as part of a mega entertainment area is in the wrong spot. Instead a new Stadium should be located in western Sydney, where it's needed not in the most congested part of Sydney that is already experiencing significant challenges in terms of residential amenity, traffic chaos and insufficient open space. Stadiums and Entertainment Precincts require a "bump in and out" transport capacity - the light rail is unlikely to be that facility as capacity concerns have been documented in the EMM report. The community consultation process has been inadequate and the recent community drop in sessions at the Stadium provided very little information and feedback was not sought or recorded. The entire process appears to be fast-tracked to facilitate the stadium's demolition ahead of the next state election despite Gladys Berjiklian stating that a full detailed business case would be given to the public for feedback before any knockdown. (ABC radio interview) The KPMG unseen report states the cost benefit analysis indicates a ratio less than 1:1. After the cbd light rail debacle, this should have seen the project declined. Instead INSW have given it a State Significant Infrastructure classification which allows secrecy. Following the loss of 1,000 trees for the CBD light rail, it would be unacceptable to lose more trees, including some significant trees on the site as a result of the change to the footprint should not occur. The redevelopment is likely to see more trees in Moore Park lost in order to cater for spill-over or other facilities; Road upgrades to accommodate traffic from Westconnex to Moore Park will only serve to induce more traffic thereby causing further traffic chaos. The upgrades will also see more significant trees lost; The research shows that the new light rail won't have sufficient capacity to absorb the plans for a mega entertainment precinct. The environmental impact of a 'knockdown' option vs the stadium's refurbishment.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Bradley