

**Submission  
No 15**

**INQUIRY INTO GREATER SYDNEY PARKLANDS TRUST  
BILL 2021**

**Name:** Mr Kealan Coleman

**Date Received:** 13 December 2021

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**Re: The Greater Sydney Parklands Trust Bill 2021 - Upper House Inquiry**

13<sup>th</sup> December 2021

To the Select Committee on the Greater Sydney Parklands Trust Bill 2021 (Hon Robert Borsak MLC Shooters, Hon Lou Amato MLC, Hon John Graham MLC, Hon Mark Latham MLC, Hon Shayne Mallard MLC, Hon Penny Sharpe MLC, Mr David Shoebridge MLC);

I am writing to you as an official submission as I currently oppose the Greater Sydney Parklands Trust Bill.

This bill in it's current form in not in the spirit of the land, the animals, the community, and the people who will use the park, now and in generations to come.

This bill has the potential for gross negligence, gross abuse of power and authority, corruption at all levels, a lack of community and stakeholder consultation & power, an absence of true accountability, and so much more that is obvious to anyone who takes the time to read the lengthy documents produced. You do not fool me nor pull wool over my eyes. Please think again, and consider the ethical ways forward.

I support a federated, community model rather than the centralised, top-down model that is being advanced in the Greater Sydney Parklands Trust Bill.

Under this model, each of the iconic parks would have its own Trust Act, allowing them to manage and advocate for their own unique and discrete priorities and values under a full Board of Trustees.

The membership of these individual Trusts would combine community members with local knowledge of each park, First Nations representation, experts in heritage, biodiversity and park management, and a representative from the local Council. The Greater Sydney Parklands agency would only liaise with the Trustees to ensure these parks obtain the funding they require from the relevant ministers.

I support the 'Friends of Callan Park', and I also support the 'Alliance for Public Parklands'. I live directly opposite Callan park, and have been a local resident for the last 16 years. I represent my own family, consisting of three young children, my wife, and our two dogs. We are very active local people, involved in our local church, Darling Street Anglican, the local school, Orange Grover Public School, and the overall neighbourhood.

I appeal to the authorities making decisions around the bill and these parklands to listen closely to the submissions of those in the local communities, and to wisely take heed of the lobbyists, politicians, and the corporates.

Let's be kinder, stronger, wiser and responsible to the planet, to nature, and to our children now and the children of the future.

Yours very sincerely,

Kealan Coleman