

**Submission
No 89**

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

Organisation: Alliance of Moore Park Sports

Date Received: 14 January 2022



12 January 2022

Select Committee on the
Greater Sydney Parklands Trust Bill 2021
GPO Box 5341
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Select Committee Members,

Re: Greater Sydney Parklands Trust Bill 2021

The Alliance of Moore Park Sports (AMPS) is a collective of the sporting clubs and governing bodies who are the tenants of the Moore Park stadia – the Sydney Cricket Ground (SCG) and the former and redeveloped Sydney Football Stadium (SFS). AMPS represent a collective voice on the future of the Moore Park Sporting Precinct, championing the interests of some 2,000,000 fans, 145,000 club members and other users of the precinct, and circa 1000 direct employees across all sports and codes. Many of our offices reside in the Moore Park precinct and our membership includes the Australian Football League (NSW/ACT), Rugby Australia, National Rugby League, Sydney FC, Sydney Roosters, Sydney Swans, NSW Waratahs, Cricket NSW, Sydney 6s and Cricket Australia.

AMPS have experienced the efficiencies created through previous amalgamations of government entities namely the Sydney Cricket Ground Trust and the former Venues NSW to the Venues NSW of today and understand the requirement for new governance legislation to be formulated in response to such changes. In the case of the amalgamation of the parklands across Greater Sydney and subsequent *Greater Sydney Parklands Trust Bill 2021*, AMPS request the Select Committee ensure that the *Bill* has no unintended consequences for the Members and fans of our collective sports who represent individuals from across our great city and its surrounding areas.

In addition to the areas for review identified by parliament and the mechanisms for establishing the Select Committee, AMPS would like to request attention to and safeguarding against any reference to the removal of car parking on greenspace in the *Bill*.

As you are aware, the *Greater Sydney Parklands Trust Bill 2021* in its current iteration makes parking on grass at Upper Kippax Lake (EP2) in Moore Park illegal, while also prohibiting parking on grass throughout Moore Park East from 31 December 2023.

AMPS are supportive of the phased removal of car parking from greenspace beginning with Upper Kippax but emphasise it is crucially important to our many thousands of fans that there is no net loss of parking capacity in the broader Moore Park precinct. The prohibition of on grass parking on the lower Kippax area (EP3) from 31 December 2023 results in a 43% reduction of available car parks immediately adjacent to the stadium with no feasible public transport and equivalent car parking solution provided to rectify the inaccessibility issue this action causes. It should be noted AMPS respect the investment in light rail and bus routes in the precinct and where possible encourage member attendance through that mode, however it cannot cater for all the needs of our diverse supporter bases.

Greater Sydney Parklands may point to the Venues NSW underground car park and shared community and outdoor recreation project as the solution however this infrastructure merely



reinstates the off-grass car parking originally on Venues NSW land, commonly referred to MP1, which was disrupted by the SFS development, and provides a like for like capacity solution for the on grass car parking situated adjacent to the SFS site – upper Kippax or EP2 which AMPS have already agreed to no longer use as event day parking once this project is delivered.

Representatives of Greater Sydney Parklands have informed AMPS on multiple occasions that satellite parking at the Randwick Racecourse would be a suitable solution to further progress with the phased removal of on grass car parking beyond the Upper Kippax stage. On multiple occasions AMPS have informed Greater Sydney Parklands and other Government offices, satellite parking arrangements, connected to the precinct by shuttle buses, have been used unsuccessfully in past years and is not a feasible solution. For the January 2017 ‘Double Derby’ which saw the A-League Men’s – Sydney FC v Western Sydney Wanderers, and BBL’s Sydney Sixers and Sydney Thunder, played simultaneously and attract 80,000 fans to the precinct, satellite parking was arranged at Royal Randwick. Four (4) vehicles parked at Royal Randwick. This first hand example coupled with AMPS fan demographic and target audiences – young families, amongst other current patrons such as those with mobility issues or those in the older demographics, exemplifies why a Moore Park precinct car parking solution/s is particularly important and is required prior to any legislative commitment to the removal of on grass car parking.

AMPS request the work that is required to be undertaken to come to a mutually beneficial solution for car parking in the Moore Park precinct is forged without the parameters and constraints of a Bill. AMPS therefore request the Select Committee move to remove from the Bill any reference to parking on Moore Park East greenspace being an offence or prohibited activity.

AMPS ask the proposed legislation focus on the governance requirements for this newly formed entity instead of very specific terms relating to car parking in one of Greater Sydney Parklands Trust’s seven (7) parks.

Any future vision for Greater Sydney Parklands needs to be complimentary to the effective utilisation and accessibility of the NSW Government’s two world-class stadiums with mutually beneficial outcomes for all stakeholders.

AMPS also strongly support the proposed Entertainment Quarter Reinvention as part of Carsingha Group’s c.\$2 billion investment proposal and masterplan that would stimulate Sydney’s sporting and entertainment industries at a critical time as Sydney seeks to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. We urge the Select Committee to consider removing the prohibitive amendments to the Bill that puts at risk the significant benefits afforded through the Entertainment Quarter Revitalization that adjoin the Moore Park stadia.

AMPS is committed to working with Government, Transport for NSW, parkland authorities, the Entertainment Quarter, and the local community to achieve a world class precinct and surrounds, including but not limited to:

- two world-class stadiums that are accessible;
- training and administration facilities for hundreds of male and female athletes and community facilities such as the Australian Red Cross Blood Service and donation centre;
- multi-modal transport services and car parking;
- integration with a revitalized Entertainment Quarter; and



- world class public spaces in Centennial and Moore Park.

We welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss our submission further and our aspiration for the Moore Park precinct to fulfil its potential for the people of NSW.

Yours faithfully,

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