

Enabling Legislation for Macquarie point Stadium – Public consultation feedback.

As a long-term resident of greater Hobart (Tinderbox), I most certainly do not support this enabling legislation.

Not only does it overrule the existing democratic processes of transparency and accountability, it also by-passes the proper planning processes proven to be effective over time. It effectively hands a 'blank cheque' to a Minister to do as he/she wishes, without recourse, enabling then to force such a stadium to completion whatever it takes including unknown financial excesses, when the Government should be re-negotiating a more realistic deal with the AFL. It seems clear to most the AFL placed such an unrealistic burden on Tasmania gaining a team, they expected it to fall over, so the status quo was retained. We have 2 stadia which are adequate and have been used for the last 10 years. We also do not need a costly roof as the 2nd driest State capital in Australia! York Park and Bellerive could both be extended to accommodate 23,000 spectators without ruining our iconic waterfront and clogging the whole CBD for anyone going anywhere on match days ...although there are only 7 days of use proposed each year with Cricket an unlikely addition due to the roof! Offering \$15million is also an insult compared to the billions spent setting up QLD & NSW with new teams, although there is a much larger potential audience.

Tasmania already has two functioning stadia that have successfully been used to host AFL games over recent years. It is irresponsible for any Government to contemplate let alone accept building a 3rd stadium when we have many more pressing demands on our resources in health, education, housing etc. This \$1billion+ should never be spent on a such a huge loss-making white elephant! It's a bullying oversized monstrosity damaging our iconic waterfront, located on an inappropriately congested site, allocated for Antarctic precinct and aboriginal reconciliation park available to all, with delightful tourist drawing free walking access along an extended waterfront.

This proposed legislation also fails to explain extra undeclared costs for critical infrastructure necessary for it to function, like the underground car parks which will be below sea level and require complex sealing to prevent flooding, plus potential instability of saturated soils requiring excavation and deep piling to hit bedrock to prevent the structure becoming unstable over time. It also ignores the inevitable inconvenience to everyone in Hobart trying to get anywhere else on match days, as the city will become grid-locked!

This undemocratic legislation should not be permitted as it avoids transparency and accountability by the Government and gives them undue autocratic rights (like a dictatorship!) to force this Stadium through irrespective of the independent reports confirming it is uneconomic, the costs and final design, height and scale are unknown, extra infrastructure required for it to operate have been excluded incl. underground car parks and what else?

It's an outrageous over-reach of power that is undemocratic and cannot be allowed to pass. Convince AFL upgrading the existing 2 stadia is adequate, as that's all most other States are providing and let the team begin!

Sincerely,

Mike Willson,
Tinderbox.