

Game Changing for the DEC

The Tasmanian Super Stadium makes enormous and equally sensible commitment to Tasmania's opportunity to take part, both financially and physically, in AFL, NBL and A-League teams in a potentially viable and all-encompassing site.

Although AFL task force chairman Brett Godfrey stated it would be ideally located at Macquarie Point. Minister Michael Ferguson has ruled out MAC Point due to much forward design, there is very little car parking within those concepts. The DEC and surrounding Wilkinson Point hectares would be far better location.

For the Super Stadium, with all its administration, marketing and training for all AFL, NBL and A-League infrastructure to be included within the site on which it would share with the DEC. No doubt there would be design provision for student training institute of sport facilities "sports camps" as part of any master plan.

There is state-wide appeal being 30 minutes shorter journey from the North than MAC Point or 45 minutes for the Blundstone Arena. Vast parking options including potential to use TRC Elwick racecourse facilities. Access to the DEC site already lends itself as ideal, with the Brooker highway, Elwick Road traffic management interchange and the Bowen Bridge access traffic lights in place.

Currently the DEC total site is believed, as reported by the mercury 04/08/19, as being considered for purchase by developer and NBL owner Mr Kestelman for \$18 million, but who is asking the state government to give him up to \$20 million to expand and renovate to NBL standard the existing courts. The remaining virtual waterfront site would become his, for development into private residential Brisbane Southbank style mini suburb served by excellent road networks and a ferry stop.

A closing roof which would be essential for year round supporter appeal – a true stadium. This concept is exciting for all Tasmania and for the DEC and surrounds. A Reset of its disposal by local government should be considered. The opportunities are game changing.

Chris Merridew, Sandy Bay