

**From:** [Helen Batt](#)  
**To:** [PAC](#)  
**Subject:** My submission  
**Date:** Saturday, 17 December 2022 4:50:45 PM

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Dear Committee Secretary

I write to outline my opposition to the proposed \$750 million stadium at Macquarie Point.

As a taxpayer I object to public funding going towards this project when thousands of Tasmanians can't get a home, more than 55,000 Tasmanians are on the health waiting list to see a specialist and the cost of living is making life harder for more and more Tasmanians.

As a mature Tasmanian I have watched Tasmanian football followers be overlooked for a team to represent our state. Tasmania is one of the traditional Australian Rules states along with South Australia, Western Australia and Victoria. We have had to endure watching Queensland and New South Wales gaining two teams each state have only one which performs well the other team at a second rate level. All this time young Tasmanian players have been poached by teams to bolster their performance, this with no chance of playing for their home state especially as State of Origin games have been scrapped. This is not new, for the last 65-70 years I have been following footy no team in the AFL has been a huge sore in the Australian rules format.

The AFL have no right stipulating Tasmanians pay for a new roofed stadium to have our own Tasmanian team. No other state has been made to do this. We should have had a team ahead of NSW and QLD.

Tasmanians have not been consulted on the chosen site and I do not support the decision made by the Tasmanian government.

A prime location at Bellerive has always been billed as having great views etc but when in the ground no one sees the view, the river can no longer be seen even on tv broadcasts. Why then would the government want to consent to prime real estate in Hobart being used as a stadium? The AFL has no right to insist on this site being used for a stadium.

The AFL want spectators to be able to walk to the ground, why not a short walk to the wharf and beautiful trip on a ferry and a short walk to Bellerive Oval? This would cater for the few hundred spectators who stay at inner city hotels, the ferry fare would only cost the same as a couple of mid strength beers at the ground. The ground needs to cater for the thousands of local spectators like in every other state that travel by public transport or car to watch their team, not just a few travellers from interstate.

The government has not presented a business case that outlines the merits of this disastrous project or explained why our state should be burdened with further debt when the state already has two AFL standard stadiums, one in the north and one in the south that will now go to waste.

We have teams in cricket, basketball and lots of other sports including sailing where we definitely 'punch above our weight' are the other states worried they will be beaten yet again by a Tassie representative, by putting ridiculous demands on the location of a stadium. Are they hoping for no Tasmanian Football Team?

Another stadium is the wrong priority for our state.

We want and need a team to represent our state in AUSTRALIAN Rules Football but not at the expense of locals paying unnecessarily for a stadium which we cannot afford and don't want at the proposed site and where the monies can be better used for local issues.

Kind regards  
Helen Batt

