

From: [Frances](#)  
To: [PAC](#)  
Cc: [REDACTED]  
Subject: Outrage at the proposed \$750M stadium  
Date: Monday, 19 December 2022 12:58:50 PM

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Dear Committee Secretary,

I write to note my outrage at the proposed \$750 million stadium at Macquarie Point, and the Tasmanian government's irresponsible and reckless plans to kowtow to the AFL.

I object to public funding going towards this project when thousands of Tasmanians can't get a home, and our health system and professionals are stretched to breaking point. In addition, other more popular sports, such as soccer, can't secure even basic, purpose-built facilities, and as a result my children have missed a substantial number of games and training sessions this year. Imagine how far 10% of the \$750 million would go towards grassroots sport in Tasmania (spread equitable across the state!) - keeping our kids off screens, healthy and socialised.

The AFL shouldn't have this kind of power over governments- it's absolutely disgraceful! No other state has been made to build a new stadium. Tasmania needs to show some backbone and pride in these negotiations. I thought the days of out-of-touch "captain's calls" were behind us!

We recently attended the T20 world cup games at Blundstone arena - it's a fabulous facility with easy parking, and is more than good enough to meet the exacting standards of international cricketers and Hobartians alike. How naive to think private-transport-dependent Hobartians would be seeking sporting facilities in an already overcrowded CBD. At Bellerive we can enjoy a nice stroll along the beach if we are forced to park (gasp!) 500m from the main entrance!

I am furious that Tasmanians have not been consulted about the stadium or its location, and I do not support the decision made by the government to develop Macquarie Point for this purpose. The waterfront area in question should be a space for all Tasmanians, not an elite few who enjoy AFL AND can afford to attend these events. This is not an option for people whose entire income is going into keeping themselves housed, fed and clothed. What about an extension to the botanic gardens? A peace park? A free all-ages playground? Use some imagination and think about all Tasmanians!

The government has not presented a business case that outlines the merits of this project or explained why our state should be burdened with further debt when we already have three functional AFL standard stadiums in Hobart, and at least one in the north. Yet we can't even get the women's world cup teams to warm up here next year, such is the woeful state of our soccer facilities.

Another AFL stadium is the wrong priority for our state.

Yours sincerely

Frances Verrier  
[REDACTED]