MACQUARIE POINT STADIUM PROPOSAL.

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Our methodology

We used computer software to create a model the size and shape of the stadium. Inputs for this are based upon the information made publicly available in Tasmanian government documents.

A standard photograph was taken from Victoria Dock near Mures. However the visual impact from many other parts of Hobart will be significantly worse with the stadium more dominant in view-lines.

Using the computer we took a screenshot of the computer model of the stadium from the same location (matching the distance and angle) as the standard photograph.

We then used computer software to combine the two images.

Why it is accurate.

The proposed stadium is 40 metres high, 240 metres long and 210 metres wide. There is limited information available but what is available is very clear and therefore the model is accurate as there is little opportunity for error.

Why we added a steel structure

A roof is not self supporting and requires a structure. (refer to other roofed stadiums such as Marvel Stadium of Forsyth Barr Stadium). None of the information available regarding the stadium dimensions takes into account the additional height and visual bulk that this will add to the building. The government commissioned Aurecon Report made clear that a lighter structure for a fixed roof would be insufficiently strong to hold the weight of the lighting and sound rigs used for the large scale concerts the government says the stadium will host. For the image we have used professional experience to conservatively approximate a typical structure for a stadium of this size that would support a fixed roof and concert infrastructure.

Colouring

As there is no design yet for the stadium, nor is there any colour specified for the external walls. The render shows the stadium in a neutral concrete colour. The final finish may be a variety of colours and surfaces. The government in its documents uses the Melbourne Marvel (Docklands) Stadium as its key reference. If the final stadium were to resemble Marvel Stadium in its finishes and styling the visual impact on Sullivans Cove would be considerably worse than this render.

Stadium Too Large For Site

The dimensions of the stadium appear to make minimal allowance for seating and public amenities and facilities (food/drink vendors toilets etc.) outside the playing surface. In addition the government report states no allowance has been made for a concourse in the current dimensions. The report dimensions 240m x 210m only just fit on the current site with the north end close against the cenotaph escarpment and the south end right on Evans Street.

On this basis it is clear that the site is not an appropriate sized location to accommodate a typical and workable stadium and that the current stadium proposal is being compromised and manipulated to fit the site.

The danger in this is that as the project develops and compromises becomes more difficult to practically accommodate, it is the site may need redefining and parts of Evans Street, the wharf or Cenotaph hill may need to be be taken and subsumed over in order to really accommodate the stadium.

Secondly the stadium stretches all across the site and therefore divides the site in two parts. (East and West) There is little opportunity for movement through and around the site and future opportunities such as transport routes are not feasible. The space on either side of the stadium become disconnects particularly the east side.

Third, these constraints of site and budget will make it extremely difficult to realise a stadium of the quality and with the amenity that people would expect of a 21st century stadium.