

Mr S Scott
Committee Secretary
Parliamentary standing Committee of public Accounts
Parliament House Hobart

Submissions into the Macquarie Point Project

I am totally opposed to this project on virtually every ground, I fully support a Tasmanian team in the AFL, but not the fact Tasmania is being held to ransom by the AFL

1:-The thought of building a massive stadium directly behind the historic Hobart waterfront, should have been scrapped at the first suggestion. Tourists come from around the world and mainland Australia to adsorb the ambience of this beautiful port city.

2:-Building this eyesore will desecrate the Hobart Cenotaph, I am a returned serviceman as were my father and grandfathers, the cenotaph commemorates their efforts in defending Australia, not worshipping footballers and the almighty dollar.

3:-It is totally unnecessary, there being two perfectly adequate stadiums in the state that have served us well for years, certainly tidy them up a little if necessary.

4:-The cost of this project has been guestimated all along, the figures made available, are very optimistic guesses, as with all Government inspired grandiose schemes the final cost will be lucky to be only double the initial estimate. With that rational, the \$750 million estimate will quickly escalate into the \$billions.

5:- Estimated crowd numbers are greatly inflated, I live in the islands North West, it takes me about 5 hours to reach Hobart, after that pleasant drive, I usually find there is nowhere to park. The availability and cost of hotel accommodation is also prohibitive. You may remember that the better football crowds reside in the north of the state, as shown in attendance figures over the last 20 years, so building a stadium away from the the main football audience seems problematic.

6:-It will be sitting empty approximately 340 days a year,

destroying the ambience of Hobart's water front, all for about seven games of football a year.

7:-The number of overseas mega concerts to perform at this venue, is again is wishful thinking, with the islands low population and the inherit difficulties of getting truckloads of concert paraphernalia across Bass Strait, playing in Hobart will not attract major acts. The performances coming here are adequately served by the existing venues.

8:-The proponents of this doomed project suggest it will open the doors to allow Tasmania youth to play professional AFL, at present only about half a dozen kids are recruited into AFL teams each year. Spending billions in Hobart will not greatly increase that number.

9:-Finally let me mention the cost, this will not cost \$750 it will inflate to billions, like every other government backed mega project.

If Tasmania's economy is in such a healthy state, any excess should be used to provide basic health care, in educating our children, and assisting young family's to buy a home. Not to financially assist the AFL and foxtel.

Malcolm Mann

