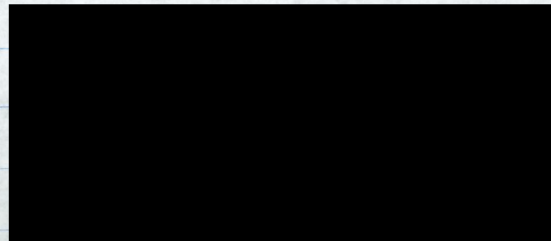


Tasmanian Planning

10 JAN 2024

Commission

Robert G. Richardson,



Tasmanian Planning Commission

G.P.O. Box 1691

HOBART, TAS. 7001

re: Macquarie Point Multipurpose Stadium Proposal:
Draft Guidelines.

PREFACE.

The timing of the release of the draft guidelines and the period of time for public comment is inappropriate, ill-timed and insufficient.

For example, in early December, 2023 I spent a fortnight in Victoria visiting my son, grandchildren and great-grandchildren - Christmas, birthdays, end-of-year school activities. That experience is probably consistent with many people.

Following an airline cancellation, I returned to Tasmania on Sunday, 17th December. Following advice from a neighbour, I perused a copy of a newspaper advertisement (copy attached) dated December 4th, 2023.

I requested a copy (via telephone) on Monday 18th December, 2023 I received them on Friday, 22nd December. Christmas Day on 25th December, 2023. Guess how many government offices closed until at least January 8th, 2024?

For comments regarding a \$2+ billion taxpayer funded project how restrictive is that timeline? Especially for Tasmanians living out of Hobart.

This is the first opportunity for Tasmanians to formally comment upon the proposed project. Whilst financial considerations are normally not considered in planning decisions, in this case they

are relevant - it is Tasmanian people who will be assigned the bill; up to \$8000 per household. (The cost is likely to far exceed the cited \$715 million - there are several ancillary associated costs, including moving Taswater infrastructure, construction of a high performance centre, provision of public transport, cost of foundations, etc.

Advertising major projects during the "festive season" could be seen as "tricky", or even attempting to limit responses

There should have been, at least :-

1. A much longer period of time for public comment; and
2. Public information sessions, especially outside Hobart - including Burnie, Devonport, Launceston, Westbury, Scottsdale, North Tamar, East Coast, etc.

These information sessions should have been held before requesting submissions.

THE ROLE OF HISTORY AND HERITAGE

Macquarie Point and nearby Sullivan's Cove have extremely strong links to Tasmania's (and Australia's) early colonial history. Unfortunately, that history and heritage, especially that related to indigenous and so-called "convict" matters, has been largely overlooked.

A submission is being prepared for nomination on the Australian Heritage register.

A brief background is outlined below :-

1. Indigenous History.

Tasmanian indigenous people had occupied Tasmania for about 65000 years prior to colonial invasion in 1804. Indeed, when the first convict ship, "Ocean" unloaded its cargo in February, 1804 via Hunter Island, the human component of military and free settlers, together with convicts occupied land of existing aboriginal people who were living there!

In just 30 years the estimated 6000 Tasmanian ^{aboriginal} people had been reduced to about 50. There were even bounties paid - an adult

aboriginal person: £5 (dead or alive), a child £2.

And, as aboriginal people were removed from their lands, the invading English gave it to the European "settlers".

This brutal, inhumane treatment of Tasmania's indigenous people commenced and was administered from Macquarie Point / Sullivan's Cove.

2. Convict Issues.

The first convict settlement commenced on February 20, ¹⁸⁰⁴~~1804~~ at Macquarie Point / Sullivan's Cove.

But, at least for the first convicts, most were the consequence of the excesses and greed of English wealthy, landholding males.

From about the mid-1700's these wealthy used their privilege of power in the British parliament to move Enclosures Acts. These Acts entitled these wealthy landholders to re-draw the boundaries of their landholdings. Many moved their boundaries to include Town Commons and even villages.

Poor Britons who had been slaves to the wealthy for centuries were denied access to land where they grew vegetables, kept a few chooks, ran a house cow for centuries. To feed themselves and their families they were forced to steal.

Guess who set the penalties?

The British poor, including children, were forced into theft and into poverty. The wealthy British created the problem and then criminalised it. Penalties were excessive, including transportation.

Once in Van Diemen's Land, excessive and brutal punishments were applied by representatives of the landed British aristocracy.

And yet, these "criminals" largely built Tasmania. Many of their constructions survive today, in 2024.

Yet where is the recognition of our forebears - aboriginal and convict? There is none!

The way in which our ancestors, indigenous and convict,

were treated was the worst of any similar settlements in Australia.

And it started, and was administered from this settlement in what is now Hobart.

The Macquarie Point site is the appropriate and logical place to recognise and commemorate what happened.

To build a rock concert venue and football fan park on this site would be tantamount to dancing on the graves of our ancestors.

My comments related to history and heritage are related to wide reading of the topics; books and other learned documents researched and written by respected and eminent researchers, historians and academics.

Heritage and history issues must form a strong basis as to future use of the land at Macquarie Point.

My comments can be enlarged upon, should the commission deem necessary.

OTHER PLANNING ISSUES

My background includes about two decades as an elected Councillor on Alexander Valley Council.

During that time, the Council met as a planning authority on probably 200 occasions. Development applications ranged from carports to significant industrial and commercial projects.

Even small projects had planning scheme requirements, such as:-

- adequate car parking;
- compliance with issues such as shading;
- contributions to public open space and public infrastructure;
- traffic considerations;
- 'fitting in' with local heritage issues;

and so on.

One would expect that a stadium would also be required to

comply with similar requirements.

I apologise for the rushed nature of this submission - but that is largely due to the unreasonable and inappropriate haste of the Commission (and the proponent?)

yours faithfully;



B.Sc., Grad. Dip. Bus. Admin, TCC, Cert/
Adv. Cert Association Management

cc. Tas Parliamentary Labor Party
Tas Parliamentary Greens
Selected Legislative Councillors

**TASMANIAN
PLANNING COMMISSION**

Mercury
Dec. 4 '23

**Macquarie Point Multipurpose Stadium
Project of State Significance - draft guidelines
Invitation to Comment**

The Tasmanian Planning Commission (Commission) invites comments (written submissions) under section 20(2B) of the *State Policies and Projects Act 1993*, on the draft guidelines to be followed in the preparation of reports to be presented for the purposes of the integrated assessment of the Macquarie Point Multipurpose Stadium project.

The draft guidelines detail the information that the proponent's submission reports are to contain to enable the integrated assessment of the project. The draft guidelines are not criteria for the assessment of the project.

The draft guidelines are available to download from the Commission's website at www.planning.tas.gov.au. They may also be viewed in person at the Commission's offices from 9am until 5pm, Monday to Friday at Level 3, 144 Macquarie Street, Hobart.

Comments can be made in writing to the Commission from 4 December 2023 to 8 January 2024 by email to tpc@planning.tas.gov.au, or post to the Commission, GPO Box 1691, Hobart, TAS 7001.

If you require further information, please contact the Commission on (03) 6165 6828 or by email to tpc@planning.tas.gov.au.

John Ramsay
Executive Commissioner

Guidelines requested
01/12/23