

## SUBMISSION INTO PAC INQUIRY INTO FUNDING OF RUGBY LEAGUE FACILITY

There are many issues to raise regarding the redevelopment of Richardson Park.

Loss of land for Ludmilla school, noise, lighting, car parking, traffic, buffer zone, destruction of open space and natural surroundings, environmental impact, potential impact on house prices and the fact that the NTRL deemed the sight not suitable for the growing needs of rugby.

I know others will go into further details about these issues. However I want to emphasise the lack of consultation. All residents, the school and the race track have been taken by surprise about the proposed development. This is not best practice regardless of who the government of the day is. This must take place to address above issues. If this is done it would be enough to convince the government that the expansion cannot take place on that sight.

The government said they can't afford to build the park elsewhere and they only had 20 million to expand the sight. This does not include car parking, a so called 'wall' Mr Tollner talked about at the public meeting and changes to traffic at Ludmilla School. So costs have already blown out and that argument no longer holds water.

The buffer wall is the greatest of concern. Building a wall two or so metres from residents back fences. How does that work in the rain, cyclones, cross breezes? It cannot be done in any suburb.

We have much space in the greater Darwin area, space that would adequately be able to be built on with all the facilities that is needed. Why cramp it into a space clearly not big enough with no public and NTRL support.

Mr Tollner also talked about tradition. Yes I love tradition too, my team of Collingwood football club had to leave Victoria Park for bigger and better facilities for players, staff, visiting clubs and fans. That is progress. Darwin does not still use the same port, post office we had 50 years ago.

I am very disappointed that the residents are having to beg for consultation in a democratic society and ask for the costings to be transparent.

I trust that due process will now take place and suitable location for a park found.

Helen Murray