

The Secretary,  
Public Accounts Committee  
GPO Box 3721  
DARWIN NT 0801  
[pac@nt.gov.au](mailto:pac@nt.gov.au)

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: NT GOVERNMENT PROPOSAL TO REDEVELOP RICHARDSON PARK RUGBY LEAGUE STADIUM IN LUDMILLA

That these funds (\$20 million) are intending to be spent without due process and proper consultation with all stakeholders is not acceptable to say the least.

This stadium is unsuitable to improve in any way; it's very run down and now not even in a suitable location. That the proposed improvements include a 10,000 seat stadium is unbelievable. Even the most basic requirement of a playing ground, a good surface, has been problematic for a long time, the land itself is not conducive to growing grass well and the surface is poor.

The total amount being bandied around required to redevelop this stadium varies vastly; however, I can see no sensible reason to spend even \$1 doing so.

1. It's now in the wrong location, Darwin has grown
2. The stadium is far too close to residential buildings, with consequent noise, lighting, traffic and parking problems for the residents
3. This would impinge on the present long-standing Ludmilla school grounds, they need more land not less
4. Parking required for a huge stadium: inadequate and unsuitable in the Wet
5. Ludmilla is in a catchment area and is subject to tidal surge
6. Insufficient open space, well under the standard percentage as required by the NT Planning Scheme
7. I've lived in Dick Ward Drive for many years, the traffic is already problematic. And this is without the many blocks of high-rise still being built and those still on the drawing board, not yet even in the system. Already I sometimes need to drive back around the block to get into my driveway as I cannot get across the traffic into the non-ending stream of oncoming cars during peak times.

The Marrara area has been expanding as a sports ground centre over time and has the space to develop. Access and public transport are far superior to Richardson Park. Though I've not been a proponent of moving all sporting complexes out of walking distance of homes, for larger complexes i.e. football fields, it's appropriate.

I strongly oppose any redevelopment of this venue; it makes no sense at all to me. The players themselves support the move to Marrara.

Yours faithfully

Carolyn Marriott