
From: Andrew
Sent: Friday, 6 November 2015 1:32 PM
To: Public Accounts Committee LA
Subject: Richards Park Upgrade

Mr Keith Russell
First Clerk Assistant - Committees

I wish to submit my queries regarding the upgrades to the Richardson Park Facilities as they relate to the NTG's budget:-

Traffic and Transportation Costs

The NT Government has committed \$20 million to the Richardson Park facility upgrades. Reportedly this commitment does not include upgrades to supporting traffic infrastructure which will be known following the completion of a detailed traffic study.

Logically the public and private transportation infrastructure is critical to successfully supporting a 10,000 person capacity facility. The published responses to date indicate that traffic needs and infrastructure will be fully addressed at a later date, instead of before release of the facility upgrade tenders, in order to meet an August 2016 deadline for use during an NRL match.

Do the committee believe that suitable allowances been made within the NT budget for traffic and transportation related costs?

If these costs are found to be excessive can the NTG economically extricate itself from the facility upgrade or will additional funds need to be allocated regardless?

Facility Operation and Maintenance Costs

The facility upgrades represent a significant economic investment which will require ongoing funds for operation and maintenance.

How much has been budgeted for ongoing facility costs?

Do the committee believe the ongoing cost estimates are adequate?

Do the ongoing cost estimates make allowance for the particular site issues reported by NTNRL such as the playing surface degradation due to salt water intrusion?

Facility Usage and Noise within Residential Area

The Richardson Park facility upgrades represent a very large public stadium investment (cost). While primarily for the hosting of national professional level rectangular field sporting events it is reported that the facilities will also cater to numerous other events such as NT rectangular field sporting finals and concerts such as Bass in the Grass (benefits) currently hosted in other locations such as the Gardens. Given the residential land uses surrounding Richardson Park it is reasonable to assume that noise may become an issue which may result in restrictions on usage.

Are the committee satisfied that the facility upgrade benefits justify the costs?

Have any allowances been made within the \$20 million project budget for noise abatement?

Will the facilities usage be limited due to noise restrictions?

Many thanks for providing me with this opportunity to engage with our elected representatives.

Kind regards,
Andrew McLeod - Ludmilla