
From: Betty Risler
Sent: Tuesday, 27 October 2015 3:10 PM
To: Public Accounts Committee LA
Subject: Richardson Park Redevelopment

I wish to make a submission to the Public Accounts Committee regarding the Richardson Park Redevelopment. I attended the public meeting at Parap Shops on Sunday 25 October 2015, as I live in The Narrows and was previously affected by rugby matches.

Many logical and well presented arguments were given as to why the redevelopment should definitely not go ahead.

Two pertinent points not stressed that morning are:

- **Primary surge zone:** the environmental cost of redevelopment will be enormous and irreversible. A built environment and reduced mangroves reduces the ability of an area to cope with floods (from intense storms, cyclones or tidal surges) and salt damage. There is little open space in the Ludmilla area. Community use open space would be an environmental and socially responsible land use for this low-lying area.
- **The Arafura Games** were cancelled by this government (citing cost as a factor).

Some ideas presented against development are:

- Noise and lighting towers (These were major issues for Ludmilla and The Narrows residents when Richardson Park was at 1500 capacity. It is unimaginable what the problem would be like with a 10000 capacity.)
- Traffic access, parking and congestion
- Negative effect on Ludmilla School
- No buffer zone. It is not possible to create adequate buffer zones in Ludmilla, whereas at Marrara large buffer zones and shared facilities already exist. If a rugby facility was developed in Berrimah or the rural area, buffer zones could be incorporated in the planning process.
- No consultation with residents
- Disrespectful haste with which the tender process was announced, without due process

It is obvious that governments make decisions for development in their jurisdiction, and not every decision pleases all voters. However, making 'hard decisions' does not mean ignoring or contravening public views, as well as due planning procedures and principles.

Regards

Betty Risler

25.10.2015