

**Submission
No 55**

INQUIRY INTO PROPOSAL TO DEVELOP ROSEHILL RACECOURSE

Name: Mr Matthew Zammit

Date Received: 17 July 2024

To the Members of the Committee,

My name is Matthew Zammit and I'm an Australian Turf Club foundation member and a lifetime resident of Sydney's western suburbs. I'm also an ex-employee of the Sydney Turf Club (part of the merger that became the ATC), where I worked Saturdays at Rosehill Racecourse for many years.

I write to the Committee to express my deep objection to the proposed sale of Rosehill Racecourse, and the plan to replace it with a large scale development of new dwellings.

Rosehill Racecourse is an iconic racing venue that has entertained people of Sydney and international visitors for many years. It has its place in the history of global racing, and continues to delight racing participants and the general public each year, highlighted by the Golden Slipper - akin to the Melbourne Cup in terms of its appeal and place in world racing.

It is the an incredible asset to all of us in Western Sydney, and one of very few outlets for entertainment in Western Sydney, with the inner city and eastern suburbs far more favoured for entertainment venues and investment.

Please don't allow this jewel in the Western Sydney crown to be taken away from us by greedy people with their hands in the till, and a NSW government lacking any strategy and foresight.

The Premier's plan to slam tens of thousands of people into an already over-populated and under-resourced Western Sydney is lacking in leadership or the ambition required to deal with the housing crisis in Sydney.

For generations people of Sydney have grown with the land, and moved into new developments on new land, much like I myself did - having to move away from the suburb I grew up in but still within driving or public transport distance. These new land developments have been supported ideally by new infrastructure to allow the suburbs to grow with the population, rather than the population outgrowing the area.

This state government appears to have given up on this, for what reason only they can explain, and instead are looking for a shortcut. They want to slam more people into existing, populated suburbs with the excuse that a metro will solve all problems.

It's a shortcut. It makes no sense. Above all, the target for land will destroy an iconic Western Sydney venue that can never be rebuilt. It will be gone forever and future generations robbed of the experience.

Please don't allow the sale of Rosehill Racecourse to go ahead.

Concerned resident and racing participant,

Matthew Zammit