

Major Projects Assessment,
Department of Planning and Infrastructure
GPO Box 39 SYDNEY
NSW 2001

Attention: Director Infrastructure

Via e-mail: plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au
Via Fax: (02) 9228 6355

Dear Sir,

**Budokan Judo Club Inc Response to the Transport for NSW
“Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) 2” dated 25th October 2012
for the North West Rail Link (NWRL) Project**

EIS Response Requirements:

1. Name and address: Rob Katz representing Budokan Judo Club Inc., Horticulture Pavilion, Castle Hill Showground; Postal Address 15 Grasmere Ave, Northmead, NSW 2152
2. Name of our application: “Budokan Judo Club Inc Response to the Transport for NSW “Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) 2” dated 25th October 2012 for the North West Rail Link Project
3. The application number: SSI 5414 and SSI-5645 MOD1
4. Statement on whether we support or object to the proposal:

Budokan Judo Club Inc objects to EIS2 In its current form and for the reasons outlined below.
5. The reasons why we object to the proposal: As detailed below
6. I declare that I have not made any reportable political donations (including donations of \$1,000 or more) in the previous two years. I acknowledge that Under section 1152(5) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979, the Director-General may provide copies of submissions received during the exhibition period, or a summary of the submissions, to the proponent, and that it is the Department of Planning’s and Infrastructure’s policy to also place a copy of our submission on the department’s website.

Overview

- 1) Budokan Judo Club Inc. (“Budokan”) would like to publically acknowledge the public support of the Premier of NSW, the NSW Transport Minister, and in particular the efforts of the NSW Member of Parliament for Castle Hill and the NWRL Project Team that has resulted in the relocation of the proposed “Showground” Station in EIS2. As a result, the Horticulture Pavilion will neither be impacted by the construction nor operation of the NWRL. Thank you for your consultation and support to date.

This document responds to both EIS2 (SSI 5414) and also the Request for Modification of Staged Infrastructure Approval specific to the Castle Hill Station (SSI 5645 MOD1).

- 2) Budokan has been operating out of the Horticulture Pavilion of the Castle Hill Showground for over 15 years. The proposed Site Layout for Site 6, Showground Station in EIS2, indicates that the Horticulture Pavilion will be in close proximity to the proposed construction zone. Although now zoned on the Showground Station Precinct map as "Protected from construction impacts", risks both during and post-construction associated with the close proximity of the construction site to the Horticulture Pavilion have been identified and need to be satisfactorily managed.

During the Construction Phase, this proximity introduces increased risks to our members, who use Pavilion and Showground public space for training activities, due to:

- a) Construction Traffic Issues;
- b) Access Issues for Showground Users to Showground Facilities; and
- c) Health and Safety Issues (Noise & Dust)

Specific concerns will be detailed below in the section titled "Construction Phase Issues".

Post Construction, the proximity of the Horticulture Pavilion to a number of major infrastructure elements presents a number of different risks to our members in regard to:

- d) Traffic Issues; and
- e) Security Issues.

Specific concerns will be detailed below in the section titled "Post Construction Phase Issues".

- 3) Budokan strongly favours the development of Showground Station, its precinct and the potential opportunities that may flow from the State's decision to purchase the Hills Shire Council and Hills Centre sites. The location of Budokan Judo Club in the Showground / Showground Station precinct would facilitate greater community access to the superior training offered by Budokan. This would generate increased community benefit of the site and enhance the advantages proposed for delivery by the NW Rail project to the Hills community. Budokan is keen to understand the State's plans for the "Future Use to be Determined by Master Plan" areas and whether there is a role for Budokan to play. Budokan would be a keen participant in any future working party engaged to contribute to or develop such a plan.

Construction Phase Issues

- a) Construction Traffic Issues

Unclear from EIS2 whether construction traffic would be limited to the construction zone identified in EIS2 or whether construction traffic would be allowed to utilise the internal roads within the Showground that are outside the construction zone. Our members utilise the open space within the Showground (running) and the nearest public toilet facilities adjacent to the Showground. Our membership includes a significant number of children who would be at risk of construction traffic whilst attending and training at Budokan. Budokan seeks confirmation that Construction Traffic would be limited to the construction zone.

- b) Access Issues for Showground Users to Showground Facilities

- i) Unclear from EIS2, how Showground Users will be able to access the Showground during construction phase. References included in EIS Summary - Part IV – Traffic – Ref No T26 notes that "Alternative access to the Showground will be developed and detailed in the relevant Construction Traffic

Management Plan". Budokan seeks confirmation that our members will be able to access the Horticulture Pavilion during the construction phase in a safe manner, ideally with access and egress quarantined from the construction site and construction-related traffic.

Unclear from EIS2 whether required parking for construction personnel would be contained within the construction zone. Given the immediate proximity of the Horticulture Pavilion (off Doran Drive) to the construction zone, there is a risk if parking is allowed outside of the construction zone, of access in terms of available parking within the Showground being restricted. The flow-on effect from inadequate parking within the Showground would be increased risk to children who may need to negotiate a congested parking situation to access for example the amenities block. Budokan seeks confirmation that parking required by construction personnel will be accommodated within the construction zone.

c) Health and Safety Issues (Noise & Dust)

Unclear from EIS2 what measures will be put in place to ensure acceptable levels of noise and dust pollution from (1) construction and (2) construction traffic within the construction zone, and that any risk posed to Showground Users is mitigated. Budokan seeks confirmation that appropriate physical, technical and other appropriate measures will be put in place to ensure the safety of Showground Users. Additionally, there should be transparent and regular reporting in regards the successful construction consortium's adherence to such measures.

Post-Construction Phase Issues

a) Traffic Issues

EIS2 identifies that Doran Drive will allow continued access to the Showground post construction. The proximity of the Horticulture Pavilion to the Showground Station precinct, upgraded Doran Drive, New Street A and the multi-storey car park will drive increased traffic flow through the internal roads of the Showground. The internal roads of the Showground and the current parking areas available within the Showground are not designed for this purpose and increased traffic flow and overflow parking would increase risk to Showground Users. Budokan seeks confirmation that (1) a traffic management plan be developed for the internal roads within the Showground that takes into account increased traffic flow in the Doran Drive / station precinct; and (2) that where upgraded roads are required within the Showground to cater for such anticipated traffic flows, such upgrades are included in the construction plan for Showground Station.

b) Security Issues

The Showground Station will result in vastly increased traffic (both vehicular and pedestrian) within the station precinct area and by extension the areas surrounding the immediate station precinct area. The risk of vandalism/damage to Showground assets and the theft of Showground User assets will likewise be enhanced. Budokan seeks confirmation that a Showground User Amenity Risk Management Plan will be developed in conjunction with the Castle Hill and Hills District Agricultural Society Inc to address physical security, required infrastructure upgrades, lighting, foot paths etc within the Showground precinct and (2) that where upgraded infrastructure is required by such plan, such upgrades are included in the construction plan for Showground Station.

The issues raised in this document have not been adequately addressed in EIS2 or the Modification document specific to Showground Station. Should all the risk areas identified herein be resolved to a standard acceptable to Budokan, which would align with standards reasonably acceptable to the general community, Budokan would have no hesitation in endorsing the next stage of the project. Our understanding is that that given the recent changes to the Showground Station location, the EIS2 document may not reflect all the necessary detail in terms of construction zone configuration or site and community access to provide a full evaluation. Therefore as any new details come to light, stakeholders such as Budokan will need to be notified and invited to comment. Please feel free to contact either me or Greg Tafft on 0428412698 if you have any questions or if we can be of further assistance in elaborating upon our concerns.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rob Katz", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Rob Katz

President and Coaching Coordinator

On behalf of the Committee

Budokan Judo Club Inc.

Ph: 0411 409 632

katzfamily@accc.net.au

rob.katz@defence.gov.au

<http://www.budokan-judo-club.com/>

30th November 2012

Attachment: Community Services and Contribution (Who we are)

Community Services and Contribution (Who we are)

- 1) Budokan Judo Club together with sister clubs, Makotokan Aikido, and Universal Combat Academy, provide training and competition facilities and coaching for *200 athletes* and their families and operate *6 days per week, 49 weeks per year*.
- 2) Budokan Judo Club is Incorporated under the Associations Incorporations Act as a *non-profit club*, with a constitution and active volunteer committee, that operates on limited revenue and relies heavily on *the current relationship with the Committee of the Castle Hill and Hills District Agricultural Society and our long-term arrangements for use of the Horticulture Pavilion as our home*.
- 3) Budokan Judo Club operates through 5 qualified coaches (2 of whom are currently Australian Team Judo coaches) to provide the following services and benefits to the community:
 - a) Provides a *training and competition venue for the Olympic sport of Judo*;
 - b) Provides high level training and coaching to athletes aged from 5-65 years, primarily drawn for the Hills Shire (80%), but to which athletes travel from the mountains, inner west, northern beaches and Central Coast.
 - c) Facilitates the development of children and young people into *responsible and disciplined young adults* via one of the most physical and challenging sports available, through a holistic approach to planning and life-balance. Budokan Judo club has one of the *highest ratios of juniors (65%)* of any Judo club in NSW. The club provides tailored age-appropriate training at the child, teenage and adult age groups through 6 permanent sessions each week. The venue is also used by the NSW Judo team for monthly training sessions throughout the year.
 - d) Trains *disabled athletes*, such as those with hearing and sight impediments, and with developmental disorders like ADHD and Asberger Syndrome. Some of our athletes who fit into these categories have represented Australia at World Championship level. Parents of these members have reported that the club has improved their focus, provided their children with a greater level of self-confidence and self-worth, and has *improved their ability to cope* with their condition and achieve integration into the community, and therefore *their quality of life*.
 - e) Provides *females with confidence and assertiveness* as a first-line defence if faced with confrontational situations. Budokan Judo club has one of the *highest ratios of female athletes (30%)* of any Judo club in NSW.
 - f) Runs Judo programs within the *physical education system of local schools*, providing a benefit to students and a service to the local schools.
 - g) Provides *physical skills useful to professionals* involved in policing, fire, ambulance and military services (amongst others) with a number of our members belonging to these services.
 - h) Promotes *active and healthy lifestyles within the Hills Shire* and beyond via regular media coverage in local newspapers, community radio, and at sporting award functions. Athletes from Budokan won the NewsLocal Young Achiever Award in 2010, and the Junior Sports Star Award for the Hills Shire in 2011. In 2010, a Budokan athlete was a finalist in the NSW Sports Federation Young Athlete of the Year and one of our coaches was a finalist in the NSW Coach of the Year.

- i) Provides a service to over 15 families with multiple family members in the club. This means that the club is more than just a child-minding facility but represents a *source of quality family time*, and a strong social network between member families. Budokan Judo club also has a *diverse membership, with a demographic profile* including professionals ranging from lawyers, doctors and engineers through to specialised tradespeople such as electricians, plumbers and builders. Its membership includes a broad range of nuclear, extended, blended and single parent and financially challenged families.

Achievements of Budokan Members

- 1) Budokan Judo Club offers *avenues for state and national representation through to Commonwealth and Olympic level*. The club is a conduit for athletes with drive and motivation to achieve greatness by representing their country. Since 2002, Budokan athletes have won 48 National Titles and represented Australia on more than 100 occasions including over 20 selections to Olympic Games, World Championship or Commonwealth events.
- 2) Since commencing the annual *Judo NSW Awards* in 2010, Budokan Judo Club athletes have won 8 of the 24 individual awards available to nearly 50 clubs across NSW for best athlete in an age category, including best overall athlete in NSW in 2010. Budokan also won the NSW Junior Development Club of the Year in 2010 and the NSW Club of the Year in 2011.
- 3) Since implementation of the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) sponsored *National Talent Identification and Development (NTID) Squad* in 2007, Budokan has had at least 1 and sometimes 2 athletes on the 20 strong National Squad plus at least 1 reserve (in the top 30).
- 4) In 2011, Budokan won NSW Judo Club of the Year. In 2010 and 2012 Budokan was awarded the Junior Development Club of the Year by Judo NSW. We currently have 3 athletes on the Australian Sports Commission sponsored National Talent Identification and development (NTID) Squad. Highlights of competition results for 2012 follow:
 - a) National Team representation (3) in a Senior World Cup event with a Bronze medal and 7th place;
 - b) National Team representation (1) at the Commonwealth Championships with a Bronze medal and 5th place;
 - c) NSW State Team representation (24) in 35 divisions at the Australian Championships with 8 Gold, 6 Silver and 7 Bronze medals, plus 6 athletes competing for Bronze. This was the highest medal tally of any NSW club, NSW being the best performing State.
 - d) NTID representation (1) in the Indonesian Open with two Gold medals;
 - e) Selection of 2 athletes and 1 Coach to the Australian Youth Olympic Festival in January 2013
- 5) Budokan's international standard coaching services are provided by highly experienced and qualified coaches who include: current State and National Coaches, former Olympic competitors and coaches, the NSW National Coaching Accreditation Scheme (NCAS) Coordinator, the NSW National Talent Identification and Development (NTID) Coordinator, NSW Black Belt Register (BBR) Instructor, National judge, a recipient of the International Judo Federation (IJF) Medal of Merit for services to Judo during the 2000 Olympic and Paralympic Games, and 3 Life Members of Judo NSW. These represent *significant contributions to the Judo and sporting communities and promotes the community spirit and 'can do' culture prevalent in the Hills Shire*.