

Mullumbimby Resident's Association's Submission concerning 'Parklands', a State Significant Development Proposal in the Byron Shire.

Residence of Mullumbimby are among the Byron Shire population who are impacted unfavourably by the events that currently take place at Parklands. The proposed increased capacity by North Byron Parklands to up to 50,000 attendees at numerous events each year is unacceptable. Reason for this position include:

- The considerable disconnect between reports by Parklands and local residence with the former reporting compliance with the consent conditions being close to 100% and local residents documenting close to 100 breaches and other irregularities since the current trial was granted. Despite inquiries from residents NSW Department of Planning (DOP) have not provide information about the breaches which is a real concern.*
- It is further the case that the inability of the State Government to monitor, and inforce as necessary, compliance issues since 2012 and the Part 3A Approval, indicates that the State government should not be the enforcing authority and that all compliance and enforcing powers be under the jurisdiction of Byron Shire Council*
- That the approval of any proposed new and existing events, and their frequency, be judged on the impact they may have on the lives of residents immediately affected by Parkland events. Issues identified by residents as problematical and recurring include: noise which cannot be effectively blocked out and contributes to health effects; impact on local infrastructure such as roads, sewerage system, the environment including wildlife; the on-site- traffic- nightmares; the on-going concern over the potential fire hazard along Jones Road all of which have never been addressed.*
- Importantly the proposed sewage management is unsatisfactory, e.g. sewage is to be buried or sprayed on the Parklands site. Sewage is liquid so cannot be buried. It can be sprayed. But sewage also produces solids which should be composted, not buried. There are dosing rates for the liquid component that must be complied with as they would minimise contamination. Those rates depend on the slope, soil, etc. of the area to*

be sprayed. Gullies and floodplains should be avoided. But there is a significant concern over this strategy as the areas for irrigation of sewage from the number of attendees would be huge and seriously not applicable. Also, the lack of any provision for dealing with inorganic matter in waste stream, e.g. prescription drugs, over-the-counter drugs and other unmetabolised chemical is of considerable concern.

- *The promise, by Parklands, that they will implement sewage treatment plans 'progressively as budget allows' is not acceptable. This issue was supposed to have been dealt with by the end of 2017 when a complete sewerage treatment system was supposed to be in place.*
- *The environment is the true significant asset in this part of the state. Billinudgel Nature Reserve and Marshalls Wildlife Corridor has attracted significant NSW government funding over the years and represents an important state asset. Approval of the Parklands proposal will permanently change the nature of this ecologically significant area for the worse.*

Based on the performance of the applicant so far it is obvious that no further or additional approvals by the State Government should be endorsed. Under the jurisdiction of the Byron Council Parklands festivals have been operating successfully for many years. Byron Council and Tweed Council have developed rigorous conditions in consultation with residents which can be monitored and enforced locally if/when necessary. Parklands, as a State Significant Development, is unacceptable and must be rejected by NSW Dept. of Planning.

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