

Chris King - Objection to SSD 5394-2012-Mod 1

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To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 2/18/2013 5:33 PM
Subject: Objection to SSD 5394-2012-Mod 1

I wish to object to the above event/project dated 10 March 2013. This Future Music Festival has been held for a number of years now and causes many in the surrounding areas. I note this event extends the original event by another day.

Firstly, no matter what the submission claims about transport to and from the event, this is a major cause of problems for the entire surrounding suburbs of the Racecourse. There is NO parking available in any suburb anywhere near the racecourse during this event. Every year, residents driveways are parked in, and left blocked all day and night, with no ability to remove the offending vehicles. There is nowhere near enough public transport to cater to the enormous crowd and NEVER has been since this event commenced. I consider extending this event to another day will cause these same traffic problems but without a workable plan to deliver/remove young people from the area without causing the usual chaos. My elderly mother will now be confined to the house for 2 days as it is too dangerous for her to be outside amongst this huge crowd. Our street becomes a prolonged traffic jam after the event, with cars, taxis and coaches gridlocked outside our house until after midnight. There is obviously either no or ineffectual attempts at traffic management. I understand there are plans in place this year for day 1, but I am not convinced this will work until I see it does, and I understand no special plan for our street exists for day 2.

Secondly as noise amelioration for day 1 is non-existent, I can safely assume there will be none on day 2 condemning the area to a horrible mishmash of noise from 5 stages. We live near many concert events, including Good Vibrations which is held every year in February approximately 200 metres from our house. We do not hear ONE note of music from this event. Yet every year, the windows of our house shake and vibrate and we have to keep all the doors and windows closed just to hear ourselves talk inside our own home when Future Music is held, 200 metres from our house in the other direction. I do not believe whatever claims the proponent makes regarding anything he might be doing to reduce noise. It simply doesn't happen and I invite the planning department staff reviewing this application to attend my home and hear it for themselves on the night, and now second day and night.

However, that brings me to the third major issue - policing. I understand there will be 90 drug dogs and their handlers at the event on day 1. Every year drug dealers operate with relative impunity from King Street (there is the odd arrest) but police are overwhelmed. Policing inside the event sounds magic but outside is another story. We have never had a response to any of our calls to police for assistance after this event, and from attending numerous Council meetings on this matter, neither have other residents. This means each year residents in my block barricade their homes, and have to guard against the drunk and drugged patrons invading their properties, having sex in their yards and stealing. The police seem to be very interested in drug arrests, but completely impotent and indeed uninterested in helping residents in the face of the chaos and anti-social behaviour this event brings into a concentrated area year after year. I feel by extending this event for another day it is just another day of pain for the residents to endure.

This is clearly a trouble prone, criminal attended event which deserves to be put to rest, not extended by a day. There are many other music festivals which do not seem to cause anywhere near this amount and type of trouble, including some very near our home. We hope at least now some consideration will be given to long suffering residents who literally dread this day and now an additional day every year.

I consider the promoter of this event to be a very convincing salesman with no scruples or ethics. Every year he fills my suburb with drug dealers, and assorted antisocial elements, and the authorities are not only powerless, they're his most powerful allies. Now you are putting your faith in him to look after the well-being of 15,000 young people. All I can say is good luck on that front.

Yours faithfully

Anne Robinson, Clare Robinson, and Donald Gibbons
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Sent from my iPad