

26th May 2021

Mr. Rodger Roppolo
NSW Department of Planning, Industry & the Environment
Level 17, 4 Parramatta Square, 12 Darcy Street
Parramatta
NSW 2150

Reference: Application number SSD-7942-Mod-1 - URBN SURF - Open Water Surf Sports Lagoon Facility, Sydney Olympic Park

By email: Rodger.Roppolo@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Roppolo

The Royal Agricultural Society of NSW (RAS) is delighted to have the opportunity to provide this submission to the NSW Department of Planning, Industry & the Environment in regard to the proposed modification of the approved Open Water Surf Sports Lagoon Facility at Sydney Olympic Park.

Background

The Royal Agricultural Society of NSW (RAS) is a truly iconic Australian organisation and has been an influential force in the direction and development of Australian agriculture through competitions, education and events since its foundation in 1822. In 2022 we celebrate our bicentenary and enter our **3rd century** of continued operation.

The RAS is based at Sydney Showground in the heart of Sydney Olympic Park (SOP) and is operated on a long term 99 + 99 year lease from the Sydney Olympic Park Authority (SOPA).

Home to the RAS and the Sydney Royal Easter Show (SRES), the Nations' largest annual ticketed event, Sydney Showground also provides a year-round exhibition and events venue that hosts a diverse range of activity, exhibitions, sporting events, corporate functions and music events. Sydney Showground is a complementary venue to the new International Convention Centre at Darling Harbour and is Western Sydney's number 1 event venue. Sydney Showground is also home to the AFL's Greater Western Sydney Giants and cricket's Sydney Thunder both playing out of the Sydney Showground Stadium otherwise known as Spotless Stadium, Western Sydney's premier sporting oval.

Sydney Olympic Park and GPOP

The RAS is a supporter of the proposed amenity and looks forward to its construction, however we remain concerned that, as yet the NSW Government has not confirmed the delivery of Parramatta Light Rail Stage 2 (PLR2). The current preferred route for PLR2 would pass immediately adjacent to the proposed wave pool, a significant opportunity to minimise private vehicle use and connect the pool to the burgeoning suburbs of Wentworth Point, Rhodes and Melrose Park. We are concerned that without this public transport solution, travel to the wave pool will be undertaken predominantly by private vehicle, exacerbating existing congestion and adding to the detrimental environmental impacts associated with such transport.

Royal Agricultural Society of NSW

1 Showground Road, Sydney Olympic Park NSW 2127
Locked Bag 4317 Sydney Olympic Park NSW 2127 | **ABN** 69 793 644 351
Tel: (02) 9704 1111 | **Email:** info@rasnsw.com.au | **Fax:** (02) 9704 1122 | **www.rasnsw.com.au**



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In addition, it seems that delivery of Stage 1 only will be an underwhelming outcome and a massive opportunity missed by the State as, while it will connect Westmead and Parramatta to the few hundred residents who reside at Carlingford, without Stage 2 the opportunity to connect with millions of existing and potential residents in and around, and visitors to Sydney Olympic Park, will be missed.

The Proposed Development and its compatibility

We would like to 'remind' the proponent and the consent authority of the activities undertaken by the RAS throughout the year as detailed in our previous submission.

Sydney Showground at
Sydney Olympic Park



The RAS would be pleased to meet with the consent authority and the proponent to be able to discuss the likely impacts of the SRES and other events to the proposed development.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this submission, should you require anything further please do not hesitate to contact our Head of Project Development, Jonathan Seward.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brock Gilmour', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Brock Gilmour
Chief Executive

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