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Sent: Friday, 12 March 2021 12:47 PM
To: PPO Engagement
Cc: eplanning.exhibitions@planning.nsw.gov.au
Subject: Webform submission from: Western Sydney Aerotropolis Draft Precinct Plans
Attachments: aerotropolisgreenspacemeeting20feb2021.pdf

Submitted on Fri, 12/03/2021 - 12:46

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am submitting on behalf of my organisation

Name

First name

Deb

Last name

Heffernan

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Luddenham

Submission file

[aerotropolisgreenspacemeeting20feb2021.pdf](#)

Submission

We, the Community Surrounding the Western Sydney Airport held a Community meeting on Saturday 20th February 2021 against the Dept of Planning's proposed 'Green Space' debacle. In support of the residents and landholders and speakers on the day were: NSW Shadow Minister for Western Sydney - Greg Warren & Councillors from Liverpool Council - Cllr Rhodes, Cllr Hagarty and Cllr Hadid. Media attended from: 7news. Minutes of the Community Meeting is attached with photos submitted thereafter. We, the Community are outraged with the Dept of Planning for the repercussions of the Draft Precinct Plan on the community surrounding the Western Sydney Airport. It's wrong and it's unAustralian. As described at the meeting, it is legalised theft of land from hard working owners. As well as, financial burden of increased rate structures due to the zoning changes on rural lands that have no potential to develop for years. We, the Community request the Government pay for all Green Space and to reduce the amount of Green Space the Dept is requiring.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

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LUDDENHAM COMMUNITY MEETING ON TUESDAY 9TH MARCH 2021



NSW MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR MULGOA
TANIA DAVIES



NSW MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR CAMDEN
PETER SIDGREAVES



NSW OPPOSITION LEADER JODI MCKAY



NSW SHADOW MINISTER FOR WESTERN SYDNEY
GREG WARREN

LUDDENHAM COMMUNITY MEETING ON TUESDAY 9TH MARCH 2021



FEDERAL MINISTER FOR WERRIWA ANNE STANLEY



LIVERPOOL COUNCILLOR PETER HARLE



CONCERNED RESIDENT



CONCERNED RESIDENT

LUDDENHAM COMMUNITY MEETING ON TUESDAY 9TH MARCH 2021



CONCERNED RESIDENTS



MEDIA ATTENDING MEETING
7NEWS, 9NEWS, ABC, 2GB & SYDNEY TELEGRAPH



CONCERNED RESIDENTS



LUDDENHAM COMMUNITY MEETING ON TUESDAY 9TH MARCH 2021



CONCERNED RESIDENTS

MINUTES OF MEETING OF AEROTROPOLIS WESTERN SYDNEY AIRPORT REZONING OF LAND TO GREENSPACE

Held on Saturday 20th February 2021 at 1.35pm

Speaker Rob Heffernan:

We are here to discuss the grand plans for the Aerotropolis, Northern Gateway; and this meeting came about because of the media interest in what's going on in the area. You might have seen some of the interviews and things that have happened in the last couple of weeks. So, a lot of people said to me "What are we going to do after the media interviews", and we didn't sort of have a plan of what to do. It was first suggested that maybe a community meeting is probably the best thing to do. So, I want to thank you all for coming today. We didn't know what to expect, whether we'd have 10 people or 300 people. There's a lot of interest in what is going on in the area. So yeah, the situation with the government, giving out the draft plan with a consultation that we know of; the other infrastructure that we've had in the area, the Northern Road the M12 Expressway, we've had information sessions where community consultants with consultation to discuss those projects. And this one, I can understand that you know with Covid restrictions and all that we haven't been able to do that. But I thought it was time that we did do something and talk about it. You're not going to get answers today. But what we will do, we want to do, is have a constructive, informative discussion about the draft plan. First, we will have a few people to talk about what is going on. I have Wayne Willmington who's the President of the Progress Association here in Luddenham and also President of the Show Society. Wayne has been heavily involved in what's been going on in the area for years. He's lived in the area for years. So, Wayne will address the meeting today. We also have the Shadow Minister for Western Sydney, Greg Warren, who will be addressing the meeting. We have Liverpool Councillor Nathan Hagarty, they will be addressing the meeting. We have Liverpool Councillor Karress Rhodes, who will be addressing the meeting. We also have local Councillor, Deputy Mayor of Liverpool, Mazhar Hadid. So, they are here to listen and speak on behalf of the Council. And also, to listen to the community on what is going on. They've already mentioned to me that they have heard things and seen things that they weren't aware of. So, it's a good information session for everybody to be able to have a talk and discuss what is going on. After we hear from the speakers, we will then open it up to the public to come forward. I would like you to announce your name and the area you come from whether it's the agribusiness, whether it's the Northern Gateway, whether it's the Aerotropolis, so then we get an idea of what your issues are in those areas, so that we can present this to the Government as a submission. We will be recording the meeting, we will be taking minutes from the meeting; and those minutes will be a submission on behalf of the community here today to go to the government and let them know what our concerns are, what we need as a community. A lot of you have lived here for generations and the land here has been left alone for the last 30 years because of the airport. We lived with it unknowing with what was going on with the airport until the decision was made to build it. The land was bought 30 years ago, and we've had to live with that uncertainty. The rest of Sydney has gone ahead, had development and everything. And we as a community of Luddenham, Bringelly, Kemps Creek, Rossmore, have not had any development go on. So, they have a blank canvas to work with here. And as owners of properties, I'm sure a lot of us have concerns about the draft plan. The draft plan shows a lot of green space. Lots of road networks that have been put in through the properties. Now we want some definition of what is going on with those green spaces, those road networks and everything else that is in this draft plan. The Green Spaces that are allowed. We all live on properties, we've lived in a Green Space all our lives, and we have met all, most of us I don't think having the objection to having Green Space providing it's done in the right way and the land holders are compensated for the space they have, their land. That's our community and this the State Government is making massive changes. This is the biggest development that Sydney has ever seen housing a Federal Airport, an International Airport, an employment zone that is massive, like the northern gateway. A third of the city of Sydney being the Aerotropolis and the Agribusiness area. This, Sydney has not seen anything like this ever and so, as a community in that area I think we need to speak up and hear our voice and obviously, the Government is listening to a great extent, because, you know they've changed the submission date. They've given us another 3

weeks to put in submissions. They announced that there are one on one meetings with planners. They're not just ignoring us now, because of the pressure of the media and that which is great. So, this meeting today, as I said it's not going to resolve all the issues that everybody has, but it is to make aware what most people are thinking in the area. The submissions are extremely important. If you need help putting in new submissions, there is a table over here with some information on people that can help you with it. We need volunteers and we need people to help the people that need their submissions put in. A lot of their land has already been rezoned. They are speaking from our property it's been rezoned for enterprise. I don't know what enterprise you can run on it, because we've got no water, no sewerage no nothing. So, and in that fact now because of rezoning we've gone from rural rates to enterprise rates, and a lot of you are probably in the same boat. So, these are sorts of things that need to be sorted out. The Green Space needs to be sorted out, the roadworks need to be sorted out. All sorts of things need to be sorted out. So, this draft plan has the basis of what is going to go on. But the objections or the information or the questions that we put forward today we need the Government to respond to so later on, as I say we will be opening up to your discussion, but first I'd like to introduce Wayne Willmington to address the meeting on behalf of the Progress Association and the Showground. Thank You.

Speaker Wayne Willmington

Thanks Rob. And it's great to see so many people turn up here. My family first moved to Luddenham back in 1850, so, I've grown up in the area. My father grew up, my grandfather grew up in the area. We've been part of this great, great area which will never be the same again. What happened when I was a kid there was talk about an airport and everybody goes - they'll never build it, it will never happen. This will stay farming land forever. So, the airport's getting built and this land is not going to stay the same. I think the issue is that we've known the airport is going to be here and I've also thought about our land and you know we haven't done renovations, we've realized that because especially people in Luddenham and close to the airport, we've thought our land will be worth money and we're close to the airport. And then all of a sudden, the zoning comes out and Luddenham Village and all this area here is zoned Agribusiness. And people talk about what can you do. There is so much wrong information out there. If you talk to different people in the State Planning or in the Planning Partnership or in local Councils, you get different information and I had a meeting with the Planning Partnership and they've said here is Sydney Airport, this is an overlay of Sydney Airport and I've brought it out and sat it out over the airport here and said we are going to do this and we're going to do that. But I don't think that they have really thought about the reality of it and the people. And the people that are doing a lot of these plans, the designers are people that are in Sydney and haven't even been out and been in the area. You'd think that they'd come out and actually get a feel for the area, see what's here, see what's what, and what they can do to keep the area. We understand it's got to change. We understand the airport's coming but realistically as landowners we want to make sure that we get the value of our land and, you know, some people's land value has certainly gone down. Of course, what they're doing to all those that are in the green zone, where they've said it's green you can't do anything with it. You can't build on it, we don't want to buy it. I don't have a problem with there being green land and having parks and all that. The government needs to step forward and pay the people what the land is worth. I think we don't want anything special. We only want what is due to us. If we were in another suburb somewhere else what our land would be worth. This idea of it's green zone, you can't build on it, who wants to buy it. So, there's all those sorts of issues. But what I believe is the most important this is people power. The people here today you make a difference. They've extended the submissions. I urge everybody to put a submission in because the submissions will change, and we can change what they've put in because they are only draft and they can be changed. So, please everybody put a submission in and as Rob mentioned over there if you need help there are people that can help you. If you want to be someone that wants to help other people put a submission in, please put your names on those sheets at the end of the meeting because, you know if we all stick together we can create and get what we deserve. Thanks very much.

Speaker Rob Heffernan

I'd like to introduce the Shadow Minister of Western Sydney Mr Greg Warren, Liverpool Deputy Mayor Mr Mazhar Hadid, Liverpool Councillor Mr Nathan Hagarty, Liverpool Councillor Karress Rhodes.

Shadow Minister for Western Sydney Mr Greg Warren will now address the meeting.

Speaker Greg Warren

Thanks Rob, Deb, Margaret, everyone for organizing today and thank you very much for having me out and thanks to Deputy Mayor of Liverpool, Mazhar Hadid, Councillor Rhodes, my good mate Councillor Nathan Hagarty who let me know this was on today and I'm delighted to be here. I wish I was here under different circumstances. However, that said, I'm glad to be here today mostly to listen to the concerns you have, much of them I already know, but to have the opportunity to be out here firsthand and listen to locals is something that I truly, do truly appreciate. You might be aware as to the Orchard Hills matter, while it's not the same as your circumstances it's similar circumstances, the Government folded over there. They've still got a long way to go but fought with those local residents and supported them and those landowners and they got a better outcome and I'm here today to tell you that I'm going to fight with you in every way that I can because you deserve a fair go just as much. I know you need certainty. You need to be consulted. The extension is for three weeks. I don't care if it's extended for three, four, or five weeks. What matters most to me is that when these submissions are put in, you are listened to and you are considered just as much as everyone else. I'm also the Member for Campbelltown so I'm a Western Sydney bloke and know too often the West and the South West. Regarding the submissions, when you send your submissions in, send them to local members.

All the way through the issues surrounding the acquisitions with the aerotropolis is these smaller landowners this isn't just a piece of land that they make money off. This is their home and I voiced that in the Parliament, and I give you an undertaking that I'll be bringing this matter to the floor of parliament. We're in recess for three weeks now, we finished on Thursday, we're back in three weeks' time and I will use the instruments of Parliament and every instrument to take up your plight and fight and put pressure on in every way possible way I can.

What the gentleman before said about the submissions and putting them in, that is so important. It is so important you tell your story, how this is affecting your life, how it's affecting your wellbeing, how you're entitled to your fair share, and a fair go. What the zonings mean, what it means to your livelihood, your financial livelihood, your wellbeing, your family, your children, your job, all of these things tend to get overlooked by Government. And I think it's a tragic and sad day that we can continue to see this happen. The aerotropolis in Western Sydney Airport is being built, you know this and it's going to be an engine for so many different reasons. And I've always said that all stakeholders must be taken along with that journey. And there is no more important stakeholder than those people who had the homes that surround the aerotropolis that will be affected by the construction of Western Sydney Airport. That's all of you. And yet again, we're seeing a circumstance like we did at Orchard Hills, and our meeting with the residents of Bringelly on Tuesday as well as numerous other residents around. So, there is a very clear narrative that's been set here by the Government that is just disengaging smaller landowners and seeing a prioritization of larger landowners. It's simply unacceptable. It's a tragic circumstance that I am not willing to walk past. It is a standard that I'm not willing to walk past, because I am of the view, every landowner should be treated equitably and fairly and without prejudice. And that hasn't happened today. And my message to the Premier, the Planning Minister and the Shadow Minister for Western Sydney, get out here to Luddenham, talk to local residents, hear their concerns, because I can see it in your eyes; and I can see the people and the anguish that it's causing. I want the Premier of New South Wales to see that. I want the Planning Minister to see that and I want the Shadow Minister for Western Sydney whose electorate is just over there, to get out here and explain themselves, but listen to you so that when they are making these decisions, it is due considered, you are considered. That is not happening now. But I'll be putting every bit of pressure on to make sure that it is in these times of uncertainty around with everything going on with COVID and of course the ongoing construction

Sydney Airport. Now more than ever, making sure that communities are consulted, that local families are engaged by Government is so important. I just can't believe that the only thing that Government's done today with this precinct claim is extend the draft by three weeks. That's fine. But we need to see due consideration without prejudice; and we're not seeing that at the moment. So, I call on the Government and I call on the Premier directly to consider the residents of Western Sydney, the affected residents of Luddenham and put them as much as a priority as they do other wealthy landowners around here. Thank you for having me. My email is campbelltown@parliament.nsw.gov.au. If you do a submission you want representations. I will take that direct and I will send that with an attaching letter to the Premier to tell them please consider this submission in relation to that matter. If you want your contact details to be given to me, also, please do not hesitate to email that campbelltown@parliament.nsw.gov.au. Thank you so much for having me here today. Thanks again to my mate Nathan and but most importantly thanks so much to all of you.

Speaker Rob Heffernan

Thanks Greg, we appreciate you being here today. I'd now like to call on Councillor Nathan Haggarty.

Speaker Nathan Haggarty

I'd just like to thank Rob and Deb for organising this and everyone else who has been involved in organising this today. Can I thank Greg for coming out and my fellow councillors Mazhar Hadid and Karress Rhodes. I think the fact that you've got three councillors from Liverpool Council that represents the three political parties that make up Liverpool Council. I think that's a pretty good sign that Liverpool Council is listening. We've done a few things and I guess Greg's covered quite a bit, but I just want to say Liverpool Council's listening I want to point out a couple of things that Liverpool Council's done in that regard. A - you've got three Councillors here from the three different political parties. Last, at the last council meeting in early February, we passed a motion which was unanimous, and that motion was calling on the State Government to set up an acquisition scheme, not just for Thompson's Creek, but for the entire aerotropolis. And the reason for that is and you know this better than I do, it's simply unfair, to put out zoning to make the whole parts green, to turn bits into water basins and then turn around and go, we're not going to tell you who's buying it. We're not going to tell you when they're going to buy and we're not going to tell you when the timeline is. So, I've spoken to plenty of you via phone and meetings like this one, and via email and there's a lot of stress, there's a lot of pain, there's a lot of anger, but all you actually want is a bit of clarity and a bit of transparency so you can plan the rest of your lives and I don't think that's an unreasonable ask. So, in that motion that I was talking about, essentially, the idea is that the entire area is included, and the Government does what it does whenever, I guess a bit of rural land is turned into a suburb. So, I will give you an example at Austral. OK that's about to become a town, about 30,000 people are going to move into that area in the next sort of 10 to 15 years, as a part of that Liverpool Council is looking after it. And if you jump onto our website, you can have a look at where the streets are going to go, you can have a look at where the parks are going to go. You can have a look at where the water basins are going to go. And as a part of that documentation, it will tell you what the plan is, what your contribution phases are, who's going to purchase it, and what the process is. There's also a process that if you're in financial hardship you can apply for financial hardship and Council can help you out there. That's what is missing from these Precinct Plans. And what I'm saying is, you don't want to jump the queue. You just want to get in the queue. Game at the moment there's a queue and if you're in Thompsons Creek, very good, you're in that queue, but for a lot of you you're not allowed in the queue and I think it's reasonable that you are allowed in this queue and you're told if your land is going to be acquired, who's acquiring it; is it Council, is it State Government. Is it Sydney Water? Or is it someone else? When are they acquiring it? What's the process? And then you know if it's five years from now, if it's ten years from now, fantastic, but at least you can go, Okay, I've got five years to sort out my affairs. I'm going to sell up and I'm going to live the rest of my life driving in a campervan around Australia, whatever you are going to do. But at this point, you can't. And I've spoken to people who are so distraught that they're going to see what they're going to do so they're just going to put some chains and a lock around their property and just leave it to go

derelict. And that's not right. You know, they work their backsides off their whole life, and this was their nest egg and now because of this inaction, because of this lack of detail, people's whole lives have been ruined. But I'm just going to tell you today I've heard the stories, so have some of my fellow Councillors and I thank them for coming out, so was Liverpool Council. Now with regards to the submissions at this Wednesday's Council meeting. Liverpool Council's submissions will be coming to Council. You can go on there now and go on to the website, you can see some of the things that we've actually raised as part of our submission, and then what we're hearing here, it's about acquisition, it's about having a bit more detail about where things are going, it's about community consultation. And it's about listening to each and every one of you. So, if you need help with the submissions it's obviously the volunteers but go have a look at what we've said at Liverpool Council because it's what you guys have been telling us. So, I'll leave it at that because I'm here to listen. I just want to let you know that Liverpool Council and certainly all city councillors are on your side. So, thank you.

Speaker Rob Heffernan

Thank you, Nathan. Deputy Mayor Mazhar Hadid would like to speak now. Thank you.

Speaker Mazhar Hadid

Good afternoon everyone. It gives me great pleasure to see you all here today and to be standing right here. I am of the opinion that you have been treated unreasonably and unfairly by the Department of Planning. I'm here today to offer you my unconditional support and to lobby on behalf of you all. Before I came here around 12 o'clock, I had a chat with the Mayor Miss Wendy Waller. And I raised the issue again and she has assured me she has already put a submission on behalf of you. And she's trying on behalf of the Council to do the right things by you. But my friend let me be frank with you, as a Council, we can't do any things. Why? Because it's not our decision. It's the State Government. But I can make it please talk to you. We won't give up. We will keep fighting on behalf of you. And I'm going to use my friendship with my colleague, Mr Stone, Minister for Planning and I will write a submission as my capacity as Deputy Mayor of Liverpool Council lobbying on your behalf. Finally, I hope we get a very good outcome. And thank you very much for inviting us.

Speaker Rob Heffernan

Thank you, Deputy Mayor Mazhar Hadid. I will now call on Liverpool Councillor Karress Rhodes to address the meeting.

Speaker Karress Rhodes

Hello everybody and thank you very much for inviting us here. It is so very, very important. The closing date is the 26th of February. Let's be very, very clear about that date. This is your opportunity to make known the issues that you can see with the plans that have been presented to you. It's sometimes not what has been included in the plans, it's what has NOT been included in the plans. This is your opportunity, and you must take that opportunity because unless you tell them there's not going to be any change. You've got to take this opportunity. As my fellow Councillors have already said, Liverpool Council has been very, very supportive of your needs. We've had numerous meetings in the Liverpool LGA, we have listened. We have included all submissions from the constituents into the Liverpool submission, that they are making themselves. In those submissions there are many things that I hear from people that are here today, that you have in common. And that's not surprising, but also on hearing about other issues that I wasn't aware of. So, it's very, very important that we talk to one another today and make known what your particular issues are. The big thing is, or the big thing missing from the plans is any sort of strategy for acquisition and without that plan, you people are being held victims of the State Government. Without those plans you cannot move on with your lives without those plans and strategy, you cannot know what you want to do and in what timeframe you need to do it in. And that is immensely unfair. In the plans, as I said, it is not the information that is there. It is the questions it raises. Questions but I don't think

that they thought it through because I possibly can't see why myself cannot see the possible answers that is going to give you some sort of satisfactory knowledge, so that you can do what you need to do. Now, I'm not saying that there would be any good time for major changes like this. And I'm not saying that we can't stop people from being affected. But what we can do is insist that the people are treated fairly and adequately, give them the information that they need, so that they know where they stand and what they have to do, to be able to move on with their own lives. You have until 26th February to make your submission. I'm here to encourage those people who are affected to do that, we need you to do that. We have in the Liverpool LGA much the same complications and much the same questions as you your people are raising. And we need to let the Government know that the number of people who need to know these answers because it is the numbers, as was mentioned before, the people power that will make that happen. You are invited to make submissions. You're also invited, you can submit your submissions when you do it. You can submit them to myself and my fellow Councillors so that we are aware of what your submission was. That would help considerably. I thank you very much for inviting us here. Let's see what we can do. Thank you.

Speaker Rob Heffernan

Thank you, Councillor. Before we go any further, I'd just like to read out a list of apologies that we did have for the meeting today, starting with the New South Wales Premier, Minister for Planning Rob Stokes, Representatives of the Department of Planning, Melissa Mackintosh the Member for Lindsay, Tanya Davies Member for Mulgoa, Angus Taylor Member for Hume, Peter Sidgreaves Member for Camden, Mark Latham One Nation Leader, Anne Stanley Member for Werriwa and Mayor of Penrith Karen McKeown and Geoff Shelton Councillor for Liverpool and Councillors from Penrith Jim Aitkin, Kath Presdee, Robyn Cook, and Tricia Hitchen. They are all the apologies for the meeting today. Unfortunately, they couldn't attend. That would have been nice if some of them could have attended. But we did try to get them here. But anyway, moving on. Before we open it up to the general public, there's just a couple of things that I'd like to raise. We've talked about the Green Space. The Green Space has affected lots of properties and to me I sort of made it look like a Coronavirus. Some of the properties haven't been affected, they haven't got the virus, some properties have got a few symptoms of the virus, some properties have been badly affected by the virus. We've lived with Coronavirus for 12 months now, but now relating it to our properties, it just seems that that is like what we're moving through at the moment. A lot of people, as I say have got that effect, got that virus affecting their properties. But some people fortunately don't. So, yeah, now I'd like to open it up to the general public to have their say. Darren will come around with a microphone, so if you raise your hand if you'd like to bring something to the attention of the meeting. We don't want individual little problems that you've got. We want an overall view for the whole draft plan. So, opening up to the general public, if you could just state your name, and what area you are from, whether it's the Northern Gateway, the Aerotropolis or the Agribusiness area. That's the other thing that I meant to mention it's the 12th March that submissions are due. Councillor did mention 26th February. It has been extended to the 12th March. So, make sure you've got that in your diary your submissions are done by then. If you have any questions directed to the Councillors or Greg, they are open to answering those questions for you. Thank you.

Speaker Joanne Vella

Hi, my name is Joanne Vella and I'm from Badgery's Creek. They have put in an interim inquiry into the back of my property. Once when the meeting was first started we went ahead, my family and I put in a submission together. It cost us \$2,500. We put it in, haven't heard zip from Council or anyone saying they've even accepted it. Every submission needs to say yes it has been received and yes it has been looked into. Not that we spent this money, we sent it in and for all we know it's probably sitting in a garbage bag. That's not right. Second of all our properties have all gone up in value, I don't know about you guys. I have got 10 acres and my rates went from \$756 I think a quarter to now \$2,105 a quarter. Now I don't know about you guys but I'm living on my own, I'm on worker's comp, and I'm not doing too well. Most of you guys are pensioners and I'm sure you have that you have got your little nest eggs put away but I'm sure all your rates have gone up now and that's a big bite every

three months. That's also wrong. Also, I'm hearing that when we do finally get our properties sold we will get taxed because our property in hindsight will round things off. Just say my property was worth \$500,00. Now with the airport it's worth a million I've now got a property that's been rezoned my property has gone up 100% in value. Now they're proposing to put tax on the money we get, because properties have gone up. It's not our fault that the airport came here. Like we bought back in 77 and we knew about the airport, that's not 30 years that's about 40 years. It's been around for a long time we've all known about it and we've all tried to stay away from the areas we thought would be affected. But as you know as you are talking about Coronavirus, this little area has just grown. It has totally grown. Liverpool Council keep saying they can't do anything because it's all Federal Government. Well, you Councillors are getting our rate money. I've stopped paying rates. You're not getting another cent from me in rates. Now you can try and get my property off me, you can try and do what you want, but all I want is someone to come out and tell us what in the hell's going on and give us a time frame as well. Now my property is actually affected. I'm not part of anybody else, if anything in the submission, we actually gave them other options for the road to go through Marsh Road we've got four properties that are going to be affected. That's four landowners, and we're not talking about the whole property, they just want to take the back corner. Now do the Government just buy that back corner, do they just buy that one acre or two acres off the back of your property and leave you with eight? Or do they buy the whole lot? You know, simple questions like that just can't seem to be answered by anyone. So, I'm putting it back to you councillors who get all these people's rate money, and you say you guys can't do that, what do you guys do with the rate money? Look at our roads, Elizabeth Drive, there was a truck broken down on Mamre Road, it took me an hour and a half just to get home. There's nowhere to go, it's single roads. You know the infrastructure hasn't been put in. You can't sit on your hands and say you can't do anything because you get all these guys rate money and you aren't doing anything with it. I didn't get a response from Council, I have rung many times, they have told me that they're going to send somebody out. I've got all the paperwork at home, the reason why I didn't bring it before I came here at one o'clock today thinking I would be early, and then I came back here at 1.30pm and couldn't find anywhere to park. So, thank you everyone for coming. Yeah, because it's true we all need to stick together. We really need to be together. But at the end of the day, you guys really need to do something, because as you know, politicians say we've got members of every party, but you know what, we're not voting for you guys, we're voting for ourselves. We want someone for ourselves. And you guys are just purely for yourselves, and I'm really sorry.

Speaker Nathan Hagarty

A couple of points on that, common courtesy, you should have got a response, I'll find out why you didn't. I personally responded to every single email I got. Anyone who sent me an email would have got a response from me. I can find out why the Planning Department haven't done that. It's common courtesy and they should have. In regard to a couple of points you raised, the rates, I accept they have gone up, some have gone up phenomenal amounts of money. We don't set that, that comes from the Valuer General, he sets the prices, and they get passed on to your rates. So, it's a wicked problem where Government, State Government comes in, they rezone you land, the prices go up, your rates go up, and that gets passed through in your rates. But in regard to your point that we're not fighting for you, only for ourselves, if that were the case I wouldn't be here today. Okay. I'd be home with my two kids and my wife and having a lovely weekend. But I got voted by you guys to represent you and I'm out here and I'm doing my job. Okay. As I said, I've responded to every email I've ever received. I've met with many of you, I've spoken with many of you. I've put submissions in, I've worked on submissions and I've put up Notices of Motions. Okay. So, I've dragged Greg Warren out here today. So, I understand you're frustrated, I understand you're angry, I'm here, have a look who's not, okay. Thank you.

Speaker Greg Warren

Please salute the Council and I know Nathan will follow those up. That's why I'm here today to tell you I don't support what the Government's doing. I do not support what the Government is doing. I do not support this Government and the contempt they have for people like you, I didn't support them with the residents of Orchard

Hills, and I will not support them disengaging you and ripping you off for your homes. I want to come and talk to you. It's not true that I am against it and the rest of the party are for it. We have a steadfast position, like we said about engagement with community and you should be getting equally treated and fairly treated just like every other wealthy landowner. I think I've said that in excess of 100 times, and I'll continue to say that as a local Western Sydney Member in Campbelltown, but also the Shadow Minister for Western Sydney. So, I will come and see you because I want to follow up on that tax piece and I will write back to you with a response, but we do not support this Government's agenda and we do not support what Gladys Berejiklian in her Government continues to treat with contempt. This is an outrage. I want to be clear to everyone, I am talking to everyone, you want to be angry with someone, you be angry with the Premier of New South Wales and the process they've gone through, why not engaging you people. Be angry with them. They need to get here and explain, and I appreciate the apologies and with respect to my colleagues, but it is simply an outrage to the Government Member, not one of them could be here and front, sure they might not be able to give you all the answers, but they could have had the decency to turn up here, look you in the eye and hear your stories, and they haven't done that. And that is a continued act of contempt, a standard I do not accept, and I know my mate Nathan doesn't accept. And I know there's a perception, I understand your frustrations, and I totally agree with you, and if I was in your position I would be equally as angry. But not only angry for you, but angry for all of you. I did not enter the Parliament to go out to swan and do nothing, I entered the Parliament because I wanted to make a difference. This makes a difference in your life. That's why I'm here, and I assure you like I said in my initial address that I will use every mechanism I possibly can to go in and fight for you to get a better outcome and a fair go and a fair deal, just like I did at Orchard Hills and I will be doing exactly the same thing, whether it's here, Orchard Hills or Bringelly, because why, I believe that you deserve as much consideration as a big end of town of a wealthy large landowner and that is something that will not change.

Speaker Karress Rhodes

Yeah, look, thank you very much for all telling us about your particular issues. It's just one thing that I want to reiterate, some vital bit of information that I said when I previously addressed you. When you send your submissions in, please send it to all the Councillor email addresses. We do not know that you have sent in a submission unless you tell us. If you tell us we're down there to be on your side, but please email your submissions, not only to Council, not only to the other authorities, but please include your Councillors. We cannot support you if we do not know. Thank you.

Speaker Patrick W Jones

Okay, first off, my name is Patrick W Jones. I'm a new resident to Luddenham, I've only been here 38 years. Luddenham as you all know is the centre of an Agribusiness zone. I know apart from the Agribusiness zone, all of you are getting a bloody raw deal. But I'm going to be blunt here. First of all, I'm going to add to what Wayne said. Wayne and I attended the Planning Partnership back in February and presented an 11-page submission on what we saw for the village of Luddenham. They didn't recognise a simple red dot, okay. Of all the things we put up and asked them to recognise, what the area needed. They took one thing from our submission and that was preserving the nature of the time. Nothing else about replacing the population, nothing about posterity, nothing about the benefits of this community will get with the Western Sydney Airport and the Aerotropolis. They totally ignored us. Now we're saying here about putting in submissions. I understand and question what the hell's the point of putting in submissions around here, because they don't bloody listen, and they haven't listened, so it needs a bigger plan than just putting in submissions. It needs some definitive action. Okay. Councillors have mentioned about one of the problems being that there's no plans. Planning Partnership and the Government have no plans for acquisition. It's got nothing to do with plans for acquisition. I'll tell you the real problem. The real problem is the Planning Partnership and the State Government. They have got nothing for development, they have no actions for development. They are living in cuckoo land and they've got fantasy stuff and as Wayne said the bureaucrats back in Sydney, the shiny pants who have no responsibility, making decisions on your behalf

without consultation. Luddenham Progress Association have asked them a number of times for consultation, and each time have been put off. I do need to make an apology for Karen McKeown, Mayor of Penrith. Karen rang me yesterday morning and said I believe there is a meeting on tomorrow. Can you tell me what it is? So, I told her. She said I haven't got an invite, so unfortunately, I have a prior engagement. So, I apologise on her behalf, but she didn't actually get an invite. I would appeal to you all we need to take action now. We need to stop this Planning Partnership making fools of us, being idiots and saying we need more than just putting in our submissions, we do need to put in our submissions, but what we also need are answers to why these submissions are being ignored. Just take one word back at Liverpool City Council and I'm not 100% sure of the wording. I used to be a member of Liverpool City Council, I moved across the road to Penrith City Council. For a number of years, I've been seeing experts online and the Liverpool City council does not support the mass development at Luddenham. They say the air space has to be maintained for 24 hours so they don't support our Government. And I hear the other day you do support. Sorry. So, maybe you need to think about that. Not just the people on the eastern side but the people on the western side. I'll set up my doodoo submissions but demand that you get answers. Thank you.

Speaker

We're from Bringelly. My question is directly to Liverpool Council. The rate peg for 2122 financial year is 2%. Is that being passed on to ratepayers? In other words, this is what I'm asking. We were already being sluggish by rates, everybody's had their rates go up, ours are well over \$3,000., now. Are we going to have these rates because of our VG's? At the same time that Liverpool Council are also going to put the rate peg up. Or is there going to be a zero-rate peg in. If Liverpool Council is trying to support all of these owners who are having a hard time paying their rates at the moment, what is the Council's view to the rate peg for 2122? That means, guys, every year Council put their rates up, but there's a certain amount they can do it by. They're already getting, and our friend over here said they're getting thousands where they used to be hundreds of dollars. Are we also going to be sluggish with a rate rise? The rate pegs.

Speaker Karess Rhodes

Thank you. What a very, very valid question. All right. Definitely take it on notice. Definitely come back with an answer for you. Okay, and we'll take down your particulars so that we can do that for you. Unfortunately, we didn't know what questions were going to be presented to us here today. We cannot know what questions and what answers we need to give.

Speaker

I understand that and the reason I ask is because we're already paying.

Speaker Karress Rhodes

I understand.

Speaker

We have elderly neighbours who are struggling. Those on pensions are struggling to find \$3,000 at a time. The Councils are already getting a whole lot of rates from that. So that's a question that I'm asking on behalf of everybody.

Speaker Karress Rhodes

And we really appreciate it because that's why we're here to listen. Okay, we'll get back to it.

Speaker

This year rate rise is 2% and guys if Liverpool Council puts their rates up by 2%. You're already paying close to three over two, add another 2% to that as well. Plus, we'll probably get another VG this year. The supplementaries will keep coming. So, you'll get that rate rise plus you'll get if they take the maximum 2%.

Speaker Andy Leonello

Hi, my name is Andy Leonello and I live on the corner of Elizabeth Drive and the Northern Road. We've come here 62 years ago with my parents. We are market gardeners. We operate at the farm. Now we're working with the airport. I'm 75 years old and I've got a house mortgage. How good is that? Thanks to the Government. They give me \$300,000 for my house. I asked them what do I buy? They didn't even acknowledge me. You buy a gate if you're lucky. That was their answer. They wrecked everybody's property and what the lady said a minute ago was 100%. We've got 25 acres, now it's down to 22 and a half acres. For 22 and a half acres we pay \$ 12,000 a year on rates. What the Councillor said was right. It wasn't them who put the rates up. I looked into it. It was the Valuer General, we had an argument, I told them they were a bunch of goose and they should get their heads out of the sand and come and have look at the properties and not look at aerial photos. It's not the way to go. These people have got to come out and see us working on the land. A lot of people have got properties here. They have worked their hearts out. Now they can come along and just take your property. Now another issue, they went up from \$9,000 to \$15,000 rates this year. That's how much they went up from one year to now. How do you jump from \$9,000 to \$15,000 this year? So, what it going to be \$20,000 next year? And on top of that there were 5 or 6 properties supposed to be sold, including ours. When the developers came along, they said yes that's accurate for factories, good, no problem. Then they sent a draft out and said that's going to be green park. Still no answers. The Government own 25 acres next to me, they didn't green that belt. They kept that for factories. They built the road 2 meters in front of my place. I said what the hell are you doing here? They said in a hundred years there will be flooding. I said we're the highest point goose. If this floods here go pump Sydney out, because Sydney will be under water. They've got no answers. They have got to come out here and see people and talk to people. We don't mind. We can't sell the property; we can't do anything with it. They want the property. Pay what the other people were going to pay, and we'll move out. Do you agree with that? We've got to get into power like we are all here together. Thank you very much.

Speaker Jeff

I live in the Aerotropolis, at the end of the second runway. My father wanted to sue everybody and was told by the Queen's Council for \$100,000. that he had a 50/50 chance of winning it. Consequently, there wasn't a second runway, and they changed the law to stop any one from suing. From my point of view, I'm affected by Green Space. I'm so close to the airport that I can see it, and I see that no one's accountable. Where's the accountability. There's accountability for who's set those rates up and the rules. The way they're implemented is really a disadvantage to people out here. Now we need to change those rules. And the people who change the rules are politicians. Now if you talk to someone, you are really talking to someone at the front office. They do not know. I've been to another presentation and you ask the question, and they pass it onto someone else, they pass it on to someone else. There's no one accountable. They do have these ivory tower people who make decisions to build kennels for the dog, which is ridiculous. The Councils told neighbours to put trees up, so they did and now it's a green zone, because they were told by Council to put trees up. I put trees up and they said you can't knock them down, I put them up, I'll knock them down if I want. The point is the Council is getting a benefit they don't deserve. They don't deserve to get a benefit for the rate increase which is not meant to line the pocket of the Council. The State Government is making laws that satisfy themselves. No one is accountable. My question is give me the money you have increased the value of my land over the last 30/40 years. I've been there nearly 50 years. If I'd been anywhere else in Sydney, I would have retired at 65. I am 74 and would have gone on with my life. What the State Government's done is they've frozen the use of the land. What the Council's done is they've taken

money out of my pocket for nothing. Everyone's accountable, and if it hadn't gone through anyone near an airport would have been compensated; and when they build the airport, I'm a pensioner, they've put the rates up, I can't afford that. Now the Council has said we can postpone your rates. I'm not going to get any money because I'm green zone and I've already got debts on the basis the land has increased in value. So, at the end of the day who's accountable for all the decisions. If I go and speak with someone, they're going to say well it's the law. Who made the laws and why are you following the laws that way? If you're making these green spaces for Sydney's second airport and what was supposed to happen when they built the airport, they put land aside for the trees. The State Government was supposed to do that, not the landowner. What they said is we're going to keep the defence area as compensation for the trees that were knocked down when they said years ago that it was going to be set aside.

Speaker Greg Warren

Jeff, you are dead right. In terms of accountability in the law you're talking about this changed. I did my research on that to do exactly what you said. The Government changed that law, so, not only are they just coming in, and I guess doing their Precinct Plans without appropriate consultation and discounting. They just seem to believe they're just above it. I can only talk for myself, I'm here, at the end of the day, I serve you, you don't serve me. There appears to be a culture in Government that it's the other way around for them, or something; and it confuses me, because I don't get it. I haven't been a Member of Parliament for very long. I can't talk about the Council matters at all; but on the point about the freezing of land, you're exactly right, and I'm of the view that that needs to be taken into account with any kind of acquisition, any kind of financial compensation or part of that acquisition, it needs to be considered into the longer term and how land has been affected and the value of that land.

Speaker Jeff

Thirty years ago, I subdivided. Five acres for five million dollars. Now if you subdivide in Bringelly you get five million dollars, why is that so? The State Government gets \$150,000 for a block of land they ripped it off.

Speaker Greg Warren

Because like you said mate, they changed the laws, and it's not right

Speaker Jeff

I need compensation for the fact that that I have been frozen for 30 years. The land if it had been saleable it would have been worth \$5,000,000. My land is not worth \$5,000,000.

Speaker Greg Warren

In terms of accountability too, do you all know who your Local Member is? Like if it's Tanya Davies the Member for Mulgoa, or Peter Sidgreaves. I can't encourage you enough to email or ring their office, make appointments. I'm the Member for Campbelltown. My whole job and the most important thing I do is meet the constituents day in and day out. They ring the office to make an appointment, I sit down and listen to them and then I go and make whatever representation I need to do. Those two guys are also Government Members, so they've got the ear of the Planning Minister and the Premier. I'm a Labor Party Member, which means I'm in opposition at the moment, but I don't care, I still do what I can and write directly to the Minister of the Premier or anything like that. But in terms of accountability; and I'm accountable to those people who vote for me too, and I take that very seriously. It's a privilege to serve them, they don't serve me, I'm there to work for them and your Local Members should be doing exactly the same thing too and the way you make them do that is you front them and say this is my issue, this is what's going on, I need you to go and talk to the Premier or the Planning Minister or write a letter to them, and I need your help with this because at the end of the day, just remember, you're their boss, they're not the

boss of you. They don't have a job without you going up to that ballot box and putting a tick in their box. And that's how you can best hold them accountable.

Speaker Jeff

Let me put it another way. Quite a few decades ago the State Government, Askin was in. They were going to destroy the Rocks. The Union got together, and the Union ruled him, and they were able to turn that around. What we really need here is something as powerful as a Union that can take the Government to task and just stop them developing. What we need to say you're not going to build the airport, sorry, you haven't done the land design. You haven't done it. You're not going to charge landowners for this land. And you have to compensate them for what this land is worth. And on top of that what it would have been worth present day. And on top of that the fact that you value the trees more you're going to put another premium on that again. So, we need a Union group to say sorry, no more development, no more roads, no more trains, no more airport. We're just going to put a stop to it, till you treat these people properly.

Speaker Mazhar Hadid

It's the Councillors decision to accept the State Government's decision to increase your rates or not. So therefore, I'll be inviting you all to write to the Councillor, once they received the recommendation to increase the rate to not accept it and freeze it. It's as simple as that.

Speaker Karress Rhodes

And one thing that I would like to say about the matter of the acquisition problems that you pointed out the difficulties that we have, this is what we were saying. There are more things missing from the plans than what you see. You do not know how it is going to be acquired. Not only that, you don't know whether the plans have made adequate means for Green Space; if they've made too much acquisition of Green Space, will they at sometime in the future then sell that surplus land. And that is definitely robbing the original owners of the land. We are the first to admit we understand the issues; Council, Liverpool Council itself has raised these questions in their submission. So, we definitely need people out there to support Liverpool Council and make the same submissions, so they understand that these are their queries, these are their issues and these are their concerns. We can't do it without your help.

Speaker Jeff

We didn't know that we could approach the Council about the valuation. I suggest the Council sends a letter to everyone in the Aerotropolis and other areas saying they object to the rates and will consider freezing those rates on the old Valuation. I didn't know anything about that. And I doubt that anyone else here knew that. I'm not getting anything from the Council that I was getting before, I'm getting less. And you're not giving me any value for what I'm paying in rates. I'm saying to you put it back to the original valuation.

Speaker Karress Rhodes

Exactly. You know another thing that's not included in these plans. How the infrastructure is going to be rolled out. What is not in these plans is what infrastructure is needed, what is going to be provided? There are so many missing points in what you're being told. I don't blame you for being angry. Thank you.

Speaker Sasha

Hi, my name is Sasha, I'm from Luddenham and we're being affected by the Northern Gateway Precinct Plans. I think the key thing that everyone here seems to be avoiding is all the inconsistencies that we're seeing. So, there's inconsistency in the Precinct Plans. There are inconsistencies in the valuations and there's simple things like the fact that in 2014 the Government commissioned a Biodiversity Report for the Commonwealth land at

Badgery's Creek which holds that most of the land was cleared land. Now it's 2020 and somehow woodlands have popped up everywhere that we need to protect. Except the thing is they didn't exist before when they checked, and now they've popped up. These are the things that we need to be talking about. I understand everyone's emotional about how this is going to affect your land and resale. But to be honest, they don't care. They're not going to look at any of that. They're just going to dismiss it and chuck it in a corner and say hey, they're emotional. They don't have a basis for it. What they will listen to is if you call them out on everything that's an inconsistent. Call them out on the fact that they've changed plans when they have things being listed as one thing in the beginning. Now they've changed it now. Call them out on the fact that they commissioned an additional report to see how all the birds and things are going to affect the airport, and it turns out if you put a whole bunch of trees around, birds are going to want to live there and that can bring a plane down. We need to talk about the fact that there's a big bushfire issue if you put a whole bunch of trees in an area that's prone to bushfires that weren't there before. Again, that's all in the plans now. That was there. All of a sudden these reports have come out, they've changed that. We also need to talk about the inconsistencies in land valuations. Now, I'm not sure if anyone here actually knows what their neighbours are paying for land rates. But you'd be surprised because there seems to be a little bit of a bias or if you're a big landowner, or if you're a developer like Mirvac, you're paying up to 882% less in land rates, and your value is 882% lower than other people. How do I know this? I'm talking from personal experience. We've been screwed over by the Valuer General. In the space of four years, our land rate, our land value at Luddenham has apparently risen by 882%. In that same time, other big developers and landowners, their value only jumped 200%. Now, I'm not a valuation expert, but if you're looking at the same properties and the same comparables and you're getting such widely different amounts, there's a reason for it. And this is from their information, it's all off their website. I'm happy to provide you the information as I had to break it all down and submit an objection to the Valuer General, because they're telling me what we're saying is wrong. But, it's not. If you go and look on their website, the information is there. It's just hidden to make it really hard for everyone to find. But that's what they're doing. They're trying to get everyone off their lands cheaply so they can acquire your property at the bare bottom dollar and then do whatever they want. If you're a big developer, no problems. Buy the land up cheaply when it's a Precinct Plan and it's Green Space, then put in your own submission and you can make it say whatever you want. And you know where I get that information from, their Precinct Plans. It's all in there. That's what we need to be focusing on. That's what we need to be calling them out on, and we need to be shouting about the inconsistencies, we can't keep letting them get away with it. It's not right and they know it.

Speaker Nathan Hagarty

I agree, and just specifically on that and on land acquisition, I did a bit of homework. And if you went onto the Planning website in October last year there was an FAQ, a frequently asked questions, and there was a section in there on what the acquisition process was; and it said this Land uses, ownership and management arrangements will come about through a document called the Wianamatta-South Creek Delivery Strategy, consultation to begin in late 2020. And I thought it's January/February we've gone past that point right, where is this document? That's all been scrubbed from the Planning website. When you go there now, it says the Wianamatta-South Creek Strategy will set out how trees, open space and creeks will be managed now and into the future. So, I agree with what you said, because I've witnessed it firsthand. Because when we ask questions about acquisition, and when the zoning first came out, that we were told this, this Wianamatta-South Creek Strategy will set that out, who's buying into it. We come out into 2020. 2020 rolls around that bit's been scrubbed from the website and you've got a different date. It's coming in 2021 and the scope of that report has changed. So, I've made sure that that bit's been included in Council's submission, that we call that out and we make sure that we get a document that says what's being bought, who's buying it, and when. I know there's a lot of thinking here that there's a conspiracy afoot and I'm saying when there's an option between conspiracy and incompetence, you go with incompetence, but when you see things like that on this document, you start to get a bit suspicious. So, I'm here to give you a commitment as part of the Council's submission. We're going to follow that up and find out why these documents

have been changing why the information is being scrubbed off websites, because you guys deserve answers. Thank you.

Speaker Maria Zuko

I'm Maria Zuko, I represent the Bringelly Aerotropolis, Kemps Creek. We have a group, we have a Facebook page, if you care to join Bringelly Core Rezoning Group. Please join because we have lots of people liking our page and the more the merrier, so we can all stay connected and all stay in touch. Firstly, I'd like to thank our guests for coming for actually making the time to come out and meet us in this wonderful location with natural air conditioning and although we have turned into a bash the Council fest, I appreciate the fact that you are here. Having said that- we need to get our submissions in has been the mantra, we need to get our submissions in. I will give you over 700 submissions to law. Do you know how much attention has gone into WSAP. One paragraph about two centimetres tall. Everything has a submission. We are submissioned out. I was up till midnight last night doing another submission for the Federal Government. And again, we have been submissioned out. We did a submission for the flood study for Liverpool Council. Have you heard anything because we have not? Not a reply, not even an acknowledgement that your submission was received, nothing. So, we are suffering from submission stress. I concur with the previous speaker, both Governments, Federal and State are speaking with forked tongues. What they want is they want our environment. And we are not talking about Green Space. Let's get the terminology right. It's environmental and recreational or riparian. Our State Government changed and amended the Environmental Act so that they could bypass just terms so that they didn't have to bargain by using the words environmental or recreational and riparian and parklands and open space. Now, what is open space if it is not parkland? Why is our Government playing with the Oxford Dictionary semantics instead of caring about the people who put them there?

Speaker Greg Warren

Thank you. I was aware of that and that's why we opposed it at that time for the reasons that you're talking about now. But I guess what Jeff was saying before. They are actually changing laws, as you would be well aware, and your action group would be well aware. They are actually changing laws ultimately for the benefit of themselves and to rip landowners off.

Speaker Maria Zuko

They wanted to use the Cumberland Plains to offset the green on the airport. They're the ones who cut down tens and tens and tens of thousands of trees, but they have used the Cumberland Plains too many times. So, the international powers said you can't do that. So, now what they are doing, they are zoning us Environmental and all these other fancy words, to use us as Carbon Credits. If they want to use the Green Space as Carbon Credits, pay us or we will get together, we will bank our trees and they will have to pay an International Bank. But they are not going to get what they want for nothing, because everybody here has worked. Everyone has blood, sweat and tears on their brow. It may be five acres, it may be half an acre, it may be a quarter of an acre, it may be 100 acres, whatever it is everyone has worked hard. We have people who cannot get to their bathroom because they are so old and yet they have the indignity of going to the bathroom in a bucket because they can't get upstairs and they are landlocked. If you are landlocked because of the railway, if you are landlocked because of a road, you have the option, these corridors are built, you have an option to go to the Government and say listen, I'm in this corridor, I've come on hard times, I need to get out. I want to go to a Nursing Home, come buy me out. Let's see where we can go. But they are not making us a corridor. They're making us worthless; they are landlocking and sterilizing our land and you know what the gross indignity is? That they will not even talk to us. Gladys Berejiklian went out to Mamre Road, turned the soil. I found while I was digging on the computer, which I'm hopeless you have no idea. The reason that Mamre Road developed was because a consortium of big builders put in a submission to the State Government to have that approved. Now when your map came out Mamre Road wasn't there, you can check it. But then this consortium sent a submission to Catherine Van Miren in Parramatta

and guess what she signed it and approved it. A town planner who was kicked out of Mudgee because she was no good. She is now leading department planning partnerships, Western Suburbs, home development. This is not on.

Speaker Greg Warren

This is a whole plethora and what she is saying is a very clear consistent narrative from the Government. And I guess it draws back to what Jeff was saying about accountability. Let them know loud and clear because they for some reason think they're above it. I can't answer for them. I cannot explain their ignorance. I cannot explain their contempt. I cannot explain why they behave and treat all of us, all of you, because I live in Western Sydney too, why they do it. I don't have an answer for them. You have to ask them. (From the crowd I want 33million for my block). Again, you have to ask the Federal Government and Gladys and everyone else. They need to front up and explain, and that's why they need to come here and explain themselves. I can't answer for them. There is no answer. I've got my own opinion as to why they treat all of you with contempt. And I've got my own reasons and my own personal views. But at the end of the day to Jeff's point they need to be accountable. They don't think that they are at the moment, but they bloody should be and that's why they need to come out here and front all of you and answer their questions. I will be going back to the Parliament and moving a Notice of Motion on the floor of Parliament raising all the different points raised but also demanding, like I did with Orchard Hills, demanding the Government and the Premier come out and meet with community. I will be doing that on the floor of Parliament. I promise I will do that. I will be using every instrument of Parliament in my power from an opposition perspective and I will be doing that, whether that's Notice of Motions and Process for what's called Standing order in the Parliament. I need to read those and make sure that I do it most effectively on your behalf. But I assure you I'll be taking no steps backwards on this issue. The standard you walk past is the standard you accept. This is a standard I do not accept. It's not a standard accepted at Orchard Hills. It's not a standard I accept at Bringelly. It's not a standard I accept on your behalf as an elected representative for you, whilst I may not be your local Member, I can tell you right now, no matter where you are, I will not walk past a standard that I don't accept and the standard of this Government's contempt for Western Sydney, contempt for all of you is something I will not only not walk past, but I'll fight them on it. I assure you of that.

Speaker Nathan Hagarty

Just a quick point on, I think you call it submission fatigue and it's probably a good term, please get your submissions in. And I'll tell you why, because the moment they get one or two submissions in, they'll say Oh community doesn't care anymore. I've seen it. I've seen it on developments where they get a handful of submissions or they get zero submissions, and they say community is fine with it lets go ahead. And what they do is they put document after document after document and they wear you down. I know it's painful and you're up all hours of the night doing these submissions, but you need to get these submissions in. But submissions is not the only way. Right, you've got to fight them on the submissions, but you've also got to make a hell of a lot of noise. And you've been doing that quite well for the last couple of months. Political Pressure, if they think their jobs are at threat, then they will start to make different decisions. And you've been on the news the last few weeks, you've been in the newspapers and guess what's happened, they have given you an extension. So, keep it up, keep having meetings like this, get on the phone, get on the emails, just rattle the cages, local members, Premiers, Planning Ministers, all of them. And if they know that there are people out here that are very upset and they think their jobs are a threat, then they start rethinking about this. So please keep the submissions going and keep the noise going. Send the submissions to your local Members. Thank you.

Speaker Peter Nikesitch

Good day everybody, my name is Peter Nikesitch. Thank you for inviting me. My place has been rezoned as Agribusiness. As you can see by my attire, rocket science is not my forte. I need one of you fellows here to explain to everyone here that lives on the other side of the Northern Road that's been zoned as Agribusiness. What the hell is Agribusiness on a house block? What is Agribusiness?

Speaker Greg Warren

Agribusiness is an agricultural business. I don't have the planning map here.

Speaker Peter Nikesitch

I have got 900 square meters of land like probably a couple of hundred people here. What am I going to grow on 900 square meters of land, two tomato plants, two boxes of tomatoes, walk down the street, hawk the tomatoes and be happy that I'm making \$2.00? Several people here have been shafted. Next, what the hell is Gateway?

Speaker Greg Warren

Gateway is basically a process of approval to the planning minister. So, long story short, it's the tail end of an application for a development application. And I guess just to boil it down Gateway is the process that gets to the Minister who sits on this.

Speaker Peter Nikesitch

Gateway is something, an entrance to a property. Why do they use this Bull Shit jargon? Everyone here is whinging about rates. Yes, I know we have to pay rates. Liverpool Council has been looking after us at the end of the paddock here and we are at the end of the paddock and the only thing stopping us from falling into the next paddock is the white line down the middle of the Northern Road. They can sit up there, and they can harp, and they can bang drums and bang with irrelevance. That's all it is. Irrelevance. I have lived here for nearly 40 years. I'm only a ring in, these poor people have been here 50/60 years. I can assure you, one of you fellows up there said we are not in the Government here. Let me assure you one thing we are in the government. You keep harping hand in a submission, hand in a submission, but can you guarantee me some shiny arse in town is going to sit there and peruse my poor vocabulary. He's going to pick that up and say file that one. No one is going to pick up 20 pages of submissions from 200 people and read it and understand it.

Speaker Greg Warren

Well, they should. That's exactly what they should do. That's the message here today.

Speaker Peter Nikesitch

Everyone that reads one submission for 200 people of 20 pages, they're going to comprehend everything that's been said. Again, Bull Kaka.

Speaker Greg Warren

Well, you'd have to ask Gladys and her government members that. I can only talk for myself.

Speaker Peter Nikesitch

You are also part of the Government.

Speaker Greg Warren.

No, I'm not a member of the Berejiklian Government. I am not part of the government process. I am a member of Parliament. I am a member of Parliament in Opposition, but I'm not in government. Like I said before I do not support the position of this government and I don't support their agenda and I am vehemently opposed to it. And nearly every point whether it's Jeff or the lady down there, or this lady over here before, we have not supported what they have put in place to allow them to do it. They have done it; we have opposed it and we will continue to oppose it.

Speaker Peter Nikesitch

The politicians who sent their apologies, it just goes to show how much contempt they hold. That's all I have to say.

Speaker Greg Warren

I agree.

Speaker Simon

I want you guys to listen to this very carefully it's really important. The behind the scenes of the documents that are written, every single page in those documents, the Government is screwing you over. And the reason being as we mentioned before a few times by various people is that in 2004, the Government both State and Commonwealth agreed that they will offset all the loss in compensating woodland in the form of growth centres. And those in the form of growth centres wouldn't be able to see one of those technical reports is that they are proposing to change what they call biodiversity certification. So, what biodiversity certification is if you have biodiverse certification on your land that means the Government's done the studies by a private consult and they've got approval by the State and the Commonwealth Ministers and agreed to allow you to clear your land upon the urban development and they the Government will offset the loss of vegetation. So, in 2004 the Government committed over \$500 million of commitment to environmental offsets. So, what the new proposal does now, they're actually changing to remove biodiversity certification on your property. It is particularly to those properties that are environment and recreation zoned. Once that biodiversity certification is removed, you have significant constraints on your property, and if you do want to remove in the future, you will have to undertake those studies yourself which are costly, \$30,000, \$40,000, \$50,000 and then offset, which will be anything up to \$500,000 to a million dollars and it goes up. Conserve is the most expensive vegetation that you can get in New South Wales. Because once they do that, once you remove biodiversity conservation on your property your property is now constrained. So, what happens when it is constrained? Recently Liverpool Council and Penrith City Council made a joint draft developer contributions plan, which shows included in there, it shows the prices of your land values essentially or what they are willing to pay, if you do get acquired. So, for properties which are mixed use who have residential potential, high density, they will get an equal for whatever reason, if they are being acquired, they will get \$2,000 per square meters. But if you are constrained, you're getting \$80.00 per square meters. So, once I remove biodiversity certification you are losing so much more. And what is happening behind the scenes is all within those technical documents and it's not clear. You have not really been shown exactly how the changes in biodiversity have affected you. So, if you do see biodiversity on your property and it's on there now for most of you guys in the old state multi planning positive growth centres. If you do have it that's a good thing. Don't freak out because it says biodiverse certification, I know it sounds scary. It sounds like protection, but it's actually the opposite. So, what I suggest you do with all your submissions, is, also mention biodiversity certification, because what you want to do is to retain your biodiversity certification once you lose it, you are now constrained, your constrained property, whatever is constrained will be worth \$80.00 per square meters if it gets acquired by the Council of the State Government. Thank you.

Speaker Greg Warren

Simon is exactly right. And that changed in 2012 and I don't think anyone ever really understood the serious effect it was going to have. Sasha here was talking before about when you do your submissions and the inconsistencies in points. And what Simon is saying is exactly that is affected, and I know it's very complex; but if you are affected, to have that put in there as well. Just to further what Nathan said about submissions, and I get the frustration when you feel like it's going there and they just not consider it anyway, that's wrong and an outrage and why they do I is just unforgivable. All I can say is find out who your local State Member is and send it to them and ask them – This is my submission I requested you go and make representations to the Premier and the Planning Minister on my behalf and provide me with the response. That means that your submission just isn't going into the big pool of submissions through a website at the Department of Planning. You're asking your local

member to go into bat for your issues. That's their primary job for every 93 members of parliament in your state is to go in and fight for and represent the interests of their local residents and constituents. That will then take it out of that pool of submissions which all of you are frustrated and feel like, and rightfully frustrated and feel like it's going into a big pool but get onto your local members and get them to go in and bat for you so that it does get the attention it deserves.

Speaker Deb Heffernan

My husband and I instigated this meeting today. We were in the Telegraph a few weeks ago. And one of the comments from Rob Stokes was from this spokesman because he doesn't speak with anyone and he doesn't see anyone. Through his spokesman said the Aerotropolis was always going to be a park city. That's why we need parks. Well, Mr Stokes, you didn't say we're going to be a Green Space city. Meaning that we're not going to pay you. So, that really, really, excuse the language, pissed us off. So, that's why we decided to instigate this to get everyone together to help support each other. You know we were hoping to get MPs here, I did send out a lot of emails to them all. Does it surprise you that they're not here; but I'm very grateful for these people on the stage today. Without people like these guys that can try and help us what have we got. I'm disappointed. I'm in the Penrith electorate, where are our Penrith Councillors. They were emailed, three times they got emails. So, it's not as though they didn't know about it. So, I'm really disappointed they are not here for us on this side of the world. Anyway, thank you everyone for coming, it didn't rain but it's all too hot. So, please get together and help each other out. We have forms here. Anyone who knows how to submit, how to actually write a submission, put your name down on this list. Anyone that needs help to write a submission, there's another list there; and we'll get you guys together. I know people are over submissions, but if you don't put in your submission or enough in it, they will think we don't care. With this hopefully let the media know about it. Channel Seven is here. Thank you. I did notify papers, TV channels, radio. Some of them are going to get photos from the day. We are recording this today, and it's going to be typed up and submitted to the Planning Department and we're going to get as much media as we can on this. We are all in the same boat, we have had a property with my family for probably 55 years in Luddenham. We've got a creek behind us and 40 meters of the creek is taken. We've got no choice in that; we accept that because that's the creek, but they want to take another 30% off our property and my dad's property they want to take 100%. Put a submission in and stick it up them.

Speaker

Sorry I won't be too long, I know we've all got such a busy day and thank everyone for taking out your time today. There's a lot of questions and a lot of uncertainties. But there's one thing we all know and that is we are being treated unfairly. We are being treated unfairly by those that we had kept responsible and accountable to keep us treated fairly. This just absolutely unjust. They've extended the date, obviously there is a bit of a rocky road and they know there's a lot of community members that are affected. They have extended the date but not one of them was bothered to be with us today. They extended the date but not once they said let's do community consultation. They have given us one option and that option is please write to us a written submission. Does that seem adequate to all of us? I know that many of us have already written long submissions. I know that most councils do read submissions. We deserve better. Once we write our submission, what happens, does anyone actually know? They ignore us and they have been doing that and they will continue to do that. Now when we write a written submission, they are expected to look at it. But no, they are not expected to even have the decency to give us any feedback. It was mentioned that someone wrote a 20-page submission and what did they get, one red dot. I am sorry but I don't think our hard work is worth one red dot. We don't know they actually pass something or help us out. Now let's take worst case scenario. When all our submissions are through, they don't accept it, it's passed or maybe a small proportion is changed of what has been proposed in the plan. What then? Yes, we will use this opportunity, yes, we will write submissions. If that still passes what do we do? Do we just accept the fact that our land is worth nothing? Do we just accept the fact that we have now been mucked around by the Government and been treated unfairly? This is Australia, we live in a democracy, we have elected

them to represent us. Why are we sitting here confused as to what the answers are? Most of us and many of us have lived here for 50 plus years. This is your land, and we deserve to take it back. Now not just that with the community consultation of the written submissions the worst-case scenario, what I've been told is that, firstly it's not the Local Council councillors that are responsible. It's not you guys we take to court if all goes wrong. Who do we take to court? We take the executive; we take the department to court. And you tell me what are the chances of people that didn't even rock up to one of our meetings, do we have any chance of winning if we take them to court. And the answer to that is we won't. There are barely any chances that email submissions get lost. If the plan is still not changed, what then? There is still no answer for us. Now just a quick example on our land, we have used a lot of that land for farming, so we are helping the environment. We have created from non-vulnerable land to our land and we are helping the environment and now they propose to take a whole proportion for green land. They didn't think about what they were doing. There is no justification for what they are doing. There is no scientific justification for what they are doing. They have not actually told us why certain parts of certain land is green. Now we are not against green land, just give us a reason for positive justification. Why one of our houses is 100% green but the house next door is not green, or why our existing green has been destroyed, so that they can help the environment. The issues here have been written by those who have never even stepped onto these soils and these lands and they do not know what is actually going on. I urge you all do your submissions and send these to your State Minister, send these to your Local Councillors. If anyone does have an answer, please share it, because all I've heard so far is please write a submission. I already knew that. Thank you.

Speaker

I am very new to Luddenham, a tadpole, in comparison to so many families here. I have a question to you guys up on the stage. We have already written our submissions we've sent them in and been ignored. Is there nothing we can do? Put your name down on the forms put your phone number down. Help the people who need help. Please support these poor people who have got 10 acres that are being taken over by Green Space. I support you and I think we need to be heard as an entire community. There are some people here, they are farmers they don't own a computer, they don't know how to compose a good submission to their local person. They don't know who to contact. I think the information needs to come from the whole community, we need someone to be our voice. We need someone to voice the people of these areas Luddenham, Bringelly, Kemps Creek all the people being affected. We can all sit and write our letters. Who is our voice? Who is the voice of the people? Why aren't you guys doing more? We all have to petition and to lobby as a massive group.

Speaker Nathan Hagarty

Agree. So, get your submissions in, but also keep the political pressure up. And that's how you do it, you get organised, I think they are taking your names down. Get organised, get in contact with your State Member. I'll put Greg on the spot here, but when Greg puts his motion on the floor of council how about we get some busses together to get started on the floor of parliament in Macquarie Street and let them know. Now make sure you leave your email and stay in contact with the organisers and I'll let you know when Greg does that, and we will organise some busses.

Speaker Rob Heffernan

Submit all your questions to the Minister and ask the Government for a response to this.

Meeting closed at 2.35pm

PRESS REPORTS IN THE DAILY TELEGRAPH.
CONCERNED LUDDENHAM RESIDENTS STAND FOR THEIR RIGHTS TO THEIR
LAND AGAINST
GREEN SPACE & NO COMPENSATION.



PRESS REPORTS IN THE DAILY TELEGRAPH. CONCERNED LUDDENHAM RESIDENTS STAND FOR THEIR RIGHTS TO THEIR LAND AGAINST GREEN SPACE & NO COMPENSATION.

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 5 2021 DAILYTELEGRAPH.COM.AU

GREEN DREAM A NIGHTMARE

IT'S THE VIBE: OWNERS IN CASTLE-LIKE FIGHT



SPECIAL REPORT
LACHLAN LEEMING

HUNDREDS of Western Sydney residents are discovering their homes are not their castles, with the NSW government threatening to use environmental legislation to deem their land "green space", rendering it worthless.

Planning Minister Rob Stokes' vision for the new Western Sydney Aerotropolis to be a "parkland city" has set up a David and Goliath battle akin to the cult movie classic The Castle.

Residents living north of the incoming airport were horrified by a state government proposal to designate "huge chunks" of their properties green space such as bushland and parks – a move that will drive down their value by millions as developers zone in on land primed to build on.

While fictional characters in The Castle argued about compensation for the acquisition of Darryl Kerrigan's home on "just terms", under the NSW Environmental Assessment Act the state government is relying upon the land can be designated green space without compensation.

Luddenham residents Rob and Deb Heffernan say more than three hectares of their 10ha home will be left valueless by the proposals after maps revealed a third of their property would be considered riparian parkland – meaning

neither local council nor state government would be required to purchase it.

The rest of their land has been zoned for enterprise.

"I've never been against the airport – Sydney needs it – but this is just unfair to the little people," Mr Heffernan said.

"It's like we're giving away part of our land for free – at the end of the day we just want a fair deal and we're not getting that."

The state government has described the Northern Gateway area, which includes

Luddenham and will form an entrance to the Aerotropolis area, as one that will feature "extensive parklands" among rezoned commercial and agricultural lands.

While the local council would be required to purchase land designated as local parkland, it would not have to buy riparian parkland, ridge top park or nature parks contained in the Environment, Planning and Assessment Act.

Planners have long stressed the importance of leafy green space around the

DAILY TELEGRAPH.COM.AU FRIDAY FEBRUARY 5 2021

Rob Heffernan on his Luddenham farm and (inset) with wife Deb. Pictures: Richard Dobson

“With a stroke of a pen they’ve made our land worthless”

Rob Heffernan




a spokesman saying the rates were in line with NSW Valuer General calculations of the newly zoned land.

The valuation was made prior to the proposal to designate parts of the properties "green space".

Planning and Public Spaces Minister Rob Stokes said the state government's vision for the Aerotropolis was for a "parkland city".

"We can't build a parkland city without parks," he said.

"Almost every major public infrastructure project that has helped build Sydney has

space last year.

"It's devastating. What you think might be your kids' future, within a matter of a piece of paper it's gone downhill," Mr Schweers said.

In another bitter blow, the rezoning from rural land to commercial has caused council rates to almost double in recent years, despite most homes in the area being reliant on their own tank water and septic systems.

Mr Heffernan now pays \$3200 a quarter in rates.

Pentith City Council defended the rates increases.

They built a house at the site three years ago, only to see it designated as green

new airport to combat "urban heat islands" and severe heatwaves.

A real estate agent familiar with the area said the plan would drastically cut the value of homes, making them too small for developers.

A few kilometres down the road from the Heffernans, Michael and Jenny Schweers live on a 30ha block they say has been in the family's ownership for more than 200 years.

required the acquisition of private property to make the vision a reality. We are being upfront and transparent by having that discussion with people."

If the space was to finally be deemed parkland, it would be acquired under the Just Terms Compensation Act. However, the Heffernans and Schweers would get no relief as their zoning would come under the Environmental Assessment Act. Mr Stokes' spokesman later confirmed to The Daily Telegraph there was no requirement for compensation under the Act.

"With a stroke of a pen they've made our land worthless – it's a raw deal," Mr Heffernan said.

The plan is subject to consultation until February 26.

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PRESS REPORTS IN THE DAILY TELEGRAPH.
CONCERNED LUDDENHAM RESIDENTS STAND FOR THEIR RIGHTS TO THEIR
LAND AGAINST
GREEN SPACE & NO COMPENSATION.

The Daily Telegraph

No justice in land grab zone

The growth of Western Sydney is an undeniably positive step for our entire city. So, too, is the brilliant new international airport that is and will be a primary driver of that growth.

Yet all growth, even when it is clearly for the greater good, can have some negative outcomes.

The right thing for governments and developers to do in such circumstances is to soften the blow by providing adequate compensation.

Yet in the cases of Rob and Deb Heffernan, and many other families living close to the area where the Western Sydney Airport is being built, the possibility of fair compensation seem to be distant if not unobtainable.

The Heffernans and other Luddenham Rd residents say the NSW government's latest plans have dramatically reshaped their destinies.

About a third of the Heffernans' 10ha property will be reclassified as bushland, although it has been used for farming for 50 years.

"I've never been against the airport — Sydney needs it — but this is just unfair to the little people," Rob Heffernan told The Daily Telegraph.

"It's like we're giving away

part of our land for free. At the end of the day we just want a fair deal and we're not getting it."

His sensible attitude is far from being an isolated one throughout Western Sydney.

The area overwhelmingly embraces the prospect of a new airport but is also keen that disruption be minimised.

This includes financial and household disruption.

A multi-billion dollar major infrastructure project like the airport obviously involves enough money to properly offset losses to property owners.

Even better, and far less expensive, would be to rezone the areas concerned so that they are not part of a greening campaign.

This appears to be a green scheme introduced under the cover of the airport's creation.

If so, it's misguided and puts at risk in some examples many decades of family connections and history. There is a point to maintaining Sydney's historic aspects as we move forward.

As Rob Heffernan puts it: "This block has been in the family for 55 years and to now find out your future plans for what was going to happen is all in the air and we lose millions of dollars — it doesn't seem right."

He makes a very good case.

Google's fright free threat

PRESS REPORTS IN THE DAILY TELEGRAPH.
CONCERNED LUDDENHAM RESIDENTS STAND FOR THEIR RIGHTS TO THEIR
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Land grab an air rort



Joe Musico and his mother Emma Musico on their property at Luddenham. Picture: Richard Dobson

EXCLUSIVE
LACHLAN LEEMING

RESIDENTS whose land has been earmarked "green space" surrounding the Badgerys Creek airport are being set up as victims of "legalised theft," Mark Latham says.

His intervention came as the government's response to plans which will wipe out land values for hundreds of western Sydney residents turned into a shambles.

The government appeared to pledge to buy all land designated open space, despite a spokesman for Planning Minister Rob Stokes conceding

last week the green space provisions were contained in environmental laws which had no requirement for compensating land holders.

The hollow olive branch also came without any monetary commitment to residents whose financial futures have been plunged into limbo.

Plans for the green space have been initiated before "infrastructure contribution plans are finalised" which would pay for any acquisition.

The mixed messages have left frustrated residents more unclear the plans which would wipe millions from the value of their properties with

the stroke of a planning bureaucrat's pen.

Joe Musico and his family say up to 30 per cent of their 457 hectare property, set across rolling hills at Luddenham in the shadow of the incoming airport, is earmarked as green space.

The Musico's property, which the family has owned since 1989, includes swathes of proposed urban parks and riparian park under plans currently open for public feedback.

"We know these are only indicative plans and it could be worse, or could be better, but developers aren't going to

spend tens of millions of dollars on something so uncertain," Mr Musico, a real estate agent working in the area, told The Daily Telegraph.

"It's total uncertainty for us."

NSW One Nation leader Mark Latham lashed the proposals as "legalised theft".

Mr Latham, who grew up in nearby Ashcroft and later served on the Liverpool City Council which partly covers the area surrounding the airport, said developers "won't touch" the blocks of land in question.

"It makes it a form of extortion or legalised theft of a portion of land," he said. "If

the government want parks in those areas, the government needs to acquire it fairly under the Land Acquisition Act."

Land designated green space for use such as riparian park or ridgetop park under the Environmental Assessment Act does not need to be paid for. A spokesman for Planning Minister Rob Stokes said: "We are in the early stages of building a future city and the first step is to identify future land uses."

"The precinct plans have not been finalised. Any land that will be classified as public space will be acquired."

... mapping sex- cent result in a guilty convic- an honest, genuine belief the sex? Det Supt Maloney agreed and said consent laws needed don't report their assault to police. "If we look at the very

Revealed: Skyscraper heights for new airport city

JAKE MCCALLUM

SYDNEY is getting its first proper look at the blueprints of towering cityscapes planned for the Western Sydney Aerotropolis.

The state government has revealed how the five precincts making up the city around the new airport will be laid out and massive building heights proposed for land where cattle once grazed.

The height plan.

The latest Aerotropolis plans revealed skyscrapers south of the Western Sydney Airport — at the core precinct — would reach 70m.

Buildings on the outskirts of the core would drop to 24m or five storeys, similar to heights proposed for the Badgerys Creek precinct.

In the Aerotropolis' Northern Gateway, buildings ranging from 20m to 45m are earmarked to line Luddenham Rd and the M12 Motorway. The region's Agribusiness precinct will see development restricted to 20m in height.

Residential, business and community hubs were also outlined in the masterplan, as were the proposed locations of major nature reserves, parks and sports fields.

Urban Taskforce chief executive Tom Forrest said he was believed the government had jumped the gun on "imposing stringent building heights" on a greenfield city 20 years in the making.

"The government may be trying to provide certainty and confidence for investors in the masterplan, but these investors will also require flexibility as markets change," he said.

He said the government could be "sterilising opportunity" for developers.

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PRESS REPORTS IN THE DAILY TELEGRAPH.
CONCERNED LUDDENHAM RESIDENTS STAND FOR THEIR RIGHTS TO THEIR
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GREEN SPACE & NO COMPENSATION.

Airport turns \$11m home into \$1 field



Residents listen as NSW Opposition leader Jodi McKay speaks at a community meeting about the Western Sydney Airport. Picture: Gaye Gerard

LACHLAN LEEMING

FURIOUS residents say their homes have been left "unsellable", with one saying his property's value plummeted from \$11 million to only \$1 because of proposed land zonings surrounding the new western Sydney airport.

Theo Koutsomihalis said under the latest zonings proposed, his entire 4.5ha Luddenham property would be designated as green space, wiping millions from its value after it had previously been zoned as enterprise land.

He said planning firm Urbis had initially valued his land, then zoned as enterprise, at \$11 million.

However, proposed plans by the State Government have designated his entire property as green space, with the firm updating him the property would now be "unsellable" with a value of \$1.

"I'm stuck now with a property worth \$1 for the next 20 or 30 years, if it ever sells,"

he told The Telegraph. "The other day I literally had to pull the car over and have a panic attack for 45 minutes. My kids' future is gone."

Mr Koutsomihalis drew the largest cheer at a public meeting of about 200 concerned locals at Luddenham Showground yesterday with state politicians and councillors from Liverpool and Penrith.

Uncertainty continues over the future for small landowners surrounding the airport at Badgerys Creek which is due to open in 2026, after draft plans released late last year designated great swaths of land as open space.

While the Government has appeared to pledge to buy all land designated open space, homeowners fear new land designations will wipe millions from the values of their homes as their uses are changed and limited.

The declarations have also come without any monetary commitment to residents

whose financial futures have been plunged into limbo, with many fearing that if their land is eventually sold, they may not be compensated for years.

While consultation on the proposed Northern Gateway plans, which includes the rezonings, was due to close on February 26, the Government extended the time for submissions to this Friday after The Daily Telegraph highlighted the plight of residents in the area.

Liberal MP for Mulgoa, Tanya Davies, whose electorate includes the town of Luddenham, conceded to the community meeting the move was "theft".

"At the end of the day, I'll be really ticked off if the Government continues on this way... (it's)

a fact, it's theft," Ms Davies told the crowd.

"I don't stand here parroting the Government line."

Earlier, she said while the Government has a vision for the land surrounding the new airport, "it is completely undemocratic and un-

Australian for the Government to think people such as yourselves will hand over your land for free and no

compensation whatsoever".

While those residents are fearing massive losses, the property developing Medich family have made nearly \$500 million from selling a 334ha parcel of undeveloped land bordering the airport site.

They recently sold the land bought from the CSIRO in 1996 for \$3.5 million to a Chinese-linked funds management firm for \$499.95 million. The Australian newspaper reports.

At the same public meeting NSW Opposition leader Jodi McKay implored Government ministers to back an Upper House parliamentary inquiry into the purchase of land around western Sydney airport.

Ms McKay said the laws surrounding government acquisition of properties at the site under the Just Terms Act are "broken".

A spokesman for Planning Minister Rob Stokes said submissions were still open.



Theo Koutsomihalis