



THE LORD MAYOR OF SYDNEY
CLOVER MOORE

4 November 2020

The Hon. Kevin Anderson MP
Minister for Better Regulation and Innovation
GPO Box 5341
Sydney NSW 2001

Dear Minister

Wentworth Park

I am writing on behalf of the Council of the City of Sydney to support the removal of greyhound racing from Wentworth Park so the land can be returned to the community for public recreation.

I congratulate the NSW Government on the draft Pyrmont Peninsula Place Strategy that seeks to improve public spaces and includes an action to investigate the return of Wentworth Park as local parkland.

While the draft Pyrmont Peninsula Strategy includes as an action to investigate the restoration of Wentworth Park as newly-activated, publicly-accessible open space, I ask that the NSW Government make a firm commitment to return Wentworth Park to the community and stop the cruel practice of greyhound racing on this site.

This action needs to go beyond investigation and should be a firm Government commitment.

Wentworth Park has a rich history. In 1885, the Colonial Government proclaimed Wentworth Park as an area for recreation. In the early 1900s, Wentworth Park was used for rugby union and rugby league, cricket and movie screenings. Local brass bands would play in the rotunda and a kindergarten was established. Wentworth Park became home to greyhound racing when the Government issued a second greyhound racing license in 1939. The lease for the site to the Greyhound Breeders Owners and Trainers Association ends in 2027 and, with the Bays Precinct and Fish Markets development proposals, now is the time to plan for the future recreation needs of a growing City community.

The City of Sydney supports Wentworth Park to be reinstated as crown reserve for public recreation uses. The City's Community Recovery Plan highlights the need for more open space for general wellbeing and to enable physical distancing.

In 2015, the City sent a submission to the Special Commission of Inquiry into the Greyhound Racing Industry in NSW. Our submission condemned the high levels of surplus breeding in the greyhound racing industry, which results in the death of thousands of dogs each year. We also condemned the failure of greyhound racing authorities to comply with legal and community standards of animal welfare.

Sydney Town Hall 483 George Street Sydney NSW 2000
Phone 02 9265 9229 Fax 02 9265 9328 cmoore@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au

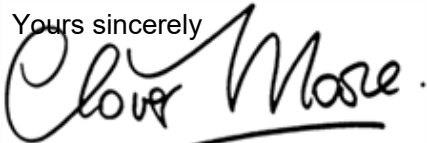
The greyhound industry has admitted to killing up to 17,000 healthy greyhounds each year, while 10,000 puppies are bred each year for racing. The animal cruelty extends to live baiting practices involving the use of live kittens, rabbits, piglets and possums during training. Some trainers have even been found to dope dogs with cocaine, caffeine and anabolic steroids to enhance their performance.

In 2018, I wrote to the then Minister for Racing condemning the Million Dollar Chase at Wentworth Park and the Goulburn greyhound racing club upgrade.

At its meeting, Council also noted the impacts of greyhound racing gambling industry. Australians gamble around \$4 billion each year on greyhound racing. The greyhound racing industry is estimated to be worth around \$55 million in revenue to the NSW Government, who in turn provide millions of dollars to the greyhound racing industry in tax breaks and track upgrades.

I strongly supported the NSW Government's decision in 2016 to ban greyhound racing. I was very disappointed when the government decided to reverse the ban.

Yours sincerely

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Clover Moore
Lord Mayor of Sydney



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4 November 2020

The Hon. Rob Stokes, MP
Minister for Planning and Public Spaces
GPO Box 5341
Sydney NSW 2001

Dear Minister

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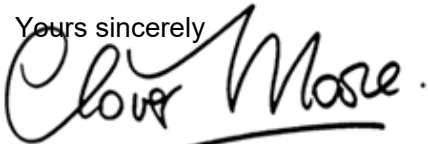
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4 November 2020

The Hon. Melinda Pavey, MP
Minister for Water, Property and Housing
GPO BOX 5341
Sydney NSW 2001

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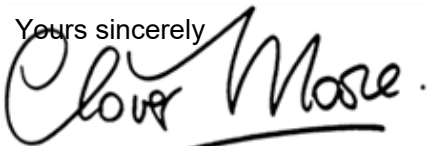
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