



# "Mmmmmmm"

## Adelaide Oval Parking Update

**MEDIA RELEASE: February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

The arrangements approved yesterday by Adelaide City Council (ACC) and agreed by the Adelaide Oval Stadium Management Authority (SMA) needs to be reviewed closely to sort the detail and long term implications. In reality it is a one year agreement only around Stadium accessibility and not an acceptable long term or permanent fix.

While we are delighted to see high level discussion and note the goodwill of all parties involved the \$600 million, taxpayer funded, Adelaide Oval Stadium access challenges are a long way from permanently resolved

Reality around the stadium is as follows

- There are 3 major entry points to the stadium and parking needs to be available near each point (along with drop off zones at each point with shelter) Disability Access parking (DDA) is all about getting as close to a facility as possible.
- There are normally 1167 parks available in the stadium precinct mostly used by Sponsors and VIPs and other assorted fat bums.
- Last year, 2014, there were just 70 made available as DDA parks in the northern car park for an anticipated 300 disability permit attendees with overflow parking for the rest at the Torrens Parade Ground. This proved massively inconvenient igniting the public furore around access to the stadium.
- In 2015 the ACC have agreed to provide a further 30 DDA compliant Car Parks on War Memorial Drive adjacent to Pinky Flat (near the Southern Gates)

The SMA has additionally agreed to provide 50 underground car parks under the Eastern Gate/ Stand.

Given for the first time parking being available with proximity to these two main entry points this parking will generate high demand. Vehicles will traverse Pinky Flat as part of the access/drop off arrangements from War Memorial Drive which is common sense.

- The Parade Ground parking will again be used for 180 vehicles in 2015 and will no doubt prove very difficult for people with disability to use comfortably as the Northern Carpark is now closed for rework
- People parking at the Parade Ground and needing to access via the Northern gates in 2015 will need a camel and a compass.
- These 2015 additional, 30+50 parks are temporary for this season only and will then be withdrawn under yesterday's agreement .....which defies belief given they have filled a massive void from 2014.

Making these strategically placed Carparks permanent is essential for ensuring appropriate parking at each entry gate for the long term. If necessary the SA Government must intervene

- In 2016 it is planned there will be 260 DDA parks available in the Northern Stadium precinct, but just 7 elsewhere on site. That is a planned "backward step" and this decision needs to be urgently reviewed.

This would mean once again that access to the Southern and Eastern gates is extremely difficult as there will be virtually no parking adjacent to these gates.

- From the Northern Park to the Southern or Eastern gate in 2016 will be a marathon as it was in 2014
- Traversing the stadium internally is very difficult for people with disability as there is a myriad of levels and stairs that are not disability friendly so access point will always be a big issue.
- We do applaud the council for the time and money it is putting into improving the drop off facilities at each entry point. Only good will come out of this hard work. The ACC planning department has been very professional to work with.

We cannot ignore the attached [Media Release from D4d](#) which disappoints. This may be because Kelly is poorly advised or does not personally fully comprehend the access issues particularly around different entry gates on AFL game day? Many people with disability will also feel saddened their access rights may have been publicly diluted by their elected representative amongst philosophically divisive debates over parkland use age.

If ultimately it is necessary to make Pinky Flat area Disability Discrimination Act compliant to ensure adequate access and parking people with disability for the long term, Disability Speaks and many in the wider community will expect that decision to be made. As our population ages we can expect ballooning demand for more disability accessible parking at Adelaide Oval.

**Disability Speaks will keep pushing for an outcome that allows people with disability access to all gates like any other attendee at Adelaide Oval and we appreciate the overwhelming community support we have had for our work around this issue. It has generated record levels of interest and support.**

***David Holst***

Chair - Disability Speaks Steering Committee & Chair, Intellectual Disability Association of S.A (IDASA)

Mob. 0418 555 683

Web. [www.disabilityspeaks.com.au](http://www.disabilityspeaks.com.au)

Email. [disabilityspeaks@internode.on.net](mailto:disabilityspeaks@internode.on.net)



[www.everyaustraliancounts.org.au](http://www.everyaustraliancounts.org.au)



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