



MEDIA RELEASE – 7 November 2020

Secret cable car/Aboriginal heritage advice should be released

Revelations that the Mount Wellington Cableway Company (MWCC) received official Government advice insisting it conduct a ‘comprehensive’ Aboriginal heritage survey on kunanyi/Mt Wellington, and that it has since received ‘new advice’ⁱ (both being kept secret), has prompted fresh calls for much promised transparency about the cable car project.

Despite the advice it received from [Aboriginal Heritage Tasmania](#), the MWCC will argue a procedural detail in Tasmania’s planning tribunal in an attempt to avoid conducting the requested ‘on-site’ Aboriginal heritage survey of the impacts its commercial development and cable car would have on the Aboriginal values of kunanyi, preferring a simple desktop survey.

“Many people are perplexed as to why a developer seeking to win a social license would go to the courts to avoid doing a proper Aboriginal heritage survey,” said Vica Bayley, spokesperson for Residents Opposed to the Cable Car (ROCC).

“Now we learn it has official Government advice recommending a comprehensive heritage survey and some kind of ‘new advice’, presumably to the contrary...these documents should be released in the interest of transparency.

MWCC’s website still promises full transparency around its planning submission and other relevant documentation because it *‘believes developments in public spaces deserve an additional level of transparency over and above the statutory planning process.’*ⁱⁱ Under Tasmania’s planning laws, a proponent is entirely at liberty to publish its Development Application and supporting information.

“The cable car developer should walk the talk regarding transparency and release the information it has submitted to support its development application, including the official advice recommending an on-site survey and whatever this so-called ‘new’ advice is.

“Dodging an Aboriginal heritage survey on kunanyi/Mt Wellington is shameful, but doing it against official advice and keeping the advice secret adds insult to injury and will build further opposition to an already toxic proposal.”



ⁱ <https://iview.abc.net.au/video/NU2003T267S00> (17.26 minute mark)

ⁱⁱ MWCC Website – <https://mtwellingtoncablecar.com/downloads>