



MEDIA RELEASE – 20 JULY 2021

71% COMMUNITY OPPOSITION, 21 GROUNDS OF REFUSAL – NO GO FOR THE CABLE CAR

The independent expert report analysing the kunanyi/Mt Wellington cable car Development Application (DA) has identified many diverse areas where the project is non-compliant with the Wellington Park Management Plan (WPMP) and Hobart Interim Planning Scheme (HIPS) and details a massive 71% of the record 16,589 representations objected to the project.

Residents Opposed to the Cable Car (ROCC) welcome the release and recommendations of the report, highlighting that many of the grounds for refusal have been writ large since the project was first floated and come as no surprise, given the project is proposed for a much-loved, publicly-owned reserve protected to maintain natural, cultural and social amenity values.

“The proposal to privatise a public reserve and bring mass-tourism to a much-loved mountain has been divisive and consumed inordinate amounts of community time, energy and money, yet this report demonstrates it was destined to fail from the start,” said Vica Bayley, spokesperson for ROCC.

“With 21 grounds of refusal, many spanning the very values the Wellington Park was established to preserve, refusing a permit to construct this private commercial complex and cableway is now the responsibility of elected councilors. We welcome this report and call on all councilors to heed its recommendations.

ROCC expects the unbecoming campaign to question the professional integrity of Hobart City Council staff and consultants to continue in the wake of this report, given the need for the project to rid itself of the requirements of the WPMP and HIPS, and thus, have some hope of ‘approval’.

“Baseless muddying of the waters to discredit professional staff is yet another unnecessary cost of this mass-tourism development. We call on the Mount Wellington Cableway Company to condemn this strategy.

“We welcome the independent planners’ report and its vindication of the issues of concern the community has been raising over many years.

“Its recommendations are sound and in our deputation to next week’s special council meeting, Residents Opposed to the Cable Car will be reinforcing the key failures of this project and personally calling on Councilors to vote against it.”

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