

Cordell Paul

From: Planning Support
Subject: FW: Comment Received from Public Access

Application Reference No. : HGY/2015/3000 Site Address: Tottenham Hotspur Football Club
748 High Road London N17 0AP London Comments by: Tottenham Hotspur Supporters' Trust

From:

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Submission: Support

Comments: We're writing in support of Tottenham Hotspur FC's planning application for a new stadium.

We are the Tottenham Hotspur Supporters' Trust (THST), a formally-constituted democratic organisation representing around 11,000 Spurs fans. The Trust seeks to work with Spurs supporters to give fans an independent voice on issues of importance to us. We also work alongside national supporter organisations, Supporters Direct and the Football Supporters' Federation.

We are excited by the stadium proposals you have been asked to consider. Having patiently observed the lengthy interval from the original NDP concept to the current state of play we really hope approval for the plans can now be granted so that the stadium can be completed in time for the 2018-19 season, as scheduled by the club.

We would like to emphasise that the Trust opposed and campaigned against the proposed move of the Club from Tottenham to Stratford, and this opposition was shared by a significant proportion of the Club's supporters. One of the key arguments was support for Spurs continuing a proud history of around 130 years residency in Tottenham and of continuing to grow in a far larger stadium close to White Hart Lane. Both as fans and as those with a close affinity to the area, we are keen to see our team, Club and local community prosper.

As fans and supporter representatives, the following features in the plans are particularly appealing:

• This is an innovative design that will result in one of the finest sporting arenas in the world. The asymmetric stadium profile, the walkways, including a roof walk, spectator forecourts and catering areas, the five storey atrium space for home fans, the Tottenham Experience concept, including the museum, will provide a home for fans to enjoy and be proud of. And a capacity of 61,000, the largest club capacity in London, together with a 17,000 single tier 'end', is something fans have pushed for and will, we believe, help maintain the atmosphere our home ground is famous for.

• The incorporation in the plans for NFL facilities, especially the cutting edge technology that will provide a retractable pitch, along with the extreme sports facilities, including the largest indoor climbing wall in the world, will add to the all-round, all-year sporting experience. These will not only cater for the traditional football crowd, but also attract many more people and a more diverse audience to the stadium.

As a fans organisation, we want to see success for our team on the pitch. In our view, a sustainable model for growth with a 61,000 capacity stadium at its heart is essential if the Club is to have a chance of achieving that success.

We also want to see the Club play its part in the community in which it is situated. We believe the features highlighted above will deliver many benefits to Tottenham and to the borough. In addition to the prestige the stadium and its multi-use surrounds will bring, the vast increase in football fans, sports enthusiasts and other visitors will provide a much-needed boost to local business, to employment opportunities and, with associated infrastructural improvements, to the local urban environment in general. Specific proposals such as the NHS medical centre and the upgrading of facilities and resources for the Tottenham Hotspur Foundation will also deliver much-needed social benefits to the community.

We believe the plans before you can provide a much-needed boost to both the Club and the area. We hope you will agree.

THST Board
14 October 2015