

SEAPLANES ON LAKE BURLEY GRIFFIN: NCA PUBLIC CONSULTATION:

For me, the proposal to have seaplanes on Lake Burley Griffin (LBG) raises four principal issues:

- public safety;
- noise;
- loss of amenity; and
- having the interests of a small minority override the interests of the great majority.

Considering these factors, I **recommend** that the NCA **not agree** to the proposal.

Public safety:

Aircraft servicing major cities usually operate from airports with buffers of open space around the runways providing considerable latitude before an accident represents a hazard to the general public.

Scheduled seaplane services, especially if operated by aircraft which cannot land except on water, represent an additional hazard if a landing is attempted on water in unfavourable weather conditions.

Most times during daylight there are many people using the parklands surrounding LBG, and other users are out on the water in crafts of various kinds, or swimming.

A seaplane accident involving a collision with Commonwealth or Kings Avenue Bridges, because of their being major arteries for traffic in the city, would involve traffic chaos in Canberra. This is in addition to any injuries or death to people on the bridge that may result.

Noise:

People near LBG can have their serenity shattered by the noise of a seaplane taking off, or even in the last stages of descent for landing.

I live in Campbell, so intrusion of extra noise from seaplanes regularly using LBG is an unwanted detriment. On the afternoon of 15 December 2020, when the demonstration flight was being held, I heard a terrible noise at my house. Going outside to investigate, I could see nothing, but surmised that it was the seaplane taking off. Because the seaplane was not taking off from an established airport, it was difficult to establish definitively that the noise came from that cause. Nevertheless, from Press reports, the time of the flight's departure from Canberra seemed to coincide with the noise that I heard.

Cycling by LBG I would not wish to have the serenity broken by a nearby seaplane.

(2)

Loss of amenity:

Many people use LBG and its surrounds. Its peacefulness will be disturbed by noise associated with seaplanes on LBG. Competitive events such as triathlon and yachting could be disrupted if parts of LBG are having to be cleared for a seaplane landing or taking off.

Having the interests of a small minority override the interests of the great majority:

I am not attracted to the idea of a small number of people paying a premium for the claimed convenience to make the Sydney/Canberra journey in one hop, but thereby diminishing the experience of LBG and its surrounds for a great number of people.

Yours sincerely,

(Dr . John P. WARREN)