



Director
B. Eng. (Hons) M. Eng. (Hons)
MEMBER

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AMERICA BURNS PAGES 5 & 80-81

SUNDAY, MAY 31, 2020

Telegraph

STADIUM BACKFLIP

\$800m

SUNDAY MAY 31 2020

09

Old stadium, new jobs

Premier dumps ANZ Stadium rebuild but stands firm on Powerhouse

PHIL ROTHFIELD
SPORTS EDITOR-AT-LARGE

PREMIER Gladys Berejiklian has abandoned the promised \$810 million rebuild of Sydney's Olympic stadium at Homebush, a victim of the state's COVID-19 financial disaster.

Instead the NSW government has announced a new \$3 billion fund for job-creating projects across the state to generate an extra 20,000 positions.

The promised \$1.1 billion Powerhouse Museum move to Parramatta will still be delivered,

however ANZ Stadium will remain untouched.

ANZ was to be converted into a 70,000-seat state-of-the-art venue with a rectangular playing field to host Sydney's showpiece major events including State of Origin, NRL grand finals, international sporting events and rock concerts.

The \$3 billion infrastructure and job fund will be used for smaller, shovel-ready projects "touching every corner of the state," according to the government.

The Premier said the moves would fire up the

economy with \$100 billion now being invested in the state's infrastructure.

"This guaranteed pipeline of \$100 billion will be our best chance of supporting the hundreds of thousands of people who have already lost their jobs in NSW," Ms Berejiklian said.

"We are now not only guaranteeing our infrastructure pipeline, we will be looking for opportunities to fast-track projects to provide jobs as early as we can."

The government said the ANZ Stadium rebuild was originally a sensible project backed by the people of NSW at last year's election, but was aban-

doned because of the current health and economic climate.

The Powerhouse Museum relocation will create more than 1100 construction jobs in Western Sydney, 2400 indirect jobs and keep hundreds employed once it opens.

Deputy Premier John Barilaro said the fast-tracking of projects would support jobs across NSW and the government was in the process of identifying them.

"The communities of NSW have been through an incredibly tough period with continued drought, horrific bushfires and now COVID-19 and the

best path to recovery is creating jobs," Mr Barilaro said.

"An unprecedented crisis calls for an unprecedented recovery and redirecting funding from Stadium Australia to job-creating infrastructure builds is the right thing to do for the people of NSW."

The ANZ Stadium decision leaves Sydney without a major event venue to match Perth's new Optus Stadium, Adelaide Oval or Suncorp Stadium in Brisbane.

SYDNEY'S NRL GRAND FINAL NOW IN DOUBT - WHAT'S THE BUZZ, PAGE 45

Big wave surfer sues Survivor