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NEWS RELEASE

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ADELAIDE AQUATIC CENTRE SHOULD REMAIN PUBLIC – POLL

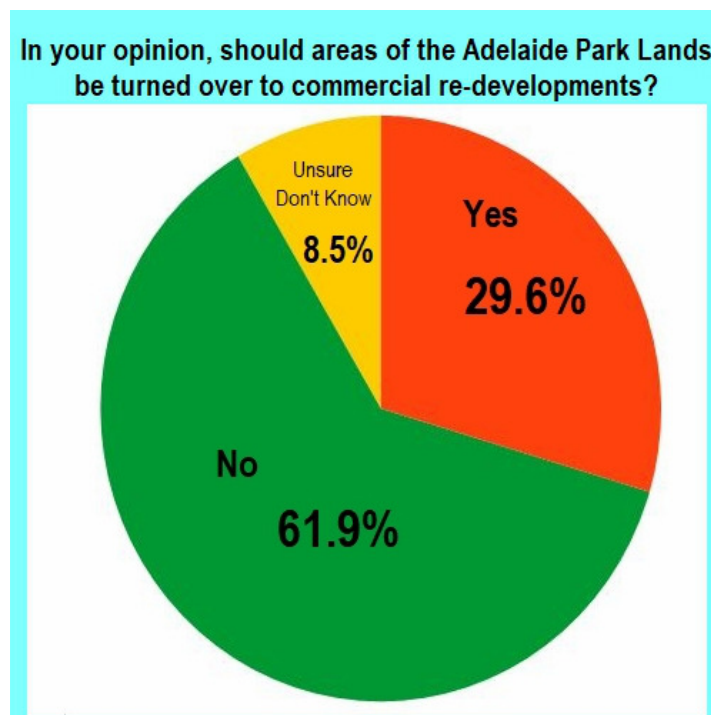
An opinion poll of Adelaide residents has found overwhelming support for keeping the Adelaide Aquatic Centre in public hands, rather than turning it over to the Adelaide Crows.

After 10 months of secret negotiations with Adelaide City Council, the Crows are about to unveil draft concept plans to a Council meeting on Tuesday evening, making them public for the first time.

However, an independent market research poll commissioned by the Adelaide Park Lands Preservation Association has found only 26% support for the proposed Crows deal.

Seven hundred and sixty three (763) people were surveyed last week, across the federal electorate of Adelaide, including City and North Adelaide residents.

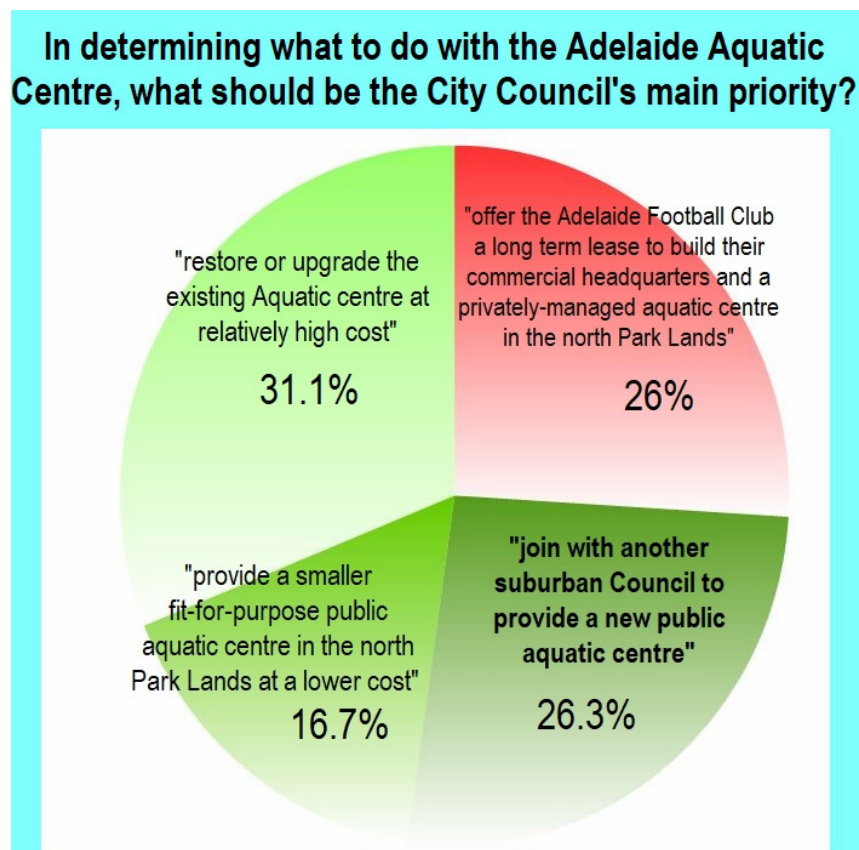
Asked whether, in the context of the Crows bid, areas of the Adelaide Park Lands should "be turned over to commercial re-development", the result was 61.9% "no" and only 29.6% "yes", with 8.5% unsure.



On the issue of the Adelaide Aquatic Centre, respondents were given four choices. Should the City Council:

1. restore or upgrade the existing Aquatic centre at relatively high cost?
2. provide a smaller fit-for-purpose public aquatic centre in the north Park Lands at a lower cost?
3. join with another suburban Council to provide a new public aquatic centre? or
4. offer the Adelaide Football Club a long term lease to build their commercial headquarters and a privately-managed aquatic centre in the north Park Lands.

The preferred option among all voters was to restore or upgrade the existing Aquatic Centre, with over 31% support. Seventy three percent (73%) of people preferred options other than the Crows proposal. In the City (postcode 5000) support for a public (not Crows) aquatic centre option was even higher, at 78%.



Adelaide Park Lands Preservation Association President Shane Sody says: "This survey is proof that the City Council is totally out of step with its residents and ratepayers. For months it has been locked in secret negotiations, twice voting explicitly *against* consulting ratepayers on this controversial issue."

"The Park Lands should be open, public, and green," Mr Sody said. "To allow a commercial football franchise to build its headquarters in the north Park Lands would be the very opposite of that. It would be closed, private, and concrete" he said.

"The Adelaide Park Lands are world unique and National Heritage-listed. The Council itself is supporting a bid to explore World Heritage listing. It is surprising that the majority faction on the City Council has been so out of step with Park Lands values and so wilfully resistant to seeking public opinion to date.

"At the City Council meeting on Tuesday night, the Council must call a halt to its misadventure with the Adelaide Crows and explore ways of continuing to provide public, **not private** aquatic facilities, as their community demands.

"The Adelaide Crows are risking their reputation as 'the team for all South Australians' by pursuing something that is clearly alienating the majority of Adelaide residents. **How can they say #weflyasone when their plans are so divisive?**

"Support seems to be growing for the Crows to investigate using Thebarton Oval instead. We would encourage both the City Council, West Torrens Council and the Adelaide Football Club executives to take heed of this survey and investigate all other options."

The full survey questions and results are published here:

<http://archives.adelaide-parklands.asn.au/Submissions%20and%20Letters/ReachTEL%201359%20Adelaide%20Parks.pdf>

The poll was conducted by ReachTEL, an independent market research company, and commissioned by Adelaide Park Lands Preservation Association. All analysis including any interpretation have been undertaken by Adelaide Park Lands Preservation Association.
