



Dr Mike Freeland MP

Federal Member for Macarthur

23 April 2018

Mr David Gallop
Chief Executive
Football Federation Australia
Locked Bag A4071
SYDNEY SOUTH NSW 1235

Dear Mr Gallop,

Re: United for Macarthur - Support for the United for Macarthur A-League Bid

I am pleased to be writing to support the United for Macarthur A-League Bid.

The Macarthur region is on the cusp of a major transformation and this opportunity to have a professional football team would be of major benefit to our community. I am most grateful to have the opportunity to voice my support for the bid.

I strongly believe that this opportunity will deliver social and economic benefits for our community, similar to the benefits that other host cities enjoy. We will see a reduction in economic leakage and an increase spend across the Macarthur region.

The United for Macarthur Bid offers a range of community programs that will benefit everyone.

Furthermore, our region is home to a strong and growing football community with over 11,000 registered players - a figure that is set to grow to over 18,000 in coming years. As I am sure you will agree, a locally based team will provide young players their own A-League Team to aspire to.

I understand that a core element of the bid is that it is community-driven, with the outcome of having a community owned team with a co-operative structure. Such a model has not been seen in the sporting fabric in Australia, though I understand that such a model is the basis of success experienced overseas with clubs such as Barcelona, Real Madrid and the majority of the Bundesliga.

I would be delighted if the Football Federation of Australia awarded the Macarthur region with one of the two licences on offer.

I really cannot support this bid enough, and am hopeful that our community will be successful in their attempts to secure a football team for Macarthur. This will deliver both economic and social benefits for my electorate, and I believe will further enhance the Football Federations reach across our community.

I would be more than happy to discuss this matter further, should you require any further information. My office can be reached on (02) 4620 0293, and I would welcome the opportunity to express my support for our community bid wholeheartedly.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Freeland". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Dr Mike Freeland MP
Federal Member for Macarthur