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Ms Belinda Scott  
NSW Department of Planning & Environment  
320 Pitt Street  
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Ms Scott,

## **MODIFICATION TO SYDNEY METRO - CHATSWOOD TO SYDENHAM - VICTORIA CROSS STATION AND ARTARMON SUBSTATION (MOD 1)**

### **INTRODUCTION**

We refer to the Sydney Metro Project (MOD 1). **This is a submission strongly in support of MOD 1**, prepared on behalf of the Sisters of Mercy (North Sydney) and Monte Sant' Angelo Mercy College, located in Miller Street, North Sydney.

The proposed modification will include the relocation of the northern station portal of the Victoria Cross Station to 50-52 McLaren Street which is without question a far superior design solution compared to that originally proposed at 194 Miller Street.

The proposed relocated station portal:

- Positively responds to the specific requirements of the Project Approval to evaluate alternative options to the original site location of 194 Miller Street.
- Addresses the significant exceedances of noise management levels (NMLs) at nearby sensitive receivers most notably being the College's performing arts centre.
- Will deliver significant public benefits through enhanced accessibility to the railway station from the north through the introduction of pedestrian access to this northern portal.
- Improve accessibility and reducing traffic and pedestrian conflict for construction activities noting that the larger land parcel and corner site location.

### **BACKGROUND**

Monte Sant' Angelo Mercy College has expressed and documented serious concerns regarding the proposed location and construction of the northern services shaft at 194 Miller Street which is immediately adjacent to the new performing arts centre of the College Campus.



As a result of the EIS assessment, it was confirmed that construction noise levels immediately adjacent to the unique multi-use theatre and music space at Monte Sant' Angelo Mercy College would result in noise levels exceeding the Noise Management Levels. Accordingly, a condition was placed on the Project Approval requiring the reconsideration of the northern services building location as follows:

*A21 The Proponent must undertake a further detailed analysis of alternative locations for construction of a services building to support Victoria Cross Station. The analysis must include a rigorous options assessment which considers **constructability, property impacts, operational efficiency and comparative impacts**, including construction and operational noise impacts in consultation with the Acoustics Advisor required by Condition A25. The analysis must be submitted to the Secretary and where the analysis identifies a better alternative to the Victoria Cross North site identified in the EIS, the Proponent must submit the recommendation to the Secretary for approval before commencement of construction at the Victoria Cross North construction site.*

The proposed Modification 1 concerning Victoria Cross Station is therefore directly a result of the investigations to satisfy Condition A21 of the Project Approval.

## **SUITABILITY OF PROPOSED LOCATION AT 50-52 MCLAREN STREET (OPTION 2)**

We support the rationale presented in the EIS for determining that the location on the corner of 50-52 McLaren Street is far superior to that at 194 Miller Street for the following reasons:

### **Reduced Construction Impacts**

The site is currently vacant. The building demolition process would therefore be avoided, resulting in lower levels of disruption to existing and adjacent owners and occupiers.

The proposal would not affect the level of service at nearby intersections and will have fewer impacts on public transport (such as bus stops) and the active transport network.

The site is a corner site with two road frontages, which enhances flexibility and accessibility for construction purposes. The EIS confirms that the site meets Sydney Metro's constructability requirements.

### **Reduced Noise Impacts During Construction**

The proposed site location would result in overall lower level exceedances of airborne and ground borne noise management levels which is strongly supported and encouraged. As stated in the EIS supporting MOD 1:

*This proposed change would have improved environmental outcomes including fewer and less severe exceedances of NMLs, and avoidance of ground borne NML exceedances on the highly noise sensitive receiver (ie the recording studio) on the Monte Sant' Angelo Mercy College site.*

As such it represents as a far superior solution from an acoustic amenity perspective.

## Improved Public Benefit Outcomes

The proposed location for the northern station access is a larger site that creates the opportunity for public access to and from the northern end of Victoria Cross Station whereas previously it was designed to be only a services shaft given the limited land availability.

This presents as a very significant opportunity to:

- Improve amenity and access for customers including the Monte Sant' Angelo Mercy College community.
- Increase the reach of the station catchment to include additional regional attractors such as the Mater Hospital, North Sydney Oval, North Sydney Boys High School and the residential and mixed use area to Falcon Street.
- A northern entry would also benefit customers using local bus services on Miller Street by providing an alternative and improved transfer opportunity.

## CONCLUSION

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed Modification to the Project Approval. The proposed modification is a direct result of addressing the requirements of Condition A21 of the Project Approval.

Monte Sant' Angelo Mercy College strongly supports the proposed modification for the reasons set out above.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. Blythe".

Tim Blythe  
Director