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NEPEAN HOSPITAL REDEVELOPMENT

ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN STATEMENT – S455 MODIFICATION

INTRODUCTION

The following Architectural Design Statement describes the modification changes to the approved design within the context of the Better Placed design initiatives.

The high quality of design for the Nepean Hospital Redevelopment will be governed by, and in consideration of, fostering the long-term, co-ordinated decision making in rethinking complex systems and processes from wider, future urban strategies through to everyday hospital operational requirements consistent with the policies outlined in the Better Placed document prepared by the Government Architect of NSW.

In its development of design strategies, the Nepean Hospital Redevelopment has identified, engaged and consulted in the objectives of a number of industry, professional and government agencies as well as local community stakeholders to provide a proposal that responds to and embodies a healthy, responsive, integrated, equitable and resilient design solution.

BETTER FIT

The Nepean Hospital Campus fulfils a central role within its immediate and wider context.

The location of the new Stage 1 Building has been developed to identify and support the growth of the campus over its life time and to meet the aspirations of the NBMLHD with a focus on improving services across acute health care, ambulatory health care, research and education, mental health and community care services to 2032.

The design of the Stage 1 Building embodies Nepean as a place, empathetic to its surroundings. materials and form. The building mass and façade strategy seeks to ground the new building in its context, recognising and responding to the surrounding campus building heights and an inferred campus datum line.

Changes to massing of the Stage 1 Building are consistent with the outlined objectives and its contextual response. The reduction in roof top plant aides to diminish the monumental scale of the project resulting in a reduction in the overall height & bulk from the uppermost part of the building and this reduction assists in creating a varied roof profile and differentiation of form. The plant remaining in place on the roof responds to the building diagram reinforcing the support spine. The building diagram in turn compliments and supports the growth of the campus over its life time and to meet the aforementioned aspirations of the NBMLHD.



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The expansion of plant on the eastern side of the development further allows for future growth and expansion to the west in alignment with overall site masterplan whilst maintaining the ongoing requirements of the functioning hospital

BETTER PERFORMANCE

Longevity, functionality and robustness underpin the new Stage 1 Building design.

Modifications to the plant locations and configurations are in response to the ongoing design development which strives to improve on the performance and efficiencies in the system design and reticulation of services. The consolidation of plant on L4 reduces service runs locating equipment in close proximity to the areas it serves and improves maintenance accessibility.

Relocation of subterranean plant to ground level and subsequent expansion of the external plant spine allows for future adaptability and ease of required ongoing maintenance and/or plant replacement. A dedicated services access road and additional kerb crossover provides clear & safe vehicle movements separating public, ambulance and operational vehicles.

The removal of intake louvres from south east & west corners allow for a continuation of the robust and easily maintained metal cladding consistent with the remaining tower design.

BETTER FOR COMMUNITY

Combining many functions into a single building, the new Stage 1 Building will significantly alter the way people use the hospital and aims to become the first point of arrival for many visitors to the campus. As such, it presents an exciting opportunity to create a unique, easily identifiable and memorable landmark building which becomes synonymous within the Nepean and Blue Mountains health district.

The increase in the size of the eastern facing building signage enhances the legibility of this important element from a distance enabling the ease of identification of this major destination by providing a clear navigational choice. The subsequent removal of signage from the western façade ensures the clarity of wayfinding and future signage opportunities positioned on the proposed Stage 2 Front of House entry.

Removal of childcare parking area provides for immediate landscaping opportunities & a future development edge in the long term to address the aspirations of the precinct in alignment with the Penrith City Council DCP.

BETTER FOR PEOPLE

The new Stage 1 Building has been designed with people's experience and safety at its core and the modifications to the design look to reinforce and compliment the strategies already in place.

The new services road improves vehicle movement and promotes safety providing separation of public, ambulance and operational vehicles. Consolidation of plant spaces externally and on L4 look to improve the reticulation of these services and ease of maintenance and or replacement.

The increase in the HLS lift lobby and adjustment of the façade alignment allows for improved visual connection to the helicopter landing site improving safety and user functionality

Clarity of building signage improves the overall wayfinding experience for users without diminishing the opportunities for signage to Future Stages.

BETTER WORKING

Extensive user consultation to develop models of care which underpin the department plans and inform the design has been undertaken to create a building which will be functional, efficient and fit for purpose.

The consolidation and relocation of many plant spaces comes through further engagement with Trades and Contractor involvement to ensure the final design represents the most suitable and effective arrangement of services available to support the building function.



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BETTER VALUE

The inclusion of the temporary façade to the west facilitates the proposed expansion to Stage 2 in the most efficient and resource conscious manner.

BETTER LOOK AND FEEL

The Stage 1 Building will be a significant new feature on the Nepean Hospital Campus. Modifications to the building form and expression have been considered with respect to the important civic role the building plays. The overall reduction in bulk and resolution of the roof plant has been organised to minimise visual impact, diminish monumentality and remain consistent with the organisational diagram underpinning the building design.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tim Gibson', written in a cursive style.

Tim Gibson
Senior Associate