

21 July 2022

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**Letter of support: Powerhouse Ultimo Renewal (Application number: SSD-32927319)**

To whom it concerns,

I write in support of the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences' State Significant Development Application for the Powerhouse Ultimo Renewal.

I was appointed as 24-Hour Economy Commissioner in April 2021 to oversee the implementation of the NSW Government's [24-Hour Economy Strategy](#). To deliver the Strategy, I am working collaboratively across NSW Government agencies, industry, local government, and with the cultural sector – including with the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences (MAAS) which is a key partner in delivering on the goals identified in the Strategy.

The revitalisation of our night-time economy is a strategic imperative in NSW following the impacts of regulatory restrictions, and more recently of COVID-19, on the viability of the 'going-out' sectors. MAAS has an established and significant presence in the night-time economy, contributing rich public programming and arts events to benefit the community and to draw audiences to Ultimo and its surrounds.

MAAS has been awarded funding under Rounds One, Two and Three of the CBDs Revitalisation Program administered by my Office, for its Powerhouse Late program which includes exhibition tours, talks, live music, film screenings and performances which are delivered free each Thursday evening. Cultural offerings such as this play a significant role in promoting a vibrant and diverse night-time economy and the renewal of the Ultimo Powerhouse precinct provides further opportunity for similar activations in future.

I encourage 24-hour economy principles to be embedded in planning for the Powerhouse Ultimo Renewal to ensure maximum economic and social impact for the benefit of Ultimo and the surrounding community.

My Office welcomes the Powerhouse Ultimo Renewal Plan and this major strategic investment in public cultural, social and economic infrastructure in Sydney which promises long-term benefits to grow and diversify the 24-hour economy.

Should you require any further information, please contact my Office via email, [24hour@investment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:24hour@investment.nsw.gov.au),

Yours sincerely



**Michael Rodrigues**  
24-Hour Economy Commissioner  
Investment NSW

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