

## APPENDIX B – ADDITIONAL TECHNICAL FEEDBACK ON HERITAGE - POWERHOUSE PARRAMATTA SSD-10416 (RESPONSE TO SUBMISSIONS AND AMENDED PROPOSAL REPORT)

### Heritage

As noted in Council's original submission, the City of Parramatta values their heritage and feels strongly that Willow Gove and St George's Terraces are integral to the Parramatta history and culture. The community has made it clear to Council that the retention of these significant heritage sites is a high priority, and we maintain our request that the NSW Government make every endeavour to preserve both Willow Grove and St George's Terrace.

Council acknowledges the efforts made to respond to the concerns raised in respect of heritage and the proposal to retain St George's Terraces in situ and to relocate Willow Grove as an alternative to its demolition and permanent loss.

In relation to Willow Grove, there is insufficient information provided in the response that details the method of relocation, identification of the future location and the impact of the heritage significance of the item to allow for adequate consideration of the impact of relocation. Should the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE), in its determination of the State Significant Development Application, give consent to remove Willow Grove, then Council provides *its conditional* support for the relocation of Willow Grove as a preference to its demolition and permanent loss, subject to the opportunity to respond to the details relating to the methodology of relocation, identification of the future location and the impact of the heritage significance of Willow Grove. Should this be the approach that the DPIE chooses to take then appropriate details of the separate approval process for the relocation of Willow Grove, and conditions relating to the safe removal of the building from the site, should be secured as part of any consent for the Powerhouse Museum.

In respect of heritage interpretation, this plays a key role in contributing to achieving the City's cultural ambition to maintain and enrich culture and heritage.

Stage 1 of the interpretation planning process is outlined in Appendix G: Heritage Interpretation Strategy Powerhouse Parramatta (the Strategy). The principles and themes identified in the Strategy, as well as the identification of the additional stages and processes required through to implementation, are satisfactory. However, there has not been any significant consultation with Council on this issue and the following actions are recommended:

- Greater consultation is sought by Council to inform heritage interpretation on the site and along the River corridor, with particular reference to previous planning studies undertaken on archaeology, cultural and heritage values of the River, and existing interpretation plans.
- Greater focus on permanent interpretive elements in public spaces that engage people as they move through the corridor. While the intention is not to dominate the corridor with interpretive media, attention should be given to specific high impact, contemporary, interesting and inventive interpretive treatments that also provide a collection of 'things-to-do' in the public domain, and that provides people with increased experiences of the River foreshore.

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- That any further interpretation planning be linked with wider approaches for heritage interpretation across the River corridor, to ensure consistency and thematic linkages of important sites, values and locations.
- Museum programs and static or interpretation in the public domain should be planned in a coordinated way as part the further work and detailed design on the heritage interpretation strategy. Interpretive design should be integrated with the urban and landscape design, as well as marketing and event programming to achieve coordination.
- Clarification is required on the approach to documenting these stories, intended media and locations prior to Stage 2 planning. While the Oral History Project recording of Willow Grove is supported, its position in the archives should be accompanied by accessible interpretive media in the public domain.