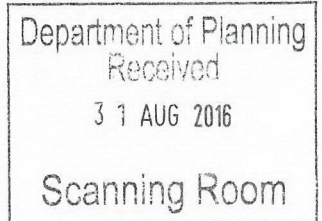


Att Ben Lusher  
Director  
Key Sites Assessments  
Department of Planning and Environment  
GPO Box 39 Sydney 2001



Dear Sir,

**Re Request to Modify the Project Approval for the Scottish Hospital Seniors Living and Aged Care Facility  
Section 75W Amendment to MP10\_0016**



Modification to the approval is sought in respect to 8 elements.

We object to items 3, 4, 5, 6 and 8. We also object to the removal of Tree 18

The key issue here is that progressively the significant gardens of the Scottish Hospital are quite literally being destroyed. There are virtually no trees retained in the eastern half of the site and now we are seeing applications for the removal of trees required to be retained under the project approval in the western half of the site.

The consent was granted on the basis that these trees would be retained and could be retained. The consent was granted on the basis that the project could be constructed with these trees in place and it should be constructed with these trees in place.

**Item 3, Stephen St Palms.**

The approval called for relocation of several palms from elsewhere on the site to the Stephen St boundary to be interspersed with Weeping Lilly Pillies. Apparently this is no longer feasible due to the increase in size of the root balls since the approval, and these are to be replaced with more Weeping Lilly Pilly. There is no evidence submitted that these root balls have increased in size.

There is no report from the arborist on this, but it is now only 4 years since approval and palm trees are notoriously slow growing, it is unlikely then that is the reason for the proposed change.

It would be preferable for the proposed relocated palms to be replaced with new good sized palms than have a solid wall of Weeping Lilly Pilly - a particularly uninspiring landscape solution and one which will only add to the bleakness of the chasm created by this large building so close to the boundary on this very narrow street.

As for the 'Palm Circle' the proposal for the relocation of these palms - here Condition D7 of the approval, which calls for maintenance of the landscape character, is not being met - this was parkland - lawn and large shade trees - there was no palm in this area

We object to the change from Lilly Pilly dispersed with palms to palms only. No sound argument has been put to support this amendment.

**Item 4 Removal of Tree 5**

Here we have a report by the arborist, but it seems there is no good reason for the removal of this tree other than the builder's inconvenience. It is the responsibility of the builder to construct



without impact on the trees to be retained. It has always been a garden where significant trees compete for the sky. Changes to construction access are no justification for the removal of this tree.

This Camphor Laurel is one of the largest trees on the site and it should be retained.

This is just the beginning, by the end of this construction process the west side of this site will look very much like the eastern side does now – there will always be construction excuses for the removal of trees. This was a very significant heritage garden. As it is, we calculate, up to date 75% of the trees have been removed from the site. At the time of the proposal and approval it was to be a mere 61% tree removal.

We object to the removal of this large and important tree. Refinement of construction access is no justification for removal. It may not be listed as significant, but it is a very significant piece of the existing garden.

#### **Item 5, Removal of Tree 130**

The arborist's report recommends the removal of this significant Retention Value A Sydney Blue Gum because the arborist and that architect made a mistake about the location of the tree.

If a mistake has been made about the location of the tree listed for retention then the design of the building should be modified to rectify the mistake, not remove the tree!

We object to the removal of this significant tree. The justification is no justification at all.

We are not aware that NSW Christmas Bushes are appropriate as a replacement tree in the Scottish Hospital Garden.

#### **Item 6, Photovoltaic cells on Brown St ILU roof.**

This is a Heritage Conservation Area and installation should comply with Woollahra DCP 2015, Chapter E6, Section 6.3.

We object to any photovoltaic cells visible in the public domain of the Heritage Conservation Area.

#### **Item 8, Brown St Theatre**

This is proposed on the ground floor of the Brown St Building, eastern side, an increase of GFA of approx. 80 sq.m.

Considering the FSR of this building already far exceeds what should have been allowed – this should not be permitted.

We object to any additional floor space on the site, with its consequent traffic and visitor impacts.

#### **Additional issue, Tree 18**

The original consent approved the retention of a large fig in the lawn, Tree 18.

Council approved the removal of this tree before consent for the project and after one of the multi stems collapsed and it was (incorrectly) assumed after the arborist's report that the remainder of the tree was unsound. (cutting down the tree showed no evidence of disease). The council condition of approval was that T18 would be replaced by another fig in the location of the fig to be removed.

A replacement fig was planted, but in the wrong location. When this was pointed out another T18 fig was planted in the correct location for retention.

This new fig T18 has simply disappeared. It was removed without consent early this year. The new plans submitted for approval do not show fig T18. We seek your examination of this failure to comply with the original consent. T18 should be replaced in its original position.

In summary we submit that no valid argument has been put for the removal of the palms or trees T5, T18 and T130.

We have made no reportable donations in the last 2 years.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]