

Department of Planning and Environment
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

Attn: Matthew Rosel

Dear Sir

Re Modification 13 MP08_0098, The Star hotel and residential development

I am a resident of Pymont. I have lived in the community for 18 years. I am involved in Pymont Cares and community activities and Executive committee of strata.

I am supportive of this proposal for many reasons. It concerns me that there are those who are opposed to the development on the basis that they want to see Pymont remain as it is, even though they are the beneficiaries of the developments that have occurred in the last 20 years. Pymont as it is today will be vastly different in 20 years' time.

The proposal by The Star provides many benefits for Pymont. The proposed tower will be a major enhancement to Pymont in terms of built form, streetscape and public domain. It will define Pymont more than any other building does. The proposal will create a landmark development that contributes positively not only to Pymont but to the city in terms of design and architectural features.

I know that The Star engaged in a public design competition – they have sought to involve the community from day one. This process was welcome in that community representatives had a role in determining the final design and in fact choosing the best design.

But we should also look beyond the tower and while there are some who deride and focus on the height of the tower there are other measures that should be applauded. I don't mind by the way, the tower's height, because it adds a unique architectural dimension to the Sydney skyline and to Pymont.

The proposal will encourage public transport use and active transport activity. The proposal provides improved vehicle, pedestrian and cycle access, as well as long overdue upgrades to the light rail interchange.

The biggest issue for those who live and work in Pymont is connectivity to the CBD. The proposal at least tries to improve the pedestrian and bicycle access to and from the site and improve the site's connection to the CBD along the Pymont Bridge and Darling Drive cycleways.

The proposal includes new restaurants and cafes. I think the range of restaurants and cafes at The Star is pretty good but the more choice the better.

The Star should be congratulated for including the Neighbourhood Centre in its proposal. The Pymont Community Centre is at capacity and is too small and without stage facilities to allow artistic performances or concerts. Any proposal which provides new community facilities should be supported. We need more community space and the proposal put forward by the Star and the FJMT have been canvassed with the community. I am involved with

a number of community groups and we are always looking for venues to hold social functions and meetings – there is a scarcity of venues in the Pymont area. The Star's Neighbourhood Centre will provide us with some new options.

The Star's proposal I believe will have positive economic benefits for the Pymont area, not to mention Sydney and the State.

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