

**From:** [Marielle Bernie](#)  
**To:** [David Glasgow](#)  
**Subject:** RE OBJECTION TO development application ref Harbourside SSD-7874  
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Marielle Bernie  
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Sydney NSW 2000  
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To,  
Director Department  
Planning and Environment  
Dear David Glasgow

**RE OBJECTION TO development application ref Harbourside SSD-7874**

I refer to the development application SSD-7874.

I wish to lodge a strong objection to this building going ahead for numerous reasons.

Foremost while assessing this application the department of planning and environment must go back as to why Darling Harbour was created in the first place in 1998. It was to give to the community at no cost, or financial burden an area of open space along the waterfront, a space for the general public to enjoy with their families throughout the day and night. This has become more essential as families with children have moved into apartment blocks in and around the city. I can tell you in my apartment block alone there are many such families.

Secondly, Darling Harbour was created as a tourist attraction for both interstate and international visitors to immerse themselves in Australian culture and history. This is why previously, against all odds the iconic and beautiful Pyrmont bridge has long been protected and preserved. How can this new massive ugly concrete building sit so close to the bridge and the foreshore. The foreshore that already has limited space for the community to gather, such as when celebrating important national events such as Australia Day, etc. The limited space already suffers from growing traffic congestion and overcrowding.

There is nothing beautiful about this building. It is just a massive podium supporting a very tall, square concrete tower. The height of which will greatly overcast the area, taking away sunlight from the waterfront, leaving the area dark and cold. Irreversibly changing the iconic characteristics of the area. Why does the proposal include a seven story podium, how can this be justified? Considering there are also two more towers already being constructed in the area; the Imax and Cockle Bay complexes.

Furthermore this proposal being assessed when the current Covid-19 pandemic prevents people from gathering together to discuss this situation and leaves those who want to object at a great disadvantage. The town hall is shut and not everyone has internet access or is skilled in its use. There should be more openness and scrutiny.

I hope your department will go back and review the numerous strong objections lodged when this project was initially proposed. Objections from Sydney City Council, the Heritage Foundation, the Pyrmont Action Group and multiple others.

Darling Harbour belongs to the general public not developers and should remain so. Your department's responsibility should be to protect the public's interests. Long term your department should be looking at the issues which are occurring as a result of over development; reduction of public spaces resulting in overcrowding and traffic congestion and building shadows leading to a reduction in sunlight. You must make this your priority as while the creation of new work-spaces are important, sound judgement must be paramount so that Darling Harbour does not become a dark pool of water surrounded by a concrete jungle of tall towers. Taking away the purpose for which the area was created, as a recreational area for all to enjoy. Projects such as these can be done further back within the city without jeopardizing one of the most iconic locations within Sydney.

Thanking you,  
Marielle Bernie