

27 June 2020

Mr Marcus Jennejohn

Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

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Dear Marcus

SSD – 10416 – Parramatta Powerhouse Museum

I have already made a brief submission but having read another article today in the SMH regarding this project and development, I wanted to increase my material concern regarding the potential re location of the Powerhouse Museum at Ultimo to a location in Parramatta.

I did not realise the new site is not a museum rather some sort of function centre with commercial and residential areas.

I did not realise that some of the wonderful exhibits in Ultimo will be placed into storage or sold and will not probably be on display due to size, costs and the lack of purpose built areas to display.

I also did not realise the estimated cost to the NSW Public – not just the over budget \$\$ which are significant but rather that some of our heritage, history and innovation will not be able to be shown and understood by students, visitors and the community.

At a time of material disruption due to the pandemic this project/development just seems wrong. I cannot see how NSW can also afford the material cost.

The NSW Government has done a good job in clearly articulating the risks and needs of the NSW people around the pandemic – it has shown good leadership – but this project/development appears to show poor leadership, poor decision making and poor financial management of NSW public funds.

The NSW Government continues to talk and expects open community consultation and the need to respect areas, heritage and to manage good new developments across the State. I do not see this as an example.

I am certainly not against increased facilities in Parramatta but I struggle to understand the cost/benefit of this overall project. I am also concerned what will become of the Ultimo site which should be Heritage listed and not turned into a series of high rise buildings.

Marcus, I would be grateful if you my comments /submission into consideration and please stop this project.

Regards

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