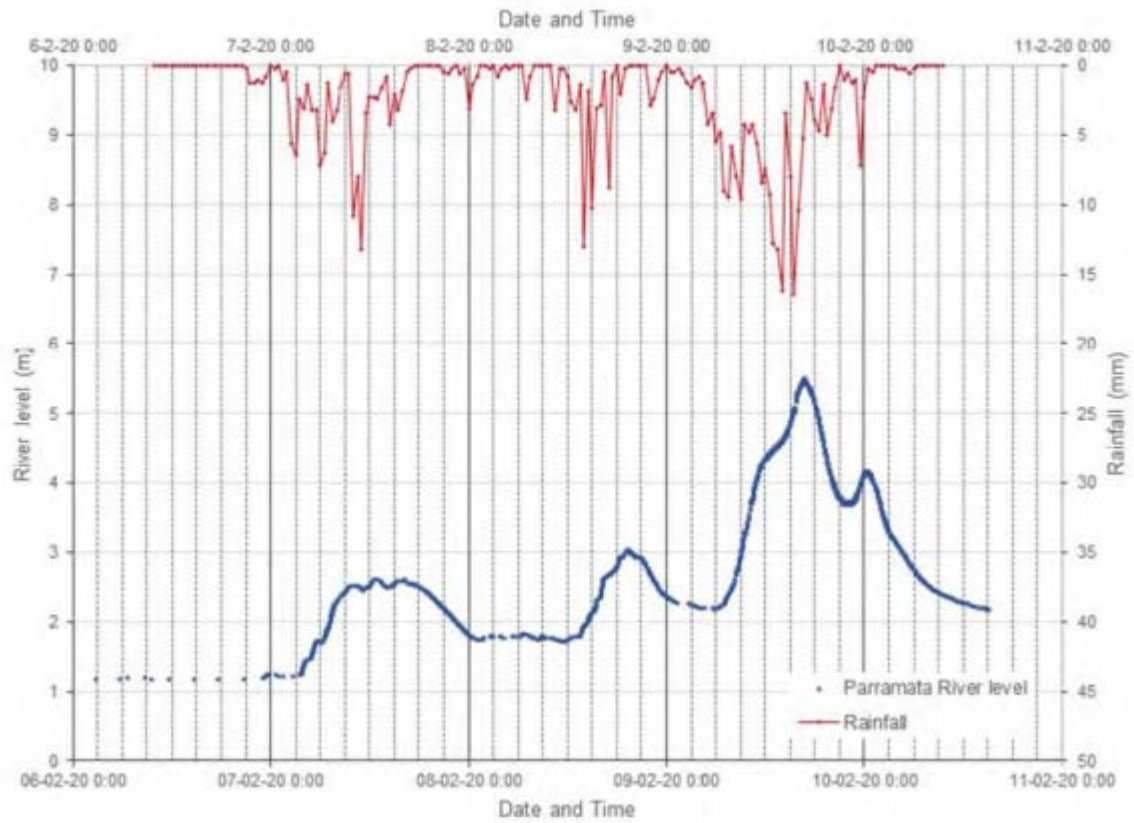


The following comments are an in addition to my previous Objection.

Arup's report (Appendix O) shows the following graph (page 24):



The report also shows the following image (page 25):



This image was provided to the SMH and adapted in part for publication. I requested my name not be published.

The image was taken on Sunday 9 February 2020 at 6:38pm, when the river had not reached its peak as indicated by the graph. My copy of the original image is attached.

This is one of a number of occasions I have witnessed the river flooding in the past few years, despite Sydney experiencing very low rainfall from 2017 to earlier this year, and the previous 2001-2010 - Millennium Drought.

My observations are that the river rises very quickly, and the flood waters are very fast with risk to life if caught in the waters. In particular the fast waters are more apparent on the southern side of the river given the topography. The flood waters often include affluent from further upstream.

My observations correspond with the observations in relation to the river in Molino Stewart's draft report dated October 2019: <https://www.cityofparramatta.nsw.gov.au/sites/council/files/2019-11/14.pdf>

It appears the Molino Stewart (MS) reports were not considered by Arup. Molino Stewart was engaged by Council to review their two Floodplain Risk Management Plans that cover the Parramatta CBD area and prepare an updated Floodplain Risk Management Plan.

In particular MS report assumes new assessment criteria, and indicates elevated workways would be needed as part of the flood risk management plan.

The initial report was drafted in 2015, with subsequent reports tabled to council. The most recent report is dated October 2019 with the final report waiting on some Council studies to enable its completion in 2020. Notably, the 2017 draft report supported Council's Gateway application for its CBD Planning Proposal (rezoning up), with council seeking consent for 'exceptional circumstances' to support its application. This was granted in December 2018 subject to *'further consideration and agreement from the Department's Secretary.'*

To support its original application for exceptional circumstances, Council is required to provide an evacuation analysis that considers many of the overlapping processes such as warning time, evacuation routes, and population demographics to estimate the ability of people within the Parramatta CBD to evacuate either horizontally or vertically during a flood.

It appears neither consultant's reports have considered the number of visitors, with the consultants differing in their approach in terms of their evacuation plans, as well as opinion regarding the flood levels and timing.

Given the visitor numbers to the site are projected to be nearly 1 million a year, and the inherent risks associated with the site and topography, the relevant reports should be independently peer reviewed, with the public given the opportunity to make further comment.