

As a resident of Walsh Bay since 2008, I would like to object to the proposed redevelopment of Piers 2/3 & 4/5.

Having attended the community information session last week I was left with many unanswered questions and would like to request a forum style information session for our community with people in attendance that can answer our questions and hear our concerns.

I have many concerns but would have to start with IS THIS PROJECT WORTH THE EXPENSE? The plans I have seen show no benefit at all for the public and the only thing gained after 2 years of disruption is the new Bell Theatre at the harbour end of pier 2/3. The new Bell Theatre will have offices and rehearsal rooms on site. As a recently retired, Helpmann award winning commercial producer, I would like to point out that it is extremely rare to have rehearsal space in the same building as the theatre, particularly when the theatre is in an area surrounded by expensive real estate. Only the STC and Belvoir are lucky enough to enjoy this convenience in Sydney. It is a rare extravagance everywhere in Australia and throughout the English speaking world.

What we, the public, have to pay for this redevelopment is 2 years of inconvenience, where we lose the opportunity to walk or cycle or just enjoy the view around the piers, lose 2 theatres on pier 4/5, lose a fabulous café at the Dance Company, lose The Bar at the End of the Wharf, plus put up with more noise, mess, dirt etc.

Why can't we at least split the 2 redevelopments, and start pier 2/3 only when 4/5 is complete? Yes it may take longer but we are all heartily fed up with living in and around a building site.

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