

The Director
Major Planning Assessments
Department of Planning
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

29 February 2016

Dear Director,

Submission: Australian Technology Park Redevelopment (SSD 15_7317)

I wish to make a submission on the Environmental Impact Statement provided by Mirvac for the redevelopment of Australian Technology Park. I am concerned about damage to the nationally significant heritage, the transport implications, poor public access, commercialisation of public space, and impact on local residents.

I strongly object to the proposal to overdevelop the Australian Technology Park and seriously downgrade its value as a significant heritage site. Imposing more massive buildings on the site obscure the visibility of the heritage areas, and remove the space which is an important part of the site's heritage and value.

While there may be promises to keep the site accessible to the public and used by the local community I am very concerned that there is no authority to ensure that the commercial interests do not gradually incorporate the heritage areas and public space for their own benefit. The importance of protecting the heritage values and public interest must be addressed before any development proposal is considered. Development must not impinge on the implementation of the existing Conservation Management Plan.

I object to the proposal that the Australian Technology Park lose its focus as a technology centre, and become dominated by the financial sector.

I object to the movement of so many jobs from the population centre in the West of Sydney. This is against the stated policy of the NSW government. It is costly to the workers concerned and the environment, and not necessary as there are many suitable sites for expansion in the west if that is what the bank needs.

The public transport system around Redfern is already over capacity. While I support spending to fix public transport there are not currently any proposals to do so.

Our roads are often at a standstill now and parking is limited. Westconnex will make the local roads worse with ten times as many vehicles and no viable solution on the agenda to fix congestion and air pollution.

The claimed benefits to the local community are dishonest. These are commercial developments, they are clearly not intended for use by the local community. Child care centres and expensive cafes would cater to financial sector workers, not the local community.

The proposed Building 1 is a massive overdevelopment which will overshadow the surrounding area and destroy the character and openness of the site.

A greater proportion of the cost of the development needs to be spent on affordable housing. 17 units is far below what should be expected of a developer making huge financial gains at the expense of community amenity. A government scheme is urgently needed to boost affordable housing.

Yours sincerely,

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