



Botanic Gardens Trust

SYDNEY
16 September 2010

Science Education
CONSERVATION
Horticulture Recreation

The Director,
Government Land and Social Projects
NSW Department of Planning
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001
Via email: plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Sir/Madam

Exhibition of Vehicle and Pedestrian Safety Project at Sydney Opera House (MP 09_0200)

Thanks for the opportunity to comment on the abovementioned development.

The Botanic Gardens Trust manages the Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain and is always interested in adjoining land uses and development proposals that may impact on our estates, access and services.

Sydney Opera House has consulted with the Botanic Gardens Trust regarding the vehicle and pedestrian safety project. The Trust provides the following comments:

- The Trust supports the proposal to improve pedestrian safety on the Sydney Opera House forecourt;
- The Trust is aware of and supports the proposed Aboriginal rock engravings on the Tarpeian Wall as described in the project's Aboriginal Cultural Values Assessment (July 2010). The Tarpeian Wall is a Trust asset. The Trust acknowledges the importance of the area around Bennelong Point to Aboriginal people;
- The Trust will seek more information from Sydney Opera House regarding the timing and potential impacts of the construction program but we wish it noted that pedestrian and emergency services access to the Royal Botanic Gardens must remain unimpeded from the forecourt precinct;
- The amenity and use of both the Domain and Royal Botanic Gardens for a range of community and private events/activities should not be affected by the construction program. Such events/activities include, but are not limited to, use of the Bennelong Lawn and Tarpeian Precinct for New Years Eve celebrations, private and public hire of Bennelong Lawn, use of the Domain and Royal Botanic Gardens for triathlons and running events, and the operation of visitor services and facilities.

The Botanic Gardens Trust looks forward to working with the Sydney Opera House to minimise the effects of the construction program, subject to final Department of Planning approvals.

Yours sincerely

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Director
Domain and Royal Botanic Gardens

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Botanic Gardens Trust is part of Department of Environment and Conservation (NSW)