

18/12/2019

Our Ref: R/2015/15/E
2019/639595

Karl Fetterplace
NSW Department of Planning, Industry & Environment
320 Pitt Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

By email: karl.fetterplace@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Karl

**Section 4.55(2) modification to SSD 7037
75-85 Harrington Street, The Rocks**

Thank you for your correspondence dated 3 December, 2019 which invites the City of Sydney ('The City') to provide comment on the modification proposal. The following comments are made:

Landscaping

The proposed landscaping is supported in principle as it will provide a visual buffer to unsightly structures, especially when viewed from Harrington Street. It is unclear, however, if the landscaping plan has been prepared by a qualified landscape architect.

There does not appear to be any detail shown on the landscape drawing as to soil depth profiles and irrigation. If there is to be irrigation (which is a necessity), will it use any rainwater harvested from the development site?

Also, with respect to the stainless steel cable mesh for landscaping, how successful will the chosen species be able to climb the wire? Hedera helix, in particular, are normally associated with climbing upon solid surfaces, such as walls. Furthermore, will the mesh wire have sufficient strength to hold its taut sculptural shape over time?

Cycleway / pedestrian ramp

The long promised ramp is very welcome, and is not only a part of the City of Sydney's *Cycle Strategy and Action Plan 2018-2030*, as mentioned, but is also a key link in the NSW Government's *Sydney City Centre Access Strategy* (2013).

The *Sydney City Centre Access Strategy* has three east-west bike routes across the city centre, the northern one being alongside the Cahill Expressway. This project should provide the missing access to the State government's Cahill Expressway bike route – including for people riding who have children with them or on their bikes and those who have a disability and use their bikes as a mobility aid.

As such, it is not appropriate to have a discontinuous facility which requires or forces people to dismount. The Department of Planning Industry and Environment should ensure that this new infrastructure is fit for purpose and fulfils NSW Government strategies and plans, and is consistent with its original intent.

See attached letter from SHFA CEO dated 31 January 2008 repeatedly stating the ramp should be for people walking and cycling.

Should you wish to speak with a Council officer about the above, please contact Andrew Rees, Area Planning Manager, on 9265 9333 or at arees@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'AR' or similar initials, written in a cursive style.

Andrew Rees
Area Planning Manager