

Mr Marcus Jennejohn
Key Sites Assessment
Department of Planning Industry & Environment
4 Parramatta Square,
12 Darcy Street
PARRAMATTA NSW 2150

21 July 2020

Dear Mr Jennejohn,

RE: Powerhouse Parramatta State Significant Development SSD-10416

City of Parramatta Council (Council) is pleased to provide comment on the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Powerhouse Parramatta, dated 2 June 2020. Council supports the Powerhouse Parramatta and asks that it work collaboratively with the NSW Government in resolution of the design of the museum and requests that the NSW Government consider further the matters detailed in the attached submission (refer to Appendix A).

The accompanying submission has been reviewed and endorsed by Council at its Extraordinary Meeting held on 2 July 2020, at which it resolved:

PART 1: Support for Powerhouse Museum relocation to Parramatta

- (a) *That Council affirm its support for the relocation of the Powerhouse Museum to Parramatta given the significant benefits it will bring to Sydney's Central River City, including:*
- a. *2,300 jobs during construction and 3,000 ongoing jobs; and*
 - b. *It being a major investment in cultural infrastructure in Central and Western Sydney; and*
 - c. *As a catalyst to begin rebalancing the social and cultural infrastructure within the Greater Sydney Area in support of the significant and rapid growth of Central and Western Sydney.*

PART 2: EIS SUBMISSION

- (b) *That Council approve the Submission on the EIS (at Attachment 1) and forward it to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE), noting the following key items:*
- i. *support for the relocation of the Powerhouse Museum to Parramatta;*
 - ii. *a request for greater collaboration in the design of the scheme and to work with the NSW Government on the matters in the Submission;*
 - iii. *the lack of consideration of heritage as a key element of the design;*

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- iv. *the lack of integration of the scheme with the public domain;*
 - u. *the lack of adequate consideration of and design for flooding impacts and the need for a superior flood responsive design;*
 - vi. *the design's contextual response to Civic Link and failure to meet the objectives of this key pedestrian spine;*
 - vii. *the inappropriateness of the design of the undercroft; and*
 - viii. *other matters, including the name of the museum, environmental management, biodiversity, sustainability and reflectivity, and traffic, parking and loading.*
- (c) **That** Council authorise the Chief Executive Officer to make any amendments of a non-policy and administrative nature that may arise during the finalisation of the Submission.

PART 3: Willow Grove & St George's Terraces

- (d) *That Council:*
- a. *note its prior resolutions to support the retention of Willow Grove and St George's Terraces as part of the Powerhouse Museum design; and*
 - b. *consider and, if approved, reaffirm its support for the retention of Willow Grove and St George's Terraces and advise the DPIE in writing accordingly at the time of lodgement of the Submission on terms consistent with the resolution of 9 December 2019; and*
 - c. *receive and note the draft minutes of the Heritage Advisory Committee extraordinary meeting on 18 June 2020 (at Attachment 2) and advise the DPIE accordingly at the time of lodgement of the Submission.*

Council recognises the aspirations and commitment of the NSW Government to strive for a world-class museum and cultural facility on the Riverbank site. Recognising such aspirations, Council believes that the proposal commands an exceptional response in the way that it considers the site's heritage, archaeological significance and public domain. In this regard, Council reaffirms its support for the retention of Willow Grove and St George's Terraces.

Noted in Council's resolution, an extraordinary meeting of Council's Heritage Advisory Committee was held on 18 June 2020, to consider the EIS for the Powerhouse Museum. The committee resolved unanimous support for the retention of Willow Grove and St George's Terraces. Appendix B includes a copy of Council's Draft Heritage Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes.

As you will appreciate, the City of Parramatta value their heritage and feel strongly that Willow Gove and St George's Terrace are integral to the Parramatta history and culture.

The community has made it clear to Council that the retention of these significant heritage sites is a high priority, and we respectfully request that the NSW Government make every endeavour to preserve Willow Grove and St George's Terrace. Council seeks further design development of the museum to demonstrate that appropriate consideration has been given to the heritage significance of Willow Grove and St George's Terraces, or address the impacts that their loss will have on the aspirations for Civic Link, the Phillip Street frontage, the social and cultural fabric of the City, and the public domain.

Once again, we thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on Powerhouse Parramatta and we welcome further collaboration with the NSW Government to ensure realisation of an outstanding legacy and cultural facility for the Central River City.

Should you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me on 02 9806 5767.

Kind Regards,



Jennifer Concato
Executive Director
City Planning and Design