

Initial Jury's Comments

- **Jury's comment:** Landscape proposals are currently underdeveloped and need detail consideration of surfaces, fencing, planting and materials etc.

Response: The landscaping to the scheme has been further considered following the design competition process, Landscaping Plans have been developed and detailed (refer to presentation pack)

- **Jury's comment:** Further consideration of ground level interfaces is required on both schools to ensure street amenity and activation. This is of particular concern to the relationship of built form to the streets on the corner of Charles and Macquarie Street at the PPS.

Response: The PPS will incorporate 2 entries along Charles Street and the office, teaching spaces and community hall will incorporate windows to the street frontages which will activate the ground floor. The PPS game courts along Macquarie Street will further active this street frontage. The APHS will incorporate game courts and also the amphitheater which includes exhibition + maker spaces to the Macquarie street façade which will provide activation along the street frontage.

- **Jury's comment:** Provide public domain interface strategy for better connectivity and logical entry points.

Response: The entry points have been further considered. The proposal provides entry points from Smith Street, Macquarie Street and Little Street for PPS and from Macquarie Street and Barrack Lane to the APHS. (see Site plan)

- **Jury's comment:** Better integration required of entrances to both related to future tram stop, including strengthening the entrance to APHS on Macquarie street.

Response: The entry points to both PPS and APHS will integrate with the future Parramatta Light Rail and the APHS incorporates a number of entry points along Macquarie Street. The current understanding is that there will be no tram stop along this stretch of Macquarie Street.

- **Jury's comment:** Provide clear address to the PPS community hall from Macquarie Street.

Response: The communal hall to the u-shaped building to the PPS site is clearly identified as it is located next to the main entrance of the school. Additional windows have been incorporated to allow visual connectivity from little street.

- **Jury's comment:** Provide logical and legible pedestrian based access from and to both school entrances across Macquarie Street.

Response: As shown in the latest site plan, the proposal provides a clear access to APHS through the western end of PPS for future students and staff.

- **Jury's comment:** Public space at western end of PPS to be further defined.

Response: The south-western end of PPS will be used by both the APHS and PPS for recreation; whilst there is an option for this area to be used by the public at the discretion of the Department of Education. Furthermore, the gym hall, games court and amphitheater space on the APHS site has the ability to be used by the community on the weekend or for markets.

- **Jury's comment:** Provide potential for decanting some uses and/or additional low scale active uses along western boundary addressing Barrack Lane and Macquarie street

Response: The proposal incorporates a commercial café and game courts along the western elevation and therefore addresses Barrack Lane and Parramatta's laneway strategy.

- **Jury's comment:** Consider relocation of cafe adjacent to APHS entry to improve access to sun

- Response:** This cafe has been removed completely
- Jury's comment:** Further integration of materials between the schools should be considered

Response: The proposed materials for PPS and APHS have been further considered to have a further integration between the two schools.
 - Jury's comment:** The permeable quality of the facade needs to be achieved through careful resolution of glazing and screens while ensuring heat loads on west facing walls and cleaning can be readily achieved

Response: The proposed glazing and screens have been further considered and engineered to reduce heat loads and ensure cleaning can be undertaken easily
 - Jury's comment:** Consideration to be given to interface between the eastern heritage building and the adjacent open space

Response: There is a level change between the amphitheatre space and heritage Building A. A connection has been made at grade for an accessible route to ground level. There is also a level connection from entry point in heritage building/admin areas via lift to all levels of building and lower level of amphitheatre.
 - Jury's comment:** Consider making the roof of the APHS Gymnasium accessible

Response: Making the roof of the APHS gymnasium accessible was considered however due to cost implications it could not be incorporated into the scheme.
 - Jury's comment:** Review location of fixed elements in the home bases to increase flexibility

Response: Future furniture/furniture layouts have been developed since competition stage to optimise the flexibility of learning spaces.
 - Jury's comment:** Generally support idea of 'kit of parts' however we need to refine thinking on larger less portable elements

Response: This issue relates to the internal spaces and is being further considered during design development.

Jury's Comments – 09/08/16

- Jury's comment:** Site fencing. The Jury does not support the perimeter fencing that has been introduced since the competition stage. While it is acknowledged that this has been introduced in response to security concerns, comparable public open space in Parramatta is not fenced and the Jury believes the approach here should be consistent with this and that security measures other than barriers be considered. In addition the fencing gives the impression of the school as a 'fortress' rather than community facility, and is seen to be inappropriate to this new "urban school" model, delivering yet again the suburban defensive model. There is a risk that the management of the school will result in the open space being unavailable to the community out of school hours. If there are limited locations where fencing may be appropriate (e.g. PPS courtyard) then it should be associated with hedge planting to reduce the visual impact.

Response: Security has been of upmost priority in the approach to the perimeter fence however the design of the fence and associated planted verge has been considered to ensure that the appearance is improved in the public realm. Multiple entrances have been provided around the perimeter of the school boundary to allow the site to be opened up and be as permeable as possible for community use and as the school may change in its approach in the future.
- Jury's comment: Access Paths.** The Jury is concerned that a public access path to Parramatta Square has been deleted and does not support this proposal. Such pathways are common in urban centres and there are many examples in the City of Sydney. An overreaction to potential security

issues will limit public access and activation, and possibly exacerbate the risk of problems arising within the school site. The jury recommends that opportunities other than barrier fencing be investigated to manage security issues.

Response: The public access path is still in the design but is now located within the school boundary. This allows the school to have control of the public access as required. The DoE and school principals saw this public laneway as a potential security risk and instructed its removal.

- **Jury's comments: Street Activation.** The Jury had suggested activation along Barrack Lane should be introduced. While acknowledging the introduction of the café in this location, additional activation is needed. If additional permanent activities are not possible, then design work should be undertaken in collaboration with the City of Parramatta Council for occupation and activation of the public domain. In addition additional windows to the brickwork would improve the condition of the lane

Response: The café on the lower ground floor is now larger to give more activation. The western end of the Gym structure has additional openings onto the street to allow visual connection into the fitness lab on the ground level. The planting and verge details to the sports court can be designed and developed with further consultation with PCC regarding the development of Barrack Lane.

- **Jury's comment: Entry Points.** The revisions proposed to entry points are generally supported, however the Jury considers a more direct alignment between the entrances to APHS on Macquarie Street at the western access into the PPS grounds would be a further improvement. The relocation of the Hall within the ground floor of the PPS is supported, although this will clear signage to ensure use by the community is encouraged.

Response: The alignment of the entry points to the both schools has been offset to deal with safety and pedestrian crossings for both schools. The entry points to APHS and PPS have been aligned as far as possible to provide several openings onto Macquarie Street. The HDC will ensure the signage to the hall in the PPS is clear regarding community use.

- **Jury's comment: Materials and Facades.** The introduction of additional masonry finishes to further interrelate the character of the two schools is supported, as is the approach to the permeable facades of APHS. The elimination of the glazing to the western façade of the lifts to the APHS reduces the strength of the original design proposal and the Jury encourages further work to reintroduce this within the constraints of the budget

Response: The HDC are working through options for the glazing for the lift with the constraints of the engineering and budget.