

14 December 2021

Dept of Planning Industry & Environment

**SYDNEY METRO WEST – THE BAYS TO SYDNEY CBD - SSI-19238057
PYRMONT STATION**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide genuine feedback on the Sydney Metro West - The Bays to Sydney CBD, a Redevelopment of State Significant.

We acknowledge planning scale at this level is significant for a Site, Particular Area of Interest, Local Government Area, District, Region, State, Nationally and Globally. As such we ask the Dept of Planning Industry & Environment to elevate the current Environmental standards for this and all State Significant Sites! Objections, considered feedback, concerns, proposals, and support for a number of features below with an evidence based approach.

Bulk and Height

We are concerned for the loss of access to direct natural light, and the loss of views from private homes. The set parameters height limits and bulk dominate the waterfront. The bulk and height of the proposed building is dangerously inflammatory, dominating, and will destroy the human scale of the area. The proposed height is contrary to Principal 1 (Context and neighbourhood character), Principal 2 (Built form and scale) and Principal 9 (Aesthetics) and not in the public interest.

Overshadowing and Reflectivity Land, water, residential and office spaces will be negatively impacted by shadow.

Permanent Noise Monitoring equipment

We ask Dept of Planning, Industry & Environment to install permanent Noise Monitoring equipment on building facades, facing neighboring residents/buildings. For accurate and thorough data collection to be shared with Emergency Services, Council, and the Proprietor should it be needed. Plus the installation of noise absorbing panels to reduce the noise impact on from hard building surfaces and water negatively impacting direct neighbours (construction and when completed).

Supporting the retention of businesses is essential for NSW Government, Council and its residents. Not at the cost of healthy residents (sleep deprived). Sunday night noise, construction or culture and night-time economy. It is very known medically that sleep deprivation will cause negative health issues. Sunday nights from a Behavioural Scientist or Psychologist and GP's experience and data show it is common for patients to regularly experience Sunday blues. Which can fuel anxiety, deepen depression, and even induce panic.

Sunday anxiety impacts men and women equally, and regardless of what level they hold in their workplace. Lack of Sunday night sleep will impact Sunday anxiety for the City of Sydney's population and can further increase feelings of anxiety about facing work each Monday.

Based on the growing need of our community utilising mental health support such as Headspace and Beyond Blue, even more so since a global pandemic. Should neighbouring Pyrmont Metro stations residents' Sunday Anxiety increase, so too will the further burden on our Front liners and the Health Industry/Professionals. We do not support late night construction works, for economy at the cost of loss of residential amenity to direct residential apartment neighbour's and sleep deprivation.

Permanent CCTV Network sharing

The installation of permanent CCVT on the building facade, monitoring the perimeter and passageways/paths to park area would provide genuine data collection for Emergency Services, Council, and the Proprietor.

Proposed Pyrmont Peninsula Special Infrastructure Contribution

We object to the proposed Pyrmont Peninsula Special Infrastructure Contribution. This contribution would be levied on every new development in the Peninsula to finance eat construction of the metro station. When traditionally transport infrastructures are financed by the NSW State Budget/Treasury and we do not accept residents of Pyrmont and Ultimo being treated differently from people in other precincts and be required to pay for their infrastructures.

Documented Building Materials Waste Management and Accountability - reuse/salvage/resource

Please disclose how the demolition and excavation of the building materials/resources can be recovered and reused, and materials innovation. Demolition plans for 'possible reuse' should include: existing internal and external timber doors, timber floors, floors structures, internal walls and doors, louver windows, brickwork, posts, beam connectors and timber columns. If not able to be repurposed in the new development, then a third-party should be investigated and proposed to conserve and reuse these local building items.

Documented Tree and Planting Waste Management and Accountability - reuse/salvage/resource. Retention value, Consideration for Retention, is the first and preferred option for many of the street trees (marked for removal). However, my personal lived experience, knows during Pymont's construction of the Jacksons Landing area, a number of mature Fig trees were relocated into new public spaces, Waterfront Park and Refinery Square. It can be done, it has been done, it should be done again!

Dept of Planning, Industry & Environment, will State Significant development consider in the Pymont Metro Stations/buildings, how many of the; healthy, successful, strong, street trees (marked for removal) and undergrowth planting could be relocated off site during the works. And returned and replanted at works completion. These trees and plants have proved they are successful, healthy in the soil depth, salt air, lights and the environmental pollutants.

Or will Environmental planning for the Metro Bays West, located in Pymont (2 buildings) take care and due diligence to relocate the all the street trees and the undergrowth plants which are in good health (thorough site inspection 18 December 2021) to be planted permanently elsewhere. It is understood that with all mature trees and plants, comes mature and established root systems, and with plant removal, some of the root systems may be damaged. However, from an Environmental Plan perspective, if building materials can be salvaged, reused or distributed, sold, and donated onto secondary owners. Why can't Trees & Planting?

Health & Wellbeing of Visitors, Residents and Workers

Shiny new overly tall and wide buildings do nothing to address the problem of increased pressure on the City of Sydney residents and workers. The Pymont Metro buildings need to do better! As there is an increased and desperate need for more open spaces and tree canopy spaces to provide support for the people that are the glue for our City - nurses, police, paramedics and teachers, all overworked and underpaid.

We need to have a resilient City, that at ground level plants thousands if not tens of thousands of diverse canopy trees and thousands of shrubs plus perennials belonging to hundred of species. Types of native plants that are salt and sun resilient plus in places offer visual appeal as seasons change.

Large canopy trees are a welcomed relief against hard surfaces, glass structures and large advertisements all competing for attention in the public domain. People looking up to majestic tree canopies exploding an array of vivid greens and birds in a world class Australian city on a summer's day. Trees make it cool to walk or exercise plus sit beneath, all of which are good for mental health. 'Those who do not find time every day for health must sacrifice a lot of time one day for illness' Father Sebastian Kneipp.

E-Waste Sites, additionally, would Dept of Planning, Industry & Environment consider supporting the local community (residents only) by providing a drop off location for waste: E-waste, battery, toner cartridge, lamps, and globes recycling at all State Significant Sites? Proof of City of Sydney residential address would be needed for a drop off, the initiate could be offered during business hours or one day a month? As the Dept of Planning, Industry & Environment is committing to ongoing best practice environmental targets for its offices and public spaces, the locals could further reduce waste, making the City and Pymont area 'Greener', plus further State Significant sites.

Vertical Forest, Dept of Planning, Industry & Environment, we call for you to mandate State Significant sites architects and designers to plan with vertical forest block buildings, buildings that incorporate garden terraces throughout and have plants cascading down all State Significant building sides.

Natural Ventilation, building design should be obliged to actually promote health and wellbeing with natural ventilation, when significant sources of noise and air pollution are a stones through away from heavy vehicle used roads and further State Significant (demolition, excavation & build) sites in uncomfortable wind environments and overshadowing.

Dept of Planning, Industry & Environment, plus Transport and Treasury needs to look at Cairo's new administrative capital area which shows exemplary planning, is future smart, focuses funds devoted to trees and plants as they will ensure air to be cleaner around the vertical forest, the buildings will provide their own energy and greenery will add insulating features. The Egyptian property developer MISR Italia Properties has previously designed building forests in Albania, the Netherlands and conceptual models for Mars. Cairo's new administrative capital area:



Cairo's new administrative capital area.

Safety by Trees for a Station, a lesson for Pymont Metro Stations buildings safety for our Urban developers, Government and Council needs to include - 'Urban green spaces have been shown to benefit residents physical and mental health as well as strengthen social ties. Some studies have found that presence of vegetation also might reduce crime. We examined whether an association exists between two forms of green space—(1) tree canopy and (2) public parks—and crime rates in the city of Chicago. Using publicly available data, we calculated percent tree canopy, percent acreage parks, and crime rate for assault, battery, burglary, homicide, narcotics, and robbery between years 2009–2013 for each of Chicago's 801 census tracts.' Results showed 'An inverse association was found between percent tree canopy and crime rates for assault, battery, robbery, and narcotics. Which highlights Highlights, a 10% increase percent tree canopy was associated with 10.3% decrease in battery rate. And 10% more tree canopy was associated with 11.3% less assault, robbery, narcotics.' <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0169204617301743>

Since October 5, doctors in Shetland, Scotland have been authorised to prescribe nature to their patients. It's thought to be the first program of its kind in the U.K., and seeks to reduce blood pressure, anxiety, and increase happiness for those with diabetes, a mental illness, stress, heart disease, and more. <https://bigthink.com/life/doctors-in-shetland-can-now-prescribe-a-walk-in-nature/>

We acknowledge strict compliance regimes for roads, powerlines and underground utilities are needed. However, a recent report by the Greater Sydney Commission singles out urban heat as one of the four priority areas given our coming climate. Shade can be a lifesaver in heatwaves and all urban authorities plus all levels of Government, Council and Private owners, need to use vegetation and tree canopy's to help fight extreme heat. And urban forests can mitigate the urban heat island effect and significantly lower surface soil, water and ambient air temperatures. The Metro, Pymont Station buildings urban designers have a significant role to play in lowering the rates of mental illness. Studies back this up, demonstrating 'walks through green space have been shown to reduce blood pressure' (4), improve mental acuity, boost memory recall, and reduce feelings of anxiety. The Japanese have a name for this type of experience, shinrin-yoku.

State Significant Publicly Visible Tree Removal/Planting Register, the most promising environmental and health impacts of urban trees are those that can be realised with well- stewarded tree planning and localised design interventions at site to municipal scales. Tree planning at these scales has documented benefits on local climate and health, which can be maximised through targeted site design followed by monitoring, adaptive management, and studies of long-term eco-evolutionary dynamics.

We propose the Pymont Metro Station buildings share a Publicly Visible Tree Removal/Planting Register for this area. Such a register will prevent oversight, avoid corruption, agencies cannot hide behind each other when it comes to tree removal, new planting and ongoing care for new trees and planting. This register could be maintained by City of Sydney. This register would show: The location, type and size/health and maturity of the tree. Accountability, by naming who, be it corporate or one of the many government sub agencies/departments and contractors providing ongoing care, is requesting the tree removal or replacement. This register will increase transparency and due diligence to the process. The process would be online, very easy to track, and transparent to the Building tenants, general public and City of Sydney.

Tree Removal

Dept of Planning, Industry & Environment, We strongly object to the removal of healthy, street trees located on the footpaths surrounding both Pymont sites.

The retention value of these trees is significant, regardless of if the trees are native or not. This patch of street trees house nesting areas for Currawongs in the area.

Local Native Wildlife ToolBox Meeting Records for Native Wildlife Nests

Dept of Planning, Industry & Environment, Transport and Treasury - State Significant sites have this chance, now to shape the way other developers manage their sites - Set the Standard High with adopting Toolbox Meeting Records for Native Wildlife Nests. A document used to record any consultation with Staff/Workers relating to health and safety of local wildlife. Construction firms in Pymont are already using Local Native Wildlife Toolbox Meetings and forms for accountability – Why isn't the NSW Government?

An example Local Native Wildlife ToolBox Meeting for your template needs and action below:

Increasingly communities are placing health and liveability at the centre of design, Sydney Metro, Pymont Station buildings as a mixed-use space should be no different. Thank you for considering our strong concerns and comments.

Local

This document is used to record any consultation with staff/Workers relating to health and safety

Date:

Time:

Project:

SYDNEY METRO WEST, PYRMONT LOCATIONS

Subject: Active CURRAWONG Nests (SPRING & SUMMER ARE NESTING PERIODS)

Details of Discussion - LOCAL NATIVE WILDLIFE

Actioned By

There are 2 x active Currawong nests in 2 separate trees on the Edward Street side of site.

- Opposite 65 Edward Street on the site side of Edward Street
- Opposite Pack & Send on the site side of Edward Street

There is 1 x active Currawong nest on the corner of Union Street, site side.

- Corner of Union and Edward Street, opposite the Pyrmont Doctors
- Identified as, at Risk due to Large and Over Sized Construction Trucks and Cranes.

All workers

Identifiable Currawong and Nest in a tree

Pied currawongs build their nests in tree forks up to 25 metres from the ground. The pair collect sticks and twigs to make the nest. Females build the nests over a period of two weeks. They lay between two to four spotted eggs and sit on them for approximately 20 days during which time the males will feed them. Once hatched, both birds will feed the young chicks until they become independent several months later. Juveniles (baby currawongs) are greyish in colour and have black eyes.



All Workers

Danger tape/ribbon has been place around the relevant trees

All workers

Currawongs are protected in NSW by the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016

All workers

Loss of habitat due to tree removal and damage caused by construction vehicles (trucks & cranes) is a significant threat

All workers

Take care to ensure works do not impact the nest:

- Tag line to be utilised as loads are lifted/unloaded to ensure control is in place
- If there is a need to carry out work adjacent to the nest, foreman to be advised, spotters to be placed at appropriate positions to ensure care is taken
- Particular days during construction will be more or less intrusive in some sections of the work zone on Union, Edward Streets & Pyrmont Bridge Road. Keep stored and active equipment plus work zones close together, allowing wildlife and bird life to move to quieter parts of the thick tree canopy for the duration of work.

Crane crew

All workers

All workers

In the event of an incident, contact WIRES: 1300 094 737

All workers

SYDNEY METRO WEST, PYRMONT LOCATIONS

Insert detail of location of Currawong Nest based on final work site diagram and photos of current nest from different perspectives, plus google maps view, with arrows to the exact location.

e.g.

[https://www.google.com/maps/place/Pyrmont+NSW+2009/@-33.8701544,151.1947053,18z/data=!4m5!3m4!](https://www.google.com/maps/place/Pyrmont+NSW+2009/@-33.8701544,151.1947053,18z/data=!4m5!3m4!1s0x6b12ae3403d96201:0x5017d681632c790!8m2!3d-33.8737167!4d151.1956918)

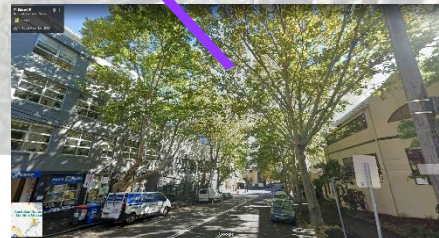
[1s0x6b12ae3403d96201:0x5017d681632c790!8m2!3d-33.8737167!4d151.1956918](https://www.google.com/maps/place/Pyrmont+NSW+2009/@-33.8701544,151.1947053,18z/data=!4m5!3m4!1s0x6b12ae3403d96201:0x5017d681632c790!8m2!3d-33.8737167!4d151.1956918)

Tree opposite Pyrmont Doctors on

Union Street, site side of road



Tree opposite 65 Edward, corner of Union Street, site side of road



Tree opposite Pack & Send, corner of Edward St & Pyrmont Bridge Road (overhanging road)



Identifying a Currawong nest and Currawong



Identifying a Currawong, feature of Yellow Eyes

THIS IS AN EXAMPLE ONLY

A FULL ASSESSMENT OF THE TREES CLOSE TO WORK ZONE ROADS, IMPACTED BY CONSTRUCTION & VEHICLES, SHOULD BE CARRIED OUT WITH A REPRESENTATIVE FROM WIRES.

