

From: no-reply@planning.nsw.gov.au on behalf of [Planning Portal - Department of Planning and Environment](#)
To: [DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Pyrmont Peninsula Place Strategy
Date: Wednesday, 9 September 2020 3:24:33 PM

Submitted on Wed, 09/09/2020 - 15:21

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Allen

Last name

Blewitt

Council name

{Empty}

Council email

{Empty}

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Pyrmont 2009

Submission file

{Empty}

Submission

Thank you for the opportunity to make a personal submission on the draft Pyrmont Place strategy. There are many ideas and themes in the planning documents that are both exciting and aspirational.

1. I strongly support the following:

- a. introducing a Metro station
- b. Ensuring that this strategy dovetails with the planning for the Innovation Corridor so that education/employment/recreation and cultural activities can all occur in this extended area with great interconnections whether they be on foot, cycling or public transport
- c. Using Glebe Island Bridge to make walking/cycling more possible with White Bay and Balmain
- d. Completing the foreshore walk from the Botanic gardens to Glebe.
- e. Trying to ensure that all new developments meet high standards of sustainability in terms of net zero energy and water targets
- f. Honouring indigenous heritage
- g. Returning Wentworth Park to green open space as soon as possible.

2. My concerns in the current plans include:

- a. Excessively tall buildings on the waterfront at Blackwattle Bay, a site with very constrained access and high levels of congestion getting onto and off the Distributor. Making this worse with large numbers of new residents living in high rise apartments foreshadows an awful transport logjam. We cannot assume that new residents will not have vehicles; this is like the false planning logic that said no apartment residents in Pyrmont will have school age children!
- b. It is imperative, if the needs of residents and society are to be equitably addressed, that any new residential development mandates a percentage of social housing and/or affordable housing for key workers. We cannot keep pushing key workers like nurses, paramedics, teachers, firemen and police to the outer suburbs.
- c. The strategy seems to give insufficient recognition to social infrastructure like new schools (the re-built Ultimo school has no excess capacity) and medical facilities
- d. Given the type of workers that the strategy acknowledges will live and work in Pyrmont, it seems that to consider it as an extension of the CBD is wrong-headed. It is a lower rise, mixed purpose area with a sense of place which is unique so close to the city. This ambience and sense of place is

too valuable to lose.

e. The COVID-19 pandemic has created some new caveats about high rise office developments. As a director of 3 companies in the education and financial services sectors, I can confirm that many companies are fundamentally re-thinking their need for corporate real estate. The future is likely to bring smaller office footprints, a significant increase in workers working from home for at least 2-3 days per week and an unwillingness to work in soulless high towers. Smaller buildings like some of the re-purposed warehouses in Ultimo are exactly what knowledge industry workers prefer.

3. Opportunities to do more!

a. Extend the Fig St walkway to the CBD as part of a better approach to visually and practically integrate Pyrmont-Ultimo with the city. Also potential behind the ICC for some creative re-purposing.

b. Remove all Occasion Cruises and the cheap and nasty structure erected to provide them with shore services. Use this area and the foreshore park which was promised to build a proper park which could integrate with the foreshore walk.

c. I assume that this will happen but the residents and public generally will expect to see the highest standards of urban design and architectural excellence in whatever finally proceeds. Green Park is a shining example of good planning, urban design and good architecture. Pyrmont should have nothing less.

d. More ferry services using the current wharf structure and a bus from Pyrmont to Broadway Shopping Centre.

e. Spend some time and resources to redevelop the hard landscaping in Union Square to reduce steps and enhance usability for outdoor events.

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute ideas and responses.

Allen Blewitt

I agree to the above statement

Yes

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