



Australian
Institute of
Architects

NSW

ABN 72 000 023 012

The Royal Australian Institute of Architects
trading as Australian Institute of Architects

NSW Chapter
Tusculum
3 Manning Street
Potts Point NSW 2011
t. 02 9246 4055
e. nsw@architecture.com.au

Thursday 29 October 2020

Steve Hartley
Executive Director
Green and Resilient Places
NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

Dear Mr Hartley

Established in 1930, the Australian Institute of Architects is the peak body for the architecture profession in Australia. We represent over 11,500 members globally and are dedicated to improving our built environment and the communities we call home by promoting quality, responsible, sustainable design.

The Australian Institute of Architects (the Institute) and its members are committed to raising the quality of the built environment for all and to the advancement of architecture. We seek to improve the health and well-being of all who live and work in our diverse communities.

The Institute is writing in support of the submission by the Australian Institute of Landscape Architects (AILA) of 24 September 2020 regarding the Draft of the Cumberland Plain Conservation Plan.

We strongly support the recognition by AILA that the remaining Cumberland Plain vegetation is both scarce and valuable. We share AILA's concerns that the Draft Plan will result in a net loss of vegetation in this important area.

We support AILA's recommendations in full as follows:

"2.1. An independent review.

AILA strongly recommends that an independent review be carried out of the areas of remnant Cumberland Plain Vegetation that are designated for clearing for urban development with the aim of reducing the extent of clearing and the resulting environmental impact.

2.2. An Ecological Restoration Program (E R Program)

In parallel with this review we consider that an Ecological Restoration Program be established with the goal of increasing the extent of healthy Cumberland Plain vegetation under conservation protection in Western Sydney.

2.3. Restoration and protection targets, strategy and allocation for the E R Program

The Ecological Restoration and Management Program needs to have clearly defined annual targets for area of restoration and protection with a strategy that reinforces the pattern of remnant ecological communities throughout the Cumberland Plain region and the ERP retain the option to



Australian
Institute of
Architects

NSW

ABN 72 000 023 012

The Royal Australian Institute of Architects
trading as Australian Institute of Architects

NSW Chapter
Tusculum
3 Manning Street
Potts Point NSW 2011
t. 02 9246 4055
e. nsw@architecture.com.au

cease further clearing until said targets are met or exceeded by a specified value (TBD as part of the independent review).

2.4. Adequate Resourcing of the Program: Expertise and funding.

Implementation of the Ecological Restoration and Management Program needs to be adequately resourced both in terms of expertise and funding. An effective on-going monitoring program also needs to be implemented to provide feedback so that the techniques can be refined to improve the effectiveness of the restoration program.” (AILA Submission to DPIE 24 September 2020)

We thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the Draft of the Cumberland Plain Conservation Plan. We consider AILA’s submission in this matter to be a well-conceived and considered response and we offer the Institute’s support in assisting the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment and AILA to work together to ensure this valuable vegetation can be enjoyed by future generations.

Yours sincerely

[Redacted signature line]

[Redacted contact information]

We respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we work and pay respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.