

8 September 2022

NSDW DPE
Bays West stage 1.
Revised master plan

Dear Sir/Madam

The Glebe Society (TGS) was founded in 1969, with the aim of protecting the suburb's heritage, environment and supporting the local community. It currently has over 400 members.

The Society has a strong interest in the future development of Rozelle and Blackwattle Bays. Both are integral to the experience of Glebe, to its environment and to its heritage. Respect for the indigenous, maritime and industrial heritage of the Bays is imperative, as is care for the environment.

One of TGS's proudest achievements is the Glebe foreshore walk. This was created by decades of lobbying for shared open space, as industrial and maritime industries left the foreshore. The result is the incredibly popular Glebe foreshore walk.

Our hope is that the walk will be extended around the Bays, and that the Glebe Island Bridge will be restored for active transport – pedestrians and cyclists. TGS strongly supports the planned foreshore walk on Bays West 1, and its ambition to create a connection between Bays West and Pyrmont. Our hope is that this will be achieved through restoration of the heritage-listed Glebe Island Bridge.

TGS strongly supports Move 2: Reinstating a crossing from Bays West to Pyrmont to create more convenient and direct active transport connections.

We also strongly support Move 3: Connect community to water, while recognising and supporting the working harbour and port operational requirements; Move 4: Deliver a significant, connected, activated public open space near the water at an early stage; and Move 6: Enable a world-class harbour foreshore walk.

TGS strongly supports the process and approach of connecting with country, and we just wish such principles were embedded in the planned Blackwattle Bay development. From the Glebe perspective, the planned buildings are far less obtrusive than those of Blackwattle Bay: 20 storeys at Bays West 1, compared with 35 storeys (the revised height) at Blackwattle Bay.

But we do note the tallest, at 20 storeys, is higher than the power station's chimney. We recommend that the maximum building height be reduced so the power station remains the dominant form.

The Bays West Stage 1 Master Plan comprises one 20 storey building; one each of 18 stories and 12 stories; five eight storey buildings and four of four stories. The 20 storey and 18 storey buildings are too tall.

There will be about 4.16 hectares of public space. TGS supports the intention to reinstate the pre-colonial shoreline through the design of a shallow wetland; to introduce endemic, water sensitive species within the shallow wetland to embrace the pre- colonial planting character; and to provide a large, public, waterfront park of a minimum 1.5 Ha in size.

The planned walkway, open space and restoration of the shoreline of Rozelle Bay will all significantly enhance the heritage and environment of the Bay that we share.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ian Stephenson". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Ian Stephenson
President