



THE LORD MAYOR OF SYDNEY
CLOVER MOORE

30 March 2021

Mr Geoff Turnbull
Spokesperson
REDWatch Incorporated
By email geoff@turnbulls-au.com

Dear Mr Turnbull

Update on the Waterloo South redevelopment

I would like to provide you with an update on plans for the redevelopment of the southern part of the Waterloo Estate.

Our role in the process has changed

On 17 March, the Minister of Planning and Public Spaces, the Hon. Rob Stokes, MP, announced that the City of Sydney will no longer be the planning authority for the Waterloo South planning proposal that was endorsed by Council and the Central Sydney Planning Committee in February 2021.

This is a disappointing outcome given the City's concerted effort to come to an agreement with the Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC) so the proposal could proceed to public exhibition.

The new process

The Minister has tasked the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) with responsibility for progressing the Waterloo South proposal. DPIE is required to complete its assessment within ten weeks. Its assessment will be informed by the advice of an Independent Advisory Group (IAG), along with information provided by and meetings held with LAHC and the City.

The IAG will review LAHC's planning proposal request and the City's Council-endorsed amended proposal and provide advice and recommendations to DPIE on what should go forward for further consideration by DPIE. DPIE will then review the IAG's findings and carry out its own assessment. At the end of the ten-week period, it may issue a modified 'Gateway Determination'. That means the proposal can proceed to public exhibition.

The exhibited planning proposal might be the same or similar as the City's planning proposal, or DPIE could make significant changes to it. We expect it to include public infrastructure obligations.

Community participation

DPIE will be responsible for public exhibition and community engagement as part of the new process.

The City provided DPIE and the IAG with supporting studies and other key documents relating to the City's planning proposal to assist with their assessment.

That package of information also included details about the City's community engagement to date, and what the community expects from the public exhibition, which are also outlined in the planning report published on the City's website. You can read this report at bit.ly/31i5g88.

It is important that the community has the opportunity to speak directly to decision makers, just as they did with us before the planning proposal was taken out of our hands. We requested that community representatives be given the opportunity to meet with DPIE before a decision is made and the formal exhibition period begins, and I am pleased the Minister has agreed to this happening.

What you can do

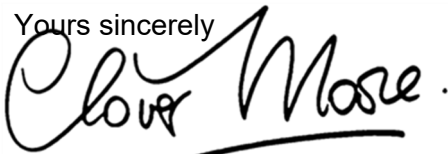
I strongly encourage you to write to Minister Stokes to ensure that the City's endorsed planning proposal is progressed to ensure more social and affordable housing is provided on the site, including dedicated housing for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander households. Our proposal also provides high quality streets and public spaces, maximises access to sunlight and delivers sustainable buildings.

Despite the recent changes to the planning process for Waterloo South, I will continue to advocate to the NSW Government to get the best outcomes for the community.

If you would like to speak with a Council officer about the recent changes to the planning process for Waterloo South redevelopment, you can contact Tamara Bruckshaw, Manager – Major Projects, on 9265 9333 or tbruckshaw@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au.

Alternatively, you can contact my Policy Advisor, Maria O'Donnell, on 8974 4220 or at modonnell@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Clover Moore". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end of the name.

Clover Moore
Lord Mayor of Sydney