



29 October 2015

Mr Ben Pechey
Manager
City of Sydney
GPO Box 1591
Sydney NSW 2001

By email: bpechey@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au

Sydney Business Chamber

Street address
Level 23, 45 Clarence Street, Sydney, 2000

Postal address
GPO Box 4280 Sydney NSW 2001
DX 10109

t (02) 9350 8119
f (02) 9350 8199
e enquiries@thechamber.com.au

SUBMISSION TO CITY OF SYDNEY COUNCIL ON CITY NORTH PUBLIC DOMAIN PLAN

Dear Mr Pechey,

The Sydney Business Chamber (SBC) is a division of the NSW Business Chamber and represents Sydney's leading corporations. The SBC advocates for Sydney to be a competitive and sustainable global city. The SBC welcomes the opportunity to comment on the draft City North Public Domain Plan.

The SBC strives to identify, develop and promote the major issues that contribute to economic activity and growth in Australia's only global city, Sydney. We do this by representing and engaging with government on behalf of business at the local, state and federal level.

The SBC strongly supports planning reform that promotes sustainable city growth, good design and urban amenity. We believe that good planning helps drive economic development and job creation and helps maintain Sydney's status as a global city.

The draft plan will upgrade the Northern portion of the Sydney CBD to provide better pedestrian access and liveability improvements such as an increased number of shade trees and improved outdoor dining opportunities.

The short, medium and long-term options form a coherent plan that will guide the city's future development.

It takes account of the impact of the George St Light Rail and associated new bus plan, as well as several major private developments: the AMP precinct, the Gateway building, the Alfred, Pitt, Dalley, George project and redevelopments on Martin Place.

We particularly support the plan objectives around pedestrian access and the creation of a linked series of park and garden spaces, as well as the upgrade of existing open spaces.

The draft plan is right to focus on Martin Place and Circular Quay as two of the most important civic squares in the CBD. It aims to reinforce Martin Place as the City's premier civic and public space and create a unified square from the building edge to the water at Circular Quay.



We welcome the medium-term plan to upgrade the Lloyd Rees fountain with an installation that can be switched on or off depending on whether events are using the space. The fountain upgrade provides an opportunity to create a new attraction and a more ambitious design would create a focal point and draw more visitors to the space.

For example, the Miroir d'Eau (Water Mirror) installation in Bordeaux, France, designed by Michel Corajoud and Jean-Max Llorca is one of the city's main attractions.

An installation such as this, at the upper end of Martin Place would be a significant upgrade to what is currently a somewhat bland open space, without impacting the lower end and WW1 memorial cenotaph.

We thank you for the opportunity to raise these issues and look forward to working with you further to plan for the future needs of our city.

Please feel free to contact Mr George Powell, Policy Adviser, Infrastructure, New South Wales Business Chamber on 02 9458 7559 or via email to george.powell@nswbc.com.au if you wish to discuss these matters further.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Patricia Forsythe".

**THE HON PATRICIA FORSYTHE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**