

20 November 2020

Sirius refurbishment plans set for public exhibition

The NSW Government today announced refurbishment plans for the Sirius Building at The Rocks have been lodged for planning review and public comment.

Deputy Secretary of Property & Development NSW, Leon Walker, said Property NSW had granted landowner's consent to enable the planning approval process for the state-significant development application (SSDA) to begin.

"Landowner's consent is an important milestone for the reactivation of this iconic and culturally significant building," Mr Walker said.

"By providing consent, the approved refurbishment design can now progress to the development application stage, giving the community the opportunity to have its say on the proposal."

The refurbishment plans have been approved by a Design Integrity Panel, which included representatives from the Government Architect NSW and the City of Sydney. The Panel was established as part of the project's design excellence competition to ensure the refurbishment achieves the highest standard of architectural, urban and landscape design.

Mr Walker said the design, developed by the purchaser, JDH Capital, retained the prominent, brutalist features that so many members of the community fought so hard to retain.

"It also proposes complementary modern additions to the structure to make it more functional, as well as enhancements to the public domain surrounding the building to reactivate this critical part of The Rocks," he said.

The proposed enhancements include the establishment of public access through the site; a public forecourt; a lift; improved street lighting for better safety and security; and public artwork.

The development application is on public exhibition with Planning until Thursday 17 December. As it is a state-significant development application, the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces will be the final consent authority following public exhibition.

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