

**Submission
No 23**

INQUIRY INTO CROWN LAND IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Name: Ms Lea Hill
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SUBMISSION TO THE NEW SOUTH WALES CROWN LAND ENQUIRY

SAVE BONDI PAVILION

The Bondi Pavilion is an iconic community and cultural public heritage building. It contributes to the unique heritage of Bondi Beach which sits on land known as Bondi Park, this is land that is classified as Crown Land and was dedicated in January 1938 for the purposes of public recreation. The Park is governed by the Bondi Park Reserve Trust under section 92 of the Crown Lands Act 1989.

Waverley Council manages the affairs of the Trust and is responsible for the care, control and management of the Park on behalf of the Minister for Lands. The key objective of the Crown Lands Act is “to ensure that Crown land is managed for the benefit of the people of New South Wales”.

Waverley Council’s current \$38 million plan for the Bondi Pavilion does not retain the space as a public recreation space in line with its dedicated purpose under the Crown Lands Act and shifts the purpose of the building from a community building for public recreation to a commercial precinct; this is not consistent with the purpose of Crown Land.

Waverley Council adopted the 2014 Plan of Management (POM) for the Bondi Park, Beach and Pavilion. The POM is approved by State Government to ensure that the land is managed for public interest and benefit. The POM supported a restoration and repair of Bondi Pavilion at a cost of \$10 million, which the community is completely in agreement with as the footprint of the building would remain the same, without redevelopment/commercial interference.

Bondi Pavilion is on the State Heritage Register due to its “State significance as an iconic representation of the Australian beach experience” and any “major changes” to a heritage item require approval by the Heritage Council of NSW.

Bondi Pavilion as it stands inspires a sense of wonder at the history of the place. Bondi Beach is a paradise. It’s a paradise because it is Bondi Beach and it is the Bondi Pavilion. Let’s not spoil another Australian icon with more shops, restaurants and car parks.