

Submission
No 20

**INQUIRY INTO GOVERNMENT'S MANAGEMENT OF THE
POWERHOUSE MUSEUM AND OTHER MUSEUMS AND
CULTURAL PROJECTS IN NEW SOUTH WALES**

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 27 April 2020

Partially
Confidential

I would like to object to the proposed Parramatta Powerhouse Museum.

To my knowledge no one living in Parramatta requested the relocation of the Powerhouse Museum to Parramatta. The proposed move is mainly politically driven not by need, but by the wish to sell the site on which the current Powerhouse Museum is situated.

The decision to relocate was a government decision trying to win political favour with the western suburbs along the same lines of knocking down and rebuilding Parramatta Stadium which was also not asked for or needed by Parramatta residents. This was also at the cost of losing our local Olympic sized swimming pool which still hasn't been replaced.

I believe that Parramatta needs more car parks within the CBD and the loss of the old David Jones car park is another significant loss of an important facility like the Parramatta Olympic swimming pool mentioned previously. A further loss would be a loss to Parramatta of the heritage listed buildings (Willow Grove and St. Georges Terrace). As there are already extremely tall buildings butted right up to the Parramatta River in the vicinity it would be pointless to ask that only low rise buildings be constructed against Parramatta River. This would be good planning at its best but the new Powerhouse Museum is imposingly very high and because it is very tall should be positioned in an offset from the river.

Some of the government's policies are doing more damage than good. For example construction of the Sydney light rail which is far less efficient than the buses it has replaced. Another example of a transport mode that was not asked for but imposed on the public. Demolition of the Sydney monorail and the Entertainment Centre also were not necessary.

I think under the current economic COVID-19 climate that the relocation to Parramatta is no longer economically justifiable and consequently the decision should be permanently shelved.