



Sydney Heritage FLeet Major Project Proposal Application Number: 11-0001

The Glebe Society welcomes the opportunity to respond to the major project proposal (11_0001) relating to the relocation of part of the activities of the Sydney Heritage Fleet to 3 Bank St, Blackwattle Bay.

Bank Street is not within the Glebe area, but we have a strong and longstanding interest in the Bays Precinct –including Blackwattle Bay. We share the long frustrated desire of community groups around the Bays for an integrated and strategic approach to planning decisions within this important precinct and which also adequately reflect community priorities.

While it remains an issue that we are still being asked to respond to one-off proposals such as this without a Government position on a strategic plan for the Bays Precinct, we do appreciate that an effort has been made to change the initial proposal to meet the strong objections of local community and user groups.

We are concerned that aspects of the proposals are contrary to the existing Master Plan for Bank St. As the Government has not yet endorsed the community supported planning principles for the Bays Precinct, the area is effectively without any planning instrument protection. Our concern is not related to the specific on-shore activities and structures proposed as part of this relocation. Rather, it relates to the precedent that may be set for agencies, Government and developers in relation to future developments in the Bays Precinct.

The exclusion of the industrial activity associated with the restoration workshop and the associated sea dock has removed the major community issue in relation to noise and disruption of highly valued passive boating activities. We therefore support the re-location of the SHF to the Bank St site and the proposed associated on water and on shore activities and structures.

The Glebe Society support for this proposal is dependent on this exclusion. We are concerned that no permanent home for this part of the SHF activities has yet been found and it does not seem likely that its current location at Rozelle bay will be permanent. With other community groups we would be strongly opposed to any future attempt to relocate the workshop and associated activities to the Bank St site.

We note that the reduction of the length of the wharf has gone some way to reducing the previous negative impact on passive boating activities. This is of great importance to the Glebe community which is strongly supportive of the continuation of these activities in our bays.

We understand there is strong, if not unanimous, local community support for the proposed range of sporting, hobby and other activities associated with the proposed on shore development. The Glebe Society does not have a view on these matters other than to support the local community wishes.

Submitted on behalf of the Glebe Society.

John Gray
President
The Glebe Society
30th April 2013.