



## 2011 RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION INC.

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### **Committee**

Sacha Blumen, Annette Nevin, Carole Ferrier, Suzanne O'Connor,  
Robyn Greaves, Michael Gormly, Malcolm Duncan

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11th January, 2008

Clover Moore, Monica Barone  
Lord Mayor, Chief Executive Officer  
456 Kent Street  
GPO Box 1591  
Sydney NSW 2001

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Dear Ms Moore and Barone,

The 2011 Residents' Association Inc. (2011RA) welcomes the City of Sydney providing services to meet the changing needs of the City East community. We are particularly interested in the outcomes of the recent City East Facilities Review held on Saturday 1 December 2007.

One report of this meeting indicated that:

*"projects would include refurbishment of the former Tabernacle site, Darlinghurst, and an extension of the Kings Cross library by one floor, among other things."*

*"The cultural renewal programme will mean, among other things:*

- *The Reg Murphy Community Centre, Greenknowe Ave, Elizabeth Bay, will be vacated and sold off to the highest bidder on the open commercial market;*
- *Child care and aged care and community facilities will be moved out – possibly into the Rex Centre, already reaching saturation point or the KX Library, too small for its current uses – although this is still unclear;*
- *'People can be bussed elsewhere,' Ms Barone quipped when queried by residents"*

In addition, 2011RA understands that the following text appeared in recent correspondence from the Lord Mayor to community members:

***"POSITIVE FEEDBACK ON FACILITIES PLAN FOR CITY EAST***

*Following a strategic review of City East community facilities, the City has developed a long-term strategy to expand services and meet the area's changing needs.*

*We've been looking at the area's libraries, child care centres, recreation and sport facilities, cultural facilities, Neighbourhood Service Centres, community offices,*

*community halls, spaces for outreach services, community venues, aged centres, and youth centres.*

*In planning for future community facilities, we want to be a leader in sustainable asset management and to provide flexible, multipurpose facilities that will meet the needs of a diverse and changing community.*

*On 1 December, residents from Darlinghurst, East Sydney, Potts Point, Kings Cross, Rushcutters Bay, Elizabeth Bay and Woolloomooloo gave positive feedback when the proposals were presented to a community workshop. The proposed projects include:*

*\* The Burton Street Tabernacle in East Sydney would become a community arts space, housing the Darlinghurst Theatre and an emerging artists' gallery, possibly with additional artists' studios or community office space.*

*\* Heffron Hall, opposite the Tabernacle, would be rebuilt, with Albert Schloss Reserve relocated to the Burton Street frontage, providing better access to the park and creating a vibrant new cultural precinct. The new centre would provide out-of-school-hours and vacation care; a flexible community space for meetings, classes and rehearsals; space for cultural organisations; and artist's studios.*

*\* Fifteen new places at KU France Newton Childcare centre, as there is clear evidence that the area needs more childcare places, especially for children aged under two.*

*\* An extra floor of library and activity space at 50-52 Darlinghurst Road Kings Cross, where the library and Neighbourhood Service Centre are now located;*

*\* Programs at the Reg Murphy Activity Centre relocated over time, with the Early Childhood Health Centre moving to the Rex Centre at Fitzroy Gardens and the seniors' meals and activity programs to Mary McDonald in Woolloomooloo.*

*\* Improving programming and services at the Juanita Nielsen and Mary McDonald Centres in Woolloomooloo.*

*To help fund these extensive works, the City would consider selling the Reg Murphy Activity Centre and including a floor in the new Heffron Hall that would be available for commercial lease.*

*The proposals are still in draft form, and the plans will be presented to Council in 2008 once community feedback from the workshop is incorporated. These are long-term strategic proposals, and each individual project will be subject to further consultation."*

Could you please indicate what exactly is being suggested or proposed? Could you also please indicate how many residents attended the meeting on December 1 and how many of those residents gave positive feedback to each of the proposals? Could you please also indicate how the meeting on December 1 was advertised to the tens of thousands of residents in the Kings Cross area?

Kind regards

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