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16 August 2023

Mariyam Nizam  
Senior Heritage Assessments Officer  
Heritage NSW  
Department of Planning and Environment

Dear Mariyam,

## WESTERN DISTRIBUTOR | DA 23/4398 | RESPONSE TO HERITAGE NSW

Urbis has prepared this submission to Heritage NSW on behalf of JCDcaux (**the applicant**) in relation to DA 23/4398 (**the DA**). The DA seeks development consent for replacement and relocation of an approved third-party digital advertising signage structure on the Western Distributor (A4).

The subject site for the proposed development is a heritage item listed on the NSW State Heritage Register as 'Pyrmont and Glebe Railway Tunnels' (SHR No. 01225). A heritage approval from Heritage NSW is required in accordance with Section 58 of the NSW Heritage Act 1977.

This submission follows the site inspection undertaken on Wednesday 19 July 2023 and attended by representatives from Heritage NSW, Urbis, and the applicant's project consultant team. Following the site inspection, email correspondence was issued to John Wynne (dated 21 July 2023) in which Heritage NSW requested additional information in relation to excavation impacts, construction methodology (including site protection), structural adequacy, and vegetation management.

This submission is supported by the following documentation:

- Design Statement prepared by Tzannes (**Attachment 1**)
- Construction Methodology Statement prepared by Hanlon Industries (**Attachment 2**)
- Geotechnical Statement prepared by BHM Geotechnical Pty Ltd (**Attachment 3**)
- Landscape Statement prepared by Common Grounds Landscape Architecture (**Attachment 4**)
- Planting Statement prepared by Fytogreen (**Attachment 5**)

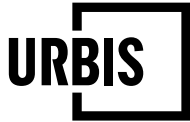
**Table 1** provides a detailed response to the Heritage NSW request for additional information.

Table 1 Response to Heritage NSW

Heritage NSW Comments	Applicant Response
<p>1 <i>Further details on the excavation including diameter and depth of core drilling and any anticipated impacts upon the sandstone cutting.</i></p> <p><i>Existing examples of where such precise drilling has been undertaken previously would also be appreciated.</i></p>	<p>A Geotechnical Statement has been prepared by BHM Geotechnical Pty Ltd (<b>Attachment 3</b>) to assess the impacts of core drilling required to install the signage structure to the sandstone cutting.</p> <p>The Statement acknowledges that the construction of the proposed signage structure is geotechnically complex. However, it is anticipated that with the implementation of appropriate management, there will be no damage or disruption, visual or otherwise to the surrounding sandstone embankment.</p> <p>BHM will adopt established in-house procedures to ensure the safety and stability of the ground during geotechnical drilling and investigative works. At the completion of geotechnical investigations, BHM will be able to provide detailed recommendations on the stability of the structure, both on a temporary basis (during construction) and a permanent basis.</p> <p>The Statement concludes that the implementation of established procedures and diligent adherence to safety protocols will enable safe construction of the proposed signage structure. Further, if implemented and managed appropriately and with professional engineering oversight, it is anticipated that there will be minimal to no disturbance, whether visual or otherwise, to the sandstone embankment.</p>
<p>2 <i>A construction methodology statement that includes step by step details on how the construction of the structure will take place. Please also provide details on what site protection measures will be undertaken to ensure that the sandstone cutting is protected at all times.</i></p>	<p>A Construction Methodology Statement (<b>CMS</b>) has been prepared by Hanlon Industries (<b>Attachment 2</b>). This sets out details for the construction of the proposal and the management of the material supply, installation, and commissioning works.</p> <p>The CMS includes a site work methodology which describes the following stages of construction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Site investigation works;</li> <li>▪ Site preparation;</li> </ul>

Heritage NSW Comments	Applicant Response
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Site protection measures (including measures which will be implemented to preserve the site embankment in pre-construction and during construction works);</li> <li>Site works;</li> <li>Site clean-up; and</li> <li>Final sign off.</li> </ul> <p>The CMS also identifies the plant and equipment that will used on site during construction works.</p>
<p>3     <i>A structural adequacy report noting that the sandstone cutting is able to withstand pressure from any core drilling required to install the signage structure as well as any live load pressures after the sign has been erected.</i></p>	<p>As detailed above, the Geotechnical Statement (at <b>Attachment 3</b>) recommends the implementation of mitigation measures and professional management to minimise damage or disruption (visual or otherwise) to the sandstone embankment.</p> <p>At the completion of geotechnical investigations, detailed recommendations can be made on the stability of the signage structure, on a temporary basis (during construction) and a permanent basis. These recommendations will include measures to ensure the structural integrity and safety of the signage structure throughout its lifecycle.</p>
<p>4     <i>Notes on how the vegetation proposed will be planted and maintained – i.e. would soil cover be required, irrigation, etc. Please also provide details if the vegetation is expected to have any impact on the sandstone – i.e. water/soil run off etc.</i></p>	<p>This submission is supported by the following documentation to describe the planting and maintenance of the proposed vegetation and to assess impacts of the vegetation on the sandstone:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Design Statement (<b>Attachment 1</b>);</li> <li>Landscape Statement (<b>Attachment 4</b>); and</li> <li>Planting Statement (<b>Attachment 5</b>).</li> </ul> <p>The below provides a summary of the planting and maintenance of the proposed vegetation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The proposal combines a high-quality fabricated steel 'exoskeleton' with a vertical planting system bringing the biodiversity benefits to the</li> </ul>

Heritage NSW Comments	Applicant Response
	<p>local ecosystem. The introduction of climbing plants throughout the structure will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ complement the variety of planting species,</li> <li>○ provide noise reduction from the A4;</li> <li>○ add natural habitat, and;</li> <li>○ improve the general air quality.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A series of planter boxes are integrated into the structure and climber plants will be trained to grow over the entire mesh panel underlayer.</li> <li>▪ The planter beds will contain an inorganic growing medium that will result in a nutrient rich and anaerobic environment; reducing the risk of plant failure. The growing medium will be lightweight (approx. 450kg/m<sup>2</sup>) which enable a more slender structure.</li> <li>▪ During the next phase of design development, a specialist expert will select appropriate planting species tailored to suit the local micro-climate and site conditions.</li> <li>▪ Maintenance of the planting system and digital display screen will be undertaken from inside the structure via a series of integrated internal landings at 3m intervals.</li> <li>▪ Access to the base of the structure will be via a secure maintenance only ladder to the side of the light rail track and a connecting landing.</li> <li>▪ Irrigation will be controlled by a Galcon GSI and flow meter to allow live flow data and alarms enabling remote monitoring and control. The irrigation will be adjusted for the seasonal conditions and can be linked to a rain sensor.</li> <li>▪ Neither plant species will impact the sandstone in their habitat or growth. Drainage systems will be designed to conserve water and direct any run-off to stormwater outlets.</li> </ul>



In addition to the above responses to the requested additional information, this submission is also accompanied by a letter prepared by the applicant's heritage consultant, Weir Phillips, which confirms that they are satisfied that the methodologies proposed for the installation and ongoing maintenance of the signage structure will have a minimal and acceptable impact on the State Heritage listed item.

We trust that this submission and the accompanying documentation provides Heritage NSW with sufficient information to address the matters raised in the email correspondence (dated 21 July 2023) and that heritage approval can be granted in accordance with Section 58 of NSW Heritage Act 1977.

If any other information is required, please do not hesitate myself or John Wynne.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R. Battersby". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Rob Battersby  
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