

SCENTRE GROUP

21 September 2020

To: Georges River Council

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Architectural Design statement for Westfield ELP Expansion Development Application

The following statement, in conjunction with the Vision Package, seeks to frame the over all design approach applied to the Westfield ELP Expansion DA.

In 2014, when the existing Entertainment, Lifestyle Precinct (ELP) was constructed our knowledge of what an ELP could be was in its infancy, Hurstville being the very first test of a concept that became, and continues to be, a staple in almost every centre we have developed since. 6 years and over a dozen ELP's later we have grown as a company and learned significantly from each example and iteration we designed since. Which is why we're going back to Hurstville; to perfect what we started.

Split over two levels, the new proposal will open this precinct up to the sky, maintaining enough protection from the elements to ensure comfort year-round, but providing a far better connection to the outside; the key element of any roof top space.

The lower level of the ELP has been arranged into two main areas:

Firstly, the central 'Courtyard' space; Open and green, surrounding by destinational dining tenants, this is the 'organising' space from which all areas of the proposal can be accessed, providing connections to the sky and natural elements. It has been designed with a grander scale to cement the sense of place. The second area is our 'Laneway' dining experience. A more compressed space with smaller offerings; this busier, more eclectic and vibrant space is where one would grab a quick meal and find a secluded corner to enjoy with friends in the evening, or, during the day might seek out a sunnier, greener space to sit. Which brings us to the last piece of the puzzle, the rooftop garden.

Throughout the development we're providing more greenery and planting; ground covers and mature tree species will combine with elements of water to provide a natural feeling of movement and connection to nature in every nook and cranny. But perhaps most significantly, we're proposing a rooftop (upper level) 'community garden', a place for multiple activities which will change and respond not only to the seasons and time of day, but to the needs and wants of the Hurstville community. Integrated structures will provide areas for children to play, as well as adults, both situated alongside integrated artworks, quieter contemplative spaces, and informal lunch spots where food purchased on levels below

SCENTRE GROUP

can be enjoyed in the sunshine. This community driven space is an exciting first for our centres, and something we look forward to collaborating with council on in the future.

We believe this combination of open courtyard, compressed Laneway, and community rooftop garden is in keeping with the Hurstville city centre Urban Design Strategy and will combine to provide a vibrant addition to the surrounding areas well into the future.

Yours sincerely,
Scentre Design and Construction Pty Limited

William Drew
Design Concept manager