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Submission to Future Melbourne Committee

City of Melbourne, Council Meeting Room, Melbourne Town Hall Administration Building
01 Feb 2022, 5.30pm – Meeting No.27
Agenda Item FMC 6.2 Ministerial Planning Referral: ID-2021-4, Amendment C365: Melbourne Arts Precinct Transformation Masterplan

The Southbank Residents Association (SRA) agrees with the recommendations from management to the FMC that further detail is required in the Master Plan.

The specific concerns are:

- Overshadowing of the Southbank Boulevard linear park. Given the shortage of public space in Southbank and the cost of developing the linear park, every effort should be made to maximise the benefit of the linear park. The shadowing of the linear park by the existing building should not be taken as the acceptable minimum.

Instead there should be a priority to have some sun on the part of the linear park in front of the ABC at all times of the year, even if it means lowering the southern edge of the roof of the NGVC.

- Cycling. Southbank residents know only too well the problems caused by cyclists along Southbank Promenade and the complications involved in re-designing the Promenade to overcome those problems.

The SRA strongly advises that not only should cycling be banned in the MAPT, but there should be detailed plans as to how this would be done. The SRA is well aware the challenge of this task as wheelchair access should be enabled. However given the capacity of the MAPT to be a major showpiece and drawing card for the City of Melbourne, it most imperative that this issue is given a high priority, otherwise the value of the MPT will be seriously diminished.

- Height of the NGVC. The SRA is appreciative of the effort to design the building's profile to reduce overshadowing of Sturt St and Southbank Boulevard. However some thought should be given the obstruction of the view of those in apartments North and West of the NGCV, those in Kavanagh and Fanning Sts.

As residents of Southbank we are certainly aware that the commercial nature of building construction means that no view can be guaranteed in perpetuity,



however we are of the view that it is not a good look if a Government acts in the same way.

The SRA recommends that possible changes to the roof profile of NGVC should be investigated out of respect for the building's neighbours.

- Traffic implications of the removal of the left turn from City Rd into Fanning St. Recent traffic accidents on City Rd, in particular the Power St accident that injured several pedestrians, indicates that any changes to traffic flow on City Rd have to be considered carefully.

The SRA supports management's recommendation that 'any analysis conducted on the road network as part of the MAPT considers the proposed changes on City Road in the City Road Master Plan to determine the impacts of these proposed changes, including the proposed removal of the left-turn slip lane at Southbank Boulevard as well as the removal of left-turns into Fanning Street'.

Dan O'Keeffe, OAM
Southbank Residents Association