

Majors Bay Development

Landscape Design Statement

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LANDSCAPE DESIGN STATEMENT

1.0 Landscape Design

The landscape design for the Majors Bay Development is facilitated by an understanding of the sites' location within the riverine environment of the Parramatta River. The overall site design features a clear hierarchy of external spaces that reflects the local riverine environment and enhances its relationship to the Parramatta River by providing public, semi public and private open space.

The site has opportunities for views to the Dame Eadith Walker Estate (Yuralla) and is influenced by the seasonal changes of the surrounding river environment. Existing views across the site are maximized from open landscaped areas creating vistas and opportunities for clear site lines through framed portals. The site planning allows for public open spaces to permeate the site linking the foreshore walk to the broader public open spaces through the local Council area.

Australian native planting combined with cultural planting layers forms a deliberately strong contrast to the contemporary lines of the architectural expression and massing of the proposal. The overall planning of the buildings allows for generous setbacks providing the opportunities for viewing from internal areas and other functional areas and improves the thermal performance of the buildings through the use of substantial vegetation to the peripheral areas. Outdoor seating is also provided across the site.

Stormwater runoff and water reuse and filtering are integrated into the overall design approach to provide benefits for the site in lower water use and less run off to the surrounding environment. In addition, the use of water as a decorative element creates a welcome quality and diverting design layer.

To the periphery of the site, local species endemic to the area have been used to maintain the existing vegetated quality of the surrounding environment. Specifically, the landscape design provides for the continuation of the characteristic tree canopy and developed landscape across the site. The shrub and groundcover species chosen to be used are predominantly native and endemic species, where appropriate.

The proposal provides opportunities for an improvement to public amenity and a significant increase in tree canopy and under planting to the area. The landscape design incorporates ecologically sustainable principles into the proposal where possible and partial reinstatement of the natural ecological values and provides limited faunal habitat opportunities on the site.

2.0 Conclusion

The Majors Bay Development landscape design creates an environment that strengthens the inherent values and character of the Parramatta River. The scale of the landscape combined with the site planning provides opportunities to create a design character that provides a sustainable and aesthetically pleasing environment for the project.

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