

7 September 2010

Dear Resident,

**RE: MARRICKVILLE METRO UPGRADE – THE FACTS**

We are writing to give you some fresh information about an issue we know is important to local residents – Marrickville Metro and its place in the community.

We have lodged plans with the NSW Department of Planning to expand Marrickville Metro. If approved, these plans would see the Metro expand up one level and into the industrial space between Smidmore Street and Edinburgh Road.

We strongly believe a great majority of people in the local area would like to see changes at Marrickville Metro – and in particular, changes to the look of the centre. After 25 years, the needs of the local community have changed. Our plans would provide a much-needed facelift to the building as well as its surrounds, through public space upgrades, a new outdoor plaza and more trees and plants.

In addition, our research in the local community over a number of years shows that people are leaving the area to do their shopping. About \$700 million in retail spending is leaving Marrickville every year because their retail and service needs are not being met locally. We believe it is in the interests of us all to encourage people to shop locally. Our plans would bring a much bigger range of shops to the Marrickville area – to better meet the needs of local shoppers, and in turn, keep more people spending locally.

We have and continue to listen to the community and respond to issues about the proposed expansion. We have carried out extensive community consultation, as requested by the Department of Planning and coordinated with Marrickville Council, which has involved:

- » Direct contact with 3000 residents
- » A letter box drop on 3 and 4 April, 4 and 6 May and 31 July 2010
- » An independent consulting group door knocked 500 houses and spoke with 200 people
- » Development plans were exhibited in the Centre and the display was staffed for two hours on August 3, 10, 17 and 24 and for three hours on 15 May and 14 August.

For your interest, we have provided some further facts about the proposed Marrickville Metro expansion below.

- » Community facilities are an important part of our plans, and could include a library, child care services and a performance space
- » **Upgraded local roads**, a new bus shelter on Edinburgh Road, better car parking spaces, improved pedestrian and bicycle paths and secure bicycle racks are part of the proposal
- » The upgrade is a \$165 million investment in the inner west's economy which will deliver **more than 700 long-term retail jobs**
- » Our plans include **traffic forecasts** and proposed road improvements, to mitigate any impacts on the local community as a result of the expansion. Importantly, independent traffic engineers have found much of the additional shopping at the Metro will be from existing shoppers and much of the increase in traffic will be vehicles already on the road currently travelling to other areas for their shopping needs
- » **Environmental initiatives** would be introduced, including two rainwater tanks to filter water for reuse within the centre, a stormwater filtration system that contributes to the Cooks River Project and an 80% recycling target during construction.

I encourage you to let the NSW Department of Planning know your thoughts on the proposed expansion of Marrickville Metro, by visiting <http://majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au> or calling 9228 6111. Please visit [www.talkmarrickvillemetro.com.au](http://www.talkmarrickvillemetro.com.au) for more information about the Marrickville Metro upgrade.

Yours sincerely

**Centre Management  
Marrickville Metro**

AMP Capital Shopping Centres

