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Harbour Trust to move forward with proposed Torpedo Factory design concept

On 22 July, the Harbour Trust Board of Trustees resolved to proceed with the proposed design concept of the Torpedo Factory located at Sub Base Platypus in North Sydney. The design concept which was on exhibition from 12 February until 12 May 2019, received over 80 submissions from interested community stakeholders, providing the Harbour Trust with a thorough cross section of views.

The design concept proposes peeling away the sides of the building's upper level while retaining the steel structure and some of the roof, creating partly-covered open space on the upper street level.

Landscaping will improve the appearance of the upper level space, reducing the bulk of the building when viewed from all angles, and provide privacy for residences to the south.

As well as providing open public space for community use, the Harbour Trust is also proposing limited parking for site visitors at the High Street end of the precinct.

Harbour Trust CEO, Mary Darwell, said the consultation process is vital to the sustainability of Sub Base Platypus.

"The Harbour Trust is taking all community feedback into consideration. We are conscious of ensuring a balance of uses for this heritage building," said Ms Darwell

"Following the funding announcement for Sub Base Platypus, the design concept requires some refinement to respond to community feedback," she said.

Joseph Carrozzi, Chair of the Harbour Trust Board, prefaced any works at Sub Base Platypus need to be consistent with the heritage value of the site and the environmental objects of the Harbour Trust.

"We're excited to see Sub Base Platypus evolve into a vibrant public precinct. We are ensuring the works provide value to the local and broader community," said Mr Carrozzi

The Harbour Trust will continue to provide the community with regular updates about Sub Base Platypus through its Community Advisory Committee and other channels.

As part of the 2019/2020 Federal Budget, the Australian Government allocated \$21.4 million for projects to support the work of the Harbour Trust. This included \$11.4 million to invest in capital upgrades at Sub Base Platypus, North Sydney.

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