



COMMISSION BACKS SIMPLER APPROVAL PATHWAYS FOR LUNA PARK RIDES, AMUSEMENTS

Friday 23 November 2018

The state's Independent Planning Commission has supported proposed changes to planning controls to make it easier for the operators of Sydney's Luna Park to install new rides.

The Department of Planning and Environment has sought to amend the *State Environmental Planning Policy (State Significant Precincts) 2005* to provide simpler approval pathways for the installation, modification and removal of rides and amusements.

It follows a recent Land and Environment Court ruling that the iconic theme park would need to lodge a development application each time a ride was relocated or replaced.

Minister for Planning Anthony Roberts asked the Commission to provide independent advice on the proposed amendments to the SEPP.

The Chair of the Commission, Professor Mary O'Kane AC, appointed two Commissioners, Mr Peter Duncan AM and Professor Chris Fell AM, to consider the matter.

Under the proposal, the SEPP would be amended to include 'exempt' and 'complying' development provisions for certain land within the Luna Park precinct.

Importantly, there would be no change to existing considerations regarding safety, noise, lighting and heritage protections.

Rides and amusements with minimal impacts would be deemed *exempt* development and would not require development approval before they are installed, modified or removed; while a council or accredited certifier could approve the installation, modification or removal of rides and amusements, if they *comply* with specific development criteria, under a streamlined approvals process.

The park operator would need to lodge a development application (DA) with the appropriate consent authority to install, modify or remove a ride or amusement that is not exempt or able to be approved as a complying development.

Having carefully considered all the information before it – including the issues raised in more than 1400 public submissions – the Commission has today (Friday 23 November) finalised its advice to the Minister.

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The Commission has supported the amendments to the SEPP – finding the proposal:

- will enable the sustainment of existing operations at Luna Park as has historically occurred, without promoting an intensification of the existing land use
- will not change the nature and intensity of operations of Luna Park, and that all existing compliance and management regimes that are currently in place will remain in place
- will provide a suitable development pathway which will remove the existing ambiguity around site operations and approvals and provide greater certainty to the community, and
- provide certainty to the public around the timing and tenancy of rides and amusements within Luna Park