

Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure

Our ref: Ministerial Call-in-Town Hall Square Proposal

Professor Neal Menzies AM
Acting Chair
Independent Planning Commission
Level 15, Suite 2, 135 King Street
Sydney NSW 2000
via email: ipcn@ipcn.nsw.gov.au

17 September 2026

Subject: Ministerial Call-in - Town Hall Square Proposal

Dear Professor Menzies

As you would be aware from the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces' letter dated 16 September 2026, the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (the Department) is preparing to seek the Minister's approval to call-in the Town Hall Square proposal as State significant development (SSD) under Section 4.36 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act). The proposal is located at 532-540 George Street, 542-544 George Street, 546-552 George Street, 5-7 Park Street, 295-301 Pitt Street, 303-305 Pitt Street and 307 Pitt Street, Sydney.

The Town Hall Square proposal comprises demolition of existing buildings, interface works, establishment of new public square and city greening. The new square would be designed for everyday use as well as for civic events and community gatherings. The project includes a generous public open space of approximately 4,200sqm.

Section 4.36(3) of the EP&A Act provides that the Minister may declare development SSD, but only if the Minister has obtained and made publicly available advice from the Independent Planning Commission about the State or regional planning significance of the development. The Department is therefore seeking advice from the Commission on this.

The Department's report is attached for your consideration.

If you have any questions, please contact Megan Fu on [REDACTED] or via email at [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]
Douglas Walther
Executive Director
Infrastructure Assessments