



# **Barry O'Farrell MP**

## **Premier of NSW**

### **Minister for Western Sydney**

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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Saturday 22 December 2012

### **PLANNING APPROVAL FOR THE BLOCK'S PEMULWUY REDEVELOPMENT**

An exciting new chapter in the history of The Block is set to rise from the streets of Redfern with approval granted for the of the Pemulwuy redevelopment project, NSW Premier Barry O'Farrell and Planning Minister Brad Hazzard announced today.

"The approval of this project by the Department of Planning and Infrastructure will allow for the creation of a vibrant new housing, community and cultural precinct close to transport and the University of Sydney," Mr O'Farrell said.

"This part of Sydney has been crying out for renewal for many years and it is fantastic this long-running issue has now been resolved."

The approval allows construction of:

- 62 affordable housing dwellings and a 42-unit student housing facility to be managed by the Aboriginal Housing Corporation;
- A gymnasium, child-care centre and community gallery;
- An open space area in Eveleigh Street, between Lawson and Caroline Streets, to be known as "Pemulwuy, the meeting place" – this area will contain public art which reflects the important history of the site;
- Shops and other commercial uses in the ground floor of most buildings to create a vibrant mix of uses that will activate the area;
- High-quality public open spaces and landscaped streets; and
- A 115-space underground car park.

The Lawson Street Bridge will also be extended over the adjacent rail corridor to enlarge the "meeting place" and create open lines of sight from Redfern Station through the precinct.

Mr Hazzard said the project is the result of the Aboriginal Housing Corporation working closely with the department and Government agencies including the Sydney Metropolitan Development Authority, Railcorp, the Redfern Local Area Command of the NSW Police Force as well as the City of Sydney Council.

"The Pemulwuy project represents an excellent outcome, not only for the redevelopment of this important precinct, but as a catalyst for further renewal of the broader Redfern-Waterloo area," Mr Hazzard said.

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