

Notice of Motion, Cr Leppert: Apple store at Federation Square

6 February 2018

Motion

That the Future Melbourne Committee:

1. Notes the decision of the State Government to approve the demolition of the Yarra Building and construction of a new Apple Global Flagship Store at Federation Square, facilitated by an amendment to the Melbourne Planning Scheme made without public exhibition;
2. Welcomes a new Apple Global Flagship Store in the City of Melbourne, but expresses serious concerns about the way that this particular decision was made to fundamentally change the design, purpose and use of Melbourne's premier civic meeting place without public consultation;
3. Notes requests by the City of Melbourne in January 2018 to Apple and the State Government that they commit to a significant redesign of the Apple Global Flagship Store at Federation Square to avoid 'pavilion' or 'temple-like' design that is out of context in Federation Square and poorly integrated with the square's existing architecture, better contain the public square, achieve a six star green star rating and undergo a public consultation process – which ideally could take in more of Federation Square given proposals for the new Metro Tunnel entrance – before resubmitting an amendment to the Melbourne Planning Scheme;
4. Requests that, in the event of no commitment as outlined in paragraph 3 being made by 13 February 2018, the Acting Lord Mayor write to all members of the Legislative Council by 15 February 2018 requesting that they resolve to:
 - 4.1. Disallow Melbourne Planning Scheme amendment C314; and
 - 4.2. Request cabinet to facilitate a new process, inclusive of public consultation, for the approval of the location and design of an Apple Global Flagship Store within the central city.

Background

Melbourne Planning Scheme amendment C314 was gazetted on 20 December 2017. It introduced a new incorporated document to the Melbourne Planning Scheme titled "Project Core Building, Federation Square", creating a new control superseding existing controls to facilitate the development of the Apple store on the site of the Yarra Building subject to conditions.

The amendment was made under Section 20(4) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, a mechanism allowing the Planning Minister to exempt himself from the usual exhibition and planning panel requirements of a planning scheme amendment process. Neither the City of Melbourne nor, more importantly, the public were consulted on the amendment.

Moved: Cr Leppert

Seconded: Cr Frances Gilley