

Item 12.5

Notices of Motion

Cancellation of Cloud Arch

By Councillor Forster

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council note:
- (i) in June 2013, Council endorsed the City Centre Public Art Plan, followed closely by the adoption of the George Street Concept Design in September 2013;
 - (ii) following an international competition, Council awarded a tender to Partridge Events for Cloud Arch by Junya Ishigami in July 2014, with an estimated total budget of \$3.5 million;
 - (iii) in August 2017, more than three years after awarding the tender, a revised design for Cloud Arch was released and the cost had increased 222 per cent to \$11.3 million;
 - (iv) in December 2018, the City's Chief Operating Officer revealed that the overall project delivery costs totalled approximately \$22 million, a 528 per cent cost blowout;
 - (v) financial analysis of comparable city councils in Australia, including Melbourne, Perth and Brisbane, and international cities such as New York and London, shows that spending on public art is approximately 1 per cent of those councils' total capital works budgets;
 - (vi) the City of Sydney's 2019/20 Public Art spend in the local government area is currently estimated at \$4.7 million or 1.83 per cent of its total capital works budget; and
 - (vii) the Cloud Arch, at a cost of \$22 million, would make up 11 per cent of the City's total capital works budget; and
- (B) the Lord Mayor be requested to:
- (i) confirm the permanent cancellation of the Cloud Arch project;
 - (ii) reassess the potential for a different public art installation in the future Town Hall Square, following the completion of the Light Rail Project; and
 - (iii) allocate no more than 1 per cent of the City's Total Capital Works budget for the relevant financial year to any future public art installation in the future Town Hall Square.