

**Item 12.12****Notices of Motion****Metro Theatre Kings Cross**

By Councillor Phelps

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) the Metro Theatre (formerly the Minerva Theatre) remains an architectural and cultural icon of the Sydney LGA and has been afforded heritage protection under Clause 5.10 (Heritage conservation) of the Sydney Local Environment Plan 2012;
- (ii) on 19 March 2018, Council rejected a Notice of Motion by Councillor Forster to begin negotiations to acquire the Metro Theatre when it went on sale in late 2017;
- (iii) while the Metro Theatre was sold in March 2019 to Abacus Property Group, there is substantial community interest in the future of the property as an entertainment venue;
- (iv) a study commissioned by the City of Sydney following Councillor Phelps' 16 April 2018 Notice of Motion, found the Metro Theatre meets the criteria for State Heritage Significance for its historic, associative, aesthetic and representative values and its rarity. Supported by a letter of support from the Art Deco and Modernism Society of Australia, supporting the nomination;
- (v) re-establishing the Metro Theatre as an entertainment venue would provide the City with the opportunity to:
  - (a) ensure the heritage protection of the building for any future use;
  - (b) drive economic growth and bring investment into the Kings Cross / Potts Point areas; and
  - (c) provide the Kings Cross / Potts Point community with a much needed entertainment venue; and

- (B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:
- (i) investigate the business case for future use of the Metro Theatre as an entertainment and cultural facility and report back findings to Council; and
  - (ii) begin discussions with the NSW Government and relevant private interests regarding the purchase of the Metro Theatre by the NSW Government or City of Sydney and the option of a public private partnership;

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