The NSW Government is proposing to construct a marina consisting of two new wharves, pontoons and a small vessel facility next to the Australian National Maritime Museum in Pyrmont Bay to showcase the operational Sydney Heritage Fleet vessels.

This proposed marina, together with Australian National Maritime Museum’s vision to feature the operational vessels of the Sydney Heritage Fleet, would enable on-water access and interaction with these and other visiting vessels in the collection for visitors, residents and students.

The marina would consolidate the NSW and national collections of maritime heritage vessels that currently lack a permanent long-term berthing facility in Sydney Harbour. It would provide a single location, to showcase one of the largest centralised operational heritage fleets in the world.

Darling Harbour is a bustling tourist area and home to a range of maritime activity including public transport, commercial activities and private vessel usage, visited by more than four million people each year.

The new facility would effectively display and continue to preserve Australia’s important maritime history and connection to the water.

The relocation of the Sydney Heritage Fleet from Rozelle Bay would enable the full development of the Bays Precinct, including the new Sydney Fish Markets.

Key benefits

- The Maritime Heritage Precinct is a collaboration between the NSW Government and the Australian National Maritime Museum (ANMM) to provide public access to maritime vessels, artefacts, literature and art of national and international significance that tell the story of Sydney’s and the State’s maritime history.
- Provides facilities and infrastructure for the Sydney Heritage Fleet that are available to the general public, and preserves Australia’s maritime heritage story
- Easy visitor access to maritime attractions would contribute to Sydney’s Cultural Ribbon Strategy and tourism growth for Darling Harbour by collecting the largest fleet of heritage vessels in the southern hemisphere
- Extends Sydney’s connection to the water, bringing activity to the waterfront and economic stimulus to the region.
Key features

- Construction of two wharves including:
  - North Wharf – about 135 metres long by 10 metres wide with a 2,000 tonne capacity
  - South Wharf – about 149 metres long by 10 metres wide with a 6,000 tonne capacity
  - Construction of a pontoon next to Wharf 7
- Construction of a small vessel facility between the North Wharf and the South Wharf for smaller vessels
- Construction of a new and improved Pyrmont Bay Ferry Pontoon at the end of the new North Wharf to ensure continuity of services for commuters
- Decommissioning of the existing Pyrmont Bay Ferry Pontoon
- Installation of wharf furniture including lighting, gates, seating, shade structure, bins and signage
- Connection of electrical and other services from land to the marina including water, fire, communications, compressed air, security and sewer.

Indicative layout of the proposed Maritime Heritage Precinct Marina features
Understanding the issues

Early stakeholder engagement allows the project team to understand and consider issues when planning and designing the marina. The final design will incorporate this information with other social, environmental and economic factors to ensure it can be viably constructed and is fit for purpose.

The key issues relating to construction activities that have been raised during consultation with key stakeholders are: navigation and maritime traffic; parking and access; noise; visual amenity; and the potential for disruption to Pyrmont Bay Ferry service.

The key issues relating to the marina operation that have been raised include navigation and maritime traffic, noise, local amenity and socio-economic impacts.

Mitigation measures have been recommended to minimise impacts during construction. Approved environmental management plans, a communication and stakeholder engagement plan and changes to the vessel traffic management plan will be approved before any construction begins. The monitoring and reporting protocols are in place to make sure the work adheres to legislative requirements and to the management plans. Work to build the new ferry pontoon will be carefully managed to ensure continuity of services for commuters.

Operational issues have been considered as part of the design, and management strategies are proposed in the REF to mitigate impacts on existing operations. Additional issues raised during the REF display period will be considered, and will inform the final design and operation of the marina.
How do I provide feedback?

Your comments are important in shaping the outcomes of this proposal. Roads and Maritime invites feedback on the concept design and the Review of Environmental Factors (REF), as well as the reports on the specialist studies and investigations that form the appendices.

A copy of the REF and specialist studies will be available at:

Australian National Maritime Museum  
(foyer) 2 Murray Street Darling Harbour

City of Sydney Council  
Town Hall House, Level 2, 456 Kent Street, Sydney

Roads and Maritime Services  
(Office reception) 33 James Craig Road, Rozelle

Customs House Library  
31 Alfred Street, Circular Quay

Community information sessions

Two community information sessions are being held in the Wharf 7 Foyer of the Australian National Maritime Museum, 2 Murray Street, Darling Harbour on:

- Thursday – 7 February 6pm to 9pm
- Saturday – 9 February 10am to 2pm.

The community information sessions will display project information, as well as provide the opportunity to speak to project representatives. Feedback forms will be available to allow comments to be submitted at these sessions.

Email and Website

Feedback can also be sent to the project team via email to maritimeheritageprecinct@rms.nsw.gov.au. The REF is available to view and download on the project website at rms.nsw.gov.au/mhp.

Talk to us

The project contact number 1800 370 857 is available during business hours to provide feedback and seek more information on the project.

Contact

If you have any questions, please contact our project team:

1800 370 857  
maritimeheritageprecinct@rms.nsw.gov.au  
rms.nsw.gov.au/mhp

If you need help understanding this information, please contact the Translating and Interpreting Service on 131 450 and ask them to call us on 1800 370 857.

Maritime Heritage Precinct Marina (artist’s impression – south west view) – Indicative only