

QUAY SCHEME

Proposal "rebuke to planner"

By the Civic Roundsman

The City Council Planning Committee yesterday adopted a proposal which aldermen interpreted as a rebuke for the City Planning Officer (Mr. D. McK. McLachlan).

The Lord Mayor (Ald. Jensen) made the proposal through the Acting Town Clerk (Mr. B. Thomas).

Ald. Jensen proposed that Mr. McLachlan's redevelopment plan for Sydney Cove be submitted to a committee of businessmen for comment.

The businessmen, who formed the Sydney Cove Area Development Committee last year, represent five of Australia's biggest companies.

The five are:

- The AMP Society.
- British Tobacco Company (Aust.) Ltd.
- Imperial Chemical Industries.
- Lend Lease Corporation Ltd.
- Unilever (Aust.) Pty. Ltd.

The committee, which also includes the Professor of Town Planning at Sydney University (Professor Denis Winston), submitted a £5000 model of a redevelopment scheme to the City Council last March.

"Doubted"

Mr. McLachlan, in a report to the Planning Committee yesterday, said he doubted "if the scheme was in the best interests of the city, as against the interests of the companies who paid for its preparation."

Mr. Thomas reported that Ald. Jensen had described the SCADC as "very public spirited."

The Committee agreed to defer consideration of Mr. McLachlan's plan and submit it to the SCADC for its views.

It also decided to ask the SCADC to lend the Council its £5000 model so that new aldermen could compare it with Mr. McLachlan's plan.

SCADC plan would cost more than £18 million in resumption costs.

Resumptions under his plan would cost only about £2 million.

Both plans propose the overall redevelopment of an area bounded by Pitt, Alfred, Phillip and Bridge Streets.

The SCADC plan provides for four multi-storey buildings around spacious public concourses and open squares, all fronting Circular Quay.

Mr. McLachlan's plan provides only one multi-storey building on the corner of Pitt, Alfred and George Streets.

Other buildings would be restricted to the present average height of about five storeys.

Aldermen said later that Ald. Jensen was angry about the way in which Mr. McLachlan phrased parts of his report.