

# **VOTE 1 Victor P Taffa**

## **INDEPENDENT for Sydney**

### **Building For The Future**

Saturday 28 March 2015 New South Wales State Election



### **A New Exciting Focal Meeting Point For Sydney**

## **QUEEN VICTORIA SQUARE**

### **Joining Two Great Heritage Buildings Together**

### **A Square Truly Befitting A Monarch**

The Queen Victoria Building was officially opened on 21 July 1898, while the Sydney Town Hall opened in 1889.

### **Queen Victoria Square**

Queen Victoria Square will bring together the Town Hall and the Queen Victoria Building that are linked historically. By closing Druiitt Street between George and York Streets it will enable a Square to be built that enhances this location as a new exciting focal meeting point.

Originally The Queen Victoria Building provided a business environment for tailors, mercers, hairdressers, florists and coffee shops as well as showrooms and a concert hall. A public lending library was planned as early as 1899 and both the City of Sydney Library and the Electricity Department were long time occupants of the building.

The building was named after Queen Victoria who was the monarch of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland from 20 June 1837 until 22 January 1901. The State of Victoria in Australia is also named in her honour.

During the 1970's the Queen Victoria Building fell into decay and there was constant talk of demolishing the grand building. Most of the interior became a rabbit warren of offices.

### **Queen Victoria Square Features**

- Seating for people to sit and relax
- Druiitt Street between George and York Streets closed to traffic
- York Street Traffic still able to turn right at Druiitt Street
- Bathurst Street becomes a two-way street
- Bathurst Street to have a new west bound ramp onto Western Distributor
- Bathurst Street is currently two way between Sussex and Harbour Streets
- Sydney City Council and State Government notified of Queen Victoria Square plan

The Queen Victoria Building was restored between 1984 and 1986 by the Malaysian Company, Ipoh Ltd (now owned by the Government Investment Corporation of Singapore), at a cost of \$86 Million, under the terms of a 99-year lease from Sydney City Council. Today the Queen Victoria Building is a jewel in the crown of Sydney CBD retailing.

The statue of Queen Victoria was given to the people of Sydney by the Government of the Republic of Ireland and placed on its present site in 1987. The base of the statue is currently used as seating as is the front stone fence of the Sydney Town Hall.

### **City Square Signage**

City Squares such as Queen Victoria Square, Queens's Square and Regimental Square should have new prominent signage that has a uniform look at each square that includes historical information about the square.

### **Light Rail**

- George Street pedestrian/ light Rail zone from Bathurst to Hunter Streets
- George Street Light Rail will result in bus route changes
- Cross-City Tunnel is currently not financially viable for people to use

### **Sydney CBD Retailing**

Sydney City Council currently owns the Woolworths Building. The multi-storey Woolworths Building is crammed full of customer's everyday. Many elderly people in particular patronise the cafeteria and like the Queen Victoria Building, Elizabeth Street and Market Street David Jones Department Stores are jewels in the crown of Sydney CBD retailing.

In closing Druitt Street between George and York Streets, Sydney will have a Square truly befitting a Monarch.

**To join the campaign call Victor on 0416 134 650**

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