9 August 2018

Dear Sir / Madam

HODDLE GRID HERITAGE REVIEW

The City of Melbourne is committed to protecting our city’s heritage through a range of initiatives that seek to identify and protect heritage places and also supports owners to maintain and celebrate the heritage assets of our city.

To achieve this outcome, I am writing to inform you of the findings of the Hoddle Grid Heritage Review (the Review) and advise you that a property in your ownership has been identified as an important heritage place. The property has been recommended for inclusion in either an individual heritage overlay and / or precinct heritage overlay.

Please find attached the heritage citation that outlines why your property is an important heritage asset in the central city.

Council has recently completed the Review to assess the heritage significance of unprotected heritage places within the Hoddle Grid, which was laid out by surveyor Robert Hoddle in 1837. The independent Review has recommended 64 individual places and six precincts be protected under heritage overlays.

These places will be recommended for protection under the Melbourne Planning Scheme Amendments C327 (Hoddle Grid Heritage Interim Controls) and / or C328 (Hoddle Grid Heritage Permanent Controls). Inclusion of sites within heritage overlays does not necessarily prevent their redevelopment, but rather provides certainty and clarity for the community about their significance encouraging more sensitive development outcomes.

The recommendations of the Hoddle Grid Heritage Review will be presented to the Future Melbourne Committee on Tuesday 21 August 2018 at 5.30pm in Melbourne Town Hall. The full report will be available at melbourne.vic.gov.au/committees on Thursday 16 August from 2pm.

If the Future Melbourne Committee supports the recommendations of the Review, and seeks authorisation from the Minister to formally exhibit Amendment C328 (Hoddle Grid Heritage Permanent Controls), there will be opportunities for you to respond to this Amendment in accordance with the Planning and Environment Act 1987.
The Future Melbourne Committee will also consider a recommendation to request the Minister for Planning prepare Amendment C327 (Hoddle Grid Heritage Interim Controls) to include all individually significant places (except two places already protected in precincts) and precincts within interim heritage overlays. This will ensure heritage places are protected while permanent controls are considered through the formal Amendment process.

I encourage you to get involved in the formal Amendment process. The City of Melbourne will be hosting information sessions for landowners and the community to hear more about the findings of the review and how to make a submission. If Amendment C328 proceeds, formal exhibition is likely to occur late 2018 and you will be notified at the time of exhibition.

In addition, I wanted to also let you know that Council has recently endorsed financial assistance to heritage property owners through the Melbourne Heritage Restoration Fund. The fund assists owners of properties within the heritage overlays to undertake restoration works. Please visit melbourne.vic.gov.au/heritagegrants for more information.

If you require any further information, or have received the wrong citation for your property, please contact Suellen Hunter, Senior Strategic Planner (heritage) at suellen.hunter@melbourne.vic.gov.au

Yours sincerely

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CoM reference DM 11783751