

# Multi-user facility: Glebe Island

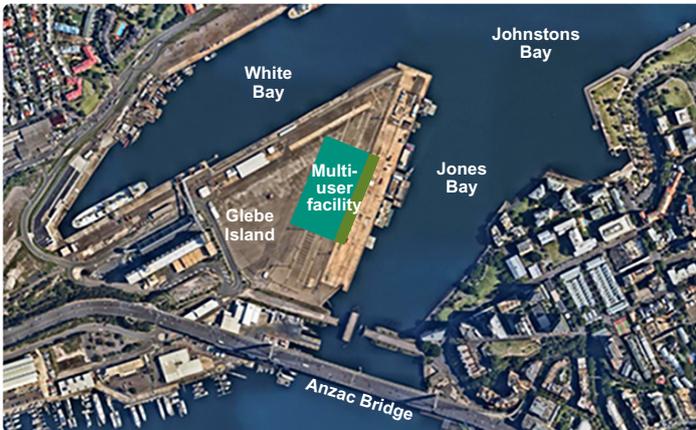
Project update no. 3 | January 2021

## What is the multi-user facility?

There is an increasing demand in Sydney city for construction materials (including sand to make concrete). To assist, Port Authority is building a multi-user facility that will provide a low-impact and sustainable facility to ship the materials to – a single vessel can keep up to 1,500 truckloads off the roads.

Once built, the multi-user facility will:

- facilitate taking the materials (sand and rock aggregates) off ships
- move the materials via conveyor belts to an enclosed storage building
- feed materials from the storage bays to an internal truck loading area, before being distributed to concrete batching plants in Sydney.



Multi-user facility indicative site.

## Construction progress – update

Since construction commenced in August 2020, the following activities have occurred:

- site preparation
- installation of electrical services
- asphalt profiling
- mapping the perimeter of the facility
- initial piling works.

The construction was then paused following discussions with a preferred tenant to explore refinements to the facility to improve operational efficiencies. Work will now resume with some initial strengthening to the ground at Glebe Island for operations, noting Glebe Island is predominantly reclaimed land.

Groundworks will occur between 27 January and 2 February 2021 during standard construction hours (Monday to Friday 7am to 6pm and Saturday 8am to 1pm). You can expect to see approximately six workers on site with a non-impact rotating drill rig (see photo), excavator and concrete pouring machine.

The program of work on site will include:

- 27 January 2021 – **delivering machinery.**
- 27 January to 2 February 2021
  - removing existing asphalt using an **excavator to prepare the ground for drilling**
  - **drilling 50 holes** to varying depths using a rotating drill rig
  - **pouring concrete** into the **50 holes to strengthen the ground foundation.**
- 2 February 2021 – **removing the machinery.**
- A visit to the site 14 days after the pouring of concrete to test the strength of the ground.



Rotating drill rig (similar to what will be at Glebe Island).

These works are preliminary and further ground strengthening work may be undertaken in the coming months prior to construction of the facility continuing. Works are being carried out in line with the planning approval. The facility's exterior appearance is not expected to change as a result of the in-ground works.

It is anticipated that construction of the facility will recommence in June/July 2021. A project update with these details will be distributed at this time. The expected completion of the facility is now early 2022.



The perimeter of the facility's footprint.

## Noise mitigation – Port Noise Policy update

Port Authority wants to be a good neighbour and site owner and that involves setting clear parameters about how noise will be managed at our facility – for the benefit of both the community and our customer.

Following public feedback, we have finalised the Noise policy and protocol that will guide operations at the site from now on. The [policy](#) and [protocol](#) outline clear rules and expectations about acceptable noise limits, and regular, transparent reporting of noise levels by visiting ships will be published on our website from February 2021.

We received 80 submissions during the consultation period and our responses are outlined in a [Response to Submissions \(RtS\) Report](#) ([www.portauthoritynsw.com.au/noisepolicy](http://www.portauthoritynsw.com.au/noisepolicy))

The changes and inclusions to the policy as a result of public feedback include:

- A cumulative noise assessment of **all port activities using noise maps for the whole port including vessels and landside operations.**
- More **detailed consideration of the noise limits** adopted and how they were derived.
- **Accelerated consequences** for vessel operators for exceeding the trigger levels for vessels during from 6pm–10pm.
- Clarification of the process in the Vessel Noise Operating Protocol and **consequences for any vessel after reaching ‘three strikes’** (3 corrective action notices) to make consequences more stringent.

- Any **future review of night-time vessel noise triggers, the ultimate goal would be a minimum of 50dbA** (being the anticipated minimum noise level that could reasonably be achieved by vessels given current technology) and would not be below ambient noise levels in the area surrounding Glebe Island and White Bay at the time.
- Undertaking Policy **reviews on a five-yearly basis**, and including consultation with the [Glebe Island and White Bay Community Liaison Group](#).
- Further investigation to address **vessel noise on arrival/ departure to the berth.**
- Additional cumulative **noise modelling inclusive of cumulative landside noise** from port activities will be undertaken based on actual monitoring data of landside noise from the port.

Read the Port Noise Policy and Protocol at [www.portauthoritynsw.com.au/noisepolicy](http://www.portauthoritynsw.com.au/noisepolicy).

## Facility's exterior appearance

Thank you to the residents who met in late October 2020 to discuss the design concepts for the exterior finish of the facility's eastern facade. The three main elements identified for incorporation in the final design are:

- **greenery** (in the form of a living green wall)
- links to **indigenous history, maritime and cultural heritage**
- **colours and features** that **soften the building's appearance** and **harmonise with the surrounding area.**

Based on these elements, artists are being invited to produce final design concepts. A professional independent art advisory panel will then be assembled to provide their insights into the concepts produced by the artists and to select the final design. The **final design** will be **shared with the community later this year.**

## Next steps

Port Authority is committed to keeping residents and members of the Glebe Island and White Bay Community Liaison Group informed of progress throughout construction of the facility.

The next project update will be issued in June/July 2021 and will include details on:

- construction progress
- progress on the implemented Port Noise Policy
- an update on the facility's exterior appearance.

Contact us, find out more or for enquiries or complaints:

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