

# Clover Moore still fighting for Powerhouse stay

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April 10, 2019 1:49pm

Clover Moore has written to NSW Arts Minister Don Harwin requesting an urgent meeting about the future of Ultimo's Powerhouse Museum site.

Sydney's Lord Mayor said the \$645 million plan to move the facility to Parramatta would be a "tragic loss" to the city, and she had not lost hope of it staying put.

It comes after Mr Harwin on Wednesday revealed the move was a step closer, following the the State Government's acquisition of land on the banks of the Parramatta River, which would be turned into a new "arts and cultural precinct" and home to the Powerhouse.



An artist's impression of the Powerhouse Museum in Parramatta.

"We are so excited to be forging ahead with this amazing project that will deliver a spectacular new museum for families, industry and educational institutions," he said.

This was despite a damning Upper House parliamentary inquiry report released in February that called for the Ultimo site to be "restored to its former glory" and stated the government's business case for the move was "inadequate".

As part of the plan, the government announced in April 2018 a creative industries precinct, Lyric theatre and small museum would be built in place of the Powerhouse.



Arts Minister Don Harwin has doubled down on the controversial move.  
Picture: Brett Costello

The government is preparing a business case for that project and a funding announcement is expected later this year.

The project was opposed by Labor during the campaign for last month's NSW Election, who instead pledged to build a stand-alone "world class cultural" precinct in western Sydney.

Cr Moore said City of Sydney Council still opposed the move and she hoped to again push that case in a meeting with Mr Harwin.



Sydney Lord Mayor Clover Moore is not ready to give up the fight.

"We also support the expansion of cultural facilities in western and south western Sydney, but the two are not mutually exclusive," she said.

"The Powerhouse Museum is an important cultural institution, used by people of all ages, and its closure would be a tragic loss for the people of Sydney and for Ultimo.