

**JODI MCKAY MP
NSW LABOR LEADER**

**MASSIVE FLOODS AT PARRAMATTA:
MCKAY RENEWS CALLS ON
BEREJKLIAN TO ABANDON
POWERHOUSE**

Labor has renewed calls for the \$1.5 billion Powerhouse Museum relocation to Parramatta to be abandoned as Premier Gladys Berejiklian's chosen site is flooded due to heavy rains spilling into the Parramatta River.

Labor has also indicated it will support moves underway to resume the NSW Legislative Council's inquiry into the Powerhouse Museum relocation and its massive cost blow-outs. Last year, Labor resolved to support the new inquiry.

NSW Labor Leader, Jodi McKay said: "The Parramatta community has been warning for the last five years about how Ms Berejiklian's selected site is on a floodplain and today, we see that their predictions were 100 per cent correct."

"Gladys Berejiklian's plan to move fragile museum exhibits across town and onto a floodplain will put important cultural and heritage displays at risk of destruction from flood waters.

"It will also mean millions of dollars in additional flood mitigation costs. The project is already north of \$1.5 billion and the costs are rising.

"We've already seen cost blowout after cost blowout from Gladys Berejiklian's mismanaged projects."

Labor Shadow Arts Minister Walt Secord has described the Parramatta design as a “monstrosity on stilts”.

Gladys Berejiklian’s planned relocation would also mean the destruction of Parramatta heritage icon Willow Grove, built in the 1870s and used as a maternity hospital in the 1920s.

Ms McKay concluded saying: “Rather than going through the ridiculous expense of moving museum exhibits across Sydney, Labor believes Parramatta deserves its own new arts and cultural precinct. We would save Willow Grove and honour the treasure that it is.”

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