

# Flooding no cause for worry

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The burst Parramatta River

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Parramatta Wharf floods

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AUTHORITIES have been quick to quash growing concerns that the planned new Powerhouse museum will not be floodproof after the swollen Parramatta River burst its banks and threatened its construction site.

The basement carpark at the site flooded at the weekend but supporters of

the museum's move said concerns about its viability were not necessary.

Museum chief executive Lisa Havilah said construction of the museum would ensure the west's new major tourist drawcard would never be affected by flood.

"Flood mitigation is core to the design of Powerhouse Parramatta.

"The weekend's flood event, as it stands today, would have come nowhere near the museum ground level," Ms Havilah said.

"The safety of our visitors and our collection is our key priority."

An Infrastructure NSW spokeswoman added that water from the weekend rain wouldn't have come within 4m of the museum's ground floor.

"In fact, water would have only just entered the Museum's undercroft space, an area underneath the Museum's ground floor not used by the public that is built into the design to allow the passage of flood water," the spokeswoman said.