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M E D I A R E L E A S E

New maritime precinct for Rozelle Bay

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Planning approval has been granted for the redevelopment of the Rozelle Bay Superyacht Marina, securing its long term future as one of Australia's premier superyacht venues, Ports and Waterways Minister Joe Tripodi said today.

"Sydney hosts around 45 superyachts each year - upwards of 30 metres in length," Mr Tripodi said.

"We need to secure that market for the future. Approval for redevelopment of this marina will guarantee renewed investment and employment growth in this important maritime industry."

Mr Tripodi said the superyacht industry was worth about \$50 million annually in direct spending to the NSW economy.

"Under these approved plans there will be 24 superyacht berths, with larger vessels berthed near the eastern end of the marina increasing the available channel width for other watercraft activity," Mr Tripodi said.

"At any time there can only be up to three 70 metre vessels berthed at the marina. The new facility will have full public access with cafes and restaurants to encourage the public to visit the area.

"This development will support our marine industries – keeping the harbour alive, supporting our boating community while improving safety and access through better facilities."

Expressions of interest will be sought by the Government later this year.

"Rozelle Bay has a maritime industry heritage dating back more than 100 years and we want to promote that tradition," Mr Tripodi said.

The bay is currently used by a number of marine industry vessels, workboats, heritage vessels of the Sydney Heritage Fleet and powered and non-powered pleasure craft.

The bay is also home to a fleet of NSW Maritime patrol boats and has an 8 knot (15km/hr) /no-wash limit in place.

To coincide with the redesign of the Superyacht Marina, new safety and sharing controls will be introduced in the bay, including the speed limit being reduced to 4 knots (7km/hr) and the installation of high definition video cameras to monitor water traffic.

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