

MEDIA RELEASE

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Walker Corporation's 4 Parramatta Square wins Development of the Year at 2020 Development Excellence Awards

The winner of Urban Taskforce Australia's Development of the Year 2020 is Walker Corporation for their commercial office towers at 4 Parramatta Square.

Urban Taskforce CEO, Tom Forrest said the Walker Corporation development was at the heart of the transformation of Parramatta.

"The project represents a significant investment into the centre of Parramatta by the Walker Corporation. Parramatta Square is the new heart of Parramatta, located adjacent to the railway station, the transport interchange and directly connected by a pedestrian walkway to the transport hub. This is Transport oriented development at its best.

"Not only has this outstanding development lifted the precinct with a spectacular design, but it will accommodate thousands of public servants who will drive the transformation of the Parramatta CBD"

"4 Parramatta Square is a worthy winner of Development of the Year for 2020 as a quality commercial building that has taken a lead role in lifting Parramatta as a major focus for employment. The Urban Taskforce congratulates Walker Corporation for this well-deserved win", said, Mr Forrest said.

The Independent judging panel was chaired by former NSW Government Architect and former CEO of the Urban Taskforce, Chris Johnson.

Mr Johnson said this year's winner demonstrates how bold development undertaken with quality design and strong marketing can re-energise a whole city.

"4 Parramatta Square by Walker Corporation has become the jobs driver for the Central River City with it's fully leased, state of the art design and its role in creating a large public square next to Parramatta's transport hub.

"4 Parramatta Square was initially intended to be an apartment tower, but Walker Corporation decided to aim higher and changed the tower to an office building that demonstrated confidence in Parramatta's future as a high density, mixed use, urban city", Mr Johnson said.

The building's high-quality design is by JPW architects. It complements the public domain at ground level while also incorporating innovative office layouts on its upper floors. A number of NSW Government departments have located in the building that has interesting atrium spaces connecting different floors.

*The **Urban Taskforce Australia** is a property development industry group, representing Australia's most prominent property developers and equity financiers.*

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