

## ALEXANDRIA

# Plan for unit block beside park

## Six-storey residential development proposed



An artist's impression of the concept design of a proposed residential development on the edge of Sydney Park at Alexandria.

### Jim O'Rourke

A BID to build 450 apartments in a complex surrounded on three sides by Sydney Park will be examined by the city's peak planning body next week.

The \$185 million development proposal includes eight buildings up to six-storeys high on the southeastern side of the popular park. Property developer Hailiang

Property Group (HPG) Australia, controlled by billionaire Chinese industrialist Feng Hailiang, bought warehouse and office space along Euston Rd that it now wants to demolish to make way for the apartment blocks.

There will be no fences between the development and the public park. Local community group Friends of Erskineville said the 2.1ha development will change the character of the park.

A stage 1 development application, seeking approval of the general concept, is on the agenda for the Central Sydney Planning Committee meeting next Thursday.

HPG also wants its "Sydney Park Life" development to contain a mixture of units and terraces as well as shops

and offices, including supermarket, florist, barber shop, bakery and a small medical centre or a natural therapist.

In its marketing material, HPG is using the development's proximity to the public park, saying "residents and park visitors will be able to meander from one landscaped area to the other to bring new life to this under-utilised corner of the park," a media statement said.

Friends of Erskineville vice president Andrew Chuter said the land should be returned to the public as parkland.

"Along with the 60,000 cars a day coming along (Euston Rd) as a result of WestConnex, this would significantly alter the character of Sydney Park," Mr Chuter said.

