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Ooops! Developer fails to build two promised levels of underground parking

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The developer of the 72-level Vision apartments (the middle tower) failed to build two promised levels of underground parking. *Photo: Jason South*

The developer of a 72-level tower in central Melbourne that failed to build the underground car parking it pledged when plans were approved is being investigated for the breach.

The Brady Group did not provide two of the three levels of underground car parking promised, following the demolition of the 152-year-old Stork Hotel at 500 Elizabeth Street, opposite the Queen Victoria Market.

Melbourne City Council discovered two levels of basement parking were missing in Brady Group's [Vision apartments](#) this year, and is considering what enforcement action it can take against the developer.

"The developer has applied to the Minister for Planning to amend the plans to reflect its failure to build the two levels of car parking," a council spokesman said.

Despite not providing adequate below-ground parking, the apartment tower does have 10 levels of above-ground car spaces.

Norman Fay, a spokesman for the Brady Group, did not dispute the failure to provide the promised car parking levels.

Mr Fay said an application to make "minor changes" to the development permit was being considered by the planning department.

Brady Group had obtained a 2009 permit off then planning minister Justin Madden to build

the tower, with one level of underground parking, but later got an updated permit off Matthew Guy to proceed with three levels underground.

It is not clear who failed to check if the building adhered to the updated permit.

Mr Fay said the changes sought for the development included "reverting to a single-level basement".

The site of the Vision apartments was also [investigated by Victoria Police](#) in 2013 over the destruction of a large, established street tree worth \$42,000.

The plane tree, which had stood for years outside the Stork Hotel, was blocking advertising signs for the apartment project.



Illustration: Matt Golding

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