

Department of Planning and Environment 4 Parramatta Square, 12 Darcy Street Parramatta NSW 2124

SSD-10383
NCA/8/2019
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15 June 2023

**ATTN: Prity Cleary** 

## **COUNCIL SUBMISSION**

NOTICE OF EXHIBITION OF RESPONSE TO SUBMISSIONS REPORT FOR THE WESTMEAD CATHOLIC COMMUNITY EDUCATION CAMPUS (2 DARCY ROAD, WESTMEAD)

I refer to the above application and the request to provide advice on the proponent's RTS report. Council staff have reviewed this report and continue to **object** to the proposed changes to conditions as detailed below.

Council staff do not support the proposed deletion or amendment of conditions which remove the requirement for through site access for students and staff to the western boundary and beyond to Bridge Rd. Given the significant size of the block and the proposed intensification of the school, it is imperative that this access is maintained.

It is in the interests of the community and CSPD to increase the permeability of this site and to facilitate improved pedestrian and active transport links across Westmead. Improved connectivity is also necessary to address traffic congestion, which has long been identified as a key challenge in Westmead.

The provided Legal Advice states that: "In our view, the "Draft Westmead Place Strategy 2036" (which we understand has now been adopted by Council) should be given little weight in the determination of the Modification Application as it does not have any direct application to the WCC Site."

The Minister for Planning and Homes has adopted the Westmead Place Strategy and a Ministerial Direction under Section 9.1 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979. This direction requires development within the precinct to be consistent with the place strategy.<sup>1</sup>

Maintaining the conditions that require a through site link across the site is aligned with the Westmead Place Strategy in the following ways:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Westmead Place Strategy | Planning Portal - Department of Planning and Environment (nsw.gov.au)

- A well connected city Direction 1: Evolve Westmead to be a truly connected 30-minute city by leveraging new transport connections and improving existing networks within the Precinct, GPOP and neighbouring centres.
- A well-connected city Direction 2: Encourage initiatives towards a safe walking and
  cycling city that is centred on pedestrian and cycleway connections that link to wider
  regional networks and surrounding places of interest
- Sub-precinct 2 (where the WCC site is located): Improve permeability and wayfinding through a new street grid with a focus on establishing clear sightlines within the precinct.

Council does not agree to the deletion of the following conditions:

- F1 This condition is not deleted.
- F2 This condition is not deleted.

Council does not agree to the alteration of conditions as follows:

- B1(b) No change to this condition
- B1(a) 'western boundary of the site' is not replaced with 'primary school'
- E4(b) 'western boundary of the site' is not replaced with 'primary school'

## Conclusion

It is noted that this is the recommendation of Council officers, and this submission has not been endorsed at a Council meeting.

Should you wish to discuss the above matters, please contact Paul Sartor on the details listed above.

Yours sincerely

Myfanwy McNally

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**CITY SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT MANAGER**