

Submissions Received (to Council) re: MP 07_0166

1. Tuesday 6th March:

I am an owner/resident in Lucinda Avenue, Wahroonga and I understand that the Seventh Day Adventist Church is proposing to build a multi-storey apartment complex on the property adjoining the Adventist Hospital and School.

I am extremely concerned about the impact of such a development on the traffic-flow along Fox Valley Road, extending to the surrounding streets. I drive in this area every morning and afternoon and in recent years the traffic has increased enormously due to the development surrounding the Hospital. I have observed that the Hospital staff are having to park a kilometre or so from their workplace, resulting in residential owners being denied parking spaces outside their homes.

The peaceful nature of our area has already been greatly disturbed. Any further development will add to such disturbance and create a dangerous traffic nightmare.

The Adventists have a motto - "Caring for the Community". What a joke!!

For the above reasons, I strongly object to the proposed development.

Yours sincerely,

2. 23 February

I was able to compose the key points of this email at 6am today, as I lay awakened by the traffic noise from Fox Valley Road and Lucinda Avenue.

Over the past 5 years we've noticed a significant increase in traffic on both these roads, and the thought of increasing this further with 5 lots of 5-storey residential building developments adjacent to the Sydney Adventist Hospital is concerning.

I understand we need more medium and high density housing, but to locate it that far from the stations of the northern Line or North Shore train lines seems irresponsible planning.

With the indifferent bus service along FVR (25 minute wait for a bus home last night), and the already aggravating numbers of single occupancy cars along FVR, putting a housing development in this location is simply an invitation for how many thousand more motorists to travel these same roads daily ?

Already I observe a number of motorists unwilling to share the roads; the numbers of motorists who simply will not stop for pedestrians, including the elderly and school children, is infuriating. Motorists driving aggressively around cyclists. Introducing more commuters and more parents doing the school run along these roads will necessitate proper actual pedestrian crossings and perhaps lights at some intersections to ensure the rights and safety of those of us crossing FVR daily.

If you want to introduce more housing to a currently quieter area of the suburb, you're going to have to think about better alternatives than expecting those residents to drive everywhere. We need alternatives to move greater numbers of people, not greater numbers of cars.

Traffic and safety of other road users is also impacted by the numbers of people (residents and workers) along FVR who expect to use public roads for the storage of their private vehicle. Residents

have no excuse; from my observation there is not a single home along FVR which doesn't at least have a driveway they could park in, even accommodating multiple vehicles per household.

The issue of the (presumably hospital, school and Sanitarium) workers who dominate on-street parking closer to the hospital and spilling over into nearby residential streets is different; I gather the Hospital and Sanitarium charge for parking even for staff.

On the one hand I understand the costs of building and maintaining a hospital carpark have to be recouped, those are funds which should be spent on patient care not subsidising people who choose to drive everywhere.

I also understand many staff are on shifts not compatible with bus timetables, or travel long distances to work which would necessitate multiple public transport changes.

Again with the infrequent bus timetables and the seeming lack of bus driver concern about synchronising with the local train timetables I really do feel for these workers.

I don't know what the answer is, but it shouldn't be to force or even passively encourage people to drive in single occupancy cars and expect rate-payer subsidised parking.

It would be a wonderful opportunity to actually restrict on-road parking and use the public space currently taken up by private vehicle storage for a separate and safe cycle lane along FVR.

I'd like to see kids cycling to local schools again, instead of being dropped off by motorists during peak hour, I'd like to see people comfortable cycling to Thornleigh, Warrawee or Turramurra stations to catch the train, instead of the drive/park or even drive/drop-off culture which has been exacerbated by recent timetable changes reducing the frequency of services to the smaller, but closer & within walking distance stations.

I'd like to see more adults take advantage of share bikes, and feeling safe enough to use their own bikes along FVR, instead of the footpaths, which I absolutely do not blame them for wanting to use.

If you incorporated safe and separate cycling infrastructure between these proposed developments and the closest shops at Thornleigh, and the stations at Thornleigh, Warrawee and Turramurra you could see not only these residents taking advantage of the bike paths and not increasing traffic, but also existing residents using them and perhaps an overall drop in local traffic. I know my household would use it, and not just for the weekly commute, but to get groceries and run weekend errands.

It would be an exciting point of difference for a new development, and it would mark KMC out as a progressive council able to tackle multiple issues of congestion, pollution, noise control, and to help combat our rising obesity and health crisis. I understand there's a similar proposal on the lower north shore where a development is working with council to put in a separated bike path to the closest train station, hoping again to avoid increased local road traffic once new residents move in. What a fantastic selling point !

I'd buy an apartment in a development like that.

3. 3rd March

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I am concerned that the Residential development plans for the building of 5x5 story apartment blocks adjacent to Sydney Adventist Hospital and behind the Wahroonga Adventist School will have a huge impact to the area in the following ways.

*It would cause major traffic congestion on Fox Valley Road, The Comenarra Parkway, Lucinda and Ada Avenues and all local connected local streets and intersections as they roads can hardly cope as it is

*It would cause parking congestion along the streets mentioned and connected streets. Development will further decrease parking for school and Hospital forcing hundreds of workers vehicles onto local streets.

*Further pollution, run off and erosion in Coups Creek gully.

*High rise development impacting the leafy suburban outlook.

*Noise pollution with the increase in local population.

I hope you will consider these concerns of the residents living around this neighbourhood.

Regards,

4. 22nd February

Council Officers

I wish to raise my concerns over the proposed development and received a public notice from residents.

Currently there is lack of infrastructure and any increase of vehicles cannot be tolerated by the residents in this area. It is bad as it is.

Further to this the roads were never designed to account for an increased traffic load. Noise is also another impact.

There is no parking in fox valley road as it is, this would need to be addressed by the Council in any submission.

If required a traffic survey would be required and addressed by the Council.

5. 27 February

Dear Sir

I would like to lodge my objection to the proposed building development planned behind the Wahroonga Adventist School and adjacent to the Sydney

Adventist Hospital for the purpose of erecting blocks of Apartments on the following grounds.

Major traffic congestion on Fox Valley RD., The Comenarra Parkway. Lucinda Ave and Ada Ave and all the local connected streets and intersections.

The traffic is already impossible to manage and Street parking is becoming dangerous especially to the Schoolchildren and a tragedy would be unavoidable.

Further pollution,run off and erosion in the Coups Creek Gully.

Noise pollution with the increase in Local Population.

High rise development impacting the lovely leafy suburban outlook that we enjoy in Wahroonga thus destroying the local native bird population.

I strongly oppose this development.

Sincerely

6. 7 March

I'm writing to express my strong opposition to any further building development at and or adjacent to the Sydney Adventist Hospital corner of Fox Valley Road and The Comenarra Pkwy, Wahroonga.

Having been a local resident here on Lucinda Avenue for over 10 years, I have experienced the traffic congestion around the area go from bad to worse as a direct result of the recently developed expansion of the Sydney Adventist Hospital.

Traffic congestion at peak times is atrocious with completely insufficient parking for staff and visitors to the hospital both onsite, around the hospital and along local roads. Adding that the currently developing Medical Centre and High School will put further strains on traffic congestion in the area.

I also have serious concerns regarding pollution to local environmentally sensitive forests and bush lands around the proposed site. I often enjoy walking through these areas. Any further pollution to these areas must be avoided.

Thank you and best regards,

END OF PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS