

Mr Glenn Townend  
SPD President  
148 Fox Valley Road

8/100 Browns Rd  
Wahroonga  
NSW 2076

26 May 2018

Dear Mr Townend

I have been given a copy of your letter to the parents of the Adventist school regarding the proposed development of 5 blocks of units within the Wahroonga Estate. I would like to make some comments on that letter, in the absence of any such letter or explanation being given to local residents.

You say that the Concept Plan was approved in 2010, eight years ago. It was indeed approved by the then Planning Minister Sartor, who also approved a similar plan for the Catherine Hill Bay project, the basis for which approval drew adverse comment from Justice David Lloyd of the Land and Environment Court ("the Minister was enamoured of a land bribe exchange"). The same could/ should have been said of this decision.

Maybe I am confused, but my understanding of a Concept Plan is just that- it is a concept, and is not (pardon the expression) set in concrete. In any event, that approval could not possibly have taken into account the changes in population growth, traffic and new building developments which would be in place 10 years later. Had this been known, I am sure that approval would have been withheld.

You are correct in saying that some of the developments to date, in particular the extension to the hospital, have been of great benefit to the community. You would also be correct if you had said that the community has supported the church, school and hospital throughout the last 10 years. However, what you do not seem to understand, despite media comment and hundreds of other comments, letters and emails, is that this support is now very much in jeopardy because of your unwillingness or inability to listen to the community. If you lose this support now, it is very unlikely that it would be regained in the future when the full effects of the development are evident. Because your proposals do NOT (your comment) "take into account the needs of the community".

We are all aware that you currently have a huge debt, which you need to reduce. What you don't seem to grasp is that your organisation **got itself** into this situation. Whilst you see the building of all these units (a commercial enterprise by a charitable organisation) as a solution to your problem, the community strongly objects on the basis that in solving your problem in this way, you would create a myriad of problems for us. In short, we are to pay the price of resolving your financial difficulties. You conveniently forget that we have already suffered several years of increased traffic, parking of trucks and vehicles belonging to hospital staff and visitors in our streets and endless dust and noise, without complaint. But we are now telling you now that enough is enough!

Yours is a charitable organisation. The law currently exempts you from paying most of the rates and taxes which are paid by residents in this area. We pay to maintain the roads in which your staff and patients are parking. They park here because of the high cost of parking in the hospital car parks. At any other major hospital there is little need for parking because public transport is excellent and at the door, so you cannot compare their parking costs against those charged here.

So may I, with respect, suggest that you have a good hard think about the risks you will take if you go ahead with this project. Not just in terms of community support, but also in terms of creating traffic chaos and increased danger to the community in times of bushfires.

Yours sincerely

Patricia H White