

Memo to: Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure
From: N I Fisher
Re: Application No. MP10_0150-Mod-4
Shore School Graythwaite - Concept Plan Mod 2 and Project Mod 4
Date: 30 November 2024

By email to Bethany.Lane@dpie.nsw.gov.au

We object to the proposal in its current form. There are two reasons for this.

1. There is no provision for off-site parking for students.

There has been an ongoing problem for people living in close proximity to Shore School, and that relates to parking behaviour and driving behaviour of Shore Students. I confine my comments to Bank Street, North Sydney, where I live, but I daresay the same comments apply to several other streets nearby.

Bank Street has limited parking for residents, which is even less than a few years ago because a number of residents (mainly on the eastern side of the street) have installed one- or two-car garages. Most properties do not have off-street parking so have to park on the street. Whilst there is some protection through limited hours for non-residents parking on the eastern side, there are insufficient spaces to accommodate all residents. Further, there is pressure from the numerous trades-people who need to visit. However, in school holiday periods, the parking is just adequate.

Such is not the case when school is in session:

- Boarders arrive at the weekend and park their cars on the western side of the street for the whole working week.
- Other students fill up whatever spaces they can, early in the morning. Indeed, a number of them use the 2-hour spaces on the eastern side and rely on dashing out to move their cars.

A separate issue relates to their driving behaviour. Some students are well-behaved and drive carefully, in a street that is so narrow that cars cannot pass and have to pull aside should a car be approaching from the opposite direction. Unfortunately, others behave differently. They have only recently gained their driving licenses, a number of them have quite sporty cars, and they drive recklessly fast, being too inexperienced to realise they hazards that they pose for local residents.

And this is the *current* state of affairs. Now we are being faced with a 45% increase in the number of students clamouring for parking spaces. The proposed development needs to contain a provision for where students can park their cars – either on the school campus or somewhere else that does not have this very significant and deleterious impact on the local residents.

2. The proposal fails to address an ongoing hazard associated with cars exiting the school at the eastern-most gate on Union Street.

Via its web site, I contacted Shore School about this matter some weeks ago, and subsequently received a courteous call from a Shore officer to ask me about it. However, nothing has been done.

There is a real hazard to pedestrians walking along Union Street on the northern side, particularly for people walking in an easterly direction. There is no instruction at the gate, telling drivers to halt before crossing the footpath. As a consequence, drivers tend to shoot out the gate without pausing, have a quick glance to the right to check for oncoming traffic, and then turn left (compulsory). A mirror gives them some indication that pedestrians may be approaching from their left, should they bother to check it, but it has been my observation that this rarely happens. It's a case of: *Pedestrian, beware!* I had made my earlier contact in relation to this after nearly being hit myself.

The argument that “nothing has happened so far” is totally inadmissible. It should not take a fatality or serious injury before something is done to address what is clearly a hazard. And with the additional onsite parking, this hazard will increase.

We ask that these two issues be addressed in good faith in a revision.

- We have not made any reportable political donations in the last two years.
- We accept the department's disclaimer and declaration.

Yours faithfully,



for Nicholas and Lila Fisher
9 Bank Street, North Sydney NSW 2060