

21/06/2010

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The Director, Government Land
& Social Projects
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Sydney NSW 2001
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RE: Objection to Application MP 06_0267 MOD 6

Dear Sir/Madam,

I write to you on behalf of my uncle Hanna Nasr, Land Title holder and resident of 181 George Street Redfern since the 1960's.

We the residents of 181 George Street have been supportive of the concept/proposal of the National Indigenous Centre for Excellence since construction and believed that the centre is of great benefit to the local and broader community. In fact I hold a membership card and I believe that the concept is ideal.

However, since construction began at the old Redfern Public School the level of commitment and respect shown by the Sydney City Council and the Centre towards the residents of George Street has left a lot to be desired.

Prior to the proposal for the centre being put forward the parking restrictions on the western side of George Street directly outside the School was restricted to 2 hour parking for non-residents without a permit from 8am -8pm. The parking restrictions were changed to 'construction zone' during the building phase and now the parking has reverted to non-restricted all-day parking.

Why didn't council prioritise parking availability for the residents of George Street?

Why didn't the centre include a car park for users given the extensive and vast area of land the site occupies?

Parking has become a shambles since construction and has become even worse since the opening. One neighbour was fined for double parking whilst unloading shopping bags from his vehicle. I'm not sure how this is fair on the residents, particularly having to pay a premium every year to have an Area 41 sticker.

We have two elderly residents in our household that cannot walk long distances yet find it a constant challenge walking to and from the car to the house. It has got to the point that whenever a trip is required by motor vehicle we are trying to consolidate our chores such as trips to doctors and shops into one trip. Is this a fair deal for the

residents? In fact I feel somewhat trapped in my home, because if I take my car anywhere between 7.30am – 9 pm I'm guaranteed to come back and find no where to park my car. The weekends have also become a major problem. This has caused people to squeeze in to tiny spots continually hitting the bumper of the cars in front and behind them, just for the sake of parking their vehicle. Last night I arrived home to see a car parked no more than 5cm from my car and the same distance from the car in front of it. This raises the continual question of how did they possible get in to that spot without hitting both cars.

The level of noise coming from the centre has become excessive and very annoying to the residents. Increased noise emanating from loud music, belches from members of the gym, people congregating on the footpath talking loudly, people bouncing basketballs on the street outside the centre, people honking motor vehicle horns to acknowledge people as they leave the centre.

The level of litter on the street has also increased substantially since the centre opened. The increased litter is directly attributable to people visiting the centre and dumping refreshment cans/bottles on the footpaths and other condiments purchased within the centre or pre purchased and bought to the centre.

For the reasons listed above, we the residents of 181 George Street Redfern strongly and collectively object to this proposal for extended hours of operation of the EORA Sports, Arts and Recreation Centre.

We feel that the lack of internal on-site customer parking was a major oversight in this otherwise amazing and much needed community centre.

As a suggestion, can the entrance be moved to the Renwick Street cul-de-sac laneway and that you include/incorporate parking on your property at the rear of the football oval?

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Rebecca Nasr', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Rebecca Nasr