Guide Dogs NSW/ACT ABN 52 000 399 744

2-4 Thomas Street Chatswood NSW 2067 Telephone (02) 9412 9300 Facsimile (02) 9412 9399

To write to us please use this address: PO Box 1965 North Sydney NSW 2059 Patron

Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC Governor of New South Wales

Full member

International Guide Dog Federation

www.guidedogs.com.au



Through Mobility Comes Independence



15th February 2013

Department of Planning Received 2 6 FEB 2013 Scanning Room

Major Projects Assessment Department of Planning & Infrastructure GPO Box 39 Sydney NSW 2001

Application No: MP09_0066MOD 6

Location: Thomas Street Car Park Site, Chatswood

SUBMISSION BY OWNER AND RESIDENT OF PROPERTY 2-4 THOMAS STREET CHATSWOOD

Guide Dogs NSW/ACT is the owner of property 2- 4 Thomas Street, Chatswood and conducts its main source of business from these premises. This business is a Registered Charity and we conduct fundraising activities and client service delivery from this site.

Our clients are vision impaired and many also have mobility impairment. Clients regularly visit our premises for the purpose of assessment and consultation.

The proposed modification application raises serious concerns for the safety and welfare of our clients and staff and we object to the proposal.

1. Increased population density

We believe that the proposed changes to this site which will result in a greater number of residents as opposed to commercial tenants that primarily leave the site 6pm and are not in on the weekends will directly impact the local vehicular and pedestrian traffic in the immediate area.

2. Increased requirement for car parking spaces

With a greater number of residents occupying these premises, the additional demand for car parking will seriously affect the clients that visit our site. There is very little street parking available now, this will surely get worse.

3. Lane Ways not adequate

Albert, Fleet and Thomas Lanes are not adequate for the current traffic flow which results in various bottlenecks and blind spots. We can only see

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this getting worse and once again stress our requirement for safe and well marked thoroughfares for our clients.

4. Security of our premises

Due to the huge increase in population in such a condensed area we have concerns regarding the security of our premises, our vehicles and our personnel. Vandalism is already an issue in this area and we have alerted Chatswood Police on previous occasions when this has occurred. We are continually re-painting the building exterior to cover over graffiti and removing rubbish - alcohol bottles, food containers and other materials left behind on our property by trespassers. Each time we put out our recycle bins for collection miscellaneous items appear in these bins obviously from passers by or nearby residents.

5. Environmental Impact

We have grave concerns about the environmental impact being created by 3 new developments at the same time and their associated construction works surrounding our building. We have already been seriously impacted to the point of having to seek compensation from one of the developers.

10. Community

It is our view that the local Chatswood area does not provide enough social and community services to adequately cater for more new residents in this development along with all the other new residential developments taking place.

We think it is highly inappropriate to change the purpose of use and the dimensions after approval has already been given for this development.

Yours faithfully

Nick Shaw

Chief Financial Officer

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