

24 August 2022

TfNSW reference: STH13/00127/04

Your reference: SSD-30240120

Department of Planning and Environment

By Email: [Ingrid.Berzins@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Ingrid.Berzins@planning.nsw.gov.au)

Attention: Ingrid Berzins

**SSD-30240120 – Wollongong Private Hospital Extension – 15, 17, 19 and 21 Urunga Parade and 360-364, 366 and 368 Crown Street, WOLLONGONG**

Dear Ingrid,

Transport for NSW (TfNSW) is responding to the request for advice in relation to the State Significant Development (SSD) application referred on 20 July 2022.

TfNSW has reviewed the information, and it does not support the proposed development in its current form. Transport's reasons are set out in Attachment 1.

If you have any questions, Steven Yuan, Development Services Case Officer, on 02 9983 2596 or email [development.south@transport.nsw.gov.au](mailto:development.south@transport.nsw.gov.au).

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "S. Yuan".

**Steven Yuan**

Development Case Officer, Development Services

**SSD-30240120 – Wollongong Private Hospital Extension – 15, 17, 19 and 21 Urunga Parade and 360-364, 366 and 368 Crown Street, WOLLONGONG**

**Context**

TfNSW notes for this SSD:

- The key state road is Crown Street;
- The proposed arrangements in the Transport and Accessibility Impact Assessment (May 2022) by Traffix and the SIDRA files that were forwarded to TfNSW on 9 August 2022;
- The development proposes new carparking (164 spaces for a total of 465 spaces), ambulance bays, a new access at Urunga Parade and a new drop-off area near this access;
- The subject site includes Lot 2 DP1212955 (the existing hospital), Lots A & B DP343680, Lots 9 & 47 Sec 1 DP5507, Lot CP and 1-4 SP73256 and Lot D DP402234; and
- TfNSW has no proposal that requires any part of the subject site.

**Assessment**

Transport for NSW (TfNSW) has reviewed the referred SSD information and does not support this development for the following reasons:

- TfNSW is concerned that the proposed access arrangements at Crown Street may inhibit ambulance responses and arrivals. The access will be shared with the general public wishing to use the car park or the drop-off area, which means that there is the potential for bottlenecks in high demand periods. Consequently, vehicle queues could prevent ambulances from timely leaving or arriving at the site. Delayed departure or arrival could have severe health implications for affected patients.

TfNSW acknowledges that a management system will be implemented to ensure a clear passage for ambulances that includes warning lights, a boom gate and clear zones. However, TfNSW believes that having ambulances share the same access with the general public may create a congestion risk at this location.

TfNSW also acknowledges and is willing to consult with the proponent on adjusting the traffic signal phasing to ensure that ambulances have priority and can leave the site instantaneously.

TfNSW strongly recommends that DPE refer this application to the ambulance department within NSW Health to adequately consider these proposed access arrangements.

- Vehicles are unable to re-enter the carpark from the drop-off area near Crown Street. This is likely to create significant volumes of additional traffic on the state road network because vehicles would need to return back on to Crown Street and re-enter the private hospital at the Urunga Parade entry or re-enter at the Crown Street entry. This drop-off area is closer to the emergency department which would make it the preferred drop off area for people who require more urgent medical attention. Currently, vehicles are able to enter the carpark directly from the drop-off area through an internal access point which will be closed off.

TfNSW notes that there is another drop-off area which is closer to specialist medical suites near the Urunga Parade access. It is not known whether vehicles will need to pay to access this drop-off area for a short period. If payment is required, this would deter vehicles from using this drop-off area.

### **Additional comments**

TfNSW has identified the following areas that relate to the environmental and network impacts.

1. The proponent will need to demonstrate to the satisfaction of TfNSW that the excavation adjacent to Crown Street will comply with TfNSW Technical Direction GTD 2012/001 – Excavation adjacent to TfNSW infrastructure.

Notes: This will be required prior to construction certificate. To seek Transport for NSW concurrence to the technical direction, email [development.south@transport.nsw.gov.au](mailto:development.south@transport.nsw.gov.au) with the geotechnical compliance report and any other supporting reports and plans

2. Vehicles should be encouraged towards using the Urunga Parade access. Measures to achieve this could involve:
  - Signposting that direct traffic to this access. Discussions with Council or TfNSW will be required, depending on the location of the signage.
  - Encouraging access from the Urunga Parade access, in particular for specialist service patients, via the private hospital website and information pamphlets.
3. Crown Street is one of the more utilised cycling and pedestrian routes locally according to Strava mapping and is flagged as a future bicycle connection by Wollongong City Council. TfNSW recommends bicycle storage options such as hoops be added on the Crown Street frontage to support bicycle trips.
4. The right turn restriction at the Crown Street access to the hospital that prevents right turns from Crown Street westbound will be retained.