

Karen Harragon
Director, School and Infrastructure Assessments
Department of Planning and Environment
Locked Bag 5022
Parramatta NSW 2124

01 June 2022

Dear Ms Harragon

New High School in Jerrabomberra (SSD-24461956)
Response to request for additional information

I refer to your letter dated 23 May 2022 requesting additional information in relation to the New High School in Jerrabomberra, generally in response to parking issues raised by Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council (Council) and comments by Transport for NSW (TfNSW).

School Infrastructure NSW (SINSW) on behalf of the Department of Education (DoE) has engaged with Council regarding the provision of on-street car parking, and explored additional opportunities for on-street car parking in the northern stub road and also within the bus bay adjacent Envriona Drive. As a result, Council has withdrawn its objection to parking-related issues. SINSW met with Council on 24 May 2022, and Council subsequently confirmed via email that it has withdrawn its objection (see email dated 26 May 2022 submitted previously to the Department of Planning and Environment under separate cover).

The key outcomes of the 24 May meeting with Council were:

- DoE commit to providing a minimum of 5 on-street parking spaces along the northern stub road and will endeavour to maximise the number of spaces (up to 7 may be possible based on current consultant advice). Refer to **Attachment A** for a plan mark-up discussed with Council that shows where these spaces will be located.
- DoE agree to enter into discussions with Council regarding joint use of David Madew Oval and associated car park.
- DoE agree to the use of the bus bay for parking outside of school zone times, noting the need to accommodate excursion buses within the bus bay.

Council recognise that further on-street parking could be provided by the developer of the 'South Poplars Innovation Precinct' (Poplars) as part of a future stub road extension. DoE will continue to consult with Regional NSW on the South Jerrabomberra Regional Jobs Precinct Draft Master Plan, particularly in relation to extending the existing stub road to link to the South Poplars Stage 2 development area and that a suitable level of on-street and off-street parking be provided as part of that development.

Please find following a response to the issues raised in your letter.

1. Student car parking

As evidenced by the Council email of 26 May 2022, it is noted that Council no longer objects to any parking-related matters.

As a matter of policy, DoE seeks to minimise on-site parking for new school developments as part of an effort to increase sustainable travel mode shares and reduce the use of private vehicles.

DoE will finalise the School Transport Plan in consultation with Council and TfNSW. The objective of the plan is to support students to walk, cycle or take a bus to access the school, with the self-drive option discouraged. Therefore, not providing parking for students, but providing active transport facilities and bus access options, supports this transport vision and objective.

However, any remnant student parking demand will be met through a combination of existing on-street parking in the area, future on-street parking along the stub road extension, and potentially parking in the David Madew Oval carpark (DoE seeks to enter into discussions with Council regarding joint use of the oval and carpark).

Regarding DPE's concerns about the school catchment area, DoE notes that the catchment area for the proposed high school is preliminary and is subject to change. Nonetheless, the project team considers that sufficient on-street parking will be provided for students as agreed with Council.

2. Visitor car parking

To reiterate, Council no longer objects to any parking-related matters. Visitors to the school will be able to utilise surrounding on-street parking including:

- The 7 car parking spaces located on the southern side of the stub road in the 'kiss 'n drop' zone outside the designated no parking hours of 8:00 am–9:30 am and 2:30 pm–4:00 pm Monday–Friday.
- The minimum 5 parallel parking spaces that will be provided on the northern side of the stub road.
- Parking within the bus bay adjacent Environa Drive (outside of school zone times).

Note that school grounds must be safe for all students, staff and visitors. Parking areas may be available for use by visitors at the discretion of the principal.

I trust this information enables DPE to finalise its assessment of the application and issue draft conditions.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned or Sarah Kelly on 0419 125 237.

Yours sincerely,



Lachlan MacDonald
Senior Project Director
School Infrastructure NSW

Attachments –

Attachment A: Plan mark-up showing stub road parking