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01 February 2018

Peter McManus  
Social and Other Infrastructure Projects  
Department of Planning and Environment  
320 Pitt St  
Sydney NSW 2000



Dear Peter,

**Re: Response to GANSW review of SSD 8372, Smalls Road Public School Development Application.**

We are pleased to be advised of the general support for our proposal for the new school at Smalls Road, Ryde as described in the letter from the Government Architect NSW, dated 18 December 2018. We note the recommendations listed and provide the following response.

GA Recommendation	CG Response/Commentary
Demonstrate the response to the Education SEPP Design Quality Principles with reference to the GANSW Design Guide for Schools document.	Design Verification Statement provided (dated 1 February 2018).
Provide an integrated landscape plan and greater detail on the landscape design including landscape treatments to fenced boundaries to improve and soften presentation to the public realm, clarification of quantity, species and location of proposed new tree planting to replace those that are to be removed, design intent for play areas external to the courtyard, and location of bike parking facilities.	Refer additional documentation provided; <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Landscape design presentation</li><li>- Amended Landscape drawings;<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>DA-01-DA-LA-007-B</li><li>DA-01-DA-LA-008-B</li><li>DA-01-DA-LA-009-B</li><li>DA-01-DA-LA-010-B</li><li>DA-01-DA-LA-018-A</li></ul></li></ul> The landscape proposal is in line with DoE design guidelines with respect to planting adjacent perimeter fencing.

GA Recommendation	CG Response/Commentary
Provide further detail on how shading will be provided to the Northern and Western facades.	Integrated shading fins are provided to windows on the upper levels. The fins are accommodated within deep window reveals that help shade the interior spaces from excessive heat gain during summer while allowing winter sun to access the building. Shading studies will be finalised during DD to confirm final positioning and extent.
Develop a wayfinding proposal for the new building and external spaces, including a design approach to the school entrances that ensure they are welcoming, inviting and relate to the design approach for the school more broadly.	The school entry sign has been designed to meet Department of Education design guidelines. Localised wayfinding strategies will be further developed in the detailed design phase of the project. Wayfinding designs will be in accordance with the Department of Education guidelines.
Review the design approach to the building elevations to more appropriately reflect the boldness and playfulness of the plan diagram.	Comments regarding the desire for review of the façade detailing to reflect the playful and bold planning approach are noted. During the detailing and documentation stages of the project we will further develop the cladding and detailing strategies to further pursue the playful nature of the development.
Further development of the courtyard landscape plans to address overshadowing during winter months.	Comments are noted and the landscape design will consider solar access during the winter months through review of dense vegetated areas and appropriate selection of planting species.
Review material and detailing of the façade with a view to establishing an approach that retains the curve, rather than a faceted outcome.	Extensive early research into the buildability and cost impacts of a curved versus a faceted faced were undertaken and review with the Department of Education and technical stakeholders. For a variety of reasons it has been established that a faceted construction is preferred.
Demonstrate on plan the widths of pathways, stairs, circulation spaces, etc. with a view to providing circulation spaces and pathways that are accessible, generous and architecturally pleasing.	Detail development of circulation spaces is ongoing. Equitable access will be provided where required throughout, in accordance with relevant codes and standards.

**GA Recommendation****CG Response/Commentary**

Provide plans, sections and elevations of the proposal at no less than 1:200 showing furniture layout options for typical spaces to demonstrate flexibility.

Extensive research and workshopping with the Project Reference Group and technical stakeholders has been engaged to develop spaces that can cater to a variety of pedagogical needs. This collaborative process will continue through the remainder of the project to ensure that flexibility is maintained.

Site and context plans that demonstrate active transport strategies and linkages with existing, proposed and potential footpaths, bicycle paths and public transport links

Please refer to traffic and green travel reports.

Site plans and operational statement demonstrating the afterhours and community use strategy.

Please refer to Department of Education Community Use Policy.

A physical material samples board (no larger than A3) with correct proportional representation of internal and external materials

Available on request of the Department of Planning and Environment.

Detailed annotated wall sections at 1:20 scale that demonstrate typical cladding, window and door details, including materials and general construction quality.

Development of detailed construction drawings is currently being undertaken. These drawings can be issued at the end of the DD phase if required.

A summary record of consultation with the school community.

Please refer to Consultation Outcomes Report.

Regards,



Lawrence Toaldo  
Director  
Registered Architect NSW 10255