



11 March, 2019

## Submission in relation to Proposed Redevelopment of Greenwich Hospital (Concept Proposal)

We are writing on behalf of the Greenwich Public School Parents and Citizens Association about the proposed Redevelopment of Greenwich Hospital.

Greenwich Public School Primary school campus is situated on River Road, directly opposite the Hospital and is the Hospital's main neighbour along the River Road frontage.

Our chief concern is for student safety. We note that based on the Traffic and Parking Impact Assessment (p18), the number of cars entering and exiting the hospital will more than double. We believe this creates significant safety issues for our children.

### **Increased safety concerns around School's River Road entrance**

Increasing the number of cars slowing, stopping, turning, entering and exiting the hospital at this junction will exacerbate an already hazardous environment.

1. The School's River Road entrance, located directly across from the River Rd entrance into the Hospital, is one of the two exits from the school and is used as a pickup point after school. It is also where children cross the road to catch the bus. This is already a congested and potentially hazardous environment after school, with many parents, students and teachers, a narrow footpath and a busy road. There have been a number of close incidents in the past few years and concerns about the risks involved are consistently on the minds of parents and teachers. It is a topic regularly raised at our P&C meetings.
2. The eastern side of entrance #2 on River Road has no landing area which means children walking along River Road footpath are on the road before they realise it. At present children cross here without any real expectation of traffic entering or exiting the hospital – an increase in traffic at this entrance will create more risk for these children.
3. Student numbers at Greenwich Public School continue to grow and are expected to have doubled by 2032. This will increase the number of students using River Rd as a drop off / pick up point. With the hospital redevelopment creating increased road traffic at this point, the issue of student safety should be factored into the planning as a priority but is not mentioned in the submission.

Our recommendations:

- student safety is prioritised and explicitly addressed by the plan
- the phasing of the traffic lights at entrance #1 be reviewed



- a landing area is introduced at entrance #2 and consideration be given to closing this entrance during pick up / drop off times
- a dedicated pick up / drop off zone be introduced on the north side of River Rd, adjacent to the school's southern entrance

**Increased risk to students walking along St Vincents Road.**

Pedestrian safety along this road is already a significant concern. Increase in traffic along this road will make this more dangerous.

1. Greenwich Public School operates from two sites – one on River Rd and the other on Greenwich Road. St Vincents Road is the main pedestrian route between the two school sites and is used by large numbers of primary aged students who walk between the sites for school events, as well as to and from their homes, often, often unaccompanied.
2. The junction between St Vincents Road and River Road is already extremely dangerous and there have been a number of traffic incidents involving pedestrians (including at least one fatality), some of which have included students. This issue will be exacerbated by the proposed development and we have serious concerns on the traffic impacts.

Our recommendations:

- the southern junction of River Rd / St Vincents Rd be made a left in, left out
- traffic calming measures be introduced on St Vincents Rd

**Concerns about Tree Removal**

Greenwich Public School occupies a bushland setting and seeks to impart a positive environmental message to students. We were disappointed to see that the development involves the removal of more than 50 mature trees with no plans for these trees to be replaced.

We recommend that the number of mature trees being removed is reduced and that additional planting is required to ensure the retention of the native bush.

Hopefully you will be able to address the points raised above.

Yours sincerely,

*Vice* President, School Council

President, P&C

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A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Sam'.