

## Submission to Major Projects - Wiegall Sports Complex

Dear Sir/Madam,

I object to this proposal as it appears to be designed to exacerbate existing problems for residents, while ignoring alternative approaches that would minimise the local harm. My reasons for objecting are:

1. Like many local residents who drive in from the city, I turn right from Williams Street into Nield Avenue and then turn left into Lawson Street to reach the lower part of Glenmore Road. As Nield Avenue is the only right turn available off William Street, it is a major one way thoroughfare for residents and is bounded by the Weigall Sports Grounds on one side and commercial buildings/apartments on the other.

At Sydney Grammar prep' school pick up and drop off times parent's cars are commonly backed up along Lawson Street (waiting to turn into Alma) and onto Glenmore Road, effectively completely blocking this route to all through traffic. I am aware that residents have complained about this to the school for many years and the school has not taken any actions (that I am aware of) to reduce this serious impact on residents.

This proposal involves a large new parking building inviting further traffic down small local streets (Lawson and Alma) and appears to ignore an approach that would avoid the problem, that being having all vehicle access for any such new facility off Nield Avenue only.

2. The placement of this facility is also such that it will significantly reduce the amenity of residents in the State housing facility on Lawson Street. As it is immediately to the North it will block light and outlook for these already disadvantaged (and mainly aged) residents. Sydney Grammar has a large area it could utilise which would not have this deleterious effect on residents.
3. Woollahra Council and the State Government have both indicated support for a pedestrian and cycle way that would be built over the Sydney Water drainage canal (formerly Rushcutters Creek). This is referred to as the 'Paddington Greenway'. This would cut across the Weigall Sports fields using the existing Sydney Water easement and Woollahra Council land on Glenmore Road. I understand that this proposal is being resisted by Sydney Grammar.

Any approvals for this development should reference the Paddington Greenway and involve a commitment that the school to cooperate with this project and maintain north / south public access along the existing road from Alma Road. In this regard I note that these are sports fields and usually vacant. When it is not it is being used for organised and supervised sport. The Paddington Greenway will create no appreciable risks for Sydney

Grammar school boys and will create significant amenity for residents of the area and the city as a whole.



Paul Holm

1 December 2020