

Lindfield, NSW 2070

12 December 2019

I wish to register my objection to the Lindfield Learning Village (LLV) - Stages 2 & 3 proposal.

I am an owner and resident at Dunstan Grove, Lindfield 2070.

I have only recently become aware of the proposal to construct a Loop Road extending into the Village from the roundabout only metres from the Dunstan Grove residential building where I have lived for nearly two years.

I'm told the Loop Road is intended to address the issue of increased weekday traffic to Lindfield Learning Village, based on the current number of students (350) being increased to 2,000 by 2022. A flyer from Schools Infrastructure - NSW Department of Education projects that when the development is complete, there will be 322 cars and 14 buses using the Loop Road each weekday morning 7.30am to 9.30am, and 165 cars and 14 buses using this road every afternoon 2.30pm to 5.00pm.

I am supportive of the new school, but to make the deadline for submissions 12 December this year (now 18 December I have been advised) given that residents at Dunstan Grove, the rest of Crimson Hill and the wider West Lindfield community, have only had a few weeks to consider the proposal in any detail or depth - is an absolute disgrace.

When Stage 1 of LLV was under construction, Dunstan Grove residents driving out of our underground parking area had to tolerate 12 months of daily disruptions and delays on this single road in and out of our cul de sac. But that was only temporary. Now we have to contemplate what will occur every weekday, morning and afternoon, on a permanent basis - that is, after first putting up with a two-year period of construction of Stages 2 & 3 including the Loop Road, which will impose its own noise, delays, congestion and safety issues.

As the Government is at the stage of trying to 'sell' the idea as best it can, I can only guess at what the real statistics will be. If the glossy flyer estimates 322 cars and 14 buses at peak time, the question is: what will it really be? No doubt we need to at least double that, to understand the true result.

Let's look at the logistics. There's one way in and out of Lindfield Learning Village - Eton Road, which becomes Dunstan Grove down the hill from the Village's main entrance. Dunstan Grove is a quiet cul-de-sac which, by the way, was one of the main reasons I and my neighbours chose to live here. But going ahead with LLV Stages 2 & 3 and the Loop Road - directing the Village's Eton Road traffic consisting of what I am sure will be more like 500 cars and a fleet of buses down Dunstan Grove during morning and afternoon peak hours every weekday - will change all that.

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There are already 150-200 cars in our underground car park, and many of us drive to work everyday. So every morning Dunstan Grove residents driving to work will enter what is effectively a traffic jam on Dunstan Grove/Eton Road. Loop Road traffic will go past Dunstan Grove and travel around the Village, but then needs to re-enter Eton Road near the main entrance. This will be the main point of congestion for everyone, Dunstan Grove residents included - plus, I expect some of the cars dropping off students, will seize upon the idea of a shortcut (avoiding the Loop Road) by using our roundabout to head straight back up the hill, adding more vehicles to the line of our residents exiting the garage.

Even if the Loop Road doesn't go ahead, Eton Road will be a nightmare for everyone. And Grosvenor Road which is the main connecting route for the whole area is already a nightmare, so one can only imagine the end result if this proposal is not amended.

Again, I appreciate the need for education and it's great to have a local school of this calibre - but I really question local capacity to handle the influx of 2,000 students, plus I assume several hundred teachers and ancillary staff. There are already safety issues around pedestrians moving around West Lindfield with its narrow, winding streets and hilly terrain. I drive to work in the mornings, and I even now I see students of the current Stage 1 development, and other children heading to Lindfield Public School, walking on Eton Road in the absence of proper footpaths and crossings.

When you also take into account increased noise and air pollution, narrow and congested roads and dangerous intersections for motorists and pedestrians alike - I really think Schools Infrastructure needs to reconsider the number of students LLV can realistically accommodate.

I strongly suggest that residents, including Dunstan Grove, be consulted closely before any final decision is made. As it stands, the consultation process has been inadequate and unfair.

Yours sincerely,