

Ms Bridget Whisker

[REDACTED]
Bungendore NSW 2621

17 October 2021

Director - Social and Infrastructure Assessments
Planning and Assessment
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Locked Bag 5022
Parramatta NSW 2124

Dear Sir or Madam

**NEW HIGH SCHOOL IN BUNGENDORE
APPLICATION NO. SSD-14394209**

I refer to the above state-significant development application.

I **object** to the proposal, for the following reason.

I do not wish to see the existing land and infrastructure lost to the High School Development. The area is utilised by a variety of communities groups, families and travelers. Bungendore Park and the adjoining Common across Turallo Terrace, is Crown Land and is dedicated to use by all members of the public. This includes local organised sports groups (not just school sport), family use at various times of the day (weekdays and weekends) as well as use by many for fitness and rest stops when needed. It is a wonderful area in the middle of town that needs to remain as is and not be lost to development that will diminish the needs and wants of our wider community. The proposed design will greatly affect the historic value of our village.

We do not wish to lose our centrally placed open space to a development that is not warranted or wanted by the majority in this location. This development will impact many local residents with the intended road closure of Majura Street and loss of the existing infrastructure including our current pool and community centre.

My family have lived in this area for over 30 years. I have utilised this area regularly, as have my children and we hope that our children's children will also be able to enjoy the area as it is and not an area closed off to the general public, with a new building structure not built to meet the current needs of residents or cater to the many members of the public who stop and visit the area while travelling to and from the coast and surrounding regions. Our oval and park and much loved and enjoyed AS IS. The loss of existing trees and landscape will diminish the feel for the area. It provides tourists to our area a

wonderful spot to stop, rest and visit whilst enjoying the open wide area. We cannot lose this space, we do not have anything similar for locals or tourists to go to if this development goes ahead.

We are not against the building of a high school - in fact our family feel it well warranted as we had to send out children to Canberra for lack of a local school. We just want it built in a better location that will not encroach on the needs and wants of the greater community.

We are aware that there have been other sites deemed appropriate - one particularly suitable in Elmslea which will be a much better option - it will future proof the ability for our future generations to attend a school that is built for the needs of our children now and in the future. It will accommodate the future growth of our community whilst providing a new and exciting area for all of our community to utilise. Building the school on a bare site will not compromise the wonderful historic areas we already have, that is equally important for ALL of the community not just those needing a local high school cramped in the center of town.

It is a known that our State Government did not consult with the greater community for this project. Our local rugby league and union teams, swimming club and local church groups were not consulted and left unaccounted for in the process. Whilst some consultation with residents was undertaken it did not allow for the many residents who work out of town to attend or provide an unbiased process earlier on to be undertaken. This part of Bungendore is fundamental to the heritage value of our town. Please do not let this vital part of our community be lost to a highly miss-managed process, one that is floored from start to finish. One that should be investigated to ensure that due diligence has been done as required.

I have not, and no associate of mine, has made any political donation to any person in the 2 years preceding this submission.

Regards,

Bridget Whisker