

June 22, 2020

Planning and Assessment  
Department of Planning  
Industry and Environment  
Locked Bag 5022 200 Cantonment Road  
Parramatta, NSW 2124

Dear Sir/Madam

**RE: SYDNEY METRO WEST ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT -  
SSI I0038**

The McDonald College, established in 1984, is Australia's only independent, co-educational, non-denominational school from Kindergarten to Year 12 that integrates excellence in performance (performing arts, tennis, and technical production) and academic studies to the NSW Higher School Certificate. Our College specialises in elite performance, creativity and personal fulfilment through a rigorous academic programme integrated with an intensive daily performance training covering a range of performance genres.

Overall, The McDonald College is supportive of the Western Sydney Metro project given the obvious public transport benefits that this infrastructure will deliver. We also welcome the increased transport options that the Metro will deliver to our students.

With our College located directly adjacent to the North Strathfield heavy rail station, The McDonald College is a significant stakeholder in the project given our close proximity to the proposed North Strathfield Metro Station.

Given our proximity to the Western Sydney Metro works at North Strathfield, we do have significant concerns regarding construction activities that have the potential of causing disruption to the College's learning environment and thus the impact this could have on our students. The ongoing safety of our students travelling to and from the College both during construction and once the Metro is complete is a matter of risk mitigation we must consider and plan for. Given that we are a sizable education facility located at the site of one of the Sydney Metro West's interchange stations, we request that you involve the College in the consultation and planning process.

Ecove Group are our nominated consultants to the College Board for reviewing the EIS and have advised the Board of the following concerns regarding the proposed North Strathfield Metro Station.


It appears that the proposed Metro Station will be connected to the existing Northern Line Train Station by an overhead pedestrian connection. The proposed overhead connection

does not provide easy, all weather, access between the two stations. There is only one entry/exit into the Metro Station proposed, which limits ease of access. Ideally our students would have safe and weatherproof connection between the proposed Metro Station and our College.

As an important stakeholder in the North Strathfield Station precinct, The McDonald College requests to be inclusively consulted and we would welcome the opportunity for open dialogue with the Sydney Metro West Management. As Ecove has been nominated to assist the College Board with this submission they are authorised to discuss this submission and any interface issues with The McDonald College campus on our behalf.

Sincerely,

per: 

  
The McDonald College