

Resident



18 December 2019

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am a long term resident of Queens Park and strongly object the redevelopment of Moriah College (14/41) based on the following issues.

Traffic and Parking: current conditions

- The current school operation generates unacceptable levels of traffic in surrounding from 6.45am in the morning until 4.00pm and frequently later due to functions at the school. Streets are often clogged with parents dropping off and picking up students and with students searching for car parks.
- On a regular basis I am unable to access my house safely due to traffic congestion.
- I also own and used to reside on Ashton Street and every morning the Street is very dangerous due to parents using it as a 'rat-run' exceeding speed restrictions despite speed calming devices.
- Parents and often students park in surrounding streets on a daily basis, often illegally with motors running. Regularly streets are blocked with parents waiting in the middle of the road.
- I have raised these issues with the school on a regular basis and whilst I have been advised the school will address there has been no changes to traffic patterns or parent/student behaviour (I can supply correspondence if required).
- It is very evident Moriah does not effectively or proactively enforce its current traffic and parking policies given the above issues.
- Currently the school provides inadequate parking numbers on site for staff, visitors and students, relying on surrounding streets for capacity. This is not common practice for schools of the size.
- Students utilise Centennial Park and residential areas for long term parking. Centennial Park is for the use of all Sydneysiders, not for the use of overflow student parking.
- Students exiting Centennial Park onto York Road regularly create dangerous congestion blocking access due to the large number of cars leaving at one time.
- Moriah College night-time events are frequent, attract large numbers of people who use local streets for parking.

Traffic and Parking: proposed

- The traffic study is inadequate and fails to effectively deal with traffic generation and parking. The extent of the study is very limited and does not consider the current traffic generation and parking issues nor a wide enough catchment.
- Relocation of the pedestrian crossing from Queens Park Road to Baronga Avenue will not stop students walking to surrounding streets to be picked up by waiting parents as currently occurs.
- The proposal provides inadequate parking on site for staff, visitors and students, relying on residential and public areas to supplement parking.
- Increasing the hours of operation and staggering of class times to manage traffic will only extend and exacerbate the current impact on surrounding residential amenity.
- The revised drop off and pick areas are inadequate in length and size to deal with the projected increase in student numbers.
- The ripple-on effect of the increase in traffic, congestion and pollution will extend to many residents who have not been notified of the proposal and who deserve the right to be informed and to comment.
- An increase in the number of after-hours functions is not acceptable due to the impact on parking and amenity. It is unreasonable that residents are unable to have visitors to their homes due to street parking taken up with Moriah related parking.
- Pedestrian safety risks and general road safety risks will escalate as a result of the increased traffic in local streets.
- The proposed pedestrian crossing on York Road for student parking in Centennial Park and surrounds will only further impact on an already over congested road network and have significant knock on effects to Queens Park Road, Newland Street and other key thoroughfares.

General

- I do not feel Moriah has adequately consulted with resident and business as the 'Near Neighbour Letter Catchment' was not distributed to the broader effected catchment and should be significantly expanded so that all impacted neighbours are aware of the proposed redevelopment.
- The 3 week period for assessment is inadequate given the nearly 1600 pages of documents and busy lead up to end of year for local residents. Further time should be provided for community assessment and consultation.
- The proposed design and density is not appropriate or good design practice for the site area given the limited (site) area.
- Moriah College has other more appropriate sites for expansion of the school.

I trust you will seriously consider the above.

Kind regards

Name withheld

