

21 January 2022

Mr Lincoln Lawler
Manager - Statutory Planning | Technical Services
Suite 9, 259 George Street
Sydney New South Wales 2000

Dear Lincoln,

Meadowbank Schools Project (SSD-9341 – Mod 4) Response to Submissions

The exhibition of the modification request for Meadowbank Schools Project (SSD-9341-Mod-4) ended on Friday 14 January 2022. All public submissions and a submission from City of Ryde received during the exhibition of the proposal are available on the Department of Planning and Environment's (the Department) website at: https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/project/43326.

The Department requires a written response to issues raised in the submissions, as required under clause 82(2) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000. The written response must be in the form of a Submissions Report that has been prepared having regard to the State Significant Development Guidelines (2021). The Preparing a Submissions Report Guideline forms part of the SSD Guidelines (Appendix C).

Please note that due to COVID-19, there has been a delay by the Department in processing hard copy correspondence sent to its office. If any further hard copy submissions are received, the Department will publish these on the Department's website and will notify you if this occurs.

The Department has also undertaken a review of the modification request and in addition to the issues raised in the submissions, requires the matters at **Attachment 1** be addressed in full. You are requested to provide the Department with a Submissions Report within two months.

Note that the time between the date of this letter and the date the Planning Secretary receives your response are not included in the period of 'deemed refusal', under clause 113(7) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000.*

If you have any questions, please contact Patrick Andrade, on (02) 9995 6454 or at Patrick.Andrade@dpie.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely,

Karen Harragon

Director, Social and Infrastructure Assessments

as delegate for the Planning Secretary

Enclosed: Attachment 1 - Key Issues

ATTACHMENT 1 - Key Issues

1. The Department's traffic and parking assessment of the original SSD application relied upon the mode share target set out in the Transport and Accessibility Impact Assessment (dated 14/10/19, revised 27/02/20). The development consent requires the implementation of a School Travel Plan (STP) to achieve the mode share target.

The modification application includes a Hermitage Road Active Transport Assessment which assesses the impacts of not providing the shared user path along Hermitage Road. However, the application does not include a full revised active transport assessment; therefore, it is not known whether the other proposed pedestrian infrastructure changes (listed below) are suitable in the context of providing safe and convenient passage for pedestrians and cyclists in order to achieve the mode share target of the STP:

- a reduction of the path along Squire Street to 1.35m wide
- o the removal of the pedestrian crossing at See Street's intersection with Macpherson Street
- o the removal of the pedestrian school crossing along Rhodes Street.

Further information must be provided which assesses the suitability of the above listed changes and if/how the proposed changes above impact the overall mode share target.

2. The Hermitage Road Active Transport Assessment does not assess cyclists using Hermitage Road. Comments related to a future cycle path along the rail line and cyclist-vehicle conflict on Victoria Road are noted, however there is uncertainty about when/if the future cycle path will be delivered. Consequently, an assessment of the cyclist demand is required on the assumption that the future cycle path along the rail line may not be constructed.

Additionally, the transport assessment does not assess likely points of destinations or interests for students walking or cycling to/from school. This is reflected in public submissions which raise concern that students are likely to utilise the convenience store at the corner of Hermitage Road and Victoria Road which may alter the assumed pedestrian/ cycling routes.

The Hermitage Road Active Transport Assessment must be revised to include an assessment of cyclist demand using Hermitage Road and points of destinations or interests for school students. If the revised assessment alters the predicted use of Hermitage Road, this must be reflected in the overall mode share target.

- 3. The NSW Department of Education consideration of the requested proposed wording to condition E22 as outlined in Council's submission dated 20 October 2021 and its position on such.
- 4. Clarification whether NSW Department of Education requests Condition D14(H), relating to new streetlights, be deleted from the instrument of approval, if not, provide advice and further clarification on what requirements the Department is seeking.