

To:

1. **Peter McManus**, NSW Dept. of Planning and Infrastructure
peter.mcmanus@planning.nsw.gov.au
2. **Stephane Kerr**, University of Sydney. Project Director Campus Improvement Program
stephane.kerr@sydney.edu.au
3. Lord Mayor of Sydney, **Clover Moore**
cmoore@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au

Re: SSD 13_6123 USYD Campus Improvement Program 2014-2020 for Camperdown-Darlington Campus

Dear Recipients

Regarding the University of Sydney Campus Improvement plans lodged with the Department of Planning:

1. We object to the University NOT consulting with the local community before lodgement of this plan and failing to comply with the following Director General's requirement - **"During the preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), consultation must be undertaken with community groups and affected landowners. In particular you must consult with: RAIDD – Residents Acting In Darlington's Defence." This has not taken place.**
2. We object to the destruction of the Darlington Eucalypt Grove in Shepherd Street and replacing it with a 3 storey building overlooking resident's houses at odds with the University's Ecological Assessment recommendation: **"Avoid removal of mature trees and protection of trees in proximity to building/refurbishment sites."**
3. We object to the massive building program which increases floor area from 555,600m² to 937,800m² with building heights of up to 19 storeys. The height and bulk of the proposed buildings are too great for the low rise heritage conservation residential precinct in which the University sits. We especially object to the proposed 3 storey building in Shepherd Street and the "multidisciplinary building" opposite the sports centre both of which will overlook residents homes in Shepherd Street, Calder Road, Lander Street, Boundary street and Abercrombie Street. **The University should create green buffer zones between its buildings and residential buildings.**
4. We object to the potential increase in noise from plant equipment such as large 24/7 air conditioners and cooling towers on proposed University

buildings close to resident's homes and from increased noise and congestion which would result from an increase in University car traffic. Existing noise generated by the University added to the noise of new developments would adversely affect many of the residents living in Darlington. The University must measure the cumulative impact of all the noise it generates to ensure that it always complies with environmental legislation.

5. We object to the University's proposal to completely infill the backyards of every heritage listed terrace house from 86 – 130 Darlington Road with 3 storey extensions. The National trust has given these terraces an "A" rating – "highly intact". The University should not be allowed to degrade the heritage value of these terraces which are very close to the Golden Grove Conservation Area.
6. We object to the proposed massive 68% increases in floor space and increasing the student population from 49,500 to 60,000 by 2020 because the local infrastructure cannot cope with the existing number of people. The plan should be withdrawn until local infrastructure, including footpaths and access to Redfern Station, are improved to cope with the increased population. The University's plan would put further stress on off street parking in residential streets as there would be an increase in the number of students and University staff parking their cars in local streets.
7. This projected increase comes without plan for foot traffic movement, and its impact on residents. The University sets itself up again to take over public space, without regard for the ongoing impact of this pedestrian traffic on residents. The recent pedestrian traffic review for the Darlington area (a condition imposed related to the Business Building on Abercrombie St) was based on flawed assumptions.

The University should withdraw this plan until it consults properly with the Darlington community, and until it has in place a pedestrian traffic plan to support such student increases.

8. **The plan for campus improvement should not come about by the University ignoring the Director Generals requirement, the University own Ecological Assessment recommendations, conservation requirements, and without regard for the impact of its 'improvements' on its surrounding neighbours.**
9. **The University seems to be developing its boundaries, not its interior, meaning that the impact of construction and beyond is worn by**

Darlington residents.

Regards

David Laws

Ray Ziesing

322 Abercrombie St

Darlington

NSW