

Submission

I am writing a submission to oppose Modification 4 SSD 5093 and oppose the proposal for a 24 hour worksite.

As a local resident and councillor, I would firstly like to point out how unfair it was on the local community to mount the exhibition for this proposal over Easter. Giving the community little to no time to lodge submissions opposing this modification, then refusing the council's request for an extension. This community work hard as bush care volunteers for the greater good and the benefit of all Sydney siders, they deserve to have their opposition heard.

Like many in our community, I believe if the proposal on exhibition is approved it will put North Ryde's Sydney Turpentine Ironbark forest, at Bundara Reserve, at risk. It is an important remnant forest and there is less than 0.5% of this type of forest currently left in the Sydney bioregion. These species must be conserved for future generations and the sake of biodiversity.

The forest is also an important wildlife corridor and addition to the much needed canopy in the area. It should be noted that the destruction of established canopy like this is inconsistent with the Greater Sydney commission Northern district plan, which advocates for the retention of such trees for shade and air quality (particularly on a busy intersection, on a major transport corridor like the M2 and Epping Rd).

The reasons given for tree removal from the Reserve and from the RMS E2 lands are:

- a) Trees mean excess bird droppings.
- b) Branches from these trees might damage the bridge.
- c) Bushfire could damage the bridge.

These issues are easily dealt with without removing trees. For a start, the area is not bushfire prone, the tree branches can be lopped regularly to prevent them falling on the structure and bird droppings can be removed. Birds, I would think, will be MORE INCLINED to sit ON the bridge without trees present, most likely adding to the required cleaning.

The bridge re-design appears much wider at the Bundara corner than necessary, increasing its negative impact on the natural setting. Perhaps another look at the design, reducing the bridge width at that point, might reduce the impact on the protected forest.

I also feel that the 24 hour worksite proposal is unfair on the local community. The land owners who live close to Delhi rd, taxpayers, have been woken by jackhammers throughout the construction of the M2 and then weathered the noise, dust and influx of workers vehicles in their local streets since the massive Delhi rd developments began many months ago. In reality their lives have been affected for a number of years by noisy building. It seems only fair

the developer adopt more neighbor friendly work hours at the site.

I moved to Ryde because it was a leafy, clean suburb and I understand, given its proximity to the city/access to public transport routes, why areas here were earmarked for high-density development but our community has done their fair share already. Our traffic is gridlocked, our schools are full and our sports grounds are booked out.

Don't take our trees too... we need them even more now with so many hard hot surfaces - to absorb the heat. We need them, now with so many extra cars - to absorb the sound and with so many new residents to filter our air.

Please don't allow the destruction of these tall important trees from North Ryde.

Kind regards
Councillor Penny Pedersen
City of Ryde.

