

29 October 2015

Director
Infrastructure Projects Planning Services
Department of Planning and Environment
Application number SSI 6307
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Sir/Madam

PARRAMATTA ROAD INTERCHANGE HABERFIELD/ASHFIELD.

My wife and I are the owners of the property at 103 Chandos Street, Haberfield. We are writing this letter in regards to the WestConnex project and particularly the Parramatta Road interchange in Haberfield/Ashfield.

Although we understand that the WestConnex is needed and will provide benefits to Sydney, we wish to raise a number of concerns.

Landscaping

We note from the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that the Parramatta Road footpath will be widened along the northern side of Parramatta Road being on the Haberfield side. We believe that this is a good outcome.

In addition, the artist's impression in the EIS indicates that there will be area along Parramatta Road which will have tree planting. The artist's impression shows dense landscaping with significant sized trees. We believe that any proposed planting should be of a size and density to create a buffer between the M4 interchange and our property and neighbouring properties.

Dense landscaping will not only create a visual buffer but will also assist in blocking street lighting from intruding into our rear yard and windows.

The EIS does not discuss the final plans for size and type of landscaping proposed. However, it is our request that trees of a substantial size and type been provided to satisfy our concerns.

Noise

Currently the front of our house is close to Parramatta Road and experiences moderate to high levels of noise from the use of the road.

It is our concern that the increase in traffic and the exit ramp being located near our house will greatly increase the amount of noise. We believe that this will not only affect our property but also the Child Care Centre on the corner of Chandos Street and Parramatta Road as well as the Aged Care Centre on Parramatta Road. We request that to protect our amenity as well as that of our neighbours including the child and aged care centres, that noise barriers be erected between the three lanes located on the northern side of Parramatta Road and the exit tunnel heading towards the city.

The erection of a noise or acoustic wall will greatly reduce the amount of noise that we will experience and will greatly improve our amenity as well as that of the surrounding care centres.

Street lighting

We request that the location of the street lights should be strategically placed in locations where they minimise the ability for illumination into rear yards of our property. The provision of an acoustic wall together with dense landscaping will clearly assist in resolving this issue as will locating the poles at a height which are at a bare minimum as this would ensure illumination issues are minimised.

Local Traffic

Another major concern is the creation of rabbit-warrens, where cars will turn into our street to by-pass traffic lights. We request that a cul-de-sac be provided at the end of Chandos Street and Rogers Avenue to Parramatta Road. The cul-de-sacs could be stepped in so that cars can still access the commercial properties on Parramatta Road. This would ensure that through traffic would not use local streets and create rabbit-warrens. This is particularly important as the Chandos Street has a school at the end with many children crossing. Having increased through traffic would create a safety risk.

This installation of cul-de-sacs still allows local traffic access by simply turning into Bland Street or alternatively into Dalhousie Street in a safe manner and at a signalised intersection.

The provision of a cul-de-sac to these local streets will also enable additional planting and create a distinction between Parramatta Road and the local streets. There are examples along Parramatta Road in the Croydon/Five Dock/Canada Bay area where local streets have been closed off to the classified road to enable a separation between local and through traffic. We believe that this should also apply here. The local member for Summer Hill has also made a submission to this effect and the appropriateness to have cul-de-sacs and we support this view.

In the overall scheme of the scope of works, it is a minor cost to provide this infrastructure which the community would be supportive of.

Conclusion

We trust that the relevant consultants will have regard to the comments made. As stated earlier we understand the benefits that West Connex will provide however, we are requesting minor changes to detailing and outcomes which we believe will provide a far better level of amenity and would be a far better proposition.

My wife and I are more than happy to meet with you in person or over the phone should you wish to discuss further.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Carrozza".

Ross and Maria Carrozza

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