



PCU006100

1 June, 2010

The Director, Government Land & Social Projects
NSW Department of Planning
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

Re: Application MP 06_0267 MOD 6

Department of Planning
Received
03 JUN 2010
Scanning Room

Dear Sir /Madam,

I am writing to object to the amendment of the hours of operation for the National Centre for Indigenous Excellence. I do not wish for my name or address to be published.

This is a residential area and the proposed extension of hours is detrimental to the residents that live there. The operating hours for the centre are already impacting the lives of the residents and visitors etc due to the impact of parking and the noise levels from the people that are leaving the centre – tooting the car horns at all hours of the night, the gathering of people outside on the footpaths, the garbage being thrown on the streets.

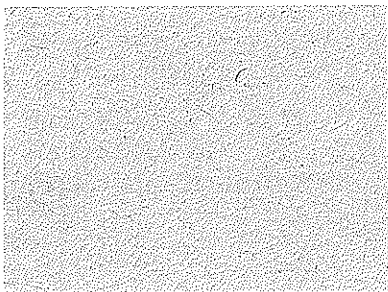
I know that there have been letters of complaint sent through in regards to the effects that the centre is having in regards to parking and noise levels (attachment A) the complaints are genuine and would only increase due to the proposal of the operating hours.

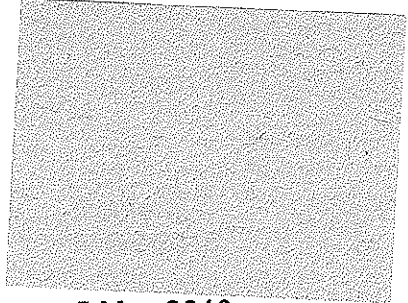
A major concern is that by extending the hours you will impact on noise levels for residents and the inability to find a parking spot when you have come home from work (this is already happening at present). The issues raised in the attachment would be the same concerns for this approval – as I wish to save myself retyping my objection - please note the attachment as part of this submission.

The amendments proposed contradicts the assurances that the neighbors/residents were given at the start of this project. The proposal will have a negative impact on the lives already affected by the centre and how it operates.

The proposed extension of the centres operating hours negatively impacts the lives of the local residents and is of no benefit to the residents. It therefore should not be approved

Yours faithfully,





5 May 2010

Ms Megan Fu
Senior Planner - Department of Planning
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

Dear Ms Fu

NCIE, 160-202 George Street, Redfern

I am writing to express my frustration at the enormous adverse impact of the NCIE on parking in the area.

Current Status

Since the Centre opened, parking in the street has been very difficult, if not impossible with most of George Street full for much of the day 7 days a week, including evenings, and frequent double parking by cars as children / friends are dropped off and picked up from the Centre and deliveries are made.

It has been noted that the

- the two car parks on the NCIE site off Philip Street are normally only occupied by perhaps 2 cars in total.
- the NCIE car park built off the turning area in Renwick St is normally also only occupied by 1-2 cars
- deliveries to the site such as drinks, vending machine, etc all double park outside the main gate
- tradesmen working on the site regularly park all day in the street – rather than in the off-street car park
- there has been no increase in the usage of the public car park between Renwick St and Cope St
- staff at the Centre appear to park in the street I have been a victim of abuse when I have asked why they don't park in their carpark.
- there seems to be few very visits by council parking inspectors as I often see cars parked by Centre visitors/staff first thing in the morning (before the centre is open) and still in the same spot at night, with no parking tickets.
- Now that the signs restricting parking have not been replaced people come and park their cars all day to go to the city for work.

Environment Assessment 2007

The original submission in 2006/7 included:

1. (7.5.2) that traffic impact would be **MINIMAL** as the majority of people using the Centre live locally and would walk to the Centre or catch public transport. This claim / assumption has proven to be completely incorrect in light of the traffic situation since the Centre opened.
2. (4.11) there would be 26 on-site spaces for staff and visitors associated with activities on the site, with the forecasted traffic impact of 37 spaces (in 7.5.2) being sufficiently catered for by the on site parking. These are hardly ever used.
3. (7.5.3) the recommendation that there be a 20 metre long kerb on the George Street frontage to enable pick-up and set-down – this has not been done.

4. Section 8, Draft statement of Commitments, item AA advised that "subject to endorsement by the Sydney Traffic Committee, kerbside parking arrangements are to be reconfigured to provide for bus parking and deliveries to the site". Has this been considered by the Traffic Committee, and are they aware of the safety dangers of this not having been implemented?

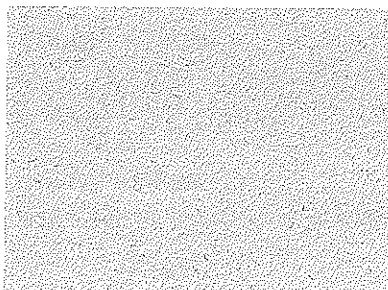
Action required by the council/ planning department and NCIE

As the planning document compared the Centre with other similar public facilities such as the Ian Thorpe Aquatic Centre and the Cook and Phillip Pool, I would suggest that local parking arrangements be introduced similar to those at those other facilities. I recommend strongly that the following be implemented:

1. that all current parking restrictions on George Street between Albert and Philip Streets immediately be changed to 1 hour parking 8am-10pm 7 days a week except for residents with Area 41 parking permits
2. the area on the western side of George Street directly outside the gates to the Centre be made a setting down area only, with no parking allowed at all.
3. the rest of the current parking area on the western side of George Street outside the Centre be changed to restricted or meter parking with a limit of 1 hour parking between 8am and 10pm 7 days a week
4. street parking on the eastern side of George Street between Albert Street and Philip Street be converted to restricted or meter parking with a limit of 30 minutes between 8am and 10pm 7 days a week, with an exception for residents with Area 41 parking permits
5. The centre use its carparking facilities to park the mini buses overnight not the streets.
6. the Centre be encouraged to have their staff park in the car parking on site at the Philip Street end of the complex
7. the Centre encourage visitors to park in the public parking available in the Renwick Street / Cope Street car park and ensure that the entrance to the Centre from Renwick Street is open at all times that the Centre is open (which is not currently the case).
8. The centre staff to request that their members ask that people picking them up not to sit in the cars honking their horns constantly at all hours of the day to collect people as there are residents that do shift work and we have sick people in the area that need to sleep it is not acceptable.
9. traffic wardens be encouraged to police the area much more regularly to discourage the current behaviour where many cars are street parked all day
10. any instances when a Council Ranger finds double parking should be fined immediately; the fire station is in the street and such parking causes not just inconvenience but also a public danger.

I have sent a copy of this letter to the City of Sydney Council and to Mr James Eldridge, the Centre Manager, together with a request for him to erect signage-requesting patrons to refrain from shouting tooting horns endlessly and making noise as they leave the Centre, recognising that this is a residential area.

I look forward to your reply and actions taken to rectify this problem for the residents of George Street Redfern.



Enforcement