

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission regarding the Hastings Secondary College Port Macquarie Campus Upgrade.

I note that while I have marked on the website submission form that I object to the project, please be advised that there is only one element of the upgrade that I object to, being Stage 3 of the proposal in relation to the development of a shared use multi-sports facility in partnership with the Police Citizens Youth Club (PCYC) at the proposed site on the Port Macquarie Campus.

I support all the other elements of the Hastings Secondary College Campus Upgrade Proposal and welcome the improvements suggested.

I also welcome the reintroduction of a PCYC facility in Port Macquarie, in a suitable location, where it is demonstrated that this facility also provides the optimal social and economic return on government investment and the best prioritisation of resources, given the important priorities requiring funding by the New South Wales Government.

The reasons for my objection to Stage 3 of the proposal at the site proposed are:

- The activities conducted at the proposed shared use multi-sports facility (PCYC facility), as well as the associated movements to and from the venue will cause unacceptably significant ongoing noise and disruption to the social amenity for nearby residents, during weeknights and across weekends, especially given the facility has proposed operating hours as stated in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) of 6am to 10pm, 7 days per week.
- The proposed PCYC facility at that site will be intrusive, given the bulk and scale of the building and does not fit with the aesthetics of the area, which is recognised as a welcoming, scenic open parkland corridor by the Port Macquarie community and is regarded as one of the attractive features for tourists of the Town Beach and Oxley Beach areas of Port Macquarie. These scenic features are regularly promoted as part of tourist campaigns for the area. The scenic nature of the area is a contributing factor as to why local community markets and other regular outdoor events are attracted to the area.
- Further to the above, the proposed PCYC facility impacts on views for local residents with significant adverse visual impacts for some local residents.
- The increased traffic and congestion in Owen Street, Port Macquarie that a PCYC facility at the proposed site will result in. Owen Street is a very busy suburban residential street. I am concerned not only by the increased traffic in Owen Street should a PCYC facility be developed at the proposed site, but also have concerns in relation to the potential safety and noise issues associated with the increase in traffic in the street for residents, school students and the large numbers of community members and tourists currently using Owen Street to access Hastings Secondary College Port Macquarie Campus (Port Macquarie High School), Port Macquarie City Bowling Club, Port Macquarie Town Beach and Oxley Beach precincts, as well as the residences in this area.
- Further to the point above, should the proposed PCYC facility be developed at the proposed site, there will be significantly increased parking congestion and parking capacity constraint issues in the precinct. Parking in Owen Street, Port Macquarie in the residential precinct containing the Port Macquarie High School and Port Macquarie City Bowling Club is currently very often near or at capacity. Increased parking constraints and congestion in Owen Street will also exacerbate significant and concerning issues in relation to the safety of pedestrians and school students in this area.
- Locating a PCYC facility next door to a licenced premise (Port Macquarie City Bowling Club) may create a higher likelihood for poor social outcomes, given a core activity of the PCYC is to work with at-risk youth to break the cycle of disadvantage.
- Locating a PCYC facility at this residential, geographically constrained and busy location does not provide easy accessibility to the facility for the Greater Port Macquarie – Hastings community and the key focus groups the PCYC is aiming to reach. As such this proposal does not align with providing the optimal social and economic

return on government investment and the best prioritisation of resources, given the important priorities requiring funding by the New South Wales Government

- The potential missed opportunity to obtain a much better outcome for the Greater Port Macquarie-Hastings community by utilising one of several alternative locations in the area, which I can provide more detail on when contacted, that would be significantly more suitable for a new PCYC facility, while also potentially saving New South Wales residents millions of dollars through the better use of existing infrastructure and avoidance of a potential duplication of facilities.

Further to the above, any savings through the use of existing infrastructure made could be put to much better use to help increase New South Wales Government budgets for areas of critical need such as other school upgrades, increases in New South Wales teacher numbers, New South Wales health care requirements and/or other programs to assist disadvantaged members of New South Wales.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide this submission.

Please contact me using the details we have included on the upgrade project portal to discuss this submission further.