

Footpaths and pedestrian crossings are essential for student safety when travelling to and from the new schools at Meadowbank. I OBJECT to the following modifications to the Meadowbank Education and Employment Precinct Schools Project.

Delete Condition B44(a) Pedestrian Infrastructure Improvements in relation to Hermitage Road.

REJECT The Hermitage Road Active Transport Assessment that has forecast a maximum of 48 students will use Hermitage Road in the morning and 32 in the afternoon is flawed in many of its assumptions.

1. It assumes that students will only walk if they live in an 800m radius of the school (page 4). This walking catchment zone is way too small for High Schools students. **A teenager will not wait around for a bus if it is quicker to walk.** This radius should be expanded to at least 1.5kms to be a truer representation of numbers.

My family currently lives more than 2kms from the current Marsden site and if it is a day when they are walking, my children will walk rather than waiting for the school bus as it leaves 30mins after school finishes.

2. It states that as there will be multiple buses running from West Ryde train station to the school and so students will not walk from the train station (page 7). Again, this is highly dependent on the timing of those buses. **It is only a 10 min walk to the school and if the wait for the bus is longer than that the students are more likely to walk.**

3. With regards to the bus stops on Victoria Rd, it states that the bus stop near Bowden St will be more desirable as it is a 6 min 11 sec walk to the school when the Hermitage Rd bus stop is 7 min 45 sec walk (page 8). This does not take into account that:

- **the bus timetable shows that it is an extra 3 mins on the bus to travel up to the Bowden St stop, so they would arrive at school later if they chose this option**
- **if the students get off at Hermitage Rd they can visit 7-eleven on the way to school (very desirable for a lot of teenagers).**

All of this shows that the Hermitage Road Active Transport Assessment is not an accurate forecast of student transport to the new school. Hermitage Rd will be used by a significant number of students and safe pedestrian footpath is required on this street.

Delete Condition D9(b) as the provision of a pedestrian crossing on See Street where it intersects with Macpherson Street is not required.

REJECT – This crossing will be required by primary school students who are walking from south and east of the schools. This includes the large number of students that will be living in the apartment complexes south of Constitution Rd. There is no justification for the removal of this crossing.

Delete Condition D14(h) relating to new streetlights. The project is not removing any existing street lighting as part of the development so the condition is not required.

REJECT – The street lighting around the schools needs to match or exceed Australian Standards. In winter it is dark by the time parents need to collect primary students from after school care and sufficient lighting is important to ensure the safety of parents and students.