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LEVEL 8, 123 PITT STREET  
SYDNEY NSW 2000**

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13 March 2023

Phillip Devon  
Northern Beaches Council  
725 Pittwater Road, Dee Why NSW 2099 Australia

Dear Phillip,

## **MATER MARIA CATHOLIC COLLEGE – COUNCIL PROPOSED CHANGES TO TRAFFIC CONDITIONS ON FOREST ROAD**

Urbis is writing this letter on Behalf of Catholic Schools Broken Bay (CSBB) and Mater Maria Catholic College in response to the Northern Beaches Council proposed changes to the traffic conditions on Forest Road, informed on the 29<sup>th</sup> of September 2022. These changes are in response to complaints received by local residents regarding the on-street parking of caravans, boat trailers and abandoned vehicles. Council's proposal is shown in **Attachment A**.

Council's proposal may not best support the safe access and egress of students to and from Mater Maria's grounds for the reasons stated in this letter. An alternative proposal is shown in **Attachment B**, which includes the following changes

- An extension of the existing '2 Minute Drop Off and Pick Up Area 8:00 AM – 9:30 AM, 2:30 PM – 4:00 PM' School Days on the southern side of Forest Road between the existing No Stopping controls.
- An extension of the Council proposed 'No Parking, Motor Vehicles Excepted' control on the Northern Side of Forest Road between the existing No Stopping controls.

## **COUNCIL RAISED ISSUES ON FOREST ROAD**

Council's Traffic Committee Meeting Agenda dated 6<sup>th</sup> December 2022 outlined four issues Council identified on Forest Road. These are as follows

1. *During school hours, excessive traffic causes queuing effects and impacts the roundabout performance.*
2. *Valuable parking spots are occupied by abandoned vehicles, caravans, box & boat trailers and heavy vehicles. Also, often illegal parking and parallel parking have been observed.*
3. *Visibility is compromised at times.*

4. *Increased traffic volume and dangerous traffic flow create potential risks of either head-on collisions or damaging parked vehicles.*

Regarding point 1, the alternative proposal will manage queuing better than Council's proposal as the pick-up and drop-off area will be extended along the southern side of Forest Road, increasing vehicle storage capacity. Additionally, the indented kerb on the southern side of Forest Road allows for vehicles to pass and circulate if there is no capacity. This cannot be achieved on the northern side due to a lack of indentation in the kerb.

Regarding point 2, the extension of the proposed No Parking, Motor Vehicles Excepted control shown in the alternative proposal on the northern side of Forest Road will prevent people from parking their boat trailers and caravans along this section.

Regarding point 3, potential queuing caused by the proposed drop-off and pick-up area may reduce the sightlines of vehicles exiting the driveways around the cul de sac.

Regarding point 4, Mater Maria supports the addition of the proposed double barrier lines along the centre of Forest Road and the proposed Edge Line on the northern side of Forest Road.

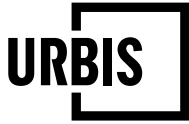
## **ISSUES WITH COUNCIL PROPOSED CHANGES ON FOREST ROAD**

There have been several issues that have been identified with Council's proposed changes. These are outlined below.

The current location of the pedestrian entrance to Mater Maria Catholic College is located east of the existing driveway access. In the morning and afternoon, children access the school from the drop-off and pick-up areas using this access. If a drop-off and pick-up area is added to the northern side of Forest Road, human nature will follow the path of least resistance across the road rather than follow the proposed footpath around the cul de sac.

As a result of the above, pedestrian fencing is required to direct students around the cul de sac to the proposed drop-off and pick-up area as shown in **Attachment C**. However, there are four driveways between the school entrance and the proposed drop-off and pick-up area, which would require gaps in the pedestrian fencing. The school has no legal control over students' behaviour once they leave the school grounds. Even with pedestrian fencing, students will likely follow the path of least resistance to the pick-up area, which will be across the gaps in the fencing. The existing and likely student behaviour is shown in **Attachment D**.

Providing an additional drop-off and pick-up area on the northern side of Forest Road will likely lead to vehicles queuing across driveways while waiting for a pick-up space. The southern side of Forest Road has an indented kerb and no driveways along its length, making for an ideal pick-up and drop-off area. Council's proposal will likely exacerbate existing queuing problems as the kerb on the northern side is not indented, not leaving sufficient road space for vehicles to circulate if there is no storage capacity in the proposed northern drop-off and pick-up area. The blocking of the driveway from queuing vehicles could also cause new road safety issues as vehicles exiting driveways may have reduced sightlines.



## CONCLUSION

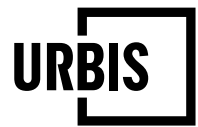
Based on the above information in this letter, Council's proposal will more likely worsen the situation on Forest Road. Council's proposal encourages more queuing, and although an Edge Line marking is proposed on the northern side, it will be challenging for vehicles to circulate if the Council proposed drop-off and pick-up area is full due to the width of the road.

The proposed drop-off and pick-up area does not promote safe travel behaviours of students who will likely use the path of least resistance (crossing the road) to access the northern drop-off and pick-up area rather than using the proposed footpath. An alternative arrangement is proposed in **Attachment B**, which extends the existing drop-off and pick-up area east to the no-stopping control, utilising the existing kerb indentation. This will increase the storage capacity of the existing drop-off and pick-up area and allow for vehicle circulation. The alternative arrangement also ensures that students' behaviours are safe while using the school's drop-off and pick-up areas.

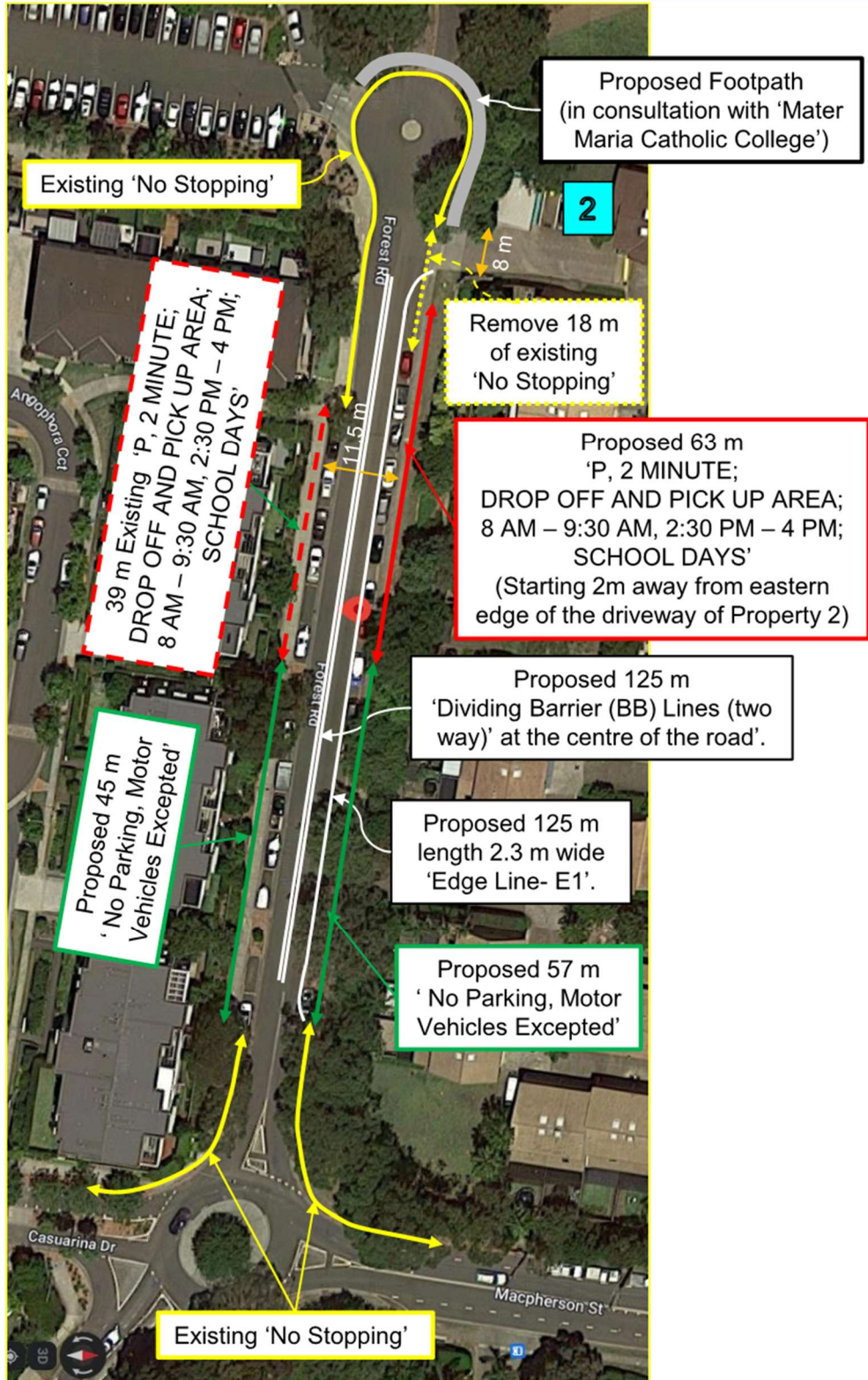
Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in grey ink, appearing to read "G. McCabe".

Graham McCabe  
Director  
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## **ATTACHMENT A**



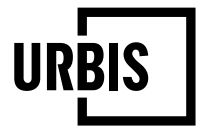
PROPOSAL

Forest Road, Warriewood  
Parking Modifications



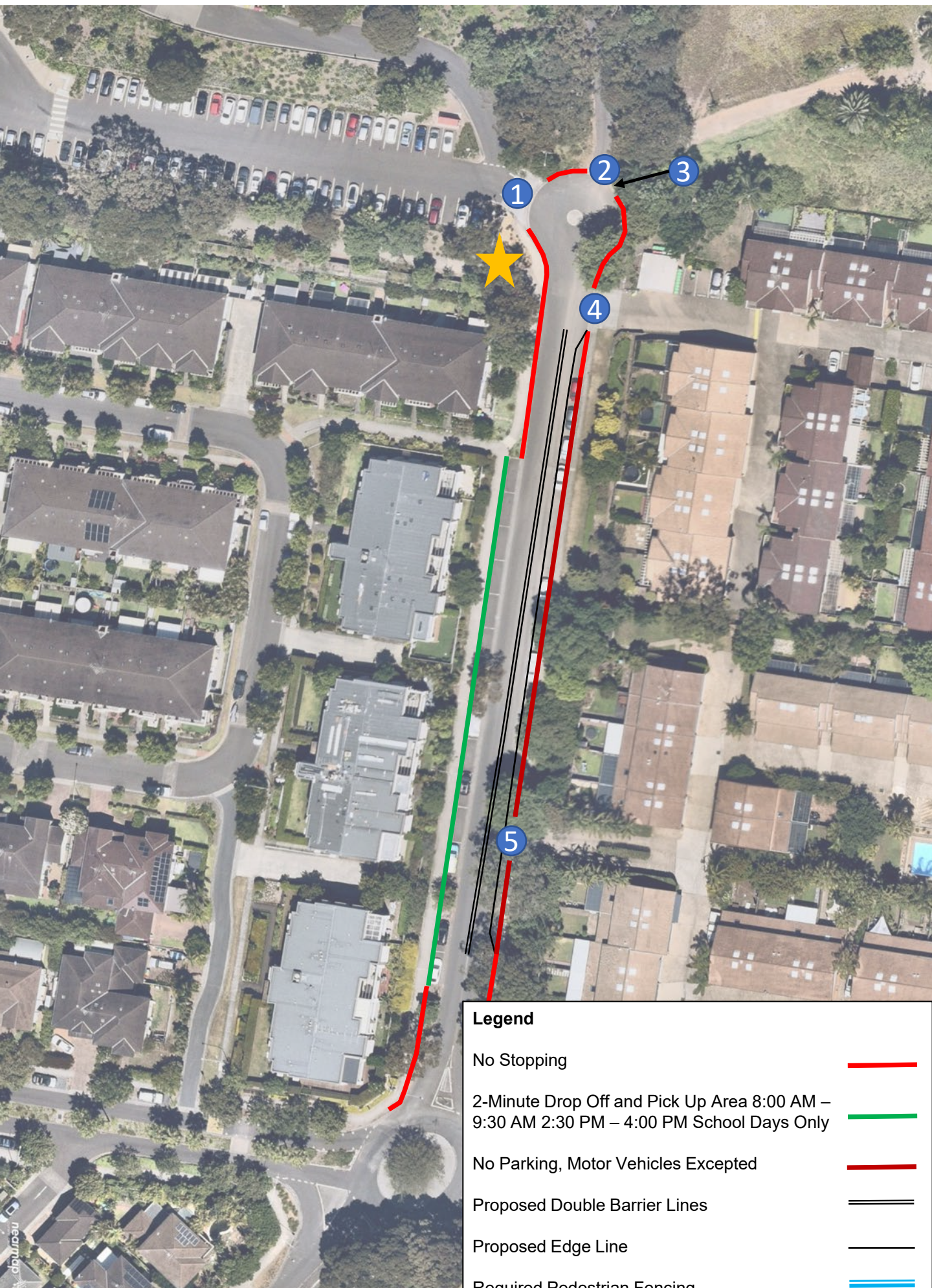
Drawn VS

Approved *P. Devo*





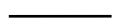







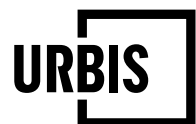
## **ATTACHMENT B**

# ATTACHMENT B: ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL



## Legend

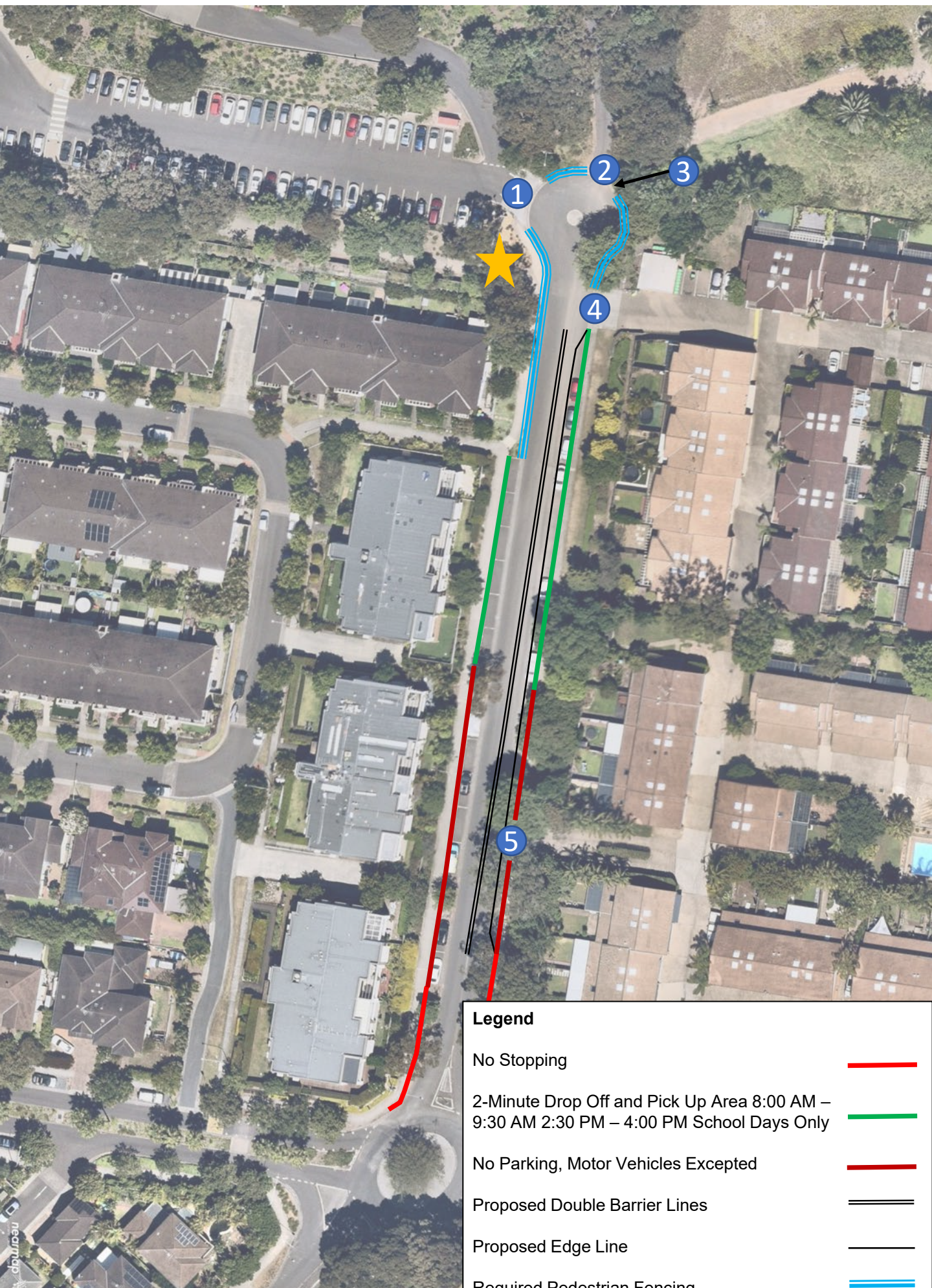
- No Stopping 
- 2-Minute Drop Off and Pick Up Area 8:00 AM – 9:30 AM 2:30 PM – 4:00 PM School Days Only 
- No Parking, Motor Vehicles Excepted 
- Proposed Double Barrier Lines 
- Proposed Edge Line 
- Required Pedestrian Fencing 
- Existing Student Behaviour 
- Anticipated Future Student Behaviour 
- Existing Driveways 
- Mater Maria Pedestrian Entrance 



## **ATTACHMENT C**

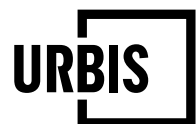


# ATTACHMENT C: PEDESTRIAN FENCING REQUIRED TO SUPPORT COUNCIL'S PROPOSAL



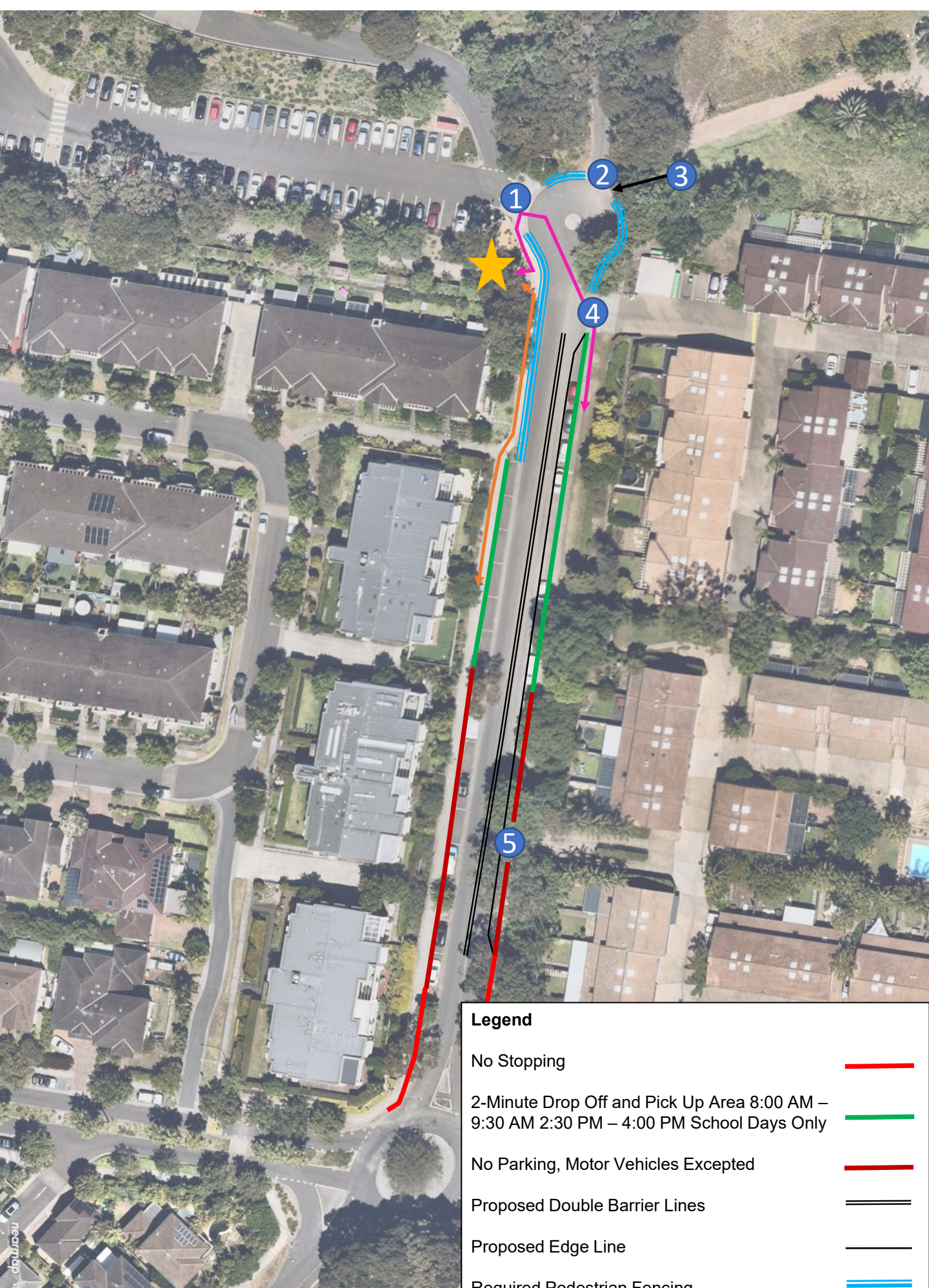
**Legend**

- No Stopping —
- 2-Minute Drop Off and Pick Up Area 8:00 AM – 9:30 AM 2:30 PM – 4:00 PM School Days Only —
- No Parking, Motor Vehicles Excepted —
- Proposed Double Barrier Lines =
- Proposed Edge Line —
- Required Pedestrian Fencing =
- Existing Student Behaviour →
- Anticipated Future Student Behaviour →
- Existing Driveways ①
- Mater Maria Pedestrian Entrance ★



## **ATTACHMENT D**

# ATTACHMENT D: EXISTING AND ANTICIPATED FUTURE BEHAVIOURS OF PEDESTRIAN



## Legend

- No Stopping —
- 2-Minute Drop Off and Pick Up Area 8:00 AM – 9:30 AM 2:30 PM – 4:00 PM School Days Only —
- No Parking, Motor Vehicles Excepted —
- Proposed Double Barrier Lines =
- Proposed Edge Line —
- Required Pedestrian Fencing =
- Existing Student Behaviour →
- Anticipated Future Student Behaviour →
- Existing Driveways ①
- Mater Maria Pedestrian Entrance ★