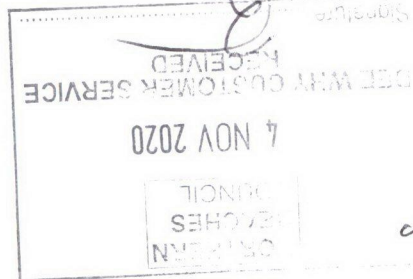


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31 Ferguson St
Forestville
NSW 2087

Telephone 9451 8252

4th November '20

The Secretary,
Northern Beaches Council

Dear Sir, Mrs.

I write with reference to DA 2018 (1924) on Council's website, concerning Forestway Shopping Centre, Frenchs Forest and updated plans for handling access and disposal or dispersal of increased motor vehicle traffic.

The proposed closing of Russell Ave. access to Forest Way is undoubtedly going to increase the moving of departing and arriving car traffic via the proposed Grace Ave. entry and exit, and accordingly, the neighbouring light duty residential A class streets to the extreme detriment of the safety and amenity considerations of all those streets.

As a long-time residence for my wife & young family (& myself) during their upbringing and then some adult period before moving away from home, that is, here at 31 Ferguson St Forestville since 14th May 1960, I consider myself well experienced and personally informed on traffic to and from Frenchs Forest and Forestville shopping centres. Back street traffic was forcefully banned in one direction during morning peak periods by Police control during reconstruction of Warringah Rd, Forest Way and Mares Rd to improve safety & smooth access to the Northern Beaches Hospital and city-suburban traffic via our suburbs.

A very careful and experienced reversing of my panel van into my driveway in order to effect a frontal departure as is desirable and quite legal either way, almost resulted in an idiotic driver of an Audi sedan wiping out both vehicles

cont'd over

② in a 70 km/hr arrival over the Ferguson street "Crest" up from Helvie St. which has a stop sign only entry into Ferguson St. My swift, repeated and competent observations, good hearing & excellent reflexes, medically assessed, for my age in abandonment of my already started reversing turn prevented a major collision, the "idiot" disappearing into the distance at about 70 km/hr. The 40 km/hr "slow" and "adult led children" signs at the respective eastern and western ends of Ferguson St. are usually ignored by most motorists anyway. In fact many motorists and motor cyclists use this straight section of Ferguson St., some of it quite steeply inclined, up the Crest as an ideal 80 km/hr acceleration, speed and exhaust noise "thrill" (so called) testing site. I had an on-site discussion with a Northern Baches Council representative (notably engineer) about 3 yrs ago after that incident and a joint decision was taken to defer action on the speed problem which apparently is a matter to be dealt with the police, ie deferred till road construction for Forestway and Warrigah Rd was complete. This Ferguson St incident some 3 yrs ago is typical of what can and still does occur in these quiet streets.

Now we are faced with the prospect of arguably a 60% to 70% increase of traffic in these streets such as immediately outside our home and driveway access simply for provision of entry and exit streets for a proposed re-development project in the adjoining suburb of Frenchs Forest and, of course, beyond, to and from the City and Chateau etc. via Grace Ave. Brown St, Helvie St, & Bentley & Leach Sts; but also Altona Rd. Woodlands Rd but more importantly the Ferguson St main traffic light access to Forestville Shopping Centre and the southern side of our suburb & Bittern Mts. via the previously ^{proposed} Ferguson St. and our home address of 60 yrs.

③ Some mention of the new bus parking lane being moved further North on Forest Way to the vicinity of opposite Nance Rd. is, I would dare to say, unsafe and ridiculous if the shopping centre larger than ever is remaining where it is now, and considering major recent changes to that site.

In the longer section of our street between Woodlands & Warringah Rds. some years ago, where these two 40 km/hr signs are, 80 children were residing, from my personal count; the current number I have not counted but it can give us some indication.

I am firmly of the opinion that this is a proposal which would be destructive of the amenity and safety of some of the best and most valuable streets in this suburb of Forestville.

On a more forward looking and ambitious note, I ask that "whatever has happened to the proposal to move the main Forest town Centre to the site of the present Forest High School ovals, when the school is probably sooner than later to be demolished for a complete refurbishment or renewal?" This was to mean that the High School would be moved to alongside the Warringah Aquatic Centre, providing possible use of several existing playing fields and water activity complex for school students as well as the general public. New wider and recently altered roadways in those locations remove the problem of ruining a large portion of the suburbs of Forestville and Frenchs Forest since the commercial use of Forestway Shopping Centre would be transferred to the new town centre site and the present site used for residential purposes, using three or four levels of units, as was part of the original proposal of shopping centre, offices and increased residential premises. Please look ahead, well ahead, in

(14) This current planning process. Incidentally, what consideration of the needs, present and future of the Frenchs Forest Primary & Infants schools and the Forest Hill United Church with this large increase in motor traffic in those back streets - a major factor to be considered and not put to one side for now!

Further ahead in planning, I submit, for your consideration, the final, viable solution for all of these woes caused by the necessary use of the motor car. To this end I enclose a copy of an old letter I sent to our sitting Prime Minister at the time, the Hon. Tony Abbott, M.H.R. on 9th December 2003 concerning long distance planning for this beautiful Combined Northern Beaches region from both residential - commercial and geographical considerations, among the best in the world, which many have discovered and openly declared. A copy of that old letter I enclose with this submission and look forward to comprehensive and intelligently formulated plans to remove the very real problems which could result from these current proposals and furthermore avoid missing great opportunities ahead.

Yours faithfully, Alan Mann

P.S. Please accept my apologies for the handwritten work; my faithful typist is ill & indisposed at this time

Alan Mann

not current Prime Minister

* at that time current Federal Member for Warringah & Minister for Health & Ageing, under leadership of Prime Minister Hon John Howard.

A.M.