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Subject: Online Submission

20/01/2021

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RE: DA2020/1758 - 11 Lewis Street BALGOWLAH HEIGHTS NSW 2093

I would like to strongly object to the proposed development of a child care facility at 11 Lewis St Balgowlah Heights. As a parent at the school and a strong advocate of active transport as a healthy and sustainable mode of access to school, I consider that the proposed application presents a real and very large threat to the safety of children accessing the school.

The traffic and parking assessment submitted as part of the application does not consider the pedestrian/vehicular conflict at the point of access of the proposed development. The assessment has estimated 46 vehicle movements into and out of the site in the 2 hour morning peak period, but has completely neglected to consider the number of children and parents crossing this point on foot (or other active transport methods) and the impact this would have on this very important mode.

While the traffic and transport assessment has included pedestrian counts, no consideration has been given to the impact on these movements by the proposed development and resulting additional traffic.

Please ensure the pedestrian/vehicular conflict at the point of access is assessed and any required mitigating features to ensure the safety of the children crossing the access point are included in the development.

If Council is truly committed to improving pedestrian and cycling access to Balgowlah Heights Public School, allowing a development which results in direct conflict between vehicles and children right next to the school is not an effective way to do this. It will significantly impact upon the safety of school access and would likely result in more parents driving their children to school, further exacerbating the already significant traffic congestion issues around the school.

Additionally, I am concerned about the impacts of construction on the school. With the construction of underground parking directly adjacent to the school, it would be anticipated that a significant period of noise and vibration impacts would be experienced by children in the Year 3 classrooms, the science classroom and other rooms along the boundary, together with the playground. This is not acceptable from an educational or health perspective.

Please consider these significant impacts on the children of Balgowlah Heights Public School and surrounding residents when assessing this application.

Regards,

Christine Atkins