## MATER MARIA CATHOLIC COLLEGE PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

2 Elwyn Close Mona Vale NSW 2103

Telephone 99976388

Mark Ferguson General Manager Pittwater Council PO Box 882 MONA VALE NSW 1660

RECEIVED 14 MAY 2007 PITTWATER COUNCIL

Dear Mr Ferguson

## PROPOSED REZONING OF 4-8 FOREST ROAD, WARRIEWOOD App Ref R0001/05

I am writing on behalf of the Mater Maria Catholic College Parents' Association concerning the proposal before Council for rezoning of 4-8 Forest Road, Warriewood.

A meeting of Mater Maria Catholic College parents was convened on Monday 2 April 2007 to discuss the proposal. The meeting agreed to bring to the attention of Council the concerns of parents about the impact of the proposed rezoning at the construction stage and afterwards.

The safety of students, staff and other pedestrians who use Forest Road to access the College is of paramount importance. It is clear from the size and nature of the rezoning that there will be a significant increase in vehicular movement through Forest Road and that this will overburden what is now a very busy street.

There is no indication on the draft plan that there will be any major change to the existing traffic flow arrangements at the entrance to the proposed site even though it is evident from the contours shown on the plan show that entry from the existing roundabout is up a very steep hill.

While one-way traffic into the proposed site may reduce traffic flow, it will also create a funnel effect in the uphili run from the roundabout at the entry to the College. It is preferable that the exit of traffic from 4-8 Forest Road be through a wider street such as Jubilee Avenue.

There is already heavy bus traffic in the periods before and after school with State Transit and Forest Coaches buses entering the school to deliver and collect students. Pedestrian and vehicular movement in this period is also at its peak.

There is currently no provision for a pedestrian crossing in either Forest Road or McPherson Street even though traffic in the area has increased significantly with the construction of housing estates adjacent to the school. The development proposed

## MATER MARIA CATHOLIC COLLEGE PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

for 4-8 Forest Road will add significantly to traffic passing the school and increase the danger to pedestrians.

Forest Road is narrow and so there is little likelihood of pedestrian safety zones or a median strip being constructed in Forest Road to separate traffic. Parking is already severely limited especially since the construction of the parking bays on the Southern side of Forest Road. The previous pick-up and drop provisions appear to have been replaced by badly designed parking bays that do not allow the easy flow of vehicles for the set down and pick-up of students.

Heavy vehicles should not be allowed past the school entrance in the construction stage or at least restricted during the morning and afternoon student drop off and pick up times. It would be preferable for all heavy vehicles to enter the construction site through Jubilee Avenue which is much wider street already frequented by commercial vehicle traffic because of the light industry located there.

Mater Maria Catholic College Parents' Association calls on Pittwater Council to:

- Examine the pedestrian needs in Forest Road and McPherson Streets and introduce measures that will guarantee the safety of students and other pedestrians in this vicinity.
- Arrange an independent traffic and pedestrian study of Forest Road and McPherson Streets to better assess the impact of vehicular traffic to and from the proposed site at 4-8 Forest Road once it is completed.
- Consider restricting general residential entry to the site through Jubilee Avenue and allowing entry by Forest Road to be limited to emergency and essential vehicles.
- Develop controls for the flow of heavy vehicles into 4-8 Forest Road during the construction stage. Heavy vehicle movement should at a minimum be banned during the start of school and end of school periods but and preferably required to enter through Jubilee Avenue.

We as a parent body would appreciate being given the opportunity to present our concerns at any forum convened by Council for this purpose.

I look forward to your response.

Mark Horton Parents' Association President

20 April 2007