
Sent: 12/05/2021 12:02:17 PM
Subject: DA2021/0359 Removal of 26 Trees Mona Vale Public School
Attachments: Objection Letter DA 2021-0359 Removal of 26 Trees MVPS.pdf;

Regarding DA2021/0359 Removal of 26 Trees Mona Vale Public School, please find attached my objection letter.

Thank you

Jennifer Smith

Attention: The Assessing Officer

Application Number: DA 2021/0359

Address: Lot 1DP1271246 15 Waratah Street Mona Vale 2103

Description: REMOVAL OF 26 TREES AND PRUNING OF 4 TREES

From: Jennifer Smith

43 Waratah Street Mona Vale 2103

10 May 2021

I most strongly object to the proposed removal of 26 trees within the Mona Vale Public School grounds – **22 of** which are Eucalyptus in order to allow redevelopment to proceed.

As a local resident I have lived at this address for the past 35 years and all my children attended MVPS from 1997-2011. I am absolutely appalled at this proposal.

In the addendum to the Arborist report Table 1 there is listed 38 trees either in the footprint or near the proposed building R. 26 of the 38 trees are targeted for removal.

This is complete **tree annihilation**.

In my opinion the aerial photos provided in the Statement of Environmental Effects are not a true indication of the actual trees left existing on the school site in 2021. How old are these photos? The majority of the trees shown to the west of building Q across to the boundary with 33 Waratah Street have been systematically removed by stealth in the past 10 years. During every school holiday we are witness to the chains saws and mulchers actively removing the trees.

If 26 trees are within the proposed footprint of Building R then I would say that building R **should be relocated** much further to the East opposite Woolworths. Along with the future construction of the Performance Centre to be built within the school grounds at the corner of Waratah St/Bungan Street where even more trees will be removed exacerbating the issue of tree removal. This is a catastrophic outcome for the whole community and not in the Public Interest. In effect the whole of the school frontage to Waratah Street will become **treeless** and all that will be seen is built form. This will also take much needed shade for children playing in this area, which I witness nearly every day.

In Figure 1 of the SOEE building G is not identified. If this is in fact the current library and is to be demolished and replaced with open space as detailed in the Landscape plan then I do not understand nor accept why tree 209, 210, 216, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226 nor 7, 8 and 9 near building Q need to be removed.

All the appendices listed in the SOEE from A-G are in the SOEE document loaded to the Council website however contain no detail. Why has all the supporting documentation not been provided with the application?

I do not understand how the Arborist in their table can say that a tree is healthy in one column and yet it is only in fair condition in the other column thereby justifying its removal as it is located in the proposed building footprint, resulting in a supposed no Safe Useable Life Expectancy (SULE) for the subject trees and they are just going to be removed. Once again, I say **building R should be sited in a different location** where there is no impact on the 26 trees targeted for removal.

I do acknowledge that this application is for the removal of trees but what I do not understand how any DA (Complying or Exempt) can allow the removal of 30 critical off street carparking spaces for the Teachers forcing them to park on the street. The parking at the rear of the school off Mona Vale

Road is not sufficient in my opinion to compensate for this loss. As the school population is proposed to increase with the school refurbishment (Page 16 of the SOEE) then more teachers will be required and hence more parking required. There currently is not enough parking in the Mona Vale Village Centre and surrounding streets and this is only going to become a worse situation with a growth in population. The streets surrounding the school are already gridlocked much of the time with minimal traffic flow and no on street parking.

I am at a complete loss to understand how putting a building on what is now a well utilized and essential car park makes any sense at all. In the last 35 years we have witnessed numerous incidents where Emergency vehicles of Fire, Ambulance and Police have entered the school grounds through this car park. In my opinion this promotes a significant safety impact on not only to the School community but also the wider community as the whole as Waratah Street will become impassable for significant periods of time whenever an Emergency response to the school is required.

I note that there is alleged no Koalas on the School site however what about other tree dwelling native animals and birds- Kookaburras, Rainbow Lorikeets, Owls, Magpies, Noisy Miner, Brush Tail and Ringtail Possums. The SOEE states that there is no impact on the wildlife. I do not agree. The removal of 26 trees will be devastating to all native wildlife removing their well established habitat, which has existed on site for many decades.

It is my opinion that removing **26 existing trees**, to allow Building R to proceed and only replacing with **11 new** trees in the vicinity of building R is **grossly unsatisfactory**.

In conclusion I would request the application **DA 2021/0359** for tree removal **be refused**.