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03/11/2020

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RE: DA2018/1924 - Forest Way FRENCHS FOREST NSW 2086

I'm writing to express my concern at the proposed traffic restrictions around the new development of the ForesWay shopping centre. I understand that changes will be made to the exit and entry points for the shopping centre to the extent that this will be accessible only from Grace Avenue. Given that there is a school right by the centre on Grace Avenue and as it's aN long established suburban street with residential housing and parking both sides I cannot see how this would be safe and would surely cause an increase in traffic burden and potentially create risk for accidents as the street was never intended for this type of heavy traffic? I live at Yallumba close and already I am impacted by the one-way Grace Avenue restriction to 845 am. My son takes the bus to school from the car park at Grace Avenue from 7:30 am but I cannot go home the same way that I came. I must instead turn right onto Grace right up to Adam Street where I can at last turn right back onto Forest way and again right onto Warringah Road to the Altona right hand turn back to Deacon. All this takes me through additional traffic that I don't need to face and also forces me to cross over the very busy and tricky turning at Altona during peak traffic time. In addition to this I understand that it is proposed to close access to Grace Street from Russell Avenue? At present I can turn left up Forest way towards Bunnings and beyond or I can turn right to get back onto Forest way towards DY or back to wards my home forestville. Likewise I can take a right hand turn down Forest way and slip into Russell Avenue to take me to the shopping centre or Grace Avenue to get home if there are any issues with Forest way or Warringah Road as has been the case when we have lost power or trees are down. Without this additional access point I fear that the roads around the Grace Avenue Russell Avenue and surrounding areas would be jammed with more and more cars having to detour unnecessarily and they could also be potential safety issues by restricting access to a large part of the community their homes. I am pretty shocked at the proposals to be honest as there seems to be a real lack of understanding of just how the community around Forest way and Forestville is set out and the demographic of the residents of the local area given the many schools that are around or have buses that converge on the Forestway location. I truly hope that this issue is reconsidered and sufficient time is allowed to come up with workable alternatives that meet the requirements of the local community. Many thanks.