
Sent: 2/07/2020 2:16:31 PM
Subject: DA2020/0484 submission
Attachments: cemetery DA feedback submission.docx;

Kind Regards
Gabrielle and Derek Smith
14 Hakea Ave Frenchs Forest 2086

RE: DA2020/0484 – 7335/1152473

We refer to the above DA and express our objection to the development of a chapel in the location outlined in the DA.

Northern Cemeteries defined two unique features of the Frenchs Forest Bushland Cemetery. These were; 1. Maintaining the bushland setting and surrounds, and 2. Operating harmoniously within a residential setting. This DA goes against both those principles.

The key issues are:

Position of chapel: The location should be moved to a more central area of the cemetery. This would minimise traffic and noise and would have less impact on the cemetery boundaries and adjoining residential areas. A more embedded chapel would provide a more peaceful environment within the chapel and surrounding gardens for the grieving families as you would not hear street traffic and pedestrians/walkers/joggers etc along the road (setback is not to local standards). Also, the entry/exit point at 1 Hakea Ave is in a dangerous blind spot on a bend in Hakea Ave where cars speed down the road.

The building itself: The building height is noncompliant and the colour is not harmonious with its surrounds. The rationale for the excessive building height is not sufficient to warrant going beyond the development guidelines.

Vegetation: We cannot see where the trees T212, T213, T214 and T217 that are designated for removal are currently located. The landscaping plans are mostly concerned about the internal gardens and more information about the vegetation is required along the boundaries (the vegetation along Ashworth and Hakea Ave has been decimated over the past two years). The suggested screening plants along Hakea are vastly insufficient and will not hide much of the chapel from the neighbours opposite.

Hours of operation: Other Northern Cemeteries properties operate services 7 days a week, so can we assume that this will be the case with the new chapel and will the proposed mortuary operate 24 hours?

Northern Cemeteries has spent millions on developing the cemetery over the past few years with no consultation with the community until they had to do so with this DA. They have a poor track record in managing trucks entering and exiting at all hours, significant dirty storm water runoff down Hakea Ave and building noise with the current development at the northern part of the cemetery.

We are not against cemetery development and understand that Sydney needs additional burial space. This current DA however, will have a significant negative impact on the residential community it has operated harmoniously within for the past 80 years. We ask that the Council review this DA and take on board the concerns of many residents in the area.

Kind Regards

Gabrielle and Derek Smith

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