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31/01/2020

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

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I welcome the prospect of Forest Way Shopping Centre being renovated and enhanced. I do however hold some significant concerns as to the impact of increased traffic generated by the re-developed centre on the network of residential streets to the South and South West. Specifically the impact of incremental traffic to both the amenity and utility of Grace Avenue, Altona Avenue, Deakin Street, Bentley Avenue and Brown Street.

These narrow residential streets are used to circumvent the Forest Way and Warringah Road intersection, with access North/South via the traffic lights at Brown Street. Currently these streets are often gridlocked during peak hours due to the volume of through-traffic and traffic destined for the centre. With the proposed right-hand turn at traffic lights leading directly from the centre to Forest Way rejected, Grace Avenue towards Altona Ave will be the only route south of the centre that offers traffic lights allowing a commute to the South.

The Amended Traffic Report - modified Oct 2019, cites an additional 165 to 205 vehicles twoway per hour during peak along Grace Avenue. The rejection of the right-hand turn onto Forest Way will impact these projections significantly. Regardless, the addition of 165 plus vehicles per peak hour to these already choked streets will exacerbate the existing gridlocks which already often prohibit residents from leaving their driveways. Additionally point 3.37 states; "Any increase in traffic on Grace Avenue (south of the site access) would be local residents accessing the shopping centre." With only the one access point from the centre towards the South and traffic lights, it won't only be local residents using Grace Avenue to access/leave the centre. All those intending on travelling towards the Roseville Bridge will be required to take this route to benefit from traffic lights.

I'd like to submit a request for traffic modelling on the flows beyond the immediate entry/exit to the centre in light of the lack of a right-hand turn onto Forest Way and an assessment of the impact of the additional congestion on the local residents.