

Thank you for this opportunity to speak on the Lindfield Village Hub Community Reference Committee

You have received written submissions from some of the other Committee members - Dr Nadia Iacono, Sarah Davis, Linda McDonald and Lilian Wong. The reaction has been surprise, disappointment, perplexed, and a wish to correct misleading impressions

There are seven community members of the Committee and we were appointed last year from 20 applicants. We made written submissions addressing Council's selection criteria and attended interview with the General Manager, Craig Calder and Virginia Leafe.

The Lindfield Village Hub Community Reference Committee is an advisory committee to support and guide community involvement in the project. The committee provides advice to Council on community related development outcomes in the following areas:

- Communication and engagement
- Place making
- Environmental sustainability
- Planning and design outcomes
- Service delivery
- Social procurement

The Committee has been feeling its way - we were a group of strangers - but has worked hard. We have also been guided by the code of conduct – Integrity, Leadership, Selflessness, Objectivity, Accountability, Openness, Honesty, Respect and avoiding conflict of interest.

We have not yet seen representatives from Transport for NSW and Main Roads. Lindfield is a transport hub.

For my part on behalf of the 416 Group we produced an information flier mid last year which was distributed to the 750 Killara and Lindfield homes west of Lady Game Drive as well as being handed out at Lindfield Station. It included contact details consistent with the role of a reference committee member. The object was to raise awareness of the project. West Killara, West Lindfield residents drive to the Village Hub site about 3km from their homes without encountering a traffic light. They are daily users of Lindfield station and shop at Lindfield Coles. They are part of the core market for the Lindfield Village Hub

The 416 Group supported Council in not progressing with an unsolicited bid as we were persuaded that the disadvantages/risk outweighed the benefits. Although we thought the bid promising and we in particular supported the pedestrian bridge to address the dangerous Pacific Highway crossing.

The Committee has a lot to offer if Council chooses to use it and to listen. Its members are well informed, know the precinct intimately and through a reading of the surveys and their own inquiry have insights into the views of the community.

The design development of the Hub is evolving and construction is well in the future. It seems to me that the Community would not expect Council to dump the Committee less than a year after it was appointed.

There are many matters to be resolved, that's normal, balancing the needs of the present community versus the future community, that's normal. Compromise - that's normal. I hope you will continue to take advantage of the community resource you have.