

416 Group submission to Ku-Ring-Gai Community Strategic Plan – May 30, 2022

Who are we?

The 416 Group is an association of residents who live in Killara and Lindfield on the west side of Lady Game Drive. Some 750 homes. The area is serviced by Lady Game Drive connecting to Ryde Rd, Grosvenor Rd and Delhi Rd/Milwood Ave and by Fiddens Wharf Rd and Highfield Rd connecting to the Pacific Hwy. Residents in this area particularly shop in Lindfield and commute by train from Lindfield Station.

Whilst the community are residents of Ku-ring-gai they are also affected by developments in the City of Ryde (Porters Creek depot) and Macquarie Park development applications and also by the M2/feeder roads, Sydney Airport (flight paths) and the Lane Cove National Park.

Our community has a particular interest in:

- Protecting the integrity of the national park and the Lane Cove River valley,
- Vehicle and public transport access into and out of the area particular at peak times,
- Commuter parking at Lindfield Station,
- Safe pedestrian access to the Station and
- Installation of footpaths in Killara and Lindfield where none are provided
- Improvements to the Moore Avenue, Lindfield shopping precinct.

Community Strategic Plan

We thank Council for the draft Strategic Plan and the work by staff on its development.

As an overall comment we note the statement that:

“Council has insufficient funding in the LTFP to sustainably manage and improve its existing infrastructure assets and meet community expectations”

And that there is:

“\$111m in revenue from property asset sales included in the budget to fund new capital works and infrastructure renewal”.

Overall:

Based on the planned expenditure in the LTFP and assuming assets sales funds are available as planned, as a whole: • Roads will improve • Footpaths will stay in the same condition • Kerb and Gutter, Car Parks, Road Structures and Bridges will deteriorate • Buildings will deteriorate and not meet building codes nor community expectations • Recreation and park assets will deteriorate and may lead to defective facilities and equipment • Stormwater drains will deteriorate and may lead to blocked pipes, flooding and sink holes. Recent visual inspection has indicated that the condition of drains may require more remediation than previously assessed. Council has insufficient funding in the LTFP to improve and sustainably manage its existing infrastructure assets and meet community expectations

Ku-ring-gai is a wealthy area of Australia with high property values. We would like to see Council engage with the community to a greater degree on the financial constraints under which it operates and the possible pathways to overcome these and so better meet community expectations.

The consequences of these constraints being, for example, lack of footpaths and the ten-year hiatus from when State government funding was announced in 2012 for commuter parking on the west side of Lindfield Station and the situation today with west side parking yet to be built and tenders for the Lindfield Village Hub being reinvented from developers to meet Council's contribution hurdles.

Public transport

The Lindfield Village Hub is the access to Lindfield Train station. Commuter parking is a key component to getting people out of their cars, off the road and onto public transport. 105 of the promised 240 bays have been relocated by Council to the eastern side Village Green development. The balance of 135 is a net gain of approximately only 86 as 49 existing unrestricted bays are lost to the development. Existing street parking used by commuters may be lost to residents and workers in the Village Hub.

The existing pedestrian crossing over the Pacific Highway is not safe and the means must be found to add a pedestrian bridge to the Village Hub project.

Footpaths

A new footpath is planned for 2022/3 for Bradfield Rd in Lindfield from Charles St to Carramar Rd. This footpath needs to be extended to the end of Bradfield Rd. Another priority road for a footpath identified in the area and notified to Council is Albert Drive.

Traffic Congestion

Developments in the City of Ryde LGA particularly on Delhi Rd and in Macquarie Park and beyond have increased traffic congestion at the north and south ends of Lady Game Drive with queuing increasing and long wait times at traffic lights. Development cannot continue year after year without consideration of essential road infrastructure and the considerable challenge created by the Lane Cove Valley. The Community Strategic Plan must address working with City of Ryde, Department of Planning and Environment and Department of Transport to protect the interests of Ku-ring-gai residents.

The toll on NorthConnex and greater driving distance via the M2 incentivises many non-local drivers to use the Pacific Highway. This traffic affects the quality of life in Ku-ring-gai in many ways and overtime will continue to erode the viability of retailers on the highway. Recommended that Council support a study for a new road tunnel from south of Chatswood north to the M1.

Moore Avenue, Lindfield shopping precinct

It is recommended that a masterplan be developed to address the shortcomings of the Moore Avenue shopping precinct and realise its opportunities.

Housing mix

To provide for the changing population consideration to be given to infill low rise duplex or villa development subject to maintaining biodiversity

www.416group.org