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Herring Rd Urban Activation Precinct submission

I have been involved in all of the collaborative processes that have said to have taken place since the original announcement took place back in 2012. The promised consultation process I am still awaiting for as everything I have attended seems to have been manipulated and made people do and act in the desired way that the government wanted, trying to influence people of all types of education into believing that they are having a say, When all I have seen is people telling us what they want to hear,

Now I believe the time has come that the public will now be able to have a say and do it in the way they choose.

There are 3 main areas that I feel need to be mentioned in detail as it appears that the redevelopment of the Herring Rd UAP area for financial gain of the wealthy and possible gain for government bodies who may be willing to put the almighty dollar in front of PEOPLE. From many inquiries over many months leading up to the public display which I may add is far from what was promised, there appears to be many foreign investment opportunities, which have priced out the many of the people who have lived in the area for many years. Perhaps the saddest aspect of all this is the fact that this area was once a rural area with farming, even more concerning is that if my friend grandfather could now see what is proposed he would have been very sad as he once owned part of what will soon become a concrete jungle.

I am not actually against development as long as it is not all high rise and aimed at the most wealthy of the population. Students too deserve a safe place to stay but not at the disadvantage that may happen to the people that already live in the area. Social disadvantage is truly been shown here.

It was interesting to note that the display and information that was given at The Stamford hotel and the display that was held in the Ivanhoe community centre were so different, Not just in explanations but in who turned up from the political fronts. What I heard at the Ivanhoe display was interesting in that part of the information where not correct and where aimed at trying to delude the residents that were able to attend, many missed out as they do work or are actually now too scared to get involved. I am very sure that you all knew that Ryde Council actually had plans a long time before the UAP was actually announced and if you don't then I personally

find it hard to believe, I have an active interest in the council and have even actually been a candidate for election. Yes an Ivanhoe tenant was a candidate.

Now to the points that need great attention before anything could happen and be truly successful in the Herring Rd UAP.

1. Social Infrastructure

The schools in the Ryde area are already at capacity. To be able to give the education in the local area many schools are going to need a huge amount of money to be able to build so to be able to offer children in primary and secondary schools a chance at education that is actually in the area that they live. The local schools are extremely underfunded as can be seen in the following article.

NEWSLOCAL

Student numbers blow out by more than 10 per cent at local schools

- KATE BASTIANS
- NORTHERN DISTRICT TIMES
- MAY 01, 2014 12:01AM

STUDENT numbers have blown out by more than 10 per cent at many local schools, sparking a call from parents for more State Government funding to expand schools and to add more teachers.

The 2014 enrolment figures, published by the Education Department last week, showed the student population grew by more than ten per cent in the last year at Carlingford Public School, Epping Heights Public School, Gladesville Public School, Meadowbank Public School, Ryde Public School and West Ryde Public School.

See the enrolment figures for your school

at:<https://www.det.nsw.edu.au/media/downloads/about-us/statistics-and-research/key-statistics-and-reports/enrolments-feb14.pdf>.

Thousands more people would move into the area as three urban activation precincts — the Epping town centre; Herring Rd in Macquarie Park and the area around North Ryde train station — come to fruition.

West Ryde Public School president Alan Khaw called for more classrooms, teachers and resources to help with the increasing population, which had risen to 389 this year from 343 last year and 307 in 2012.

He said the school could absorb extra students but “without the funding support for our school, the exponential growth of 25 per cent in two years cannot be sustained.”

Mr Khaw said their P & C has had to hold fundraising events to cope with the rising student population.

“Existing schools should be expanded,” Mr Khaw said.

“A provision for capital expenditure should be created in order to address demographic change and growth needs.”

Epping Boys P & C president Rosemary Dwyer said the increase is not sustainable.

She said extra classrooms could be built at the school but there was a need to upgrade existing classrooms, science and computer labs, school hall and sports facilities.

“Extra teachers would be needed, extra English as a Second Language funding for the expected population, and support staff.

“Many local schools would find it very difficult to expand at all, so long term the answer must be additional school sites.”

Ryde Secondary College P & C President Anthony Clarke would like to see their school upgraded with more classrooms and an expansion to their multi-purpose centre.

“We like the size we are now due to the options and opportunities it gives us but we need more facilities. There is absolutely space to do this — it just needs the investment.”

He called on the Education Department to get proactive and for better consultation between State and local Governments to forecast anticipated needs more effectively.

“The whole area will grow a lot more as it is the fastest growing economic area in Australia at the moment ... so planning and thought needs to go into this now.”

A Department of Education and Communities spokesman said the department was aware of enrolment patterns at schools in the Ryde and North Sydney local areas and continues to investigate options to increase capacity in these areas.

“Enrolment pressures at government schools have risen in recent years due to a number of factors including denser infill residential development in metropolitan areas, especially along major rail and road corridors; more families staying closer to the CBD; and sustained birth rates and higher levels of migration.

“The Department constantly monitors demographic trends and plans ahead for future educational needs. The Department consults extensively with the Department of Planning and Infrastructure, Councils, and developers in Sydney and across NSW.”

He said there was capacity within Marsden High School, Epping Boys High School and Ryde Secondary College to accommodate anticipated future enrolments.

Having been a member of the P & C at Ryde secondary collage since my daughter started year 7, now completing her HSC and a prefect at the school. Many times this has been discussed and the future is going to make it even harder, where will all these extra children go to school?

Ryde public hospital which is the local hospital in the area is already in need of an urgent upgrade, The number of people that is needed to be handled now is not been met , so in the future the massive increase in population is going to create a bigger and probable life threatening problem.

This can be seen clearly in the statistic from the following link:

<http://www.myhospitals.gov.au/hospital/ryde-hospital/services/emergency-department/waiting-times>

Social, affordable and public housing are all a strategic part in any planning. The proposal to move Ivanhoe housing estate and have it replaced with huge multi story buildings is not only cruel it is social cleansing. Moving people away so that wealthy can have a perfect oasis to live in. The promise of making sure that t e same amount of dwelling will be built for public housing is not a realistic promise when in reality people will not be able to return as the accommodation will not actually fit the purpose

While it is important those for a healthy community a good mix of people are required. Moving venerable people away from what they feel safe and secure has and will continue to create social and psychological problems.

A few months ago a tenant was speaking to me wanting information about the latest of what will happen, All I could reply was that no new information has been given to any of us, This person then said to me that they wish they were dead as they could not cope, sadly a few days later the person was found dead.

2.Traffic

Reviewing the UAP plans in regards to traffic in the Herring rd. UAP, It is apparent to all people that in peak hours there are excessive delays on all the roads in the UAP area. The addition of a few more roads in the current Ivanhoe estate that will adjoin Waterloo Rd. I am currently a bit of a loss as without Major road changes there are going to be a major problem with the flow of traffic. Turning onto Waterloo rd. will at this point direct traffic to make a left hand turn onto Waterloo Rd and then a left hand turn onto Herring Rd hardly a problem solved.

The amount of traffic is going to increase significantly. It appears the studies have been done in regard to this in your planning report volume 2, 5.1.3. Yet it is very apparent that there is no foretold government infrastructure to resolve any of the problems that currently exist. Currently during peak hour the intersection of Herring Rd and Epping Rd fails during peak hour as does the intersection of Waterloo Rd and Herring Rd. With the impact of development over a period of years it will be made worse for the periods that this is happening. With the addition of 5 000 dwellings, the current problems will only become worse.

The areas that are allocated for parking are already clogged within a 1km radius of the precinct. Increasing this with development will destroy the suburb that we have.

There will be an increase the pollution in the area; I question the street runoff with so much cement and manmade material taking over the precinct

3. Planning & Public Transport

The State Government promised a return of planning powers back to local communities (through their councils). I was impressed with this until the white paper was launched and now it appears the state government simply wants to take and give very little.

I am very aware that Ryde Council has consistently expressed its concerns about the size and mass of the development proposed, the traffic management and modelling, the requirement for a bus interchange, the loss of open space, the impact on Ivanhoe estate and quite a lot more. Sadly these concerns have been ignored.

Public transport may appear to be an answer to a lot of things but the reality is it must always run on time and be able to cope with unexpected demand.

The shadowing diagrams which are not an all year indication will create in the coldest part of winter (The morning) heavy shadowing to the residents across the Epping Rd, Decreasing there value for the sake of wealthy investors.

There are concerns for the elderly, disabled and families that live on Ivanhoe estate. Sadly this whole process has in so many ways created a difficult situation over 3 years now. Consultation is interesting when all people hear is what the government wish us to hear. There is so much information that has been kept to them until you find documents from the internet which shows what we are not meant to know.

Development is a necessity as our country continues to grow, but creating a huge city in this area I feel is allowing for a sad state of affairs. It would be hoped that if this was all to happen that there would be more studies done on the social impact not just on the Ivanhoe estate but on other residents that reside in the precinct. There are many new an interesting ways of using the natural resources that we have wind, water and sun.

It is also very sad that people have not been made aware that the North Ryde UAP joins the Herring Rd UAP and the reality is that the Government want a mega city of Ryde without a consultation process that has not been transparent

Development can work but high rise is not always the answer, perhaps the State government could fix the problem that exist all over Sydney and have busses and trains service all of the growing Sydney suburbs. In saying that people will be able to work and live in close proximity it hardly going to happen as many people change jobs and they cannot be guaranteed a job in Macquarie Park just because they live in Macquarie Park.

Yours Sincerely

Vicki Newstead CDAA.