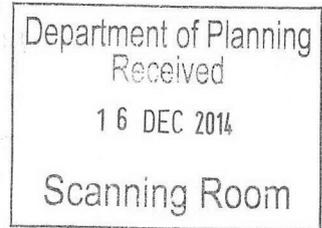




30 Studley St.,  
Mulgrave  
Victoria 3170

Attention: Growth, Design & Programmes

Department of Planning and Environment  
GPO Box 39  
Sydney  
NSW 2001



Dear Sir/ Madam,

Re: Draft Leppington Precinct Plan

I am writing to object strongly to the proposed development of St Andrews Road into a four-lane sub-arterial road linking Camden Valley way to Campbelltown Road and the F5 freeway.

I belong to the Discalced Carmelite Order, and our Order has a Carmelite Retreat Centre on St Andrew's Road and also a convent for our Nuns. The Discalced Carmelites are a contemplative Order where silence plays a big part in the lives of its members as they pray and sacrifice for the good of all people.

Many lay members of this Order along with many other people have contributed financially in the last few years to fully upgrade and refurbish the Retreat Centre and to build a new Priory for our Friars. Many people use this facility for retreats, meetings, conferences, congresses etc and like myself travel interstate to do so, as there are not an abundance of suitable religious houses for this purpose.

The Discalced Carmelites have been established on St Andrew's Rd for a long time and to change St Andrew's road into a 4 lane sub-arterial road would be devastating for our Retreat Centre, the Nun's convent and also for the peace of the school which is nearby.

It would certainly render the purpose and use of the Retreat centre, useless as it would destroy the peace and quiet which is conducive for retreats and contemplative prayer. This is one of the main reasons that people go there.

To go ahead with this proposal would be totally unjust as the Retreat Centre would become unviable, which will affect the hundreds of people who come there at different times. Thus it would also have a big economic impact on the Carmelite Friars who would not be able to sustain the running and maintenance of the Retreat Centre.

Therefore I ask you to have the proposal to upgrade St Andrews Road to a four-lane sub-arterial road removed from the Draft Leppington Precinct Plan.

Sincerely,

Sandra Johnson OCDS