Director Urban Renewal Department of Planning and Environment GPO Box 39 Sydney NSW 2001

14 September 2015

To whom it may concern

RE: Western Sydney University Submission to Glenfield to Macarthur Urban Renewal Corridor

WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY

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Introduction

The University is pleased to provide a submission to the Department of Planning and Environment on the planned Glenfield to Macarthur Urban Renewal Corridor which seeks to identify additional housing, jobs, services and transport for local communities.

The University recognises and supports Government's integrated planning approach to land use and transport in Western Sydney.

This submission gives consideration to the overall Corridor and Macarthur Precinct as the location of the University's Campbelltown campus.

The University is interested in participating as a strategic stakeholder in ongoing consultation with Planning and Environment in land use and transport planning for the Macarthur Precinct. The University is working with Campbelltown City Council, TAFE South Western Sydney Institute and representatives of adjoining landowners (Maryfields) in jointly planning for land uses within the Precinct including business enterprise along Narellan Road.

The University

Western Sydney University is one of Australia's fastest growing universities, with world leading research expertise, more than 40,000 students, rapidly expanding international links, and strong regional engagement focus.

University of Western Sydney ABN 53 014 069 881 CRICOS Provider No: 00917K Locked Bag 1797 Penrith NSW 2751 Australia westernsvdney.edu.au As the largest education provider in Western Sydney, the University plays an important role in leading the economic, social and cultural development of the region in partnership with industry, business, government and community organisations

A multi-campus institution, the University has campuses in Campbelltown, Parramatta, Penrith, Bankstown, Blacktown and Hawkesbury (Richmond), and other sites within and outside of the region. Our student centred approach offers students the choice of on-campus, online and flexible study options together with work integrated learning.

Transport Infrastructure

The University strongly supports greater transport choice and an improved, integrated public transport system for the region. The proposed Western Sydney Orbital and South West Rail Link Extension are critical to providing north south transport connection, including:

- Expanding the wider rail network across Western Sydney;
- Improving regional transport access to the University's Campbelltown campus and TAFE campus together with health services at Macarthur;
- Serving the transport needs generated by residential growth in South Western Sydney; and
- Helping ease traffic congestion on Narellan Road and other major road links.

In its submissions to Transport for NSW the University expressed its support for investigation of further extension of the SWRL to the T2 Line (with potential connection at Menangle), allowing for direct services to Macarthur and Campbelltown. With the Campbelltown campus and TAFE campus located in close proximity to Macarthur rail station, direct and efficient services would make travel by train a more attractive option to students.

While the Corridor strategy is concentrated along the existing T2 Line and considers the benefits of existing public transport, the South West Rail Link Extension can provide significant benefits to the Corridor in terms of broader transport connectivity including connection to the planned Western Sydney Airport.

Innovation Corridor

The Western Sydney Innovation Corridor is an economic development strategy developed by the University to synergise with, and optimise Government planning, infrastructure and investment commitments in Western Sydney. The strategy achieves this by identifying, focusing, activating and growing the region's key, untapped strengths.

Following the arc of the Outer Sydney Orbital and SWRL Extension, the Innovation Corridor links the region's currently diffused and developing innovation entities into an interconnected span of knowledge-driven commercial hubs. The effect is the creation of a consolidated, yet diverse attractor of international (via Western Sydney Airport) and domestic investment that supports sustainable and future-focused economic activity and employment.

The Innovation Corridor links the designated North-West and South-West Growth Centres, integrating the Western Sydney Employment Area and Airport Precinct, while linking together Penrith and Campbelltown-Macarthur Regional City Centres.

New, innovative industries are drawn to regions with low start-up costs, a pool of young, highly skilled people, and connections to the broader 'knowledge economy'. Affordable and flexible rent or lease options, potential tax breaks and regulatory concessions add to the mix, creating an environment where highly educated, entrepreneurial employees at the start of their career work together to create a commercial zone known globally for its innovative practices and outcomes.

The region's existing large-scale innovation entities provide the bedrock on which to build a highly adaptable, internationally competitive and technology engaged Corridor.

Starting from the North, the Innovation Corridor would comprise:

- Hawkesbury Agripark enterprise themed around horticulture, environment, and agriculture at Hawkesbury campus
- North West Growth Centre
- Sydney IQ Business Park at Penrith campus
- Western Sydney Science Centre at Penrith campus (refer below)
- Sydney Science Park
- Oran Park Town
- Western Sydney Airport and Employment Area
- University of Sydney Camden campus
- South West Growth Corridor
- Campbelltown Integrated Health Hub drawing on expertise across medicine and allied health disciplines at the Campbelltown campus.

There is opportunity to link the proposed Innovation Corridor to the planned Glenfield to Macarthur Urban Renewal Corridor, at the Macarthur Precinct. The Macarthur Precinct strategy aligns with the Innovation Corridor Strategy by highlighting expansion in education and health and growth in knowledge jobs though co-location of business enterprise with the University and TAFE campuses.

Proposed Glenfield to Macarthur Urban Renewal Corridor Strategy

The Strategy details a framework for future growth in south-west Sydney by identifying opportunities for additional homes and jobs close to existing public transport, employment areas and the regional city of Campbelltown-Macarthur.

The Strategy identifies Precinct areas and outlines the future vision and character of each area, the types and number of new homes and jobs that could be delivered by 2031, and the improvements to community facilities, public spaces, the transport network and other infrastructure needed to achieve sustainable growth.

The University will support the planned population growth in terms of access to education, career-ready graduates and the world-class research expertise to deliver on new business enterprise in the Precinct.

Macarthur Precinct

The Macarthur Precinct is the major destination for retail, tertiary education and health services in the region. The University endorses the vision for Macarthur Precinct which seeks to "complement Campbelltown as a Regional City Centre, with world class health facilities, integrated educational institutions, more diverse housing, a premier retail precinct and attractive public spaces." Recognising the planned business park and knowledge job expansion within the Precinct there is opportunity to extend the vision statement to acknowledge employment generation.

With expertise ranging across nursing, medicine, allied health, community health, complementary medicine and e-health, the campus as an Integrated Health Hub will deliver globally integrated innovations in whole-of-community healthcare supporting rapid population growth and the ageing population of the Corridor and the region.

The University is developing a new Clinical School at the Campbelltown campus. A jointly funded project between the University and NSW Government, planning is underway and the new facility is expected to be completed by January 2017.

The University's campus master plan has identified opportunity for business enterprise along the Narellan Road edge of the campus, and this area is generally consistent with the area identified for employment in the Macarthur Precinct strategy for land use.

The Precinct land use strategy also recognises the delivery of a new residential community by the University and NSW Urban Growth. This new community will provide up to 850 new homes and contribute to housing targets to meet population growth within the Corridor.

Should you require further information or would like to discuss this submission, please do not hesitate to contact Michelle Lee, Senior Planning Manager (02) 4570 1832 or by email at <u>michelle.lee@westernsydney.edu.au</u> should you require clarification or further information in relation to the University's submission.

Yours sincerely,

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