



DISCALCED CARMELITES

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Department of Planning and Environment
Housing Land Release
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

17 November 2015

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Greater Macarthur Land Release Strategy (GMLRS)

I write as Prior of the Carmelite Community of Friars, Varroville, and as a member of the Scenic Hills Association (SHA).

I wish to endorse in its entirety the SHA submission and also the submission made by Sr Jocelyn Kramer on behalf of the Carmelite Nuns, Varroville.

I particularly wish to affirm the proposal in both submissions that the ill-conceived plan to build a cemetery in the Campbelltown Scenic Hills at Varroville be considered far better situated within the Greater Macarthur Land Release Area.

In support of this proposal I draw attention to the following supporting points made in the submissions

- Cemetery planning has been, for whatever reason, a glaring omission in the GMLRS
- The new government agency Cemeteries and Crematoria NSW (CCNSW) recently released its Strategic Plan in which it noted that cemeteries and crematoria are 'critical community infrastructure' (p.8) and one of its priorities is to 'ensure that cemeteries and crematoria are considered during land use planning' (p.21).
- In 2011, the NSW Government conducted a survey of potential burial sites in the Greater Sydney Metropolitan Area in which it identified three sites in Macarthur which appear to be within the Greater Macarthur Land Release Investigation Area (GMLRIA). No sites were identified in Campbelltown Scenic Hills.
- "According to the CCNSW Strategic Plan, cemetery space in Sydney generally will not be exhausted until 2050..... There is therefore sufficient time to plan wisely and carefully to avoid land use conflicts and to

optimise access by road... and rail.”

- As ‘the CCNSW is gathering information and putting in place critical guidelines over the next two years to guide proper planning for cemeteries, we submit that no major plan such as that proposed for Varroville should be rushed through the planning process before the CCNSW’s research is completed and proper guidelines are in place’
- “There is time to get it right”.
- **Conclusion: “We consider that the proposed Macarthur Memorial Park should be relocated into the Greater Macarthur area where it will serve a region of rapid population growth.”**

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'P. Maunder', with a stylized, cursive script.

Fr Paul Maunder OCD

Prior