

RESPONSE TO ST LEONARDS & CROWS NEST STATION PRECINCT INTERIM STATEMENT

This document is lodged on behalf of the Naremburn Progress Association (NPA) in responding to the invitation to comment on the subject Statement.

As an overarching and high level response to the Statement, NPA is generally supportive of the directions indicated and the broad outcomes sought. However by its nature the objectives lack detail and are broad brush, so the support is one of cautious optimism until that finer detail can be provided.

Some specific comments:

1. We are strongly supportive of the retention of Naremburn and Crows Nest for “lower density residential development”, which recognises the existing Naremburn and Holtermann Conservation Areas. We are also supportive of the need for “appropriate transitions” between higher density areas and these heritage areas and seek to work with approval authorities to ensure satisfactory outcomes. It is also good to see recognition of the fact that “heritage conservation areas contribute to the character of the area”.
2. We await further details of the Special Infrastructure Contribution (SIC) plan to be revealed in Stage 2, from the perspectives of both Source and Application of funds.
3. NPA is strongly supportive of the Strategic Review item concerning the need to retain the Artarmon industrial area for protection of employment and urban services.
4. Now that Council amalgamations will not eventuate, the opportunity to have a single authority managing development in the St Leonards area will no longer be available. Nonetheless, every effort should be made to ensure developments south of the Pacific Highway are sensitive to the needs of the community and the overall amenity of the area.
5. The same can be said for the Christie Street area, which already suffers traffic gridlock for extended periods. Any further developments in this area must carefully consider potential impacts on traffic, parking, service vehicles, emergency access, pedestrians and the like.
6. Other infrastructure needs such as schools must also be considered at an early stage. Whilst vertical schools might provide part of the answer, the provision of additional open space and playground areas is crucial, and cannot be ignored.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback regarding this Interim Statement.

Roger Promnitz

President, Naremburn Progress Association Inc.