

I am making a brief submission on the interim Greater Macarthur 2040 plan. Although I did attend one of the information sessions, I believe there were not enough of them given the size of the area involved and the scale and scope of the plan, and that they should have been held at a variety of times (including more recently), and over a wider spread of locations. The exhibition of this plan over the December January holiday period has impacted on the community's ability to fully address all the relevant issues, and has no doubt resulted in people not recalling details of the information sessions, and possibly forgetting to make a submission at all.

I believe there should be an extension to the exhibition period, wider advertising of the plan's existence, and that there should be further information sessions.

I do not live in the immediate area, but near the town of Camden, and as well as my concerns for the areas covered in the plan, I believe that the Greater Macarthur 2040 plan will have a significant impact on the area in which I live.

Issues with which I am concerned include:

- The impact on the local koala population
- The nature of the koala reserve
- The impact on the heritage and historical features throughout the area, but especially in Campbelltown, Menangle, Mt Gilead, and Appin
- The impact on productive agricultural land
- The impact on the Nepean River, especially in terms of water quality, and on all of the waterways and the riparian corridors in the area
- The water supply from the Nepean dam network is currently very low, have water supply issues for the expanded population been adequately considered?
- Has there been adequate planning for waste water especially considering the significant growth in neighbouring areas? Will this add to the load of treated water already pumped into the Nepean River?
- Has conservation of the remaining Cumberland plain bushland been prioritised?
- Will existing vegetation, especially trees, and existing landscape features be retained as much as possible?
- Will essential infrastructure, including roads, public transport, medical facilities, schools, and emergency services be in built in line with residential development instead of being provided years after housing has been built?
- What is the nature of the transport corridor – will it be a rail line or metro? How does it connect into the existing rail network?
- How does the koala population will cross the transport corridor?
- What is the nature of the east-west connections?
- Is public transport adequate for the anticipated population growth?
- The commuter hubs along the existing train line from Glenfield to Macarthur, added to the new development further south, will overload a public transport network that is already struggling to cope with demand.
- What will the impact of all this development be on surrounding road networks, such as the Hume Highway, Campbelltown Rd, and Narellan Rd
- Planned expansion of roads such as Menangle Rd and Appin Rd, and the changing of the landscape to suit developers will result in a considerable loss of character from the area

- The ability of developers/landowners to “bring forward” precincts and fund infrastructure could lead to a lopsided approach to the overall development.
- Has the impact of coal mining (past, present and future), and resulting subsidence been adequately considered?
- What are the plans for local jobs in the land release areas?
- Have the people of Campbelltown been adequately consulted on whether they want to be a city centre of high-rise buildings?
- Will the issue of the heat island effect – exacerbated by closely spaced grey roofed buildings – be addressed?
- The history and heritage of the area is being lost, destroying existing communities and their character, and depriving us all of our connection to place.

I hope there will be further consultation before the Macarthur 2040 plan proceeds any further. This is such a large proposal and made even harder to assess as it combines the urban renewal areas to the north and the land release areas to the south. I appreciate that some new developments are appropriate, and that we have this opportunity to comment, but the number and extent of major plans in south west Sydney of late has been overwhelming.

The combination of effects if all these plans proceed will have a substantial impact on the lifestyle, amenity, health and liveability of the all the citizens in the south west area – both those currently living here, and those that will move into the newly developed areas.

Yours sincerely,

Joanne O’Brien