
From:
Sent: Wednesday, 12 July 2023 10:26 PM
To: Records Department
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Objection to DA2023/0130, Site: 109A Church Street Lidcombe NSW 2141; Lot 1 DP 778492

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Dear Councilors,

I am writing to convey my objections to the planned establishment of an organic waste transfer station at 109a Church Street, Lidcombe.

As a long-term resident of this community for over 35 years, I have significant concerns about the development of such a facility in this area for several reasons:

1. **Proximity to Residential Areas:** The proposed facility is in close proximity to high- and medium-density residential areas, including recently developed apartment complexes at 4-34 Church St, townhouse complexes at 11-16 Bachell Ave, and surrounding houses along Church St, Dalley St, and Bachell Ave. Residents would be living within a 100-meter radius of the facility.
2. **Impact on Phillips Park:** The facility is also located near Phillips Park, a recreational area where family activities and sporting events take place every day. This raises major concerns about the health and safety of park visitors.
3. **Air Pollution:** Situated on a hilltop, 109a Church St is vulnerable to easterly and south-easterly winds. Wind speeds exceeding 10-20kph could carry contaminants, pollutants, and odors generated by decomposed waste to nearby lower-lying residential areas.
4. **Inadequate Traffic Impact Assessment:** No independent traffic impact assessment was conducted for a project of this nature. The report provided by EB Traffic Solutions, on behalf of the applicant, lacks any mention of traffic impact and instead presents a mere "guesstimate" based on 47 trucks per day evenly distributed over 16 operating hours. This lack of thorough assessment raises concerns.
5. **Inadequate Infrastructure for Truck Access:** The facility can only be accessed through two narrow passageways: the overpass bridge at the intersection of Church St and Bachell Ave (adjacent to the proposed facility) and the rail underpass at the opposite end. These passageways are not designed or equipped to handle a constant flow of large trucks up to 20 meters in length.
6. **Safety Concerns:** The narrow overpass bridge at the intersection of Church St and Bachell Ave, which is also intended for pedestrian use, has frequently sustained damage from trucks attempting left turns from Bachell Ave onto the bridge. With an additional 47 loaded trucks passing over the bridge, pedestrian safety becomes a significant concern.
7. **Existing Traffic Congestion:** The applicant's traffic report acknowledges the already heavy congestion along Church St, particularly during peak hours leading to Lidcombe station. The addition of four large trucks per hour would further worsen the traffic situation in the area.
8. **Time-Restricted Noise and Air Pollution:** The proposal suggests that the trucks would be limited to early mornings and late nights. This means that a majority of the trucks would be arriving and departing during the early hours and late evenings, causing increased noise and air pollution during the designated noise restriction period (before 8am and after 8pm).
9. **Impact on Wildlife:** North Lidcombe is home to a significant population of Australian White Ibis, which are known scavengers. The establishment of this facility would result in a substantial influx of these birds, potentially spreading contaminants and bacteria from the facility to nearby parks, the town center, and residential areas. A similar influx of Ibis has been observed at the current Cleanaway Auburn Resource Recovery Centre in Sydney Olympic Park.

10. Proximity to the Town Center: Lidcombe serves as a major transport interchange hub and experiences high population density during peak hours and major events at Olympic Park, with the platform being within 400 meters of the proposed facility. The increased air and noise pollution from the facility and traffic poses significant health concerns.

We strongly urge Cumberland Council to seriously consider rejecting this proposal in the best interest of the community.

Regards,