

Dear Cumberland Councillors,

I am writing to you today with deep concern and a resolute objection to the proposed organic waste transfer station (PPSSCC-447 – Cumberland - DA2023/0130) at 109A Church Street, Lidcombe. The potential implementation of this facility poses grave risks to our local community, including severe environmental consequences, hazards to health and safety, and an overwhelming impact on traffic flow in our neighborhood.

Lidcombe, though a relatively small suburb compared to its neighbors, has struggled with underdeveloped infrastructure. The recent surge in housing and high-rise developments has led to an increase in population and an inevitable rise in traffic congestion within the area. Additionally, the exorbitant toll fees on the M4 have forced drivers to seek alternative routes, burdening our residential streets and endangering the safety of our community, especially our children. Given these existing challenges, Lidcombe lacks the necessary infrastructure and space to accommodate an organic waste transfer station.

The proximity of waste treatment facilities to residential homes can have several negative effects on the well-being and quality of life for nearby residents. Waste treatment facilities often release various pollutants into the air, including particulate matter, volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and unpleasant odors. These emissions can lead to poor air quality, resulting in respiratory problems, allergies, and other health issues for residents living in proximity. Furthermore, waste treatment facilities can generate significant noise levels due to the operation of machinery, trucks, and other equipment, causing sleep disturbances, stress, and reduced overall quality of life for residents.

In addition to these concerns, the proposed organic waste station would significantly deteriorate our air quality and contribute to air contamination. Decomposing organic waste emits harmful dioxins, which pose serious health risks when they disperse into the air we breathe. Moreover, the release of methane gases from decomposing waste can negatively impact neighboring communities, further jeopardizing human health. Methane is a potent greenhouse gas that traps heat, contributing to global warming and exacerbating climate change.

Furthermore, waste treatment facilities require regular transportation of waste materials, leading to increased traffic in the area. The influx of heavy trucks and vehicles can congest local roads, create traffic hazards, and pose risks to pedestrians and other motorists. This increased traffic not only disrupts the tranquility and safety of residential neighborhoods but also contributes to the

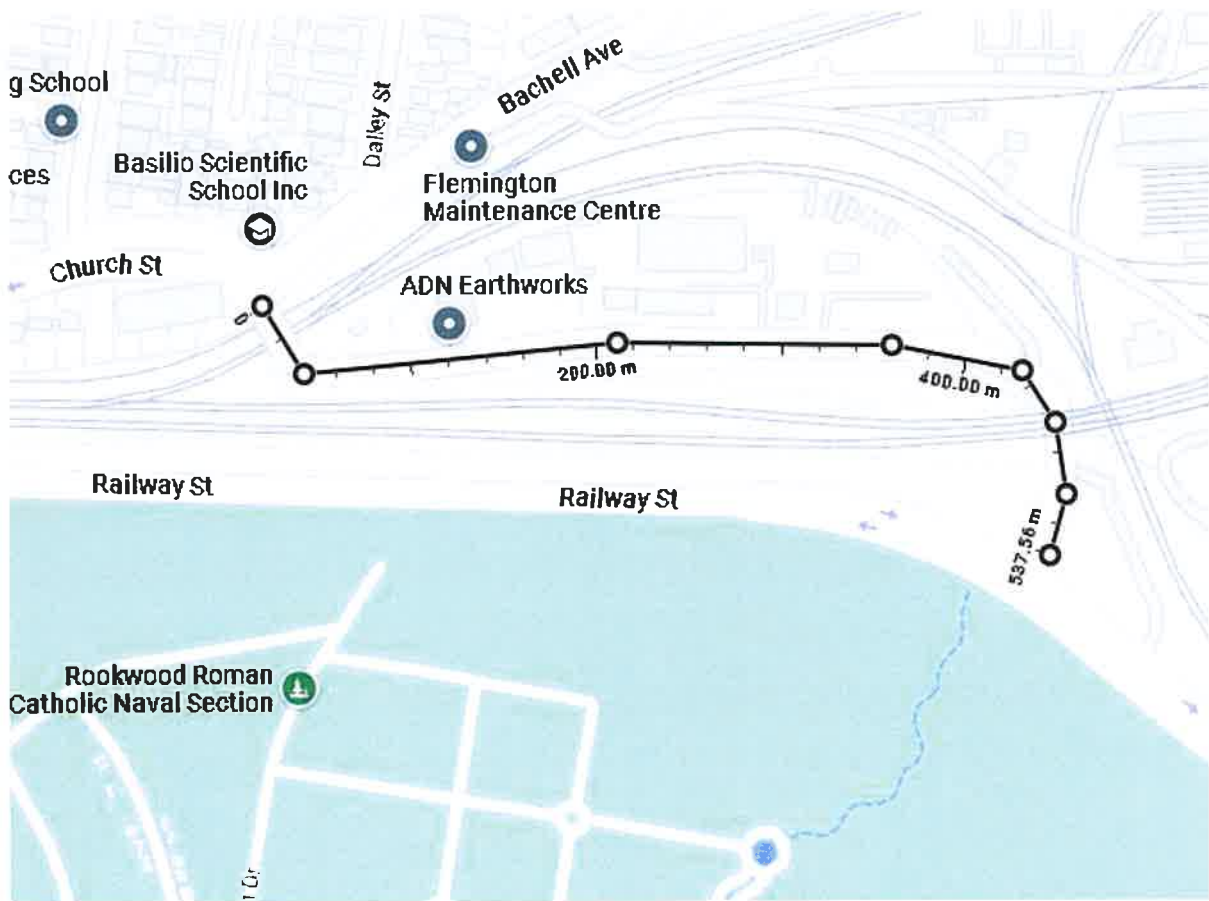
already burdened traffic congestion in Lidcombe. With the addition of 19 onsite car park spaces and if each vehicle apart from the waste delivering trucks makes a pair of movements each day (ie. 2) the minimum to average amount of movements from site to Church Street would be

$$18 \text{ staff space} \times 2 \text{ movements} + 1 \text{ waste vehicle space} \times (60 \times 2) \text{ movements} =$$

136 movements, daily

The recent changeover from a 50 km/h to a 60 km/h limit on the road governing on-site entrance has not improved road clearance given that multiple industrial vehicles and oversized trucks are allowed to park on both sides of the road.

With a narrow-angled bridge at the apex of the corner present in the street, single lane traffic with slow and oversized vehicles and then two sets of red lights that govern a distance of < 550 m. It makes it hard to believe that the development would not overbear the actual road carrying capacity to some extent during peak hours.



Furthermore, the shift occurrence encapsulates both peak hour periods in which Arthur Street turning into Centenary Drive is known to be traffic dense. For example, it is common to turn at the end of Church Street into Railway Street (preceding Arthur

Street). Given a distance upwards of 825m and with traffic backed up to the red light almost always it can take 30 - 1hr for vehicles to clear this distance when travelling to and from work. Considering that waste removal trucks would need to exercise caution when travelling or using start-stop motions and combined with maneuvering in traffic during these peak periods, then topping it off with an minimum to average of 120 movements per day would make it highly unfeasible for the subsequent roads leading out of Church Street to cope.



The potential environmental contamination resulting from improper waste management practices or accidents in waste treatment facilities is another significant concern. Chemical spills, leaks, or improper disposal of hazardous materials can contaminate soil, groundwater, and nearby waterways, posing risks to ecosystems, wildlife, and potentially even human health. Moreover, the presence of a waste treatment facility near residential areas can negatively impact property values, deter potential homebuyers, and lead to a decrease in property values for nearby residents.

Living near a waste treatment facility can also cause psychological stress and social stigma for residents. The perception of living in an undesirable or polluted area can take a toll on mental well-being, leading to anxiety, depression, and social isolation.

The moisture produced by organic waste creates an ideal breeding ground for bacteria and mold, exacerbating health risks. Pests like rats, known carriers of diseases, are attracted to waste stations due to the availability of shelter and a constant food source, facilitating their rapid multiplication. Keeping this in mind, the problem has the potential to result in a catastrophe and serve as a medium for transmitting illnesses such as leptospirosis and salmonellosis.

Given these multifaceted concerns, I implore you to carefully consider the points raised here and reevaluate the proposed development DA2023/0130. The utmost priority should be given to the well-being and safety of Lidcombe residents, alongside the anticipated surge in traffic and its adverse impact on the surrounding environment.

I place my trust in your judgment and sincerely request that you consider the emphasized points, urging you to vehemently oppose the proposal put forth by

Yours sincerely,