

## St Catherine's Development Community Consultative Committee

**Meeting No:** 41

**Date:** Tuesday, 24 September 2023, 6:30pm – 8:00pm

**Venue:** St Catherine's School and Zoom.

<b>Attendees</b>	
<p><b>Community members</b>                      Danny Caretti (DC)                      Eric Kleinman (EK)                      Kate Marshall (KM)</p> <p><b>Waverley Council</b>                      Simon Mueller (SM)</p>	<p><b>St Catherine's</b>                      Andrew Grech (AG)                      Ben McCloghry (BM)</p> <p>Warwick Smith (WS) Sandrick                      Georgina McKean (GM) Sandrick                      Ben Liddell (BL) - Traffix                      Tom Mojsoejuk (TJ) - Traffix</p> <p><b>Independent Chair</b>                      Professor Roberta Ryan (RR)</p> <p><b>Minute taker</b>                      Isa Crossland Stone (ICS)</p>
<p><b>Apologies</b>                      Julie McAlpin (JM)                      Nikolaos Zervous (NZ)</p>	

Item	Description	Action
1	<p><b>Welcome and introductions</b></p> <p>RR welcomes everyone to the meeting. All attendees make their introductions.</p> <p>There are no comments on the previous minutes.</p> <p>As part of his declaration of interest, DC explains that he has sold his residential property to St Catherine's School and will no longer be living in this precinct. DC and RR will discuss this new status in terms of his future on the CCC.</p>	
2	<p><b>Apologies</b></p> <p>JM and NZ are both apologies.</p>	
3	<p><b>Minutes and matters arising</b></p>	

**1. NZ/SM to update on Waverley Council's compliance strategies for traffic around Macpherson Street. (*This is a standing agenda item*).**

SM says that they are continuing to work with the compliance team. They focus particularly on the schools (including St Catherine's) around School hours.

SM says that there is no defined strategy per se, but rather are continuing to focus their efforts.

**2. NZ/SM to provide an update on the proposed works to the roundabout at Macpherson Street and Leichardt Street.**

SM says that they have upgraded the roundabout slightly and made the crossings more accessible.

SM says that there has been a lot of community concern around traffic on Leichardt Street. They are working on a mini-study of this area and may implement some traffic management strategies based on those findings. SM will provide an update to the CCC on the findings and outcomes of the mini-study.

They have not committed to a definite timeline, but they may begin with some light-touch consultation in November.

KM asks how residents will be consulted for this mini-study.

SM says that they do not yet have a method defined, but they know some of the primary community concerns and will likely go about consultation by presenting options to community groups (such as this CCC).

**3. NZ/SM to update on Council's potential installation of a new PUDO near the School for use outside of School hours. (*This is a standing agenda item*).**

SM says that there has not been defined progress. However, the engineer who has approached this matter has departed the Council. That person's replacement at the Council will be introduced to the matter and will take it on.

SM says that the Traffix study may be a helpful informant for Council's work here.

**4. NZ/SM to update on the possibility of installing a PUDO zone at the Aquatic Centre.**

SM says that in principle this PUDO will not be an issue, but it will be part of the mini-study review research taken on by the Council.

**5. NZ/SM to update on any changes to on-street parking**

SM says that the Traffix report assists with an understanding of the issues around street parking.

Since the last meeting, the Council has started the resident parking scheme review. This means that all parking will be reviewed on mass. The review is a year-long process. It has a review committee, including community representatives. The Traffix reporting may be able to inform this ongoing work.

DC says that many of the St Catherine's teachers park on the surrounding streets, which have unlimited parking. When timed on-street parking is implemented around the School area, which DC feels will happen soon, the School will feel the impacts for this reason.

SM says that the resident parking scheme will certainly consider these complex questions and the complex consequences of parking changes.

DC says that the resident parking designations should be up to the residents. The traffic survey assists the understanding of what the community would like.

SM says that the Council is trying to improve some of the processes around surveying so that they can

minimise the knock-on effects of parking changes wherein more community complaints roll in over time.

**6. AG to discuss OTMP results and the increase of another 15 students to a 2025 total student headcount of 1,125.**

BL the traffic consultant goes through the report and outlines the changes made from last year/s report.

Regarding changes to the School bus services, AG clarifies that there has been a minor change to the routes, as well as a decrease in sign-ups to the bus, but bus usage is consistent.

**Section 4** of the report outlines the travel mode survey data. The surveys were conducted from late-May to late-June.

DC has noticed that there is a clear drop-off in student respondents (but not for staff respondents). The drop is about 15%, which is significant. Why is this?

AG says that on the day of the initial survey, one year group was away on an excursion. When they aimed to make it up the following week, another year group was doing exams.

Public transport use is rather consistent with that of previous years.

DC notes that in 2014, 19% of teachers travelled by public transport. Now, it is only 11% (and it has been from around 2019-2024).

BL says that since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic, public transport use has generally had a significant dip overall.

AG notes that there remains a teacher's shortage particularly in the Eastern suburbs, due to cost-of-living issues. He also notes that the teacher sample surveyed in 2014 is likely rather different from the sample in 2024.

	<p>Regarding student transport types for AM transport, BL says that the only significant change has been a decrease in use of the private St Catherine’s bus service (due to an increase in cost) and an increase in public transport use. There has not been a real increase in private vehicle transportation in the AM.</p> <p>Regarding the PM student transportation data that BL outlines, DC notes that the PM student transport numbers overall are (and tend always to be) lower than the AM numbers. Why is this?</p> <p>AG explains that in large part it is due to the many after-school activities that take place for the students (particularly the older students), meaning that many students do not leave the School at the end of the school day but tend to go home later.</p> <p>BL discusses <b>Table 10</b>, which summarises the 2014 data against the 2024 data. He explains that the 2024 data is based on the survey for this year as well as the car occupancy rates collected this year (displayed in <b>Table 9</b> of the document).</p> <p>DC asks if these OTMPs will continue beyond 2030.</p> <p>AG says it is unlikely that they will be necessary beyond 2030. Part of the Conditions of Consent to allow the School to increase the student population cap is to produce an annual OTMP.</p> <p>AG says that the rationale was that the master plan would have 4-5 stages complete by 2030. They are not currently on track to achieve this, but there are plans for further development on the horizon.</p> <p>AG says that the School has a new traffic warden. This person is generally finished in the afternoon by 3:30pm. Flow seems to be improving in the afternoons.</p> <p>DC says that NZ previously mentioned potentially redesigning Leichardt Street, at the Macpherson Intersection. This area should be looked at – the Council should consider addressing it.</p>	<p>SM to follow up at the Council about addressing the condition and management of the Leichardt Street/Macpherson Street intersection, which tends to be a source of traffic complaints.</p>
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	<p>AG and KM agree that this intersection is very troublesome. AG says that this intersection is often mentioned in complaints to the School.</p> <p>SM notes that when more people are walking (and therefore crossing the roads, etc.) the streets are generally busier, and traffic seems to be slower-flowing.</p> <p>Regarding Table 19 on drop-off and pick-ups on Leichardt Street, DC notes that a larger number of pickups happened between 3-3:15pm, but the times before and after were rather quiet.</p> <p>AG explains that this is in large part due to the age of students; older students tend to leave later, and/or from a different exit.</p> <p>AG says that the School has announced an update to their Strategic Plan. Part of this includes that at the first opportunity, the School will be introducing some more on-premises parking. This will be meeting a need for new teachers who live further away from the School.</p> <p>BL notes that some of the kiss-and-go signage has had changes to the timing.</p> <p>SM says that that this kind of tampering is not uncommon. He will follow up at Council to ensure that timing is consistent across signage.</p> <p>In relation to Senior School P-plates driving to school, RR asks if this could be discouraged. BM and AG says that the School is considering discouraging P-plate transport more actively in 2025.</p> <p>DC says that there is a trend upwards in various things (such as teachers driving to School). While these numbers are within the caps identified in the consent, it is important to address these indicator increases before they do exceed the prescribed maximums and cause issues.</p> <p>WS says that this OTMP protocol has been a very big investment by the School, and while there are</p>	<p>SM to follow up at Council to have parking signage made consistent and parking timeframe discrepancies rectified.</p> <p>AG to take forward EK's complaint about parents' cars obstructing his driveway as well as Leichardt Lane.</p>
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	<p>some increase trends, it has been a very robust exercise and will continue to be important.</p> <p>SM says that it might be helpful for the Council to be able to use some of the OTMP data for the Council's own work.</p> <p>SM says that he looks forward to hearing more about the new parking strategies, as this can be expected to cause traffic issues.</p> <p>BL notes there some minor errors in the OTMP that need to be fixed (table numbering) and that where useful he will include comparison data with previous years. These changes will be incorporated in the next version, but will not change the conclusions of the report.</p> <p>EK says that he has had issues with parents parking in the driveway of his property at 44 Macpherson Street. The School will follow this up.</p> <p>EK also explains that when parents are picking up students at Leichardt Lane, they sometimes tend to block the lane. This usually happens outside of usual pick-up hours and is very disruptive for residents.</p> <p>DC asks if they are planning to amend the drop-off/pick-up times, or to give a space back to resident parking. These are some suggestions that have been raised in the CCC meetings but not implemented into the OTMP.</p> <p>AG recollects the OTMP Review document that WS collated last year. This review documented (and will continue to document) review issues raised in the CCC meetings.</p> <p>WS says that it would be good to review that OTMP review document at the last meeting for this year, in order to track the progress on the objectives named there and to set new objectives for next year.</p> <p>DC notes that the report refers to 'other' options in relation to surveys. It would be valuable to have these 'other's defined in the report.</p>	<p>The committee to review and discuss the OTMP review document, taking inventory of 2024 objectives and setting 2025 objectives. This is to be on the agenda for the next meeting.</p>
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	<p>DC suggests that the OTMP report should include a 'next steps' section. BL takes note of this suggestion.</p> <p>WS clarifies that the OTMP will be submitted before the end of the year, and therefore before the next CCC meeting. All revisions to the document will be noted to the CCC via email. It is taken now that the CCC has reviewed and accepted the OTMP report.</p> <p><b>7. Group to discuss the Council property laneway between 8 and 10A Macpherson Street</b></p> <p>KM says that it is Council property, has not been maintained and it is in a state of disrepair. It is also unsealed. She suggests that the Council should return it to its previous state and should also put up signage to prohibit parking around the street.</p> <p>SM acknowledges that there is currently no signage. The Council may look towards reconciling some of the signage there, to maintain some order and prevent parking.</p> <p>The resident parking review (which will begin with the arrival of the incoming Senior Engineer at the Council) will include addressing the state of this road.</p>	
4	<b>School update – AG</b>	
	<p><b>4.1. AG general update</b></p> <p>AG says that the School has announced the appointment of their new Headmistress. AG says that the enrolment is at capacity for the next few years.</p> <p>AG also shares that the School may be exploring some flexible and hybrid working options for non-teaching staff. This may have a positive (or at least a stabilizing) impact on the traffic and parking issues around the School.</p> <p><b>4.1.2 AG to discuss St Catherine’s School’s acquisition of neighbouring property 313 Bronte Road and plans.</b></p>	

	<p>AG explains that in the short term, no immediate change or development will be embarked upon. AG explains that some of the new tenants of the property (a 6-unit apartment building) are staff members, and they will continue to preference staff for tenants. The property will be the subject of future development.</p> <p>At this stage, no major development is formally planned. Over the Summer holiday period, usual maintenance work and trades will be carried out on campus.</p> <p><b>4.1.3 AG to discuss NSW Government’s plans move to Pre-K by 2030 and St Catherine’s School plans.</b></p> <p>AG explains that by 2030, it will be mandatory for 4 year-old children to attend school for a few days a week. It seems that the NSW Government will be leaving it to independent Schools to deliver this commitment (at least in part).</p> <p>AG explains that the School is actively exploring potential here.</p> <p>GM explains that from a planning perspective, Pre-K, Preschool and Kindergarten will each need to be defined (distinctly).</p> <p><b>4.1.4 AG to introduce the School’s consideration a mural/s on the PAC building which faces the 4 Macpherson Street property.</b></p> <p>AG explains that given that the trees are very slow-growing, the School suggests it might be something that would be considered is building a mural along this wall instead.</p> <p>RR asks EK to follow up with his strata committee to gauge their interest or potential rejection of this idea.</p> <p>EK would like more information on the proposed mural.</p>	<p>School to write to the strata committee of 4 Macpherson Street with items for discussion related to this.</p> <p>SM to seek Council’s position regarding a possible mural at the School, and to deliver this opinion to AG.</p>
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	<p>RR suggests that the School write to the strata committee with a more detailed official plan/proposal.</p> <p>SM will follow this up at the Council to receive Council's position.</p> <p><b>4.2 Summary of complaints received</b></p> <p><i>AG provided the complaints register to the group, via ICS, prior to the meeting. There is no significant discussion raised about these complaints.</i></p>	
5	<b>Next meeting: TBD</b>	
	<p>AG says that the CCC meetings continue to be valuable to the School. It is an important mechanism for connecting to the community. The Conditions of Consent formally require the CCC to be in place until March 2025.</p> <p>Considering that the School will potentially be looking toward development in future, it will also be valuable for the School to have the committee as a forum. The School values the inputs of the CCC and would like it to continue past the requirements. The School is particularly grateful to the community members for their continued engagement and commitment to the process.</p> <p>DC suggests that the CCC should recruit for more community members in 2025.</p> <p>The group agrees that it would be useful to have a meeting early in 2025 – perhaps in the first few weeks of Term 1, which will be in Mid-February.</p> <p><b>ICS schedules the meeting for February 18.</b></p> <p>In the meantime, any issues can be raised offline between relevant parties.</p> <p>RR thanks the attendees for their good work and collaboration on these issues and throughout the meetings in 2024. She extends particular thanks to the community representatives, who volunteer their time for their community.</p>	<p>RR to pursue community member recruitment for the CCC in 2025.</p>