

HORNSBY SHIRE

LOCAL TRAFFIC COMMITTEE



ATTENTION MEMBER FOR HORNSBY – Mr Matt Kean MP
HORNSBY POLICE – Snr Const Narelle Tomich
ROADS AND MARITIME SERVICES – Zakaria Ahmad
COUNCILLOR MICHAEL HUTCHENCE - Council's representative
THE MAYOR AND ALL COUNCILLORS - For your information
DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER INFRASTRUCTURE &
RECREATION - For your information
NSW FIRE SERVICE - For your information
NSW AMBULANCE SERVICE - For your information
SHORELINK BUS SERVICE - For your information
HILLSBUS SERVICE - For your information
NSW TAXI COUNCIL - For your information

Road: Malsbury Road Suburb: Normanhurst
Location: North of Woodbine Avenue
File Ref: F2005/00944 LTC No: 36/2018
Electorate: Hornsby UBD Ref: 153 H7
Subject: Proposed median islands and parking restrictions
for Childcare Centre at No 34 Malsbury Road
Date of Circulation: 19 October 2018

REFERRAL OF TRAFFIC MATTER FOR COMMENT OR OBJECTION, IF ANY

SUMMARY

This report details the traffic implications of proposed traffic median islands and associated parking restrictions at 34 Malsbury Road, Normanhurst, to accommodate proposed childcare centre. (DA/526/2017)

SUBJECT

Council's Traffic and Road Safety Branch (the Branch) has undertaken an assessment a development application (DA) being the alterations and additions of an existing dwelling for use as a childcare centre (CCC) to accommodate 30 children, being under 5 year olds.

The hours of operation for the CCC will be from 7:30am to 6:30pm Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays).

Parking

Hornsby DCP 2013 has a parking requirement of 1 space per 4 children, giving a parking requirement of 8 spaces for the proposed CCC with a capacity for 30 children. Eight parking spaces, including 1 accessible parking space, have been provided and shown in the drawings.

Traffic Generation

Using RMS data of October 2002, there will be an estimated 24 vehicle trips in the 2 hour AM peak period and 21 vehicle trips in the 2 hour PM peak period. Assuming 70 percent of the peak period occurs in the peak hour, there will be 17 vehicle trips in the AM peak hour and 15 vehicle trips in the PM peak hour. The nett increase in traffic generation is approximately 16 vehicle trips in the AM peak hour and 14 vehicle trips in the PM peak hour.

Access

The proposed development will have an entry/exit driveway from Malsbury Road. The Branch recommends the traffic movements of the proposed development be restricted to left in/left out (LILO) to maintain road network efficiency and road safety along Malsbury Road. In this regard, a 600mm wide concrete median island shall be constructed in Malsbury Road restricting any right turn movements to/from the site.

The potential pickup/drop off operations on Malsbury Road for the proposed CCC may cause access issues for vehicles entering the site. The Branch recommends installation of "No Stopping, 7am – 9am, 3pm – 7pm, Mon – Fri" signs between driveways of 36 Malsbury Road and the proposed CCC to allow vehicles to queue and turn left into the site without disrupting the traffic flow on Malsbury Road.

Following an initial assessment of the proposal by Council the applicant has been requested to prepare a design for the traffic medians and associated signs.

Key features of the proposal are:

1. 24m long traffic median island in Malsbury Road (600mm wide) to extend 6m past the proposed driveway to the centre in both directions.
2. 44m 'No Stopping' restrictions along the frontage of the site adjacent to the proposed traffic median.
3. 11m 'No Stopping 7am-9am, 3pm-7pm, Mon-Fri" along the western side of Malsbury Road to the south of the site.
4. Advanced warning traffic island in Malsbury Road (near No 44).
5. Installation of warning signs and delineation of roadway.

CONSULTATION

Public consultation for the proposed traffic median islands and associated parking restrictions was undertaken in September 2018. Fifteen (15) letters were delivered to residents affected by the proposal. Letters were sent to emergency services and service and transport providers. The proposal was also placed on exhibition on Council's website for 14 days.

Four (4) written responses were received from residents and authorities. A summary of the comments and Council response is provided below. Submissions raising similar issues have been combined into a single comment. Copies of the residents' letters are available upon request:

- *The proposed traffic median will cause inconvenience to local neighbours and increase chance of accidents in the area. The 'No Stopping will cause inconvenience for residents and visitors. Malsbury road is very curvy and if a car stops near the centre because there are no enough parking spaces this will cause a disaster.*

Response – The proposed traffic median plan has been reviewed and considered to be appropriate treatment to prevent right turn movement into and out of the site. An advanced warning island will be installed in Malsbury Road to alert drivers of presence of the main median near the centre. Traffic medians are a common feature of the local road networks with existing medians present along the route in College Crescent, Sefton Road and The Esplanade. The parking provision for the centre meets Council's DCP requirements, notwithstanding the parking restrictions are required to ensure that the area near the traffic median is kept clear. On-street parking is generally available along the western side of Malsbury Road within close proximity to other properties.

- *Traffic is very bad during peak hours and this will create further damage to the people living in the area. Median will make the location accident prone.*

Response – Malsbury Road is Sub-Arterial road in Council's road hierarchy and as such is designated to carry a significant amount of traffic. The AM peak volumes have been measured at 1,115 vehicles and PM peak at 1,096 vehicles per hour (both directions combined). The additional traffic generated by the development represents approximately 1% increase and is unlikely to have adverse impact on the road network. See above comment in relation to traffic median.

- *Concerned with traffic using Malsbury Road as short-cut for commuter looking avoid traffic on Pennant Hills Road. Speeding along Malsbury Road is also a problem and we have witnessed many accidents. Concerned with other childcare centre applications near this site.*

Response – It is acknowledged that a proportion of traffic along Malsbury Road is by-passing Pennant Hills Road. The Northconnex project due to open in 2020 is likely to make this route less attractive as additional traffic capacity will be available along the state road network. Speeding is an enforcement matter for NSW Police, notwithstanding the installation of the traffic medians is likely to reduce travel speeds along this section of Malsbury Road due to slight narrowing of travel lanes. The other developments will be considered separately.

- *Objecting to the proposed traffic median as the road is too narrow. There is a bad dip in the road at this location and this will create a hazard. Malsbury Road is a passage for fire truck and ambulances and the median will obstruct their access.*

Response – A detailed survey of the road has been undertaken confirming that overall width of Malsbury Road at this location is 8 metres. The proposed traffic median will be 600mm wide leaving two 3 metre wide travel lanes and a 2.3m wide breakdown lane (No stopping). The proposed road geometry is consistent with traffic engineering guidelines and will not hamper access for emergency vehicles.

CONCLUSION

The submissions from the residents have been addressed in the report. The proposed traffic medians in Malsbury Road are considered essential to manage conflicting traffic movements along the proposed development.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the proposed traffic medians and associated parking restrictions at 34 and 44 Malsbury Road, Normanhurst be approved for construction in accordance with plan No.20150266.C201 rev F.

Note for voting Local Traffic Committee members.

Under the RMS' 'Delegation of Functions to Regulate Traffic' (operation of local traffic committees) you are required to comment or indicate your acceptance or objection to the recommendation of this report. Your response must be submitted in writing within 14 days of the date of this notice. Please send your response via return email for the item, or email trafficbranch@hornsby.nsw.gov.au For further information please contact Radek Zarzycki on 9847 6616. Upon receipt of your comments the matter will be referred to Council for action.

Radek Zarzycki
Acting Chairman



Date: 19 October 2018