



Anoulack Chanthivong MP

MEMBER FOR MACQUARIE FIELDS

The Hon Rob Stokes MP
Minister for Planning and Public Spaces
office@stokes.minister.nsw.gov.au

7 July 2020

Dear Minister,

I write in relation to the recent announcement regarding the establishment of the Planning Delivery Unit. I understand the Glenfield Precinct Plan is one of the four projects the Planning Delivery Unit will prioritise in the coming weeks.

It has been five years since the Glenfield Precinct Plan was first announced. The Liberal Government started “updating” the Glenfield Precinct Plan in 2017 following the appalling decision to relocate Hurlstone Agricultural High School and sell the school farm to developers.

Thankfully, the Liberal Government saw the error of its ways and late last year it reversed the decision to relocate Hurlstone. However, there are still plans to replace the majority of school land with housing.

I hold serious concerns that placing the Glenfield Precinct Plan under the authority of the Planning Delivery Unit is an under-handed tactic to push through an overdevelopment agenda for Glenfield and the Hurlstone site under the guise of economic stimulus during the COVID-19 pandemic.

It is imperative that the educational and agricultural needs of students at Hurlstone – including enough land to support a fully-functioning dairy – are the main priority when finalising the Glenfield Precinct Plan.

I reiterate my call for the business case for Hurlstone be finalised before development plans proceed any further. Students, parents and staff at Hurlstone have been very vocal of their desire for the school to remain a leader in agricultural education. Decimating the school’s land will jeopardise the school’s ability to continue its long and proud agricultural tradition.

Furthermore, local residents must be given ample opportunity to provide feedback on the updated Glenfield Precinct Plan, given it will be very different to the draft released in 2015.

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It is unacceptable for the Liberal Government to rush through development plans without giving the local community the opportunity to have its say on the future of the place they call home.

There are much less controversial projects in my community, such as Stage 2 of the Edmondson Park commuter car park, development of the long-overdue Edmondson Park School and a new Service NSW Centre in Edmondson Park, that would benefit from accelerated planning.

South-west Sydney has repeatedly bore the brunt of the Liberal Government's decisions that result in overdevelopment. Any plans for Glenfield and the Hurlstone site must include funding commitments for supporting infrastructure such as car parking, road upgrades, recreational facilities and open space.

I wish to reiterate that there is significant community interest in the future of Hurlstone and retaining the open space and farmland at the school. The green vista at Hurlstone must not be lost to concrete and congestion to appease developers.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Anoulack Chanthivong'.

Anoulack Chanthivong MP
Member for Macquarie Fields