



MAYOR'S ROOM,
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
STRATHFIELD, 2135

MAYORAL MINUTE No. 33/13

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY ALTERNATIVE SITES FOR EXPANSION

RECOMMENDATION

That Council write to the Minister for Planning requesting that Minister or the Department of Planning & Infrastructure encourage or assist the Australian Catholic University to locate their campus expansion on an alternative site such as within the Sydney Olympic Park precinct.

Rationale

In response to a Mayoral Minute and Council resolution of 17 October 2013, a meeting was organised with the NSW Minister for Planning Hon Brad Hazzard for 18 November 2013 in regard to ensuring the Australian Catholic University is not able to proceed with expansion plans that will impact negatively on Strathfield residents.

Unfortunately the Minister was unable to attend on the day, however the meeting proceeded with the Minister's senior staff meeting with Council's Mayor and Director Technical Services.

Council emphasized the negative impacts of the ACU's expansion plans on the local residential community. In particular the concern over the ACU's relentless pursuit of its expansion plans was emphasized such as through the current Class 1 appeal of the Planning and Assessment Commission's decision on the ACU Part 3A Concept Plan and through Development Applications submitted to the Joint Regional Planning Panel to extend operational hours over weekends.

In addition Council raised the issue of alternative sites for the ACU's expansion plans, such as the Sydney Olympic Park precinct which is ideally suited for a tertiary campus given the complimentary surrounding commercial, sporting and high density residential land uses, and the public transport access. Council suggested that the Minister or the Department may be able to encourage or progress the idea of the ACU expanding their campus at an alternative site rather than attempt to increase the capacity and associated negative impacts of the Strathfield campus. The Minister's advisers suggested that whilst this was not the role of the Department, except in some situations such as Urban Activation precincts, that Council could write to the Minister outlining any such suggestions.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Daniel Bott', written over a horizontal line.

CR DANIEL BOTT
MAYOR
3 DECEMBER 2013