



# Melanie **GIBBONS** MP

## Member for **Holsworthy**



12 February 2021

### **RE: Draft Glenfield Place Strategy**

To Whom It May Concern,

I write to provide comments on the Draft Glenfield Precinct Strategy (the Strategy) that is currently on exhibition. There has been discussions on the redevelopment of this precinct for a number of years now and the community and I have concerns that need to be strongly considered before the Strategy is finalised.

Whilst this plan will be considered to be an overdevelopment by many in the community, I know others will focus on that aspect so I will instead concentrate on the preservation of land, heritage and teaching facilities. The need for more commuter parking should also not be missed.

This concerns include the preservation of land and heritage buildings at Hurlstone Agricultural High School, to ensure that it remains a high quality agricultural school, and to reserve land for additional commuter car parking at Glenfield Station, which would cater for the growing South-West Sydney population.

Buildings at Hurlstone, such as the original dormitory "Clarke House" have been a part of the school since the 1920's, and are of valuable heritage significance as evidenced by their listing on Campbelltown City Council's Local Heritage Register. Additionally, the Memorial Forest was planted in the 1950's and was the first in NSW to be dedicated to the memory of local soldiers who served in World War I and II.

Whilst preservation of these heritage and environmentally sensitive items are included in the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment's (the Department) plans, I would like to see a greater emphasis placed on their restoration and maintenance as they are significant to the identity of the local community.

Additionally, the community have also raised concerns about the loss of agricultural land at the high school, which can be seen with over 1000 signatures placed on a recent petition to save the Hurlstone Farm. I note that over half of the current school site will be maintained for the Agricultural school, however it appears the Department have not been clear in explaining the extent of agricultural land that will be preserved, other than the dairy facility.

I would like to request that the Department clearly explain to the community the agricultural facilities that will remain at the school. Should it only include the dairy facility, it is strongly encouraged that the Department re-investigate this site, to ensure other agricultural facilities will remain at the school. This would include preserving the appropriate quality and size of land needed to teach these agricultural skills.

For some time I have also been calling for additional commuter car spaces at Glenfield Station, however, it appears this has not been included in the Department's Draft Place Strategy for Glenfield.

It is essential that this be reconsidered, so that land can be marked for future commuter car parking. While I understand the Department is looking to create a new, vibrant mixed use area, South-West Sydney continues to expand with housing that still requires people to drive to utilise the nearest train station.

I urge the Department continue working with Transport for NSW to ensure these requirements are reflected in the final plan.

The concerns raised above need to be strongly considered in order to preserve the current character of the area which attracted the current residents here. While growth and change may be deemed necessary, it shouldn't be at the expense of locals who currently call Glenfield home.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Melanie Gibbons', followed by a period.

**Melanie Gibbons MP**  
**State Member for Holsworthy**  
***Parliamentary Secretary for Families, Disability and Emergency Services***