HEMANOTE CONSULTANTS

# 42-58 OLD SOUTH HEAD ROAD, VAUCLUSE

PLANNING PROPOSAL TO REZONE FROM LOW-DENSITY TO MEDIUM-DENSITY RESIDENTIAL

# TRAFFIC IMPACT ASSESSMENT

DECEMBER 2016

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TRAFFIC & PARKING IMPACT ASSESSMENT 42-58 OLD SOUTH HEAD ROAD, VAUCLUSE REZONING PLANNING PROPOSAL DATE: 16 DECEMBER 2016

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## **1 INTRODUCTION**

This report has been prepared by Hemanote Consultants to assess the traffic and parking implications for the rezoning planning proposal for the existing lots at 42-58 Old South Head Road, Vaucluse from low density to medium density residential.

The report is to be read in conjunction with the planning proposal plans prepared by Nicholas Tang Architects (reduced copy of the plans attached in Appendix A) and submitted to Woollahra Council as part of a Development Application.

This report is set as follows:

- Section 2: Description of the existing site location and its use;
- Section 3: Description of existing traffic conditions, surrounding road network, existing transportation services and existing vehicular access;
- Section 4: Description of the proposal and potential vehicular access;
- Section 5: Description of existing on-street parking conditions near the subject site; and impacts on parking;
- Section 6: Assessment of traffic Impacts on surrounding road network; and
- Section 7: Conclusion.

# 2 EXISTING SITE DESCRIPTION

### > Site Location

The subject development site comprises of nine (9) existing lots and is located on the western side of Old South Head Road, south of Clarendon Street, at properties No. 42-58 Old South Head Road, within the suburb of Vaucluse. The subject sites have a total frontage of approximately 116 meters to Old South Head Road from the east. Refer to Figure 1 for a site locality map.



Figure 1: Site Locality Map

## > Existing Site & Surrounding Land Use

The subject sites are currently occupied by two-storey residential dwellings and older style units in a mainly residential area, with a mixture of single dwellings and small sized residential flat buildings, as well as a small number of commercial/retail shops.



Photo 1: the frontage of the subject site to Old South Head Road



Photo 2: the frontage of the subject site to Old South Head Road

# **3 EXISTING TRAFFIC CONDITIONS**

## 3.1 Road Network and Classification

Old South Head Road is a State Road under the jurisdiction of the Roads and Maritime Services. It carries a high volume of traffic daily and runs between Bondi Junction and Watsons Bay and is a bus route. It should be noted that the section of Old South Head Road near the subject site carries lower traffic volumes that other busier sections of the road. It intersects with a number of local, collector and state roads, including Military Road and Clarendon Street in the vicinity of the subject site.

## 3.2 Road Description and Traffic Control

Old South Head Road is a four-lane two-way undivided road that provides one travel lane per direction, with parallel to kerb unrestricted parking being permitted on both sides of the carriageway. The legal speed limit on Old South Head Road is 60 km/h.

The T-intersections of Old South Head Road with Military Road and Clarendon Street are controlled by 'Give Way' signs and line markings. There is an existing on-road cycle route along Old South Head Road and Clarendon Street.



Figure 2: Aerial photo of the subject site



Photo 3: Old South Head Road at the subject site - facing north



Photo 4: Old South Head Road at the subject site - facing south

## 3.3 Current Traffic Flows

A traffic volume count was undertaken by R.O.A.R Data Pty Ltd at the intersections of Old South Head Road/Military Road and Old South Head Road/Clarendon Street at the subject site on Thursday 10 November 2016, during morning peak periods (7.00am to 9.00am) and afternoon peak periods (3.00pm to 6.00pm) considering traffic peak periods.

The traffic flows on Old South Head Road, Military Road and Clarendon Street in the morning & afternoon peak hours are shown in Table 1 below and in Appendix 'B'.

Traffic movement	Morning Peak Hour (Vehicles Per Hour)	Afternoon Peak Hour (Vehicles Per Hour)
	8.00am – 9.00am	3.30pm – 4.30pm
	Old South Head Roa	ad
Northbound	403	553
Southbound	555	597
	Military Road	
Eastbound	146	122
Westbound	160	179
	Clarendon Street	
Eastbound	47	34
Westbound	14	17

Table 1: Current traffic flows near subject site (on a typical weekday)

The results of the traffic volume counts undertaken determined that the traffic morning peak period on Old South Head Road, Military Road and Clarendon Street was between 8.00am to 9.00am and the afternoon peak period was between 3.30pm to 4.30pm on a typical weekday.

The traffic flows on Old South Head Road are considered to be appropriate for a state road in a mainly residential area, where traffic is free flowing without any major queuing or delays in peak hours.

The traffic flows on Military Road and Clarendon Street are considered to be low and appropriate for local roads in a mainly residential area and in close proximity to a state road, where traffic is free flowing without any major queuing or delays in peak hours.

It is determined that the current level of service on Old South Head Road is class 'C', in accordance with Table 4.4 of the Roads & Maritime Services' *"Guide to Traffic Generating Developments - 2002" (attached below)* with peak hour flow being less than 600 vehicles/hr per direction.

The current existing level of service on Military Road and Clarendon Street is class 'A', with peak hour flow being less than 200 vehicles/hr per direction.

Level of Service	One Lane (veh/hr)	Two Lanes (veh/hr)
A	200	900
В	380	1400
С	600	1800
D	900	2200
E	1400	2800

Table 4.4: Urban road peak hour flows per direction (RMS Guide)

It has also been observed that the current operational performance of the intersections of Old South Head Road/Military Road and Old South Head Road/Clarendon Street is in 'Good operation with acceptable delays and spare capacity' at a Level of Service 'B', in accordance with Table 4.2 of the Roads & Maritime Services' *"Guide to Traffic Generating Developments - `2002" (attached below)* with an average delay of less than 28 seconds per vehicle.

Level of Service	Average Delay per Vehicle (secs/veh)	Traffic Signals, Roundabout	Give Way & Stop Signs
A	< 14	Good operation	Good operation
В	15 to 28	Good with acceptable delays & spare capacity	Acceptable delays & spare capacity
С	29 to 42	Satisfactory	Satisfactory, but accident study required
D	43 to 56	Operating near capacity	Near capacity & accident study required
E	57 to 70	At capacity; at signals, incidents will cause excessive delays	At capacity, requires other control mode
		Roundabouts require other control mode	

Table 4.2 : Level of Service Criteria for intersections (RMS Guide)

### 3.4 Existing Transportation Services

The subject site has good access to existing public transport services in the form of regular bus services that operate along both sides of Old South Head Road and Military Road (i.e. bus routes 324, 333, 380, 386 and 387).

The nearest bus stops are located on Old South Head Road and Military Road directly at the front of the subject site and within a very short walking distance.



#### Figure 3: Bus routes near the subject site



Photo 5: Existing bus stop on Old South Head Road opposite the subject site



Photo 6: Existing bus service on Old South Head Road at the subject site

# 4 PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

## 4.1 Description of the proposal

The planning proposal is for the rezoning of the existing nine lots at 42-58 Old South Head Road, Vaucluse from low density to medium density residential, including the following potential options:

Option 1	Block A	Block B	Block C	Total				
Estimated No. of units	44	52	28	124				
Option 2	Block A	Block B	Block C	Total				
Estimated No. of units	44	38	46	128				
Option 3	Block A	Block B	Block C	Total				
Estimated No. of units	33	49	46	128				

The above number of units is based on an average unit size of 50m<sup>2</sup>. Refer to *Appendix 'A'* for the plans of the rezoning planning options.

## 4.2 Vehicular Access (Existing & Proposed)

At present, the subject nine sites provide seven (7) separate driveway crossings on the western side of Old South Head Road.

Each of the proposed three residential blocks is expected to provide a two-way driveway crossing that is approximately 5.5 to 6 metres in width, for adequate vehicle manoeuvring into and out of the site without causing any major delays or congestion for traffic along the road.

Therefore, the proposal will have three (3) driveway crossing points compared to the existing seven (7) driveway crossing points, which will provide safer manoeuvring into and out of the subjects sites and reduce impacts on traffic along Old South Head Road, where all vehicles are to enter and exit the site in a forward direction.

All vehicular access to be located and constructed in accordance with the requirements of AS2890.1:2004.

Any front fencing is to be restricted to a height of 1.2 metres, otherwise a 45° splay or equivalent (2m x 2m) is to be provided at exit driveways, in accordance with Council's DCP to provide adequate sight lines to pedestrians.

# 5 ON-STREET PARKING

## 5.1 On-street Parking Conditions

The subject site is located in a mainly residential area, with a mixture of single dwellings and small sized residential flat buildings, as well as some commercial/retail shops. At present, unrestricted parking is permitted on both sides of Old South Head Road and adjacent streets, with the exception of the signposted 'No Stopping' zones at intersecting streets and Bus Zones.

It has been observed that on-street parking spaces in the vicinity of the subject site were moderately to highly utilised at times, with some available on-street parking opportunities in the vicinity of the subject site.

## 5.2 Impacts of Proposed Development on Parking

The parking demand resulting from the rezoning planning proposal will be accommodated within future on-site car parking facilities that are to be in accordance with the requirements of Council's DCP or other SEPP regulations.

Therefore, the proposal will have no major impacts on parking in Old South Head Road or adjacent streets.

## 6 EXTERNAL TRAFFIC IMPACT

An indication of the potential traffic generation of the proposed development is provided by the RMS *Guide to Traffic Generating Development - 2002*.

The Guide specifies the following traffic generation rates for high-density residential flat dwellings in a metropolitan Sydney area:

- 0.19 (AM) peak hour vehicle trips per unit.
- 0.15 (PM) peak hour vehicle trips per unit.
- 1.52 daily vehicle trips per unit.

Therefore, the proposed residential development options would have the following estimated traffic generation during AM and PM peak hours as shown below:

Option 1	Block A	Block B	Block C	Total
Estimated No. of units	44	52	28	124
Traffic generation (AM Peak)	8.3	9.9	5.3	24
Traffic generation (PM Peak)	6.6	7.8	4.2	19
Option 2	Block A	Block B	Block C	Total
Estimated No. of units	44	38	46	128
Traffic generation (AM Peak)	8.3	7.2	8.7	24
Traffic generation (PM Peak)	6.6	5.7	6.9	19
Option 3	Block A	Block B	Block C	Total
Estimated No. of units	33	49	46	128
Traffic generation (AM Peak)	6.3	9.3	8.7	24
Traffic generation (PM Peak)	5.0	7.4	6.9	19

Therefore, the proposed development options have an estimated traffic generation as follows:

- 24 morning peak hour vehicle trips.
- 19 afternoon/evening peak hour vehicle trips.
- Between 188 and 195 daily vehicle trips.

The estimated traffic generation from the proposed development options is considered to be of low impact on current flows on Old South Head Road and surrounding road network and will not alter the current levels of service, where additional traffic can be readily accommodated.

The potential increase in the number of vehicle movements in and about Old South Head Road and adjacent streets will remain well within the Environmental capacity of these streets, with no adverse impacts on the amenity of the area.

# 7 CONCLUSION

It can be concluded from the traffic and parking impact assessment that the rezoning planning proposal for the existing lots at 42-58 Old South Head Road, Vaucluse from low density to medium density residential will have no adverse impacts on existing traffic or parking conditions:

- The external impact of the traffic generated by the proposed development options is considered to be acceptable and will not result in any adverse impacts on peak traffic periods.
- The potential of any increase in the number of vehicle movements in and about Old South Head Road and adjacent streets will remain well within the Environmental capacity of these streets, with no adverse impacts on the amenity of the area.
- The proposal will have three (3) driveway crossing points compared to the existing seven (7) driveway crossing points, which will provide safer manoeuvring into and out of the subjects sites and reduce impacts on traffic along Old South Head Road, where all vehicles are to enter and exit the site in a forward direction.
- The parking demand resulting from the rezoning planning proposal will be accommodated within future on-site car parking facilities that are to be in accordance with the requirements of Council's DCP or other SEPP regulations. Therefore, the proposal will have no major impacts on parking in Old South Head Road or adjacent streets.
- The subject development site has good access to existing public transportation services in the form of regular bus services, as well as on-road cycle routes.

# Appendix A – Proposed Development Options







# Appendix B – Traffic Volume Counts



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