

Camden Residents' Action Group

Incorporated

Camden – Still a Country Town

Website: <http://www.crag.org.au/>

Face Book: <https://www.facebook.com/CRAG-Camden-Residents-Action-Group-Inc-1805705173088888/>

PO Box 188

Camden NSW 2570

Email: admin@crag.org.au

Phone: 0415 617 368

Camden Local Planning Panel

18 April 2023

CLPP02 - DA/2022/959/1

Construction of a Two Storey Office Premise

1-3 View Street, Camden

Thank you for the opportunity to address the Panel.

Applying to address the Panel we had a choice of for or against and chose against, but in fact it is more for than against as will become evident.

Camden is pleased that the Macarthur Credit Union have chosen to not only stay in Camden but increase their presence, as opposed to many other financial institutions who have succumbed to the lure of Narellan.

It also pleasing that important changes have been made from the first iteration to the present one. The design reflects a stronger move to the horizontal from the vertical, a feature of Camden's HCA. However, the plan is still at 1.4m above the height limit. This is to be regretted, particularly as what is approved as an exception can often be used by others as a precedent. In this instance there are mitigating circumstances that allow the height limit to be exceeded.

Although the parking provided is less than required it needs to be borne in mind that none of the other banks had any provision for customers, relying instead on Council carparks.

We appreciate the ecological use of recycled timber and also suggest that the number of solar panels be increased. It is also appreciated that four Jacarandas are to be retained, and hope that there will be no excuse for them to fall victim to the exigencies of construction work.

The design is at the entrance to Camden, and it is important that this area is protected by current rules and guidelines. That being said, the development occurs away from the main street and avoid egregious over-build.

To conclude, the decision to stay and expand is encouraging.