

Jamie Axisa

Catherine Field 2557

To whom it may concern,

Re: Application SSD-30759158

I am writing to express my objection to the proposed building of Minarah College – Catherine Field Campus on the site at Catherine Fields Road, Catherine Field.

There is no infrastructure to support a school of any size let alone the size of the one proposed. The road is in no state to support more traffic than it already has. I live directly opposite the proposed site. The road has been resurfaced multiple times especially in the last few years only for it to be damaged again within months. The road is also not wide enough to support an additional right hand turn and a bus bay to accommodate the school. If this goes ahead what will it mean for us residents? Will it mean that some of our driveway will be taken to accommodate for the road widening? If this is the case, we will not be able to get out on the road safely. Also looks like there is a proposed median strip of 1.2m width. Does this mean that we will not be able to turn right out of our own driveway?

The hours of operation on the site will mean that there will increase traffic at all times of the day or night. The hall will be opened on weekends till 10pm. Have the residents been considered in this? We chose this area for being rural and quiet. This will be gone if this school goes ahead. Sports field will be used till 9pm at night every night and all day on the weekend. Where will the people park when there is an event at the school? Does this mean that people attending such events think they can park anywhere on Catherine Fields Road parking on residents' properties and in their driveways?? Where does the proposed Minarah College demonstrate they have considered this? What about the residents directly adjacent and living across from the Minarah College School, have they thought about how these impacts and directly affect the neighbors and surrounding families and their safety? The bus bays are proposed to be used as parking spaces outside of school hours which will not be enough to accommodate everyone attending any kind of event. There are no street lights which in my opinion will make it unsafe especially late at night and winter. Are there plans to install lights?

No adequate stormwater exists on Catherine Fields Road. Are there any proposals to fix this? Where will the stormwater which used to be soaked by the soil go? Are we going to cop more water unto our properties whenever it rains more than we already get? The studies that are used to compare flood water are at least 3 years old and in no way reflect the recent amount of rain we had in the last 6 months. I have attached photos (taken on the 2nd of July 2022) of the water running along the road after just a few hours of solid rain.

I am very worried and concerned about the waste management of the proposed Minarah College. How will this impact the suburb of Catherine Field? Catherine Field does not have a sewerage system and we use septic tanks on every property. To propose a school under these conditions is appalling. We are concerned with how Proposed Minarah College will cater for such a large amount of people with waste management and the impact it will have on the environment. When we built our home, we had to leave a significant area for the reclaimed effluent water from the septic – a total of just over 1000m² – for 5 people. In the application, it is mentioned that the reclaimed effluent water is going to go on the sports field. First of all the sports field is the last stage of the build which means

the school will be fully operational before it is built. Where will the reclaimed effluent water going to run in the meantime? Also, how is it safe and sanitary for the kids to be playing in that area when we cannot use the area we had to have reserved on our own property.

Since there will be no sports oval, how are the kids going to be transported to the Catherine Field oval everytime they have sports? There are no footpaths along Catherine Fields Road and the road is not safe for pedestrians. It was mentioned that the Catherine field Hall will be used in case of needing to evacuate the kids in case of flood. The Hall only accommodates 120 people not 980+ people.

In regards to drop off and pick up, I agree that drop off/pick up zones are good and there will be a staff member manning them of a morning and afternoon. Kids are not quick to exit and enter the vehicles especially younger ones who still need to be in a car seat whether it is 5point harnessed or booster. The allocated time of 2min per vehicle will not be enough for a child to be buckled in safely. It is not uncommon to have multiple kids who need to be buckled in. This will lead to a traffic backlog onto the road. Just look at the situation in the other schools that are in the area. There is a limited provision of parking spaces for parents to drop off their kids should they not want to use the drop off/pick up zone. Where will the parents park? Is this going to be the same situation as in the other schools around the area, where parents park on the street inconveniencing the neighbours? As I mentioned before, the road is single lane each way. Traffic will build up very quick when you have a school of that size. How is Minarah College taking into consideration the safety of neighbouring people entering and exiting our properties in the peak hours of traffic? The site is on a rather dangerous and somewhat blind corner. Undoubtedly, the traffic will build up on both sides. It will only be a matter of time before an accident happens. There are also no footpaths leaving parents no option but to drive their kids to school.

The comparison to an existing school was made with the Green Valley Campus. Why not compare to the other schools that are in the vicinity of the proposed campus, which are the same size, that would reflect a true picture of traffic?

Have there been any surveys of noise created by schools around the area? The data submitted is all predicted not actual. How can this data be reliable?

I understand the need for more schools and I am in no way disputing that. But to build a private religious school is not needed. We need more public schools where everyone can afford to send their kids and in an area suitable for bigger schools not in a rural area where rezoning has not even been planned for the foreseeable future. There are plenty of new suburbs still getting built which can accommodate schools. In this current climate, there is no need to put more pressure on parents by means of school fees and uniforms. All kids have the right to education regardless of wealth and religion and I feel that this school will only be catering for a small section of the population.

I do not understand why this area was even considered for a school when there is no suitable infrastructure to support it. Why not build the school somewhere where the infrastructure is already there not years away?

I hope that more consideration for us residents is taken before making a decision about this proposal.

Yours faithfully

Jamie Axisa