From:			
Sent:			
To:			
Subject:			
Attachments:			

20 February 2018

Penrith City Council

PO. Box 60

PENRITH NSW 2751

DA: 17/1092

Dear Assessing Officer,

Wallacia Memorial Park

I am writing in strong support to

establish much needed cemetery space in Wallacia.

The influx of refugees that are arriving from Iraq and escaping persecution in the past few years has resulted in our community becoming one of the fastest growing communities in western Sydney. We endeavour to help the new arrivals in any way possible.

Our religious beliefs and practices require that our community be buried, and we respectfully ask the Council and government to respect and provide for our community's requirements now and into the future. As more members of our community migrate to

Sydney, we will continue to require burial space at prices that are affordable to immigrant community groups.

We have already utilised 1,000 graves at Kemps Creek Cemetery over the last 19 months and have been asking for some time that Catholic Cemeteries allocate more lawn space to our growing community. Kemps Creek is nearing capacity and based on our current death rates we will have less than five years' burial space remaining at Kemps Creek.

Catholic Cemeteries have been operating for 150 years, I know and trust that our community will be respected and looked after in perpetuity, something that cannot be promised in our homeland. Many families are concerned that existing burial space in Sydney is low and that there is no option for all members of their families to be interred together, in an area close to their homes. This development will provide the required burial space for the next 140 years which is the long-term solution that Sydney with its increasing population needs. The community needs many things to live, such as schools, churches, hospitals and cemeteries are also part of the infrastructure that governments should provide for a growing city.

The local community will also benefit, as they will have gardens and landscaped walkways made available to them which is currently run through a private business. The existing club will be upgraded by Catholic Cemeteries so all in the Wallacia community can continue to use it for golf and other community events. A cemetery will enable the rural views and aspect of the Wallacia area are protected for generations to come.

I appreciate your consideration to my concerns.