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20 OCT 2016

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NSW CIVIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL

STATEMENT OF MATTY MATHIVANAR

ADMINISTRATIVE AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY DIVISION

List: Administrative Review

File Number: 1610484

PARTIES

Applicant: Philip Walker

Respondent: Roads and Maritime Services

On 20 October 2016,

I, Matty Mathivanar, of 27 Argyle Street, Parramatta, NSW affirm:

1. I am a Project Manager, Mona Vale Road East, within the Greater Sydney Program Office of the Infrastructure Development Division at Roads and Maritime Services (**Roads and Maritime**). There are six other Project Development Managers who have been involved in the planning and development of the Mona Vale Road East Project. I have held this position for approximately 1 year. Prior to holding this position I have been involved in project development work since the late 1990s.
2. In my current role as a Project Manager, my responsibilities include:
 - a. Contributing to decisions during the tendering process for delivery of detailed design of Mona Vale Road prior to the contract being awarded; and
 - b. Project managing the detailed design for the Mona Vale Road East project.
3. One of the areas I oversee is the Mona Vale Road East upgrade, which includes the intersection located at Ponderosa Parade and Samuel Street (**the Intersection**).
4. I am not aware of any overpass being contemplated in the detailed design, nor of any formal proposal for an overpass at the Intersection.
5. As there was no formal proposal for an overpass at the intersection, I am not aware that any costings were completed for an overpass at the Intersection.

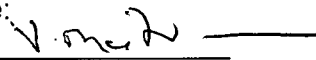
6. I do not consider that an overpass is suitable for the Intersection, which is also part of why I consider it unlikely costings would have been completed. I have formed this view based on my 20 years of experience in road infrastructure development.
7. Despite the above, on or around 7 July 2016, I was asked to complete searches in response to the Applicant's application for information under the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (GIPA Act) (the Application)*. I understood that I needed to complete thorough searches in order to ensure Roads and Maritime exercised its statutory duty in responding to the Application.
8. Roads and Maritime has a central electronic filing system, Objective, where corporate information is stored. This filing system stores digital versions of correspondence, reports, proposals, costings and other documentation relating to various projects.
9. Information relating to the Mona Vale Road East Project is collated and stored in a central Objective folder. I searched for documents responding to the Application by manually reviewing the contents of each of the following subfolders:
 - a. Project Management;
 - b. Finance;
 - c. Investigations and Studies; and
 - d. Community and Media.
10. If any documents existed which related to costings for an overpass at the Intersection, they would be located within one of the above subfolders. The contents of the physical files in relation to the Mona Vale East Project are largely replicated in the digital file stored in Objective.
11. I provided the Application to the six other Project Development Managers who have been involved with the Mona Vale Road East project in the past and asked if they were aware of any costings completed for an overpass at the Intersection. Project Development Managers would be aware if costing in relation to a proposed overpass at the Intersection had been carried out within their respective teams.
12. I was provided with no documentation from any other Project Development Manager responding to the Application.
13. The above searches took approximately 5 hours of my time on or about 7 July 2016. I did not locate any documents that held the information requested.
14. On the basis of my searches, and my knowledge of the project, I was satisfied that the Infrastructure Development Division of Roads and Maritime did not have any documents responding to the Application.
15. Consequently, I filled out a Record of Searches form (**Annexure 1**). I included the following comment:

There was no consideration given for grade separation of Mona Vale Road and Ponderosa Parade/Samuel Street intersection.

During the preparation of the REF, the Applicant requested and [sic] alternative alignment for the road upgrade that went through Ingleside. This option is addressed in the REF.

16. REF is an acronym for 'Review of Environmental Factors' which is a document produced in the course of obtaining approvals for infrastructure projects. A 'grade separation' is an engineering term for an overpass.
17. My comment reflected the fact that Roads and Maritime did not have any documents relating to formal costings done in relation to an overpass at the Ponderosa Parade and Samuel Street intersection of Mona Vale Road.
18. My comment also reflected that the Applicant had put forward an option other than an overpass (an alternative alignment) which was considered in the relevant REF.

Signature: _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. Smith', written over a horizontal line.

Filed By: Roads and Maritime Services
20-44 Ennis Road
MILSONS POINT NSW 2061

On behalf of : Respondent



Table A: Record of Search Undertaken for GIPA Application

Detailed records of searches done are important for the agency to be able to account to the applicant for the steps it has taken to locate the documents.

Record of Searches Undertaken for GIPA Application							
Date:	Name of officer:	Position/Business Unit	Location searched	Description of Searches, including search terms used	No. of records located & estimated number of pages	Time taken to conduct search:	Comments/reasons why not located:
07/07/16	Mally Mathivanar	Project Manager, Greater Sydney Program Office	Program Offices in Parramatta and Pymont	Project Development Managers worked on the project during the preparation of the REF were consulted	None	5 hours, from 9am to 2 pm	There was no consideration given for grade separation of Mona Vale Road and Ponderosa Parade/Samuel Street intersection. During the preparation of the REF, the Applicant requested and alternate alignment for the road upgrade that went through Ingleside. This option is addressed in the REF.

ANNEXURE 1

Information Search
Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009


Table B: List of Documents

Records/Documents Located		
Item No:	Description of Item:	Concerns about Public Release:
N/A	None	NO

CERTIFICATION

1. Searching Officer

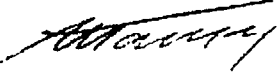
I certify that I conducted a reasonable search to locate all information that is relevant to the information requested under the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009*.

Signature: 
Date: 8th July 2016

Name: Matty Mathivanar
Position: Project Manager

2. General Manager, Principal Manager or Regional Manager

I certify that I am aware that information has been provided to the I&P Unit and am satisfied that a reasonable search has been conducted for all relevant information in my Division..

Signature: 
Date: 8/7/2016

Name: Michael Tansy
Position: Principal Program Manager