

# Woollahra Traffic Committee

**Agenda:** *Woollahra Local Traffic Committee  
Extraordinary Meeting No.1a/08*

**Date:** *Tuesday 19 February 2008*



## Meeting Agenda

<b>Item</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Pages</b>
1	<b>Traffic Matters on Local Roads – Recommendation to C&amp;E for Consideration</b>	
Y18	Proposed Barriers for Synagogues in the Woollahra Municipality due to Terrorist Alert	77

**Item No:** Y18 Traffic Matters on Local Roads – Recommendation to C&E for Consideration.  
**Subject:** **PROPOSED BARRIERS FOR SYNAGOGUES IN THE WOOLLAHRA MUNICIPALITY DUE TO TERRORIST ALERT**  
**Author:** Frank Rotta – Traffic Engineer  
**File No:** T338. / T337. / 267. / 264. / T169. / 168.  
**Reason for Report:** Request for approval of water filled barriers on footpath and roadways

**Recommendation:**

- A. That approval be granted for the placement of 38 metres of water filled barriers and fencing on the footpath in front of the Old South Head Synagogue at 666 Old South Head Road, Rose Bay from the date of approval to 18 May, 2008.
- B. That approval be granted for the placement of water filled barriers on the verge at the kerb line and adjacent to the footpath in Ocean Street, Woollahra, in front of the Temple Emanuel Synagogue from the date of approval to 18 May, 2008.
- C. That approval be granted for the closure of Kilminster Lane at the rear of No.11 Ocean Street, Woollahra, with water filled barriers from the date of approval to 18 May, 2008.
- D. That approval be granted for a temporary ‘No Stopping’ zone being provided across the Ocean Street frontage of the Temple Emanuel Synagogue to cover the barricaded area from the date of approval to 18 May, 2008.
- E. That approval be granted for the placement of water filled barriers on the footpath at the kerb line in Kiaora Road in front of the Chabad Double Bay Synagogue from the date of approval to 18 May, 2008.
- F. That approval be granted for a temporary ‘No Stopping’ zone being provided across the existing ‘No Parking’ zone across the driveway to the Post Office in Kiaora Road and the Kiaora Road frontage of the Chabad Double Bay Synagogue to cover the driveway to the Post Office and the barricaded area from the date of approval to 18 May, 2008.
- G. That approval be granted for the closure of the kerb side lane across the property frontages of the Sephardi Synagogue in Fletcher Street and Fletcher Lane, Woollahra, with water filled barriers from the date of approval to 18 May, 2008.
- H. That approval be granted for temporary ‘No Stopping’ zones being provided across the property frontages of the Sephardi Synagogue in Fletcher Street and both sections of Fletcher Lane, Woollahra from the date of approval to 18 May, 2008.
- I. That all approved water barriers be located so as to provide a minimum clear passageway of 1.8 metres for pedestrians on the public footpaths at all times.
- J. That the applicant provides Council with an RTA approved Traffic Management Plan for each location that indicates the steps that will be taken to cater for the alterations to both vehicular and pedestrian traffic.
- K. That all persons charged with controlling traffic be RTA Accredited Traffic Controllers.

- L. That the applicant provides a written notification by letter-box drop of the approval and relevant timings to all residents/businesses whose property frontage is within 100 metres of each affected synagogue prior to the installation of the barricades.
- M. That the applicant indemnify Woollahra Council, and provide evidence of indemnity, to a value of no less than \$10,000,000 for each location, against any Public Liability claims from accidents associated with these works.
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### **Background:**

As a result of recent unrest in the Middle East, a letter dated 18 February, 2008 (copy attached as Annexure 1) has been received by Council from the Communal Security Group on behalf of the Jewish Community requesting an urgent approval for the placement of water filled barriers at the following locations:

The South Head Synagogue at 666 Old South Head Road, Rose Bay.  
The Temple Emanuel at 7 Ocean Street, Woollahra,  
The Chabad Double Bay Synagogue in Kiaora Road, Double Bay, and  
The Sephardi Synagogue at 44 Fletcher Street, Woollahra.

### **Proposals:**

Similar requests have been received for the Jewish High Holidays in September/ October each year and these have been approved in recent years. (Refer most recent report to Woollahra Local Traffic Committee of 7 August, 2007 - A copy of Council's Resolution of 13 August 2007 is attached as Annexure 3). The reasons given for the above request are to do with security for these sites and are adequately explained in the attached correspondence.

As well as the water filled barriers, associated signage is installed to allow the barriers to function as intended at all of the above locations. The correspondence discusses the time required for the barriers to remain in place and indicates that "*Based on past experience, this period could last anywhere from 4 weeks to 3 months.*" As the date of the letter is 18 February, 2008, it is considered that any approval for these barriers should lapse on 18 May, 2008.

#### Old South Head Synagogue

The proposal at Old South Head Synagogue is to place water filled barriers on a section of the footpath in Old South Head Road, Rose Bay.

The applicant is to ensure that all water barriers located on the public footpath are placed so as to provide minimum clear openings for pedestrians of 1.8 metres at all times.

#### Temple Emanuel

The proposal is for the placement of water filled barriers on the verge at the kerb line and adjacent to the footpath in Ocean Street in front of the Temple Emanuel Synagogue.

The applicant must also ensure that all water barriers located on the public footpath are placed so as to provide minimum clear openings of 1.8 metres for pedestrians at all times. The No Parking zone in front of the barriers should be temporarily altered to No Stopping in front of the barricades over this period.

The Kilminster Lane closure has been positioned to ensure that access to the neighbour's garage is not impeded. The applicant must ensure that pedestrian access is not impeded by these barriers.

#### Chabad Double Bay Synagogue

At this location it is intended to position water filled barriers on the footpath in front of the Synagogue, just behind the kerb. There will be barriers located in the middle of the footpath in front of the Synagogue property, but adjacent to the post office, as well as on the footpath leading from Leura Road to stop any vehicles that may attempt to travel along the footpath.

A temporary 'No Stopping' zone will be required to replace the existing No Parking zone across the driveway to the Post Office in Kiaora Road and the Kiaora Road frontage of the Chabad Double Bay Synagogue to cover the driveway to the Post Office and the barricaded area.

There are no objections to this proposal provided that minimum clear openings of 1.8 metres for pedestrians are maintained at all times.

#### Sephardi Synagogue

The proposal is for barriers to be located along the front of the Synagogue on Fletcher St, and along the side and rear of this venue on Fletcher Lane. As the footpath in Fletcher Street is very narrow and non-existent in Fletcher Lane, the applicant has requested that barriers be placed in front of the kerb, just out of the guttering, so as not to impede water flow nor traffic flow in the street

Barriers would be placed along the western side and the rear of the venue in Fletcher Lane, but positioned to allow vehicle access to residents with garages on the opposite side of the laneway.

It will be necessary to cover the barricaded area with a temporary No Stopping zone and this will result in the temporary loss of 5-6 car spaces during this period

#### Indemnity

It will also be necessary for Council to be indemnified against any claims which may arise as a result of the installation of these temporary barricades, and the applicant and his agents must follow the directions provided by the Police or Council's Regulatory officers at all times.

#### Public Notification

Due to the disruption to residents and/or businesses in close proximity to each synagogue, it is considered that the applicant provide a written notification prior to the installation of barricades by letter-box drop of the approval and relevant timings to all residents/businesses whose property frontage is within 100 metres of the affected synagogue.

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#### **Identification of Income & Expenditure:**

All costs associated with the works to be borne by the applicant.

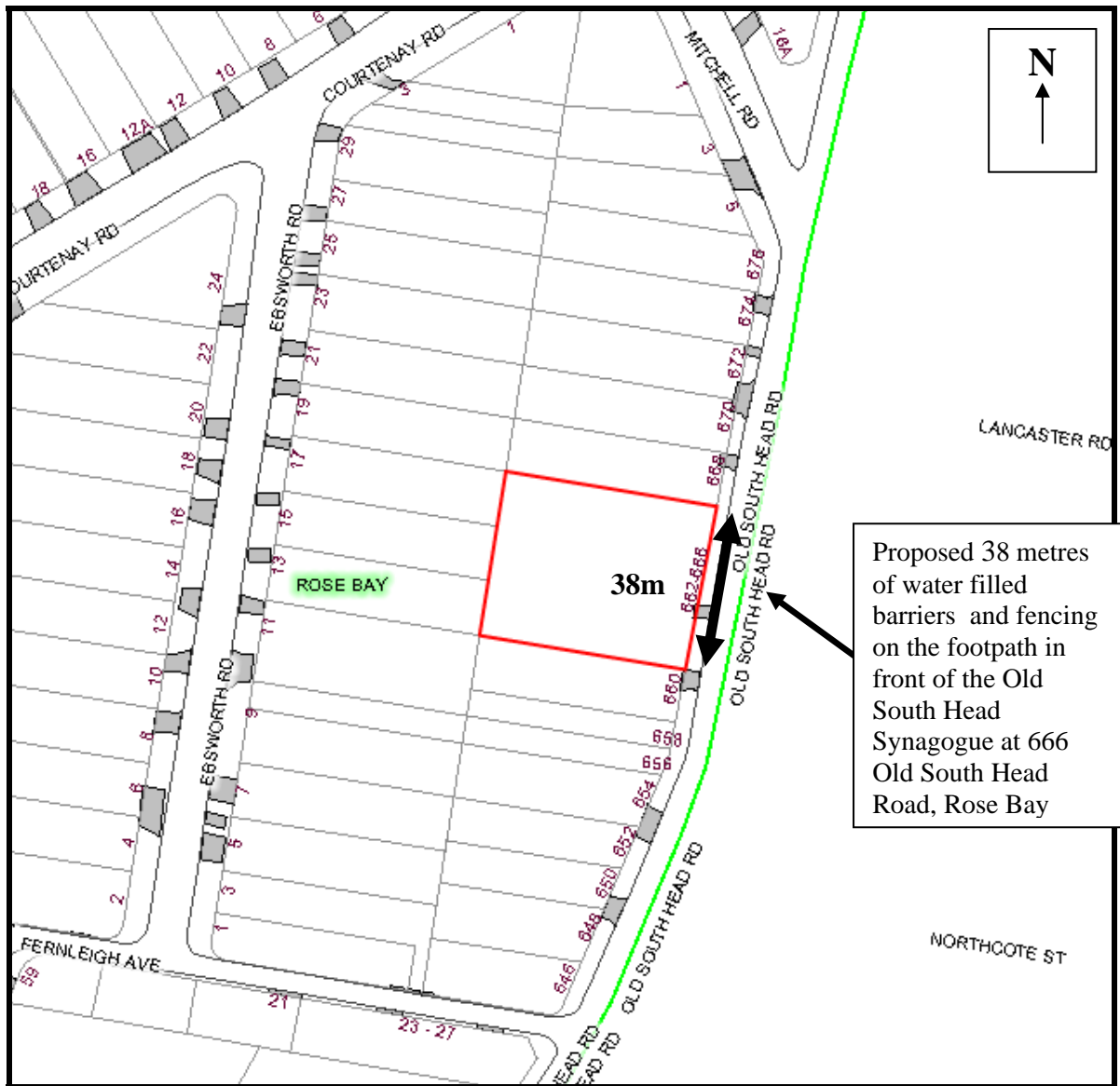
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**Annexures:**

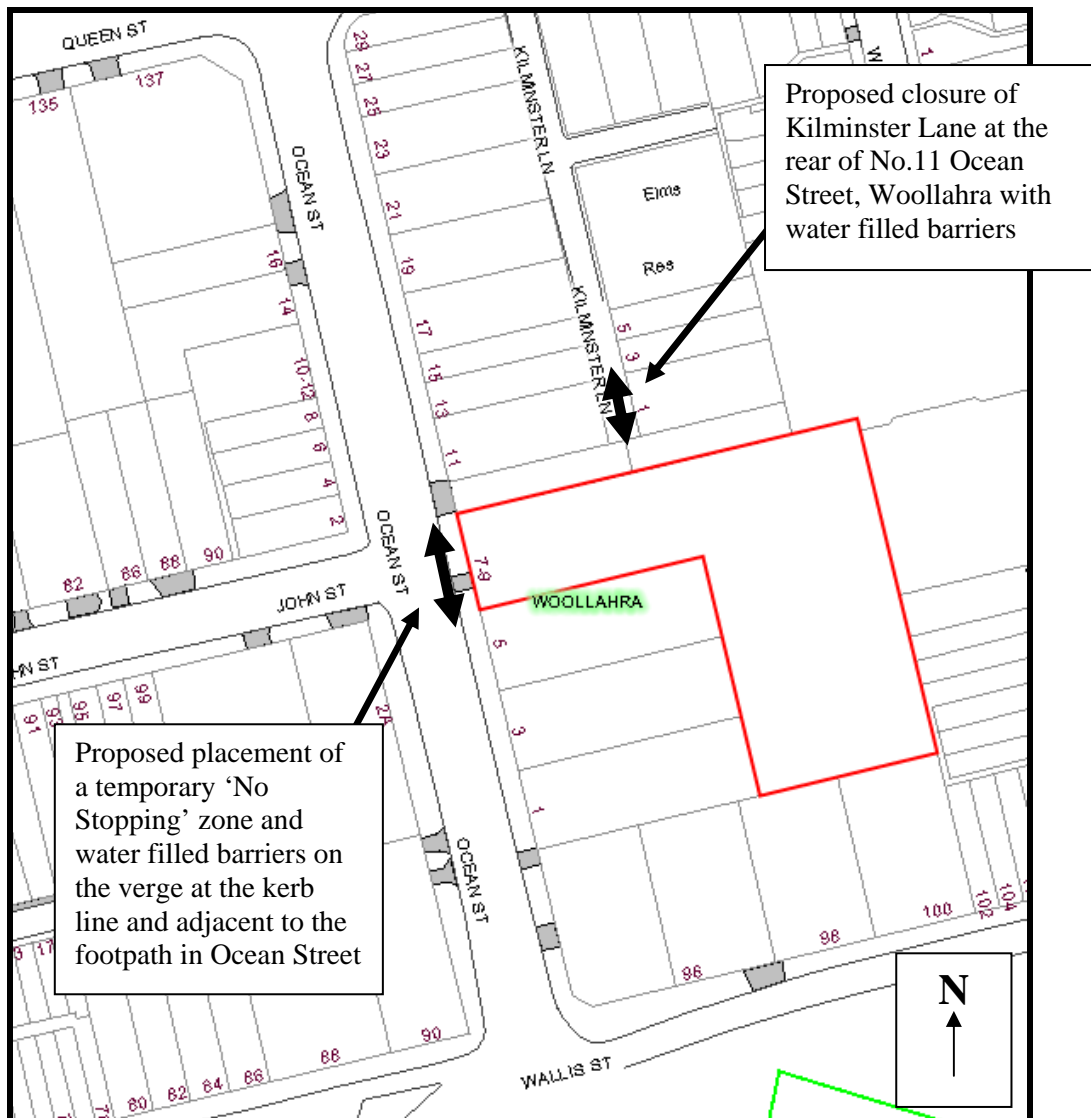
1. Locality Maps indicating approved facilities.
2. Copy of applicant's letter dated 18 February, 2008.
3. Copy of Council's Resolution of 13 August 2007 as a result of Item Y8 of the Woollahra Traffic Committee of 7 August, 2007 dealing with these barriers and closures for the Jewish High Holidays.

**Annexure 1**

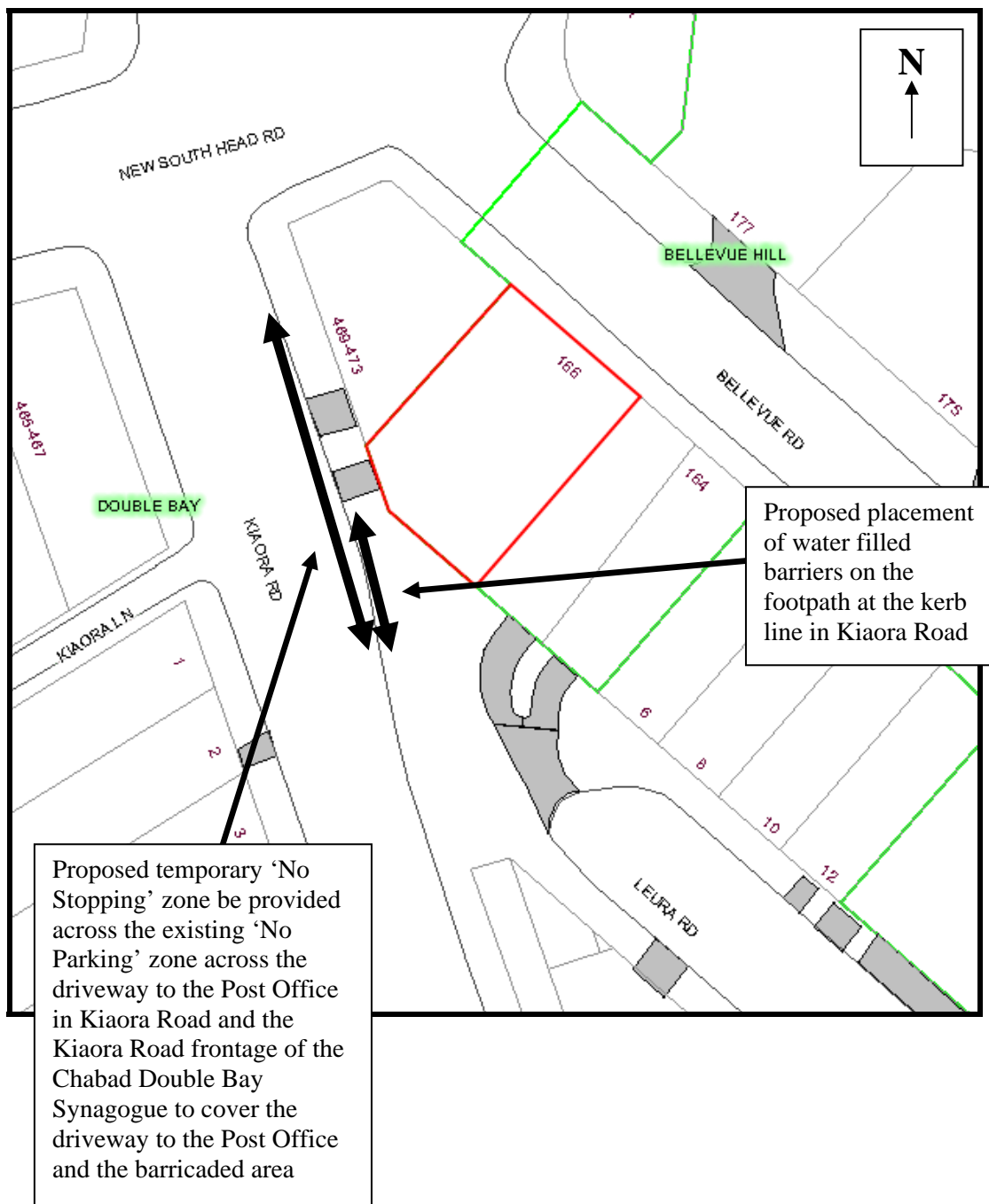
**Old South Head Synagogue – No.666 Old South Head Road, Rose Bay**



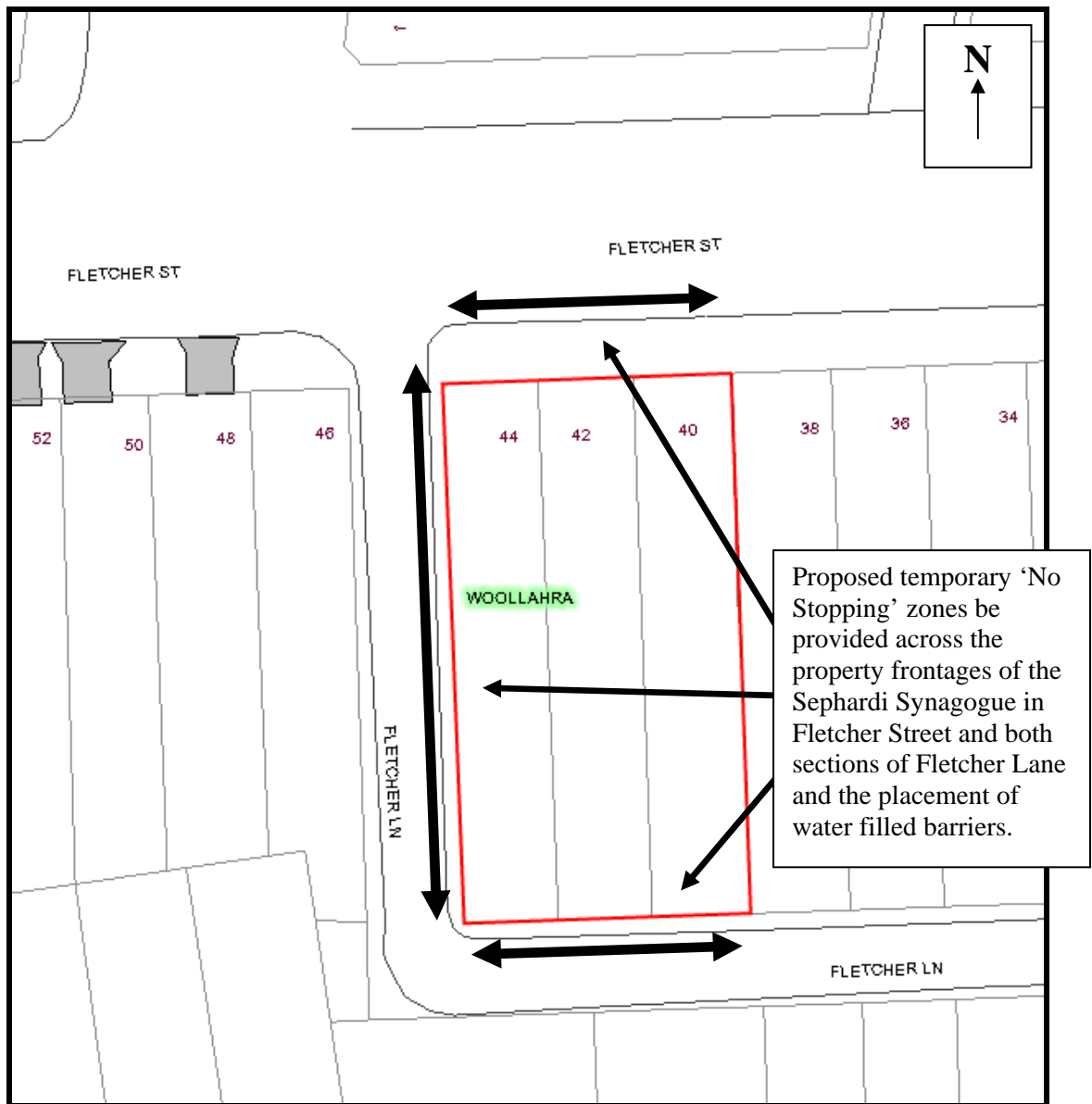
Temple Emanuel – No.7-9 Ocean Street, Woollahra



Chabad Double Bay Synagogue – No.166 Bellevue Road, Bellevue Hill



Sephardi Synagogue – No.40-44 Fletcher Street, Woollahra



Annexure 2

Copy of applicant's letter dated 18 February, 2008



**COMMUNAL SECURITY GROUP**

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PO Box 820 BONDI JUNCTION NSW 1355  
☎ (02) 9353 1600 | FAX: (02) 9369 4846  
24 HR EMERGENCY LINE: 1300 793 274 [1300 SYD CSG]

18 February 2008

Mr Frank Rotta  
Woollahra Council  
536 New South Head Road  
Double Bay  
NSW 2028

Dear Mr Rotta,

**Re: Urgent approval for placement of water filled barriers at Jewish Installations**

Last Thursday, following the assassination of Imad Mugniyeh in Syria, the second-in-charge of the terrorist organisation, Hizballah, the Jewish Community was placed on high alert.

Despite its denial, Hizballah has blamed the Israeli Government for the assassination. Hizballah have declared open war on 'Zionists' across the globe, claiming that no Israeli or Jewish interest should be considered immune from the possibility of a revenge attack.

The last time a high level leader of the terrorist group was assassinated, in 1994, the Jewish Community Centre in Buenos Aires, Argentina was attacked by means of a ramming vehicle laden with explosives causing a total collapse of the building, killing 85 & injuring over 200.

Hizballah is known to operate using a 'shelf file' system whereby they gather information about potential targets and store them for later use. Once given the 'go ahead' to carry out the attack, a period of information gathering occurs in order to ensure the accuracy of information, followed by the attack itself. Based on past experience, this period could last anywhere between 4 weeks and 3 months.

It is widely known that the modus operandi of Hizballah is the use of vehicles laden with explosives. Research has shown that distance is the key factor in minimising the impact of an explosion on both structures and people. It is also believed that Hizballah sleeper cells are operating in Australia.

Jewish Communities & Israeli interests around the world have been placed on high alert. In the United States, the FBI has established over 100 task forces in areas of significant Jewish population, responsible for the protection of Jewish schools & synagogues.

Last Friday, Darren Krug from my office, contacted Warick Haden - Director Technical Services, who granted temporary approval for barrier placement based on the urgency of the request. We hereby request approval for the continued placement of the barriers for a period of up to three months, during which time the threat level to the Jewish Community will continue to be monitored.

The barriers are required at the following Synagogues and will be installed as agreed to for the Jewish High Holy Day periods in 2007-2009:

South Head Synagogue	666 Old South Head Road, Rose Bay
Sephardi Synagogue	40-44 Fletcher Street, Bondi Junction
Emanuel Synagogue	7 Ocean Street, Woollahra
Double Bay Chabad	Kiaora Road, Double Bay

24HR EMERGENCY RESPONSE, INCIDENT REPORTING & ADMINISTRATION ☎ 1300 793 274 [1300 SYD CSG]

We have been in contact with Supt. Alan Baines, Commander, Rose Bay LAC, who supports this application.

Should you wish to contact me to discuss this application, please feel free to do so. My contact details are available above.

Your assistance with this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Ben Livni  
Head of Security – Synagogues  
Communal Security Group  
NSW Jewish Board of Deputies

**Annexure 3**

**Copy of Council's Resolution of 13 August 2007 as a result of Item Y8 of the Woollahra Traffic Committee of 7 August, 2007 dealing with these barriers and closures for the Jewish High Holidays.**

- A. That approval be granted, subject to the TCP being approved by the RTA, for the placement of 38 metres of water filled barriers and fencing on the footpath in front of the Old South Head Synagogue at 666 Old South Head Road, Rose Bay for the following periods:
- i. 31 August, 2007 - 24 September, 2007
  - ii. 25 September, 2008 – 13 October, 2008
  - iii. 17 September, 2009 – 5 October, 2009
- B. That approval be granted for the placement of water filled barriers on the verge at the kerb line and adjacent to the footpath in Ocean Street, Woollahra, in front of the Temple Emanuel Synagogue for the following periods:
- i. 5 September, 2007 - 24 September, 2007
  - ii. 25 September, 2008 – 13 October, 2008
  - iii. 17 September, 2009 – 5 October, 2009
- C. That approval be granted for the closure of Kilminster Lane at the rear of No.11 Ocean Street, Woollahra, with water filled barriers for the following periods:
- i. 5 September, 2007 - 24 September, 2007
  - ii. 25 September, 2008 – 13 October, 2008
  - iii. 17 September, 2009 – 5 October, 2009
- D. That approval be granted for a temporary 'No Stopping' zone being provided across the Ocean Street frontage of the Temple Emanuel Synagogue to cover the barricaded area for the following periods:
- i. 5 September, 2007 - 24 September, 2007
  - ii. 25 September, 2008 – 13 October, 2008
  - iii. 17 September, 2009 – 5 October, 2009
- E. That approval be granted for the placement of water filled barriers on the footpath at the kerb line in Kiaora Road in front of the Chabad Double Bay Synagogue for the following periods:
- i. 5 September, 2007 - 24 September, 2007
  - ii. 25 September, 2008 – 13 October, 2008
  - iii. 17 September, 2009 – 5 October, 2009
- F. That approval be granted for a temporary 'No Stopping' zone being provided across the existing 'No Parking' zone across the driveway to the Post Office in Kiaora Road and the Kiaora Road frontage of the Chabad Double Bay Synagogue to cover the driveway to the Post Office and the barricaded area for the following periods:
- i. 5 September, 2007 - 24 September, 2007
  - ii. 25 September, 2008 – 13 October, 2008
  - iii. 17 September, 2009 – 5 October, 2009
- G. That approval be granted for the closure of the kerb side lane across the property frontages of the Sephardi Synagogue in Fletcher Street and Fletcher Lane, Woollahra, with water filled barriers for the following periods:
- i. 5 September, 2007 - 24 September, 2007

- ii. 25 September, 2008 – 13 October, 2008
  - iii. 17 September, 2009 – 5 October, 2009
- H. That approval be granted for temporary ‘No Stopping’ zones being provided across the property frontages of the Sephardi Synagogue in Fletcher Street and both sections of Fletcher Lane, Woollahra for the following periods:
- i. 5 September, 2007 - 24 September, 2007
  - ii. 25 September, 2008 – 13 October, 2008
  - iii. 17 September, 2009 – 5 October, 2009
- I. That all approved water barriers be located so as to provide a minimum clear passageway of 1.8 metres for pedestrians on the public footpaths at all times.
- J. That the applicant provides Council with an RTA approved Traffic Management Plan for each location that indicates the steps that will be taken to cater for the alterations to both vehicular and pedestrian traffic.
- K. That all persons charged with controlling traffic be RTA Accredited Traffic Controllers.
- L. That the applicant provides a written notification by letter-box drop of the approval and relevant timings to all residents/businesses whose property frontage is within 100 metres of each affected synagogue a minimum of two weeks prior to the installation of the barricades.
- M. That the applicant indemnify Woollahra Council, and provide evidence of indemnity, to a value of no less than \$20,000,000 against any one Public Liability claim from accidents associated with these works.