



Australian Federation
of Islamic Councils



Councillor Moninder Singh

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Attn

Australian Federation of Islamic Councils
932 Bourke St Zetland NSW 2017
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Dear Keysar Trad

Thank you for your email dated 17/08/2020 regarding Ram Mandir celebrations in Blacktown LGA.

Let us clarify that Blacktown City Council did not provide the screen for the event on 05 August 2020. the screen was displayed by a private party and we sincerely apologize any offence caused.

Our mayor Cr Tony Bleasdale and I had meeting with local Muslim leaders and clarified this situation. It was very important that we do it and clear any misgivings in this matter.

It's a source of great pride for Blacktown City that we are harmonious, multi- faith, multicultural community. with our 395,000 residents are 188 nationalities, and we celebrate it every day. We would never be a party to favoring one over the other.

Our Muslim community play a significant major role in all aspects of the city's development in the recent times supporting victims of the Bush fires, Floods and currently Covid19. I have personally visited number of times at most mosques in Blacktown and other places and feel very proud of our relationships with local Muslim community. I have always supported all my constituents in the Blacktown LGA, I have friends across all the faith traditions, including especially Muslims.

I would like to extend through the Australian Federation of Islamic Councils my sincere apologies for any offense caused, this was never my, nor Council's intention. I extend my hand in friendship to the Australian Muslim community and to all my constituents.

Sincerely

Councillor Moninder Singh
BLACKTOWN CITY COUNCIL