
Sent: 21/09/2021 6:51:53 AM
Subject: Online Submission

21/09/2021

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RE: DA2021/1426 - 51 Kalang Road ELANORA HEIGHTS NSW 2101

I am a parent and board member of the Preschool adjoining the proposed development.

The property at 51 Kalang Road, Elanora Heights is positioned directly alongside Elanora Heights Community Centre in which the community preschool has operated Monday to Friday for the past 55 years. The community Preschool already struggles to provide enough safe car spaces for its 80 children and families attending each week, not to mention enabling those cars to safely enter and exit onto Kalang Road as parents drop off and collect their young children each morning and afternoon. This is a dangerous blind corner where existing hedges/trees along with the angle of the road at 51 Kalang Road obscure clear vision for anyone attempting to exit the community centre carpark as they pull out of the driveway. I have experienced few near misses as vehicles speed around the corner at up to 70km per hour (after exiting or upon approaching the small roundabout in the village).

As the main hirers of Elanora Heights Community Centre for the past 55 years, we have consistently expressed safety concerns about this corner and the quick haste one needs to enter/exit the community centre carpark to avoid serious collision, such as a T-bone incident. Likewise, when entering the driveway on this bend, drivers are pressured to pull in very quickly to avoid a rear-end collision. This is a huge safety concern for the Preschool due to young children aged between 3-5 years old arriving and leaving the centre both in vehicles and on foot during busy peak times. Furthermore, prior to this submission, the Preschool has continually raised road safety concerns about this stretch of road for well over ten years, yet unfortunately this has continued to fall on deaf ears at Northern Beaches Council and Roads and Traffic NSW. On behalf of the children and families attending Elanora Heights Community Preschool, the Preschool has previously requested clear signage (warning drivers to slow down for children/blind driveway), a pedestrian crossing, speed humps, road safety mirrors, etc., but to no avail. Our concerns have been ignored for many years and we now hold even graver concerns that Northern Beaches Council could possibly consider a development of this size and scale in an area that already has existing unresolved road safety concerns relating to young children and families.

I cannot fathom the sheer chaos and road safety concerns the proposed development at 51 Kalang Road, Elanora Heights would cause for our Preschool and the young children attending. I also have strong concerns about the suitability of the proposed new space in relation to being placed alongside a children's educational setting (e.g., tattoo parlour, mortuary, backpackers, high rise units etc.). It would be inappropriate for Northern Beaches Council to place children's safety at further risk due to creating additional traffic and parking issues, causing disruption in local residential streets, and potentially restricting outdoor play time to achieve appropriate noise levels for residents in the proposed units etc.

This development could have devastating consequences for our preschool community, and I strongly urge Northern Beaches Council to thoroughly review all safety considerations through the lens of the 80 children and families accessing the community centre preschool each week as it lies directly alongside this property. I also strongly recommend that Northern Beaches Council visit Elanora Heights Community Centre and the Preschool to view the location of the proposed development during peak preschool operation times when the community centre carpark is filled with 40 cars arriving and exiting the driveway with their young children onboard each morning and afternoon. The location of the new proposed development and the potential noise and privacy impacts it would create, along with serious traffic safety and parking concerns, all point towards this space being highly unsuitable for a proposal of this size alongside the community centre Preschool.