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10/11/2024

MR Gregory Wilkins
1 / 24 - 24 Cove AVE
Manly NSW 2095

RE: DA2024/1216 - Gourlay Avenue BALGOWLAH NSW 2093

I'm writing to object to DA2024/1216.

When considering this DA, some might think that it is from a company trying to maximise the commercial return from their asset. However, that misses the key aspect of the North Harbour Marina, in that the asset does not belong to the lease holder, rather it is a community asset held by maritime.

This DA is destroying key aspects of this community asset, in that it is removing: a T head for passenger pickup & drop off; a work berth for safe servicing of craft; a mast crane; two slip ways; a shared dinghy/tender service; low cost swing moorings. Some of these are the last such facilities in all of north harbour, so once gone will be unlikely to return.

These vital community assets are being replaced by a cafe/restaurant, impractical kayak storage (that will ultimately become an extension of the restaurant) and a super yacht facility. There are many cafes and restaurants in the area; kayak storage is also available in the bay (along with a means to launch them) and there is zero community demand for super yacht storage.

If the current lease holder is unable to make economic use of these community facilities, then they should not be given permission to destroy them. Rather they should give up the lease and allow others to operate these facilities for the good of the community.

Fundamentally, the harbour area is leased for community benefit, not for company profit. This DA is all about the later to the detriment of the former.