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**From:** DYPXCPWEB@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au  
**Sent:** 18/11/2024 6:14:44 PM  
**To:** DA Submission Mailbox  
**Subject:** Online Submission

18/11/2024

MR Glen Lighton  
4 / 40 White ST  
Balgowlah NSW 2093

**RE: DA2024/1216 - Gourlay Avenue BALGOWLAH NSW 2093**

I am a resident in Balgowlah and an active member of Volunteer Marine Rescue based at The Spit in Middle Harbour for over 6 years, currently serving as the Deputy Unit Commander. I wish to express my personal support for Development Application DA2024/1216 submitted by North Harbour Marina, proposing the establishment of a clear, 50-meter-wide navigation channel through North Harbour. From my experience boating in this congested bay and towing distressed vessels through this area when on Marine Rescue duties, it is my view that his initiative addresses critical safety, and accessibility needs in the bay, particularly for emergency support and vessel navigation.

**Key Benefits:**

1. Enhanced Safety for Distressed Vessels: Marine Rescue Middle Harbour and other emergency service vessels frequently assist vessels in distress, both departing from and returning to North Harbour. Our Marine Rescue safe towing techniques, especially towing alongside for close maneuvering benefit from clear and unobstructed channel to ensure safe and effective passage. The dedicated channel would provide the necessary space to facilitate these operations, reducing risks to both the distressed vessels and our rescue team.
2. Enhance Safety in a Fire Event: In the event of a vessel fire, the safest response is to quickly move the vessel to a clear area to prevent fire spread and mitigate risk to nearby boats, property, and individuals. The proposed navigation channel would serve as an essential safety buffer, allowing Marine Rescue and other emergency service vessels to manoeuvre vessels in distress safely and isolate any fire threat away from crowded areas.
3. Emergency evacuation: If emergency service vessels require land-based evacuation for a medical emergency, the dedicated channel will enhance our ability to safely navigate and extract the patient through North Harbour Marina to waiting emergency assistance
4. Improved Navigation and Reduced Congestion: The creation of a designated navigation channel will alleviate congestion from the current layout, which is crowded with swing moorings. A navigation channel would funnel marine traffic into a specific area and reduce hazards to recreational water users like paddle boarders and kayakers. Currently vessels have no clear navigation channel reducing visibility and increasing safety risk of accidental collisions with other watercraft using this sheltered area. This channel will enable vessels to move more freely and safely.

I support the approval of DA2024/1216, recognising that a clear navigation channel will be instrumental in enhancing the safety, navigability, and emergency response capabilities within North Harbour.

Yours sincerely,

Glen Lighton  
4/40 White St, Balgowlah NSW 2093