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Subject: Online Submission

21/09/2021

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RE: DA2021/1541 - 20 Albert Street FRESHWATER NSW 2096

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I am in complete support of the application by Alma to the Freshwater Village and anticipate it's opening with great excitement.

I have been to Alma Avalon many times. I have conversed with the owners of the establishment, young local people who are professional in their operations, extremely particular about the quality of their product and concerned about their impact on the environment. They have a demonstrated track record in Avalon and have shown to be a very positive and active force within their community on many levels.

Alma delivers a superior dining experience unlike anything on offer within the Freshwater restaurant scene. Not all mexican restaurants are alike! The presence of Alma will fill a gap in the market that currently sits idle. The addition of outside seating, much like that of other restaurants in the area (with residential apartments above) will be very much in keeping with the vibrant makeup of the strip. As the current lockdown period has shown, there is more need than ever for dining places for our community to meet and eat. We all know how hard it is to find an outside table in any restaurant in Freshwater on a weekend night in the middle of summer. The demand is obvious.

As to the concerns about noise. Ambient noise comes with any retail/restaurant strip. Alma is not a night club. It is an 'up market' restaurant that attracts a 'respectful' clientele. One wonders why people move into an already bustling and established strip if they are worried about future development and the potential effects that it may bring.

I am certain that the only impact Alma will have on the current retail is positive and the Freshwater community would only benefit from consent of this application.

Sincerely,

Anne Shillington