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Subject: Online Submission

10/11/2020

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RE: DA2019/1260 - 29 North Avalon Road AVALON BEACH NSW 2107

Please see below my previous submission lodged 6/02/2020 for DA2019/1260 27 & 29 North Avalon Road.

Unfortunately, all of our previous objections, issues and concerns raised back in February 2020, are still relevant today, having NOT been addressed AT ALL in these new amended plans.

I would therefore like to resubmit this submission to the Land and Environment Court.

Dear Renee,

I woke early this morning to the sound of kookaburras laughing, and to the wide chorus of many different native birds, all singing merrily amongst the treetops surrounding our house in North Avalon Road. I then looked out my bedroom window to see a mother ring tailed possum carrying a baby on her back, walking along the top of my paling fence. This for us is EVERYDAY life living in North Avalon!

This is only one of many reasons my husband and I decided to move to beautiful Avalon 40 years ago to start our family and to eventually raise our children here. Our four children have absolutely loved growing up in Avalon, and now as adults themselves, still live in North Avalon along with our 2 little granddaughters. We couldn't imagine living anywhere else!

Avalon is surrounded by nature, we live amongst it. It is a special place, that's why we all treasure it and choose to live here.

This also explains why so many local residents are outraged over this proposed SEPP-55 Development.

Native animals are seen regularly living in Avalon particularly in North Avalon Road and these include cockatoos, rosellas, rainbow lorikeets, magpies, tawny frogmouth owls, powerful owls, flying foxes, willie wagtails, ring-tailed possums, brush-tailed possums, water dragons, blue tongue lizards, bush turkeys, bandicoots, native frogs and skinks just to name a few!

As we live directly across the road from the proposed development and see these native animals regularly on or near our property, I can only imagine the large variety of native birds and animals that would be currently living in the bushland of these 2 large residential blocks. As it states on the Northern Beaches Website " The Northern Beaches is home to over 400 species of native animals and they are all protected. It's against the law to harm them". If this development proceeds, it will completely destroy all the native animal's current habitat and food supply on these 2 large residential sites! Not to mention the loss of shade and shelter for these animals.

Every year in our front yard we have tawny frogmouth owls build their nest in our large established gum trees, one of them being a native Swamp Mahogany Gum. (This is one of the protected native trees earmarked to be removed on the site). Our nearby neighbours have told

us that they too have tawny frogmouth owls nesting in their large trees every year. I'm quite sure that the large established existing gum trees across the road at 27 & 29 would also have tawny frogmouth owls nesting there as well.

In the light of the recent catastrophic bushfires, with the devastation of thousands of hectares of bushland, not to mention the BILLIONS of native animals wiped out, for the Council to approve this development is frankly unimaginable. It is not only the Council's responsibility, but it has a duty of care to PROTECT and PRESERVE our existing native bushland and animals, for present and future generations.

Our precious native Australian animals are now at risk more than ever, as more animals verge on becoming endangered or even worse, EXTINCT.

When we first moved to Avalon there was actually a small colony of koalas (we would often see koalas in the large gum trees in our front yard when we lived in Central Road), but due to urban development and other factors they are now extinct from our area.

NBC website states "Our bushland is vital habitat for native animals from the threatened pygmy possums and powerful owls, to the ring tail possum. The plants in bushland areas clean our air and together with the soil, filter our waterways." Clearly this development poses a significant problem in our area, as these particular native animals live in and around the proposed development site. Also with the overall percentage of hard surface coverage, this will have a direct and dramatic impact.

NBC website statement- " Land clearing for urban development is one of the main reasons why some of our native plants are in danger of extinction. NBC is committed to conserving our native plants which contribute to the bio-diversity of the area and provide important habitat and food for native animals."

Every year we have a constant stream of people moving to live in Avalon from suburbs such as Mosman, the Eastern Suburbs, the inner city and many from overseas (particularly England) all wanting to embrace our wonderful lifestyle. Who could blame them?

To be surrounded by SPACE and serenity, a beautiful beach, tall established trees and bushland, native wildlife, large flat, family friendly blocks and to become a member of our close knit Avalon Community.

This is evident from residents who have recently moved to live in North Avalon from other suburbs as mentioned in their submissions.

As you drive around Bilgola Bends you immediately feel like you are on "holidays all year round." I constantly have locals saying to me -"Why would you go away on holidays when we live in this most amazing and unique part of the world."

We all know how lucky we are, but we must never take it for granted or be complacent. This is why it is so important to protect and preserve Avalon, particularly North Avalon from continued over-development!

Unfortunately the face of Avalon is changing, with our current infrastructure being placed under increased pressure, struggling to cope with it's already existing permanent residents.

As shown from photos previously submitted, the morning school drop-off and afternoon pick-ups are a constant traffic jam not only in North Avalon Road, as well as the surrounding streets,(Catalina Cres and Binburra Rd) trying to get out onto Barrenjoey Road with traffic always at a complete standstill. Then there is a further single lane traffic jam once you finally manage to get onto Barrenjoey Road, which then adds an extra 15-20 minutes travel time crawling along just to drive into main Avalon!!!

This problem will only increase further with the proposed 20+ extra residents living in North Avalon Road, having their many children, grandchildren, extended family and friends visiting

them on a regular basis if this development is approved.

With increased traffic congestion and parking getting worse and worse every year in Avalon (even outside our own home), particularly during the holiday periods with the influx of holiday makers coming up here to enjoy the Avalon lifestyle, something has to change.

Developers coming into Avalon (particularly these developers from Melbourne) building large Medium Density Housing Developments all within short distances of each other, just to make a quick dollar then move onto their next project, certainly isn't the solution! This will only exacerbate the problem, that us, the local residents will then have to live with.

The immediate surrounding houses in our street are all built "amongst" the established trees. The beautiful "Avalon Style" residence recently built at 31 North Avalon Road is completely in keeping with the charm and character of our local area. This property is located directly next door to the proposed development and this lovely new house has been built perfectly amongst the established trees, including and integrating them into their landscaping. I'm sure the Council had very strict guidelines and stipulations as to what trees needed to be protected and preserved on this residential build! Seems there are rules for some and different rules for others!!!

This proposed HUGE development will be completely out of character within the surrounding streetscape, particularly in regards to the size and scale of the 10 two storey dwellings, and with the removal of almost all of the existing trees on these big blocks. The streetscape will be completely destroyed!

As you can see from the large number of submissions already lodged, the local residents have spoken loud and clear!!

We agree unanimously with all the other submissions and are strongly opposed to this development and ask Northern Beaches Council to completely reject this application.

As I have stated in previous submissions, along with my additional concerns outlined above, this type of development is more suitable in Dee Why, Warriewood Valley and particularly Frenchs Forest now because of the new hospital, where existing services, transport and infrastructure can cope with increased population and urban development.

North Avalon most definitely can't!

Kind regards

Cathy and Bruce Chard,

Luke, Madeleine, Oliver and Liam Chard and our 2 small grandchildren (our future generations.)

34 North Avalon Road Avalon Beach.