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13/12/2022

MR Ron Phillips
8 / 25 Waine ST
Freshwater NSW 2096
[REDACTED]

RE: DA2022/1985 - 27 Waine Street FRESHWATER NSW 2096

To the Planners of Northern Beaches Council.
Comments and reflections on DA2022/1985.

The DA plans are completely out of character, style and scale with the surrounding buildings. The complex will have 4 large windows directly opposite my living room and balcony. Surrounding neighbours and I will lose our privacy and access to the natural sunlight. This build assumes to take up 75% of the block even though Council stipulates 50%, looking at the plans I beg to differ even 75%. They have pushed a number of issues on the DA to the limit, including going 15% higher than the regulated height.

The DA appears purely profit driven and it is completely disregarding the natural landscapes of the street and the wildlife.

Looking at the plan and the amount of green space proposed to be left around the actual block I shudder to think where any wildlife would find refuge. There also appears to be a lack of any form of mature trees or real garden. Why do they have to cut down every tree growing within the block. The mind boggles! Especially, when a beautiful old native fig and a lovely native bottle brush, which has grown to a height of at least 6 metres, is in this space. This just enforces the fact that animals rely on these familiar, long term spaces for food and shelter. These trees are on the edges/corners of the block and there is absolutely no need to cut them down.

What concerns me greatly is that currently Waine Street is a natural bush corridor comprised of a biodiverse range of native flora used by a large number of our native animals.

Tim Flannery wrote a book 'The Future Eaters'. In it he stresses that Australia is one of the driest continents in the world, with infertile soil and unpredictable climate, having only two real seasons. This is why we are lucky enough to have such a large biodiversity of flora and fauna. In terms of this biodiversity in nature the Northern Beaches is among the most unique and special in the world. Finally, people are beginning to realise, acknowledge and respect this fact, just as the Aboriginal people have for more than 60,000 years.

I know the council has created new regulations and is trying harder to get on board with environmental issues and understand the importance of protecting what we have.

This development is a chance for us to all show that we care by creating something that future

generations won't look back on and say, "Not another overdeveloped, ugly building on a site way to small, what were they thinking?".

Ron Phillips (Resident of Waine Street for over 30 years)