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**From:** Beau Mcdonell  
**Sent:** Sunday, 12 December 2021 2:22 PM  
**To:** Planning Panels - Northern Beaches  
**Cc:** pittwater@parliament.nsw.gov.au  
**Subject:** Application No. DA 2020/1756

**Categories:** DA2020/1756

To Planning Panel members of the Northern Beaches council and Rob Stokes,

**We are writing this letter to express our opposition to the DA as aforementioned in Robertson Road, Newport.**

**As long term residents of Newport we are very concerned specifically about the proposed development design, as well as the car garage entrance on Robertson Road.**

**The current DA lacks any consideration for community atmosphere with a design that encourages vehicle access and traffic through a quiet street which is frequently accessed by pedestrians. The proposed access to the car garage on Robertson Road also abruptly interrupts the streetscape and village centre atmosphere that currently exists in this area. Access to a car garage on Robertson Road is extremely damaging to preserving any sort of community centre. In our opinion, development in Robertson Road should discourage any increase in vehicle access and instead take the opportunity for an underground parking area with access from the MAIN ROAD ONLY and therefore, divert traffic away from this quiet street. By doing this, you provide the residents of Newport, as well as welcomed visitors, the chance to enjoy and support a village centre with alfresco dining, markets, music, and local business.**

**The proposed development design does not make any effort to integrate into a boutique village model or design, which is quintessential to Robertson Road. At present, this quality is what attracts residents, visitors and business alike to the area. If any of you took the time to spend some time in Newport, you would notice that the newer developments in the suburb e.g. Cheer Factory, Core Culture, and the previous NewPot Warehouse buildings lack any character or atmosphere, which has ultimately been of detriment to the businesses leasing the property. People simply do not want to go there! The buildings are cold, unsightly and un-imaginative and do not draw people to them at all. You would also notice that most people and business in Newport are concentrated in the Robertson Road area due to it's current atmosphere and business profile. As council and government representatives you must take this into consideration to ensure preserving a restaurant and dining precinct in Newport.**

**There is no denying that the existing buildings in Robertson Road are in need of repair and re-development, although there is an opportunity here to create a community considered approach to development. Since this DA was presented to the community, there have been people working tirelessly to ensure this development has Newport's best interests at heart. Although, we feel that you are not listening to the community that you are supposed to represent. We are not opposed to improvement of the Robertson Road precinct, but we are asking that our local council and government representatives listen to the people who are going to be impacted the most by any changes.**

**We want Robertson Road to remain a boutique village atmosphere. It is the only area of Newport that has the potential for a pedestrianised street to support alfresco dining, markets, retail and small business. This opinion seems to resonate throughout our community members, who live, work and love this suburb. New development can support this community vision by integrating into the existing atmosphere. Please listen to the community you represent and do not allow the proposed DA to be approved.**

**Yours sincerely,**

**Beau and Imogen McDonell**