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RE: DA2021/0212 - 5 Skyline Place FRENCHS FOREST NSW 2086

I am a resident of Bimbadeen Crescent and my home will be directly impacted and overlooked should this development be approved.

When the Northern Beaches hospital proposal surfaced many years ago, we were approached by property developers interested in purchasing our land. At the time, we were interested, not because we wanted to move, but because we originally purchased our property for it's peace and quiet, for it's tree lined streets and for it's wildlife. We did not want to stay in a suburb that was going to be decimated by development

Not long after the offers started rolling in, they ceased, because the precinct proposal was very clear; only Frenchs Forest West was to be developed and the zoning around Frenchs Forest Road East would not change, meaning it would remain low density residential and business park as per the current zoning allowed.

For this reason, we invested in our property, undertaking an extension and alteration which doubled our mortgage.

Post commencing our construction, we were advised that 1/5 Skyline place was proposing a 6 storey retirement living complex. We were opposed to this as it looked directly over our property, affecting privacy, noise and traffic in our area. However this development was approved and construction started.

Now we are advised that the same organisation plans to build a 12 storey, residential tower behind this, including social housing and community services.

This is unacceptable. The zoning of that area remains as a business park which prohibits any residential premises, including one apartment over a commercial space. The maximum height of a building in this area is 3 storeys high, yet this development proposal is quadruple that size.

With a 12 storey high complex, 133 apartments and based on the number of bedrooms an assumed over 350 new residents in such a small space is no way considered low density.

The long standing residents of Frenchs Forest have been impacted by development for too long. The Planning department needs to live up to its promises and keep the east side of the hospital as low density and commercial space.

Furthermore, the development proposal of 5 Skyline place is flawed. Many of the reasons provided as to why this is a suitable site are incorrect.

They quote the local amenities include a farmers market, a newsagency, fish and chip shop to name a few. All of these amenities no longer exist. The farmers market was relocated well outside our local area as the grounds they were using were redeveloped. And the other shops have closed as a result of reduced trade and high rental. These shops relied on employees of local businesses, yet many commercial spaces are vacant or closing. The ridiculous traffic planning and changes to parking around our local shops means people no longer drive to the complex. Residents will drive to Belrose, Warringah Mall, Forestville or Dee Why rather than shop locally, as both the Forestway Shopping Centre and Skyline shops are traffic congested, lacking amenity and quality products.

The direct bus to the city was cancelled, which means commuters need to walk 20 minutes or catch multiple buses. This is a direct result of the precinct planning where the hub is at Forest Way, which sits on the west side of Wakehurst Parkway. Again, reinforcing that the East side of Frenchs Forest was always intended to remain as low density.

Topographically, the proposed site sits lower than the hospital and other local amenities, resulting in quite a steep walk, should anyone choose to visit these. Older and disabled residents will require cars or courtesy busses which will place further strain on the already extremely busy roads.

This is not a suitable site for such a development.

Additionally, since the hospital has been open, we have seen an increase in home invasions and burglary in our street. And I am concerned about the lack of privacy and increased safety risks resulting from such a massive influx of people to this area.

From our back living area and backyard, I used to see beautiful, well established native gum trees, birds and other wildlife. Since the construction started on Jardin and they cut down many of these trees (even though we were assured, they would remain), I now see sky, which will soon be filled with a 6 storey residential building. If this additional development gets approved, another 12 storey building will sit behind that.not only will the aesthetics of the area be affected, but so will the land value of residents who have lived in the area far longer than any development plans have even been dreamed up.

We will have no control over who is looking directly into our yard or the windows of our house. The public pathway that runs adjacent to my block is already becoming a dumping ground and we have seen an increase in littering and graffiti. This will no doubt increase further should this development proceed and this increases my anxiety and fears for the safety and security risk for my family.

Since the roads and hospital development started, we have had nothing but noise, dust and tree lopping. Local flora has been destroyed. Native animals have been replaced with vermin, crime and litter, which I can only assume will get worse with an additional 350 plus residents moving into such a small area.

This development will completely change the landscape and skyscape of the area. Please reject this development proposal and allow Frenchs Forest East to resemble the peace and quiet that once drew people to our suburb.