

---

**Sent:** 23/08/2021 4:40:39 PM  
**Subject:** Online Submission

23/08/2021

MRS Deborah Gartrell  
89 Central RD  
Avalon Beach NSW 2107  
debgartrell@tpg.com.au

**RE: DA2021/1164 - 521 Barrenjoey Road BILGOLA BEACH NSW 2107**

RE: DA2021/1164 - 521 Barrenjoey Road Bilgola Beach NSW 2107

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to say that my family and I are strongly opposed to this proposed development for many reasons as follows.

Our understanding of the criteria for residential development in an E4 zoned area in Pittwater is that any development should be low impact and be of a density and scale which suits the landscape.

There is no way that a large 7 level concrete bunker clinging to the side of a steep jungle clad hillside on the narrow arterial road in and out of the area could be called low impact. It appears that 28 mature native trees will have to be removed for the build which will cause a visual scar in a very special green belt which runs from Newport right through to the Plateau Road roundabout in Avalon. There is a lot of inconvenience in living north of the Bends, but people have chosen to live in this area because they value the greenery and lack of development in the area and this green and natural hillside is part of what makes this area so special. I don't live adjacent to the site but can only imagine the horrific noise and mess when they start tunnelling into the hillside and trucking away soil and pouring concrete, and as most builds run overtime this could possibly go on for two years.

Another worry is that allowing this to go ahead will set a dangerous precedent for that whole area and before we know it the whole hillside will be a building site and lose all its natural beauty for which the Pittwater area is known and loved and which distinguishes it from other areas of Sydney. The bushland around the Bilgola Bends is very special and this heavily forested gully is a much needed haven for wildlife in the area and should not be desecrated.

With regard to safety, there have been slippages in this area before and if we are going to have more extreme weather events in the future it would seem to be very irresponsible to excavate a huge tunnel and remove mature trees which hold the soil in place. Northern Beaches Council has a responsibility to prepare for these extreme weather events and adjust their planning appropriately.

Another issue which really worries me is the blocking of traffic for areas north of the site for the duration of the build. Apart from the terrible inconvenience for commuters in what is already a very long and arduous trip to the city and beyond, there is the very real problem of emergency vehicles getting caught up coming into and out of the suburbs to the north. Our family has experienced this first hand when my husband went into cardiac arrest and the ambulance had

to negotiate night road works going through particular spot. Luckily the hold up wasn't too long and my husband made it to Frenchs Forest Hospital in time, but next time someone else won't be so lucky and a death will occur. People north of the bends are already disadvantaged by distance and we don't want to be cut off from vital medical services if needed.

I understand that people have to live somewhere, but am shocked that this is actually residential land, and also think that the house is totally inappropriate in scale and form for this site. I would totally agree with the comments made by various community groups that this DA should be rejected and that all the undeveloped blocks on this stretch of road be rezoned to non- residential.

Thank you for taking the time to read my objection.

Yours faithfully,

Deborah Gartrell