
Sent: 29/10/2024 12:04:40 PM
Subject: Submission re. DA 2024/1216

The Manager,
Northern Beaches Council,

Dear Sir / Madam,

I wish to make a submission re. DA 2024/1216, the marina development in North Harbour, Balgowlah. I have had difficulty in doing this through your Council website so would you please confirm that this submission has been accepted.

As a very frequent user of this waterway I wish to protest about the proposed changes to North Harbour, in particular the proposed 50 metre wide "navigation channel " down the centre of the bay.

I paddle-board or kayak in this bay most days and have absolutely no trouble finding my way past the moored boats. The moored boats always swing with the wind and therefore line up pointing into the wind. This makes it a very simple matter for small craft and the boats currently using the bay to navigate.

A letter we recently received from the North Harbour Marina states that this proposed Channel would make it safer for paddlers such as myself.

This is ridiculous. Surely the only point of a channel of this width would be to allow access for much larger boats than those which currently use the bay. Such boats would certainly make paddle-boarding and kayaking much more dangerous. Their large size and the wash created would be most unpleasant and greatly reduce the safety and amenity of this waterway. Has the effect of large boats on the sea grass beds so essential to the health of our harbour been assessed?

While the letter from the Marina denies any future berths for large vessels, nothing else makes any sense.

I believe that if this DA is approved the only beneficiaries would be the Marina owners and the owners of a couple of very large boats. These changes would negatively impact the hundreds of sailors and small craft users who currently use this delightful waterway.

I would urge you to stop this application from being approved.

Sincerely,

Malcolm Barr

11 Clarence Street, Balgowlah, 2093.