Planning Panels - Northern Beaches; pittwater@parliament.nsw.gov.au
Important: Application No. DA2020/1756
Friday, 10 December 2021 12:11:43 PM

Dear Council members, and the Hon Rob Stokes, MP.,

Re: Opposition to the proposed development in Robertson Road, and 351 Barrenjoey Road, Newport, NSW 2106 / Application No. DA2020/1756

I am a homeowner and longtime resident of Newport, and am currently living in the United States. It has recently been brought to my attention that the unique and community-friendly area within 351 Barrenjoey Road and up through Robertson Road, is in the final stages of a proposed development, which if it goes ahead, will drastically change the environment section of Newport that many locals cherish.

This friendly, safe, and accessible area within Newport, is something I have often told friends about in the United States, because it is something that is no longer available here. Many people here in the US refer to the days when they could shop at their local "mom-and-pop" stores, where they could meet up with their local community, randomly bump into each other etc. Instead, here in the US people drive to their shops, purchase from large retail outlets and thus, miss many opportunities of interacting with their own local community.

Why would any reasonable elected council member who oversees and makes long-term decisions about suburbs on the beautiful northern beaches not consider what has happened in places like the US for example (with large developers taking over and owning the majority)? Why at this time when many people have felt isolated and mental health is at a global high, would fracturing a community (which this development would do) be a sound decision for the people who live there? Robertson Road and the surrounding stores, all encompass a focal meeting point for locals. It's an area where you can relax with friends, it's a place where you can drop into on your own and mostly know you'll recognize a friendly face. This is the type of area that millions of people would love to have access to. This is one of the reasons many people choose to live somewhere like Newport and know how lucky they are to have something as special as Robertson Road. Please do the right and responsible thing and do not take that away from the Newport resident!

I sincerely hope that you really listen well to the Newport community and think about the long-term negative impact this will have if the proposed application goes through. I hope that when I return to live back home in Newport again, that I can still walk up Robertson Road to my favourite barista and bump into local friends.

Thank you. Yours sincerely,

Carolyn Frost