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To: DA Submission Mailbox
Subject: TRIMMED: Online Submission

09/11/2024

MS Liliane Benti
9 / 9 - 9 North Harbour ST
Balgowlah NSW 2093
[REDACTED]

RE: DA2024/1216 - Gourlay Avenue BALGOWLAH NSW 2093

Dear Assessor,

We are residents who live approx.. 300m from the marina and are active in the area. We use the water every weekend on SUPS, kayaks and swimming. We also walk our dog every morning and evening and therefore feel we have an intimate understanding of the goings on around the marina.

We are primarily concerned about the potential environmental, safety, and community impacts that this extension may pose.

Our concerns are:

1. Dredging and Channel modification for larger boats.

Accommodating larger boats could lead to severe disruption of marine habitats, including potential damage to sea grass beds and marine life. These ecosystems are crucial for maintaining biodiversity and the health of our waterways. Will there be a thorough environmental assessment to evaluate the full extent of this potential impact? We know from regular sightings that there is a resident turtle in the area and many large and small large manta rays.

Construction Impacts:

2. Protection of Wildlife and Flora:

Before commencing any construction activities, will the council be investigating if any local fauna and flora in the project area are listed under New South Wales or Commonwealth environmental legislation? Preservation measures must be put in place if any protected species are identified.

Operational Impacts:

1. Increased Water Traffic:

Larger boats will bring increased water traffic This will pose a significant safety risk to swimmers, stand-up paddleboarders (SUPs), and kayakers. As regular users of this area, we have had first hand experience of this already and are concerned by this increased traffic.

2. Road Traffic and Sewerage Management:

As larger boats typically generate more sewerage, the frequent presence of trucks collecting and removing waste will increase road traffic in the area. As the area is already congested with Forty Basket visitors and current boat owners, this will obviously lead to further congestion and parking issues. The submission mentions that boat users will be commute to the area by public transit. Really!? I can not see boat people carrying day bags using a bus service and walking the remaining kilometre. Moreover, there are no public transport in the vicinity of the marina, so it will be more like Ubers, therefore adding to the congestion in a dead-end street.

3. Rubbish Storage and Removal:

Storage and removal of larger volumes of rubbish generated by the marina extension will require attention. Large trucks responsible for rubbish removal may further contribute to road congestion and have associated emissions. Effective waste management plans must be developed.

4. Wake-Induced Shoreline Erosion:

The wakes from large, powerful boats have the potential to cause significant erosion along the shoreline. This could lead to habitat loss, sediment displacement, and other long-term impacts on the environment.

5. Noise, Light, and Visual Impact:

The extension of the marina and a licensed café will likely introduce increased noise and light pollution. This could negatively affect the well-being of nocturnal animals and the local human community.

In conclusion we thank you for considering these concerns. We are also aware of Andrew Morisson's submission and agree with all points raised in his submission. We are also aware of the many residents who have expressed their concerns, and we hope the council will take into consideration the community's.

Kind regards,

Liliane Benti

Owner and inhabitant of 9 North Harbour Street Balgowlah