
Sent: 13/07/2023 10:33:13 AM

Subject: Development Application DA2022/0145 - 4 Delmar Pde, Dee Why.

Hello,

I'd like to make a submission regarding Development Application DA2022/0145 - 4 Delmar Pde, Dee Why.

This DA proposes an 8 storey building. The proposed development is situated on the northern border of the Stony Range reserve, an environmental and heritage regional botanic garden.

Stony range is one of very few (& precious) regional botanic gardens on the Northern Beaches, and one that's taken over half a century to develop & nurture.

With increase living costs and stagnant wages, more than ever, free spaces for everyone to access are becoming rare.

Libraries are becoming busier than ever as one of the last places where we can simply exist without having to pay for something.

And Stony Range is rare as it offers a rich natural environment that is easily accessible. Other green areas such as parks exist, but these are flat areas with cultivated grass, fairly unnatural compared to the micro-climates that exist in Stony Range.

There are no places for the community to gather in such rich nature.

Research shows that mental health issues are increasing and research also shows that biophilia is proven to improve mental wellbeing and mental fitness.

Humans need to be immersed in greenery, in forest, in bushland. Green grass for picnics and sport, seaside sandy beaches are all great, but the physiological and psychological improvements that come from "forest bathing" are unsurpassed.

This gem of a place is both well-loved as a sanctuary and underappreciated as many still don't know of its existence.

it's our responsibility to protect the garden. That includes being prudent and moderate about what developments are on its boundaries.

Accordingly, I request that the height of the development be reduced. 8 storeys will create huge shading of the adjacent Stony Range reserve.

Excessive & increased shading will cause damage to flora through increased dampness & reduced sunlight. The specialist microclimates in the reserve will be impacted by increased shading, not only in the immediate area of shading, but also in the adjacent areas.

Councillors, may I ask how many of you have visited Stony Range?

Before you make a decision, I implore you to visit.

You'll meet stressed out mums, solitary walkers, families, the elderly, people meditating, children in awe of nature's abundance, grandparents, office workers, tradies on lunchbreak....

You'll see first-hand the immense benefit it gives to our community and the incredible hard work that's been put in by volunteers.

It looks small on paper, but it's immersive, rich, and it's wonderful to meander through a green belt like this on busy Pittwater road. It feels like you've been transported somewhere hundreds of miles away.

It's a quiet investment in the health and wellbeing of your community.

Imagine the impact to our already stretched hospitals, crisis services and toll on mental wellness. Protecting this space is in your benefit as councillors.

Decisions taken regarding this DA have irreversible long-term impacts. Once a tall development sits on the boundary of Stony Range, the impact will be enduring. It won't and can't be undone. An 8-storey building is not complementary or without detriment to Stony Range Reserve.

Please reduce the height of the development, in consultation with the Stony Range volunteers committee.

Many thanks for reading. I hope you have a lovely day. Please go visit the Stony Range, you don't regret it, I promise. :)

Warm regards,
Po-Tien (she/her)

Po-Tien Goh