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05/03/2025

MRS Natalie Dunlop
- 24 Johnson ST
Freshwater NSW 2096
[REDACTED]

RE: DA2025/0077 - 28 Lawrence Street FRESHWATER NSW 2096

To whom it may concern,

While I understand the building in question at 10-38 Lawrence Street is due for an upgrade and the addition of 'affordable housing' in our area is a benefit, there are ways it can be done which would not negatively impact Freshwater village, its residents, and its unique culture.

As a number of other submissions have pointed out, the height of the proposed development is above the allowed limit, even with the extra height provided by the affordable housing inclusion. Even if it was within the height restriction, the fourth story of the proposed development would mean it is the highest building in the whole village - essentially turning our quaint, unique village into a glorified shopping strip. The fact that this building is also such a large part of the whole village should be point enough to give pause to allowing such a large structure to overshadow the village.

The addition of 30 new apartments in Freshwater Village will have severe impacts on an already busy area with the addition of numerous cars, garbage trucks, delivery trucks for the retail areas, general noise and impacts to close neighbours in the area. This is not to mention the impacts while the works take place, which if we are using the current development on the corner as an indication, could take years.

Even if this development was to go ahead, the design of the building is not even in keeping with the general laid back beachside feel of the rest of the village. It is clear there has been no attention paid to the design of the current area and how this building will be additive to the current feel. To the developers of this project, it is a clear cash grab disguised as an "improvement to quality of lifestyle" which no one in this area is asking for. Again, because this building is the majority of Lawrence Street, allowing the design to go ahead is essentially saying yes to changing the whole look and feel of the entire village.

I implore the Assessing Officer of this proposal to seriously consider if the benefits this development would supposedly bring are going to outweigh the long list of negative impacts to the wider community who love living in Freshwater and those who love to visit. If this proposal is going to fundamentally change the culture of the area, then it should be refused and the developer sent back to the drawing board. They obviously have enough money to try again - maybe they could spend a bit of it in Freshwater visiting the area.

With regards,

Natalie Dunlop
24 Johnson Street, Freshwater