
Sent: 21/09/2021 2:04:07 PM

Subject: DA2021/1541 - 20 Albert Street FRESHWATER NSW 2096

To whom it concerns,

I am writing in reference to the proposed new Mexican restaurant in Freshwater. I believe that while there is plenty that Freshwater is lacking, a Mexican restaurant is not one of them, as this niche was filled a year ago by Freshie Mex. An Italian, a Steak House or even a Newsagents would all be more suitable fits to the growing economy of Freshwater, but another Mexican seems ridiculous to me, even more so that it is next door to the current Mexican. Freshie Mex identified a gap in the market and catered to what was missing, evident by the thriving business that has taken off in the past year and a half. Despite covid lockdown, the locals have supported this local family run business.

It's also my concern, looking at their opening hours, that they will be running more like a bar than a restaurant, which will bring noisy crowds to our neighborhood. Living nearby we can already experience that from Stowaway's customers and a ground floor bar will definitely make it worse.

I believe they are applying for an open seating area as part of their restaurant, if that's true and they are allowed to be open until midnight, I feel sorry for the direct neighbours. I'm afraid that could also set a precedent for other venues to do the same, turning our village into a late night destination.

I've been living in Freshwater for more than ten years now and I have seen our village change a lot and I'm all for development, but I don't think this venue is coming to add to our suburb, but to ride the coattails of another business rather than catering to what's needed.

Regards,
Elaine O'Brien