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03/09/2024

MR Guyren Smith
28 Richard RD
Scotland Island NSW 2105
[REDACTED]

RE: DA2021/2173 - 394 Barrenjoey Road NEWPORT NSW 2106

I am making this submission in support of the Development application for Newport Surf Club and am strongly in favour of the latest updated plans.

As a long term member of Newport SLSC acting as a patrolling member, trainer and board member I am fully aware of the dysfunctional nature of the existing building and the need to upgrade the facilities to allow members and the community to enjoy and work in the club house in a safe manner.

Newport Surf Club has worked very closely with Pittwater Council and then Northern Beaches council over the last 12 plus years to create a solution that respects the iconic nature of the historic building and enhances and updates it to meet the needs of the club into the future. This process has reviewed alternatives and other options and settled on this plan as the best compromise. While there has been suggestions that the clubhouse could be relocated "elsewhere", there has not been a realistic location identified and this suggestion ignores the significant status that the Newport Surf club building holds within the community.

Over the last 90+ years the current building and its characteristic shape has become synonymous with Newport, standing proud overlooking the beach and keeping beachgoers safe. This iconic building which predates both the Bondi and Freshwater buildings (which much fanfare has been made of their preservation) should be retained while at the same time providing an upgraded facility to allow the surf club members to support the community safely and efficiently.

Newport Surf club is a leader in surflifesaving at the patrolling level, in education, in nippers and in surf sports. In the 2023/2024 season Newport SLSC members provided over 9000 hours of voluntary patrols, the club was presented with the SLS NSW community education program of the year for its work with the Police Youth Command working with teenagers, Newport won the open state championships for the 10th year in a row and came second at the Australian Championships and won its first gold medal at the Australian Adaptive lifesaving championships which came from the ranks of the Dolphins and Marlins program which is the continuation of one of the first special needs nipper programs. In order to keep delivering to the community on this level an upgrade to a safe and functional club house facility is essential.

The upgraded plans have addressed any and all issues raised and continue to strike a balance between the preserving the historic building and providing a facility for the club and

the community to enjoy into the future in a safe manner.

The advantages of this development have been outlined many times over, there is no realistic alternative and it is desperately needed by the club and the community.