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07/03/2019

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**RE: DA2019/0123 - 80 - 82 Mona Vale Road MONA VALE NSW 2103**

I have a comment regarding the DA for The Pittwater RSL in Mona Vale application to host organic markets.

Now days, many of us feel disconnected in a big city. The markets are critical to sharing in a community. Taking time to chat with the growers and understand first hand the challenges they are facing. It gives us the opportunity to have diversity in understanding other people's perspectives. This brings tolerance to our community.

More importantly, it is critical for our health to have access to organic food at a decent price. When I was homeless, I traveled to the markets just to buy a little food, so that the food I had gave me the most nutrients.

We can't complain of an obese society and then not approve the venues that people need to exchange healthy food.

Also, this market guarantees that the producers don't artificially ripen products in fridges for months eg tomatoes by the woolies and coles.

Finally, while you may not respect it, but the markets is the place to slow down, interact with each other. Even in New York city, USA, they convert multi-story car parks to markets on the weekend so the people can get fresh fruit and crafts. This is a global practice. The northern beaches area desperately needs more of these markets.

As you can see, even though I now live near the CBD, when I travel to the northern beaches, I stop in at the market to see what the producers are growing and support them. It is critical, now more than ever to support Australian made fruits and veges in any way we can.

Please approve their DA.

Thanks,  
Becci