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Subject: Online Submission

08/08/2021

MS Leonie Leonard
- 636 Barrenjoey Rd ST
Avalon Beach NSW 2107
leoniel@comcen.com.au

RE: DA2021/1164 - 521 Barrenjoey Road BILGOLA BEACH NSW 2107

Bilgola Bends is the beautiful gateway to Avalon Beach, Clareville, Bilgola Plateau, Palm Beach and Whale Beach It has cabbage tree palms on the lower side and bushland, including dense littoral rainforest, on the other.

I had always thought the bushland was Crown Land and therefore protected, so I was very surprised to discover all this land is privately owned.

I strongly object to the proposed development at 521 Barrenjoey Rd, Bilgola for the following reasons

In our area the aim has always been 'houses among the trees' and to build lightly on the land. During the last few years there has been a trend enabling clearing of trees on private land, reducing our tree canopy.

This is a massive development and sets an unwelcome precedent. It is an E4 Environmental Zone with an 8.5m two story limit. it appears to exceed this height limit as well as not comply with set backs at the front, rear and sides. The land size is 689 sq m and the development is planned for 500 sq m. The planned development is out of character with its surroundings.

It will destroy canopy trees, including angophora, red gum, and white mahogany. Smaller trees include banksia and she-oak. Six trees are on public land - the road reserve. Trees are important for absorbing carbon dioxide, reducing the impact of climate change. This will also denude bioversity and coastal ecology.

This is a habitat for wildlife such as powerful owl, curlews and bats who have wide ranging foraging habits.

Council's own Biodiversity Strategy objectives states
Valuing and Caring for our Natural Environment - to protect, chance and conserve native bushland and Biodiversity Strategy - to lead by example in managing natural and built assets and Vegetation Strategy - to sustainably manage urban forest and native bushland.

Access to the site for clearing, excavation and building will severely impact traffic on a blind corner of the bends. Traffic will need to be stopped over a considerable time, causing great congestion and inconvenience. It is opposed that construction and delivery materials will occur from 7am - 5pm Mon Fri and 8am-1.30pm, thus causing disruption during peak traffic times for 64 weeks. The traffic control report says trades will park in surrounding streets - there are no surrounding streets. How will trucks unload on the site before access is constructed?

This is a slip zone and could also have drainage and seepage issues. While the geotechnical report says low risk, all over the area there have been landslips after very heavy rain, including blocking Barrenjoey Rd.