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19/07/2020

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RE: DA2020/0552 - 181 Allambie Road ALLAMBIE HEIGHTS NSW 2100

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I strongly object to DA 2020/0552 181 ALLAMBIE RD for the reasons outlined below:-

1. Bushfires

After the catastrophic bushfire season last year and worse to come, the last thing we need is more dwellings for seniors in such an area. The Rural Fires Act (Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2006) specifically discourages locating Special Fire Purpose Developments within bush fire prone land.

2. FLORA and FAUNA

The site contains bushland that is contiguous with the Manly Warringah War Memorial Park. Clearing and thinning bushland around the proposed 2-3 bedroom luxury units is destructive to the bushland and imperils the wildlife including threatened species. These include Eastern Pygmy Possum, Large eared Pied Bat, Square Tailed Kite, Grey Headed Flying Fox, Powerful Owl, Large Bent Winged Bat, Red Crowned Toadlet, Little Bent Winged Bat. The development will result in the loss of potential breeding habitat for threatened species.

"The grass swale habitat for the Red-crowned Toadlet will be entirely removed as a result of the proposal."

The developer acknowledges the threat to the endangered species by offering to buy 'bio banking credits.' Nothing will bring back the Eastern Pygmy possum when it is extinct.

3. HERITAGE CONSERVATION AREA AND WAR MEMORIAL PARK

My father fought for many years in New Guinea in the Second World War . He did that so his descendants could enjoy the flora and fauna in the Australian bush. The war memorial park is a place for quiet contemplation and reflection, not for clearing or weed infestations caused by greedy developers.

This land was set aside in the 1920's to be protected for generations to come. Manly Dam Reserve is additionally a "living" war memorial- in fact the only war memorial in Australia to be created by conserving natural bushland. The entirety of the Park acts therefore as the Memorial

4. RIPARIAN LAND

The development site is located at the headwaters of Curl Curl Creek, which flows through Manly Warringah War Memorial Park to Manly Reservoir. The development would be located on land identified as a riparian buffer within the Curl Curl Creek catchment.

The majority of the area proposed for development is mapped as 'Waterways'.

The Protection of Waterways and Riparian Lands Policy states that: "Development within waterways and riparian land should be avoided".

The development of the Manly Vale Public School which is expanding out instead of up, is already destroying pristine bushland and interrupting water courses.

More building, lights, noise, development and weeds is not compatible with the pristine bushland of which we are the current guardians.

Whilst there is no doubt this area needs more public housing for all age groups, this is not an appropriate use of Public Land. Public land is meant to be used for public housing and kept in perpetuity, not for 'luxury units' for a small portion of wealthy people so a developer can make a quick profit.

Hoping you will take seriously my concerns about keeping this unique and important pocket of bushland In tact for future generations and not allow it to be sold to the commercial world.