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**Sent:** 22/05/2025 3:19:09 PM

**Subject:** Submission Regarding Development Application DA2025/0132 – Proposed McDonald's Development

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to formally object to Development Application DA2025/0132 concerning the proposed establishment of a McDonald's restaurant within the Northern Beaches Council area. As a long-standing resident and concerned member of the community, I strongly oppose this development on the grounds of increased traffic congestion, litter, noise pollution, and the potential rise in anti-social behaviour and petty crime.

### **1. Traffic and Road Safety Concerns**

Fast food drive-thru outlets such as McDonald's are well-documented to cause significant increases in vehicle traffic, particularly during peak hours and late at night. This increase in traffic volume places unnecessary pressure on local roads and intersections, many of which are not designed to accommodate such commercial load. Similar McDonald's locations in suburban areas—including in Thornleigh and Engadine—have experienced traffic bottlenecks, queuing onto public roads, and dangerous conditions for pedestrians, cyclists, and local residents.

### **2. Environmental Impact and Litter**

McDonald's outlets are commonly associated with a substantial increase in non-biodegradable waste and littering in nearby parks, beaches, and residential streets. Despite any mitigation efforts proposed by the developer, the reality is that packaging—such as burger wrappers, cups, and plastic waste—inevitably finds its way into the surrounding environment. This is of particular concern in the Northern Beaches area, where our local bushlands and coastal ecosystems are already under stress.

### **3. Noise Pollution**

The extended hours of operation, vehicle noise from the drive-thru, and the regular presence of delivery trucks and customers—often into the early hours of the morning—will create unacceptable noise levels. This kind of disruption is incompatible with the residential and family-oriented nature of our community. It is also well known that late-night trading fast food outlets attract gatherings that can lead to loud and disruptive behaviour.

### **4. Community Safety and Crime**

There is growing evidence from criminological studies that fast food outlets operating late into the night can become hotspots for anti-social behaviour and minor crime, particularly among youth groups. Police reports around existing McDonald's sites, such as in Blacktown and Mt Druitt, have noted spikes in loitering, vandalism, and public disturbances in the vicinity of these outlets.

### **5. Incompatibility with the Local Character**

The proposed McDonald's development does not align with the character or aspirations of our community. The Northern Beaches is known for its health-conscious, environmentally aware, and family-friendly culture. Fast food giants are at odds with this ethos, promoting high-calorie, heavily processed food and contributing to health issues such as obesity, particularly in children.

## **Conclusion**

The proposed development poses a clear and unacceptable risk to the amenity, safety, and environmental wellbeing of the local area. On behalf of many concerned residents, I urge Council to reject this application in the interests of preserving the quality of life and identity of our community.

Thank you for considering this submission.

Sincerely,

Henry Otton

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Henry Otton