
Sent: 4/08/2014 8:36:34 PM
Subject: Online Submission

04/08/2014

MR Colin Green
7 Marmora ST
Freshwater NSW 2096

RE: Mod2014/0117 - 5 Lawrence Street FRESHWATER NSW 2096

I would like to submit my objection to the proposed modification Mod2014/0117 to DA2007/0856 at 5 and 5A Lawrence St, Freshwater and 18 Marmora St, Freshwater.

As I understand it, DA2007/0856 represents a 7-year old application to build a retail/commercial building, 10 apartments and a detached dwelling. This application was controversially approved after substantial objection from the Freshwater community. The developers are now attempting to extend this approval from 10 to 16 apartments with a simple modification to the existing DA rather than submitting a new DA. This is a significant change to the original proposal and I find it alarming that Warringah council has permitted it to be treated as a modification.

I am very concerned that the Freshwater community is largely unaware of this major change to the development. Personally, I received a nondescript letter from Warringah council regarding the modification. This letter referred to the development as having 10 apartments and there was no suggestion that that number was being increased. The only aspect of the change mentioned in the letter was that "the proposal constitutes a modification to Integrated Development which requires a licence from the NSW Office of Water for temporary construction dewatering". This means absolutely nothing to the majority of the community who are not familiar with the Development Application process and who could be forgiven for assuming it would be of relatively minor concern. I was only alerted to the scale of the change when an advertising board was erected outside the property at 18 Marmora St stating that there would be 16 apartments, and not 10.

Increasing the number of apartments so drastically will have a huge impact to the local community. I believe that all of the concerns that were raised by the community during the original application process now need to be re-considered and the impacts re-assessed. This will require far more time for community consultation than has been allowed for by the council in its deadline for submissions of 5 August 2014. I strongly believe that this proposed modification Mod2014/0117 should be refused immediately and a new DA should be submitted by the developer which should clearly state the scale of the development being proposed. This will then give the Freshwater community, who are largely unaware of the magnitude of the modification, sufficient opportunity to scrutinise the proposal in detail. At the very least I expect that the period for public submissions should be extended substantially and that Warringah council should distribute another letter to local residents presenting the true scale of the modification.