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23/10/2024

MR Ian Lorigan
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Balgowlah NSW 2093
[REDACTED]

RE: DA2024/1216 - Gourlay Avenue BALGOWLAH NSW 2093

The "Plans Marina" document in the DA shows in light green that on the end of the 2 arms of the marina development there will be "Optional Berths" of 32 meters (105 feet) and 25 meters (82 feet). For context, a Manly Jet cat is 35 meters and any yacht of more than 24 meters is classified as a "Super Yacht", which is typically a large diesel powered vessel several stories high and weighing in the vicinity of 120+ tons.

Vessels of this size are entirely over-scale for a bay such as north Harbour. Not only will they be visually incompatible with the surroundings, but increase congestion and noise in what is a small, quiet and family-friendly recreational enclave.

Should the application be approved, there would be significant impacts on residents and other recreational users of the area:

1. Safety: super yachts are incompatible with kayaks, small recreational pleasure craft and swimmers, all of whom are extensive users of the bay.
2. Loss of amenity for existing users: the proposal sacrifices 12 moorings to make a "navigation channel" for Super Yachts to access the marina. This is inequitable for small boat owners whose vessels for decades have been moored in the bay and can only be justified in terms of further commercial gain for the marina operator at the expense of residents and recreational users.
3. Application for a liquor licence with opening hours until dusk: this is a recreational area for walkers, swimmers and small pleasure craft. It is difficult to see how this adds community amenity, other than for further enrichment of the marina operator.

On these grounds, I strongly object to the DA in its current form.