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04/09/2024

MR Matthew Edwards
27 Trevor RD
Newport NSW 2106
[REDACTED]

RE: DA2021/2173 - 394 Barrenjoey Road NEWPORT NSW 2106

I am in 100% support of the proposed works for Newport Surf Club. As a volunteer surf lifesaver at the club, the facility is in desperate need of repair and more functional and WHS friendly space is required for storage of lifesaving equipment such as IRB's, jet skis and surf buggy that allows members to safely operate and respond to incidents in a timely manner. Currently the stacking and crowded nature of the facility impacts access to equipment and makes the set up and pack away of the patrolling equipment tedious and time consuming. The history of the building should be preserved as it is an iconic surf club building which has a historical significance to the Newport community. The location of the club cannot be moved! I have witnessed on 3 occasions and responded to a rescue myself and saved a family in distress in the water thanks to the passive surveillance from the club deck and concourse where people gather. The clubs current proximity to the water has enabled the club house to be responsible for the safety of the public. If the club is demolished and rebuilt in a new location it will greatly reduce the ability for the surf lifesavers and general public to watch out for each other in the water.

I have seen the work and studies undertaken by the Council demonstrate the controls that can be put in place to protect the structure in the event of the in frequent storm surges. Newport community deserves a decent club house, it is long overdue and I feel the Council and the Club team have designed a fantastic structure and address all concepts for heritage, function and sustainability with these plans.