

---

**From:** Anne Lanyon  
**Sent:** 15/11/2024 10:27:38 AM  
**To:** Council Northernbeaches Mailbox  
**Cc:** Fr Satheesh Antony; Stephen Newton; John Favalaro; Annette Spooner; Anne Lanyon; Frank Fitzpatrick; Dave Ryan; Kate Ryder; John Lanyon; Frances Ingle-Olson; Brian Norman; Robert Pelletier  
**Subject:** ATTENTION: Anne-Marie Young, Development Officer, Northern Beaches Council Re. Submission re proposed redevelopment of 40 Myoora Road, Terrey Hills – DA2024/1362  
**Attachments:** DA2024-Final Version re 40 Myoora Rd.pdf;

Dear Anne-Marie

Please see attached a submission from the St Anthonys Kierans Creek Landcare Group, regarding the proposed redevelopment of 40 Myoora Rd, Terrey Hills. I am the Co-ordinator of the group's Steering Team, part of St Anthony in the Fields Church, 46 Myoora Rd, Terrey Hills. The correct address to mail correspondence to is Frenchs Forest Catholic Parish, PO Box 111. Frenchs Forest, NSW 1640.

For other further correspondence, please call Anne Lanyon, [REDACTED] or email [REDACTED]

With Kind Regards

Anne Lanyon on behalf of the St Anthonys Kierans Creek Landcare Group

**DA2024/1362**

**Submission by St Antonys Kierans Creek Landcare Group**

**The St Antonys Kierans Creek Landcare Group is part of the Frenchs Forest Catholic Parish. We are volunteers from the church and wider community who work at maintaining and improving the land at 46 Myoora Rd as a wildlife bushland corridor and conserving the endangered Duffys Forest Ecological Community.**

This is in keeping with p19 of [Protect. Create. Live Northern Beaches Environment and Climate Change Strategy 2040](#) to:

- Maximise the retention of bushland
- Improve the quality of existing bushland
- Improve the connectivity of wildlife corridors

This corridor and others around Myoora Rd and Mona Vale Rd, Terrey Hills, are under stress from increased traffic, increased lighting, increased noise, increased water run-off from hard surfaces and increased weed infestation of exotic species.

Wallabies, reptiles and small mammals are being killed on the roads. Small ground birds such as rails, and quails are affected. Nocturnal wildlife such as owls, bats, possums and bandicoots are affected by light and noise. All of these have been and are still found at St Anthony's.

Our Landcare Group has been affiliated with Greater Sydney Landcare and Landcare NSW since 2016 when we began the restoration and rehabilitation of Kierans Creek, which comes from a spring underneath Hills Flower Market, 287 Mona Vale Rd, and runs across 46, 42-44 Myoora Rd and the corner of 40 Myoora Rd where it goes through a culvert under Myoora Rd to the other side. It joins with Neverfail Creek (another spring-fed creek), and eventually flows into Cowan Creek.

Kierans Creek, then is an important small part of the Hawkesbury-Nepean Catchment and is itself a wildlife corridor. However, currently it is backed up on our Landcare site because of the severe infestation of weeds downstream from us at 46 Myoora Rd and before Dundundra Reserve.

The [Protect. Create. Live Northern Beaches Environment and Climate Change Strategy 2040](#) p 21 commits the Council to

- Protecting our receiving waters and riparian areas
- Protecting and improving the condition of creeks and riparian vegetation
- Minimising threats to aquatic ecosystems
- Reducing the impact of urban runoff on our waterways

**We learn from and collaborate with the local Aboriginal community.**

We have created a strong relationship with members of the Northern Beaches Aboriginal Community and have listened to and learned from them for over 20 years. In the last 10 years we have collaborated with Yaegl local Aboriginal musician, Michael Birk, in the Singing Up Country music festival, a significant Aboriginal event which brings many Aboriginal people together from many places who share their knowledge with us. This has enabled us to learn more about connecting to Country. In the last 2 years, we have run a Walking Talking Country event around our site. We have been given permission by Aboriginal Elder, Dennis Foley, to share his **knowledge of Country at these events and of the historical cultural importance of the spring-fed creeks in the area.**

**We collaborate with others for the health of the whole of Kierans Creek**

We collaborate with the Northern Region Landcare Network, the Northern Beaches Council Bushcare Network, Dundundra Reserve Trust and the Terrey Hills- Duffys Forest Community for the health of the whole of Kierans Creek.

**We collaborate also with local schools and the Terrey Hills and wider community in**

engaging young people and their families in caring for the creek and using our St Anthonys Spirituality and Ecology Place. The place is one where people come for **quiet reflection, for walking and appreciating the wonder of nature.** We have recorded a **list of some of the wildlife** seen at the site, but not yet recorded on Living Atlas Australia. (See separate list below).

**We have just been awarded a small grant** by the Northern Beaches Council, (one of 6 grants since 2016 from them and Landcare NSW.). This grant is for testing the water in our section of Kierans Creek. The water in Dundundra Reserve will be tested by their volunteers. We will be working with Streamwatch and recording the data to Living Atlas Australia through 2025.

**We have been advised by a hydrologist** who is volunteering with us and has looked at the proposed plans. He advises us that there are **risks** for the creek:

1. Runoff volumes from new hard surfaces of roads, pavements etc causing downstream erosion and creek widening, destabilising the channel banks and undermining vegetation. We know this as it has already happened on our site from the developments upstream from us.
2. The report does not identify the creek which should be done. It should be considered as a defined fluvial channel with defined creek banks and bed and be permitted to run freely and cared for as a functional habitat corridor. It should not be considered as a creek only downstream of Myoora Rd.
3. The potential upstream flood impacts of the building and site works have not been addressed. Earthworks and buildings over the creek would have impacts upstream as they would interrupt natural/existing flood behaviour. As the choking weeds upstream from No 40 are removed, the creek will run more freely. **Not culverting the creek is highly recommended.**

Photo of driveway at No 40 10/11/2024



**The development of 40 Myoora Road as per the proposed Development plan is likely to have significant negative impacts on the whole of Kieran’s Creek and affect local wildlife corridors. This is against the intent of the Northern Beaches Council’s [Protect.Create.Live Northern Beaches Environment and Climate Change Strategy 2040](#).**

**Specifically we ask:**

1. Recognise Kierans Creek on the map and plans
2. Contact Geologist, Mr John Byrnes or other local people who know about the spring-fed origin of the creek
3. Consult with the Aboriginal knowledge holders through the Northern Beaches AECG
4. Keep the small section of Kierans Creek on No 40 open, do not culvertise it
5. Restore its riparian zone with Duffys Forest plant communities.
6. Retain and plant as much native vegetation as possible on the site to assist with supporting local wildlife and the adjacent wildlife corridors,
7. Incorporate noise and light reduction strategies on the site to reduce the negative impact on the diurnal and nocturnal wildlife,
8. Reduce the amount of hard surfaces and incorporate stormwater harvesting for irrigation and toilet flushing to help mitigate the problem of runoff.
9. Mitigate the upstream risks to the creek during construction and ongoing.

### Further Suggestions

We see any development on 40 Myoora Rd land as an opportunity for the developer to improve the current health of the whole of Kierans Creek, its riparian zone and the land as an interconnected ecosystem, given the creek's current degraded condition at No 40 as per the AEP Environment Report in the plans.

We suggest that the developers play a positive part in contributing to social and ecological community obligations. In doing this they would contribute to the local community who are protecting the wildlife and bushland in Terrey Hills as part of the regional, State and National goals to address the reality of ecological damage and biodiversity collapse.

We request that they

1. Recognise that the planned proposal has an impact that is much wider. See [Protect. Create. Live - Northern Beaches Environment and Climate Change Strategy 2040](#) p8: *The environment and our effects on the environment don't stop at our local government boundaries, we therefore have a responsibility to also consider relevant international, Federal and State Government targets and strategies in what we do locally;*
2. Note:
  - a) The NSW Government and Northern Beaches Council current work on the health of the Hawkesbury River System. <https://hawkesburynepeanbmp.org/> and
  - b) the Federal Government's Nature Positive Plan <https://www.dccew.gov.au/environment/epbc/publications/nature-positive-plan> to involve businesses in playing their part

Signed



by Anne Lanyon on behalf of the St Anthony's Kierans Creek Landcare Group Steering Team.

## **Birds at St Anthonys**

Bird Watcher Report, Coleen Southall,  
7/11/19

Superb blue fairy wrens; Mainland  
Silvereyes; Coleen; Eastern Yellow Robins;  
Eastern Whip Birds; Coleen; Red  
Wattlebird; Little Wattlebird; Indian  
bulbuls (introduced; White-browed Scrub  
Wren; Brown Thornbill; Bar-Shouldered  
Dove; Yellow Thornbill; Rainbow Lorikeets;  
Spotted Pardalotes; Yellow Thornbills;  
Black Faced Cuckoo Shrike; Tasmanian  
Silvereyes (migratory); New Holland  
Honey Eaters; Red-Browed Finches

## **Wildlife Seen by Volunteers**

Large flocks Yellow Tailed Black Cockatoo  
flying overhead from further west-  
northwest; Pairs Feeding at St Anthonys

Noisy miners

Kookaburras

Magpies

Grey fantails

Eastern Spinebills

30 Black Cockatoos (Anne April 2017)

White browed scrub wrens (ChrisFeb '18)

New Holland Honey Eaters (seen by Anne,  
Darrell, Fran)

Red-browed finches – nesting with Eastern  
Yellow Robins and Blue Wrens

Wedge Tailed Eagles (seen by Darrel)

Spotted Pardelotes 2 Nest sites – Carla  
and Anne– Nov 2019

Wood Ducks: Anne July 2021

Masked Lapwings: Anne June – Sept 2021

Rails with chicks: 2019

Brush Turkeys (Juvenile): Dave Ryan 2020

Brush Turkeys: Mid-late 2021

Quail and chicks: Area 3 and other side Jan  
18<sup>th</sup> and Feb 12<sup>th</sup> 2022

Willie Wagtails

Pied Mudlarks

Ravens

Kookaburras

Sulphur Crested Cockatoos

Pied Currawongs

## **Other Fauna at St Anthonys**

Pythons

Eastern Water Dragons

Red-Bellied Black Snakes

Swamp Wallabies

Microbats

Frogs

Ring tail Possums

Brush Possums

Cats (introduced)

Rabbits (introduced)

Fox scat

Dragonflies

Yabbies in the Creek, Yabbies on the  
grounds 2022,

Blue Tongued Lizards

Bandicoot

Eel, Carla, Sept 28, 2024