
Sent: 23/09/2021 1:18:01 PM
Subject: Online Submission

23/09/2021

MS Alison Catt
4 Wesley ST
Elanora Heights NSW 2101
alison.cat16@gmail.com

RE: DA2021/1426 - 51 Kalang Road ELANORA HEIGHTS NSW 2101

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I'm alarmed by the proposal to redevelop the property at 51 Kalang Road, Elanora Heights, mainly because of the impact I would have on the Community Preschool that has operated out of the Community Centre since 1966. The Preschool sits directly behind the home currently at 51 Kalang Road.

I have a long history of involvement in the Preschool. My three children attended there prior to my taking up a position as Early Childhood Teacher in 1992. I was the Preschool Director from 1998 until my retirement at the end of 2011. Over the last 10 years I have continued my involvement with the Preschool through relief teaching and voluntary work.

Over my 35-year history of involvement with the Preschool road safety concerns have been raised with Council on many occasions. These concerns have escalated in recent years with the development that has occurred in the immediate area. Despite the many approaches to Council and the Roads and Traffic Authority, the only action taken has been the erection of temporary banners in the Community Centre car park (the car park) alerting drivers to children being in the area.

Exiting the car park on the adjacent very blind bend has seen many near misses. The increased cars in the vicinity that would be trying to enter and exit the proposed new development would increase the danger substantially. In addition, there are also many Preschool families that enter and exit the car park area on foot who would be at increased risk due to higher traffic levels.

I can't bear to think of the possible negative consequences of this proposed development. There have been calls for improved safety for as long as I have been involved with the Preschool, to no avail. Does there have to be a fatality/serious injury before action is taken? In these circumstances, is Council going to allow this development and substantially increase the risks - I hope not!

Apart from the safety and other impacts on the Preschool as outlined above and given that some of business premises on Kalang Road south of St Andrews Gate are often empty for long periods of time, I can't see the pressing need for more development.

I also wish to raise another concern, being in relation to the presence of construction vehicles and equipment in the area should such a development proceed. Parking in the area (ie at the Preschool and in the neighbouring shopping village) is in short supply and is needed for the safety and convenience of people living in the local community.

Having regard to the likely presence of construction vehicles and equipment, they would probably have to be parked in the street(s) adjacent to the proposed development, creating further dangers to road users and in particular, Preschool staff, parents' and childrens' access to the car park.

Further, any suggestion of construction vehicles and equipment using the car park would be totally reprehensible. It would present significant safety hazards for Preschool staff, parents and children let alone restricting space in the car park for the normal day-to-day operations of the Preschool.

It would be inappropriate for, and totally irresponsible of, the Northern Beaches Council to place children's safety at further risk due to creating additional traffic and parking issues and causing disruption in local residential streets.

Having regard to this submission, and the concerns expressed by others on this proposed development, I strongly urge Council to:

1. Reject this development application.
2. Upon visiting the area at a busy time, as suggested in other submissions, realise that immediate steps need to be taken to slow traffic in the areas in the interests of safety for those working at and using the Preschool.