
Sent: 22/10/2020 1:15:08 AM
Subject: Online Submission

21/10/2020

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RE: DA2020/1167 - 9 Francis Street DEE WHY NSW 2099

Upon further reviewing the plans, I'd like to add to my submission.

Council has done an excellent job of creating a vibrant and healthy community in Dee Why. Our demographic is diverse both culturally and economically. We have one of the highest populations of Tibetan refugees in Australia. Francis Street residents reflect this extremely diverse demographic. Many come from non-English speaking backgrounds and may not be aware of council DA processes and submissions to the council. Many may simply not have the time during this extremely stressful time due to COVID to reply to this DA.

Like many others, I am extremely concerned about my financial stability, let alone having to spend the time to review a DA thoroughly and then to also have to respond to it online. And I'm an Australian citizen, a fluent native English speaker and have a corporate background. This process is extremely stressful.

Due to such a diverse demographic on Francis Street, and based on the lack of community consultation prior to the planning of this development, I would like to raise concerns on the transparency of this plan.

I wonder how many other residents simply have not had the time, the proficiency in English or the awareness of our Council process on DAs to understand what their rights were. Or that they had the ability to respond.

In my friendly interactions with the church over the last 12 years, I know that members of the Tibetan community had used the church's facilities. I wonder how many Dee Why locals of Tibetan heritage have been informed of this development.

I have noted that most of the submissions written in support of this DA are from people who do not live on Francis Street.

Secondly, I'd like to applaud the Council for the work they have done so far on bringing value and community spirit to the area. I've seen it become a vibrant space.

I would urge the council to continue the intelligent approval of well-designed projects. I strongly urge the council to view this over-development as a devaluing of the work they have done.