
Sent: 23/08/2020 1:11:57 PM
Subject: Online Submission

23/08/2020

MR Michael Gaffney
2 / 51 Adams ST
Curl Curl NSW 2096
gaffneys2@hotmail.com

RE: DA2020/0661 - 7356 / 1167221 Huston Parade NORTH CURL CURL NSW 2099

I wish to strongly oppose the latest development application from Optus to erect a mobile phone tower in an ecosystem under rehabilitation.

I have lived in Curl Curl for nine years and this is the third such application from Optus we have seen. Our townhouse backs on to John Fisher Park on the southern side of the lagoon. When we moved to Curl Curl we were with Telstra and their mobile coverage was patchy. We made enquiries with Optus and they told us they had great coverage throughout the areas around the Cur Curl Lagoon. And that is what we have found over the past 8 years. Indeed, when we enquired on-line with Optus on 23 August 2020, they advise that their 4G and 3G coverage is Great. See results replicated below

"OUTDOOR COVERAGE

Voice & Text
Great

Email
Great

Internet
Great"

Over the years members of the John Fisher Park Community Group and Curl Curl Lagoon Friends have worked hard to keep the park in a balanced state to preserve the balance between the environment and community use. The result of working with the Northern Beaches Council, has resulted in a precious amenity for all in our area to enjoy.

There is a community agreement with the Council that no towers are to be erected in public parks and reserves. The proposed tower and its accompanying equipment building, air conditioning and surrounding razor wired fenced compounds are totally contrary to those agreements,

In addition, the proposal :

* Lacks community support - in fact, it is actively opposed by the community.

- * Does not provide information which would support the contention that it is required.
- * Is too close to the bank of the lagoon in the riparian zone, an area currently under rehabilitation.
- * WILL lead to the co-location of up to five other base stations and their compounds. Once the precedent for this tower installation has been achieved the council will not have control over further colocation process from other telecommunication companies. Other companies will not wish to build additional towers and will therefore wish to build on to this tower, and add their own compounds. This will result in a much larger and more imposing development in the park and near the local school. In this respect the Property and Commercial Development Referral Response support for the proposal is most disappointing ,and inconsistent with its own analysis of the issues. Property and Commercial Development report states:

"The relevant Plan of Management for the site should be checked to ensure that the proposal is consistent with the objectives and future development permitted in the PoM.

Property advises that a proposed new pole of this height will likely attract other carriers in future to co-locate on the same pole and each other carrier will require similar equipment on ground within the Council managed Crown Reserve. This may lead to a situation where the pole and ground area become cluttered with equipment similar to the situation at Plateau Park Collaroy Plateau which has become a target for vandalism.

In relation to the proposed works, the proposed equipment on ground appears to be very close to the existing baseball spectator area.

Any proposed development consent for this proposal should be subject to a separate formal agreement between the carrier and Council's Parks & Recreation Group (as Crown Land Manager) for the proposed new pole regarding pole ownership, renewal/replacement, maintenance, electricity usage, floodlights, shut down provisions etc on the proposed new pole to replace the existing Council owned pole."

These forewarnings of future expansion of a tower site and associated infrastructure, in itself, when one considers the site is right on the edge of a beautiful lagoon should be enough for the committee to reject this proposal. In short, it will be an open, and apparent to all, "eyesore" on a beautiful site where the lagoon meets the playing fields.

- * Will see radiation levels in the park and surrounding schools will increase with the addition of each new company as it applies to access the tower for its use. Again, other companies will not wish to build additional towers and will therefore wish to build on to this tower, adding to radiation levels.

- * Is located in the middle of a sports arena where thousand of children play support each week and very close to North Curl Curl Public School.

- * Was lodged without any community consultation. Optus have not tried to understand the views of the community. On the previous, 2017 application Optus failed to carry out the community consultation that THEY proposed to those attending early, first stage consultation. Optus is an organisation that advertises and

stakes its reputation on saying "Yes" to its clients. Its inability to listen too, understand and accept negative responses to its proposals shows its other, dollar driven, face.

Finally, open parkland and one of our few tidal estuary lagoons, are treasures that must be protected. Such areas are endangered and are not flexible. Telecommunication towers can be in less intrusive sites.

Please reject this application.

Michael and Irene Gaffney