
Sent: 26/02/2018 9:14:09 AM
Subject: FW: DA2017 /1274

From: Stuart and Trish Brown [mailto:sandpbrownies@yahoo.com.au]
Sent: Friday, 23 February 2018 9:49 PM
To: Council Mailbox
Subject: DA2017 /1274

86A Malton Rd
Beecroft
NSW 2119

I wish to make a late objection to

DA2017 /1274 ; 52 Cabbage Tree Road Bayview NSW 2104

I understand I have missed the official submission period but am aware that under the EP&A Act, all submissions must be given consideration and I hope my concerns are heard and thank you for doing so.

There is a mountain of research noting the vital importance of planning more Green Spaces especially in our cities, alongside ensuring the protection of existing bushland and remnant vegetation. Established vegetation and trees are obviously essential as new green infrastructure will take decades to achieve maturity. To allow the overdevelopment of this site will greatly reduce the green space currently under the Northern Beaches Council's umbrella.

Of great concern, there are two breeding pairs of Threatened Powerful Owls within this site. These top end predators require very large territories and old growth trees over 100 years in age with large hollows.

For a threatened species, the Powerful Owl Project has found through ongoing surveys that these pairs have contributed greatly to the survival rates of this amazing creature as they have had 16 successful chicks between 2009 and 2017. However, survival of chicks to fledging status does not mean all of these chicks have been able to find territories and thrive. With the level of development in and around Sydney, the pockets of remnant bushland are disappearing at a disturbing rate. Our canopies are reducing, our homes are becoming hotter with shade trees becoming a luxury.

The Powerful Owls need prey species. They keep our possum population in check as well as rodents. If the trend to continually reduce vegetation on development sites continues, we WILL lose these predators. We have seen the problem with possums in New Zealand where there are no predators and yet we allow threats to our own natural

control of these creatures. The owls need prey species near the nest hollows, as well as those further afield in local trees. The understory vegetation on this site obviously assists by providing habitat to these creatures, essential for the Powerful Owls survival and its ability to feed its young. Retaining one out of 7 hollow bearing trees is unacceptable. Even if this lone tree does provide a nesting site to one pair of these birds, if there is no prey species habitat, how will these birds survive? Does anyone truly believe these birds will breed under such violated circumstances with majorly reduced food source?

The habitat and prey habitat for our Powerful Owls is being continually reduced for development throughout Sydney and further afield in NSW. Why should the desire of humans override the survival of these vital predators? The removal of 200 trees - vital habitat for these vulnerable Powerful Owls and that of their prey species and replacing the remnant vegetation with buildings is completely unacceptable.

This application threatens to fragment, disturb and diminish the biodiversity structure, function and composition of this wildlife corridor, and as such should be refused.

It is time Australia's atrocious record of extinction of native animals is considered alongside human needs. We will not become threatened species if this development does not go ahead but for species already on the brink? Who cares for them if we do not?

Yours sincerely
Patricia Brown