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Subject: Online Submission

12/02/2018

MR Peter Harley
4 Marmora ST
Freshwater NSW 222096

RE: DA2017/1294 - 9 Lawrence Street FRESHWATER NSW 2096

FLAWED NOTIFICATION PROCESS

This submission is written on behalf of the Friends of Freshwater Inc.

There is widespread community concern that Council has been entrapped by a long standing Developer tactic, which has led to a potentially unfair assessment process.

Both DA2017/1294 and DA2017/1287 were lodged at the end of December, and in the case of 1294, received by Council on 20/12/17 with little time to prepare the documentation prior to the Christmas break. Then the turnaround time for submissions has to occur largely in School Holidays when the bulk of the beachside Freshwater population is enjoying its holidays.

This is an old trick by developers and one designed to nullify the degree of community involvement via submissions. Historically, in Freshwater, there is always an intense level of interest in DA's pertaining to Freshwater Village

We now understand and submissions to these DA's convey the concern, that the number of resident notifications was extremely limited. It used to be that 300 residents and small businesses from the surrounding area would be notified. We now find that only a fraction of those were notified. Some of the most effected properties such as 18 Marmora were not notified, even though the property abounds DA 1294. Likewise, the Friends of Freshwater Inc was not notified, even though it is well known by urban planners that we exist to closely scrutinise such applications

These DA's are contentious and controversial given the 2010 landmark decision of Freshwater Village Developments Pty Ltd v. Warringah Council which applies directly to the sites in question. They also have the potential to compromise WDCP2011, Part 5, as it applies to the Desired Future Character of Freshwater Village.

We recommend that a further period, to 1 March, be granted, to permit a thoroughgoing analysis by the community.