
From: [REDACTED]
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To: DA Submission Mailbox
Subject: Online Submission

20/02/2018

MS Abigail Hartley
[REDACTED] Wyadra AVE
Freshwater NSW 2096

RE: DA2017/1294 - 15 Lawrence Street FRESHWATER NSW 2096

Please do not include my phone number or street number in the public website. Please only include my name and street name.

This development should not go ahead. It is 3 storeys high, significantly higher than other buildings on that street. It will greatly detract from the village feel of the street and does not fit with the vision in the DCP for Freshwater village.

The driveway access to a 43 car carpark will be dangerous for children and adults walking down the street and does not create a safe and pleasant pedestrian zone (contrary to what the DCP requires). Despite what the traffic report says that was submitted by the applicant, the traffic on Lawrence Street is already busy and can get congested. With the new apartments almost finished opposite the beginning of Moore Road, we have not yet seen how many more cars that will bring to Lawrence Street. The street has buses regularly and lots of cars. There are 3 pedestrian crossings too, which is good for the pedestrian friendly and village feel of the street. There is a community preschool on the corner of Lawrence and Oliver Streets with 60 children attending each day of the week and it should be a safe area for them and other children who come with their parents to go shopping or walk to nearby parks, playgrounds and the beach.

The proposed building will cause at least 3 large trees to be knock down. As the aerial photo shows, there are already not that many trees in this shopping area. The trees should NOT be cut down. Once they are gone, they are gone. The trees are important for the aesthetic feeling of Freshwater and contribute to making it a popular and friendly community and place to live.

Currently the building can be accurately described as shop top housing. The proposed development is allegedly shop top housing. There will be 2 shops only (with some apartments above) and then behind those shops there will be 2 large separate blocks of residential apartments. This is not what is meant to be shop top housing, even if technically it is.

There is not the transport infrastructure to cope with 23 more apartments (the e65 bus to the city runs only Mon-Fri during morning and evening peaks and takes 45-60 mins to get to Wynyard with the traffic. The 136 and 139 buses do run to Manly but not that often.)

The massive development which includes many residential apartments at the Harbord Diggers site is not yet complete, so the impacts on traffic and infrastructure from that development and the influx of residents are not yet evident and cannot be taken into consideration. It is not reasonable to permit such a big development when neither the Diggers site or the site further

down Lawrence Street have been completed, as there will no doubt be significant impacts once those sites are opened.

I hope the Council will seriously consider the long term and irreparable damage this sort of development will do to the Freshwater village. I appreciate that there is demand for residential accommodation in the Northern Beaches and Freshwater is not immune from that. But there needs to be careful planning and consideration given to things like character, amenity, history and community. These things are more important than how much money can be made by developers and how many apartments can be built (that can only be afforded by the wealthy and higher social economic classes).