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RE: DA2018/0149 - 60 Binalong Avenue ALLAMBIE HEIGHTS NSW 2100

I moved to Allambie Heights 40 years ago with my young family, attracted by its quiet, family-friendly atmosphere and its proximity to nature, especially the Manly Dam bushland. Some of our current neighbours were the pioneers who carved homes out of the bushland in the 1950s.

Our children thrived in this atmosphere and we have watched generations of children play in the open areas, ride their bikes along the street and explore the bushland. And now I take my grandchildren on walks through our streets, or in Manly Dam.

The change over those four decades has, if anything, been for the better. Tree-planting has made it a much greener suburb. Residents are more prepared to fight to preserve the natural beauty of the area, there is a feeling of community with for example street parties, and the children still gather and play. Higher densities are being achieved with less environmental impact through dual occupancies, and well-planned and located townhouse developments such as the one in Kentwell Road.

The proposed boarding house is completely at odds with this atmosphere:

- In the midst of houses surrounded by greenery, a massive solid block of 2-storey building
- Open green space replaced with concrete.
- Large numbers of people in a small area.
- Greater traffic movements
- Streets clogged with parked vehicles
- 100% renting residents who are less likely to feel part of the community
- The location is determined solely by the availability of land; the site is otherwise quite unsuitable and reflects the quiet suburban nature of the suburb

Recent amendments to the plans have substantially altered the concerns I am raising.

We fear that if this goes ahead, the change in character will make it easier for more developments of this type, and the environment we have learned to love will be lost forever.

Laurie Wilson