
Sent: 19/10/2019 3:39:41 PM

Subject: Mod 2019/0477 - DA 2017/1294 - 9-15 Lawrence St., Freshwater

19 October 2019

Attention: Daniel Milliken

Planner

Re: Mod 2019/0477 - DA 2017/1294 - 9-15 Lawrence St., Freshwater

The abovementioned modification Mod 2019/0477 to Development Application DA 2017/1294 proposes to move the driveway access from the Lawrence St frontage to the rear of the development and, in turn, allow vehicle access via Oliver St.

I strongly support this proposal, and hereby provide the main practical reasons in endorsing this amendment - (quotations from David Morrisey - Northern Beaches Health Promotion)

Traffic and pedestrian-vehicle conflict in Lawrence St

Apart from an unpleasant streetscape, additional traffic congestion reduces road safety. Traffic danger (both real and perceived) can discourage people from walking and cycling, therefore limiting the active use of street frontages.

Traffic, particularly on weekends, is heavy in the section of Lawrence and Albert Streets where this development is positioned. Lawrence St access would definitely exacerbate the traffic congestion that exists on the main street of Freshwater.

In general, this type of development should always prioritise pedestrian and cyclist activity above vehicle movement. The retail section of Lawrence and Albert Streets already has several driveways which create conflict between pedestrians and motor vehicles. As a consequence the former Warringah Council amended Warringah Development Control Plan 2011 to ensure future development does not further exacerbate pedestrian-vehicle conflict.

The Amendment to Warringah DCP Part G5 Freshwater Village, states -

* Section 5 Objective 01 - ' To improve amenity and safety for pedestrians ' with the requirement that 'Service and loading areas should improve the amenity of the streetscape and reduce any potential for vehicle/pedestrians conflict.'

* Section 5 Objective 02 - ' To minimise the impact of service vehicles and loading' with the requirement 'locate all underground car park entries, service and loading as well as garbage collection areas away from the primary street frontage.'

* Section 5 Objective 03 - ' To relocate loading and servicing away from Lawrence and Albert Streets' with the requirements 'No additional vehicle or loading access is to be provided from Lawrence and Albert Streets wherever possible via new

connected laneways or through negotiation with Council for access via existing surface carparking areas'.

It is clear from amendment to Warringah DCP Part G5 Freshwater Village, that Northern Beaches Council's determination is to maintain Lawrence Street's major function as a pedestrian friendly environment with active uses and that vehicle access for developments such as 9 & 15 Lawrence St, should be sought through Council's carpark..

It should be noted that the former Warringah Council produced the Amendment as a result of strong community concern regarding traffic congestion and pedestrian/traffic conflict in Lawrence St. Council undertook extensive consultation with the Freshwater Community to produce this Amendment, which in effect supports the rezoning of the Oliver St Carpark to allow access to this development.

Trusting this letter of support reflects the sentiments of the entire Freshwater Community, to have a main shopping centre area that is as least congested and as safe as possible for pedestrian movement.

Best regards,

Frank Minnici

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