16/02/04

To:

Angus Gordon General Manager Pittwater Council

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AUSTRALIA

Fax:

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From:

Richard Howe (Chairman of the Foxall and Wesley Street meeting)

75 Wesley Street Elanora Heights.

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On behalf of a Local resident group concerned about the proposed Re: rezoning of the Heydon Estate and Uniting Church Land. Reference R0005/03 & R0006/03

Dear Mr Gordon

I am writing on behalf of a group of concerned residents of the Wesley Street and Foxall Street area of Elanora Heights.

On Sunday 15th of February, I chaired a meeting which was organised by local residents opposed to the development by the State Government and Uniting Church on the Warriewood escarpment. Despite little notice, the meeting was attended by 70 local residents, which is reflective of the depth of feeling people in the area be about the issue.

A number of people addressed the meeting, including Mr David James, Dr Rhid Harrington, Mr Jim Revitt, Mr Richard Howe and Mr John Marchant. Hegerty also attended the meeting and responded to questions.

Below is a summary of concerns raised by the meeting attendees:

- 1. The proposed development by the Uniting Church and the Department could have a serious long-term adverse impact on the escarpment and the Warriewood Wetlands.
- 2. The environmental impact of the two combined rezoning proposals is not well understood. A study is needs to be done encompassing the two proposed developments to properly assess their full environmental impact on the area.
- 3. The proposed rezoning is in a known major bushfire path, there are issues around fire service jurisdiction and significant issues with access.
- 4. The bushfire assessment requires a huge clearing of bushland stretching across the width of the escarpment that is contained within the rezoned land.
- 5. The proposal put to council clearly contradicts some of the key objectives of saving the bushland and escarpment.
- The clearing of bush, roadworks, and development on the plots will have a significant impact on the bushland, adding sediment into Mullet Creek and the sensitive Warriewood wetlands
- 7. Residents of Wesley Street, Foxall Street and Ingleside Road will have to endure significantly increased levels of traffic from heavy vehicles during

construction phase and ongoing increased traffic in occupation phase. These are quiet residential streets with young families and small children.

8. There will be visual scarring the escarpment by the significant bushland clearance and construction of large houses.

During the meeting it was agreed that some requested actions should be put to the council on behalf of the attendees.

The actions list below was put by Richard Howe and seconded by Mike Hale. The meeting then unanimously passed the following by a show of hands. An attendance list was taken at the meeting.

On behalf of the meeting attendees I request that Pittwater council take action on the following:

- 1) That the two rezoning applications be considered separately, but concurrently, by council. Also, that the ecological impact assessment be performed on the combined land affected by the two rezoning applications. The two applications are so different, the impact and issues so complicated, they must be reviewed separately, but concurrently.
- 2) That the Department of Planning consult with the appropriate community representatives and council to find alternative and more acceptable ways of addressing the financial issues raised by the department.
- 3) That the council take every action possible to restore and retain the bushland integrity of the escarpment and maximise the protection and restoration of the creek line corridor that runs from Elanora through the Uniting Church land behind Wesley Street.

Regards

Richard Howe