
From: DYPXCPWEB@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au
Sent: 6/10/2025 7:42:55 PM
To: DA Submission Mailbox
Subject: TRIMMED: Online Submission

06/10/2025

MR Mihajlo Danilovic
103 / 637 Pittwater RD
Dee Why NSW 2099
[REDACTED]

RE: PEX2025/0001 - 13 Wilga Street INGLESIDE NSW 2101

(Application ID 2632480 - Ingleside Development Proposal)

Dear Council,

I am writing to formally object to the proposed large-scale residential development of over 536 homes surrounding St Sava Serbian Orthodox Church at 5 Wilson Avenue, Ingleside.

As a long-standing member of this church community, I am deeply concerned about the profound and irreversible impacts this development would have on the church's ability to continue serving as a safe, vibrant, and spiritually and culturally significant centre for our community. My immediate and extended family have attended St Sava for over 30 years-for Sunday Mass, christenings, weddings, and community events. My children are enrolled in the Serbian School and Serbian Folkloric Dancing programs that operate onsite.

1. Privacy and Safety Concerns

The proposed three-storey residential buildings directly adjoining the church boundary will severely compromise the privacy and safety of over 160 children who attend weekly language, cultural, and religious education programs. Children should be able to learn, play, and gather in a secure and private environment-not overlooked from balconies or upper-storey windows of neighbouring residences.

A buffer zone of open space, reserve, or public road separation between the development and church property is essential to protect the wellbeing of children and all parishioners.

2. Preservation of Community Function and Future Growth

St Sava Church is not only a place of worship but also a community hub for the Serbian-Australian population, one of the largest ethnic minority communities on the Northern Beaches.

The church requires room to expand and improve its community facilities, including:

Additional classrooms, changerooms, library, and archive space;

Childcare and aged care facilities to serve an intergenerational community; and

Limited residential dwellings (townhouses/houses) to support housing needs for clergy, caretakers, and parish families.

These projects are vital for our ongoing sustainability and cultural contribution to the broader Northern Beaches community.

3. Land Use and Zoning Requests

To ensure the church's ability to fulfil its long-term community role, I urge Council to:

Zone the church property as R3 (Medium Density Residential) to allow for educational and community development aligned with our mission;

Include appropriate planning controls and title encumbrances to legally protect the church's operational rights, safeguarding us from future complaints or restrictions arising from neighbouring residents.

4. Cultural and Historical Significance

Established in 1949, St Sava Serbian Orthodox Church is a cornerstone of faith, culture, and identity for generations of Serbian-Australians. It provides language and scripture classes, folkloric dance programs, and cultural festivals that contribute significantly to the multicultural fabric of the Northern Beaches.

This heritage and community contribution must be respected and preserved through careful planning decisions that maintain both our privacy and our ability to grow responsibly.

Conclusion

I respectfully request that Council reject or significantly amend the proposed development to include:

A clear physical buffer zone between residential buildings and the church property;

Protections for the church's existing and future community operations; and

A rezoning of church land to R3 to enable future educational, childcare, aged care, and limited residential facilities.

Our community supports thoughtful and balanced development, but it must not come at the cost of the safety, privacy, and sustainability of one of the Northern Beaches' oldest and most active cultural institutions.

Thank you for considering this submission and for your commitment to protecting community heritage and wellbeing.

Yours faithfully,

Mihajlo Danilovic

[REDACTED]

Member, St Sava Serbian Orthodox Church Ingleside