
From: DYPXCPWEB@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au
Sent: 27/09/2025 7:38:42 PM
To: DA Submission Mailbox
Subject: Online Submission

27/09/2025

MR Marko Vucinic
- 10 Kalora AVE
Dee Why NSW 2099
[REDACTED]

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

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing on behalf of the Serbian Orthodox community of the Northern Beaches to express our deep concern regarding the proposed developments planned adjacent to our Serbian Orthodox Church in Ingleside.

Our church is not only a place of worship but a cornerstone of cultural, educational, and community life for thousands of Serbian Australians in Sydney. Each week, we welcome nearly 200 children who attend Serbian language classes, dance groups, and scripture lessons. On significant religious days such as Christmas and Easter, our grounds are filled to capacity with parishioners, families, and guests. Even under current conditions, parking and access are severely restricted, and further developments nearby will only worsen this situation and place undue strain on the community's ability to gather safely.

The Serbian community has a proud and long-standing history in this region. Many families have been established here for four to five generations, raising children and grandchildren on the Northern Beaches. When I was in high school, a local study found that Serbian was the most spoken language in Dee Why after English, demonstrating just how deeply our community is embedded in the fabric of this area.

More broadly, Serbian Australians share a strong history of friendship with Australia. Serbia and Australia were allies in both World Wars, and even today we march proudly together on ANZAC Day in recognition of shared sacrifice. Many of our families fled communist regimes in Europe, seeking freedom and opportunity, and found that better future here in Australia. Today, we remain proud Australians of Serbian heritage-contributing positively to the cultural, social, and economic life of this country.

Our community in Ingleside is one of the largest Serbian Orthodox congregations in New South Wales. The church grounds are not just a religious site but a cultural hub, where children are raised with respect for both their Serbian roots and their Australian homeland. Any development that reduces access, strains parking, or threatens the character and security of this site risks undermining the stability of a large, well-established community.

We respectfully ask that Council consider the long-standing cultural, historical, and social significance of our church before approving further development in its immediate vicinity. We urge you to protect this important community institution so that it may continue serving future

generations of Australians, both Serbian and non-Serbian alike.

Thank you for your consideration of our submission. We remain committed to working constructively with Council to ensure the ongoing harmony, safety, and vibrancy of our area.