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**From:** DYPXCPWEB@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au  
**Sent:** 7/10/2025 4:27:30 PM  
**To:** DA Submission Mailbox  
**Subject:** TRIMMED: Online Submission

07/10/2025

MRS Ana Mrkela  
ST  
NSW  
[REDACTED]

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

To Northern Beaches Council,  
I'm writing on behalf of the Serbian Orthodox Church of St Sava and our parish community in Ingleside to raise serious concerns about the proposed residential development next to our Church and community hall.

Our Church has been a part of the Northern Beaches since 1949. It's more than a place of worship - it's a cultural and community hub for one of the area's largest ethnic minority groups. Every week, over 160 kids come here for Serbian language lessons, traditional dance, scripture, and other activities that help keep our culture alive. It's a safe and welcoming space for families, children, and the wider community - and it needs to stay that way.

We ask Council to please consider the following:

**1. Children's Privacy and Safety**

The planned two- and three-storey homes would directly overlook areas where children play, learn, and take part in community activities. This raises serious concerns around safety and privacy. Our kids should be able to enjoy their space without feeling watched by strangers from nearby balconies or windows.

**2. Need for a Buffer Zone**

We strongly believe there needs to be a proper buffer - such as a public road, open land, or landscaped reserve - between our Church and any new buildings. This would provide the necessary separation to protect our privacy, security, and the peaceful character of the site.

**3. Rezoning Our Land to R3**

Given the scale of development in the area, we're also asking that our Church land be rezoned to R3 - Medium Density Residential. This would allow us to move ahead with long-term plans to build more community facilities, like classrooms, a library, childcare, aged care, and a few residences that support our members.

**4. Protecting What Already Exists**

Our Church has been operating here for over 75 years. We want to make sure any new development won't interfere with the activities we've always run - including services, classes, events, and cultural gatherings. New residents should be made aware of the nature of our site and be expected to respect it.

**5. Safeguards on Surrounding Properties**

We also ask that legal protections - such as title encumbrances or covenants - be placed on new neighbouring properties, so our Church's rights and activities are protected into the future. This would help prevent things like noise complaints or disputes that could impact our ability to operate as we always have.

**6. Recognising Our Contribution to the Community**

Our Church isn't just a building - it's a community that's supported generations of families on the Northern Beaches. Many of us grew up here, and now our children are doing the same. It plays a key role in preserving culture, offering support, and creating connection.

In summary, we ask Council to:

Introduce a buffer zone (road, land or reserve) between our Church and the new development

Rezone our land to R3 to reflect the area's growth and support our future plans

Protect our existing uses and ensure encumbrances are placed on neighbouring titles

Acknowledge and support the ongoing cultural and community role our Church plays

We ask that this development is approached with fairness, foresight, and respect for long-standing community institutions like ours.

Thank you for your time and understanding.