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To: DA Submission Mailbox
Subject: TRIMMED: Online Submission

07/10/2025



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

****PERSONAL DETAILS TO BE REMOVED****

I am writing my strong objection to this development application as I have extreme concerns about the large development from my own personal experience through a mass evacuation during a bushfire and also the capped student numbers at the local primary schools which are at capacity.

1. BUSHFIRE

The roads as it currently stands cannot handle the existing residents in a fire emergency let alone another 1,300+ cars in this particular bottleneck of a single road in/out at this location. I know this from my own perspective and personal experience in trying to evacuate. The ABS 2021 states that Ingleside and Elanora as roughly 2.6 cars per home. That's a lot cars for such a restrictive area with 536 'dwellings'.

I grew up in Elanora Heights and lived through various fires that impacted the area with the worse being the January 1994 fires. We lost our home in the fires and were lucky to get out.

During the 1994 fires when the fires quickly and unpredictably shifted towards Elanora Heights (2 fire fronts from arson and natural lightning event), there was no warning or evacuation from emergency services as they were not able to get to the residents in the streets that were being hit as the roads were so congested with residents trying to flee. Trying to leave Amaroo Ave when the fire hit our home took nearly an hour to reach the top of Elanora Rd as all surrounding streets were at a complete standstill - this is usually a 2minute drive if that.

There were no warnings, no fire trucks, no police as they could not get through to Bungoona and Amaroo Ave and all the surrounding streets that were on fire due to the mass exodus and congestion. As a child this was traumatic as we did not know if the fire was going to reach our car and had no other escape.

We were not able to protect our home during the fire as there was no water pressure in any of the homes in the street at the time. Imagine turning on your tap and nothing to come out but a couple of drops then nothing. This happened to us. Elanora and Ingleside do not have the adequate infrastructure to handle such an event.

This was in a part of original Elanora where there were no large developments like proposed

and yet there was a major traffic congestion problem back in 1994. The proposal to build an additional 536 homes with only 1 road in and out is a major safety issue. How is a single one lane single entry onto Powderworks rd handle such a mass evacuation of over 1,300+ cars as well as the rest of Elanora trying to flee on a single carriage road? Heading up towards Mona Vale Rd is a risk due to surrounding bushland potentially alight so that leaves only heading down the hill which will have the rest of Elanora heights trying to leave. You then hit 2 bottle necks of traffic lights (Garden St & Pittwater Rd) which will hold up traffic movement.

I understand these houses will be rated fire safe to stay but they are not allowing for smoke inhalation, toxic fumes as well as human nature to flee in such disasters. And personally I would not trust a structure to be 100% flame proof and safe for breathing. Also when warnings are broadcasted via media is the broadcaster going to single out the houses in the pocket in Ingleside to remain "all people in Elanora and Ingleside to evacuate, except for house 1-9 on zxy Street in Ingleside". People will evacuate, it is human nature to leave to a safer area.

This development not only puts property at risk, human lives as well.

2. SCHOOLS

Also reading into the reports on the council portal on local primary schools there as a note about enrolments to Elanora and Mona Vale Primary decreasing. There is a legitimate reason for this which the council needs to be made aware of!!! As a parent with kids that attended one of these schools I can confirm that the reason why the enrolments have decreased is to the Dept of Education setting new quotas in 2021 for 20-30% fewer enrolments at Mona Vale, Narrabeen North, Narrabeen Lakes and Elanora Heights. The schools were directed to 'shed' their student numbers. Reason being is the change in classroom and teaching structure and removal of all demountable for student overflow. There is also a large shortage of teaches so student to teacher ratios will not be appropriate or in guidance with the State department.

When my kids were at Mona Vale Primary, the numbers were around 1,200 and we were told by the Principle that numbers immediately needed to be reduced to 750 in a 3-5 year period and putting a cap on all new enrolments and OC programs. Even future siblings were refused enrollment. All local primary schools are currently at capacity and no room to increased intake so there will be no available spaces for new kids in the surrounding 3 catchments. Again this was directed by the Dept of Education. You cannot expect and force families to send this kids to private or catholic schools as there should be local public options available.

I strongly advise that there be communication between the local schools and council to get a confirmation on current student numbers and their capped number they are allowed to enroll as directed by the Department of Education. There will be no room at any of the local schools for new students in such large development like this and others currently happening in Warriewood.

Unless the schools are allowed to increase capacity or a new school is built, this is another strong reason as to why this development SHOULD NOT GO ahead