
From: DYPXCPWEB@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au
Sent: 2/10/2025 1:24:49 PM
To: DA Submission Mailbox
Subject: TRIMMED: Online Submission

02/10/2025

MRS Olivera Skopljak


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

Dear Assessing Officer,

I am writing as a concerned parent and active member of the Northern Beaches Serbian Orthodox community. My children participate in traditional Serbian dancing, attend language and scripture classes, and spend a large part of their social life at our church facilities. For families like mine, this place is not just a church - it is our cultural and community centre, a hub of learning, celebration, and connection.

I strongly oppose the proposed new residential development adjoining our property, and I ask Council to carefully consider the following concerns:

1. Privacy and Safety of Children

- Over 160 children regularly attend our church activities. Three-storey apartment buildings directly on our fence line would mean our children are overlooked from balconies and windows, stripping them of their privacy.
- More importantly, this creates an unsafe environment. Children should feel secure when dancing, learning, and playing - not watched by strangers from neighbouring residences.

2. Need for a Proper Buffer Zone

- It is essential that a street, reserve, or adequate land separation exists between the church facilities and any residential development. This would protect both the amenity of the new residents and the safety and privacy of our children.

3. Protecting the Church's Right to Grow

- Our community is expanding, and we need space to plan for the future. This includes additional classrooms, changerooms, a library, archive space and childcare facilities.
- The current proposal would severely limit our ability to provide these services.

4. Preserving Our Established Activities

- For decades, our parish has offered dance, language, scripture and cultural classes. These activities must be preserved and protected from future complaints by new neighbours unfamiliar with our traditions.

5. Rezoning Request

- To support the Serbian Orthodox community - one of the largest ethnic minorities on the Northern Beaches, established here since 1949 - our land must be rezoned to R3. This would allow us to deliver projects that benefit the wider community, including educational facilities, social and community services, and some limited residential development for our members.

6. Legal Protections

- We request that title encumbrances and planning conditions be applied to guarantee the

church's ongoing rights and activities, and to ensure that future residents are aware of and accept the presence of a vibrant community centre next door.

7. Community Importance

- The Serbian Orthodox Church is more than a place of worship. It is a cultural and educational institution that has served the Northern Beaches since 1949. Generations of families - including mine - rely on it for faith, heritage, and social connection. It is vital that our future is protected, not compromised.

I respectfully ask Council to reject the development in its current form and to work with us on a solution that protects our children, respects our rights and allows us to keep growing with the community.

Thank you for considering this submission.

Yours sincerely,

Olivera Skopljak

Parent and Member of the Northern Beaches Serbian Orthodox Community