
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 18/05/2023 1:18:00 PM
To: Council Northernbeaches Mailbox
Subject: TRIMMED: Objection to DA2023/0299

RE: DA2023/0299

I wish to make a submission objecting to the current plans for DA2023/2099. As an executive committee member of the Marine Parade Action Alliance and resident of 102 Bower St, I am extremely concerned about the proposed overdevelopment to increase the current number of residences from three to five. Residents of College Street, Bower St, Bower Lane, and Marine Parade cannot afford a repeat of the extensive and very severe damage caused by the eruption of the stormwater pipe on 8 March 2022, damage that will only be exacerbated if this development application is approved.

Since last November, remediation has been limited to the installation of two surface grates near the stormwater drain dogleg in Marine Parade, which constituted Stage 1 of Council's proposed rectification works. The much wider problems, especially in the narrowest and lowest point of Marine Parade which is in dire need of seawall openings at the existing pit locations, as well as the installation of bolts to hopefully prevent further occurrences of dangerous lifting of the concrete slabs just south of Bower Lane, have not yet been addressed.

Regrettably, there is now an increased likelihood of an even worse event wreaking even more damage to residential properties and the Cabbage Tree Bay ecosystem due to this proposed development (DA2023/0299) at the junction of Reddall and College Streets which is seeking to increase the number of properties on this leased land to five. If approved, this will result in a significant loss of critical soak area.

Any further loss of soak area, provided by the three established properties in situ along College, Reddall and Bower Streets that are the subject of this development application, would add to the challenges faced by the current antiquated and inadequate drainage system. The consequences could be even worse than the devastation caused by last year's storms for not only properties along the lower side of Bower St but again to our precious aquatic reserve from toxic residues.

It is obvious from the plans that the suggested number of soft surfaces is minor in comparison to the existing surfaces. But even these existing surfaces will no longer constitute a soak area as there will be extensive underground basement hard surfaces which have merely shallow soil and planting over the top.

Please see this video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vesPVUQb6h0> - which shows the extraordinary ferocity of the water in March 2022 that led to millions of dollars of damage to residents' properties, particularly in Marine Parade and Bower Street, as well as to the Cabbage Tree bay ecosystem. This dangerous and unchecked cascade of stormwater also posed significant potential threats to life and limb.

If this development application is approved, it will only increase the likelihood

of more extensive and very costly damage, as well as greater dangers to residents and visitors to the iconic Marine Parade walkway and its environs. We look forward to Council taking into account the challenges caused by unconstrained stormwater, and to a subsequent decision to refuse the proposed increase in dwellings from three to five due to the extremely likely deleterious effects on property and the environment.

In the meantime, the Marine Parade Action Alliance will continue to work constructively and diligently with Council to ensure that there is no recurrence of the March 2022 devastating damage.

Please do not hesitate to contact me to discuss this submission.

Kind regards,

Julie

Julie Meldrum
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