

SUTHERLAND LEP INDEPENDENT REVIEW

WEBSITE SUBMISSION

Name:	Date: 15/2/2014
Organisation: N/A	Suburb: Sutherland, NSW
Email address: N/A	Privacy: Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Comment: <p>I write to express my support for the Sutherland Shire LEP 2013 to be implemented as it stands in its final version. I felt that the plan making process was carried out by Council in an open and transparent manner, with several opportunities for consultation provided to the community during the whole process.</p> <p>I strongly believe that intensification of the development of residential flat buildings in areas of the Sutherland Shire with good access to public transport and services is positive and essential to ensure future generations and our elderly will have access to housing options that are more adequate to their needs, means and aspirations.</p> <p>The current planning controls in the Sutherland LEP 2006 have prevented the feasibility of development in the LGA and in particular within the Sutherland Centre for far too long. The LGA feels as if frozen in the 1960's and if the LEP process stalls once again, its unlikely that momentum will ever be regained for the Sutherland Centre to fulfill its potential role as a Major Centre benefitted by already existing infrastructure with excellent fast transport links to the City and to many surrounding employment areas.</p> <p>The lack of vibrancy, activities and opportunities has contributed to the exponentially increasing exodus of the young, educated population from the Sutherland Shire, placing the future economic and social sustainability of the LGA at risk.</p> <p>I would like to highlight the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Support for the Sutherland LEP 2013: I support the implementation of the proposed controls as per justifications above.- Rawson Avenue: Controls for the site identified as the Rawson Avenue site in Sutherland (former Miranda RSL proposal) should be carefully reviewed to ensure some form of development is still realistically feasible on the site. Proposed changes that would improve development feasibility were not carried forward due to a large number of submissions by people who do not leave near the site having the perception that this run down underused area is public open space. On the contrary, the area is privately owned and a potential key catalyst for renewal. The site is currently unsafe for pedestrians and the lack of development prevents the creation of a crucial pedestrian and cycling link to Sutherland station.- Concerned that the minority that are against any form of development will be heard just because they are more vocal: <p>During the consultation rounds for the new LEP and now during the independent review, dozens of different websites with strong messages vehemently opposing any changes to planning controls in</p>	

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the LGA would pop up in the browsers of anyone trying to perform a simple internet search on the topic. These websites did not attempt to explain the real nature of the changes proposed by Council and instead made use of expressions to promote irrational fear on the community. The frequent use of the term 'New Manhattan of the South' as a reference to the future of the LGA is a good example of this distortion.

By simply clicking on a button on these websites, anyone could have a pre-written submission against the LEP to be automatically sent on his/her name. While thousands of negative submissions can be sent to Council through such elaborated means, the most productive members of the community which are busy working or caring for their children, that do not disagree with the proposal, or even those that support the proposal would hardly find time to make a single submission, let alone going to such great lengths to voice their opinions.

Those that are averse to change are naturally unable to understand that the aspirations of the next generation can be somewhat different from their own, and that by resisting to change they are denying their own children the opportunity to live a fulfilling life.

I trust that the recommendations of the independent panel will not be influenced by fear of losing the votes of the vocal minority. And I trust that the the members of the panel will inform themselves and honour their responsibility in making unbiased decisions that ensure the next generations of residents of the Sutherland Shire will have fair access to opportunities.

Yours faithfully,

Resident of Sutherland