

Mamre West Rezoning Proposal

John Egberts 575 mamre road orchard hills

If this development goes ahead it will change the rural outlook of the area forever and will see more of the Cumberland plain disappear. In the 10 years I have owned this property I have seen many changes to the outlook of this area. When I bought here, there were no factories and my children and I would see kangaroos and many other native fauna on a weekly basis and now it has become less common. I have lived in this area all my life, I've seen the changes of this area from open plains to over developed housing estates. I've watched the development of Colyton, St Clair, Erskine Park and then Erskine Park Industrial Area all once areas of Cumberland plains now non existent. This will only add more developments and the disappearance of more open land.

When I bought my land from the government land from the government it was surplus government land being held for Badgerys creek airport I was given assurances that Badgerys Creek airport would not be going ahead. I was told that it was dead in the water, I knew that this land would be badly affected if Badgerys Creek airport went ahead. I was told by the government of the day that Badgerys Creek airport would not be happening and this decision was reflected in the building requirements I didn't have to put soundproofing and double glazing and other acoustic requirements to meet code for the airports requirement. My neighbours had to install their house requirements to meet the airport code. If I had known that the decision to build the airport would have been reversed I wouldn't have bought this land.

Just to build this house we had to endure many obstacles. After winning the secret ballot I was told I couldn't build here as it was 1A rural meaning you need 40 acres or more but because this land was part of a land grant from 1850, the land was from before this ruling. Also after winning the secret ballot a caveat was placed on the land, causing many months of delays on settling the land. Then Penrith council put up many blocks just to get building approval ie zoning. But after many meetings with council and much heartache building approval was given. Then just after building started the slab had just been poured the builder (Beechwood) went broke. After many months of delays and many restless nights and legal meetings, work started again. So after 2.5 years from the time we won the secret ballot we could finally move in.

I put every cent I had into buying this block of land and had to overcome many obstacles so my family and I could settle here and active my dream of living on land. This place is paradise as we have no neighbours close by and only 10 minutes away from my children's school, shops and transport. My 5 children have open space to live, to scream and make noise without worry of upsetting anyone. How can I replace what I have here so close to everything? This application is causing much distress and adverse effect within my family. We don't want to leave as this is our home and had plans of seeing our grandchildren coming and enjoying the open space we have here and that will disappear if the application goes ahead.

Regards

John Egberts