
Subject:

FW: Submission on the draft regional development Central Coast Plan

Attachments:

screen.jpg; 12646966_1068785869819058_8779975480081015379_n.jpg

To whom it may concern,

it is my pleasure to write on behalf of the development of the Central Coast . I would like to make particular reference to the Former Gosford Public School Site and the development which is currently under DA submission. I have lived on the coast from the age of three so I see myself as a "Coastie ". Now 37 I return to the Central Coast living for the last 14 years in Europe in pursuit of my craft as an Actress and Costume Designer. Now home, I'am passionate about bringing my expertise, energy and experiences to create a more creative, cultural, educated and artistic life for the people of the Central Coast and in turn reinvigorate this community nestled on the edge of Sydney, making it a destination in its own right—and, in turn boosting our local economy.

I am registering my objection to the proposed development of the Gosford Waterfront site and adjoining former Gosford Public school site (both herein referred to as 'the site') by DOMA Group to construct a high-rise office block to accommodate the Australian Taxation Office (ATO), a long term Commonwealth tenant.

I seek that Gosford City Council hold a hearing to allow for a full discourse to be had on the development of the site.

My objection to the proposed development is based on the following:

The site has been earmarked for community use and development of a multi-arts precinct, which would invigorate the city centre, provide a cultural footprint commensurate to the Central Coast while being sympathetic to the community landscape and outlook and placement of the site within the city precinct.

Community expectation has been overlooked as no transparent community consultation and engagement process was undertaken to enable a full, frank and considered discussion to be undertaken to allow for comprehensive debate over the change of use of the site to that which is now being considered by Council, particularly, when for more than a decade the site had been promised to house a multi-arts precinct.

The Gosford CBD has a number of commercial and mixed retail commercial spaces which could accommodate and welcome a large and long-term commonwealth tenant, such as the ATO – therefore I ask: has full consideration been given by Council in consultation with DOMA as to the redevelopment of existing commercial premises within the CBD proper, as opposed to the site which in many respects is located on the fringe of the CBD.

Following on, as the site is currently vacant land, it would lend itself to creating and building as promised a multi-arts precinct without the need to demolish and/or renovate inappropriate spaces within the Gosford CBD to create and occupy arts facilities.

Conversely the building and construction of commercial office premises, at a substantial cost, could be better served by utilised existing commercial office premises within the CBD – therefore I further ask: what purpose is it serving the Gosford community to build yet another office-high in a space that could be better utilised for alternative purposes, and importantly, where vacant commercial premises already exist, which could be re-utilised for the ATOs needs.

Finally, I note that this the proposed development of the site has also been the subject of State Government enquiry and NGO lobbying and I would restate that no forum has been provided for disclosure and consideration of all parties involved. I appreciate that should DOMAs proposed development be denied, they would seek redress for their inability to proceed as planned. Therefore I urge you to consider this and allow for a resolution that addresses the needs of the community for a arts precinct as designed on the site, and DOMA by considering alteration of existing vacant commercial space with the CBD.

Thankyou for your time in being able to express my deep desire to see the beauty of the Central Coast retained. Community connection is paramount.

PostScript: I would also like to swing my support of the light rail system Doug Eaton proposes. Public transport is key to building stronger bonds between community's, both economically and sociology.

Kindest regards

Multi Arts Confederation
Vice President.

**The Pictures attached is from a rally MAC held on the 24th of January and continue to campaign in support of the Regional Performing Arts Precinct on the Former Gosford Public School Site .

[Gosford is where the HEART is](#)





