

22 December 2016

To the Department of Planning and Environment,

As a local resident, scientist and Director of a well-being institute, I am very troubled by the move to expand code complying development to include medium density development. Such a move could have a very damaging impact on the quality of life and resulting mental health of local residents for the following reasons:

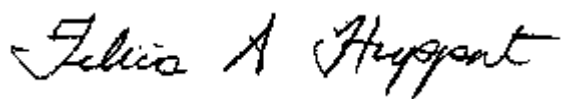
- The code will pose a threat to existing 'backyard' vegetation. There is evidence that having greenspace is integral to neighbourhoods, and is good for human well-being, as well as providing an important habitat for birds, insects, and other animals.
- All residence suffer if dwellings are too close together and there is insufficient privacy as a result of short-cutting the planning process and preventing consultation.
- We want people to care about their communities, which is good for their individual and collective well-being. If they are disempowered, or feel helpless or hopeless, this is a serious issue for individuals, families and communities.

I therefore urge the Department of Planning and Environment to:

- Notify residents about proposed developments and give at least 14 days to make a written submission.
- Retain the development application process for ALL medium density applications.
- Retain local councils as the planning authority.

Please give priority to people not developers.

A resident who lives in hope,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Felicia A Huppert'. The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name 'Felicia' being more prominent and the last name 'Huppert' following in a similar style.

Felicia Huppert