

6<sup>th</sup> of February 2019

Department of Planning and Environment  
GPO Box 39  
Sydney NSW 2001

Dear All

I ask that the St Leonards South Residential Precinct Draft Plans Council.

We have repeatedly written and made several submissions on the same subject yet no one seems to listen to the concerns of most residents. The Draft plans presented still have a number of issues (such as shadowing, amenity, services, open space, traffic) and do not address the underlying problems with the St Leonards South.

I am a senior citizen and I feel that none of my needs have been considered in this Draft plans. In fact I feel that all seniors' requirements have been ignored for example public open space, village atmosphere, more garden space.

As a senior citizen I find this Draft plan to be unreasonable as it takes away amenities and facilities that I rely upon. This plan will not bring improvement for seniors but will make living in St Leonards more challenging.

We already have enough high density in this part of the St Leonards which even affects the Greenwich area and many other streets. More high rise developments will result in more pressure on facilities. Amenities will be greatly reduced and when amenities are lost they are lost forever. Public transport such as trains and buses do not serve the area well and are full at peak times. The new train in Crows Nest is insufficient to cope with the increase in the high density already planned (it can hardly manage to deal with the current overcrowding). The State government will not be able to resolve all these issues and the residents (especially the elderly residents) will be severely disadvantaged.

The St Leonards South Plan in particular is of interest to me which will also have a number of negative impacts such as:

- ❖ The rezoning will add more cars and pedestrians from the new developments, especially service, utility and visitor's cars that this Draft plan does NOT properly consider. Hence, the rezoning will result in a poor outcome for the area. Especially for the elderly who will find harder.
- ❖ There are not enough large green open parks and places for recreation in our area. I am unable to attend most parks due to the number of people frequenting the parks with busy sporting activities. There are not enough parks and play grounds in the area for the current residents. Open space is decreasing with the new towers and developments on the Pacific Highway that affects and alters this area.
- ❖ There are narrow sidewalks, unsafe and hazardous streets with traffic and cars. Every day I have to cautiously manoeuvre the peak morning traffic of cars and walk on narrow badly surfaced sidewalks but with more high density housing it will be less safe.
- ❖ Every morning mothers with small children in strollers are walking on steep sloping streets, as well as dog owners walking their dogs and many children on bicycles compete with many cars for the space. Now multiply this with more cars and people due to more high density.
- ❖ Most of my neighbours and other people I know have two or more cars in their garage. The rezoning does not take this into account and does not offer a good solution to resolve the traffic and parking issues in the area.
- ❖ The traffic studies for the rezoning does not take into account the movement and impact on emergency vehicles such as ambulances and fire trucks from the increased traffic in the area.

The rezoning could reduce response times and even be delay/blocked emergency vehicles to the RNS Hospital due to additional traffic.

- ❖ Impact on the environment has not been considered for example the impact from the rezoning on noise, odor and dust from the additional vehicles / buses to cater for the extra density which will be a lasting tribute from this current Council. As you know the elderly will suffer the most from additional noise and pollution in the area.
- ❖ Despite the claim that we live near a train station however, there will be more people using cars and company cars to get to this area, as we will have people from other suburbs that do not have trains near them come to the area. Our streets cannot support the additional traffic.
- ❖ There are no other real outlets from Berry Road and the other surrounding streets are always not easy to walk along. Increasing congestion at a bottleneck, as all streets have limited access routes, is not a solution. Just try to drive on Berry Road, Canberra Avenue, River Road or Pacific Highway in the morning. It is a line of parked cars! Hence, traffic will be a big issue with the rezoning that even the studies have identified as an issue.

I know that some may claim that change is inevitable but too much change in a small area, in such a short time, with not much thought or good planning takes place would lead to mistakes and blunders that the area has to endure for many years.

I have spoken to many seniors and so many in the community are Not supportive of this plan / rezoning. I think it is time for Council to think of the long term effects on the residents that will live here for many years and what is best for them.

Therefore please reject this Draft Plan for St Leonards and St Leonards South as no one in the community wants this rezoning and it is not good for the elderly residents in the area.

Kind regards

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CONFIDENTIALITY  
REQUESTED