



SAVE BRONTE *local shops for local people*

Media Release
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NSW DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND INFRASTRUCTURE SHOWS BIAS AGAINST COMMUNITY AND WAVERLEY COUNCIL IN BRONTE RSL DEVELOPER'S APPEAL

The Department of Planning and Infrastructure (DoPI) has shown blatant bias against the Bronte community and Waverley Council in their Pre-Gateway Review assessment and recommendation report of the Winston Langley Burlington (WLB) planning proposal for the old Bronte RSL site.

The biased report issued nearly a month ago has only just been made available to the public. It will be used by the Planning Assessment Commission (PAC) to make a ruling on the WLB pre-Gateway review request which was lodged by WLB following the unanimous rejection of the WLB planning proposal by Waverley Council. The report totally ignores the community's input, but extensively considers information provided by WLB.

Not only has the DoPI ignored the input of the Waverley community, but it has shown total disregard to the concerns held by the Clovelly Public School P&C about the safety of its pupils. Should the WLB development proceed, the truck delivery route would go straight past the school on Chesterfield Parade endangering school children. Despite raising their concerns regularly throughout the year, the P&C's input has been completely ignored by the DoPI. Clovelly Public School P&C will be making a formal complaint to the Minister.

Save Bronte spokesperson, Dr Stephen Lightfoot, said today "There is no way the PAC can make an informed decision based on this DoPI report. The report presents the developer's arguments as fact whilst ignoring all community input over the last twelve months. Save Bronte has provided the Department and Minister Hazzard with a detailed report outlining the community's view and showing that WLB's planning proposal has no strategic merit but our arguments have been completely ignored."

"This DoPI report leaves the community with the impression that this appeal is a done deal and that the Department will approve the WLB proposal. Should this happen it will lead to the approval of a development at the Bronte RSL site that has been comprehensively rejected by the community, unanimously rejected by the Waverley Councillors and refused by the Joint Regional Planning Panel."

"It seems now that any developer can effectively pay to design their own planning legislation and the local community and its Council representatives are disregarded throughout the process. This is undemocratic in the extreme and cannot be allowed to continue."

"The current situation is untenable and just not right. Minister Hazzard must instruct his department to rescind the DoPI report and prepare a fair and balanced report for the PAC. The PAC must be given the opportunity to hear the community's view."

ENDS

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