



SAVE BRONTE

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Media Release

PLANNING ASSESSMENT COMMISSION IGNORES WAVERLEY COUNCIL DECISION

Monday's decision by the Planning Assessment Commission (PAC) to ignore Waverley Council's recommendations regarding the development of the Bronte RSL has left the wider Bronte Community completely disenchanted with the O'Farrell government.

In July 2013 Waverley Council, with fervent support from the wider Bronte community, made a unanimous decision to reject a request by Bronte RSL development partners Winston Langley Burlington (directed by David Hynes and Sam El-Rahim) to alter planning controls at the RSL site. The PAC has now ridden roughshod over the council and community and handed a recommendation to the Department of Planning that is firmly in favour of overdevelopment. This is completely at odds with the community and Waverley Council's vision for the neighbourhood.

Save Bronte spokesperson Dr. Stephen Lightfoot said of the decision: "Yet again, the PAC, Department of Planning and Minister Brad Hazzard have shown total disregard for the Bronte community and Waverley Council. It is insulting that the Department of Planning maintains that the community is being involved in the planning process when our input is consistently ignored. Waverley Council and the people of the wider Bronte community have made it abundantly clear that we are against overdevelopment at the RSL site. Our community wants a development that complies with the council-drafted planning controls."

"Over the past two years, Waverley Council led a comprehensive strategic planning review process that the Department has entirely ignored. This decision by the PAC shows that not only do local councils and mayors have no control over planning, but also that developers can pay a fee which ultimately allows them to overdevelop a site at the expense of the community. It is undemocratic and it is just not right."

ENDS

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