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Eastern Suburbs

Friday, October 17, 2014

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WAR ON EASTERN BEACHES DEVELOPERS!

Eastern beaches community leaders this week declared war on developers they say are trying to ride roughshod through local planning restrictions.

In a show of mass defiance against developments threatening to change the quiet pace of life in our beachside suburbs, Save Bronte protestors gave a forum to leaders of other groups fighting proposals for mega-building projects in Bondi and Waverley.

The projects include plans to turn Waverley Bowling Club into a ten storey block, a massive theatre set to be built at St Catherine's School and another major development earmarked for the Wellington

St Tennis Courts in Bondi.

All the development plans go against Waverley Council's height restrictions and other development caps, but have found ways to move forward.

For instance, the theatre planned at St Catherine's has tactically been valued at more than \$20 million, which means it bypasses planning approval by Waverley Council, which only considers projects of less than \$20 million.

This week's rally was attended by more than 300 locals including Waverley mayor Sally Betts the Member for Coogee Bruce Notley-Smith.

While development plans for Bronte RSL Club were the main focus of the gathering at Clovelly Public School, the rally vented its opposition to the other major development plans for the area.

Save Bronte chairman Dr Stephen Lightfoot summed it up when he told the rally: "We're fighting for the future of democracy in our suburbs."

