



Newport Residents Association Inc.

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Address to Land & Environment Court S34 Conciliation Conference re refusal by Northern Beaches Council to RMYC DA 16th November 2016

Commissioner,

Thank you for the opportunity to give a brief statement to these proceedings. My name is Gavin Butler and I am speaking on behalf of the Newport Residents Association (NRA).

We have already made submissions both in October 2015 and March this year, Briefly our original submissions dealt with the fact that Pittwater is firstly a natural waterway and then secondly for vessels, their moorings and upkeep. Additionally our submissions raised the pollution issues of the current slipway and our concerns with any increased activity caused by an expansion of the marina.

Today we would like to mention the following issues;

1. The area of expansion we believe will have a significant impact on our junior sailors as the area of planned expansion is one that is used extensively as a safe access point to Pittwater by those junior sailors.
2. We are very concerned that this application suggests it has existing use rights to expand and if all marinas in Pittwater were to use this application as a precedent the potential impact on the natural waterway of Pittwater would be devastating.
3. The traffic issues are a real concern and this has become the subject of much discussion in the local Manly Daily newspaper with regard to illegal parking on the adjacent roads with the resultant acute pedestrian risk. We note that RMYC has a traffic study lodged with their application but we believe the report is flawed in that it did not report the inadequacy of existing parking and the existing illegal parking that occurs as a result. There have been detailed submissions made about why the traffic reports are flawed and we agree with those. Briefly there are over 3,400 club members of which there are app 1,200 boat owner members. After allowing for reserved official parking spots there remains only app 153 parking spots for boat owners. After allowing for staff parking and other reserved parking spots there is only app 80 spaces available for app 2,200 ordinary members. Any expansion of the club is only going to exacerbate these parking issues. The club prides itself as a special occasion venue and for each special occasion open to the general public the parking becomes a greater nightmare even when the club puts on a bus service from Newport village (and we understand that it is not a complimentary service).
4. Lastly the club has commenced using large articulated fuel tankers from time to time and we believe this has created a huge safety issue for the residents and other users of this area. The narrow streets and steep access points to the club fuel points are an accident waiting to happen. Any expansion is going to increase the current risk.

Thank you for allowing us to make this short presentation
Gavin Butler, President Newport Resident Association