



Newport Residents Association Inc.

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20 February 2015

The Hon. Rob Stokes, MP
Minister for the Environment, Assistant Minister for Planning,
Minister for Heritage, Minister for the Central Coast
1725 Pittwater Road
MONA VALE NSW 2103

Dear Rob,

At this week's meeting of our Newport Residents Association, there was a unanimous resolution to invite you to address our next monthly meeting. The meeting is as normally scheduled, commencing at **7.00pm on Tuesday 17th March**, in the second of the two meeting rooms at **Newport Community Centre**. (We note that there is a public information session at Parliament House during that afternoon. Our meeting usually runs till at least 8.30pm, so if you are only able to join us later than 7.00pm, that is understood.)

Our membership is interested in having the opportunity to hear from you and ask questions prior to the upcoming State election. Of particular interest, as aired at this week's meeting, are our elected representative's and our current Government's positions on:

- The proposed amalgamation of LGAs, taking particular note that the stated position when the matter was raised by your Government, being there would be no forced amalgamations of Councils in NSW.
- The evolution of planning controls under your Government. There is a feeling among our membership that contrary to the stated intent to give more input up front to community needs and requirements, State jurisdiction has on many occasions in recent times, ignored the existing community input, in the form of Masterplans, LEP's and other formal distillations of community wishes.
- The state of public transport connecting the Pittwater region with the CBD and other hubs. In particular, there is multiple anecdotal evidence of L90 buses outside the daily commute peaks having gaps of up to 40 minutes, instead of the scheduled 14 to 16 minutes; no bus commuter protection from summer heat or year-round bad weather at the main Newport village bus stop; the recently confirmed status of the northern beaches as the worst drink/drive region in the State.

We very much look forward to your being able to meet with us on 17th March, to discuss these and wider matters.

Yours sincerely

Peter Middleton
Secretary
for Newport Residents Association
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