

Newport Residents Association Inc.

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www.newport.org.au

27th April 2020

The Hon. Rob Stokes, MP Minister for Planning and Public Spaces 1725 Pittwater Road MONA VALE NSW 2103

Dear Rob,

One of our committee members, Mr Bill Thomson has provided us with a copy of your reply to him dated the 28th February 2020 regarding air quality monitors on the Northern Beaches.

On behalf of the NRA we would like to thank you for your support for the establishment of a Pollution monitoring station or stations to be installed on the Northern Beaches. We understand that whilst the establishment of an air quality station will bring the Northern Beaches in line with the Western Suburbs we will still need 3 or 4 real time Particle Pollution Monitors to handle the special needs of the Pittwater area, in particular during times of bush fires or hazard reduction burns in the National Park or local nature reserves.

There are monitors currently available such as those used in the international PurpleAir system and these are relatively low in cost & simple to maintain. (*A Purple Air monitor cost about US\$300.00 landed for an individual purchase, i.e. about A\$500.00*). These sensors continuously measure the AQI (Air Quality Index) and upload it to the internet for free public access.

Bill Thomson has personally installed a PurpleAir Real Time Sensor at his home in Queens Pde East, Newport and there is another PurpleAir sensor installed at Crescent Rd. Newport providing a good comparison. However, we need an official array, installed, standardised and monitored by OEH or the EPA.

To interpret the information the headline figure is the average 10 minutes of data collection. Results for longer periods are shown in the window displayed by clicking onto individual monitors. Figures for longer periods are shown in the window. By clicking onto the link below, Bill's sensor designated "twp newport" will be found. https://www.purpleair.com/map?opt=1/mAQI/a10/cC0&select=49257#11/-33.6592/151.2897

You can also click on the Crescent Rd monitor for comparison and we would encourage you to look at this link to get an understanding of the simplicity of the system.

We thank you again for your support for this initiative and would greatly appreciate hearing the results of your further representations to the Minister.

Yours sincerely,

Gavin Butler President