

MEDIA RELEASE

Friday 10 April 2015

Randwick Mayor concerned at Inglis rezoning

Randwick Mayor Ted Seng is seeking an urgent meeting with new Planning Minister Rob Stokes following the Department of Planning's approval on the Easter long weekend to rezone the Inglis stableyards site on Barker St in Randwick for residential development.

The approval paves the way for an expected 600-700 new dwellings in 25m high buildings in an already densely populated area.

"When this matter came before Council in December 2011 we decided not to proceed with it because the community didn't support it and the planning proposal had a range of potential negative impacts.

"The Department took the matter out of our hands and now, almost four years later, has decided to approve the rezoning with minor concessions which I do not believe fully address community concerns about density, traffic impacts and open space.

"I'm seeking an urgent meeting with the new Planning Minister to make him aware of these concerns and try to work towards a better solution.

"Council remains concerned about the scale of the development and the impact on traffic and parking in surrounding residential streets.

"I'm also concerned that the requirement for 5,000 square metres of public open space has been watered down. There's no guarantee that this will be of a size and shape to provide meaningful benefit to our residents. There's also no guarantee that this land will be dedicated and transferred to Council.

"Despite Council's requests, and legal advice, the Department has decided not to zone the open space as RE1 Public Recreation Zone but has instead inserted a clause in the LEP. I am concerned that this may undermine previous efforts to clarify and address this issue and creates unnecessary complexity." Mayor Seng said.

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