

Public Forum Question and Response

Subject: Friends of Warringah Inc Public Meeting – Wednesday 6 February 2008 regarding proposed Dee Why Town Centre LEP and height increases to 20 storeys

Question From: Mr Vincent De Luca OAM

Meeting Date: 12 February 2008

Question:

a) Will Council please note that over 100 people who attended the Friends of Warringah Inc Public Meeting on 6 February 2008 voted to oppose the Draft Town Centre LEP 2008 and Draft Standard Instrument LEP 2008 and have called for it to be withdrawn pending the election of Councillors in September 2008?

b) In view of this vote, the numerous concerns raised by the Public in the Manly Daily and that results of the online poll which revealed 80% of residents are against the proposal as it is “too high” and that Council does not have to have the LEP into the State Government until 2009 will Council withdraw the proposal pending the election of Councillors in 2008? If not, why not?

Response:

The Administrator advised that he is aware of the meeting that was held to oppose the Draft Town Centre LEP 2008 and Draft Standard Instrument LEP 2008. He regretted the conclusion of the meeting to oppose the Draft Standard Instrument LEP; it has not yet been released for public comment and therefore opposition to the document is subjective rather than an objective evaluation of its content. He again urged the community to exercise their right to make a submission when the consultation process commences. The Administrator will not withdraw or defer the issue as requested. One of the primary reasons for the extension of his tenure was to resolve development issues in Dee Why Town Centre. He is seeking an outcome for the existing problem of approved development in Dee Why Town Centre, that will provide a ‘lesser of evils’ solution for the future of the area. He stated that withdrawal or deferral at this point would be negligent to the purpose of his tenure and the time and effort invested by himself, Council staff and the NSW Government. In conclusion, the Administrator stressed that the purpose of the exhibition is to engage the community in a productive debate on the possibilities for Dee Why Town Centre. He conceded that there are parts of the proposals currently on exhibition that he doesn’t support. The focus is currently on questions arising from the proposals, and the cost of realising them. The draft LEP and DA process have been combined in an effort to make the outcome of the proposals more understandable to the viewer; so the visual outcome of the documents before them can be set out clearly in a transparent process.