Emily Pettafor

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To Whom It May Concern,

I wish to lodge a strong objection to the proposed changes in height and scale at the Pemulwuy Project.

I believe the proposed development is completely out-of-character with this largely residential, low-rise neighbourhood and I hope that the development authorities will listen to the concerns of locals and reject the changes.

My objections centre on increased pedestrian traffic in an area that is already heavily congested and, at times, verges on being unsafe. I am also concerned that the scale of the proposal is totally excessive in an area dominated by heritage-listed terrace homes.

A 24-storey tower will completely dwarf the two-storey terrace houses on all four sides of this project and cannot help but have negative impacts in terms of noise and access for surrounding residents.

I have lived on Abercrombie Street for 14 years and dearly love my neighbourhood. While it is centrally located, my part of Redfern remains low-rise and, predominantly, residential.

While Deicorp has built several high-rise towers on the other side of Redfern station, to allow them to build a 24-storey tower on the site of The Block is completely out of keeping with the local community and cannot fail to have profoundly negative consequences for nearby residents.

Foot traffic along Lawson and Caroline Streets during both morning and afternoon peak travel times is already extremely heavy. At times, pedestrians choose to spill out onto the road – which is narrow and parked on both sides with cars – putting themselves and local motorists at risk.

On Caroline Street, the pavement is so narrow as to be almost completely unusable, so pedestrians regularly choose to walk along the middle of the road.

To argue that the current situation, which is already unsafe, would not be impacted by a potential influx of students is, quite frankly, either laughable or completely uninformed.

The proposed 600 additional students would be walking the same overcrowded routes to Sydney University and University of Technology, Sydney – further impacting on our ability to enjoy our homes in relative peace and quiet.

In conclusion, I hope that the development authorities will reject the proposed changes to the Pemulwuy Project. I thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours faithfully,

Emily Pettafor