

Submission: DA/2464/2023

18 MacLeay Avenue Woy Woy 2256

Objection

My objection is not to the commendable provision of small affordable units, but to the removal of so much vegetation at the rear and the lack of shade on the northern boundaries.

At the rear is existing vegetation that, if kept, would improve the aesthetic, amenity and biodiversity value of the development and the wider community. The trees are local natives and are in a healthy condition.

SEED maps also show that the vegetation is, in fact, fragmented remnants of two endangered ecological communities. In particular, the site borders on Coastal Sands Swamp Mahogany Rush Forest (this aligns with the EEC Coastal Swamp Sclerophyll Forest). Adjacent to this is endangered Umina Coastal Sandplain Woodland.

Significant impact will therefore be caused by removal of these trees as the species are consistent with two EECs – which is especially pertinent along the boundary where the SEED mapping shows overlap of the EEC with the private lot at #18.

It is very much possible to create small affordable dwellings that also ensure a positive outcome for our EECs, climate resilience, liveability and biodiversity. Imagine if educational signage and a little weeding was injected into the vegetation at this location. What a resource for the community.

Lastly, far more consideration needs to be given to shading the north boundary. There is no existing vegetation so the residents will cook in units GO1, GO3, GO5, GO7 and G12. Three clustered citrus trees and a row of 1m tall Anzac Callistemon and Correa Alba are definitely not going to provide any relief from the ferocious summer heat that will hit these units directly all day.

Please make the necessary changes for a better design.