

## Sybilla Levenston

---

**From:** thirani thevar <thiranit@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, 2 June 2013 11:32 AM  
**To:** Public Hazzard's Office Email  
**Subject:** CHATSWOOD MERITON TOWERS, THOMAS STREET - MODIFICATION 6

Dear Mr Hazzard,

I am writing in reference to the development proposal Modification 6 lodged by Meriton to extend an already massive building project at Thomas Street, Chatswood.

The original development proposal which was approved, contravened Willoughby Council's own height and population density guidelines, however, Modification 6 (MOD 6) is for an even bigger development. Despite clearly contravening its own guidelines, Willoughby Council has now taken upon itself, not to object to MOD 6.

Meriton has offered a Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA) of \$12 million to Willoughby Council as part of MOD 6. Initially, Council overwhelmingly opposed MOD 6, sending a letter of objection to the Department of Planning. However, within weeks, with a Meriton representative openly indicating at a Council meeting that the \$12mill offer would be withdrawn if MOD 6 is opposed, the Council decided not to object to Modification 6, with the Mayor and some Councillors reported as indicating that they did not want to jeopardise the offer of \$12 million.

There are no plans by the State government to support these developments in Chatswood by upgrading the road network, and other community infrastructure (schools, hospitals, alternative transport arrangements, access to facilities for the disabled and elderly) in the area. The current road network into the Chatswood CBD is already straining to accommodate the increasing commuter traffic due to the large increase in residential and commercial activity in the vicinity, to allow further increases has the potential to choke the traffic movements in the area completely.

The current building developments in Chatswood are not well integrated and are completely the opposite of good urban design and do not bode well for the community. You would be aware that with over 70 submissions, the community is clearly unhappy with the proposed MOD 6 plans. The assessment process has also attracted much community angst and media attention.

As a regular commuter to Chatswood, I am deeply concerned that access to the area is being increasingly compromised and scant attention is being given to the needs of the young, sick, elderly and disabled in urban design and planning in Chatswood.

I request that your office:

- (a) advise me that you have reviewed the grounds on which MOD 6 was originally opposed by the Council,
- (b) advise me of your consideration of these reasons in making a decision as to whether you approve or reject MOD 6 ; and
- (c) as this is a significant development project in Sydney, that you undertake an examination of the assessment process used to consider MOD 6 by the Council, to ensure that correct process was followed - I would be grateful for your comments in relation to this issue.

I await your early response to the issues I have raised above,

Regards

Thirani Thevar  
31 May 2013

Address: 23 Loch Maree Street,  
Maroubra, NSW 2035

MOB: 0425873306