

# Friends of Lane Cove National Park Inc.

Re: Proposed Data Centre at 12 Mars Road Lane Cove. 30.4.2026

On behalf of the Friends of Lane Cove National Park, we wish to raise significant concerns about the impacts of the proposed Data Centre at 12 Mars Road Lane Cove and the proliferation of Data Centres in this area. We have numerous general concerns about the excessive power and water consumption and multiplication of data centre applications in this LGA, but also particular concerns about the impacts of this proposal and its impact on the adjoining bushland in the Ventman's Reach area that includes *Endangered Ecological communities*. This will adversely affect the connectivity of the important habitat corridor running along the riparian areas adjoining the Lane Cove River and therefore in the long term adversely affect the whole purpose of Lane Cove National Park which is key to protecting that corridor for future generations.

## Status of Community Group

Friends of Lane Cove National Park was established after the devastating bushfires of 1994, which burned approximately 90% of the park. The group consists of about 400 members and volunteers, who collectively contribute over 7,500 hours of volunteer work each year to improve the park's environment. Additionally, the group obtains grants from all levels of government and industry and actively lobbies and collaborates with NSW NPWS to restore habitat and secure positive outcomes for the park.

## Relationship of the development to Lane Cove NP.

Lane Cove National Park is unusual in that it is a national park enclosed within an urban setting. It stretches along the Lane Cove River Valley from near Pennant Hills in the north to the opposite bank of the river from this development in the south, forming a crucial "Habitat Corridor." This corridor also includes many council reserves close to the park including in this case Ventman's Reach. The many neighbouring private, corporate and council bushland areas that adjoin the river all form part of this habitat corridor which is narrow and vulnerable to degradation.

This development will remove around 90 trees reducing the habitat corridor at this location. Additionally, the proposed excavation will also have a dramatic effect and will result in changed drainage which may have an adverse effect on nearby reserves.

Of particular importance is the 'Landscape Context' of the development as even small patches of moderate-quality vegetation adjacent to protected land play vital ecological roles: They provide edge habitat, foraging corridors, and stepping-stone connectivity, supporting the ecological resilience of Lane Cove National Park.

## Threatened Species and Endangered Ecological Communities.

There are credible reports that Powerful Owls utilise this site, they will be adversely affected by the development, however they are not listed on the Biodiversity Development Assessment Report. The report also appears to take no account of the nearby TEC *Coastal Salt Marsh*, listed as Endangered under NSW legislation and

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vulnerable under Commonwealth legislation, this area will be which will be particularly threatened with silt and runoff during any construction.

## Setbacks, APZ and construction.

Council has noted that a 10 meter set back from the adjoining bushland is required for this construction, however in similar developments we have seen a requirement for a APZ of 20 meters. Any APZ must be totally on the proponent's site, it is not acceptable that any part of the APZ should be on the public land. We as mentioned previously we have considerable concerns about potential damage to the adjacent reserve and particularly the Salt Marsh from building damage and siltation. An additional concern is the location of the power supply which appears not to be detailed and which from past experience can introduce more unexpected damage to adjacent reserves.

## Conclusion

Friends of Lane Cove National Park are not in favour of the proliferation of Data Centres in Lane Cove and City of Ryde LGAs. We are concerned with the ecological implications of this particular proposal which is just too close to important riparian areas contributing to the long term degradation of this important habitat corridor.

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President Friends of Lane Cove National Park.