

7 June 2019

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Attention: Pamela Morales

Dear Sir/Madam

Tweed Shire Council endorsed comments on the proposed amendment of the approved North Byron Parklands Cultural Event Site (SSD 8169 Mod 1)

I refer to your email of 13 May 2019 inviting Council's comments in relation to the proposed SSD Mod 1 for the North Byron Parklands Cultural Event Site, Yelgun.

The proposed amendment of Condition A7 to allow the Falls Festival to progress to Stage 2 capacity (30,000 patrons) is not considered to be acceptable.

The proposed amendment is considered to raise significant concerns given that no event has been held to date on the site using the proposed traffic management configuration whereby a patron exit is now located on the Northern side, exiting to Wooyung Rd in Tweed Shire. During the trial period a Splendour in the Grass event did use an emergency access way informally to exit patrons along this route and it caused considerable issues with traffic on Tweed Coast Rd and Coronation Ave in Pottsville as is referenced in the appropriate Performance Report. This impact was reported during the winter months of July and it is anticipated that such traffic impacts when considered on the peak New Year traffic flows already impacting Tweed Coast Rd has the potential to significantly reduce level of service within Pottsville itself.

Accordingly, Tweed Shire Council objects to the proposed amendment of Condition A7, and disputes that it was mistakenly included as below by the Commissioners as maintained by the applicant.

Commencement of Large Events

A6. *This consent limits the Applicant to commence large events at the following capacities:*

- (a) *large winter event at 35,000 patrons; and*
- (b) *large summer event at 25,000 patrons,*

except in accordance with a staged approval by the Planning Secretary to progressively expand the large events in accordance with Condition D9, and subject to conditions D10 to D15.

A7. *Notwithstanding Condition A6, the Applicant may commence the large winter event at a capacity of 42,500 patrons, subject to meeting the following requirements:*

- (a) *the Applicant has previously held an event at the site with a capacity of 35,000 patrons;*

- (b) *the Applicant has met the requirements in conditions D16 and D17; and*
- (c) *the Planning Secretary has approved the Applicant's request to progress to the next stage as required by Condition D14.*

No Performance Report has been provided for the Falls Festival 2018/2019 event demonstrating that 25,000 patron capacity can be achieved while meeting all KPI's.

The Performance Report for SITG 2018 demonstrates non-compliance with KPI's for traffic during 3 of the four event days (as detailed on page 41, Traffic Evaluation Report attached to PER SITG 2018) which is cause for concern when considered in light of any request to increase patron numbers for subsequent events. It is also cause for concern with regard to evacuation of the site at increased levels.

Condition A7 allows the increase of patron numbers to Stage 2 levels provided the conditions in D16 and D 17 are met. However, as the new traffic management plan approved for the SSD has a significantly altered traffic management process by way of a northern Access Gate E onto Wooyung Rd, which has not been trialled to date for the Falls Festival it is not possible to demonstrate compliance and as such an increase to 30,000 patrons is not supported, particularly combined with the changed definition of patrons which now allows all complimentary tickets, stall holders and volunteers to no longer be counted in patron numbers.

Council advises that traffic issues have been reported with Park n Ride at Kingscliff and any illegal parking will be subject to the usual fines.

Yours faithfully

Vince Connell
DIRECTOR PLANNING AND REGULATION