

I am a resident of Caroline Street and have owned property in this street for over 12 years.

I have lived through times when drugs, street fights and fires raged. I helped take actions that cleaned the area of drugs and return it to its character as a village that values individuals, their diversity and the quiet enjoyment of a pleasant and creative neighbourhood.

The area is now a decent place to live, characterised by small terraces which house diverse range of people and interests. The heritage nature of the terraces, mostly over one hundred years old, is such that the council has not even allowed residents to place solar power panels on the north side of their properties.

Yet we are now faced with the prospect that this project will totally change the nature and character of the street with a project to superimpose a 24 floor block of apartments on a street and area where nothing is higher than two floors.

To do so is utterly destructive of the character and nature of the street and area.

I vehemently oppose this building because:

a) Such a tower would stand over the street and area like a Goliath-like bully, utterly dominating the street-scape and changing the nature of the area forever in a destructive fashion.

b) It would cast a dark shadow over the entire neighbourhood – an area of terraces already dark by their nature as terraces.

c) Factually it will, if approved, be taller than anything else in the area, even the ugly buildings formerly known as TNT towers.

d) How could such a monstrosity be sympathetic or even neutral to the characteristics of the area? It is no more logical than suggesting such a building be imposed in the centre of Centennial or Hyde Park.

e) Any block of units, let alone a 24 floor block will place unacceptable and unworkable strains on a street that already lacks parking facilities for its residents.

f) It will, by its very nature, destroy the heritage nature of the area.

The residents of this area are opposed to this "development". We will not tolerate this imposition and will take whatever legal means, including social media to prevent the monstrosity currently proposed going ahead.

Mark Hanna

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