

Objections are as follows DA 59063 / 2020.

PRIVACY and ENCROACHING and VISUAL IMPACT

1. The proposed pontoon and walking ramp is located on a bend in the canal, where it will have a direct view into our backyard and dining area of our home. This will result in a huge loss of privacy to be in constant view of strangers, looking into our home at such a close distance. Whilst there are existing pontoons located on the other side of the canal, they are several hundred metres away and do not hinder privacy or encroachment to other nearby properties.
2. The proposed pontoon will be encroach diagonally across the rear of our property at an angle of approximately 45 degrees. Ideally, like most pontoons located in St Huberts Island, this pontoon should be pointing the other way and in front of the two subject properties who submitted this DA. This "diagonal encroachment" will definitely limit access to our property via the water and will result in encroaching of the canal and our property's water access on many levels. We have owned our property since 1997, and had no such encroachment before. We are now deeply concerned that we will be subject to this permanent structure of obstruction, as it will create a hindrance when navigating our vessel or other equipment in or out directly off the beach area adjacent to our property. If the proposed pontoon did not come on such an angle and was straight/better aligned to the two subject properties (like most pontoons on St Huberts island are), it would not be such an issue and hindrance.
3. The boat will actually be moored at the side of the pontoon, not in front of it because of the mooring pole being so close to the proposed pontoon and the positioning of the pontoon with the long sides parallel to the jetty. Any boat, which could be up to 10 meter maximum length and consequently of significant width, may be moored on our side of the structure, further obstructing the view if front of our home. Indeed, the boat might be tied between the proposed jetty and the mooring pole at the north west corner of our property, thus obstructing the whole view and creating further loss of privacy. Please see attached picture of mooring pole as it stands currently.
4. The plan prepared and submitted to Gosford Council for the purpose of DA 59063/2020, is not accurately depicting the foreshore. This plan depicts a deceiving representation of the foreshore and fails to accurately indicate the 'angle and the bend' in the canal in the location the DA is proposed, and as a result is grossly minimizes the impact to any adjacent properties. See attached google map of Foreshore and the bend in the canal.
5. Prior to this proposed 'Integrated Walkway & Pontoon' development application being submitted to Gosford Council, as neighbours, we were NOT approached to discuss this proposed DA 59063/2020. Nor were we ever given the opportunity to

share with the planning of the Walkway & Pontoon or share ideas for a fair outcome regarding location and positioning of the whole DA or even consider any consequential impacts it may create to others or opinions of others.

NAVIGATION HAZARD

1. Narrowing Passage of Canal.

2. Precarious Position in the Canal - The proposed location of the pontoon is on a bend with limited vision. When large vessels approach this area from either direction and when regular small vessels (such as kayaks or people swimming) are present, this will restrict the navigation path for vessels to pass each other, resulting in increased risk to life and limb.

3. The existing pole is located within very close proximity to the proposed pontoon. This will result in insufficient space for a vessel to pass in between these two permanent objects, therefore all water traffic can only pass on the outer side of the pole creating a huge obstruction to all water traffic.

4. The size of the pontoon itself is too large in comparison to the canal itself, taking up a massive proportion of the water space available in such a small canal. This proportion of water navigation space, which will be permanently lost, will increase the risk of collision and create a permanent navigation hazard to everyone as this is a popular area for swimmers and boats alike.

BIODIVERSITY IMPACT

1. The proposed pontoon and walking ramp will diminish the biodiversity of the waterways, due to the huge shade it will create, which will ultimately kill off the sea weed beneath it which helps prevent sand erosion in the canal.

2. The proposed pontoon and walking ramp will also cause further 'bank up of drifting sea weed' when brought in by the tide, which is already 'banking up' in quite large volumes as a result of the existing two boat ramps. By extending out over these two boat ramps and into the water so much further, this will exacerbate the issue of obstruction to the natural flow rather than alleviating it. This will cause an additional amount of sea weed 'banking up' with nowhere to go. Unless this significant volume of blocked seaweed is manually removed, this will ultimately lead to decay, result in putrid smells and further impact biodiversity directly at the rear of our property.

3. Loss of natural aesthetics - This hideous proposed structure will rob all the residents in the surrounding area of 'the natural lagoon like' look and feel, where many young children often play in this open natural span of water with a variety of birds flying and diving in the water for their food. Such a structure will have a detrimental impact to the natural calm aspect and surrounds.

