Friday, 15 May 2015

**Lane Cove planning laws amended to allow future shopping district**

The NSW Department of Planning and Environment has endorsed changes to Lane Cove’s local planning laws that will enable revitalisation of a key site along the Pacific Highway at St Leonards.

Lane Cove Council requested an amendment to local planning rules for 472-520 Pacific Highway, and exhibited the changes in late 2014 for public feedback.

A Departmental spokesperson said the Department undertook further consultation with Transport for NSW to ensure traffic and transport matters were fully considered.

In response, Council has committed to work collaboratively with the State Government as part of any future redevelopment of this site.

“The planning proposal changes zoning for the site along the Pacific Highway from commercial, to mixed use – potentially allowing a combination of homes, shops, restaurants and cafes for St Leonards,” the spokesperson said.

Issues including building height, views, open space, traffic and retaining a commercial presence were critical throughout the assessment of the proposal.

“These issues were taken up with Lane Cove Council to ensure that each was addressed in the final planning proposal assessed by the Department.

“This decision does not approve any development. The community will have another chance to provide feedback for any development application lodged in the future.”

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