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Submission: As a resident of the Waverley Council area for 60 years, I am totally opposed to Waverley Council amalgamating with Randwick Council.

Waverley Council was formed in 1859 and I do not want this historic area to be swallowed up by a much larger Randwick Council and disappear. Randwick has twice the number of residents and even on this website, Waverley Council is not listed but only appears under Randwick Council.

There have been reports that the two Councils are arguing where the headquarters would be should they amalgamate. This does not augur well.

There are no valid reasons for the amalgamation AND there appears to be very little support from Waverley residents.

RESIDENTS WERE NOT GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO VOTE ON THIS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT ISSUE.

There seems to be little confidence in the small-scale surveys that Council apparently undertook.

Residents are likely to have less input and say in matters that impact on them. Decisionmaking will be more remote from residents.

Services are likely to be fewer and slower.

Local government is all about residents' everyday needs such as waste removal, parking, trees, dumped cars and rubbish in the streets as well as larger issues such as local development and traffic. Residents expect a prompt response to these matters.

In addition, Waverley is densely populated with a large itinerant population and major centres such as Bondi Junction and Bondi Beach. Council has to be responsive to many problems that arise as a result.

Most studies show that rates increase, not decrease, presumably to support a larger and likely less responsive bureaucracy.

I feel that this amalgamation would be the end of our community's needs being addressed. Residents' needs would get lost in a vast remote bureaucracy that is not concerned about minor (and probably major too) local issues, especially in Waverley.