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Submission: Marrickville Council area residents are very unique and the Council tailors to their taste, needs and vision. Most residents of the area are politically active, vote labour or greens and are against the amalgamation. Forcing Marrickville Council to amalgamate with another could cause a lot of anger and could end up with a rate payer revolt. Currently Marrickville Council holds countless multicultural activities and events and understands the beliefs of the different cultures and religions, amalgamation could cause serious cultural problems and offend the local residents. Local parks and playgrounds are being upgraded and maintained as a result of the changing community, more young families and outdoor activities being practised. Amalgamation could put these at risk. Buying locally and supporting small businesses are both extremely important to local residents and the council supports that. Amalgamation could see development of large shopping malls and the destruction of small local businesses, many that are family owned. Residents of the area value local history and the Council appreciates that by putting up plaques and replacing statues that might need repair. This year at Anzac Day week a big parade was organised which included many local primary schools and had a huge turn out to honour the local servicemen and women. It would be tragic to lose these kind of events. Please don't force our council to amalgamate with surrounding councils.