Author name: M. Lum

Date of submission: Friday, July 03, 2015

Submission: I strongly object to the NSW Liberal State Government's proposal to amalgamate my local council, City of Sydney, with those of Botany Bay, Woollahra, Randwick and Waverly. Clover Moore and the City of Sydney do a great job in making the city great at all levels, and we need someone like her to defend the interests of locals. With the state government allowing such a high level of development and ill-planned projects like Westconnex, it's more crucial than ever to retain the current level of local government. I am particularly incensed by the recent state government backflip to build a new Ultimo Public School at the Wattle Street Depot. This is a huge betrayal to the people of Ultimo and Pyrmont, and without the City of Sydney and our local state member Alex Greenwich, there are no other organisations that give the people a real voice and vote. Where does the State Government propose the influx of kids that will undoubtedly flood the new residential developments of Barangaroo and Darling Harbour go to school?

As someone who has frequent contact with local councils in my line of work, I can especially appreciate the great work that they do for each of their communities. Amalgamation will lead to inefficiency and homogenisation of diverse communities which all have their unique cultures. This is something I strongly object to.