

# CAMDEN COUNCIL

## Media Release

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23 October 2015

### A WIN FOR KIRKHAM RESIDENTS AND COUNCIL

Since 2008, Camden Council has been working with residents of Kirkham to refuse a proposal for the rezoning of land at Macquarie Grove Road, Kirkham.

The proposal, which sought to rezone 8ha to R5 Large Lot Residential to achieve 13 residential lots in addition to two existing lots, was refused by Council on eight separate occasions.

Following the latest refusal by Council in November 2014, the owners applied to the NSW Department of Planning and Environment for a review of Council's decision.

Following a thorough process, including a review of the rezoning proposal by the Joint Regional Planning Panel (JRPP), the Department of Planning and Environment agreed with Council's position and determined that the proposal had been refused.

Mayor of Camden, Cr Lara Symkowiak said she was extremely pleased the Department of Planning and Environment had refused the proposal.

"This is a huge win for Kirkham residents and the wider Camden community, one which will continue to see the beautiful rural vistas of Camden protected, to be enjoyed and appreciated by residents and visitors of today and tomorrow."

"As members of the JRPP, Deputy Mayor, Cr Peter Sidgreaves and I continued to strongly oppose the rezoning of this land and voted against this proposal proceeding on both occasions. We were outvoted two to three on both occasions, with the other three State members of the Panel voting in favour of the rezoning to proceed. We also made lengthy personal submissions objecting to the rezoning."

"I would especially like to thank Chris Patterson State MP for Camden for making numerous representations on behalf of the community in support of Camden Council's position during this entire process."

"I wholeheartedly thank the Department of Planning and Environment for listening to the concerns of Camden Council and the Camden community."

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The reasons provided by the Department of Planning and Environment include:

- The consistent and long held position of Council not to support the development of this site.
- Council and the community's objective is to protect the rural and aesthetic and outlook along the Macquarie Grove Ridgeline.
- Current and increasing supply of Large Lot Residential sites available in areas designated for residential development.
- Council's long-term strategic planning which identifies the opportunity to accommodate growth in designated areas across the local government area.

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