**SAVE OUR FORESHORE SCENIC PROTECTION AREA**

The Foreshore Scenic Protection Area (**FSPA) is still under threat from Georges River Council.**

In 2020, just two years ago!!, the communities of Oatley West, Mortdale, Peakhurst, Peakhurst Heights and Lugarno soundly rejected Georges River Council’s (GRC) attempt to drastically reduce the area of the FSPA in the Georges River Local Environmental Plan (LEP). We wanted to retain and protect the green and leafy nature of our suburbs.

Revised proposals in a Biodiversity Study and a Foreshore Scenic Character Study (FSCS) are currently up for public consultation. Submissions close this Friday 31st March. See [Help us implement the Biodiversity & Foreshore Studies | Your Say Georges River (nsw.gov.au)](https://yoursay.georgesriver.nsw.gov.au/foreshore-study)

The Character Study proposes a significant reduction to the FSPA (over 3,300 lots) in western parts of the LGA while only partially substituting it with potentially less protective “Unique Character Areas”. It is proposed that 1,049 lots currently in the FSPA will not be included in either of the proposed FSPA or UCAs and may ultimately have their minimum lot sizes reduced potentially allowing more duplexes to be built.

FSPA zone controls in the current LEP will be weakened to exclude environmental/biodiversity values when considering a DA. These will be dealt with in a separate section of the LEP and based on biodiversity assessments included in the Study.

**IMPACTS OF LEP CHANGES WILL BE:**

* Increased density, with larger houses and duplexes on smaller blocks. This results in smaller gardens, fewer trees and wildlife, lack of privacy and overshadowing.
* Loss of vegetation and diminished tree canopy to provide much needed shade.
* Loss of leafy character, the reason many of us chose to live here, causing a decrease in property value.
* Increased traffic and congestion, noise, less street parking.
* Increased pressure on infrastructure: Crowded trains and schools, overloaded sewerage and stormwater systems causing river and creek pollution.

**PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR OPPOSITION TO THE REDUCTION IN THE FSPA AS OUTLINED IN THE FSCS. SUBMISSIONS CLOSE this Friday 31st March**

**Guidance for points to make in your submissions are shown at: …………..**

**LOT SIZE SURVEY**

For the GRC’s survey of lot size preference for those areas not proposed to be included in the proposed FSPA or UCAs [See: <https://yoursay.georgesriver.nsw.gov.au/foreshore-study/survey_tools/vote-on-lot-size-changes> ] we urge you to vote in favour of retaining the larger lot sizes and hence protect our precious biodiversity into the future.