



THE ENTRANCE PENINSULA COMMUNITY PRECINCT

ENCOMPASSING: THE ENTRANCE; THE ENTRANCE NORTH; LONG JETTY TOOWOON BAY; BLUE BAY; SHELLY BEACH & MAGENTA

PO Box 349 The Entrance 2261

www.theentranceprecinct.org

2 September, 2011

Michael Whittaker
The General Manager,
Wyong Shire Council,
PO Box 20,
Wyong 2259

Subject: **DA 733/2011 447-449 The Entrance Road, Long Jetty - Liquor retail outlet & demolition of existing structures (BWS)**

Dear Michael,

Research from the National Drug Research Institute (NDRI) at Curtin University in Perth (2007), that examines the effect of liquor licence approvals on alcohol related problems confirms that an increase in the number of liquor outlets (hotels and/or bottle shops) is associated with an increase in alcohol-related violence and assault in the surrounding area. An unexpected finding, however, is that, regardless of the type of new liquor outlet, most of this increased violence occurs in private homes rather than at licensed premises.

On 20 July, 2010, the Tuggerah Lakes Local Area Command's (LAC) Crime Prevention Officer, Senior Constable Murray Alcock informed The Entrance Peninsula community, at our general meeting, that Tuggerah Lakes LAC was number two in the State when it came to domestic violence.

TEPCP does not want Tuggerah Lakes LAC to become number one in the State when it comes to domestic violence. NDRI researchers have created a model that can predict the likely effect of granting a new liquor licence anywhere in Australia on alcohol-related assaults, hospitalisations, deaths and road crashes. In the report (2008) Dr Chikritzhs states, *"The model developed in this study allows us, for the first time, to predict the social impacts of any new liquor outlet anywhere in Australia. Liquor licensing authorities should be obliged to consider these impacts when deciding whether to grant a new licence."*

Chief Investigator Dr Tanya Chikritzhs (pronounced Sik-rit-sees) said the research demonstrated that the decisions of liquor licensing authorities had a significant impact on the health and safety of communities. Because of the proven link between an increase in the number of liquor outlets and an increase in the alcohol-related violence and assault in the surrounding area TEPCP requests that Council does not approve this development application or, before further consideration of the application, Council require BWS to pay for a NDRI study to justify their proposal.

Your urgent advice on this matter would be appreciated please.

Yours sincerely

Douglas Darlington
Secretary
The Entrance Community Precinct Committee
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Reference:

Chikritzhs, Catalano, Pascal & Henrickson (2007): Predicting alcohol-related harms from licensed outlet density: A feasibility study, National Drug Law and Enforcement Research Fund, Western Australia, Curtin University.