

Harbour slopes protected

Andrea McCullagh



MOSMAN'S harbour slopes have been granted an extension in planning protections by the State Government.

Protecting the area has been a priority for Mosman Council for many years and it is excluded from the state's Housing Code.

Without this exclusion complying development in the form of one and two storey houses would be permissible without the need for a development assessment.

The issue was raised in parliament by North Shore MP Felicity Wilson and an extension has been secured for two years.

This will allow the council to continue working with the Planning Department to enshrine appropriate planning protections for the slopes into the future.

“Mosman harbour slopes boast significant greenery, which contributes to the overall scenery and beauty of our harbour,” Ms Wilson said in parliament.

“(It) reflects my local community's desire to preserve trees, parks, open space and greenery.”

She thanked Planning Minister Anthony Roberts for listening to the community's concerns when she raised them with him.

And she also paid tribute to the Mosman Parks and Bushland Association who lobbied for protecting the area.

Mosman Mayor Carolyn Corrigan welcomed the extension but said that council will be requesting permanent exclusion from the codes.

"Mosman now has two years to pursue permanent exclusion for our area which is needed to avoid local scenic slopes being impacted by complying development," Cr Corrigan said.

"We have to get this right because how the harbour looks from the water, the headland and the beaches is integral to its value as Sydney's greatest natural asset."