

Author name: Anonymous

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Submission: As a resident of 40 years in the Burwood council area, I am opposed to the amalgamation proposed with Auburn and Canada Bay Councils. I have always had a very good working relationship with Burwood and believe nothing will be gained from the merger. There is a debt problem with Auburn Council and Canada Bay is already a very unwieldy size. If local government is supposed to be as it says - "local" - the fact that Burwood has no common boundary with Auburn brings a whole new demographic into play. It may seem very old fashioned but I value community over financial or political expediency. There is already concern that rates will, contrary to some views, rise as a result of the merger. This is totally unacceptable.

You have not had anywhere near enough public consultation in this matter. It seems as if we are being forced into a situation without the chance to have our say. This method I am now going through, a written submission, is only one way you should be talking with our ratepayers. Most people will find this too cumbersome and some will be unable to do it due to language and confidence restraints. "No" is my response to the merger.

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