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**Sent:** Wednesday, 29 July 2015 9:34 AM

**To:** Local Government Mailbox

**Subject:** Local Government: State Government proposals for mergers of Councils

As a Canada Bay City Council resident and ratepayer I find the combined Council submission to IPART totally unacceptable and am opposed to it.

Canada Bay Council's part in this proposal totally goes against a unanimous vote by Canada Bay City Council to stand alone. It also ignores a phone survey commissioned by council that showed 1% approval for a merger with Auburn and 72% approval for remaining alone. In this regard the submission ignores the wishes of the ratepayers and elected representatives.

The proponents of the combined Council submission appear to disregard the differences in the demographics and culture of Canada Bay and Auburn especially.

This combined Council submission is, in my view, the worst possible of all the various combinations of council mergers involving Canada Bay, that have been put forward.

My sole preference would be that Canada Bay City Council stands alone. The last merger to form the Canada Bay City Council (against the wishes of >90% of residents in this area as demonstrated in house to house surveys at the time) is still settling down after 15 years! Claims of financial advantage in merging are spurious. Co-operation between Councils in this area already exists and merging is totally unnecessary and against the interests of residents. Local councils should remain local.

Regards

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