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Submission: I am writing to protest the proposal to amalgamate the City of Sydney with the Councils of Botany, Randwick, Waverley and Woollahra.

I believe in this country we are very fortunate to have Local Governments which can truly represent the interests of their communities. Thus members of the community have ready access to their local representatives and can even address, as I have done, a meeting of Council on an issue of concern. In many ways this is really a citizen's democracy. Larger entities, such as that proposed, cannot possibly operate in this way, so that the involvement of the community and the benefits that provides will be lost. As well, I believe the anticipated savings through improved administrative and cost efficiency almost always prove elusive; the difficulties encountered in implementing the amalgamation result in savings being much reduced.