

Residents to meet over Woolies move

Call for facts on Mosman supermarket plan

Andrea McCullagh

WOOLWORTHS is being invited to meet the Mosman community after plans for a supermarket were revealed.

Resident Jim Slavin and neighbours are organising a public forum this month in a bid to find out more about what is planned.

“The purpose of the meeting is to give Woolworths a chance to explain their thinking before we jump on any bandwagon and start beating drums and saying we don’t want them,” Mr Slavin said.

“We have to give them a fair hearing and let people on the floor of the meeting raise their concerns and see how Woolworths might address those concerns.

“Let’s get the facts first.”

Woolies is planning a large-scale mixed-use development in Mosman which could see a multi-level carpark, retail, residential and potentially a new RSL club.

The plans have included a complex web of property buy-ups around the Mosman Club since 2015.

An investigation by the *Daily* in August revealed Woolies’ links to a company called Mosman Club Community Project Pty Ltd, which has gone on a buying spree of properties along Military Rd.

Mosman Club Community Project Pty Ltd — which the existing Mosman Club has denied any links to — has spent more than \$18 million on six properties.

Mr Slavin and fellow residents are open minded about the plans and are hopeful that Woolworths will send a representative to the meeting.

“Otherwise there is a chance people will go off on a tangent without knowing the full facts,” he said.

“Before you start doing anything you’ve got to get the facts.

“It may be that Mosman people say we need a regeneration and in which case there’s nothing more to do.”

Mr Slavin expects that people will want to know what the development will look like, what the overall plans are, the potential effects on traffic and impact on neighbouring shops.

It is understood that Woolworths will not attend the community meeting.

A spokeswoman for the supermarket giant said the company was still evaluating its plans and has not made any decisions yet.

“We have every intention of engaging key stakeholders including the local community, other retailers and local businesses, landowners and council in the coming months,” she said.

The meeting will be held at 7pm on October 22 at the Warringah Bowling Club on Bradleys Head Rd.

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Jim Slavin