LIGHTNING STRIKES TWICE FOR ONE UNLUCKY DRIVER - P10

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news local



Rock collapse forces closures

John Morcombe

PARTIAL closures have been established at all four lookouts at the southeastern tip of North Head after geotechnical investigations of the cliffs in the wake of the massive rock fall in August.

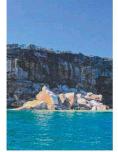
In August - without warn-

ing - a large section of the cliff at North Head collapsed.

National Parks and Wildlife Service regional manager Peter Hay said the preliminary findings of the investigation at North Head in the wake of the cliff fall confirmed a degree of cliff undercutting.

"When a cliff is undercut its stability is compromised and there is an increased likelihood of rock falls," he said. "We urge all visitors to this area to abide by any warning signs and remain behind any temporary barriers erected at North Head.'

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Rock fall off North Head. Picture: Blake Horton/ **Manly Ocean Adventures**

Six-storey units pushed

RESIDENTIAL units up to six storeys have been touted for Mona Vale as a way to housing more affordable for the next

generation of home buyers. Northern Beaches Council administrator Dick Persson admitted the increased density would be "controversial" but Mona Vale needed to follow Manly's lead.

"I love going to Manly, there are some things I would like to fix in Manly but it has that feel about it," he said.

"I didn't get that (in Mona Vale) ... there were too many streets and cars, it was spread out and didn't work.'

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MONA VALE

Fury at plan for more units

Draft calls for extra storeys in suburb's CBD to give first-home buyers a helping hand

Robbie Patterson

RESIDENTIAL units up to six storeys have been touted for Mona Vale as a way to make housing more affordable for the next generation of homebuyers.

In the draft Mona Vale Place Plan, sections along Pittwater and Barrenjoey roads would be rezoned for higher density.

There would also be a

number of four-, three- and two-storey zonings. The 10year plan has been met with criticism by some residents.

David Murray said there was "very little evidence" of the council adopting feedback from community consultation sessions.

Mr Murray labelled it a "document of deception" in a letter to the *Manly Daily*.

"We read each day of the overcrowded schools, lack of

sports fields and increasing traffic delays in our area," he said.

He said problems would intensify if the plan passed.

But the council's general manager, Mark Ferguson said the council had been highly commended at the local government awards for its community consultation on the project.

And administrator Dick Persson said while increased density would be "controversial", Mona Vale needed to follow Manly's lead.

"I love going to Manly, there are some things I would like to fix in Manly, but it has that feel about it," he said at last week's council meeting.

"I didn't get that (in Mona Vale) ... there were too many streets and cars, it was spread out and didn't work."

A large portion of the 400m

radius CBD would be zoned mixed-use, with commercial on bottom and residential on top. The council will trial more affordable housing on top of the light industrial area at the corner of Harkeith and Darley streets.

The report said a similar approach could be taken above the proposed B-Line bus depot. The plan would include extended cycling corridors, and a new cultural hub.