



ABN 68 370 814 313

3rd July 2018

NSW Department of Planning and Environment
320 Pitt St.
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Attn: Emma Butcher

RE: Trinity Point Helipad – MP-06 0309 Mod 3.

Dear Emma,

On behalf of Mannering Park Amateur Sailing Club (MPASC) I would like to raise our concerns over the proposed heliport development at Trinity Point Marina, or more specifically the flight paths of helicopters approaching to and departing from the proposed heliport.

As some background MPASC has operated, as a not-for-profit sailing club, from our current location on the eastern side of Mannering Park peninsular for 50 years, starting our operation in 1969. The club operates yachts (of various lengths and sizes), catamarans (both 14 foot and 16 foot in length), dinghies (12 feet in length), and junior training boats (7 feet in length). Our main operation days are Wednesday's twilight racing for yachts, between 4.30pm and 8pm during Day Light Saving months, with a fleet of 30 plus yachts, and on Saturdays between 9am and 7pm, September through to May, for yachts, catamarans, dinghies, and our junior training programs. In addition to our regular sailing days the club also hosts a number of sailing regattas throughout our season, some over several consecutive days, with fleets numbering up to 50 boats. In a typical sailing season the club would host up seven regattas at various times in the season.

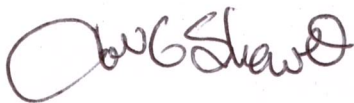
I have attached two maps of the lake area we use in our sailing activities. The first is our yacht course area which utilise fixed marks positioned approved by Maritime NSW/RMS. All the rounding marks are located within the yellow marked area, however it has to be remembered that a sail boat will often be zig zagging across the lake to get to a particular point, depending on the wind direction, so will not always be sailing a straight line between marks. The second map is the area of the lake we use for our catamaran and dinghy fleets, regattas, and our junior sailors. All of these are small sailing vessels and with our juniors, often less experienced sailors.

Our primary concern is the height of the helicopters on their approach or departure if the flight path is across the lake south of the marina i.e. across our sailing areas. A low flying helicopter would have a very serious effect on a small sailing craft and would more than likely knock the boat over, putting the crew at risk and/or damaging the boat, particularly the smaller sail boats used by our juniors. Our regattas usually have large fleets (the NSW Youth Championships we will be hosting in October this year for example will have upwards of 300 boats), so you can understand our concerns if we have large numbers of boats scattered around our sailing area with an approaching or departing helicopter tracking across the same waters at a relatively low height. Our club's racing marks are also utilised by other sailing clubs and events held on the lake, e.g. the Heaven Can Wait Regatta.

Our club is also putting into place the infrastructure needed to allow Sailability to operate from Mannering Park in the very near future which will see disabled and handicapped sailors out on the waters in the area designated for the smaller boat fleets. Sailability will be operating on both Thursdays and Sundays during the sailing season (September through to May). Again the potential for a very serious incident will be present if low flying helicopters operate across these waters with disabled and handicapped sailor's safety put at risk.

I must also state that at no time has MPASC been consulted by the developer about the proposed helipad or the flight paths for arriving or departing helicopters, even though the developer is fully aware of our activities in the waters around our club and the marina location.

I would ask that our concerns be taken into consideration when assessing the developer's application for the helipad and the flight paths proposed for arriving and departing helicopters. If you have any questions at all please give me a call on 02 43043043 (W) or 0402961019 (M) or drop me an email at commodore@manneringsparkasc.org.au



John Skewes
Commodore
Mannering Park Amateur Sailing Club