

# SAVE HUNTERS HILL MUNICIPALITY COALITION

A coalition of community groups and residents determined to save the historic Municipality of Hunters Hill  
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## **HUNTERS HILL COMMUNITY STRONGLY SUPPORTS COUNCIL'S LEGAL ACTION TO STOP FORCED MERGER PROPOSAL**

On Friday 22 April Hunters Hill Council commenced legal proceedings in the Land & Environment Court to halt the NSW Government's deeply flawed Merger Proposal to force Hunters Hill to amalgamate with Ryde City Council and Lane Cove Council.

The creation of such a bureaucratic Mega Council of over 164,000 residents would likely see Hunters Hill with one councillor out of 15 on a City council dominated by Ryde.

The Municipality of Hunters Hill (1861) is one of the earliest and most intact local government areas in Australia. It is recognised nationally and internationally for its historic and heritage significance and is known as Australia's oldest surviving 'garden suburb'.

Over 80% of Hunters Hill residents are strongly against amalgamation as evidenced in polls and surveys and oral submissions to the recent Merger Inquiry. The Council has unanimously opposed forced amalgamation in all its resolutions.

Save Hunters Hill Municipality coalition co-convenor Phil Jenkyn OAM said "The Hunters Hill community strongly supports the Council taking legal action to stop this deeply flawed merger proposal."

"The Government has lied to us about the supposed benefits from a merger, refuses to provide relevant information and is not transparent in its actions. It simply does not understand communities and the significance of local democracy in this country" he said.

"As a result we as a community have been denied the opportunity to make an informed response to this Proposal. It must not proceed"

"Local communities need their councils to remain truly local. ROCs (Regional Organisations of Councils) containing groups of independent councils are well positioned to deal with State Government on matters of mutual interest and importance. Forced amalgamations are definitely not needed or warranted" he said.

### CONTACT

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