

# ALAN JONES SPEAKS AGAINST MERGERS!

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BY OUR CIVIC ROUNDSMAN

Broadcaster Alan Jones has defended legal action by Hunters Hill and Lane Cove Councils to oppose a proposed forced merger with Ryde.



**PICTURED** at yesterday's rally outside Parliament House are Save Our Councils Coalition President Carolyn Corrigan, Alan Jones AO, Save Hunters Hill Municipality Coalition spokesman Phil Jenkyn OAM and 2RRR radio personality Aurelia Roman.

Speaking outside NSW Parliament yesterday afternoon, Alan Jones said:  
"The community is correct in defending the right of local government to be local."

"Premier Mike Baird in his maiden speech said we should never be ashamed of listening to our conscience, nor to our community, in essence that's why we are

here.

“Well he is clearly not listening to the people on forced amalgamations.”

The rally was attended by the Save Our Councils Coalition and the Save Hunters Hill Municipality Coalition as well as politicians who included Opposition Leader Luke Foley, the Rev Fred Nile and The Greens leader David Shoebridge.

Mr Foley recently released a statement to The Weekly Times where he promised to hold a referendum in Hunters Hill and Lane Cove as a prerequisite to scrapping a forced amalgamation.

In other news, Hunters Hill Cllr Dr Meredith Sheil has received an answer to a promise made to her by Baird at the recent Local Government Conference in Wollongong to discuss Hunters Hill’s opposition to the proposed merger.

The email response said Dr Sheil will be contacted when the Premier’s consent has been considered.

“I was under the impression he had, in fact, considered it when he agreed to it at the conference,” Dr Sheil said.