



Protesters, including members of the Main Beach Association, inside Gold Coast City Council objecting to Sunlands proposal at The Spit. Picture: Glenn Hampson

Council

# ‘Small victory’ for Gold Coasters protesting Sunland’s proposed twin towers at The Spit

Lea Emery, Gold Coast Bulletin  
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RESIDENTS against the controversial twin towers at The Spit sat stunned as the council voted to defer its decision for up to a year.

But they said the decision was a small victory.

About 100 people protested outside the meeting, waving placards showing they were against the Spit tower plan.

At the start of the meeting they packed into the public gallery, spilling into the public foyer where chairs and a big screen live stream was set up.



📷 Protesters, including members of the Main Beach Association, inside Gold Coast City Council objecting to Sunlands proposal at The Spit. Picture: Glenn Hampson

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Almost three and a half hours after the meeting first started the audience had become subdued and less vocal.

Their numbers had also almost halved.

When the vote on the deferral came through with just three councillors against, those sitting in the gallery showed little reaction.





📷 Soheil Abedian from Sunland. Picture: Luke Marsden

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Save Our Broadwater spokeswoman Judy Spence said the group would keep fighting to ensure the development did not go ahead.

She said they were still disappointed with the outcome.

“It’s not the outcome we would have wanted,” she said.



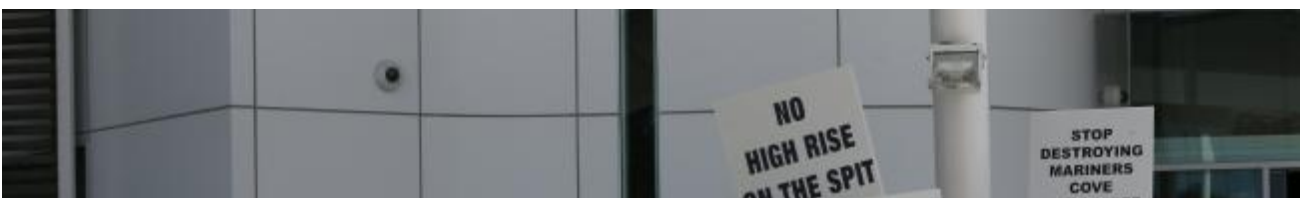
📷 An artist’s impression of Mariner’s Cove.

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Ms Spence said she felt the state government should have been involved in creating a plan for The Spit many months ago.

But she did say the decision gave the group some breathing room.

“We have had a small victory but now we really have to work on the state government to have our voice heard,” she said.





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It is clear which councillors the group will turn to if they need help.

Dawn Crichlow and Peter Young were clearly crowd favourites, often garnering applause from those watching as they spoke out against the development.

Cr Crichlow was the most outspoken, advising the mayor that “we will end up with fiasco” because the planned twin 44-level towers would set a precedent in the three-level height zone.



📷 An artist's impression of Mariner's Cove.

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“Why can’t we vote on the officer’s recommendations today and not support the applicant,” she said.

“Mr Mayor, let’s make a decision. Let’s not put it off. It won’t go away.

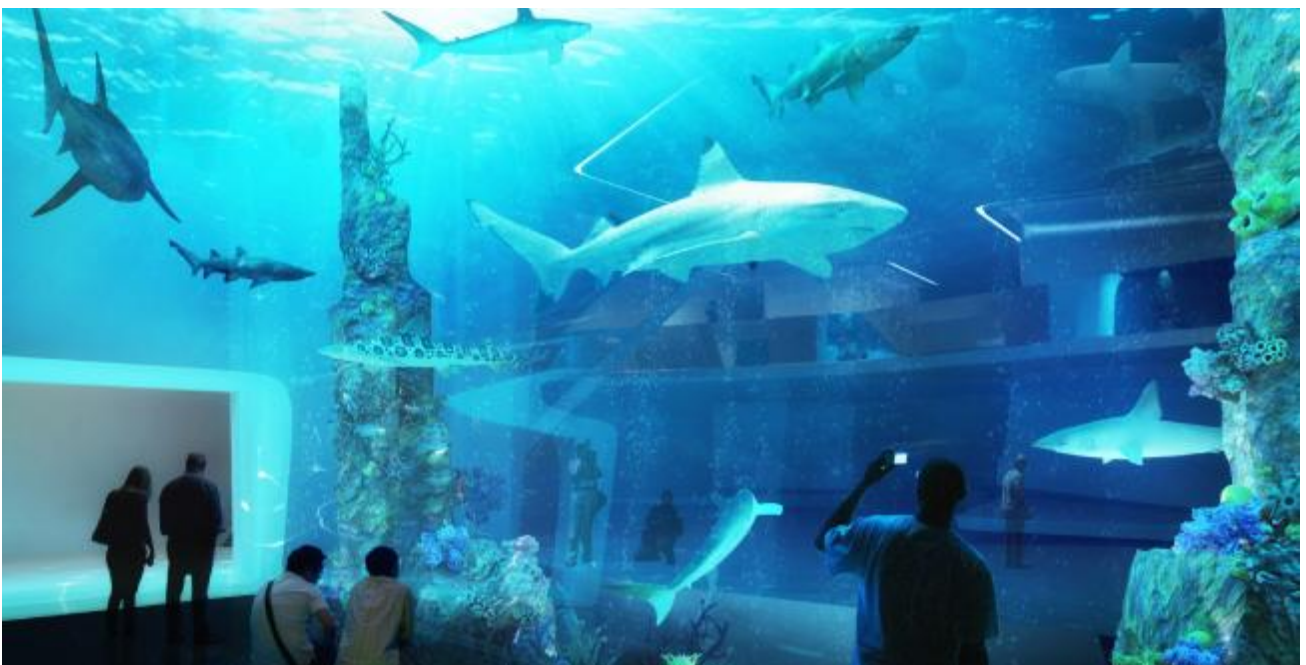


📷 An artist's impression of Mariner's Cove.

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“If we end up like this, we will have a Sheraton in the sky.”

It was that comment which earned the biggest applause of the day, with many cheering her strong stance.





📷 An artist's impression of Mariner's Cove.

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While there were cheers, there was some opposition as well.

As quickly as the applause sprung up, others sitting the gallery shushed them.

Main Beach Progress Association secretary Georgie Brown, who supports the development, kept a low profile while I the public gallery, preferring to watch in silence.



📷 An artist's impression of Mariner's Cove.

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