

Submission 38 – Steve Garthwin

I'm completely opposed to the idea of using drones for food and beverage deliveries. Until these drones can be made near silent, they will be adding to noise pollution without bringing any benefit to the people exposed to the sight and sound of urban deliveries (except those wising to pay for this delivery service). In the urban environment, these drones would be an unnecessary health hazard if they fall from the sky due to malfunction. Imagine the outcry if an pilot-less aircraft were to maim or kill an innocent bystander, it is simply unacceptable to plan for these inevitable consequences.

I contrast the imposition on society of delivery drones with their use for public security or safety, by authorised government agencies in the service of the whole community. I would oppose the use of drones even by police or other security agencies for routine surveillance. Allowing real estate agents to cause public nuisance by drone use for marketing is abhorrent to me also.

The spurious argument that drone deliveries for discretionary spending commodities will save the environment by being cheaper, is refuted since the cost to the planet of providing the technology is far greater than a person on a bicycle. I believe the world can and should choose to do without this intrusive new 'service', which is being driven by corporate profit motive at the expense of citizens' rights to enjoy freedom from disturbance, and extra health hazards.

When deliberating on the proposal to license drone food deliveries, please consider the implications for eroding quality of life for all citizens, including those like me (and all of my family and friends) who would never use such a service and who fear and loathe the sound of a drone in the air about us.

Sincerely, Steve Garthwin