



NOTES FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID PLUMRIDGE'S DESK

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COUNCIL ADOPTS 2010 - 2011 BUSINESS PLAN & BUDGET

Last night the Council adopted its 2010-2011 Business Plan and the Budget required to fund it. The process for the Council began in February when we set revenue and expenditure targets to guide the Administration in drafting a balanced budget that would fund our priorities for the coming year. The Budget is based on a **total expenditure of \$219.362m** with total funding from sources other than rates of **\$141.824m** and a total amount to be raised by **Rates of \$77.538m** plus loans of **\$21.029m** to be borrowed for the purpose of funding the budget, including roll-over borrowings of **\$2.840 m**. Key components of the budget are summarised below:

Rates - for **2010/2011**, differential general rates in the dollar have been held at the **same level as 2009/2010**, namely 0.11615 for residential property and 0.13433 for non-residential property. This is expected to produce **General Rates Revenue** of approximately **\$74.849m** in the 2010/2011 financial year. An amount equivalent to 1% of general rate revenue will be put towards a Climate Change Action Initiatives Fund to implement Council's Carbon Neutral Action Plan and other initiatives. This is funded from within the Budget, not as an extra charge.

Exemptions - Adelaide City has the highest proportion of 'rate-exempt' property of any Council in SA. Excluding Council property which is also exempt, **over \$18m of revenue is foregone** in respect of 'rate exempt' property including hospitals, schools, community facilities and the zoo plus all government properties.

Concessions - Council will continue to administer the State Government funded Concession available to eligible Pensioners, Self Funded Retirees and those receiving low income benefits. In addition, Council will continue to offer a discretionary **Council-funded remission of rates to eligible ratepayers**: ■ Pensioners (maximum of \$100), ■ Self Funded Retirees (maximum of \$50), and ■ low income beneficiaries (max. of \$100).

NRMB Levy - Council is also forced, against its wishes and without recompense, to collect revenue on behalf of the **Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Natural Resource Management Board** which in the 2010/2011 financial year is approximately \$944k, being an **exorbitant increase of 16%** over the 2009/10 year.

Rates modeling for residential properties assessments shows:

- 20% - over 1,900 have no increase or a reduction in value
- 65% - over 6,600 have an increase < 5%
- 8% - over 900 have an increase > 10% (mainly due to valuation corrections or property improvements).

For non-residential properties assessments the modeling shows:

- 18% - over 1,500 have no increase or a reduction in value
- 72% - over 6,400 have an increase < 5%
- 6% - approx 650 have an increase > 10% (mainly due to valuation corrections or property improvements).

Capital Program

The capital program gross expenditure for 2010-11 is **\$48.243m** and includes ■ **Strategic Property Portfolio** \$7.846m ■ **Strategic Enhancement** \$14.79m ■ **Assessment Management Renewal Programs** total \$20.840m including ■ **Transportation** (roads and footpaths etc) \$5.245m ■ **Lighting and Electrical** \$1.795 ■ **Drainage and Waterways** \$0.689m ■ **Park Lands** \$1.145m ■ **Urban Elements** \$0.896m ■ **Property** \$5.88m ■ **Plant & Equipment** \$2.590m and ■ **IT Corporate Systems** \$2.599m plus **Program Management** \$4.767m.

CONSTITUTION DAY 2010 – CELEBRATED ON JULY 9

When Queen Victoria signed our Constitution on 9 July 1900, the nation of Australia was created. The Constitution is a living document. Amended and interpreted by succeeding generations, it still defines Australia and what it means to be Australian. There are plenty of good reasons to celebrate the Australian Constitution.

<http://www.naa.gov.au/whats-on/constitution-day/index.aspx>

The momentum for constitutional change continues to build with the Senate recently agreeing to the establishment of a **select committee** on the Reform of the Australian Federation. Discussion will focus on (i) the distribution of constitutional powers and responsibilities between the Commonwealth and the states (including territories), (ii) **financial relations between federal, state and local governments**, and (iii) possible constitutional amendment, **including the recognition of Local Government**.

The deadline for the committee to report is 24 August 2010. *Cr Geoff Lake ALGA President*

For more details go to <http://www.openaustralia.org/senate/?id=2010-03-17.85.2>

Queen Victoria's Seal on the Constitution document. - National Archives document L11187A ►►►



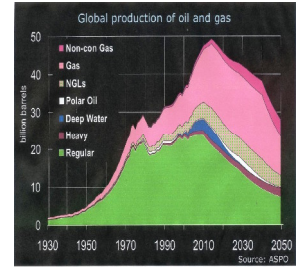
BOOST FOR RUNDLE MALL

Congratulations to **Theo Maras AM** on his appointment as the Chair of the Rundle Mall Management Authority. It is good to have such a prominent and successful business man at the helm. It has also been announced that Mr **Ian Darbyshire** CE of SA Tourism Commission has also agreed to join the Board. Also a Consultant Design Team led by Connor Holmes, with FJMT Architects & Village Well has been appointed to prepare a **Rundle Mall Precinct Masterplan Design**

WHAT IS AN ENERGY DESCENT ACTION PLAN?

In the previous Issue I posed the question - Does Adelaide City have one? – Do we need to have one?

Energy descent refers to reduction of oil use after the **peak of oil availability**, which the graph shows is about **NOW**. Planning and preparing for this inevitable energy descent period has been promoted by David Holmgren & Rob Hopkins of the [Transition Towns](#) Movement. That oil reserves are dwindling or the remaining oil is becoming more difficult and costly to extract (vide BP and the Gulf of Mexico disaster) is now being acknowledged more widely. – Local communities must begin planning and preparing for **energy descent** which goes well beyond issues of energy supply, to look at across-the-board creative adaptations in the realms of health, education, economy and much more. Council is addressing the problem with its **Climate Change Action Plan and its Sustainability DPA** but in my opinion we need to go further and to more fully engage all the member groups of our community in preparing an **Energy Descent Action Plan** based on the well-established processes as offered by the [Transition Towns](#) Movement.



Some recent meeting decisions (full details are available on the Council's website 5 days after the meeting)

DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT PANEL – Meeting held 7 June (next Meeting 21 June at 5.30pm)

■ 2. Non-Complying Applications

■ (Item 2.1) **125 Sturt St**. Consent was **granted** (subject to DAC concurrence) for a variation to an earlier consent, to agree to reduce 24 apartments to 23 and to change 82 sqm of roof area to habitable space (DA/497/2007/B) ►

■ 3. Applications for consideration on Merit

- (Item 3.1) **214-216 Gilles St, 45-47 Ely Place**. Development Plan Consent was **granted** to make alterations at the rear of existing dwellings and to construct a 2 storey dwelling at the rear (fronting Ely Place) incorporating balcony over existing garage (DA/432/2009)
- (Item 3.2) **198 Archer St N.A.** Development Plan Consent was **Refused** for the demolition of existing and the construction of a 2-storey dwelling due to impact on adjoining Local Heritage places and height. (DA/540/2009)
- (Item 3.3) **L1 260 Rundle St**. Dev. Plan Consent was **granted** to change use to pool hall (DA/275/2010)
- (Item 3.4) **L1 39 Gouger St**. Dev Plan Consent requesting extended trading hours was **deferred** pending SAPOL advice regarding the operation of the property (DA/0285/2010)
- (Item 3.5) **122-140 Hindley St (Edge Church)** Dev. Plan Consent was **granted** retrospectively for change of use from cinema to place of worship (DA/266/2010)
- (Item 3.6) **13 Gouger St**. Dev. Plan Consent was **granted** to use vacant tenancy as a hotel with alterations and a new outdoor dining area (DA/43/2010)

■ 4. Schedule 10 Matters

- (Item 4.1) **Architecture and Plaza Building – G8 North Tce**. The Panel resolved to advise the DAC that it **supports the proposal** to construct a 3 level educational building in Hughes Plaza area. And including alterations to existing buildings. (DA/806/2009)
- (Item 4.2) **113-115 King William St**. The Panel resolved to advise that it does **Not Support** the proposal to demolish existing buildings and to construct a 25 level office building with ground floor retail. The proposal exceeded the height limit by 14 metres and did not meet transition rules or meet energy standards. (DA/211/2010) ►



COUNCIL – Meetings held Tuesday 15 June 2010 - (next meeting Monday 28 June at 5.30pm)

- **The Public Forum** was addressed by **Mr Greg Clarke**, the recently appointed CEO of the **Adelaide Fringe**.
- Agreed that the **Lord Mayor** should visit **Sister City Penang** in July to celebrate its **World Heritage Listing**.
- (Items 12.1 to 12.4) In these 4 formal items the Council adopted the **2010-2011 Business Plan and Budget**, the **Valuation, Declared the Rates** and set the Rundle Mall Environs Differential Separate Rate. All items were adopted as presented with the addition of funds for ■ Mural Art ■ A History Record project ■ A \$250k fund for Special Heritage (Main Street) Projects ■ Extra funds for Australia Day celebrations ■ Extra street lighting in Gover, Gilles and Sturt Streets ■ Stage 1 of a Park Lands Marketing Plan ■ Extra drinking fountains in the Mall.
- (Item 12.5) Following a complete review of its **Committee Structures** and meeting arrangements Council has decided to make changes effective from 1 July for a trial period of 6 months. Committees will have **new terms of reference** aligned to our Strategic Outcomes and will become advisory to Council which will meet monthly to review and ratify all recommendations. I will describe the changes in more detail in the next issue of my Notes.
- (Item 12.6) A request by **Christian Brothers College** for a fees payable for a City Works Permit related to school building works in Wakefield St to be waived or reduced was not agreed to.
- (Item 12.7) A request by **DTEI** for fee reduction for a site compound in the Park Lands was dismissed.
- (Item 12.8) Council adopted an election **Caretaker Policy** as required by the LG Act. It will apply from 21/9.
- (Item 12.9) Council adopted an updated version of the **Control of Election Signs Policy**.
- (Item 12.10) A Report was presented by Deputy Lord Mayor Michael Henningsen on his representation of the City in **Dernancourt France and Environs for the 2010 Anzac Commemorations**.
- (Item 13.1) Council agreed to alterations to **on-street parking** traffic control provisions in 2 locations.
- (Item 16 and 18) were **confidential matters** dealing with (16) **Adelaide Aquatic Centre** Roof Upgrade, acceptance of a tender and (18) **Lien Heng Asian Grocery**, Adelaide Central Market.

CITY STRATEGY COMMITTEE

- (Item 5.1) Council endorsed a Project Brief for preparation of a **Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan**.
- (Item 5.2) Council, supported by advice from **APLA**, approved replacing of 2 grassed volleyball courts with 2 partially-fenced bitumen basketball courts in Kurranga (Park 20) for Pulteney Grammar and community use.
- (Item 5.3) Removal of a significant Elm tree in Park 20 was approved subject to Cat 1 Development Approval.

The views expressed herein are those of Cr Plumridge and do not purport to be those of the Adelaide City Council