



NOTES FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID PLUMRIDGE'S DESK

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NATIONAL URBAN POLICY DISCUSSION PAPER

Minister Anthony Albanese has released for community feedback a discussion paper which will form the basis of **Australia's first ever National Urban Policy**. Public submissions will close on 1 March 2011, **The discussion paper also raises the issue of local government reform** and the need for a debate on whether there should be fewer councils in our major cities. ALGA remains opposed to forced amalgamation of councils but believes that such a debate could be useful in highlighting community attitudes to the importance of local representation and decision making. Councils are encouraged to make their own submissions and I will ensure that Adelaide City Council does do so. For a copy of the Discussion Paper go to <http://www.infrastructure.gov.au/infrastructure/mcu/urbanpolicy/index.aspx> (ALGA News)



CITIES: WHO DECIDES?

The Grattan Institute has just released its second Cities program report titled "Cities: Who Decides?"

In summary, the report investigates decision making in eight of the world's most successful cities, and asks what governance arrangements accompanied their broad-based improvement. <http://www.grattan.edu.au/programs/cities.php>

Not surprisingly every city has a different story, but among these differences are a number of common themes. These included the importance of public engagement, consistent strategic direction, cross-sectoral collaboration, and regional cooperation.

The report's findings have a number of implications for Australian cities. **Firstly**, residents must be involved in decisions and **secondly**, changing structures does not guarantee success in itself and indeed may be just a distraction. Although no one particular type of governance structure was associated with cities' improvement, an important finding was that any structural change must be coupled with early and deep public engagement. It could be argued that the 30 year Plan for Adelaide lacked such public engagement which may be why many local communities are resisting the changes that the government is now trying to implement. **Let us hope that the Integrated Design Strategy does not suffer from the same problems; early indications suggest that Commissioner Tim Horton plans to fully engage the community.**

A long line of ALGA Presidents has made these exact same statements to a variety of Commonwealth and State Ministers, and also in forums such as the Local Government and Planning Ministers' Council and the Housing Ministers' Council. **Planning is not and was never intended to be a purely regulatory function.** Planning is about ensuring community outcomes are delivered for the benefit of citizens within reasonable environmental and design parameters. **Removing the rights of communities to be engaged in planning is anathema to civilised and democratic societies.**

Likewise the pressure to continuously reorganise or introduce new urban 'governance' structures to fix the problems of our cities and towns is largely a smoke screen. Councils need to ensure their business models are operating efficiently and this may sometimes involve a degree of organisational and governance change. However, to simply say that amalgamation of local government will do the trick is simply not true. **ALGA President Cr McCaffery said "Local government plays a critical role in planning and the management of our diverse communities. I will champion our role and the rights of our communities to be a key part of local planning decisions."** (ALGA News 3 December 2010)

ADELAIDE CENTRAL MARKET REVIEW

Adelaide City Council is seeking community feedback on the Adelaide Central Market. The survey is an opportunity for all stakeholders to provide their thoughts and opinions on the market and how they would like to see it develop for the future. Community input is vital to the future of the Adelaide Central Market – Click here to complete the online survey <http://enterpriseadelaide.cmail4.com/t/r/l/seity/iikdkutt/h>



SMOKE-FREE OUTDOOR EATING AND DRINKING AREAS

From December 9, smoking will be banned in all outdoor eating and drinking areas and at underage functions in the ACT. There will be some exemptions for clubs and larger hotels that install 1.8m walls separating temporary smoking areas from non-smoking areas. **ACT Health** says that smoke-free environments encourage people to quit smoking and reduce the likelihood of young people taking up the habit. This move is in line with a growing number of Councils in the eastern states where public pressure for smoke-free (and butt-free) public places is rapidly mounting. **I am not sure what local public opinion says but I have been lobbied for alfresco dining areas on public footpaths to be made smoke-free.**

HOLIDAY BREAK - I will be taking a break from my Notes over Christmas/New Year. The next Edition will be at the end of January. I thank all those brave souls who voted for me and I wish all my readers a Happy, Holy and safe Christmas .

DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT PANEL – Mtg held 22 November (next: Special Mtg Tuesday 7 Dec. at 5.30)

2. Non-Complying Application

■ (Item 2.1) Development Plan Consent was **GRANTED** (subject to DAC concurrence) to construct a partial 3rd level addition to the rear of the existing dwelling at **4/211 Gilles Street, Adelaide** (DA/464/2010)



3. Applications for consideration on Merit

- (Item 3.1) Development Plan Consent was **GRANTED** to demolish existing dwelling and construct a 4 level apartment building of 7 apartments with car parking at rear of **29 Moore Street**, (DA/460/2010) ▶
- (Item 3.2) Development Plan Consent was **GRANTED** to construct a swimming pool, storage areas, fencing and associated site works at the rear of **18 William Buick Court, Adelaide**. (DA/566/2010)
- (Item 3.3) DP Consent was **GRANTED** to demolish single storey building, retain and modify existing two storey building, remove significant tree and construct a car showroom and service facilities at **164-174 West Terrace** (DA/638/2010)
- (Item 3.4) Development Plan Consent was **REFUSED** to remove a significant tree at **50-53 South Tce** (DA/425/2010).
- (Item 3.5) DP Consent was **GRANTED** for alts/change of use to place of worship at **113 Currie Street** (DA/794/2010)

4. Schedule 10 Matters

- (Item 4.1) The Panel resolved to advise the Development Assessment Commission that it **DOES NOT SUPPORT** a proposal to construct a 15 level building at **12-14 Rowland's Place, Adelaide**, comprising various types of residential accommodation, ground level offices and car parking, on the grounds *inter alia* that the units are too small and with limited access to light and air. (2-bed units were between 47m² and 54m² compared to PDC 68 requirement of **minimum 75m²**.) (DA/540/2010) ▶
- (Item 4.2) The Panel resolved to advise the Development Assessment Commission that it **SUPPORTS** a proposal to demolish exg buildings and build an 8 storey Mixed Use building incl 132 apartments at **154-160 Angas St** (DA/670/2010)



COUNCIL MEETING - Meeting held 6 December (Next Meeting 31 January 2011 – check for committee dates)

7. Public Forum was addressed by Mr Jenkins (Busking), Mrs Kidman (Bus stops) and Mr Pearson (Council prayer)

8. Motions on Notice were moved by **myself** calling for the upgrading of **Bank Street** to be a Shared Zone equal to Leigh St; by **Cllr Clearihan** calling for the formation of a **Main Street Working Group** and by **Cllr Williamson** re funding of **Christmas Activities for Precinct Groups**. **9. Questions/Motions without Notice - Nil**

10. Items referred by Committee to Council and 11. Items for Council (for consideration *en bloc*) **Nil**

12. Items for Council

- **Strategic Alignment – Outcome 1 – Populous City – Nil**

- **Strategic Alignment – Outcome 2 – Unique Heritage, Park Lands and City Design**

■ (Item 12.1) Council agreed to working arrangements including increased fees of \$500 per meeting for the **Development Assessment Panel**. Cllrs appointed to 30 November 2012 are the Lord Mayor, Stephen Yarwood and Cllrs Anne Moran, Michael Henningsen and Sandy Wilkinson. Nominations will be called for 5 Independent Members in January 2011.

■ (Item 12.2) Lord Mayor, Stephen Yarwood (Presiding Member) and Cllrs Anne Moran, Michael Henningsen, Tony Williamson and myself were appointed to the **Adelaide Park Lands Authority (APLA)** for 2 years. (fees \$51.50 per hour)

■ (Item 12.3) Council approval was given for expenditure of an **extra \$400k** to cover unforeseen costs of contamination and works associated with completion of the Premium Playing Field and surrounds to the grandstand at **Victoria Park**.

■ (Item 12.4) Council gave approval for the pruning of a significant tree adjacent to **34 Stanley Street, N. Adelaide**.

- **Strategic Alignment – Outcome 3 – Accessible and Connected City**

■ (Item 12.5) Council gave approval for the Temporary Road Closure of **Rosina St** for **Red Square** New Year's Eve Event.

- **Strategic Alignment – Outcome 4 – Culturally Vibrant City**

■ (Item 12.6) Council approved the establishment of the **Adelaide City Reconciliation Committee** comprising 11 members including the Lord Mayor, Stephen Yarwood (Co-Chair) and Cllrs Megan Hender, Tony Williamson and myself.

■ (Items 12.7 to 12.10) Council approved Round Two 2010/2011 Grant Funding for ▪ **Arts and Living Culture** – 3 grants totaling \$10,000 ▪ **Recreation and Sport** – 6 grants totaling \$20,900 ▪ **Community Development** – 9 grants totaling \$39,100 ▪ **Arts and Living Culture** – 7 grants totaling \$39,540.

■ (Item 12.11) It was noted the CEO intends to change the area leased from the State for the **Skate Park** on North Tce.

- **Strategic Alignment – Outcome 5 – Economically Prosperous City - Nil**

- **Strategic Alignment – Outcome 6 – Environmentally Sustainable City – Nil**

- **Strategic Alignment – Outcome – Creating our Future**

■ (Item 12.12) Council referred consideration of the **Council Members' Operating Policy** to the respective committees.

■ (Item 12.13) Council resolved to appoint a **Deputy Lord Mayor** and **I was elected** unopposed for a period 12 months.

■ (Item 12.14) It was agreed that there should be 4 Core Committees meeting on a monthly cycle with **all members on all committees** unless they **choose to opt out** of particular committees. **Chairs were appointed** ▪ City Design and Character Policy Committee – Chair, Cllr Michael Llewellyn-Smith ▪ City Development and Sustainability Committee – Chair, myself ▪ Community Services, Events and Facilities Committee – Chair, Cllr Sue Clearihan ▪ Corporate Planning, Governance and Finance Committee – Chair, Cllr Mark Hamilton. **Deputy Chairs** will be appointed by the respective Committees.

■ (Item 12.15) Members were appointed to various **External Boards and Committees** including (N.B. not all are listed)

- **Capital City Committee** – Lord Mayor, Cllr Michael Llewellyn-Smith and myself. (Deputy to all: Cllr Mark Hamilton)

- **The Adelaide Festival Corp** – Lord Mayor, Cllrs Megan Hender and Michael Henningsen (Panel of 3 for 1 position)

- **Education Adelaide** – Cllr Sue Clearihan (Proxy: Cllr Malani) - **Audit C'ee**: Lord Mayor and myself. (+2 proxies)

- **Adelaide Convention Bureau** – Cllr Natasha Malani (Proxy: Cllr Michael Llewellyn-Smith)

- **SA Motor Sports Board** – Cllrs Llewellyn-Smith, Malani, Hamilton, Abiad, and Williamson, (Panel of 5 for 2 positions)

- **Central market Committee** – Cllrs Hender, Abiad and Henningsen.

■ **Lack of space** precludes reporting on Items 12.16 (Nominations for LGA positions) ▪ 12.17 (September Business Plan Progress Report) ▪ 12.18 (Contract for Recruitment Consulting Services) and ▪ 12.19 (New By-Law for Rundle Mall).

13 and 14. Confidential Items

■ (Item 14.1) Contract for Security Services ▪ (Item 14.2) Lien Heng Lease Update ▪ (Item 14.3) Grote St Retail Tenancy.

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