



NOTES FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID PLUMRIDGE'S DESK

ISSUE No 81

29 AUGUST 2012

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THE PROBLEM OF LIGHT POLLUTION

Light pollution is stray light emitted from poorly designed lighting installations for advertising, business, security and street lighting. While some light is unavoidably reflected upward much of it spills outside the area that it is meant to illuminate creating glare, light-trespass and sky glow.

This stray light and the energy generated to produce it is wasted. It unnecessarily contributes to greenhouse emissions, and wastes money. Also, this wasted light does not necessarily contribute to safety nor enhance amenity. Very often it creates a nuisance. We do need outdoor lighting at night but there are better alternatives that save energy and improve the quality of night time lighting that also help to reduce sky glow and preserve the night sky. Light pollution is much easier and cheaper to remedy than most other kinds of pollution!

Streetlights can be replaced with full-cut-off fixtures (all light directed downward - no light emitted upward) and fitted with energy efficient lamps. Sign-lighting should preferably be aimed down on signs-not upwards. Outdoor security, and display lighting should be fitted with quality shielded flood lights and fitted with efficient lamps directing light at the target area only. Residential BBQ floodlights can be shielded to minimize light trespass and uplight. Also, avoid over lighting where possible.

In Australia this will save million of dollars in electricity and hundreds of thousands tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions per year. In addition, efficient, quality, shielded outdoor lighting creates better illumination and contributes to safety.

Nearly all electricity in Australia is generated by burning fossil fuels. In South Australia wasted light from light pollution costs over \$5 million dollars of electricity per year and produces more than 70,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions.

Stray light also upsets many types of wildlife and flora by causing disruption to circadian (day-night) rhythms. There is evidence that it can create stress and lowered immunity in humans.

The Adelaide City Council has a dedicated team of lighting specialists who ensure that our own public realm lighting conforms to the standards and who work with the private sector to encourage better designed lighting. In developing our city it is very important that we bring the stars back to the night sky by reducing sky glow.

I thank the Astronomical Society of South Australia from whom the greater part of this material was sourced <http://www.assa.org.au/>

PEOPLE POWER TO THE FORE

It was a wonderful sight to behold – just 2 weeks ago over 200 people rallied in Whitmore Square to protest in very strong terms against the Minister of Planning's **Development Plan for the Capital City**. Many speakers took the Rostrum to voice their concerns, led by the Lord Mayor and followed by expert planners, politicians and passionate local residents.

These people were not against development as such but they were certainly against the kind of development that the Minister's plan is promoting and which could be seen in all its frightening outcomes in the recently approved development in Sturt St

This 'utopia' crams 452 apartments in three tower blocks cheek by jowl with simple cottages and the renowned and lauded **Christies Walk** model of urban development. Concerns about overshadowing, the traffic impacts of a 500 space car park and most importantly a complete loss of a long-established and much-cherished city life-style were all realised in the blink of an eye! **And with ringing endorsement of the new government guru of design quality Ben Hewitt.**

High rise and density might work in the core CBD but the city is so much more – it is the well-established residential areas which need to be supported and enhanced. **Small wonder the city community is 'up in arms'**. It was not consulted, it is not happy and it calls on the Minister to have more regard for the wishes of the people and less for the vested interests of development industry represented by the Property Council and the lunatic fringe who will not rest until Adelaide simulates an Eastern Capital and who have no concern for the long-term outcomes of their paranoia to develop

Adelaide is THE MOST LIVEABLE city in Australia, Minister it is not too late to work with us to keep it that way.



The Night Sky



Good Design



Bad Design



I have decided to stop reporting the decisions of the Council's **Development Assessment Panel**. The full agendas and minutes of the Panel are available from the Council's website. I apologise for any inconvenience that that may cause.

COUNCIL MEETING - Meeting 28 August (Next Ordinary Meeting 11 Sept at 6pm–Cées Gp 1 – 4 Sept at 5.30)

Agenda Items 1 to 8 are standard items including Acknowledgment of Country, The Prayer and Memorial Silence, Apologies, Confirmation of Minutes, and when required, Public Forum, Deputation and Petitions.

■ **9. Report of City Infrastructure and Public Works Committee** – 17 July (Chair: Cllr Plumridge)

- 9.1 Council endorsed the **Brown Hill Keswick Creek** Stormwater draft Management Plan 2012. This amended plan allows for the downstream works to begin while further options to the Brownhill Creek dam are investigated.
- 9.2 Council supported the rededication of the former **SA Water Depot** site as **Park Land – Narnungga** (Park 25)
- 9.3 Council agreed to assign the name **Wigg Lane** to a private road off **111 O'Connell St NA**. (LTO Allotment 91)
- 9.4 Council agreed to assign the name **Petronella Lane** to a public road off **7a & 19 Gray Court** (LTO C-2766)
- 9.5 Council approved the hanging in the Council Chamber of the re-signed **Reconciliation Vision Statement** and the **National Sorry Day Acknowledgement**. This coincides with the **10th Anniversary of the Reconciliation Committee**.
- 9.6 Council agreed to temporary car parking on Pinky Flat for Cricket and Tennis SA events over the coming summer. *This is in contravention of the CLMP but has been agreed to for this year only while Oval construction is in progress.*
- 9.7 Council endorsed APLA and staff advice and finalised its response to the Minister on the **CLMP for Park 26**. It should be noted that this plan includes Elder Pk, Pinky Flat and the Adelaide Oval environs but **excluding** the Core Area

■ **10. Report of Finance and Corporate Governance Committee** – 17 July (Chair: Cllr Moran)

- 10.1 Council noted the 2011-2012 End of Year Business Plan Performance Report. Of the 48 Annual Objectives set by Council, 39 have been completed and of the 376 Business Plan Objectives set by Council, 314 have been completed.
- 10.2 Council endorsed a protocol to improve **Council & Committee operations**, including role of Committee Chairs.
- 10.3 Council endorsed *in principle* a **new Governance and Funding Model for the Rundle Mall Management Authority** to operate as a Subsidiary under the LG Act, with a final recommendation to come to Council in October.
- 10.4 Council agreed to proceed to formal consultations on proposals for **Separate Rate Levies in the East End and West End**. The consultations will be dealt with separately with the East End proceeding ahead of the West End.
- 10.5 It was agreed that the **Deputy Lord Mayor and Cllr Wilkinson** should visit NZ for the 40th Anniversary of the **sister city partnership with Christchurch** and to meet with relevant representatives of Christchurch, in September.
- 10.6 Cllr Llewellyn-Smith moved that the CEO be given power to grant leave of absence to Councillors (up to 1 month)

■ **11 Report of the Adelaide Reconciliation Committee held on 22 August 2012**

Council noted reports from the Committee covering 1) Employment Opportunities through Council's Procurement processes and 2) Highlights of **Three Significant Anniversaries** in 2012 and the **10th Anniversary** of the Committee.

■ **12 Report of the Adelaide City Council Audit Committee held on 24 August**

Council received and noted the report from the Audit Committee re the **KPMG Review of Council's Borrowings**. This included a recommendation that the matter be placed on the Agenda for the next Ordinary meeting of the Audit C'ee

■ **13 Report from the Lord Mayor**

The Lord Mayor presented his report covering the Capital City Lord Mayors' meeting in Perth, meetings with Nigel McBride new CEO of Business SA, 3 Receptions and the inauguration of Adelaide's first countdown pedestrian crossing

■ **14 Reports from Council Members**

Reports from Councillors Plumridge, Abiad, Clearihan, Henningsen and Williamson on their activities on behalf of Council were received and it was resolved that they be included in the Minutes of the meeting.

■ **15 Report from Councillor Plumridge**

Councillor Plumridge's report on his attendance at the **National Assembly of Local Government** was received & noted.

Reports for Council (Chief Executive Officer's Reports)

- 16. Council endorsed the draft submission on **Urban Density** to the Environment Resources and Development Committee of the State Parliament, emphasizing the need to retain residential amenity in the context of higher density.
- 17 Council noted 2011/12 **Preliminary End of Year Financial Report** and referred it to Committee for consideration.
- 18. The Report on the **Representation Review** public consultation and the submissions were received and noted.
- 19. This item, relating to Adelaide Oval Licence Area Landscape Design, was deferred pending further information.

■ 21 **Motion on Notice.**

Cllr Hamilton moved a motion setting out **Council's policy position on development assessment**. Whilst its substance was generally accepted it was referred to the City Planning and Development Cée for further consideration.

■ 22. **Motion without Notice.**

Cllr Henningsen moved a Motion w/o Notice, calling on Council to take the issue of solar overshadowing to the **LGA**.

■ 24 **Confidential Item**

- 24.1 Consideration of Revocation of **Community Land Status** for 23-29 Coglin Street .

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