



# NOTES FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID PLUMRIDGE'S DESK

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**Vale Bert Taylor** – It is with sadness that I have to report the news that former Councillor Bert Taylor passed away last Wednesday, following a long illness. Bert provided Council with many years of service with particular energy devoted to Sister Cities relationships and representing the South East corner of the City. He will be sincerely missed. The funeral will be at 11:45am at the Florey Chapel Centennial Park on Wednesday 3 October.

## **COUNCIL MEETING – Meeting 25 September (Next Ordinary Meeting 9 Oct at 6pm – Cées Gp 1 – 2 Oct at 5.30)**

Agenda Items 1 to 8 are standard items including the usual formalities and when required, Public Forum, Deputation and Petitions.

■ An apology, due to sickness, was received from **myself** and Cllrs **Hender** and **Llewellyn-Smith** were on Leave of Absence.

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

- 9.1 Council endorsed the updated the Prudential Issues Report for the **Victoria Sq/Tarndanyangga Project Stage 1**.
- 9.2 Council adopted the CLMP for the **North Adelaide Post Office Complex**. It will now be forwarded to the Minister.
- 9.3 Council agreed to the retrospective removal of a storm-damaged significant tree (River Red Gum) in Veale Gardens
- 9.4 Council agreed to amendments to the **Adelaide Oval Licensed Area Landscape Plan** including stone terracing adjacent to Light's Vision and the details of 4 trees to be removed and the species to be used for new plantings by DPTI.
- 9.5 Administration was asked to report on options for the **authentic restoration** of the historic **Lounders' Boathouse**.
- 9.6 Council resolved to relocate **disabled viewing shelters** recently erected to provide shelter for people unable to access the heritage grandstand seating at **Victoria Park**. They will be located to the sides and options for a lift to access the seating will be investigated. There is already disabled access to toilet and shower facilities at the rear of the stand.
- 9.7 Council consented to the temporary activation of parts of 11-19 Grenfell St for use by **Stax Café** and **Salad Choice** areas as outdoor dining areas. Council will also investigate potential sale of its interest in adjoining community land.

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

- 10.1 Council endorse establishment of a **Council Solutions Regional Authority**. This will formalize and enhance an existing collaboration between the 6 largest Adelaide Councils to derive best value from joint procurement procedures.
- 10.2 Council approved **2011/12 End of Year Budget** recommendations and minor alterations to the 2012/13 Budget.
- 10.3 Council, as Lessor, agreed to a 21 + 21 year head lease of the **Central Market** to the Adelaide Central Market Authority. All existing stallholder leases will be assigned to the Authority as will an under lease of the Star Car Park which is to be operated by UPark for the Authority. Full control of the Central Market will pass to the Authority on 1 October.
- 10.4 Council endorsed comments on the **Procedures at Meetings Regulations 2012** LGA Consultation Document.
- 10.5 Council allocated the 2011/12 Budget Surplus of \$1.858m to partially fund the Central Market Fire Safety Upgrade
- 10.6 Council is to establish a panel of Council to review and develop criteria for granting the **Keys of the City**.

### ■ **11 Report of the Adelaide Park Lands Authority held on 13 September 2012**

Council noted advice from the Authority as follows:

1. Recommendation that the Park lands Branding be amended to include the word 'Adelaide'
2. Recommendation to approve the alterations to the Adelaide Oval Landscape Plan.(item 9.4 above)

### ■ **12 Report from the Lord Mayor**

**The Lord Mayor** presented his report covering LGA Delegation of Mayors and CEO's to Canberra; Australian Citizenship Ceremony; Dinner for the Vice-Governor of the Shandong Province and Malaysian Carnival 2012.

The Lord Mayor advised that due to my illness he would lead the delegation to **Christchurch** for Sister City celebrations.

### ■ **13 Reports from Council Members**

Activity Reports from Councillors Plumridge, Clearihan, Malani 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.

## **Reports for Council (Chief Executive Officer's Reports)**

■ 14. Shanti Ditter **Presiding Member of the Development Assessment Panel** addressed Council in support of the Annual Report. She noted an increase in Schedule 10 Matters (referrals to DAC) and thanked staff for their support.

■ 15. **The City Centre Heritage DPA** was referred to the City Planning and Development Committee.

■ 16. Council, acting as landlord, gave its consent to minor pruning of the **War Memorial Oak** in **Creswell Gardens**.

■ 24 **Confidential Items** included **Adelaide Uni** lease negotiations, **Lot 25 Wingfield** Waste and Recycling Centre; **Victoria Sq.** Procurement Report; Appointment of **Chair of Rundle Mall Authority (Theo Maras)** and **UPark Trial**.

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

## TREASURER CONSIDERS A NEW TAX

The proposition of introducing a new '**residential tax**' to replace stamp duties which has been floated by Treasurer Jack Snelling is most dangerous and should be opposed by Local Government in the strongest possible terms.

Historically property taxation has been and continues to be the preserve of Local Government and although it is far from being a perfect way of raising revenue in today's remit of Local Government, it is the only way available to us and should not be encroached upon by State Governments.

Such a tax has been implemented in the Australian Capital Territory but the situation in the ACT where there is no state government and where many 'civic' services are heavily subsidised by all taxpayers, is quite different from that in SA and should not be used as a model without rigorous analysis.

**SA Councils are already lumbered with the collection of NRMB levies on behalf of the State and if this new property tax were to be introduced you can bet your bottom dollar we would be told to collect it and therefore carry the odium of the extra impost.**

## STUDY DISCOVERS MULTIPLE BENEFITS OF GREEN BUILDINGS

Bond University's Institute of Sustainable Development and Architecture recently completed a study that shows 'green buildings' are not only good for the environment but also good for the people working in them.

According to the researchers - Institute Director Professor George Earl and Senior Research Assistant Ann Murugan - 'green buildings' outdid 'non-green' offices in all aspects of satisfaction, with people in green office buildings happier both with the office space overall and the features within it. Green buildings often use fewer construction materials, most of which are recycled, non-toxic and environmentally-friendly. They use less energy and water during operation.

The study findings show decreased instances of ill-health in green buildings when compared directly to non-green buildings, with a 90% drop in instances of asthma and a 50% fall in those complaining of fatigue. Green buildings' create a space that improves morale and productivity by eliminating negative aspects in the working environment.

And for those who are more interested in the financial viability of 'green buildings' **property developers are reporting better rental returns and interest from high-profile corporates looking to enhance their green credentials.**

## THE LONGEVITY REVOLUTION

Thinker in Residence, **Dr Kalache** who is a leading authority on ageing, during his Adelaide Residency, has been examining how we should be devising and implementing policy around ageing issues according to the four key pillars of ■ SECURITY (dealing with vulnerability), ■ ACTIVITY (participation), ■ HEALTH ■ CONTINUITY OF EDUCATION.

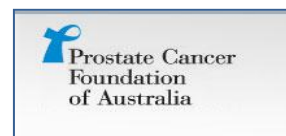
This is providing opportunities to examine issues around ageing in a more holistic way, seeing the experience of ageing as more than just a health-related experience. In particular, this residency will assist in the implementation of new and existing initiatives as part of the **State Reform Agenda, Adding Life to Years.**



**The final stage of Dr Kalache's Residency will come to an end this month and his final Public Lecture will be given on Monday 8 October at the Adelaide Town Hall at 6.00pm**

## NO BALLS – NO NONSENSE

Recently I attended a Lord Mayoral Reception at the Town Hall at which I was invited **NOT** to come to another black tie ball...or breakfast, or lunch, or dinner party, or cocktail party. **Instead I was asked to donate the equivalent cost to assist with research into finding a cure for Prostrate Cancer and to provide support for the treatment of sufferers.**



***One man in Australia will die every 3 hours from this disease. Don't add to this statistic, spread the word.***

To contribute to this special appeal you can contact the Prostrate Cancer Foundation of Australia on 1800 220 099

## WHO IS PULLING THE LEVERS IN ADELAIDE?

As I attend meetings and speak to groups of city residents I detect a sense of disempowerment; A sense of being overwhelmed by powerful forces that are well-heeled, well-resourced and above all, well-connected.

Over the last 18 months there has been almost endless consultation on various planning documents ranging from the 30 Year Plan through Council's Strategic Plans and on to the rewrite of the City Development Plan – although this latter has been more a case of fighting a rear-guard action if you are just a mere city resident. **But I am beginning to sense a determination to redouble the efforts and to begin the fight back to regain control of our city and its all-important character and life-style. The city community want their residential character preserved, they want their heritage kept and above all they want to have their voices heard – and listened to in a meaningful way.**

It seems that the city has been taken captive by powerful lobby groups such as Hospitality, Sporting and Events and the all-powerful Property Industry. These groups are certainly important players but they are not the main game in town; Governments/Oppositions that pay too much attention and give too much access to them, do so at their peril.