



# NOTES FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID PLUMRIDGE'S DESK

ISSUE No 29

30 JUNE 2009

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### A GLIMPSE OF THINGS TO COME – VICTORIA PARK WITHOUT THE SCOURGE OF THE SAJC

Not only has the SAJC Members' Stand been reduced to a pile of rubble but also the Motor Sports Board has finally dismantled the last of its many structures that have impaired use of this Park for the last 12 months.

### MORE GOOD NEWS

**Minister Paul Holloway** has announced that the Government will provide funds to assist the Council to proceed with **North Tce Stage 3** (Prince Henry Gardens) total \$2.06m as well as \$600k for **Frome Road Park Lands Stage 2** and \$675k for the new Entrance Gateway to the **Zoo** in readiness for the arrival of the Pandas.

### COUNCIL WINS NATIONAL AWARD

Last week Council's efforts to reduce criminal and anti-social behaviour and to improve public perception of safety in night-time entertainment precincts were recognised by our winning of a **National Local Government Award**. The project was the work of Senior Project Officer (Crime Prevention) Jennifer West and it took out the top award in its category from 21 other Council projects from across Australia. Congratulations to all concerned!

### 3 BIN SYSTEM A WINNER

Although it has taken some time to iron out the wrinkles of our new rubbish collection system it has been very successful in its objective of reducing the amount of waste we send to our landfill site at Inkerman. In the first quarter for which statistics are available, we collected **954.25** tonnes of household waste compared to **1561.61** tonnes for the same period last year and recycled material collected was **457.22** tonnes compared to **221.59** tonnes last year. During the same period, **95.66** tonnes of green organics were recycled into compost.

### NATIONAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITED

At the National General Assembly of Local Government in Canberra last week, 650 delegates including Cllrs Ralph Clarke and Francis Wong passed resolutions which shaped a Communiqué presented by the President of the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA), **Cr Geoff Lake**, to the **Prime Minister** at the second Australian Council of Local Government (ACLG) meeting attended by Local Government leaders last Wednesday.

#### The Communiqué called for:

- *inclusion of Local Government in the **Australian Constitution**;*
- *more ambitious targets for the **Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme**;*
- *all levels of government to work together to develop and improve climate change **mitigation and adaptation strategies**;*
- *national action to provide water supply certainty in Australia using ecologically sustainable measures;*
- *entrenching the successful **Community Infrastructure Program** payments under the stimulus packages as an ongoing annual program;*
- *an **increase** to the base funding for **Financial Assistance Grants** paid by the Australian Government to Local Government each year for recurrent expenditure; and*
- *a permanent framework to address cost-shifting between the levels of government.*

(The full Communiqué is available at <http://www.alga.asn.au/newsroom/communiques/22.nga/>)



**REMEMBER NAIDOC WEEK** - Celebrations are held around Australia to celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders. **Flag Raising Ceremony** at the Town Hall 10am 6 July.

## ACCESSIBILITY FOR ALL

***“About 50% of people aged over 55 have difficulty with their mobility, hearing or vision. By 2050 more than 25% of the population will be over 65.....”***

Over the last two decades Australia has come a long way in providing ‘disabled access’ to our buildings and to making our public spaces and facilities more accessible but there is still a long way to go. If people with disabilities can’t get into a building or access public areas or services they can make a complaint but that’s not that easy. **The Disability Discrimination Act (DDA)** is complaints-based but it does not set down technical requirements to guide compliance by designers. The Federal Government has moved to rectify these shortcomings and has tabled draft Disability (Access to Premises-Buildings) Standards which are currently out for public consultation. These standards will specify the type of access that will comply with the **DDA** and be acceptable under the Building Code of Australia

*(This article has drawn on material from an article by David Kirkpatrick published in the March edition of About the House magazine)*

**The Council is involved in a continuing program to improve access in city streets and at bus stops.**



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

### **DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT PANEL Meeting held 22 June (next meeting 6 July 2009 at 5.30pm)**

- ▣ The Panel **GRANTED** Consent for the installation of a swimming pool at **11 Queens Cl. N.A.** (DA/235/2009)
- ▣ Consent was given for a restaurant to be changed to a gaming room with a street frontage smoking deck at **100 Hindley Street**, being the Woolshed Hotel property. (DA/227/2009)
- ▣ **Consent** was granted to demolish a warehouse and construct 4 storey building containing 12 dwellings and an office tenancy at the ground floor at **11-13 Daly Street**. (DA/284/2009)
- ▣ Additions to **18 Louisa St** and a pizza oven in the courtyard of the **Saracens Head Hotel** were approved.
- ▣ A proposal to demolish a building and erect a 13 level office building in **Light Square** was **not supported**.
- ▣ **Removal** of 6 significant Aleppo Pine trees in Botanic Park was not supported. **But axed over the weekend!**

### **ADELAIDE PARK LANDS AUTHORITY Meeting held on 18 June (next meeting 16 July 2009 at 5.30pm)**

- ▣ **The Authority** was addressed by the Hon. Minister, **Jay Weatherill** and a lively discussion ensued. The Business Plan and Budget were then adopted and approval was given to the **ElectraNet** HV U/G cable route through Park Lands. Ministerial reports on present and future **RAH sites** and their uses were received and it was agreed that **heritage** buildings on the **RAH site** should be adapted and re-used for public benefit uses.
- ▣ Concern was expressed about a proposed Council works building in **Park 17** but no advice was offered.

**BRIEFINGS** were held on 16 June (3D Digital City Model, HIS Funding and City Heritage DPA) and 23 June (Bowden Village TOD, City Tourism Plan, Rundle St Public Art Masterplan and Rundle St pavement plans)

## **COUNCIL AND KEY COMMITTEES**

### **Meetings held on Monday 15 June 2009. (next meeting Monday 29 June 2009 at 5.30pm)**

**Motions on Notice** were moved by me calling on the Government to include **vehicle emission outputs** on registration details and on **Australia Day celebrations**. Cllr Wilkinson moved motions on preventing demolition of the remaining Le Cornu site buildings and on the retention of the Morgan Building at Pulteney on South Tce.

- ▣ Council endorsed a 3-mnth trial of a **Free Call** number to report issues of public importance (hygiene, safety etc)
- ▣ Approval was given to a Mr Nickols to operate a **pie cart** on a daily basis in Franklin St outside the GPO.
- ▣ Council will investigate the feasibility of licensing an Outdoor Dining area for the **Exeter Hotel** in Vaughan Pl.
- ▣ It has been decided to institute a new **Community Pride Award** to recognise the work of individuals, groups & businesses in each of the City’s Wards and to foster leadership and excellence in the life of the City.
- ▣ The Sunday Mail **City-Bay Fun Run** will be held on Sunday 20 September, starting from Elder park at 8 am.
- ▣ The **Christmas Pageant** will take place this year on Saturday 14 November and will involve road closures.
- ▣ A confidential item dealt with a tender for erecting traffic safety barriers to the **Morphett St Bridge**.

### **City Strategy Committee**

- ▣ To the end of May, expenditure on **Capital works** for this year is \$30.870m with a further \$15.446m committed.
- ▣ The Committee agreed to the funding of 43 Grants in Round 1 of the **Grants Scheme** at a value of \$568,105.
- ▣ Applications for Round 2 (08/09) **Heritage Incentive Funding** were approved totaling \$362k.
- ▣ Approval was given to call tenders for Stages 1 and 2 of **Victoria Park/Bakkabakkandi** Masterplan works. Estimated cost of these works is \$2.05m with an anticipated completion date of June 2010. Work will include Bulk earthworks, entry points, central pathways, running track, sports fields, tree planting and urban elements.
- ▣ In-principle endorsement was given for the Aboriginal and Torres St Islander **War Memorial** at the Parade Gnd
- ▣ The Committee considered in confidence a matter relating to the **City Heritage and Character DPA**.

### **City Services and Facilities Committee**

**In a triumph for profligacy over parsimony and populism over discipline** it was decided to increase available funds by over **\$200k to \$1.2m** to provide generous sponsorship funding for applicants ranging from Clipsal (\$50k) to the Korean Community of Adelaide. I opposed many of these increases; **my own view** is that we should be using these funds encourage new groups and Events which will bring new experiences to the city rather than continuing to prop up long-standing events, many of which should be supported by all taxpayers through the State rather than the ratepayers of the city. Many also make handsome profits for interstate entrepreneurs. Economic benefit to the city is often cited as a justification for Council support but the only real benefit flows through GST funding which all goes to the State and nothing directly to the Council’s bottom line.

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