



NOTES FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID PLUMRIDGE'S DESK

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CHRISTMAS IN THE CITY

Arguably Rundle Mall is the best capital city shopping strip in Australia with its shaded open spaces and its unique character **the Mall is a mecca for Christmas shopping**. The traders of the Mall and the other city shopping precincts have prepared the way for what may turn out to be the biggest Christmas shopping spree ever. **But at the same time** let's remember those who are less fortunate than ourselves and let's pay tribute to the great work done by the Adelaide Day Centre, the Hutt Street Centre, Anglicare, Westcare, Centacare and the many city-based agencies who do so much to help those in need of our care and support at this festive time.



WASTE NOT – WANT NOT

Australian households are throwing out **\$5.2 billion** worth of food each year, which exceeds the amount they spend on digital equipment such as flat screen TVs, according to new research by The Australia Institute. "To put this into context, the \$5.2 billion worth of food that Australians throw out each year is enough money to meet the shortfall in the United Nations Emergency Relief Fund," said report author David Baker. **The Australia Institute** is a partner in [Do Something's 'FoodWise' campaign](#), which aims to reduce this high level of waste.

AUSTRALIA'S POPULATION GROWTH

Australia recorded 301,000 births for the year ending 30 June 2009 according to preliminary figures released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). A population growth rate of 2.1% was recorded for the year ending 30 June 2009, up from 1.7% recorded last year. This is the highest growth rate in 40 years (2.1% in 1969). As at 30 June 2009, Australia's population had grown to 21,875,000, an increase of 443,000 people over the previous year. Australia's net overseas migration contributed 64% of this growth or 285,000 people. Natural increase (the excess of births over deaths) contributed 158,000 (36%). As at 30 June 2009, the population of South Australia was 1,623,000 with the **City of Adelaide as the fastest growing LGA in SA** - up 3% - at 15,299. More details at www.abs.gov.au.

PARK LANDS PRESSURES

As a Councillor I try very hard to take an interest in and inform myself on the whole gamut of issues that come before the Council; this is a daunting task that confronts every conscientious councillor. As a committed park lands preservationist I probably receive more than my 'fair' share of complaints about the way Council is maintaining the Park Lands and the impact of certain events. Typical of what comes my way is the (part) email reproduced below:

"Last year park users were told by the ACC (sic) that they needed to start Clipsal work in October to put in infrastructure for the temporary structures associated with the race. So we groaned and accepted it. Now I notice that construction of the monstrous garish red and blue grandstand cover has already begun! A month earlier than they usually start slowly restricting access to whole pit-straight area. Was this in the fine print? Now we have the park in a construction/de-construction phase for 6 months of the year to run a 3 day race..... Very Cheesed Off!

With Council's post-SAJC remediation of **Victoria Park** and the increased public enjoyment of the new facilities and vistas that have been created, it is very frustrating that the **SA Motor Sport Board** ignores pleas for a little more consideration and has invaded this prime public space so soon. **Ideally the work should start after Christmas.**

Other issues include ▪ Plans for **Adelaide Oval**, announced without prior Council consultation (a scheme which I support provided many key issues including parking can be negotiated with the sporting codes) ▪ Concerns about excessive noise from 12-hour **musical events** ▪ SACA use of **Oval 2** as a dump and its recent abuse of **Cresswell Gdns** ▪ the Women's Soccer clubroom debacle on **Hutt Rd** ▪ and dare I mention the devastation of **Bonython Park**

CLIMATE CHANGE TALKS

It is very gratifying to see that Local Government has been included in the official Australian delegation to Copenhagen. I had the privilege, as the then President of the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) to lead Local Government's delegation to the Kyoto talks in 1997. Although we were not officially recognised by the Howard Government delegation led by Sen. Robert Hill, we worked hard (but in vain!) to strengthen Australia's commitment to the Protocol.



Current President of the ALGA, Cr Geoff Lake, flew to Copenhagen at the conclusion of the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) meeting to join the Australian delegation to COP 15. Cr Lake joined the Prime Minister, Minister Penny Wong, Premier Mike Rann and senior officials as part of Australia's official delegation. Cr Lake said "We are pleased that the Australian Government has included Local Government in its delegation to Copenhagen. The 565 councils across Australia have a significant role to play in responding to climate change".

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

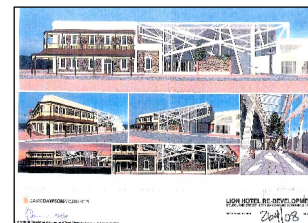
DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT PANEL Meeting held 7 December 2009

■ Non-Complying Applications

- It was agreed to proceed with assessment of an application for a 2 storey extn at **11 Castle St** (DA/840/2009).
- **Consent was granted** (subject to DAC concurrence) for alterations and additions to residential flat buildings, including roller doors, car parks and landscaping at **157 Jeffcott St North Adelaide** (DA/449/2009).
- **Consent was granted** (subject to DAC concurrence) for 3 pairs of semi-detached dwellings to be constructed on vacant land with garaging to Watson St, at **81-91 Tynte St, North Adelaide** (DA/537/2009)

■ The following "On Merit" applications were **granted Development Plan Consent**:

- Alterations and additions to the **Old Lion Hotel** including new office and car park at **161-175 Melbourne St North Adelaide** (DA/264/2008) ▶▶▶
- Construct 2 storey detached house at **41-43 Ward St North Adelaide** (DA/182/2008).
- Construct 2 storey house on vacant land at **29 Gover Pl West, N.A.** (DA/149/2009).
- Use of part of a temporary car park at **Angas/Pulteney St** for **fruit selling** until November 2011. **This is a bad decision** which downgrades the look of the city and undermines genuine fruit sellers who pay top dollar for a place in the **Central Market**.



■ Schedule 10 Matters – Referral to the DAC. (DA/805/2009)

- An application to construct an 8 level car parking station on vacant land at **42-56 Franklin Street** was considered. It was resolved to **inform the Development Assessment Commission** that the Panel **DOES NOT** support the plan

ADELAIDE PARK LANDS AUTHORITY - Meeting held 10 December 2009.

- By way of a **Motion on Notice** the Hon Ian Gilfillan asked for a report on the impact on Cresswell Gardens of the SACA use of the area for the recent Test Match. Concern had been expressed of the effect of marquees, intensive foot traffic and the use of heavy vehicles for setup on significant trees.
- New parking arrangements for Narnungga (Pk 25) as a result of the tram extension, were endorsed
- APLA recommended to the Council that it should support the concept design for the **Memorial to Forgotten Australians** to be located in Karrawirra (Park 12) subject to design development. ▶▶
- Proposed Policy Guidelines to inform Council's development of a Park Lands Movement and Access Policy (i.e. parking) were endorsed subject to a number of alterations and additions to what had been recommended.
- A **\$10k** budget line will be used to develop by March 2010 a **marketing plan** to raise the profile of the Park Lands.



COUNCIL AND KEY COMMITTEES – Meeting 14 December (next meeting Monday 25 January at 5.30pm)

- Cr **Yarwood** moved a motion of support for the PM and Premier at the **UN Climate Change Conference**.
- Bob Lott used the Public Forum to oppose the demolition of **Union Hall** and Council agreed, on my motion, to express its concerns to the University of Adelaide and to support **State Heritage listing** of this iconic building.
- (12.1) It was agreed to further investigate **Separate Rates** for the East and West Ends of the city in the New Year. The move, initiated by myself, aims to provide funds dedicated to marketing and improving these Business Districts.
- (12.2) No further concessions will be offered to **SACA** regarding permits to use the Southern car park at the Oval.
- (12.3) Council has agreed to allow the **Rotary Club** of Adelaide's members to park on the north Park Lands when no other parking is available. This arrangement is to be reviewed when the current Oval alterations are completed.
- (12.5) Council has agreed to negotiate an MoU with the **Kaurna People** for the life of the **Victoria Square** project.
- (12.6) To prevent closure of **Torrens Lake** due to **blue/green algae** build up during the coming events season Council will seek EPA approval to prepare for application of mineral clay **at a cost of \$150k** should the need arise.
- (12.7) Alterations will be made to parking in **Ifould St** to facilitate wheel chair access. **2-way traffic will remain**.
- (12.16 part) Approval was given for the **Shimmering West Fringe Review** in the NW corner of **Light Square** (23 Feb to 7 March) and the **Birdcage Fringe Venue** at **Riverbanks Park 12** (19 Feb to 14 March).
- (14.2) Council received and noted the **Capital City Committee Report** for 2008-09 and 6-Monthly Update.
- Council considered the following issues ' **behind closed doors** ' ■ **Balfours/Bus Station** Redevelopment Project ■ **Hindmarsh Square** NE Quadrant Upgrade tenders ■ **MoU** for new **Royal Adelaide Hospital** lease of Park Lands
- Potential property purchase ■ **Sturt St** Residential Project ■ **Car Park** management systems ■ **SACA** lease matter.

CITY STRATEGY COMMITTEE

- (5.1) Council has relaxed its policies for parking for **Adelaide Oval** functions. In spite of APLA advice and strong community opposition to the use of Park Lands for car parking, **Council has again caved in to SACA pressure**.
- (5.3,5.4) Project Briefs have been adopted for Development of a **Recreation Policy** and review of the 2000 **Integrated Movement Strategy** which will look at all aspects of transport planning and parking needs in the city.
- (5.5) Council has adopted amended guidelines for its **Sponsorship and Community Grants Program**.
- (5.6) Council's **Tourism Action Plan** was endorsed subject to its consideration by the **SA Tourism Commission**.
- (5.7) The **Dry Area** (covering city streets and squares) **Evaluation Report** was adopted and will be forwarded to the Minister for Consumer Affairs. The Dry Area may have helped in controlling drinking but the State Government has failed to provide promised support services; also extensive licensed areas on footpaths send a mixed message.
- (5.10) Council has agreed to a **Licence** for the operation of a 'non-commercial' **community garden** in Veale Gdns.
- (5.13) Council has approved \$387k funding for 51 projects in Round 1 of the 09/10 **Heritage Incentives Scheme**.
- (5.14) It was agreed that Council should sign up to the **International Charter for Walking** www.Walk21.com
- (5.18) A "**Repositioning Rundle Mall**" Report and recommendations to prioritise Mall expenditure was adopted.

CITY SERVICES AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE

- This committee dealt with financial monitoring reports and a confidential matter relating to the Central Market

I take this opportunity of wishing all my readers a Happy Christmas; the next issue of my Notes will be 26 January 2010
The views expressed herein are those of Cr Plumridge and do not purport to be those of the Adelaide City Council.