

KURILPA FUTURES CAMPAIGN GROUP AND THE POLITICAL PROCESS

The Kurilpa Futures Campaign Group (KFCG) is strongly independent and firmly non party-political in its formation, activities and progress to date. However we know that planning and development have intensely political dimensions because of their clear impacts on local community and economy and the strong interaction of their activities with the political process.

Accordingly KFCG seeks to work with all people and groups who share our commitment to a better planned future for our community. We have consistently sought to engage and dialogue with elected representatives and candidates from all three spheres of government, especially local and state as having the closest and most direct responsibility for better planning and development.

Meeting With Jackie Trad, Deputy Premier, Member for South Brisbane

On Wednesday 5 August 2015 Pam Bourke, Phil Heywood and Tim Quinn met with the Deputy Premier to discuss the key concerns of the KFCG around Planning and development in West End. It was a very engaged and optimistic discussion about the following issues:

- **Draft Kurilpa Master Plan**

The Deputy Premier welcomed the content and participatory process of the Kurilpa Future Campaign Group Ideas Forum and its Report *Future Kurilpa: A Community Participation – Based Planning Strategy*. She believes communities expect to be engaged in this way. She has told the Brisbane City Council that this wasn't done well in the draft Kurilpa Master Plan and that as Minister for Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning, she will not approve the draft plan as it stands. She is considering different governance options for the Kurilpa Master Plan area such as the Urban Renewal Task Force and South Bank Corporation models. The issues are of city wide as well as local significance.

- **The South Brisbane Riverside Neighbourhood Plan**

KFCG members tabled information that over 5000 units had been approved or were under construction along the Montague Rd corridor alone and that this is not sustainable. The Deputy Premier is aware that the South Brisbane Riverside Neighbourhood Plan (SBRNP) allows very significant density of development and is not sustainable either in terms of community impacts or the provision of infrastructure and open space. She expressed interest in our view supporting the development of an alternative plan for the area perhaps at a district level.

- **Planning Legislation Review**

We expressed our concerns that environmental and community engagement issues needed far stronger presence in the proposed planning bill than what was contained in the 2014 draft by the previous government. The Deputy Premier noted our concerns that these issues needed to be addressed more fully in the State government discussion paper and consultation processes on "A Better Way for Planning". She has spoken with EDO and is raising these issues in her Department. She expressed interest in a city wide biodiversity assessment and plan

- **Relationship with KFG**

The Deputy Premier is keen to be informed and involved in forthcoming KFCG activities.

Meeting With the Lord Mayor

On Tuesday 11 August 2015 Pam Bourke, Phil Heywood and Patrice Draper met with the Mayor, Cr Cooper, Chair of the Brisbane City Council (BCC) Planning Committee, and her policy advisor to discuss the key concerns of the KFCG about planning and development in West End. They listened and made very few comments. The delegation from Kurilpa Futures Campaign Group:

- Introduced who we are, emphasising that we had engaged extensively with the local community and that the numbers were growing at every event. We also indicated that we were networked with similar groups across the city.
- Said we thought that the Kurilpa Peninsula offered unique opportunities to enable Council to realise its 2022 vision for Brisbane to become a new world city that builds on its natural and human assets including creative industries, a wonderful natural environment and sustainable/green design. The Mayor indicated that Council's *Brisbane 2022 New World City Action Plan* is about economic development not urban development and planning.
- Asked about the future of the draft Kurilpa Master Plan. The LM indicated that it was now in the hands of the State Government as indicated at a meeting between the Deputy Premier and Cr Cooper. Council would not be pursuing it further at this stage.
- Had emailed an advance copy of our Kurilpa Ideas Forum Report to the Lord Mayor. He advised that it was highly unlikely that Council would limit development in the Kurilpa Master Plan area to 8 storeys. He said BCC was required by the SEQ regional plan to allow for an additional 156,000 dwellings to 2030. He said that if Mt Gravatt had 15 stories how could Kurilpa Master Plan precinct be limited to 8?
- In response, the delegation pointed out that the BCC's City Shape strategy in fact supported intensification along transport corridors and in nodes such as Mt Gravatt. Putting all the growth into the inner city was the 2nd least popular option in City Shape, which was still on Council's website.
- Indicated that there was an opportunity to review the South Brisbane Riverside Neighbourhood Plan to make it congruent with the new World City and Creative Industries strategies and to replace it with a District Plan which took a wider perspective.
- Indicted that key concerns about the South Brisbane Riverside plan were about traffic and transport and social infrastructure including schools. We mentioned the thousands of cars on Montague Rd that were already creating major problems for residents and the lack of capacity at the local schools. We said there was no traffic and transport plan or social infrastructure plan to manage growth. We indicated that previous SEQ Regional plans had sequenced growth around infrastructure provision and that this principle was important for the Kurilpa peninsula. The Mayor said that schools were a state responsibility. We indicated that all three spheres of government would need to work together to address these issues. The Mayor did not respond to the traffic problems.
- Presented the resolutions from the Day of Action march and rally.
- Presented a further copy of the Ideas Forum report and proposed that the inclusive model of the Ideas Forum would be our recommended way forward for the community consultation for the preparation of a new neighbourhood or district plan.
- Indicated we would like to discuss the Ideas Forum Report with him further and that we would like to work with the Council on developing a new plan for the Kurilpa precinct. The Mayor did not commit to a date to meet with us. However he did say we could contact his office about a follow up meeting regarding the report.

