

## NEWSLETTER

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### VICTORIA PARK: THE MASTERPLAN FOR A COMMUNITY RECREATION PARK

SECRA is committed to the proper implementation of the Victoria Park Masterplan.

Since the last newsletter your SECRA committee representatives have had meetings with both the staff of the car race ( 21<sup>st</sup> December) and staff of the Adelaide City Council (8<sup>th</sup> March). SECRA's main concerns are the need for landscaping between the two east/west paths to minimise the adverse aesthetic impact of these two paths on the park and the blocking off of the southern east/west path during the setup and dismantling of the Clipsal race infrastructure. The whole purpose of this southern path was to provide a separate dedicated safe and lighted path for pedestrians and cyclists. As it turned out Clipsal infrastructure blocked off this southern path early in the set up period and cyclists and pedestrians were forced to share the northern path with vehicles such as trucks, forklifts and cranes , etc. A most unsatisfactory situation.

Mr Tom McCready, Asset Manager ACC has suggested that SECRA have a combined meeting with car race staff, ACC asset management staff and ACC events staff in May. SECRA has been advocating this kind of meeting for some time and are looking forward to having representatives from all three of these organisations at the same meeting in order to try and address some of SECRA's concerns.

**MEETING WITH CLIPSAL 500 REPRESENTATIVES** (Mark Warren CEO, Brian Gleeson, John Hadaway, Jane Mc Donough)

The Clipsal 500 race changed its set-up this year and immediately erected structures south of the northern east-west road with the result that they (from day one almost) blocked the new southern east-west lighted pedestrian/bicycle path. SECRA raised concerns about this situation as the blocking off of the southern path is contrary to the purpose for which the path was installed which is to keep cyclists and pedestrians away from the new bitumen road that has been constructed for trucks, machinery and cranes, etc. during the setup and dismantling of infrastructure for the Clipsal 500 race.



Clipsal's argument for this change in setup was that they needed to protect the grass in front of the hairpin – the most photographed (by TV cameras) grass in Adelaide.

SECRA has contacted Mr Hadaway (9<sup>th</sup> March) to request that they immediately unblock the lighted pedestrian/bicycle path since the grass no longer needs protection but pedestrians and cyclists do and we have been advised that this will be done.

SECRA has also asked that advertising on site be immediately covered-up or removed. Advertising is only allowable in the National Heritage-listed Park Lands during an event and the car race event is now over. Those South Australians who use the Park for informal recreation do not need to be confronted by advertising.

**MEETING WITH ACC STAFF TO DISCUSS VICTORIA PARK ISSUES** (Tom McCready, Mike Blyth, and Deputy Lord Mayor David Plumridge (who set up the meeting and chaired it.))

- \$1.7 million has been put forward in ACC's March Budget Review for landscaping between the bitumen road and the lighted bitumen cyclist and pedestrian path, and for entry 'statements' at Fullarton Road and Halifax Street in this year's ACC budget. SECRA strongly support this.
- Any bitumen in the Park that does not accord with the Victoria Park Masterplan will be removed. The car race used matting this year to protect turfed surfaces and so can use it in the future.
- SECRA expressed its concern at the car race occupying more and more of the Park each year.

- SECRA expressed its concern at the length of time it takes for set-up and take-down (noting that this would not be reduced by much if the pit straight building was left as a permanent structure as it is only one of many large temporary structures that are erected for the race . It was also noted that this year the pit straight building was erected within a few weeks).
- SECRA is opposed to night racing as the lighting will make it unbearable for those living next to the race track and the noise from the cars would be intolerable for south east city residents. This noise would be exacerbated by the post race lake concerts. Also tax payers should not have to pay (perhaps \$10 million) to light the circuit. It is also likely that more damage will occur to the Park and adjacent residential streets.
- SECRA is of the view that the car race should not be held in a residential area and public open space (the National Heritage-listed Adelaide Park Lands).

## **AGM**

The SECRA AGM held on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2011 was very successful with 45 people attending (and 30 apologies). The subject "Proposed Wetlands In Victoria Park" was addressed by representatives of the Brown Hill Keswick Creek Stormwater Project which proposes to construct wetlands at the southern end of Victoria Park as part of the project.

## **HIGH DENSITY AND MULTI-STORY DEVELOPMENT**

It is likely that in the next few months the public shall be asked to respond to the State Government's proposed changes to the Development Plan. SECRA supports a "pyramid" shape of the city where high rise is confined to the CBD. SECRA will be submitting a response on the proposed changes to the Development Plan.

## **CURRENT ISSUES (from recent committee meeting):**

It is understood that SA Housing is proposing to redevelop the Playford, Box Factory and Manitoba housing complexes.

## **NEIGHBOUR DAY.**

Last year SECRA organised a very successful walking tour of nature strips in our area. This year we are supporting the Box Factory Community Centre's *SE City Stories* project. This booklet of fiction, non-fiction, poetry and photographs will be launched at the Centre on Saturday March 24<sup>th</sup> 2-4pm. Hope to see you there.

## **BOX FACTORY COMMUNITY CENTRE HERITAGE WALKING TOUR**

It was good to see around 27 people turn up for this walk around our area. There is obviously a keen interest in our history and heritage. Another Box Factory Summer School twilight walk took in the bush regeneration in Park 17 (opposite St Andrew's Hospital).

## **ACC SEEKING AN OPEN SPACE GRANT FOR VICTORIA PARK**

The Adelaide City Council is applying for a State Government Open Space Grant for Victoria Park for the provision of facilities, landscaping and plantings at Victoria Park. SECRA has sent a letter to the ACC supporting their grant application as these works are much needed to enhance the experiences of the general public and local community using Victoria Park.

## **COMMUNITY COURSE GUIDE 2012**

SECRA members may not be aware of the Community Course Guide for 2012 which is available from the Adelaide City Council or is able to be accessed by visiting [www.adelaidecitycouncil.com/courses](http://www.adelaidecitycouncil.com/courses) .

The courses, which are either free or cost very little, are held at the Adelaide South West Community Centre, the Box Factory Community Centre and the North Adelaide Community Centre. The courses cover many areas of interest and many are provided volunteer non-professional training providers.

