

NEWSLETTER Edition 50 AUGUST 2019

FORUMS & MEETINGS

SECRA has recently been represented at the following forums and meetings.

Lord Mayor's Resident Groups Conversation

The Lord Mayor, Sandy Verschoor, and a number of Councillors met with representatives of City of Adelaide Resident Associations in June. The Lord Mayor was particularly interested to hear how Council could better communicate with residents. It was suggested that one way is for Council to make available a regular précis of Council decisions. The "Your Say" consultation process was also discussed and it was suggested that Resident Groups receive feedback from Council regarding their submissions particularly where they have made suggestions that have not been accepted. Live streaming of Council and Committee meetings is now available on line together with a video of the Lord Mayor providing an update on recent Council meetings. These can be accessed at <https://www.cityofadelaide.com.au>. While no date was established for the next meeting SECRA suggested that the next meeting could focus upon the state planning review particularly in regard to the protection of heritage buildings within the CBD.

Community Alliance Meeting

The Community Alliance meeting held in June brought together a Panel consisting of a number of personnel with experience in planning which included Michael Lennon, Chairperson, State Planning Commission. SECRA raised the fact that SECRA had submitted many submissions on the proposed changes to the South Australian Planning Reform process. Not once was any feedback received. SECRA therefore questioned if it was a "waste of time" making submissions. Michael said that it was not unreasonable for SECRA to expect feedback on their submissions and that he would be happy to meet with SECRA. SECRA will be meeting with Michael Lennon on 23 August. In particular we will be raising concern about the protection of heritage buildings together with the demolition of buildings to make way for developments approved by the State Commission Assessment Panel (SCAP). It would appear that once approved SCAP has little, if any, further involvement in the process resulting in unsatisfactory situations occurring such as the heritage Davaar House (corner of Hutt Street and South Terrace) and demolition of two villas on the corner of Hutt and Ifold Streets leaving a vacant site.

SA Residents' Action Groups Forum

This was the third forum held by Tony Piccolo, Shadow Minister for Planning and Local Government. The Leader of the Opposition, Peter Malinauskas, attended the forum and addressed the following issues:

- It was acknowledged by Peter Malinauskas that some of the introduced ALP Planning policies associated with development in built up areas are not working well.
- Higher density developments have resulted in restricted access in streets where there is limited off street parking. This has meant that cars parked on both sides of the street restrict access for refuse collection and emergency vehicles and in some cases public transport.
- Labor is proposing a private members bill that requires developments with two bedrooms or more to provide at least two off street car parks. If this is not possible in a new subdivision then off street cars park must be provided within 100 metres.
- There needs to be more transparency with the State Commission Assessment Panel (SCAP) with the public being able to attend SCAP meetings.

South Wards Street and Movement Study

A meeting was held by the City of Adelaide to consider survey forms that are proposed to be sent to all residents and businesses in the South Ward. The results of these surveys will help shape the streetscapes in the City's South Ward and help the Council plan for the future. The survey forms will be updated as a result of the input received at this meeting prior to them being distributed. SECRA members are encouraged to complete and submit the survey forms when they receive them. The study will also provide other opportunities for comments including at a coffee shop consultations with residents and a Hutt Street trader forum.

Adelaide 500 Race

While stressing its opposition to the Adelaide 500 Race and its occupation of Victoria Park SECRA meets with Adelaide 500 representatives prior to and after the race in order to discuss issues that are of concern to residents. These meetings have been cordial and worthwhile as the race organisers have been prepared to address the concerns raised by SECRA where possible. During recent years the footprint in Victoria Park has been reduced and the length of time occupying Victoria Park has been shortened. We were advised that changes have been made to fence lines for the 2020 race in order to allow better pedestrian and cyclist access. In particular the perimeter fence line along Rymill Park Rose Garden path is to be relocated to allow public access from Dequetteville Terrace to East Terrace. Individual concerns by residents have also been resolved such as the placement and use of generators throughout the nights. SECRA is willing to bring other such issues that residents may have to the attention of the Adelaide 500 representatives.

Lot 14 – The Vacated RAH Site

A few months ago SECRA representatives met with members of the Lot 14 Project Team to discuss the continuation of the Park Lands Trail through the vacated RAH site alongside the Botanic Gardens to link the Park Lands Trail at the corner of East Terrace and North Terrace with the River Torrens Linear Park. The Project Team personnel advised that this was impracticable as the eastern boundary of the site was at different levels but users of the Park Lands Trail would be able to access the River Torrens via the roadways that will wind through the redeveloped site. SECRA is of the view that the difference in levels along the eastern boundary could be accommodated by erecting a boardwalk trail along that boundary. This would enhance the tourism potential of the Park Lands Trail as it would provide users with a view into the Botanic Gardens on one side and the redeveloped RAH site on the other. It would certainly be a better experience than walking or cycling along a road through Lot 14 between high rise buildings. There appears to be a lack of appreciation of the unique tourist potential of the Park Lands Trail that surrounds Adelaide. Visitors to the city, who walk or cycle the trail, are able to experience typical Australian wooded areas, the Riverbank precinct, the wooded and undeveloped banks of the River Torrens, children's playgrounds, playing fields, a BMX facility, Veale Gardens, Himeji Japanese Gardens, the Tree Climb Adventure and also traverse a trail that passes through Adelaide's oldest cemetery with historic headstones and war graves.

PROPOSED BROWN HILL KESWICK CREEK STORMWATER PROJECT

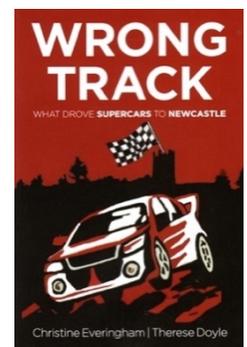
SECRA submitted a submission on the proposed wetlands at the southern end of Victoria Park as part of the proposed Brown Hill Keswick Creek Stormwater Project. These wetlands will assist in reducing downstream peak flows in the Park Lands Creek that flows into the Brown Hill Keswick Creek system. However, unlike Brown Hill Creek which is fed from the Adelaide foothills, the Park Lands Creek is fed from urban runoff in the eastern suburbs. SECRA has therefore expressed concern about the contaminants from the streets that would end up in these wetlands. Also without summer flows will the wetlands end up as small shallow pools presenting a mosquito problem? SECRA has requested feedback on these concerns.

CITY OF ADELAIDE "YOUR SAY" AND CONSULTATION SUBMISSIONS

SECRA has been contacted by a resident of the South East precinct of the city who was extremely upset by being located through a "Google" search as a result of her responding to "Your Say" in October 2012. SECRA has previously raised concern with the City of Adelaide Council about the requirement for a respondent to "Your Say" to provide their name and address. SECRA is of the view that the public disclosure of respondents' names and addresses not only discourages people from responding but also can deter them from providing honest responses that could well result in adverse reactions from others particularly through the internet and social media. SECRA has therefore written to the Lord Mayor and requested that respondents to "Your Say" be provided with the option to not have their names and addresses placed on the public record. Advice has been received this option is now available.

SECRA AGM AND "WRONG TRACK" ADELAIDE BOOK LAUNCH – NOVEMBER 7TH

Please put Thursday 7th November 2019 in your diary. A short SECRA AGM will be held at 6pm in the Box Factory Community Centre followed by the Adelaide launch of the book "Wrong Track" by Dr Christine Everingham on her investigations on the Supercars Race that is held at Newcastle. Christine will speak on how a Supercars Motor Racing Circuit was inappropriately established in a medium density area of the City of Newcastle incurring the expenditure of millions of dollars of public funds. It poses the question "Is the Adelaide 500 Supercars Race on the wrong track too?" Christine will be introduced by local resident, Stephanie Johnston, who was with Wakefield Press and now has a urban and rural planning consultancy. Stephanie is also a member of the Adelaide Park Lands Authority.



SECRA's MEETINGS WITH WARD COUNCILLORS

SECRA meets regularly with the City of Adelaide South Ward councillors, Helen Donovan and Alex Hyde. These meetings cover a wide range of topics affecting the ward including the progress of new initiatives for the South Ward in the Integrated Business Plan 2019-2020 such as a Management Plan for Hutt Street, a new cultural hub, and the E-W Bikeway. Another theme running through our discussions is the impact of high density building upon traffic and waste management and the importance of the Adelaide Park Lands. These meetings also provide the opportunity to raise issues that have been identified by SECRA members with the South Ward Councillors.

GUIDED WALKS IN THE ADELAIDE PARK LANDS

The Adelaide Park Lands Preservation Association (APPA) holds regular walks in the Adelaide Park Lands for members of the public at a cost of a gold coin donation. It's a great opportunity to get to know your Park Lands better and details of the walks can be found at <http://www.adelaide-parklands.asn.au/guided-walks>

SECRA MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

There are still a few SECRA Members who have not yet renewed their SECRA membership. Payment can be made by post to SECRA, PO Box 7017, Hutt Street, Adelaide or electronically to BSB 105-148, Account No. 024 710 940 (please include initials and surname as payment reference)