

SOUTH-EAST CITY NEWS

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SOUTH-EAST CITY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION INC (SECRA)

July 2006

It is now a year since the seeds of SECRA were sown. Over the year our membership has grown steadily and with your support we have tackled many issues. We have been involved with plans for the reopening of the Box Factory, making representations about supported accommodation at Afton House and the wider issues of social housing in the city, we have helped residents respond to licensing applications and we have made submissions to Council on various issues including the 2006/2007 budget and Business Plan. The most demanding challenge has undoubtedly been trying to reduce the impact of the ever bigger (and ever more disruptive) Clipsal event and to get the Council to support us in our opposition to permanent motor racing infrastructure in Victoria Park. The concept plans commissioned by the Council in 2004 and used for the aborted consultation are still current although no one at the Council wants to talk about them. **THE FUNDAMENTAL PROBLEM IS THAT COUNCIL SEES VICTORIA PARK AS THE PREFERRED VENUE FOR MAJOR EVENTS FOR UP TO 100000 PEOPLE. THIS POSITION IS UNTENABLE FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS AND HAS TO BE CHANGED. STOP PRESS: Council HAS TODAY VOTED TO REJECT CIRQUE DU SOLEIL'S APPLICATION TO USE VICTORIA PARK, for which we are all very grateful!**

David Plumridge, Chairperson



THE PLIGHT OF THE HOMELESS SECRA has been concerned about the plight of people who are forced to either sleep 'rough' or rely on supported accommodation in places like Afton House. It seems to be wrong that in a country as wealthy as Australia, we cannot provide a secure and affordable place to live and the necessary support services for those with special needs in our community. 'Thinker in Residence' Rosanne Haggerty, recently told a packed audience at the Town Hall that in New York it costs more to provide emergency support for the homeless than it does to actually house them. She suggests that Governments and business should work together to convert derelict buildings into new apartments to house a wide social mix, all paying 30% of their income in rent. The program known as Common Ground could be established in Adelaide and buildings like the one pictured in Flinders St might be an ideal first project.

BOX FACTORY UPDATE Member for Adelaide the Hon. Jane Lomax-Smith tells us that the planning stages for the Box Factory upgrade are well advanced and that Development Approval will soon be sought. Good news!

STUNNING SAYS IT ALL (?) In early 2006 Council brought in its new Development Plan which will guide development in the City well into the future. **What changes did it make and is it going to give us better development?** Of course Development Plans are not just about built form but all the social, environmental and economic aspects of a well-ordered city. Many organisations made submissions during the consultation but from what we have heard very few of those submissions were adopted in the plan. Mixed Use zones have relaxed height and density controls on key areas such as Hutt Street and the chance to have a say on developments – with rights of appeal – have been drastically curtailed. Serious changes to Parklands zoning controls have opened the door to extensive exploitation of parts of the East Parklands.



AND SPEAKING OF THE PARKLANDS.....



Good things and bad things are happening to the Parklands. This building on the east side of Hutt Road is under the care and control of the Council – its an eyesore and a disgrace; and recent works on the creek are going to take a long time to recover from the work of the bulldozer.

The good thing is the continuing construction of the Parklands Trail which is a credit to all Council staff concerned.



HUTT STREET CAFÉ SOCIETY is enjoyed by locals and visitors alike – its just a pity that some establishments seem to want to take over more than their fair share of the footpath. This means that people often have to dodge around tables which can be a problem for people with pushers and wheelchairs. Regulations provide for an 1800mm wide clear pathway.

CIVIC TRUST AWARDS SECRA has entered the Clipsal V8 Supercar Race set-up in Victoria Park for a Brickbat Award

TROUBLE IN THE VILLAGE Recently there have been increased reports of anti-social behaviour in and around Hutt Street. The Hutt St Day Centre provides invaluable support to 200 needy people every day. But the area sometimes attracts an undesirable element. Homelessness, substance abuse and mental illness are all contributory factors but the answer is certainly not armed guards posted in Hutt Street as was suggested by one local identity! Sensitive cooperation of all agencies and the use of community policing must be the way forward. The Council is working with all the concerned agencies to find a long-term solution to the problems affecting south-east traders and residents alike. SECRA has pledged its support for the initiatives being taken; we have also called for a full Government review of supported housing in the city.

REMEMBER OUR PUBLIC MEETING ON AUGUST 23 AT 6.30PM AT THE TPI ON THE FUTURE OF VICTORIA PK GUEST SPEAKER WILL BE LORD MAYOR, MICHAEL HARBISON – BRING YOUR NEIGHBOURS – ALL WELCOME

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