



SOUTH-EAST CITY NEWS – EDITION 17 – JULY 2008

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

A submission to the Adelaide City Council's Business Plan and Budget has been the major work undertaken by the Committee since the last newsletter – this will be on our website soon.

While the only part of this submission noted in the media was our suggestion of more expensive long-term parking in Council car-parks to persuade greater use of public transport, our submission dealt with much more than this. A major component of the proposed Budget affecting ratepayers is the imposition of a 'green' levy. Our submission noted that being 'green' should be a core part of Council's intended operations – not an add on. We also noted that by moving into the city, many residents have effectively reduced their carbon footprint and that it is visitors to the city who share the responsibility for reducing carbon emissions in the CBD. Consequently, we argued that if a levy is to be imposed, it should be levied on those who choose to bring their cars into the city every day through increased fees for all-day parking in Council-owned U-Parks. So that increased parking costs would not be a deterrent to shoppers and users of city businesses, short-term parking fees (one hour or less) could be reduced.

Our long-stated aim is increased use of public transport and we maintain our call for free public transport within the CBD. Please check the website to view the SECRA submission in full.

An issue of concern for many residents is the campsite set up in the South Parklands and we note that a 60 year old man was bashed recently in an attempted robbery near this campsite while walking his dog at 7.30 pm. While sympathy can be felt for those living rough, residents have a right to feel safe in their own area and their concerns need to be addressed. While SECRA as an organisation can (and will) write to the Council, the Local Member and SAPOL, the most effective response is for anyone feeling threatened or harassed or who is aware of a crime being committed, to contact SAPOL on 13 1444 and ask for the Adelaide area crime watch. It does not matter if the issue seems trivial as the police are often aware of new people in the area and can identify the perpetrators quickly.

While the issues surrounding homelessness, mental health and anti-social behaviour are complex, public safety can often be addressed by simple measures such as police logging all incidents and identifying hotspots, better street lighting, more patrols and Council enforcing its by-laws. We can all assist by reporting incidents as they occur.

Finally, please jot down your thoughts on the pro-forma which we recently emailed to members regarding the Victoria Park masterplan and forward to me by July 10th for inclusion in the SECRA response.

Anne Melrose
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What is happening at Victoria Park? Not much. We note that Mr Andrew Daniels, the CEO of the South Australian Motor Sport Board will be resigning from that post in September to take over as CEO of the Motor Accidents Commission. And Stuart Moseley, CEO of the Adelaide City Council will be resigning from that post in September to take up a job in private industry.

Your committee has been in regular robust correspondence with both men. We wish them well in their new endeavours.



The “essential” Clipsal 500 admin complex

Another ‘masterplan’ for Victoria Park?

Oxigen Landscape Architects have been engaged by Adelaide City Council to prepare a master plan for Victoria Park. SECRA is considered one of the stakeholders for Victoria Park and your committee has been asked to give input into the planning for the park.

We have been sent a list of questions which we have emailed to members and will be having a meeting with James Hayter from Oxigen in mid July. We shall publish the SECRA submission on the website.

Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy

A very comprehensive (and very long) draft discussion paper has been developed by Council staff incorporating the responses of 80 Council staff and 40 external stakeholders (including SECRA). This will now be presented to the Adelaide Park Lands Authority at their July 3rd meeting (the June 19th meeting was adjourned) and the final draft will be released at a later date for public feedback (via the ACC website).

It’s a fascinating read noting, among other things, that the 1999 Park Lands Management Strategy is inadequate because of such issues as “climate change, water management, management of cultural landscapes, dealing with social issues in the Park Lands, management of events, and the identification of new funding opportunities.” (p 3157)

Over two-thirds of Council staff respondents thought that the “best thing” about the Park Lands was the open space and tranquillity. Over half of the External Stakeholders thought the “best thing” was that the Park Lands are “easy to access, accessible and close to the City”.

Temporary Storage of soil at Victoria Park

Your committee is being kept informed by the ACC about rehabilitation work being undertaken on the South Park Lands Creek to “mitigate erosion, provide increased amenity, habitat values

and environmental values". As Doug Schmidt, General Manager, City Places and Projects explains:

Surplus soil from the excavation works is being temporarily stored at the end of the racetrack, on the old 1000m chute. As this surplus soil contains small quantities of low level contaminants e.g. asphalt, concrete, etc from previous Council operations, it is more cost effective to temporarily store the soil and reuse it on site than dispose of the soil and incur the hefty dumping fees. The mound of soil will be hydro mulched with grass seed which will ensure dust control and to improve aesthetics until it is re-used on site.

This surplus soil is intended to be reused in later stages of the creek rehabilitation project and for use in the formation of banks for future stormwater detention basins or possibly even wetlands. (10 June 2008).



Creek widening



Temporary soil storage

The Box Factory

Expect an announcement soon!

WE WELCOME YOUR COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS.....

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