



## **SOUTH-EAST CITY NEWS – EDITION 16 – MAY 2008**

Your Committee has been very busy writing submissions and letters and we hope to have these on our website soon so that you can be kept fully informed on what is being said on your behalf.

In particular, we have written to the South Australian Motor Sport Board regarding possible changes to the setting up of the Clipsal 500 (see section on Victoria Park) and we have made a submission to the Adelaide City Council Strategic Plan, *Creating our future 2008-2030*.

As this Strategic Plan feeds into the Corporate Plan and then the Budget, there will be some follow up to try to give effect to our proposals in that submission.

In addition, we will wish to have input to the consultation on the Management Plan for Victoria Park.

**On Victoria Park, I am particularly annoyed about the way in which the government, and Treasurer Kevin Foley in particular, want to have it all ways.**

Mr Foley concedes a temporary stand may be the best option and that this temporary stand will be state of the art and provide additional seating and shade for patrons of the race. At the same time he is acting as though this is a poor result for South Australia! This puffery and spin is merely an exercise in bully boy tactics and the 'threat' that the put up time of the new stand will take 11 months is a complete (but annoying) piece of nonsense.

For those of you who heard Mr Foley being interviewed by Keith Conlon (transcript available from me on request) you will note that once again Mr Foley spat the dummy and said the government would not be funding anything to do with Victoria Park – including those things which are rightly the responsibility of state government. In saying that the government would wash its hands of storm water management, traffic and transport issues and environmental sustainability as they relate to Victoria Park, Mr Foley is flagging he is only interested in governing for those who agree with him on all issues.

SECRA has never been the enemy of the state government nor of the Clipsal 500. We have tried, and continue to try, to work with the SAMSB. Now a decision has been made on Victoria Park, the opportunity exists for the state government to work with the ACC, residents and other interested individuals and groups to create a great urban park that meets the needs of the many, rather than the few. The adversarial approach taken by the government on this issue needs to stop.

**I therefore urge you all to take the opportunity as it arises to comment on the ACC Management Plan for Victoria Park to ensure your voice is heard. It may also be a good idea for members to vote in the Adelaide Now polls as these seem to be the only 'polls' acknowledged by the government and *The Advertiser*.**

Those who attended our April 1<sup>st</sup> Public Meeting on Water, can attest to the calibre of the presentations given by our speakers Professor Mike Young and Malcolm Campbell. We were

privileged to have such eminent speakers and I personally found the evening not only thought provoking but challenging – this is such a huge issue for all South Australians.

The support members offer the Committee is, once again, appreciated and your input and feedback are important so please keep in touch.

**Anne Melrose**  
**Chairperson, SECRA**

## **Victoria Park**

**Clipsal 500** is out of the park except for a small administration complex which is there for this year only (a new *Prescribed Works Period* has been granted) because of the planned resurfacing of the track and the positioning of 'at or below ground' infrastructure for the temporary grandstand.

On March 19<sup>th</sup> our Chairperson wrote to Mr Andrew Daniels, CEO of the South Australian Motor Sport Board, with some suggestions as to how the SAMSB could be a better neighbour and also ensure other park

users maximum access to the park in 2008/2009. We sent a copy of this letter to Mr Justin Lynch, General Manager City Services at the ACC and to our State Member, Jane Lomax-Smith.

We were pleased to read on the ACC website that at a 27<sup>th</sup> March meeting with the Adelaide Park Lands Authority, Mr Daniels had taken up our suggestions and "agreed that they would endeavour to undertake the following ...

- Restrict buildings to the north of the footpath which runs east from Halifax Street to Fullarton Road, with only car parking located south of the footpath
- Move the VIP car park currently located under the trees on the are west of the horse racing trace to further east onto the horse racing track
- Explore areas that were used by SA Jockey Club to relocate the administration and construction compound."

We are pleased to see that the SAMSB has replaced the coloured car race kerbing in East Terrace with plain kerbing. We shall be writing to Mr Daniels to suggest that the new kerbing within the park should also be plain. The track is a popular place for bike-riding families who don't want this activity associated with the message of 'speed, noise and alcohol' associated with the car race.

We are also pleased that the SAMSB has followed our suggestion that pedestrian refuges in Wakefield Street and Bartels Road be removed as late as possible before the car race and replaced as early as possible after the car race. We now suggest that they do the same to the fence that runs parallel to the East Terrace dual pedestrian/cycle track and which bisects the main recreational corridor. This year the fence was erected one month before the race and dismantled one month after.

We shall also be asking the Clipsal organizers to publish the concerts' starting and finishing times in the leaflet they distribute to residents. These concerts – on for four nights - are very noisy and distressing to some residents who say they cannot shut out the noise.

***Victoria Park Community Land Management Plan***

The ACC will soon be conducting a Community Land Management Plan for the park. SECRA will be making a submission arguing that park improvements build on its current use as a fitness park for active individual recreation:

- Retain the open vistas for aesthetic and safety reasons. People feel comfortable letting their children run (and cycle) free as they can see them.
- Incorporate a running and dog walking circuit.
- Develop recreational bicycle trails
- Continue the dual pedestrian/cycle track along the Fullarton Road side under the trees and along Wakefield Street.
- Selected tree and shrub plantings for shade

**SECRA members are encouraged to make their own submissions to the process (we will email you when the date for submissions has been announced) or send suggestions to your committee.**

### **Glenelg to Adelaide Park Lands Recycled Water Project**

A project to bring recycled water from the Glenelg Wastewater Treatment Plant to the Adelaide Park Lands is being implemented by the South Australian Government with funding assistance from the National Water Commission.

It is proposed to construct an underground pipeline from the Glenelg Wastewater Treatment Plant to the south western corner of the Park Lands where an underground storage tank will be constructed from which the recycled water will be pumped into an underground pipeline around the Park Lands.

The recycled water will provide a sustainable long term solution for the watering of the Park Lands by the Adelaide City Council and has the potential to be also used as “grey water” within the CBD together with industry and councils along the route of the pipeline.

With the imminent appointment of private contractors it is anticipated that the planning and design stages will be completed by the end of 2008 with construction works starting early in 2009. It is expected that recycled water will be available for use in the Park Lands by mid 2010.

Our Chairperson, Anne Melrose, is SECRA’s representative on a Community Advisory Group which has been established to ensure an understanding of the project and to provide a forum to present issues, concerns and generate ideas that may contribute to the success of the project.

The project is currently in the conceptual stage and consequently detailed information is not yet available. However issues of concern that have already been raised are the location of the pumping station in the south western Park Lands, the proposed route of the pipeline through the Park Lands (currently shown

schematically in the published documentation) and the high salinity and levels of nutrients in the recycled water. These issues will be addressed during the planning and design stages.

More information on the project can be obtained by visiting the SA Water website at [www.sawater.com.au](http://www.sawater.com.au) or by calling SA Water Projects on 18000 812 362. The Project Team can also be contacted by email at [gapreuse@sawater.com.au](mailto:gapreuse@sawater.com.au).



### **Conflict of Interest Legal Challenge**

On Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April, District Court Judge Gordon Barrett handed down his decision in relation to the “Conflict of Interest” case brought by the Adelaide Park Lands Preservation Association and two residents, Dr Heather Nimmo and Doctor Michael Henningsen, against two members of the Adelaide City Council.

Although in relation to this particular case the issue is now ‘moot’ – the new Adelaide City Council voting decisively at its first Council Meeting to refuse a lease for a permanent structure for motor racing – this decision creates a significant legal precedent for all local governments and many boards which Council members may sit on.

Importantly Judge Barrett found that Councillor Anne Moran and Councillor Richard Hayward *did* have a conflict of interest when they voted for the proposed Victoria Park Grandstand and that they should have withdrawn their chair from both the deliberations and the vote itself as they had been nominated by Council and appointed by the Governor to sit on the South Australian Motor Sport Board.

Some of the issues involved in the legal arguments were esoteric but the issue at stake was of fundamental importance and although the decision of the Council was not reversed, it being considered by the judge as an “in principle” decision only (Mr Foley seems to put more weight on this March 29<sup>th</sup> decision recently calling subsequent actions of the Council as a ‘backflip’), an extremely important legal precedent has been established.

Furthermore, Judge Barrett stated that “.....all three plaintiffs for their different reasons would have standing so long as they could demonstrate that these particular resolutions were going to affect them.” ( Para 59 )

No costs were ever sought by the plaintiffs or the ACC, the important issue being the establishment of a legal precedent and Judge Barrett therefore did not award costs.

SECRA as an organisation, and through individual members, supported APPA in its fight to preserve open space for all South Australians. You can read the entire transcript at [www.austlii.edu.au/cases/sa/SADC/2008](http://www.austlii.edu.au/cases/sa/SADC/2008)

### **Adelaide City Council's *Creating our future 2008-2030***

Chairperson Anne Melrose and Secretary Heather Nimmo put together the SECRA submission which can be read on the SECRA website (which committee member John Underwood is currently revamping with SECRA member Peter Davis who very generously set up and has been responsible for the running of the website). Some of our (annotated) suggestions about what needs to be changed or improved:

**The Adelaide Park Lands should**

- remain 'permeable' and accessible
- be protected by State, National and World Heritage registers
- be promoted through marketing of Adelaide as 'The City in the Park'
- be valued as an attraction and amenity in themselves rather than as a 'development site' or free venue for commercial activity or events.

### **Accountability, transparency and responsibility**

There needs to be greater clarity about the role(s) of the ACC as a local government body responsible to its rate payers (as per other local councils) and its role in relation to Adelaide as a Capital City. And how these roles intersect with those of the State Government.

### **Retention and promotion of what else that makes Adelaide unique:**

- heritage buildings
- 'garden city' street plantings
- a compassionate and friendly community

### **Revamping of the Hutt Street library**

The Hutt Street Library is a valued local asset. However, it is not operating as a genuine 'community' or 'business' hub. The south-east corner of the City doesn't have a community centre and the Library was to fulfill that function. Currently, it does not.

### **Some other projects we support:**

- Improved integration of transport options to support Adelaide City as a preferred destination
- Reduction in private car use
- Improved pedestrian walkways
- Increased and safer bicycle use
- Completion of the Adelaide Park Lands Trail
- No parking on green spaces (such as the Adelaide Park Lands)
- Better connections between North Terrace Cultural Precinct and the shopping area of Rundle Mall through revamped and interesting small lane ways
- Recreational bicycle lane through Rundle Mall to encourage more people there in the evening.
- Wider footpaths with space for bicycle racks and scooter parking and better access for pedestrians (especially Hutt Street outside cafes between Halifax and Angas Streets).
- Retention of strip shopping streets such as Hutt Street, so that the village/community feel is retained, the amenity of the area is retained, and people are encouraged to shop locally.
- More shade through tree plantings.
- Events organizers wanting to use ACC assets (such as the Adelaide Park Lands) submit a transport plan in concert with State Government, which sets an increasing target for public transport use to the event
- Improved integration of the River Torrens walkway to the Convention Centre , to the proposed new hospital and to other pedestrian access points to provide a useable cultural and relaxation space. This space could further be utilized for coffee and food outlets, for stage areas and for buskers both during office hours and at night.

**The three projects of those listed (and that were not already happening) that appealed most:**

**Victoria Park as urban park.**

Subject to consultation and agreement on a proper management plan. Such a plan should remove the designation of Victoria Park as a 'multi-events' or sporting hub. To become a great urban park, Victoria Park should retain its accessibility and not become too prescriptive in its use. It should retain its personal focus ie provide facilities that meet the needs of individuals and not just vested interests and organised groups. The heritage grandstand should become a focus for community events. Organised events such as the car race should be restricted to the area previously used by the SAJC (north-east corner of the park). To encourage the relationship between the park and the local area, signage should be erected to direct park users to Hutt Street for shopping/cafes.

**Compulsory listing of heritage buildings.**

Also new ways of allowing heritage to be given a new life for example through sympathetic 'revamping' as occurred with the State library.

**Integrated transport into and around the city**

Including completion of the Adelaide Park Lands Trail, free transport within the Terraces, more connector buses, better pedestrian access, Copenhagen bicycle lanes.

If you ring the ACC (82037203) you can have sent a CD of the full report which makes very interesting reading. The report summary can be read on the Council website.

---

WE WELCOME YOUR COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS.....

COMMITTEE: ANNE MELROSE (CHAIRPERSON) HEATHER NIMMO (SECRETARY) DOUG SWEET (TREASURER) JAN DAVIS, DAVID PLUMRIDGE, JOHN UNDERWOOD AND MICHAEL HENNINGSEN

EMAIL: [COMMENTS@SECRA.ASN.AU](mailto:COMMENTS@SECRA.ASN.AU) WEB: [WWW.SECRA.ASN.AU](http://WWW.SECRA.ASN.AU) POSTAL: PO BOX7017 HUTT ST ADELAIDE