

# NEWS from your Local Councillor



## **Councillor Craig Ogilvie** Representing Division 2 – Cleveland/North Stradbroke Island

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Hello everybody. Hope you are all well. Thought it was time to update you on a few Council issues. There will be another newsletter coming your way soon to discuss budget issues.

### **Cleveland CBD Master Plan**

The Master Plan is currently being reviewed in light of the community feedback undertaken last year. There was a strong view that there needed to be more community space in the plan.

### **Toondah Harbour**

Before the last election, I made a strong commitment that I would not progress the former Council's vision for Toondah Harbour. This plan was drawn up without community consultation and may not have been acceptable to the community. Unfortunately, the land ownership in the area means that a multi-stakeholder and community-endorsed plan, that has been developed in partnership with the state government, is vital to ensuring we realise the area's enormous potential as a recreational, transport and tourism hub.

### **Koala numbers**

The dramatic decline in numbers is alarming for everybody. For those of us who have been close to the issue, sadly, it is no surprise. I think we will rue the day when we thought 'koala friendly' developments were fine to proceed in koala hotspots. In the meantime, Council is doing as much as possible to reverse the decline and I'd like to take this opportunity to thank those people who turned up at Henry Ziegenfusz Park recently for a community planting.

### **Executive team**

I have been a member of the selection panel interviewing for a range of 'Executive Leadership Group' positions, not four new ones as has been reported. In fact there are two new positions; one for the 'governance' role and one created for 'regulatory services' which includes the important development assessment area.

The 'governance' role is the Council performance and accountability role and exists to make sure Council conducts its affairs in an efficient, effective, honest and transparent way. This role was removed under the last CEO. There has been some excellent candidates across the roles, many of them citing our new CEO as a motivation for their application.

## **Local law – animals**

Council has been reviewing its local law. There is no truth to the rumour Council intends to ban birds. The community will be given the opportunity to provide feedback on any changes to aspects of animal management as part of the normal local law making process. There are big changes on the way for cat owners. Council is obliged to introduce cat registration under the new state government legislation, *Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008*, commencing 1 July 2009. This can be done in the same way as for dogs, in person at the Council counter, via mail, or on the Council's website, [www.redland.qld.gov.au](http://www.redland.qld.gov.au). More details will be available following adoption of Council's 2009-2010 budget.

## **Shopping trolleys**

These things are a scourge on our urban environment and an incredible frustration for this local Councillor. In November last year, Council moved an amendment to its local law to enable it to impound trolleys left sitting around in inappropriate places. It is hoped that the release fee will encourage local shopping centres in the city to either take preventative measures or do a better job of tidying them up. Some residents think it would be more appropriate to fine the trolley 'thieves', however this is very difficult to do. The amendment will take a while to go through the necessary review stages but at least there is some light at the end of the tunnel.

## **Water reform**

You might have seen in the papers that the state government has shown some flexibility in regards to the adoption of its proposed institutional water arrangements. As an outspoken opponent of the proposed arrangements, I can say I believe this is a positive move and something that can only be to our benefit.

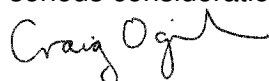
## **Carbon offset tree planting**

Some residents would remember that several years ago I moved a motion in Council requesting an investigation on whether the carbon offset schemes would make it economical, profitable even, for Council to partner with local landowners to plant trees. Although we are not at that point yet, a significant step towards that goal was achieved with the announcement of a carbon offset trial in Victoria Point by the Council of Mayors Regional Carbon Sink Taskforce recently.

## **Narnia**

Cleveland Point has been announced as a location for the filming of the latest instalment of the Narnia films. I am sure that there will be some small inconveniences but unquestionably this will bring tourism and business benefits to our area. I'm sure that it will be a lot of fun as well. We will still be able to access the point and filmmakers are intending to build an area so people will be able to watch the film being made.

That's it for this newsletter but expect another one soon with budget information. Thanks to all those people who have been the 'eyes and ears' of Council and been good enough to contact Council with concerns. On the island, your first phone call should be to the depot for operational issues. Thanks too to all those people who have contributed their thoughts to the Redlands 2030 community planning process. This plan is there to guide our future planning and decision making and deserves our serious consideration.



Craig Ogilvie  
Councillor for Division 2

**Redland City Council**