

20 January 2011

COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS GIVE MORE AMMUNITION FOR LOBBYING STATE GOVERNMENT CAPITAL FUNDING FOR BAY ISLANDS

Mayor Melva Hobson today released the results of the first city-wide comprehensive community satisfaction survey commissioned by Council in five years and acknowledged the special circumstances of the Southern Moreton Bay Islands' (SMBI) community.

"The survey continues to reveal what my Council already knows - and that is the deep concerns the bay island communities have about securing needed infrastructure, transport and services, said the Mayor.

"Despite this, it is pleasing to see that there are high levels of agreement that the bay islands are good places to live (86%) and that people have a strong sense of belonging (82%)," Cr Hobson said.

The Mayor also acknowledged the survey findings confirmed the islands' desire for more economic and tourism growth as well as community concerns about youth services, building controls and drainage/flood mitigation.

"Council has made a commitment to SMBI, within its own financial realities, to advance the islands' long standing, complex issues. But we know we cannot do this alone. We need significant financial support from other levels of government as well as a unified approach from island communities," Cr Hobson continued.

Cr Hobson said that the strong community messages in this study offer another opportunity in the lead up to the 2012 state government election to lobby for significant capital funding commitments from all major parties for critical infrastructure.

The detailed survey was conducted for Council by independent research company, Deborah Wilson Consulting Services in September 2010. Received by Council just prior to Christmas, the report will be used as a baseline to measure future community satisfaction.

The Mayor also thanked the 459 residents who participated in the study for taking the time to give their honest views and suggestions on perceptions of Council's performance.

A complete copy of the survey results are posted on Council's website at www.redland.qld.gov.au.

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