



News from our neighbourhood

What's happening in Division 5

ISLAND EDITION

Dear residents

At the six-month point in the current Council term, it has become apparent to me that while we are moving in the right direction, there are still some things we need to do better.

The main cause of discontent I have seen is the current vegetation policy, which many residents feel is restrictive and does not address the needs of our island residents. There are two main issues: removing dangerous trees and providing wider barriers for bushfire protection.

The removal or pruning of trees is a problem as there are many issues to address and there are also state regulations the Council must comply with. Trees that provide habitat for our wildlife and mangroves are outside this discussion as they are essential to our environment.

There is a valid reason to review the way we treat the needs and desires of our community against the dangers that some tree pose within an island urban environment. I believe greater account needs to be placed on residents' safety to themselves and their property.

I am also very concerned about the risk of bushfires on the islands as we enter the summer period.

We need to ensure that safety is a priority and that firebreaks are adequate and well maintained.

Fortunately the Council vegetation policy is about to be reviewed and with the support of other councillors, we just might be able to enhance Council's ability to lower the fire risks and take a considered approach on removing or trimming trees that pose a problem to residents who live next to them.

I am also lobbying the State Government to elevate our local rural fire services to have the resources they need to contain fire outbreaks.

Why not join the hundreds of residents who have already contacted me for help with an issue? Just email me or telephone 0407 695 667.

I am pleased to confirm that the following project will be completed in January 2013:

- upgrade to the existing gravel road in Paula Parade, between Lucas Drive and Tina Avenue, Lamb Island. Works include bitumen sealing, installation of kerb and channeling and upgrades to existing drainage.

Merry Christmas!

Cr Mark Edwards

Christmas by Starlight

Saturday 1 December 2012
Norm Price Park –
Redland Showgrounds
From 3pm

