Local Government Electoral (Implementing Belcarra) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2017

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SUBMISSION

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed legislation which follows from the Belcarra Report. I am making this submission on my own behalf but with the knowledge that the many community groups with which I have contact have expressed serious concerns about the relationship between developer donations and land use planning issues. These concerns have been expressed on many community websites such as Brisbane Residents United, West End Community Association, Save The Gap, Save Upper Kedron, Concerned Residents Against Poor Planning and many similar sites which have been established to deal with neighbourhood issues.

The community would be appreciative of the efforts of the Crime and Corruption Commission to deal with these issues surrounding developer donations and planning applications in the timeframe which has applied.

I have based my response on the Explanatory Notes rather than on the legislation itself given the short time frame to respond to both documents. I have queries on the following issues:

Relevant Planning Application:

Will this definition cover amendments to the regional plans, the planning Regulation, State Planning Policies and the State Development Assessment Procedures.

I think the Heritage legislation should also be included in the list of legislation covered in this definition as the concept of "exemption certificates" has been included in the heritage legislation.

Donations from Federal Organisations:

I understand that there is a current court case underway in the Queensland Supreme Court which will deliver judgement on this issue. Will the bill require amendment to make sure that donations cannot be sourced from property developers who have contributed to fund raising bodies established in other states which are linked to Federal political organisations? Funds from these bodies have then been provided to local and State political campaigns.

Signed: D. M. Gy

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Submission # 035

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