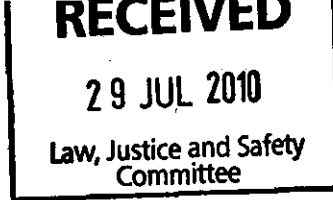


Submission 060



SPRINGFIELD
LAND CORPORATION

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29 July 2010

The Research Director
Law, Justice and Safety Committee
Parliament House
Brisbane QLD 4000

Dear Committee Members

Springfield Land Corporation appreciates the opportunity to comment on the inquiry by the Law, Justice and Safety Committee into A New Local Government Electoral Act: Review of the Local Government Electoral System (excluding BCC).

Springfield Land Corporation has been the developer of the Greater Springfield project in the City of Ipswich for 19 years.

Initially, the development was located in the former Moreton Shire and, since 1995, in the City of Ipswich following its amalgamation with Moreton Shire.

Our development is the largest master-planned community in the southern hemisphere and we pride ourselves on open and accountable discussion and liaison with officers of the Ipswich City Council and Ipswich City Councillors.

When our development was under the control of the Moreton Shire Council, we encountered many difficulties with councillors representing multi-member divisions - encompassing both the Springfield area and adjoining Council divisions - where political processes hindered the orderly progression of our development.

The current Ipswich City Council system of single-member divisions has led to a much greater opportunity for the local councillor to be fully and regularly briefed on all aspects of the project.

This has led to greater mutual trust and a much more harmonious working relationship with the Ipswich City Council.

This local representation, combined with our strong links with the Mayor Paul Pisasale and the Chair of the Planning and Development Committee Councillor Paul Tully, have ensured a working relationship which is highly regarded throughout other parts of Queensland.

Our submission to your enquiry recommends that the current system of single member divisions should continue in the larger local governments around Queensland.

It is a system which ensures local accountability to local voters and residents and guarantees genuine localised representation of local communities.

Any reversion to an undivided council or multi-member divisions would result in a return to a situation where election candidates and councillors would invariably be

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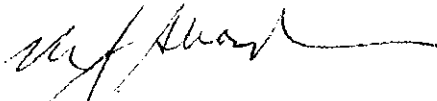
forced to vie for support across the entire city at the expense of a representative community.

Ipswich is a long, elongated city stretching more than 50km from Springfield to Grandchester with distinct sectors comprising the older, core parts of the city, the emerging western corridor and the strong, rural sector.

Any reversion to multi member divisions or an undivided Council governance structure could easily remove local representation from key parts of the City and could hinder the cohesive development of Ipswich City.

Yours sincerely

Springfield Land Corporation Pty Ltd



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