VIA EMAIL (sdiic@parliament.qld.gov.au)
State Development, Infrastructure and Industry Committee
Queensland Parliament
Parliament House
Brisbane QLD 4000
Dear Sir/Madam,

Sustainable Planning and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2012 (Qld)Planning Environment Court Costs – Proposed Submission

The people of The Redlands developed a Community Plan through to 2030 to ensure that planning decisions that are put in place will preserve the nature and amenity of our city.

By using this plan the residents can work closely with our elected officials and Council staff to ensure that development proposals are accurately assessed. We need to encourage greater public involvement in development issues in a way that will keep the general public informed about local government actions. Any changes to developments must have enough infrastructure and greenspace as is proposed in the Community Plan before approval.

Insure that correct procedures are carried out so that should infrastructure and environmental costs arise, residents or groups are able to legally challenge through the Planning and Environment Court paying their own costs but without having to pay the costs of other parties.

It is extremely important to remember that we elected a Council consisting of a Mayor and councillors and we expect that the Councillors should have the same authority and input into decisions as the Mayor. This is how the democratic process in the Council has worked and this is how it should continue. The Mayor should not be able to authorise any large development or make any decisions which would go against the Community Plan. These must be put to the vote of the Councillors and Mayor. This is what we consider to be the democratic process of Council.

Yours sincerely,

Rodney Smith and Janice Smith.

