

From: [REDACTED]
To: [State Development Infrastructure and Industry Committee](#)
Subject: Submission re Sustainable Planning Act and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2012
Date: Friday, 12 October 2012 8:29:35 PM

Submission re Sustainable Planning Act and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2012

Please accept and consider the following points in submission to the above. I make these from my position as a long term member of a community organisation with many dealings with local government and also as a member of the community reference group for the *Redlands 2030* community plan adopted by the Redland City Council in 2010.

1. Streamlining processes through cutting red tape is promising but needs to be balanced against speed for the sake of achieving less than standard developments.
2. Greater transparency is welcome.
3. The removal of a requirement for community plans gives the impression that community voice is unimportant and in the case of Redlands there is uncertainty in the community that this plan finalised in 2010 is to be used at all. Hence there is uncertainty whether community voice is regarded as important.
4. Carrying "own costs" in court appeals needs to be preserved as the threat of "costs against" silences community voice.
5. The collaborative approach for councils-community as suggested in the amendments is welcome; however the amendments at the same time place too much power in the hands of mayor instead of mayor plus councillors.
6. Point 5 is important because mayors can be elected from the big budgets of special interest groups potentially then promoting those interests above community interests.
7. The free-ing up and streamlining of the amendments need to reflect also that local government is often the final arbiter in matters of environmental and social significance and it would be a backward step to see these second placed to a development emphasis.
8. Local law making needs to be transparent and notified.

Submission made by Genevieve Gall

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