



Speech by

Hon. R. SCHWARTEN

MEMBER FOR ROCKHAMPTON

Hansard 5 December 2001

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Royal Australian Planning Institute Awards

Hon. R. E. SCHWARTEN (Rockhampton—ALP) (Minister for Public Works and Minister for Housing) (10.10 a.m.), by leave: The Royal Australian Planning Institute, RAPI, promotes excellence in planning and is the national professional organisation representing qualified planners in Australia. The Queensland Department of Housing scooped four RAPI awards at their state awards ceremony last month—two in conjunction with the Department of Public Works—which is a testament to the leadership role being played by these departments in planning and design in Queensland and in Australia.

The Department of Housing, the Queensland University of Technology, the Hassell Group and the Department of Public Works took out the Award for Excellence in Planning and a Certificate of Merit in Urban Design for the Kelvin Grove Urban Village project. The Department of Housing, QUT and architectural firm Hassell undertook the master plan for the village and the Department of Public Works is managing the project. Kelvin Grove Urban Village will feature the first master-planned integration of educational, residential, commercial, leisure and cultural facilities in the nation.

This dynamic new urban place will be located on 17 hectares of land at Kelvin Grove, incorporating the former Gona Barracks site and QUT's Kelvin Grove campus. Over the next five years, the area will transform into a vibrant community of cafes, shops, restaurants, health facilities and residential, office and educational services, including the QUT Creative Industries Precinct—all of this on the old Gona Barracks site which I personally authorised the purchase of some two years ago. The Kelvin Grove Urban Village demonstrates innovation, creativity, environmental quality, community benefit and technical competence. It is a worthy recipient of these awards and clear evidence of smart and sustainable community planning by the Beattie government.

The Department of Housing won two other awards for excellence for the Affordable Housing Project at Bowen Hills and for the West End-Woolloongabba Local Housing Action Report. These awards demonstrate the Department of Housing's commitment to working in partnership with other agencies and the private sector to support and maintain inclusive communities and ensure a better housing future for all Queenslanders.
