



Speech by

Barbara Stone

MEMBER FOR SPRINGWOOD

Hansard Thursday, 23 August 2007

SPRINGTIME GARDENS CARAVAN PARK

Ms STONE (Springwood—ALP) (5.11 pm): Tonight I rise to inform the House of a meeting with residents of Springtime Gardens Caravan Park and state government and Logan City Council representatives regarding the future of the park's residents held last Saturday. I am very happy to report that the meeting has resulted in some positive outcomes. I also want to place on record my thanks to the Department of Housing and the Office of Fair Trading officers who were on hand to address the crowd and answer their concerns. They were certainly very helpful in providing information to residents.

Logan City Council Mayor Graham Able and Councillor Aidan McLindon addressed the crowd regarding the development application presently with Logan City Council to develop the park site. Mayor Able has assured the residents that the Logan City Council will attempt to secure land and build a new caravan park to house the residents of Springtime Gardens. I welcome the announcement and I urge the Logan City Council to act on this commitment as soon as possible. At the meeting, Councillor McLindon indicated that the Logan City Council will start looking for land prior to the upcoming council election—a pledge which I am eager to see come to fruition.

The securing of a site for the new caravan park by Logan City Council as soon as possible will prevent the residents of the park facing more months of uncertainty as they follow the progress of the development application of Springtime Gardens. The promise of a new site by the Logan City Council needs to be fleshed out and acted upon before the upcoming council elections on 15 March so that residents can make decisions on their future with full confidence. This promise needs to be acted on now as it will take time to find a site and design the type of park required by residents and council. If this groundwork can be done now and finalised before 15 March, then the new council will have a proposal ready for them to consider and implement. This, of course, will reduce the amount of time the residents will be living with the stress of uncertainty, so I am very keen to see this promise progress as quickly as possible.

It was made very clear at the meeting that the residents do not want a private caravan park development. They want the council to own and operate the park. The sooner the council is able to provide the information on the site and the operations of the park, the better it will be for residents.

Another impressive outcome of the meeting was that a committee of residents and concerned parties will be established and work towards the objectives of the group. These objectives include opening a reliable avenue of communication between the owner of the park and the residents, working with Logan City Council to find a suitable location close to amenities for the pledged new caravan park and working with organisations like Caravan and Manufactured Residents Association of Queensland Inc. to ensure that their rights and entitlements are being secured.

I have put together a kit for residents to give them as much information as possible during this time of uncertainty. I hope the kit will assist the residents prepare for the future and secure the outcomes that best suit their needs. I want to assure residents that I will be continuing to work with them and departmental officers to secure the options they want for their future.

In the time I have left, I want to inform the member for Burnett of the following. He is very excited about prissy uniform colours. Fluoro is not a colour, member for Burnett; fluoro is a shade. Red, green, yellow is the colour, and you can have fluoro red-green, not a fluoro colour.