



Speech by
Ronan Lee

MEMBER FOR INDOOROOPILLY

Hansard Tuesday, 10 February 2009

PLANNING (URBAN ENCROACHMENT—MILTON BREWERY) BILL

Mr LEE (Indooroopilly—GRN) (3.49 pm): I want to place a couple of comments on record about this bill. I think TODs are great. They are very smart and very sensible, but I am not thrilled with this bill. It takes away from new residents a range of rights and I think it sets a concerning precedent since it removes rights from a certain type of person; namely, new residents—in this case, specifically people living within new TODs and particularly unit dwellers. We have never had different rights for different residents in the past, and I do not want to see people living in TODs and unit dwellers disadvantaged.

The supposed need for this bill is a direct consequence of what happens when you try to retrofit planning schemes. We are seeing some real problems with this in the greater Brisbane region at the moment. We need to have good planning from day one. I will be supporting this bill, but I do not want this to set a precedent for future developments that may take place.

I want to address fairly quickly a couple of comments made by the member for Moggill about residents concerned about the proposed Kenmore bypass. I do not want to put words in the mouth of the member for Moggill, but I think he suggested that residents were being a little bit unreasonable, having lived close to what was a preserved transport corridor and now finding that there is a major road proposal. I think it is important to note that there are folk living in the suburb of Indooroopilly who are more than one kilometre away from the preserved road corridor for the Kenmore bypass who are being told that their home will be bulldozed to construct the roads. It is not just a case of folk who have moved into a suburb and they got a slightly cheaper property because it was backing onto a road corridor. We are often seeing some significant consequences for people who live in many cases quite a long way away from these proposed constructions.

I agree with the member for Moggill's suggestions for park 'n' rides. I want to put on record today the desperate need for a park 'n' ride at the Indooroopilly Railway Station. I have spoken in this place many times in the past about this issue. There is vacant land that was being used by contractors engaged by Queensland Rail for the upgrade of the railway station. It was the site office. It was parking for all sorts of construction vehicles and staff private vehicles during the construction phase. It is currently fenced off and no-one is using it. It is an ideal location for a community car park at Indooroopilly and it should simply be built immediately.

I want to make it very clear that I do not think this legislation should provide carte blanche to the folk who are running the XXXX Brewery at any given point in time to not improve the things that they do. If legislation is going through the parliament to provide them with certainty in how they conduct their business and exempt them from future litigation, it is reasonable to expect that they will take every opportunity and every step to make sure that where they can they improve their relationship with the local community. Where they can, they should not do deliveries and have large trucks rolling through the suburb making noise at night. They should not leave lights on, unnecessarily annoying new residents. I think it is only fair and only reasonable that we would expect that from them. This has to be a two-way street in that regard.

I will be supporting the legislation but, again, I am deeply concerned that it may set a precedent where residents who live in future TODs are expected to put up with local conditions that are not the sorts of conditions that members of this parliament would be happy to live with. There is a housing crisis in Australia, in Queensland and in Brisbane. It is very difficult to find accommodation for a great number of people, and I do not want to see that resulting in a race to the bottom in terms of the conditions that are provided for people who live in units and people who live in future TODs.