




Speech By  
**Tracy Davis**

**MEMBER FOR ASPLEY**

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Record of Proceedings, 23 May 2017

**MOTION: CEDAR WOODS DEVELOPMENT**

 **Ms DAVIS** (Aspley—LNP) (6.10 pm): I rise to speak tonight in support of the motion moved by my colleague the member for Mansfield about the Upper Kedron residential development in the north-west suburbs of Brisbane.

The absolute hypocrisy of the Palaszczuk Labor government is breathtaking. This do-nothing Labor government's backflip on the Cedar Woods development is proof of their hypocrisy, proof that they will say and do anything in order to get elected. In December 2014 the Brisbane City Council approved a master plan for up to 980 lots in Upper Kedron. The member for Ashgrove told residents that this would be an unsustainable megasuburb. We all remember the cries of those opposite, including the now members for Ashgrove and Ferny Grove, that were they to win government they would use special powers to call in and reassess this unsustainable development and how they wanted to save The Gap on behalf of the community. It is clear that this is a case of easier said than done and the facts of the Cedar Woods debacle speak for themselves.

Call in the development they did, and the outcome has been nothing short of a farce. For 2½ years they have gone around in circles and they have effectively landed where they should have in December 2014, something that the members for Ashgrove and Ferny Grove campaigned so strongly against. After palming this development off to the worst infrastructure and planning minister this state has ever had in the hope, indeed promise, the state government would reduce the number of homes at Cedar Woods, the Deputy Premier sent the proposal back to council. That is what she did. She sent it packing to council with instructions that would have seen a change in the plan and an increase—yes, an increase—in the number of new homes from that unsustainable 980 to around 1,500.

The Deputy Premier, the member for Ashgrove and the member for Ferny Grove do not need to purchase tickets to the gymnastics for the Commonwealth Games because what we saw was a gigantic backflip. They have their fingerprints all over this mess and they have no-one else to blame for it but themselves for promising something they could never deliver and then failing to even acknowledge that with their local community.

A *Courier-Mail* article of 19 May this year says it all with the headline, 'Cedar Woods density edict scrapped by State Government.' The article states—

The State Government has been forced to backflip on a request to increase housing densities in a controversial Brisbane development at the centre of a political dogfight.

It further states—

Council was ordered to revisit the neighbourhood plan for the area but at a meeting last week it was revealed the State Government had returned the draft plan to council with a directive to increase the housing density by 50 per cent.

That article speaks volumes of the rollercoaster ride this project has been on. The sheer and utter contempt this government, and in particular the member for Ashgrove, has shown for local residents surrounding this development is simply offensive. I wish to remind the House of what the member for Ashgrove said about this development at her campaign launch back in January 2015. She said—

It's the number one concern in this local community.

...

There is a stark choice, to vote for someone you can trust or someone who arrogantly dismisses local concerns.

By the member for Ashgrove's own standard, the good people of Ashgrove regrettably voted for someone who has arrogantly dismissed their concerns—indeed, their No. 1 concern. This is merely indicative of what can only be described as a deceptive pattern of behaviour, an arrogant attitude and a broader contempt for everyday Queenslanders.

I would like to congratulate Councillor Steve Toomey, Brisbane City councillor for The Gap ward, for his campaign on the issue and standing up against the misrepresentation being peddled by the members for Ashgrove and Ferny Grove and the faux political community group Save The Gap which was, in fact, established by Labor staffers and members linked with former Brisbane federal member Arch Bevis. In fact, the group was registered by Shane Bevis, Arch's son and current staffer to Labor minister Shannon Fentiman and also failed candidate for The Gap ward in the 2016 local government elections.