

# **MEDIA RELEASE**

**Thursday 03 February 2005**

## **Planning The Impossible**

"The Council's first community briefing on the Draft Redland Shire Planning Scheme, held last Tuesday night, was an alarming exercise," Lavinia Wood, spokesperson for CARP (Community Alliance for Responsible Planning) said today.

"Mayor Don Secombe stated that Redlands is required and prepared to take its share of South East Queensland's population growth, which means about another 57,800 people coming to the Shire (a 46% increase); that this projected Shire population of 182,500 can be accommodated sustainably; that there won't be any reduction in our current quality of life, and what's more, that the great majority of Redlanders think this is a good idea."

"The facts are to the contrary. The State Government has confirmed in writing that local governments are not forced to accommodate specified levels of growth; we already have numerous indicators showing we are currently not living sustainably, and that we are eroding our quality of life as a result. We don't have to look far for examples. Our creeks and waterways scored 'D' on the Healthy Waterways Report Card, our koalas are now formally listed as vulnerable, our villages are blurring at the edges, and our roads are gridlocked daily with traffic we can't manage."

"What will the Plan bring if we don't act? It will be more high rises, more urban sprawl, and perhaps up to 50% more traffic on our roads. And as an additional bonus, to be able to keep pace with this growth we will all be required to reduce our water consumption by about 40%, and to reduce energy consumption as well."

"The Mayor's view that Redlanders want 57,800 more people in our community is not supported by the results of previous public consultation. We are now into the final round of consultation, which gives us one last opportunity to direct the Mayor and Councillors to build the future we really want for the Redlands. To save what remains of our Shire as we know it, residents must make a written submission to the Draft Planning Scheme before the 13th of April. It doesn't have to be complicated. Simply tell them you don't want it to happen."

- ends -

Lavinia Wood

**Spokesperson**

**Community Alliance for Responsible Planning (CARP) Redlands Inc**