

MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday 30 June 2005

Redlands Sold Out By State Government

"The State Government's decision to ignore the express wishes of the overwhelming majority of Redland residents by earmarking large tracts of the Shire's rural land for urban development flies in the face of democracy and common sense," Lavinia Wood, spokesperson for the Community Alliance for Responsible Planning (CARP) Redlands Inc, said today.

"It confirms that the Beattie Government either does not understand or places no value on ecological sustainability, and that the consultation process associated with the Regional Plan was a meaningless farce."

"Mr Beattie's undertaking that the future of the 'Investigation Areas' in the Redland Shire would be determined following full public consultation through the Draft Regional Plan and the Draft Redlands Planning Scheme respectively (page 15 of the Draft SEQ Regional Plan) has amounted to nothing. What kind of a government sees a community emphatically demanding an end to urban sprawl through every step of two statutory planning processes (5000 plus submissions to the Regional Plan, and 7000 plus submissions to the local Redlands Planning Scheme) and then ignores them?" Ms Wood continued.

"Throughout the Redlands, there are clear warning signs that we are no longer in balance with the natural environment. Our koala population is disappearing, our water supply is no longer adequate, our creeks and waterways are degraded and we have more cars than the roads can handle, to name a few. Redlanders understand that all of these problems will worsen with more development, and that our quality of life will continue to diminish unless it is stopped. We sought an end to urban sprawl as an essential first step toward genuine ecological sustainability. Instead, Mr Beattie has given us unjustifiably sustained development and ensured that the ruin of the Redlands way of life will continue."

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Lavinia Wood

Spokesperson

Community Alliance for Responsible Planning (CARP) Redlands Inc