



**West End Community Association Inc.**

MEDIA RELEASE  
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For immediate release

**Brisbane City Council plans to shift Gympie to South Brisbane**

'When debating city planning four years ago candidate Campbell Newman declared: "[the community] wants choice. The prescriptive way will lead to bad outcomes" (12 February 2004).

WECA calls on Council & Lord Mayor Newman to: scrap that pitiful draft Kurilpa Plan document and take up the community's vision.

Public comment on the Brisbane City Council's draft plan closed on Friday 1 February. The draft structure plan offers City Hall's view for the future of South Brisbane for the next twenty years.

'Architects and urban planning experts agree that the document is a flaccid proposal,' said WECA President Darren Godwell.

'City Council proposes to plonk the population equivalent of Gympie (15,000 - 20,000 extra people) into a pocket of South Brisbane,' said Mr Godwell, 'with little of the infrastructure needed to maintain a sound quality of life for such a massive increase in population.'

'City Hall has made no provision for schools, child care centres, civic places, green spaces or parks. There is no commitment to housing key workers, there is no planning for affordable housing and there is no provision within this redevelopment for essential services – ambulance, police, fire.'

'Nor is there any additional provision of effective, efficient mass transport,' said Mr Godwell.

"Since 2001 WECA has solicited public & community views on how local leadership should lead local development. This vision for the area formerly known as Peel Street Structure Plan has been presented to City Hall again."

Its time to get smart about Brisbane's continued development.

Attached WECA's *Vision for the Peel Street Precinct*

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**About WECA**

The West End Community Association (WECA) is a non-profit, non-aligned, incorporated association of residents advancing the neighbourhood's liveability. WECA also sponsors many community initiatives.

## Our Vision for the Peel Street Precinct

WECA sees a 'once in a lifetime opportunity' to create in this part of Brisbane a truly urban neighbourhood that is predominantly residential with people housed in medium density and medium rise, mixed use neighbourhoods with:

- a diversity of small to medium sized retail outlets at the street level and up to three storeys;
- capacity for services within the street level premises that activate the streets;
- a diversity of small licensed venues promoting a more mature drinking culture and providing alternative choices to supplement the entertainment district of the Valley;
- close links to the rich array of cultural and educational institutions clustered along the south bank of the river;
- room for those people who work in the neighbourhood to live in the neighbourhood;
- diversity of the population deliberately addressed through the provision of affordable housing across the neighbourhood – for tertiary students, artists, musicians and creative people in irregular and casual employment as well as key workers;
- provision of adequate additional green space to meet the needs of the growing population, including an expansion of green space through the large property holdings along the riverside;
- public transport, bicycles and walking as the primary means of mobility;
- sustainability as a matter of course for the entire neighbourhood, including distributed power networks, locally managed water conservation and minimisation of the amount of waste carted out of the neighbourhood;
- a neighbourhood where people know their neighbours.
- safe, accessible, clean, pedestrian friendly streets.

WECA envisions a neighbourhood that is defined by the energy, spirit, community and creativity of its residents – not vain references to cartoon architecture.