



Centenary and District Environment Action

Incorporated

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President's Report for 2008-2009

This year has been extremely busy with some far-reaching issues needing attention. The SEQRP and the changes to BCC City Plan come immediately to mind. Below is a brief summary of CDEA's activities.

DEVELOPMENT

SEQ Regional Plan

CDEA put in a detailed submission mainly on environmental and community aspects. The Regional Plan came out at the end of July and we are studying it.

Koalas in SEQRP

We put in a submission on koala habitat in the Centenary suburbs area and at first it seemed it had been ignored. However, in a more recent publication on the EPA site the area has been classified as having various levels of habitat.

BCC City Plan Review and Hare Krishna Temple Proposal

The City Plan is reviewed regularly and CDEA put in a submission. We failed to notice that vital aspects of the Western Gateway Local Plan had been removed without us being consulted. After SORB's win in its case in the P&E Court in 2001, these groups had worked with council for restrictions to be added to the WGLP to protect the escarpment at Seventeen Mile Rocks from development. The removal of these constraints means that the Hare Krishna temple proposal can be built on that escarpment. CDEA has asked BCC to purchase the land as it is a valuable visual backdrop to Rocks Riverside Park. So far this request has been rejected. We are still pursuing it.

Centenary Suburbs Neighbourhood Plan

CDEA was disappointed with this as we felt it did not reflect the community consultation that had gone into it.

Richlands Neighbourhood Plan

We have our name down to attend further meetings of the Richlands Neighbourhood Plan.

Metroplex Proposals for the Former Sanananda Barracks in Richlands

CDEA was one of 13 parties in a case in the Planning and Environment court where Metroplex appealed against BCC for not making a decision on their development application for a multimillion dollar industrial and office park. The court case was held last year and we are still awaiting a judgement.

Wacol State Government Precinct – Peter Beattie's promised 200 hectares of public open

Members of the committee had 2 largely unsatisfactory sessions with the Honourable Judy Spence regarding the upholding of Peter Beattie's 2006 promise to grant the community 200 hectares of public open space at Wacol Government precinct. We have now been invited to join a task force under the new Minister for Police, Corrective Services, and Emergency Service to discuss future use of the land.

Wacol State Government Precinct - Wacol Sports Fields

Problems are ongoing about the kangaroo fencing and deaths of kangaroos on Grindle Road.

Wolston Rd Extension

CDEA has been working with BCC on the kangaroo fencing and underpass as well as landscape treatment for this road. We have had some problems which are still being pursued.

380 Wacol Station Rd

A long time ago CDEA put in a submission on the DA for this site. We are still working on protecting some vegetation and getting more parkland near Wolston Creek.

Turf Farm

There is a new Development Application in for the Turf Farm in Sinnamon Park. It makes much about having a lower Gross Floor Area than the previous application but in fact it covers a much greater area of the site overall. It also has 7m high retaining walls along the edge of the watercourse corridor which is unacceptable environmentally.

Jindalee Creek Contamination

This contamination from CSR and other neighbouring sites was a problem when there was rain but most of these have been rectified and CSR censured.

Mt Ommaney Creek and Wetland Contamination

This has been an ongoing problem but after much persistence, measures have been undertaken by the contractors of the Mt Ommaney shopping centre to contain the contamination.

Kenmore Baptist Church

CDEA put in a submission against the KBC DA. At present KBC is fulfilling a request for further information from BCC.

Koorngal Drive Bridge

BCC is constructing a 3 m wide pathway through the bushland between Koorngal and Mt Ommaney Drives. CDEA believes this is overkill but worked with BCC on revegetation plans.

CSR and land along Jindalee Creek, Sinnamon Park

Ed Parker was CDEA's representative in the mediation between CSR, local residents and CDEA which has achieved a strip of CSR land being added to the parkland to offset the high retaining walls all along its boundary. Additional land has been allocated for public park.

McLeod Golf Course Trees

CDEA was largely unsuccessful in getting McLeod's Golf Course to remove mounds of soil from around about 20 trees on their land.

Goggs Road Fig Tree

We were completely unsuccessful in saving this tree which succumbed to fungus attack. The fungus would have entered roots cut during building construction in 2000. BCC allowed this much too close to the tree.

Murna Street Fig Tree

After being saved from the chainsaws, this tree is recovering after a heavy pruning and attention from BCC.

Wolston and Centenary Catchment group

This continues to develop and CDEA supports all its efforts.

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Pine Trees adjacent to the Centenary Highway

CDEA worked with DMR to use local native plants in their revegetation of the former pine tree area.

Wolston Creek 2 Million trees rehabilitation

We worked much more successfully with BCC in its 2 Million Trees program at Wolston Creek Bushland Reserve where 7000 trees were planted.

Kangaroo Management Strategy for Wacol

So far this has been a bit of a fiasco and we are still awaiting the strategy proposals.

The Dreaded Deer

These are now categorised as Class 2 pests, due in no small part to CDEA's efforts and those of Julie Attwood MP. We are now working to get the deer removed from natural areas.

Bushcare Groups

There are **8 Bushcare Groups** in Jamboree Ward. Horizon Drive group is now trying to get a Master Plan drawn up.

PROMOTION AND RECOGNITION

GreenHeart Award

On Australia Day 2009 Ed Parker was honoured to receive the Lord Mayor's GreenHeart Award, one of the main awards in the *Lord Mayor's Australia Day Awards*.

Hansard

Julie Attwood MP highlighted the 'outstanding work' of local environmental groups, including CDEA, in a speech in Parliament in December 2008

Spotless Suburbs Competition W in

CDEA won the Award for Environmental Protection in BCC's inaugural competition.

BBQ to Celebrate Centenary Suburbs' 50th Anniversary

In recognition of the efforts of Jamboree Ward's environmental community groups CDEA held a celebratory BBQ for local environmental groups. This was funded by the Lord Mayor's Suburban Initiative Fund.

Newspapers

The Satellite and the SW News have printed several articles highlighting local environmental and social issues. There was also an article in the Courier mail.

GENERAL

Trailer

We took delivery of the new bushcare trailer in December 08. It is presently secure at Centenary Landscaping Supplies' depot. Thanks to Centenary Landscaping Supplies.

Web Page

With the help of a volunteer from BCC, Brian Korner and Ed Parker are revamping the CDEA web site.

SINCERE THANKS TO:

- all CDEA members for their ongoing support
- the Management Committee for their commitment and hard work
- Jos Hall and Julie Vejle for the excellent CDEA newsletters
- Julie Attwood MLA, Crs Matthew Bourke and Milton Dick who represent us in their respective areas of government
- Geoff and June Rudd who provide the suppers at CDEA meetings
- Ann Walker for her home-made shortbread and slices at CDEA meetings
- Noel and Claire Wilson for monitoring the mail box
- BCC for the Environmental Grant which we depend upon for administration.

Shealagh Walker, President. 27 August 2009