

Dear Lord Mayor Quirk,

Lota House Development:

How will you apply the 8 principles of Brisbane's Future Blueprint to the development proposal to build 4 initial towers and a further 4 in stage 2 at historic Lota House?

How is a development of such magnitude consistent with your commitment to this city's historical and natural environment?

Will the next big development boom be high rise retirement units? If the council pushes through its amendments to the town plan there will be a rush of development. I think this has already been anticipated. The Brisbane city council town planning people have already commented that there is a current increase of applications at council by retirement developers. Isn't a high rise a high rise? If they are inappropriate in our leafy low-rise suburbs than they are inappropriate no matter who they are for.

Are you concerned regarding voter backlash from this relaxation of the planning rules? I know that the Bayside Action Group have consulted with other groups who are grappling with overdevelopment and the consensus is that this is a vote changer. People living in the outer suburbs are against overdevelopment; their loss of light and breeze and amenity. They will vote for whomever advocates on their behalf. I personally have talked to many at local markets about this very issue and it is exceptionally rare to find anyone who supports high rise in any form in low rise communities.

People need a sense of place. They don't like to see heritage destroyed or protected environment lost to inappropriate development. They will vote against a council who introduces a relaxation of the process and they will do it citywide.

On Wednesday night I attended the Anglicare information night at Lota House. I spoke to a representative of the Village retirement group. He told me that community consultation was not required and that the start date for construction was March 2019. He was bullishly confident when even questioned about the proposal not having been approved. He was adamant. I would like to know if there is a foundation for this confidence? This council and its town planning staff have a reputation for integrity, in any dealings I have had with them I have been impressed by their professionalism. This development will change our bayside forever. Do you want that to happen while you are at the helm? If legacy is an important part of your motivation, do you want the decimation of this beautiful and iconic bayside landmark to be yours?

looking forward to your response,

Regards

Name

Address

Email