



Warrandyte Community Association

'Green Wedge Threat?' Public Meeting

The Warrandyte Community Association Annual General Meeting on Thursday 29th September will be followed by a public meeting addressed by the Minister for Environment and Climate Change and Member for Warrandyte, Ryan Smith MLA.

The main topic will be 'Green Wedge Threat?' addressing concerns arising from statements made by Planning Minister Matthew Guy to identify 'anomalies' within the current Green Wedge policy.

WCA President Dick Davies said that "Our understanding is that whilst Councils and 'potentially affected' landowners will be consulted there is no provision to consult with members of the public or organisations like WCA.

"There is also concern that local Councils will have more say in planning decisions that could erode the Green Wedge concept in favour of self interested development.

"Whilst an 'Independent Review Body' is proposed, who will be on it and what is its brief?"

Mr Davies said that Minister Smith had kindly consented to address these and related issues at the public meeting and hoped that he would be able to assuage these concerns.

"There are genuine issues surrounding Green Wedge policy which need addressing, for example the role of agriculture in achieving sustainability within the Zone," Mr Davies said.

"However, WCA is concerned, as one member puts it, that the 'doncastration' of Warrandyte does not continue.

"Recent instability in local Government in both Manningham and Nillumbik where Councillors have faced charges of conflict of interest gives us no confidence that local government is capable of making planning decisions in the long term interests of the State.

"Creeping development at the 'thin end of the Green Wedge' is a cliché but nevertheless true," Mr Davies said.

"We don't want a repeat of Minister Guy's bad decision in approving the 'On-Luck' Nursing Home extension without reference to Council or the local member," Mr Davies said.

End.



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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

7.30PM THURSDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER 2011

WARRANTYTE COMMUNITY CHURCH

57 YARRA STREET, WARRANTYTE, 3113

FOLLOWED BY

PUBLIC MEETING 8:00PM

'Green Wedge Threat?'

Guest Speaker: Ryan Smith MLA

Member for Warrandyte

Minister for Environment and Climate Change