



PUBLIC MEETING

Hands Off Kew Cottages

The Wrecker is Back !

Kew Cottages (KRS)
Re-development Meeting
You Are Invited

**WHEN: 7.30pm Wednesday
22 June 2005**

**WHERE: Phyllis Hore Room
Kew Civic Centre
Cnr Cotham Rd & Charles St ,
KEW**

Your City—Your Space - Your Say !

Key Issues:

- ◆ **Kew** - Public Land or Private Profit ?
- ◆ **Yarra Valley** - Heritage or High Rise ?
- ◆ **Melbourne 2030** - Green Space or Greed ?
- ◆ **Victoria** - Garden State or Wreckers Paradise?

Convened by Kew Cottages Coalition Inc.

BRACKS RECIPE FOR DISASTER

On 3rd June 2005 the Bracks Government announced its long awaited 'plans' for Kew Cottages.

This will be the largest urban renewal project in Boroondara's history. Yet the 'Development Plan' 'unveiled' by Government to Boroondara Council was vague and incomplete.

The Development plan was big on claims, but thin on details. Moreover, even the details that were provided appear to be so heavily qualified as to be meaningless.

For example Sherryl Garbutt, Minister for Community Services, claimed that :

"The new housing development on the KRS site is low-density and will provide around 520 houses and apartments....". (3/6)

However the accompanying 'Development Plan' anticipates that up to 800 lots, or even 1100 lots could be created in order "to satisfy market demand". (p.13 with our emphasis added)

Continued page 2

**View the Master Plan that
the Government forgot to
show you.**

KEW WEBSITE

*Keep up to date with events
www.kew.org.au*

HOW CAN I HELP?

How to contact us

1. Join the Kew Cottages Coalition to oppose this destruction
- (Email admin@kew.org.au Subject: Membership)
- Ph: Brian Walsh - President Mob: 0414 979 300
2. Attend our Public Meeting 22nd June
3. For more information please see the Kew Website
www.kew.org.au

PO Box 2317
KEW , VICTORIA 3101

Email: admin@kew.org.au
Reg: A0044698H



So for the Minister to claim that only 'around 520 houses and apartments' are planned appears mischievous to say the least, particularly in light of all the other token ingredients in the Development Plan such as:

- ◆ **TOKEN CHOICE:** There is no increase in the number of the Cottages' intellectually disabled residents being given a choice to remain at Kew Cottages
- ◆ **TOKEN HERITAGE:** There is no acceptance of the nature and extent of the highest level of Heritage protection provided to the Cottages and ALL the grounds by the Heritage Council of Victoria in 2004
- ◆ **TOKEN TRAFFIC PLANNING:** There is no acceptance of community concerns about Road Safety and traffic congestion at dangerous entry/exit points (eg: at the Wills Street/Main Drive/Princess Street roundabout)
- ◆ **TOKEN HEIGHT CONTROLS:** There is no acceptance of the need to honour the Bracks November 2004 commitment to a 9 metre height limit throughout residential areas
- ◆ **TOKEN AMENITY:** There is no acceptance of the need to honour the Bracks May 2001 commitment to a limit of up to 250 homes in the new suburb

These are the ingredients of failure. So, in our view these plans "to establish a new modern housing estate" are totally unacceptable. They are nothing less than a recipe for disaster, a development nightmare,. They are also a wake-up-call for all Victorians interested in just what this Government may now have in store for YOUR community before the next State Election in October 2006.

Specific Issues

Melbourne 2030

Melbourne 2030 started merely as a means to help get the Bracks Government re-elected in 2006. However, as an election issue it is already showing serious cracks.

Many resident action groups throughout Melbourne have protested vehemently against the Melbourne 2030 "one size fits all approach" to urban planning. Abbotsford, Brunswick Towers Burnley Gardens, Camberwell Railway Station, East Melbourne, Kew, Lysterfield, Jolimont, Mitcham Towers,

Northcote Twin Towers, Royal Park, Smith Street Collingwood, St. Albans, and Wheelers Hill, among others have all seen groups erupt against the Melbourne 2030 threat.

However, despite this opposition, for the politicians and bureaucrats the Melbourne 2030 "one size fits all approach" still has one perceived advantage, and that is its innate capability to be quickly put into 'mass production' once the initial products and precedents have literally been set in concrete in the market place.

For the Bracks Government, the icon historical sites like Kew Cottages, Royal Park, and Camberwell Station are, therefore, even more important as foundation 'building blocks' for Melbourne 2030 as a whole, than they are as developments in their own right.

Who Cares ?

The triumvirate of community groups fighting to defend these Heritage sites are currently facing the cutting edge of Bracks 'urban consolidation wedge', The Kew Cottages Coalition, The Boroondara Resident Action Group, and the Protectors of Public Lands have already won many of the preliminary battle and skirmishes with Government. Together, these groups need your support:

- ◆ They are one of the reasons Mary Delahunty is no longer Planning Minister;
- ◆ They are one of the reasons the Commonwealth Games legislation had to be used to override Heritage legislation at Royal Park;
- ◆ They are one of the reasons that the Bracks Government is pursuing the wrecking of Kew Cottages under the cover of a public relations exercise by the Minister for Community Services Sherryl Garbutt.
- ◆ They are one of the reasons that the Bracks Government is trying to hide its demolition of Kew Cottages under cover of a Community Services public relations exercise.

Who is affected?

Those most immediately affected in Kew are the residents of Kew Cottages itself, and the thousands of intellectually disabled Victorians currently condemned to remain on the Government waiting lists for supported accommodation. If you use Studley Park, Princess Street, Chandler Highway, or the Eastern Freeway you will also be affected, plus of course if you live near Willsmere, Kew Gardens, Wills Street, Stawell, Molesworth, Redmond, Fellows, Barry, or A'Beckett Streets.

However, If you are in the shadow of any one of the many other Melbourne 2030 projects that the Government has on its books then you too will be affected by the precedents set at Kew.