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SAVE WILLIAMSTOWN



New look for Labor's shadow team - *All a bit late...*

Tuesday, 7 December 2010

The Age
David Rood
December 7, 2010

“SENIOR Brumby government ministers Justin Madden and John Lenders are the biggest losers in Labor leader Daniel Andrews's shadow cabinet.

The opposition's new frontbench line-up will strip Mr Madden of his planning portfolio, which will go to up-and-comer Brian Tee....

....In a pitch to the suburban voters who cost former premier John Brumby power, Mr Andrews has announced three new shadow ministries: the suburbs and the cost of living (both going to Lily D'Ambrosio), and sustainable growth (Mr Tee). Mr Madden was dogged by his handling of the planning

portfolio in government, particularly the Windsor Hotel scandal....”

<http://www.theage.com.au/victoria/new-look-for-labors-shadow-team-20101206-18mv7.html>

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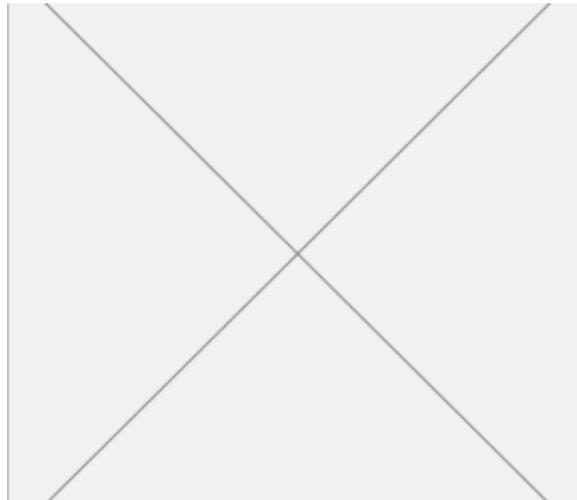
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New Towers in Williamstown under threat - “Finn still towers on”

Tuesday, 7 December 2010

Hobsons Bay Leader
James Twining

“Sale cash would provide housing
A PROPOSAL to privatise Williamstown’s two social housing towers and covert them into plush apartments should still go ahead, says Bernie Finn.

The Western Metropolitan Liberal MP sparked a controversy in 2008 when he asked then Housing Minister Richard Wynne to begin the process of selling Nelson Heights and Floyd Lodge, home to hundreds of low-income earners. Under the plan, the towers would be privatised and converted into expensive waterfront apartments....
....Williamstown state Labor MP Wade Noonan, who was on

the same parliamentary committee as Mr Finn, said residents at Nelson Heights and Floyd Lodge would be distressed by the news....”

http://leader.newspaperdirect.com/epaper/iphone/homepage.aspx#_article7d5ac604-e274-45eb-bf81-7da761c719ac/waarticle7d5ac604-e274-45eb-bf81-7da761c719ac/7d5ac604-e274-45eb-bf81-7da761c719ac//true

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Brumby too cosy with business: Labor MP

Wednesday, 15 December 2010

The Age
Paul Austin
December 15, 2010 - 3:00AM

“JOHN Brumby's government lost last month's state election because it became too cosy with the big end of town and lost touch with the real-life concerns of "ordinary" people, says a senior federal Labor MP.

In a scathing critique of the defeated government, the member for the Melbourne seat of Wills, Kelvin Thomson, said suburban planning outcomes under former minister Justin Madden were "a disgrace".

The former frontbencher said people in his north suburban electorate had been "screaming for years" for a new high school in Coburg, but the Labor state government had not delivered.

State Labor had also failed to build train lines to Doncaster

and Rowville in the rapidly growing eastern suburbs. But the "heart of the problem" was that Labor had sided with business in backing excessive population growth.

"We have been cheerfully increasing Melbourne by 200 people a day, 1500 per week, 75,000 each year, standing shoulder to shoulder with property developers saying what a good thing this is for Melbourne," Mr Thomson said.

"It is not. Melbourne's runaway growth is the reason for the rising cost of living, the transport problems, the planning debacles and the crime."

Mr Thomson, a critic of "big Australia", said: "Taking a bow in corporate boardrooms for running their high-migration, high-population, bugger-the-environment agenda has seen the Labor Party grow out of touch with ordinary voters."....."

<http://www.theage.com.au/victoria/brumby-too-cosy-with-business-labor-mp-20101214-18wsz.html>

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Wikipedia - Justin Madden - it says it all..

Monday, 27 December 2010

The reasons for unexpected losses in the Western Suburbs of Melbourne

“The state election of November 2010 saw a Coalition Government unexpectedly installed by the people of Victoria. Unprecedented swings across the state, including safe Western Suburb Labor seats, were attributed by many to be a result of the Brumby government's management of the planning portfolio and in particular the perceived arrogance of Justin Madden in over-ruling councils and calling in planning matters and appointing "panels" - in effect taking away the ability of communities (and voters) to appeal what they perceived to be inappropriate and often high-rise and high-density developments....”

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Justin_Madden

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