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Riverside report to stay under wraps

Friday, 1 July 2011

Hobsons Bay Weekly
BY GRANT REYNOLDS
29 Jun, 2011

“CERTAINTY over residential and commercial development along the Maribymong River close to the Port of Melbourne is no closer after the Department of Planning and Community Development withheld a report outlining future directions. The department refused the Weekly's freedom of information request for the report because it contained advice provided to Planning Minister Mathew Guy. The department held hearings in last September and produced

a report containing land-use recommendations that has been kept under wraps due to its sensitive nature.

The Port of Melbourne Corporation had submitted that the land bounded by Moreland Street, Footscray Road, the Maribyrnong River and Lyons Street be rezoned from business to industrial to create a buffer zone between the port and residential areas.....

...."The minister has yet to reach a final decision on the report, and its release at this stage may provide a misleading view of policy in an area of sensitive public and commercial concern," the department's Andrew Weston said when rejecting the Weekly's request for information.

He said disclosure of the report before a decision was made had the potential to misrepresent the minister's views and future courses of action.

"The minister is considering the recommendations of the report and has sought further advice.

"It is likely that the report will be released after the minister has made his final decision."

Mr Guy's spokeswoman, Bronwyn Perry, said the minister would make a decision on whether to approve the report when he received it, along with the department's advice....."

<http://williamstownadvertiser.newspaperdirect.com/epaper/viewer.aspx>

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Hazard guidelines lead to conflict (Developers are starting to worry about proximity to MHF!)

Wednesday, 6 July 2011

Hobsons Bay Weekly
BY GOYA DMYTRYSHCHAK
06 Jul, 2011 12:00 AM

“A PROJECT manager claims Planning Minister Matthew Guy is investigating WorkSafe's power to conduct risk assessments on residential developments near major hazard facilities.

The minister's office rejects the claim, which was made by the project manager for a proposed development near Shell's Newport terminal.

WorkSafe is objecting to the five-storey, 183-dwelling building at the former Newport flour mill, saying it is too close to the

Burleigh Street terminal.

Hobsons Bay Council will ask Mr Guy to appoint a panel to hear 17 submissions on the proposal.

Shell is also objecting to residential development near its 40 storage tanks, which are capable of taking 140 million litres of fuel, solvents and lubricating oil.

But Massi Property Solutions director Simon Cleal, on behalf of the developer, said up to 15,000 dwellings in Melbourne could not have been developed under WorkSafe risk assessment criteria.....

...."WorkSafe is trying to push responsibility for safety at major hazard facilities onto the councils so that it can put the blame on the councils.

"At the moment, the planning minister is investigating the hijacking of the planning system that WorkSafe has done."

Mr Guy's spokeswoman, Bronwyn Perry, said neither the minister nor the Department of Planning was investigating WorkSafe's actions relating to the mill development.

"The statements naming the minister are incorrect. This development proposal is still before Hobsons Bay Council."

WorkSafe spokesman Michael Birt said: "We are not aware that the planning minister is investigating WorkSafe's responsibility to provide advice to planning authorities.

"Major hazard facilities have strict licensing conditions.

"Failing to meet those standards could produce safety issues, which is why the fundamental responsibilities imposed by the OHS Act - to provide and maintain a safe workplace for employees and persons other than employees - must be in place."

<http://www.hobsonsbayweekly.com.au/news/local/news/general/hazard-guidelines-lead-to-conflict/2217990.aspx?storypage=0>

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Racecourse plan too big and too high for
Madden ---- **DOH !!!!!**

Tuesday, 12 July 2011

The Age

Miki Perkins

July 12, 2011

“JUSTIN Madden is no stranger to public outcry over new developments.

As planning minister he presided over the Windsor Hotel scandal, where a staffer's leaked email suggesting a sham public consultation led to a parliamentary inquiry and ombudsman's investigation.

His government's planning decisions raised the ire of residents' groups across the state, from the desalination plant in Wonthaggi to the ill-fated north-south pipeline.

Advertisement: Story continues below

But now it's Mr Madden who is kicking up a stink about a new development.

The Essendon resident and local MP has joined residents who are angry about a massive \$1.4 billion redevelopment of the Moonee Valley racecourse, saying it will stretch infrastructure beyond breaking point.....

.....But Planning Minister Matthew Guy hit back: "Justin Madden will long be remembered as the planning minister who gave a planning permit for the Windsor Hotel skyscraper, thus he has no credibility to attack high-density development." ,,,,,,,,,,"

<http://www.theage.com.au/victoria/racecourse-plan-too-big-and-too-high-for-madden-20110711-1haow.html>

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Plans for rezoning scrapped

Friday, 29 July 2011

The Age
Jason Dowling
July 29, 2011

"THE Baillieu government has backed down on controversial plans to rezone hundreds of hectares of farmland at Spring Creek in Torquay for new housing after a community backlash. Surf Coast Council rejected on Wednesday night a plan to rezone the land and Planning Minister Matthew Guy said the government had listened to the community's views and the government's intervention plans "will not proceed". Last month Mr Guy wrote to the council and developers vowing to rezone the land if the council did not.

One of the affected developers, Amex Corporation, said it was

"shocked and disappointed" by the backdown.
"We believe the [council's] decision, which is supported by the Minister for Planning, will compromise Torquay's future on many fronts," Amex's Rob Burgess said....."

Read more: <http://www.theage.com.au/victoria/plans-for-rezoning-scrapped-20110728-1i29q.html#ixzz1TSCzfRx9>

Read more:
<http://www.theage.com.au/victoria/plans-for-rezoning-scrapped-20110728-1i29q.html>

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