

Other Electorates SUNSHINE COAST CANDIDATES

Kawana: Labor : Mark Moss

Dear Marian,

As this issue is not in my electorate I cannot comment on this directly but stand behind Bill Gisanne in his letter to you.

What I can say on this matter is that this issue has a far more reaching grasp here on the coast and the ramifications I believe will be detrimental to the Sunshine Coast environment and lifestyle that we have come to love.

If you have any further questions you have my card and please don't hesitate to call.

In unity

Mark Moss

Labor candidate for the seat of Kawana.

Glass House: Greens : David Knoble

Dear Marian,

RE: SEKISUI HOUSE DEVELOPMENT/SUNSHINE COAST PLANNING SCHEME

I refer to your letter of 16 January 2015, and I would like to advise the following in response to your questions:

1/ Whether you support the Sekisui House proposal and the Council's intention to amend the Sunshine Coast planning scheme to facilitate the proposal;

No, I do not support the Sekisui House proposal or the Council's intention to amend the Sunshine Coast planning scheme to facilitate the changes being sought by the developer. The Sunshine Coast planning scheme has already been gazetted based on consultation with the community. For the Sunshine Coast Council to

ignore the community's opposition, as evidenced by the enormous community engagement and support for protests to the proposal, in order to allow such large scale, high density development on fragile coastal ecosystems would set a dangerous precedent for the rest of the Sunshine Coast. While The Greens believe high density development would be preferred over low density urban sprawl, the location of this proposal, on a turtle nesting site, is inappropriate. Such high density development would also increase traffic congestion on the David Low Way, thus putting further pressure on already under-resourced infrastructure on the Sunshine Coast. This development is inappropriate on that site and The Greens on the Sunshine Coast do not support it.

2/ Whether, if you win government, you support calling in the development proposal to allow the State to make the decision.

No, I do not believe the development decision should be made by the State Government based on past experience. Decisions for large scale developments should be made by local councils in consideration of the community's wishes and in consultation with the professional regional planners, taking account of future infrastructure and other needs of the area. While the State Government should be included in the discussion about regional planning, a development at all costs approach to planning, where major decisions are called in by the State Government, thus undermining the Council's ability to make decisions, and which override the wishes of the community, ought to be avoided.

Generally, The Greens do not support the ability of the State Government to call in a development at the eleventh hour and undermine the work of local Councils to develop their own planning schemes in consultation with the community's wishes. Experience with the Caloundra South development and negotiations about Halls Creek has shown that both major parties are willing to call in developments in support of developers rather than the community and such precedent has the potential to create a fall-back position

for developers to rely on if they feel they are not getting their wishes met with the Council. If The Greens were to win government we would seek to reduce the ability of the Government to override the wishes of the local community in this way. We would however, work hard with the local Council and community to find a solution that accounts for the community, environmental and economic concerns of such a development.

Kind regards,



David Knobel
The Greens candidate for Glass House
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au

Kawana PUP : Jeremy Davey

Dear Ms Kroon,

Thankyou for the opportunity to respond to your questions for inclusion in your newsletter. Firstly I must apologise for my delayed response however as I am sure you could imagine it has been a hectic couple of weeks.

I am aware of the massive community interest in the Sekisui House development and the circumstances surrounding it. Please find below my responses to each of your two questions:

1. Whether I support the proposal and the Council's intention to amend the Sunshine Coast planning scheme to facilitate this proposal?

I support the proposal under the current planning scheme; **that is a development that is low rise and low intensity**. The size of such a development would still provide a significant boost to the tourism market however would not be against the current planning scheme that Sunshine Coast residents have fought long and hard for.

I am against any intention by the council to amend the planning scheme to accommodate this development. The ramifications would be far reaching and would be felt long after the completion of the Sekisui development. It places a real risk to the 'uniqueness' of the Sunshine Coast landscape.

2. Whether, if I won Government, would I support calling in the development proposal to allow the State to make the decision?

As a general rule, I am against the State Government calling in development applications except in extraordinary circumstances. It is evident that the current Government calls developments in quite frequently and the Government is on the record of urging councils to 'build higher'.

The circumstances around considering amending the gazetted planning scheme certainly raises many questions, and is suggestive of interference of an over-zealous State Government or perhaps something even more untoward.

Of course, this is highly speculative so at the moment I plan to watch with interest to see if the council in fact amends the planning scheme and then as a Member of Parliament ask for the circumstances to be reviewed as a matter of priority by the elected State Government.

Additionally, I think it would be appropriate to lobby the relevant Minister to seek an injunction on any development approval until a full and comprehensive investigation of the circumstances can be carried out.

Thanks again for the opportunity Marian and if I can be of any further assistance in the future please feel free to contact me.

Regards,

Jeremy Davey.

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