



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

24 June 2009

### **COMMUNITY STILL CONCERNED ABOUT IMPACT OF PALMVIEW**

The Sunshine Coast Regional Council today released its revised Palmview Position Paper and response to community feedback on the Greenfield development.

Sippy Downs and District Community Association president, Murray Lyons, said the SDDCA had been taken by surprise by the release of the revised position paper, saying that despite being a key stakeholder, the Association had received no briefing from the council prior to the public release. This is despite a recent request for an update from Council's Palmview Project Team. On 3 March the SDDCA hosted a meeting re Palmview which was attended by 150 concerned residents.

Mr Lyons said he was pleased to see that the council had considered the nearly 400 submissions made on the position paper and had recognised the need for the impact on existing infrastructure and the Sippy Downs community to be taken into account.

He said the greatest concern and disappointment for the Sippy Downs community would be the council's support for the proposed Greenlink, a dedicated high-speed bus/cycle/pedestrian route that will run through the centre of Chancellor Park along the Energex easement.

"We agree with council that the provision of an effective public transport network must be a pre-condition for Palmview," Mr Lyons said. "But the current Greenlink option will provide public transport for Palmview at the expense of the existing Sippy Downs population.

"I think residents will rightly be very upset at the loss of existing parkland and the impact on the safety and amenity of a quiet residential area. I don't think they'll be impressed to read that they can use the Greenlink to access parkland in Palmview, to make up for losing their own parkland.

"The suggestion that safety issues will be addressed by installing speed humps and stop signs on the local streets intersecting the Greenlink is also of great concern," Mr Lyons said.

"The Council in its media release talks enthusiastically about how the Greenlink is essential to link Palmview with the Sippy Downs and Kawana town centres – neither of which yet exists – the Sunshine Coast University Hospital, which now won't be completed before 2016; and CAMCOS, which is also years away.

“How can anyone guarantee that there will be employment opportunities that will generate demand for the Greenlink, when we don’t know what will be available or when?”

“Given the state of the Queensland government’s finances over the next few years, and the constraints on the council’s budget, it would be interesting to know how the additional infrastructure will be supported. It isn’t just a matter of developers and governments providing the capital investment, you have to put buses on the road and teachers in the schools.”

Mr Lyons said that the SDDCA fully supported the council’s insistence that no development at Palmview could proceed without the provision of appropriate infrastructure, despite the claims by developers and landowners that it was “unaffordable”.

“The council’s sequencing strategy would seem to answer some of our concerns about the impact of Palmview on the local road network, but we would like to see more details about how that sequencing will work,” Mr Lyons said.

The SDDCA will seek a briefing from the Sunshine Coast Regional Council’s project team, in order to obtain more information about the Palmview Position Paper, prior to holding a public meeting for Sippy Downs residents.

Murray Lyons  
President, SDDCA