

News Release

148 Murray Street, Gawler, S.A., 5118.
Phone (08) 85 222 878
Fax: (08) 85 231 392



Tony Piccolo MP

State Member for Light
Member,
Economics & Finance Committee
National Convenor,
Australia – Italia MP Forum

Friday 1st January 2010

Government Pulls Back From Concordia Option

Light MP Mr Tony Piccolo has welcomed the State Government’s commitment to a compulsory buffer zone around Gawler and excluding the greater Concordia area in interim changes made to the 30-year Plan for Greater Adelaide.

Mr Piccolo said the State Government has responded to concerns raised by him and members of the local community about the potential impact on Gawler of the expansion of development into Concordia as part of the draft 30-Year Plan.

“Having listened to the community, the Government has decided to revise the 30 Year Plan accordingly and greatly reduce the size of development proposed for Concordia,” he said.

“I strongly urged the government to reconsider the need for further development of areas such as Concordia beyond those areas already incorporated within the urban growth boundary.”

“Those views have been heard and the Government has acted in directing more of the growth in housing in the next 30 years toward Munno Para, Angle Vale and Virginia.”

Mr Piccolo raised concerns about aspects of the 30-Year Plan in State Parliament in November, suggesting options for further growth within the northern suburbs be thoroughly investigated before contemplating any major expansion of housing into Concordia.

“Should these suggestions be accepted by the government...the case for urban growth in areas such as Concordia would need to be seriously reconsidered...” Mr Piccolo told Parliament.

Mr Piccolo said he has been advocating the Gawler community’s views at every opportunity.

“During the November community cabinet meeting in Gawler, I ensured members of the State Cabinet were made well aware of the feelings of the community and local council,” he said.

“I congratulate the Premier Mike Rann and Minister for Urban Development and Planning Paul Holloway on listening to these valid concerns and taking appropriate action.”

Mr Piccolo said the revised 30-Year Plan will also enshrine “buffer zones” around Gawler.

“These buffers will protect the identity and character of the town and ensure sufficient open spaces are retained to achieve good environmental outcomes,” Mr Piccolo said.

The announcement is further good news for the local community concerned about the impact rapid growth would have on the township.

In November, the Minister for Urban Development and Planning told local residents at a public forum that he would not finalise the Gawler East DPA until infrastructure issues were satisfactorily resolved.

END