

News Release

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Tony Piccolo MP

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Re-think Concordia Proposal State Government told

The State Government has been requested to “rethink” the necessity for the proposed Concordia urban growth option in view of submissions made by local councils and residents.

Light MP Tony Piccolo told State Parliament that he “would strongly urge the government to reconsider the need for further development of areas like Concordia beyond those already incorporated in the urban growth boundary” for its planning for Greater Adelaide.

Mr Piccolo said in submissions to the 30 year plan the Cities of Salisbury and Playford have argued for more growth within their areas, while the Town of Gawler has foreshadowed possible higher density options for southern Gawler.

Mr Piccolo said the draft 30 year plan clearly indicates that the bulk of the proposed Concordia development is not scheduled to be considered for development until year 26 in the 30 year plan time frame.

“Putting aside that issue for a moment, various submissions made by the cities of Salisbury and Playford, and, if adopted by the government, would likely result in the Concordia area being considered later than anticipated in the draft plan.”

Mr Piccolo told parliament on Thursday “the case for urban growth in areas such as Concordia would need to be seriously reconsidered, as the demand for housing land would be soaked up by other areas.”

In his speech Mr Piccolo highlighted the public undertaking the Minister for Urban Development and Planning made at the Community Cabinet Development Forum.

Mr Piccolo informed State Parliament that at the forum “the Minister for Urban Development and Planning gave a public undertaking that he would not finalise the Gawler East DPA until he was satisfied that negotiations between the stakeholders had addressed the issues raised by the proposed development and, in particular, infrastructure matters.”

“This public undertaking is both important and significant, as it highlights the government's commitment to quality sustainable development in line with community expectations.” said Mr Piccolo.

“Assertions by some in the community that the local community would be forced to pick up the whole cost of infrastructure, including infrastructure outside the boundaries of the proposed development are, unfortunately, misguided.”

Mr Piccolo said “it is now time for the parties to negotiate in good faith to ensure that if the development does proceed, it results in the best outcome for all stakeholders.”

Mr Piccolo said the Gawler community has a public assurance that “until matters such as infrastructure investment are satisfactorily addressed the minister has stated that the [Gawler East] DPA will not be approved”

A full copy of the speech can be viewed at www.tonypiccolo.org