

Community Alliance SA Inc
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Engaging for Reform



3rd September 2014

Dear Mr Griffiths

The Community Alliance SA urges the Liberal Party to support Mark Parnell's motion proposed on 18th June 2014. This motion will return development assessment decisions on "buildings that exceed 4 storeys in height" in certain zones (eg. Urban Corridor Zone) to the Development Assessment Panel (DAP) of local councils.

Voting for this motion in the Upper House would show the community that the Liberals were committed to their election promise to return these powers to local councils.

Community Alliance members believe that local council DAP members have the necessary expertise and local knowledge and are generally well qualified to make development assessment decisions. Local decisions made by local people work better having the support of the community.

Furthermore DAPs have Elected Members of council who are better able than Development Assessment Commission (DAC) members to make a judgment on the full impact/s of a development proposal in their local council area. Elected Members and other DAP members appointed by local councils have an intimate knowledge of their communities and can assess a proposal knowing how it will affect the area. For example they know the local conditions, ambience, traffic flows, road conditions, the people, and the surrounding buildings and local businesses that might be adversely affected. Their knowledge can enable a balanced assessment of the development proposal.

The Community Alliance SA argues that, until a new and fairer planning system is put in place, the decision making ability for all development assessments should remain with local council DAPs.

Liberal votes in support of this motion would show good faith to our many member groups and the public at large who are directly affected by these planning decisions.

Yours faithfully

Tom Matthews
President
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www.communityalliancesa.org.au

We are an umbrella organisation representing resident and community groups Dedicated to 'Putting the People back into Planning and Development' Our goal is a planning and development process that is accountable, transparent and sustainable, and that guarantees genuine community consultation