

Planning Development and Infrastructure Bill 2015



Mark Parnell MLC, LLB, BCom, MRUP

Parliamentary leader, Greens SA

Former environmental lawyer

Member, Environment Resources and Development
Committee of Parliament

parnell@parliament.sa.gov.au

@markparnellmlc



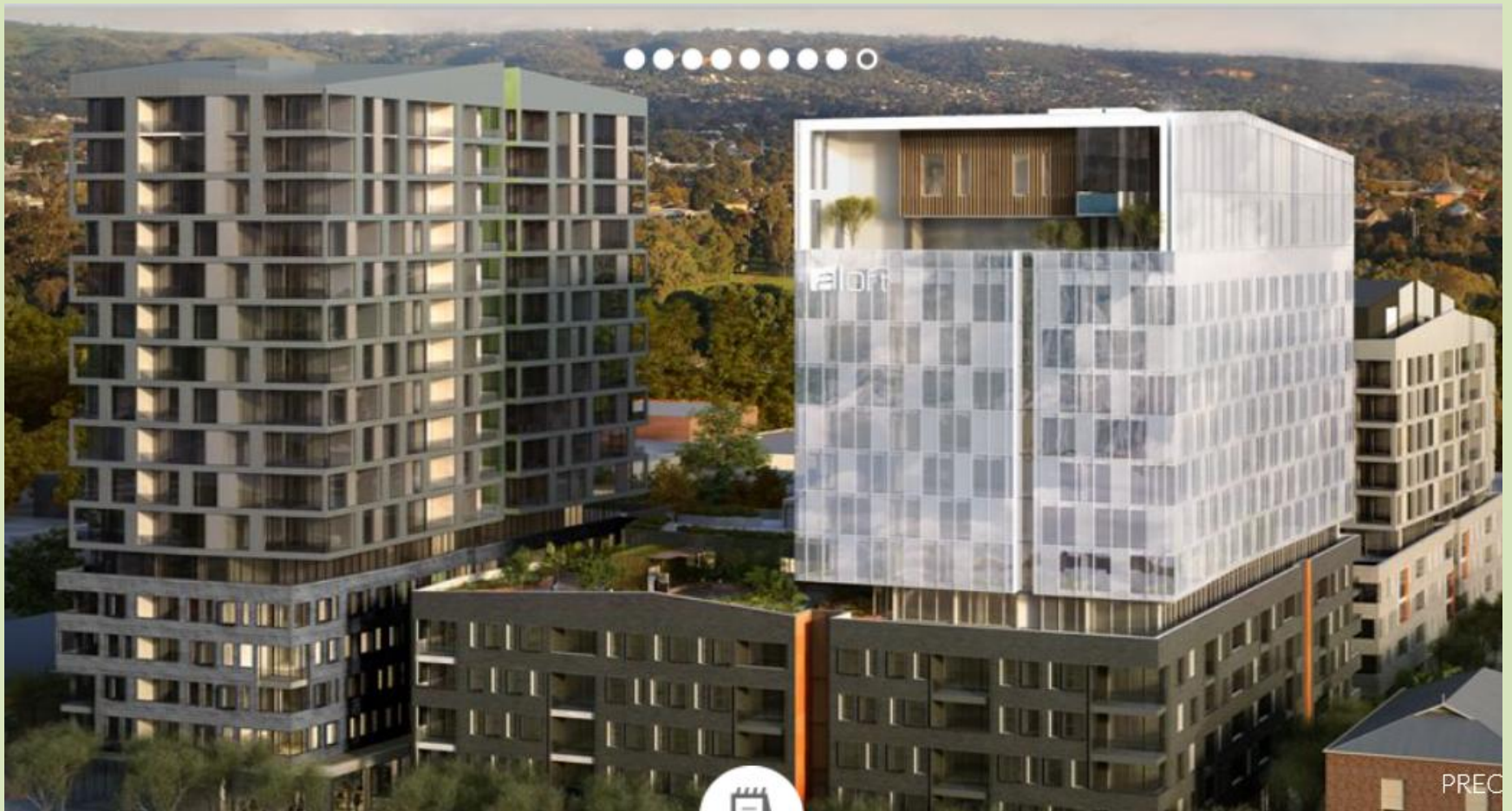
Planning Development and Infrastructure Bill 2015

- Does the Bill get the balance right between economic, environmental and social factors?
- Does it recognise the role of local Councils as responsible for managing the consequences of developments day to day?
- Does it give Parliament the power to reject bad planning policy?

Planning Development and Infrastructure Bill 2015

- Does it put People back into Planning?
- Does it give citizens more or less rights?
 - Will the Community Engagement Charter work?
 - What rights do we have to go to the umpire when bad decisions are made?
- Does it limit the Minister's power to:
 - Over-ride local communities?
 - Fast-track favoured developments?
 - Abuse interim operation powers?

Approved under “interim operation” 2 weeks before public consultation finished!



**Should public participation in
planning be limited to
commenting up-front on policy?**

or

**Should the public be involved in
Development Assessment as well?**

Welcome to the Strategic planning consultation



Who wants to have their say on the new development planned for our neighbourhood?



What are our rights?

- Access to information?
- Participation in decision-making?
- Access to justice?

Community Engagement Charter

- Sounds good, but yet to be written. Devil is in the detail
- Responsibility of Minister NOT the Planning Commission
- No Parliamentary oversight
- Not enforceable (even the “mandatory” bits)
- Won't cover community rights over development assessment

**Are local Councils so hopeless that
their role should be limited?**



**Are local Councils so hopeless that
their role should be limited?**



Are local Councils so hopeless that their role should be limited?

- Councils vary in their performance
- But, where is the evidence that Councils are the problem?
- What is the problem anyway? Bad decisions? Slow decisions? Lengthy DPAs?

Eg. Case Study: Norwood Payneham St Peters Council (2014)

Development Applications (2014)	1,036 (\$134 million)
Approval rate	95%
Determined by	Panel – 5% Staff – 95%
Median time to approve	Complying 5.2 days Cat 1 - 16 days Cat 2 - 27days Cat 3 - 36 days
Appeals	4 (1 withdrawn, 3 settled)

Where to next?

- Government says it is open to considering amendments
- Councils and community groups are proposing lots of amendments
- Upper House of Parliament is the key – so make your voice heard.
- **We have to get this right! The consequences of good or bad planning last for decades.**

Planning Development and Infrastructure Bill 2015



Mark Parnell MLC, LLB, BCom, MRUP

Parliamentary leader, Greens SA

Former environmental lawyer

Member, Environment Resources and Development
Committee of Parliament

parnell@parliament.sa.gov.au

@markparnellmlc

