

## BCRG Update 16\_2012, Brooklyn Planning successes

### **17<sup>th</sup> October, 2012**

Hi everyone,

We are very pleased to be able to share this good news with you that recognises the hard work that has and continues to be invested in the Brooklyn area.

#### 1) Brimbank City Council adopts 'The Brooklyn Evolution'.

*"Brimbank City Council's Brooklyn Industrial Precinct Strategy, 'The Brooklyn Evolution' was adopted at the 2 October 2012 Planning Committee Meeting.*

*The strategy provides an exciting 20 year plan to achieve local business development, employment growth and improved environmental management and amenity. The strategy can be found at [Brimbank City Council - The Brooklyn Industrial Precinct Strategy.](#)*

*The Brooklyn Evolution Project was also the recipient of a Planning Excellence award on the 12 October 2012 from the Planning Institute of Australia's. The award recognised the persistent and committed approach that Brimbank City Council and its partners EPA, Meinhardt and MGS has undertaken. The strategy sets a path for more work to be done in the future and strengthen the existing collaboration across disciplines."*

For further information on this project please contact Susan Fitton, 03 9249 4048 or [susanf@brimbank.vic.gov.au](mailto:susanf@brimbank.vic.gov.au)

#### 2) Planning Excellence 2012 Victoria Award winners

On 12 October Brimbank City Council (in partnership with EPA Victoria, Meinhardt and MGS) was awarded the "Hard Won Victory" Award at the Planning Excellence 2012 Victoria Awards (for the Planning Institute of Australia).

The project was "The Brooklyn Evolution Project".

The judges said:

*"This project represents a triumph of persistence, the realisation of a long held vision and a strong desire to consult and engage with a community that had become jaded and disillusioned with years of promises, plans and collaborative processes across a range of organisations with varying roles and responsibilities.*

*The City of Brimbank took leadership of the issues, in collaboration with the EPA, turning around community attitudes to the Braybrook industrial area and gaining critical public support for a long term plan that minimizes industrial impacts.*

*Working with a sceptical and hostile community that had lost faith in the capacity of any level of government to address a series of seemingly intractable problems associated with the conduct and operation of a whole of series of industrial uses, the award winner has demonstrated that planning using sound processes of engagement can provide actions that will deliver real gains - an exemplary 'hard won victory'."*

I'd like to sincerely congratulate Brimbank CC and the EPA (and their partners) for the award. I think it is a good symbol of the fact that these two organisations stand out in their recognition of the value and importance of listening to and working with the community to solve Brooklyn's massive environmental health problems. I think that BRAG, On The Nose and BCRG have all played a huge part in the evolution of this thinking.

While odour, noise and dust problems continue in some areas (and need to be fixed), there is no doubt that the combination of focussed enforcement (now) and robust planning (for the long term) will have a huge impact on the liveability of the Brooklyn area. (I'm sure the reference to 'Braybrook' above is intended to be 'Brooklyn').

In the meantime, we need to keep using the BCRG forum (and of course BRAG and On The Nose) to raise issues of concern, to discuss progress and to find ways to lift the game of the dwindling number of organisations that continue to disregard the impacts of odour, noise and dust on the community.

More information about the awards can be found at  
<http://www.planning.org.au/documents/item/4445>

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