

We The People

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Good day to you. Recently I offered comment on the light rail and I wasn't positive about it for good measurable reasons. It's just a Trojan horse for high density living along its ugly tracks to the direct detriment of the Gold Coast. When the tram comes to your suburb the area will become dramatically over populated and lose its appeal forever because of the new city plan and the Councils foolish ideas on high density living. This is all due to the Queensland Government and Gold Coast City Council who lack the will to truly work for the people and they lack the imagination to progress into a sustainable future. They promise high tech and deliver low tech, with an even lower IQ bureaucracy. On the Spit they promise low rise and deliver high rise and more spin. Now having slammed the light rail as too costly and inflexible being bound to its steel rails, today I offer a glimpse into the new age of moving people and its way better and cheaper than trams.

Just consider for a moment that jet airliners fly themselves and can land and take off using an auto pilot. Remember the car you own has been built by robots and you're on line banking system is driven by computers in charge of your money. The human like Honda Asimo automaton walks, runs and jumps just like a human. We are astonished we can use the GPS navigation system in our cell phones to tell us within a few meters where on earth we are. The list goes on and on with the landing of a probe called Philae in 2014 on a comet and that was the crowning glory of computers, robotics and science. The future is here now and with all this technology and computing power it's no wonder a tram system with rails and overhead wires is simply antiquated. On the Gold Coast it positions us as a backward city.

First up the answer to our growth problems is to cap the population which must happen at some point for the Gold Coast to be a sustainable place for us to live with a good quality of life. I know I will be howled down by some as delusional but I'm not as the evidence is at hand. In England, the Netherlands and India, electric pod transport technology is being installed to move people on demand and without noise or drivers. At Heathrow airport their Ultra Pod system is working flawlessly as these high tech driverless pods shuttle people to and fro in small electric vehicles as though right out of the film Total Recall and the Johnny Cab. A master computer system communicates with the autonomous Pods and the master system takes care of all problems and delays. These vehicles run on rubber tyres so in principle they can go anywhere there is a road and do so safely. Compare this with old heavy trams on inflexible rails going where few want to go. The Gold Coast's G Tram belongs with Thomas the tank engine and the Fat Controller. There are many other technologies emerging too and all should be considered for the Gold Coast as light years ahead of this Councils' vision. Just Google 'pod transport' and see what I mean and just imagine where we are going in the near future. I have my eye on a new Mazda that parks itself, has collision avoidance, radar guidance and heaps of other computer driven technology to near automate the average car and it will happen. Maybe one day you and I will be able to enter a dedicated roadway and hand the control to a master computer and then sit back and relax.

So on March 19 when you vote for Councillors and the Mayors position vote for integrity and open government, ethics, common sense and for an articulate leader who will genuinely understand how to tap into a high technology future. In my view, unfortunately no one in Council fulfils these requirements as they ride the tram to antiquity. They are quite literally the sleepers beneath the rails.

Until next time this is Kent Bayley