

**We The People**  
Program 31 (short)  
Robina



Back in 1980 a Singaporean businessman, Robin Loh, bought a massive 20 square kilometre parcel of land on the Gold Coast. Today that land is the suburb of Robina. Thirty years ago the plan was so complex that a special act of parliament called the Robina Land Act was created to manage the project. This was necessary because the planning was well beyond the capability of the then Albert Shire Council. That's the beginning of this story and today the Council and State governments reckless decisions still render them failures in town planning.

Twelve years ago the Beattie Labor government decided to develop a plan for SEQ to cope with the growth they promoted as they were already spending beyond their means and required a larger tax base. The plan created by Terry McInroth is a constricting noose around the neck of every resident. The plan calls for high density living in existing residential areas without any regard for the wishes of current residents. This is called 'infill' and it's utterly unsustainable and will eventually destroy your street as it has in Parkwood, Ashmore, Robina and elsewhere.

In recent years three senior town planners hatched a scheme to use the little known infill provision to establish high density units in a new subdivision called the Gallery near Robina Woods golf course. They formed a \$2 company and their actions were unethical and a demonstrable conflict of interest. Street proud residents were shocked to discover that ugly multi story units were being built alongside them in direct contravention of the new approved master plan. Mayor Ron Clark wouldn't act regarding the dodgy actions of his town planners and it took determined residents 5 years to stop it with the loss of a complete street. Under this new land use definition no resident has the right to object and it's called contact assessment. Remember the term 'contact assessment' because it takes away your right to object to high density units in your street. You simply have no say.

This undemocratic 'infill' scheme is eating away at Robin Loh's master plan for Robina and to engineer this the Beattie Bligh governments quietly altered the Robina Land act year after year to allow for it. In other words suburban destruction by stealth. To do this effectively the Beattie government did away with all land zoning, so for those of you that think you live on residential A land, think again because you don't. It's now called a domain and land use can be changed at the whim of bureaucrats and negligent councillors. Let's be clear here, Anna Bligh continued this assault on us along with Campbell Newman who co-signed the Plan as Mayor of Brisbane and still supports the high density infill as the new Premier. He has stated publically that he intends to expand its use and that means impeding disaster for you and your home in the future. I recently spoke to the Federal Member for McPherson Karen Andrews about this whole issue and while she didn't know much about it seems willing to take a look to try and preserve our quality of life. I can tell you factually that high density infill causes immense parking problems, social unrest, falling real estate values, noise, street blockages for emergency services and service providers and most importantly takes away space for children to play. Gone is your quality of life and I challenge the state member for Mermaid, Ray Stevens to come on air and explain what he intends to do for the residents of Robina to stop this outrage. His leader, Campbell Newman is on a mission to make things worse so let's get the Premier on air too. While we're at it lets invite the Division 11 councillor Jan Grew in to tell us what she is doing to fight this obscene mess and preserve the rights of residents.

My advice is not to vote back any local council member because they've done nothing to properly address this social time bomb created by the Beattie/Bligh governments. Campbell Newman claims to be our champion but is promoting the infill scheme too so he's no friend of ours. When one earth will 'government of the people, by the people and for the people' return.

**Until next time this is Kent Bayley**