



Andrew Waddell MLA

MEMBER FOR FORRESTFIELD

Parliament of Western Australia
Legislative Assembly

Cc1 sub 107



Mike Nahan MLA
Chairman
Economics and Industry Standing Committee
Parliament House
Harvest Terrace
Perth WA 6000

10 September 2009



Dear Mike

Re: Springvale Village Caravan Park 161 Maida Vale Road High Wycombe

I wish to make the Economics and Industry Standing Committee's aware of the issues that the residents from the Springvale Village Caravan Park are facing at present.

Springvale Village Caravan Park has existed at its current location for approximately 30 years. Many of the residents have lived there for more than a decade, and some have lived there for more than two decades. Residents have learnt in the past year that the Park was going to be redeveloped for housing and they would need to find alternate accommodation.

In May 2008 the Shire of Kalamunda advised the Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) that the council did not support the proposed modification of the Structure Plan from a caravan park to residential purposes, and acknowledged the rights and responsibilities that the council believed the owners of the property have to continue to provide park home accommodation, but in July 2009 the WAPC advised the Shire they had approved the modification.

The residents are now facing grave hardship because most cannot move their park home as the stability of the structure prohibits this. Otherwise the high cost of relocating, which can be up to \$15,000 is clearly beyond the means of most of the park home owners and for those that may consider this option, it seems there are very few caravan parks that are now taking transportable homes.

The residents at this Village are a close knit community and felt safe and secure within the Village boundaries, but now are distraught with worry about where they will live. Homeswest representatives have addressed the residents but cannot guarantee that suitable accommodation will be found for residents when the park

closes, although they will try. The high cost of private rentals will prevent most from seeking rental accommodation so as you can imagine the distress of these people is overwhelming.

The redevelopment has essentially deprived these people of their homes, with no compensation of any kind. The current situation leaves our elderly, vulnerable, physically and financially disadvantaged constituents open to confusion and can lead them to desperate circumstances.

I would request that the Economics and Industry Standing Committee take this example into consideration when considering recommendations for *Long Stay Caravan Park Legislation*.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'A. Waddell', written in a cursive style.

Andrew Waddell MLA
Member for Forrestfield