

Peter McDonald
236 Onslow Road
Shenton Park WA 6008

17 March 2020

Hon Matthew Swinbourn MLC
Chair
Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs
Legislative Council Committee Office
Parliament House, 4 Harvest Terrace, West Perth, WA, 6005

By email to: env@parliament.wa.gov.au

Dear Mr Swinbourn

Petition No. 146 - Subiaco Approved Local Planning Scheme No. 5

Thank you for your letter dated 13 February 2020 and your invitation to provide a submission regarding the issues raised in my petition.

As you will have seen, the petition had a total of 1,526 signatories tabled in the Legislative Council and as noted in the Hansards for 11 & 13 February and 11 March 2020.

This petition is the end result of more than 1,500 conversations our petition gatherers have had with signatories about the Subiaco Local Planning Scheme No. 5 (LPS5) decision^{1,2} imposed upon our community by the Hon Rita Saffioti MLA, Minister for Planning (**Minister Saffioti**).

Minister Saffioti plays down our concerns by stating “ .. *the Subiaco community got 90 – 95% of what they wanted*”.³

If the Subiaco community got 90 – 95% of what they wanted, why have 1,526 people signed the paper petition tabled in the Legislative Council and why have a further 232 people signed the on-line petition on change.org⁴ (**1,758 signatories in total**)?

On the same day Minister Saffioti issued her media release on LPS5, Subiaco Mayor Penny Taylor (**Mayor Taylor**) issued a media release⁵ describing LPS5 as ‘ .. *an excellent outcome for our community*’.

¹ Minister Saffioti’s media release dated 18 December 2019 titled ‘*Subiaco’s new planning scheme to retain character and support growth*’. Accessed on 17 March 2020 from the WA Government web site at: www.mediastatements.wa.gov.au/Pages/McGowan/2019/12/Subiacos-new-planning-scheme-to-retain-character-and-support-growth.aspx

² Gazetted on 21 February 2020. Accessed on 17 March 2020 from the website for the WA Government Gazette at: [https://www.slp.wa.gov.au/gazette/GAZETTE.NSF/searchgazette/F1E8657C5E5C5E2148258514000D6AD1/\\$file/Gr025.pdf](https://www.slp.wa.gov.au/gazette/GAZETTE.NSF/searchgazette/F1E8657C5E5C5E2148258514000D6AD1/$file/Gr025.pdf)

³ ABC radio *Breakfast* Perth: 9 January 2020 at 7:10 am. ABC *Breakfast* presenter Damian Smith interviewing Minister Saffioti. Recording accessed and transcribed on 10 January 2020 from the ABC website at: <https://www.abc.net.au/radio/perth/programs/breakfast/>

⁴ Subiaco LPS5 petition on change.org and as accessed on 17 March 2020 on the change.org web site at: <http://chng.it/VGtSy4wt>

⁵ City of Subiaco News release dated 18 December 2019 titled ‘*Local Planning Scheme No. 5 approved*’. Accessed on 6 January from the City of Subiaco web site at: www.subiaco.wa.gov.au

Not long after Mayor Taylor described LPS5 as an ‘.. *excellent outcome*’ a group within the Subiaco community petitioned for⁶ and obtained a Special Electors’ Meeting which was held on 24 February 2020 and at which a motion of no-confidence in Mayor Taylor was passed.

So many people turned up to the meeting to hear the motion of no-confidence in Mayor Taylor the City had to turn away 113 of the people wishing to attend due to insufficient space in the town hall (which could only accommodate 165 people). A total of 107 of the people turned away signed a form on the night of the meeting stating they would have voted no-confidence in Mayor Taylor. A mere two of those turned away signed to say they supported Mayor Taylor.⁷

Mayor Taylor was also sanctioned by her Council in the weeks after she issued her description of LPS5 as an ‘.. *excellent outcome*’.⁸ The LPS5 plan imposed by the Minister lacks local support.

Minister Saffioti (aided by Mayor Taylor in the case of Subiaco) has now managed to make planning decisions that have infuriated 18 different communities around Perth, ostensibly in pursuit of ‘*necessary infill*’. These communities include Nedlands, South Perth, Cambridge, Joondalup, Scarborough, Canning Bridge, Kalamunda, Applecross, East Waneroo, West Leederville, Meltham, Hillary’s, Melville, Fremantle and others.

In the case of the Subiaco LPS5 amendments that Minister Saffioti made to the proposal unanimously supported by the City of Subiaco Council at its June and July 2019 meetings:

- the increased densities around the Shenton Park and Daglish railway stations lack merit because neither of these stations is slated to be a METRONET station and moreover neither is already or is likely to be an employment or entertainment or retail hub;
- the density increases to Daglish were in many cases not close to either station and do not sit well with the character of this charming inter-war period garden suburb;
- the density increases to the north side of Onslow Road south of Lake Jualbup lack merit because that retail precinct is quite small. There is negligible local support for the measure from the residents in either Onslow Road or Evans Street.

For all of the above reasons our local community opposes Minister Saffioti’s amendments.

Yours sincerely



Peter McDonald

⁶ Petition for a Special Electors’ Meeting signed by more than 200 City of Subiaco electors and as served upon Mayor Taylor on 20 January 2020.

⁷ The Subiaco Post edition 29 February 2020. Front page article (continued page 84) by Bret Christian and Lloyd Gorman titled ‘113 locked out of Taylor vote’. Accessed on 29 February 2020 from the Subiaco Post web site at: <https://postnewspapers.com.au/read-the-post/>

⁸ The Subiaco Post edition 11 January 2020. Front page article (continued page 45) by Lloyd Gorman titled ‘Taylor, Lavery gagged on LPS5’. Accessed on 12 January 2020 from the Subiaco Post web site at: <https://postnewspapers.com.au/read-the-post/>