

Monday 10th August 2020

Community Plans a Must For All Neighbourhoods

Dave Fagg, Whipstick Ward candidate, has called for council to help all neighbourhoods to develop a community plan to guide development and shape the council's budget process.

"Community plans don't sound very exciting, but they enable local residents to take control of their neighbourhood. Currently, Long Gully and Epsom/White Hills do not have a community plan."

Mr Fagg pointed to community plans in Eaglehawk and Woodvale as examples of the process, but pointed out problems. First, these were often developed many years ago and needed updating. Second, they needed council support to help residents keep working on the plan.

Mr Fagg recognised that council does provide assistance to communities to develop plans. However, he said there was a problem with personnel.

"Right now, it is my understanding that council has no specific person to help us come up with community plans. I call on the council to expedite this process and employ someone to fill this role. In addition, there needs to be at least one council officer whose role is dedicated to regularly touching base with communities about their plans."

Mr Fagg called on people who are passionate about their neighbourhood to phone council and request help to develop a plan.

"In particular, Long Gully and the White Hills/Epsom areas do not have a community plan at all. If council is serious about taking residents' ideas seriously then this is a huge gap."

#ends

Mr Fagg is available for media interviews and photo opportunities upon request. Photos are also available on David Fagg's website at <https://davefagg.com.au/media/>.

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