

JACKIE TRAD'S SECRET DEAL WITH A "DONOR" DEVELOPER

Soon after the 2015 State election, the Minister responsible for "Priority Development Areas" Deputy Premier Jackie Trad completely back-flipped on Labor's long held opposition to destroying Moreton Bay wetlands for real estate developments. AND Trad also agreed to a 450% expansion to a proposal to replace protected wetlands with high-rises. We know about the policy back-flips but not the secret details or exactly when the deal was done with the developer e.g.

see https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=1243262382412931&id=123257177746796

The setting is Toondah Harbour, Cleveland, where the ferries depart for North Stradbroke Island. Since the 1980's developers, known then as the "white shoe brigade", have wanted to "reclaim" adjacent wetlands and build out into Moreton Bay. In those days Labor leaders opposed the idea and even helped organise opposition against it -

see https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=1584832204922612&id=123257177746796

In 1993 the area was recognised as internationally important wetlands and protected by inclusion in the Moreton Bay Ramsar site - <https://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/wetlands/ramsardetails.pl?refcode=41>

For 20 years no one talked about "reclaiming" the Bay's wetlands. Their protection made even more sense as climate change became a serious issue for most people. (The recent flooding in Houston sent a stark message about the dangers of destroying coastal wetlands - see https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=1608450479227451&id=123257177746796)

But then came the Newman Government and its over the top, regressive ideas. The Toondah plan re-surfaced. The LNP Government passed new laws to declare the area a "Priority Development Area" (PDA). The plan to hand over the area to a "developer" was in the early stages when Labor was elected and could have easily been stopped. It still can.

In opposition, Jackie Trad had described PDA's as "an outrageous abuse of power" intended to line the pockets of the LNP's "developer mates" - for extracts of her Hansard speech, see -

https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=1194714893934347&id=123257177746796

But instead of revoking the Toondah Harbour PDA as expected, Labor's Minister in charge of PDA's (yes, Jackie Trad) suddenly became a supporter! She announced this in a media statement in June, 2015 - see <http://statements.qld.gov.au/Statement/2015/6/19/plan-to-revitalise-toondah-harbour-given-the-greenlight>

There was no explanation for Labor's mysterious and surprising back-flips. And no explanation for having deceived voters a few months earlier.

Claimed benefits of the Toondah plan are based largely on misinformation (and lies). For example, the Redlands Mayor used the ABC to spread a lie that the Toondah construction jobs were needed to replace the jobs of "650" sand miners who lived on Stradbroke. Mining company Sibelco (the Mayor's major political donor incidentally) later stated it employed 41 island sand miners. Locals say

the real number is fewer -

see https://www.facebook.com/123257177746796/videos/1578405992231900/?hc_location=ufi

The end of sand mining in 2019 provides no justification for destroying Ramsar listed wetlands at Cleveland.

But it gets worse. Jackie Trad also secretly agreed to a 450% expansion in the size of the proposed number of apartments, from 800 under the LNP to a massive 3,600! This was revealed in a one line statement on the Redland City Council's website five months after Trad's media release -

see https://www.redland.qld.gov.au/info/20271/priority_development_areas/287/toondah_harbour_pda

There has been no explanation by Jackie Trad for agreeing to the massive increase.

But what we do know is that Labor has a long-term, close association with the developer, including via large, declared "donations" - for more information, see -

https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=1188153264590510&id=123257177746796

We also know that just prior to the last State election, the Australian newspaper reported that Walker Corporation wanted about "1000 dwellings", a more modest increase in the LNP's 800 -

see <http://savestraddie.com/wp-content/uploads/2009/12/Walker-Corp-wins-bid-to-transform-southeast-Queensland-marina.pdf>

In its wildest dreams, Walker Corp could not have expected Jackie Trad to agree to 3,600 apartments! The public is entitled to explanations from Jackie Trad.

OUR MESSAGE TO JACKIE TRAD IS SIMPLE. REVEAL THE TOONDAH DEAL!