

JACKIE TRAD'S PLANNED PUBLIC ASSET GIVE-AWAY TO DONOR PROPERTY DEVELOPER COULD RESULT IN HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF DOLLARS PRIVATE PROFIT

Labor and Jackie Trad, the Minister in charge, plan to rezone a priceless, public, protected wetland area and allow a donor property developer to dredge and 'reclaim' it.

Last corporate tax year the developer paid ZERO income tax on earnings of \$363 Million, but has a long history of making large political "donations".

The site of the proposed environmental destruction is Toondah Harbour at Cleveland, where the ferries depart for North Stradbroke Island (see map).

Research by the SMH's investigative journalist Kate McClymont reveals that between 1998 and 2015, the Walker Group/Corporation gave [\\$2,253,480 in \(declared\) donations](#) to the major political parties, mostly to the ALP.

In 2015 Jackie Trad and Labor broke Labor's long term policy of protection of the Toondah wetlands to back Walker's plan. Labor also expanded the plan to allow 3,600 high-rise, Bay view apartments. As the plan involves destruction of Ramsar wetlands, it is subject to Federal Government approval.

The proposal began under the Newman Government with the declaration of a 'Priority Development Area' (PDA). Walker Corp was to be permitted to destroy over 43 hectares/100 acres of Ramsar protected wetlands and build 800 units.

[Instead of revoking the plan](#), Jackie Trad, the Minister in charge of the Toondah plan since 2015, secretly agreed to an extra 2,800 units! So far, there has been no explanation by the Premier or Jackie Trad for their decisions.

This is one hell of a favour! Walker Corp stands to make astronomical profits – possibly hundreds of millions of dollars. This would depend on the average profit per unit, multiplied by 3,600.



Toondah Harbour 'Master Plan'.

PROTECTED WETLANDS AT STAKE

Many threatened marine animals (dugongs, turtles, dolphins etc) and bird species (some critically endangered) inhabit the tidal and wetland areas around Toondah Harbour – also a fish breeding area. These habitats and eco-systems, including sea grass and mangroves, would be directly impacted, or indirectly impacted via dredge spoil and other pollution.

One of the Bayside's last remaining populations of koalas inhabit the foreshore area of the PDA. Would they survive the cars, domestic pets and other impacts of an estimated 10,000 residents?

Most of Redland City's drinking water is sourced from North Stradbroke. The Island's aquifer and dependent wetlands could be adversely impacted by taking large quantities of additional water to service this gross over-development.



Toondah Koalas won't survive the plan.



Critically endangered Far Eastern Curlews



Threatened Moreton Bay dugongs inhabit the area



More shorebirds near Toondah Harbour

PRIORITY DEVELOPMENT AREAS (PDA'S)

The Toondah wetlands destruction plan is a State Government controlled PDA. Jackie Trad and Labor are using a law they previously attacked. Jackie Trad described PDA's as "["an outrageous abuse of power" intended to line the pockets of the LNP's "developer mates"](#)". Labor was expected to revoke the Toondah wetlands destruction plan, but it expanded the proposed number of high-rise apartments by 450% instead!

EXTRACT FROM HANSARD WHEN LABOR ATTACKED THE PDA LAW BEFORE LAST ELECTION

TRAD MP...the main purpose of the act is primarily achieved by establishing the Minister for Economic Development Queensland. This is about concentrating power in the hands of one politician [the Deputy Premier - now Jackie Trad] and slashing an authority that is independent, that provides expert advice, that goes to planning and affordable housing throughout the state...THIS IS AN OUTRAGEOUS ABUSE AND CONCENTRATION OF POWER...is nothing more than the LNP making a power grab to buy up land to develop it at its will and to GIVE IT AWAY TO ITS DEVELOPER MATES." (Emphasis added).

WHAT ARE RAMSAR PROTECTED WETLANDS?

Australia is a signatory to the Ramsar Convention – an international agreement for the protection of wetlands and shore birds. Many threatened species, some critically endangered (such as the Far Eastern Curlews, pictured near Toondah Harbour) inhabit the Toondah wetlands.

WHAT HAPPENED TO LABOR'S VALUES?

Until 2015, Labor had a long history of [helping to protect the Toondah wetlands](#) from similar destructive proposals. That was even before the wetlands were internationally recognised. In 1993 they were included in the Moreton Bay Ramsar site. So why has Labor trashed its record of protection of the Toondah wetlands, [its own policies](#) and its strong opposition to PDA's, which extinguish community rights?

To read a digital version of this leaflet, with links to the source of facts, go to savestraddie.com. For updates go to these Facebook sites – [Save Straddie](#), [Redlands 2030](#), [Save our Toondah Koalas](#), [Save our Bay – Toondah Harbour](#), and [Toondah Friends](#).



Deputy Premier Jackie Trad praised the Ipswich Council in January, pictured with ex-Labor member and Mayor Paul Pisasale. Labor's Toondah favours may be legal, but are of far greater magnitude than alleged in a corruption charge against Pisasale. ([Queensland Times](#))



Jackie Trad pictured at Toondah Harbour when announcing Labor's decision to continue with the irresponsible plan to dredge and 'reclaim' Ramsar protected wetlands for high-rise apartments ([Redland City Bulletin](#))



The LNP's Jeff Seeney and property developer Lang Walker with the initial proposal for Toondah Harbour. Photo: Redlands 2030

BACKGROUND FACTS

- 1** The Toondah Harbour Priority Development Area (PDA) including over 100 acres/40 hectares of Ramsar protected Moreton Bay wetlands was declared by the LNP before the last election, but nothing had happened by that election.
- 2** Labor attacked the LNP's PDA law as "an outrageous abuse of power" intended to line the pockets of "developer mates".
- 3** Instead of revoking the Toondah plan and saving the protected wetlands from destruction, Labor and Jackie Trad expanded the proposal by 450% from a proposed 800 units to 3,600!
- 4** The proposed developer has a long-term association with the major parties, particularly Labor, including via declared donations.

Go to savestraddie.com to read the digital version with hyperlinks to sources of facts.

