

Developers set their sights on Gidgegannup

Local residents from around the Gidgedales estate in Gidgegannup held a neighbourhood meeting to see and evaluate proposed land developments. Developers are trying to urbanise this rural community by reducing land parcels down of one acre in size.

Chris and Helen Jackson organised the meeting to show concerned neighbours where the proposed development would be, and to view first hand a fragile valley system that will be crammed with roads and 250 dwellings, if developers get their way.

Current planning does not allow for these small lot sizes in the chosen areas of development. Therefore the developers are pressuring the Mayor to scrap the just released, "Gidgegannup Rural Strategy 2006", in favour of allowing land releases that would be detrimental to current residents livelihood, health, and the environment. This Rural Strategy evolved from a "Place Plan" that the City of Swan and the community spent three years building, to provide positive future direction for Gidgegannup.

Chris Jackson addressed the crowd of more than 50, and asked them to seriously consider the impact of such a serious about face in the planning and development of hills communities in the City of Swan and beyond.

The proposed developments around the rim of the Gidgedales Estate would add over 450 homes, more than twice that of Gidgedales, to a community that already has it's infrastructure stretched to the limit. Gidgegannup has current problems with power supplies, telecommunications, roads and health services.

Chris urges all residents to attend a public meeting to hear what the developers have planned for three developments proposed for Gidgegannup. This will be held on Monday October the 16th at 7:30pm at the Agricultural Hall in the Showgrounds. Residents that are concerned about this unprecedented rapid urbanisation of their rural community and lifestyle should attend.