

MLA looks at development

By **DAN HATCH**

SWAN Hills MLA Jaye Radisich said this week she would make sure any development in Gidgegannup was "sustainable and as environmentally responsible as possible".

Ms Radisich said she had sought a meeting with bosses at Port Bouvard Limited, the company behind a proposal that would see more than 2000 residential and rural-residential blocks created in the town.

While neither supporting nor speaking out against this particular proposal, Ms Radisich said Gidgegannup and the North Eastern Hills corridor would need to "absorb some of the expanding population".

She said the Port Bouvard-proposed 270 rural-residential blocks, on the eastern side of Bunning Road in the City of Swan, could be developed under current planning conditions and did not need State approval.

She said the planned 1900-block townsite would need scheme amendments to be approved by State Parliament.

She said she understood people

in the community had "strong feelings" about development in Gidgegannup.

"Some people don't want development and I understand that, to love somewhere with little development for 30 years is a special thing," she said. "Other people are crying out for more services and amenities. So, there is no right answer for local residents."

She said the latter group also supported more commercial services like shops, a medical centre and public transport.

City of Swan Mayor Charlie Gregorini told the *Hills Gazette* this week he supported development in line with the Gidgegannup Rural Strategy Plan.

He also hit back at suggestions from the community that he had a personal relationship with developer Michael Coleman, of Riseley Investments, who sold the land to Port Bouvard for its development.

"I have no personal relationship with anyone involved with this development," he said. "It is an absurd suggestion. Mr Coleman is a ratepayer and I can't deny him access to my office."