

1st August 2017

MEDIA RELEASE

Victory for The Spit at last.

Gecko members were very excited and delighted when they received a phone call earlier today from the office of the Deputy Premier advising that the Palaszczuk Government would announce that the ASF proposal for an integrated resort casino development was terminated.

This marks the end of nearly six years of campaigning by so many community organisations to prevent the ASF development on both Wavebreak Island and later on The Spit. Both proposals, which never made it past artist's drawings featured many high rise towers in contravention of the 2016 City Plan.

Lois Levy, Gecko Campaign Coordinator, said "I was so thrilled to receive the news that at last after years of community effort this proposal was terminated. We thank the Government for making this sensible decision and we thank all of our colleagues who worked so hard to achieve this outcome. If ASF had ever come up with a plan that complied with the City Plan this campaign would not have been necessary, but to propose 5 X 45 storey towers in a three storey area was just not on. This decision opens the door to innovative and exciting sustainable development possibilities."

In addition to this decision the State Government will begin a process to create a master plan for The Spit, and surrounding waters that locks in the low rise development requirements that Gold Coasters have supported for decades. Gecko looks forward to being an active participant in this process.

Lois said "I am also looking forward to the release of the Donaldson public consultation reports shortly, particularly the one relating to the Spit Parklands. It will be very interesting to see what ideas people had for this unique, beautiful and irreplaceable part of our city. A master plan can build on the wonderful work of the Friends of Federation Walk and the recent upgrades by the Gold Coast Waterways Authority. "

The champagne will be flowing at the Currumbin RSL tonight as Spit campaigners gather at the Town Hall meeting called by the Premier over the weekend. This is a victory for democracy!

Contact:

Lois Levy Campaign Coordinator, 0412 724 222