

## **MEDIA RELEASE 9 November 2015**

Brisbane Residents United is bringing community groups together on Sunday 15 November to send a clear message to state and local governments that people count when it comes to planning for their communities.

“This Sunday starting 10am at Reddacliff Place in the Brisbane CBD, we will be walking as one to highlight just how dissatisfied people are with planning and development decisions” said Elizabeth Handley, founding President of Brisbane Residents United.

“City and Neighbourhood Plans are supposed to offer some degree of certainty, but as with the decision with the proposed towers at the ABC site at Toowong, people are left scratching their heads and wondering how on earth something could have been approved”. This is a pattern being repeated all over the Brisbane and surrounding areas.

There has been growing concern across Brisbane and other Queensland cities about over development, with inappropriate heights and densities being approved without supporting infrastructure, green space or public transport options.

Brisbane Residents United is calling on a planning system for today and the future that is built on fairness, equality and sustainability.

“We want to make it very clear that we are not anti development – we are calling for quality development in the right places and protection for the things that matter, from open spaces and bushland to our suburbs and much-loved historic houses and places.” Ms Handley said.

“The draft bill is currently under consideration by the State government, making this is an opportune time to let our state MPs know that the planning matters for the people. We want planning to deliver better outcomes for the people” said Ms Handley.

“People are beginning to realise that developer donations and influence have been behind Labor and LNP decisions for too long, and with an election looming for Brisbane City Council next March they will have plenty to say at the ballot box”.

Brisbane Residents United say that this event will help show both levels of government that people expect a greater say in what happens to our city and suburbs. It will also show them that we want to protect our unique parks, heritage and lifestyle. We have been shut out of the decision-making process for too long and it’s time we were brought back in. This is all about people standing up for better city planning.

The event will finish with some short speeches and family entertainment at the City Botanic Gardens. Families, friends, pets and picnic blankets are welcome.

People are encouraged to find out more at [www.brisbaneresidentsunited.org](http://www.brisbaneresidentsunited.org) and a Facebook event has been created at <http://on.fb.me/1M0SA8J>

Brisbane Residents United’s **KNOW MORE** campaign:

- **KNOW MORE** about planning in your city and how to get more involved.
- Governments should **KNOW MORE** about what people want and need.
- Tell them ‘**NO MORE** ignoring our voices, these are our places & spaces’.

Media contact: Elizabeth Handley 0404 833 057