Clarinet

As I read Elizabeth's beautifully crafted piece my heart sank even further in relation to our government's inability and unwillingness to conduct sophisticated thought and design. We are destined for a terrible sea of mediocrity in our urban environment. How sad.

akcaH

Sadly, too many people lack imagination and don't know what they've got till it's gone. More sadly, LNP governments know exactly what they have to get rid of to get what they want.

HJ

Big development means big money and that's all anyone needs to know.

PRA

To clarify, Elizabeth, the state government think we're stupid. And enough of the public are - either stupid or selfish or both - that the state government's assessment is essentially correct.

Lilli Pilli

Great piece Elizabeth, you nailed it. This government is full of oxymorons and my favourite is, 'the Minister for Better Regulation'. Nothing is what it seems with this lot.

Phil 1943

Excellent article. Stokes' 'dream' deserves volumes of critique, and none of it should be receptive. What a con! This unwanted PR exercise imagines an impossible, developer-driven future with so-called Designs that could only be achieved by bulldozing every existing structure and starting over with a determination to blot out the skyline with towering structures adjacent to green patches where a bit of free space remains. Yes indeed, it is very jolly. Truly laughable, and soon to be forgotten.

Lard

Great article Elizabeth. I'm not sure what the new SEPP will entail and am sceptical about Stokes promises but I know from personal experience that the current SEPP has not enhanced the beauty of anything. Would love to see the removal of Complying Development Certificates (which enables faceless private certifiers to approve buildings thereby sidestepping any scrutiny from the relevant council) from any future SEPP.

ELIZABETH BARR

This is an asset stripping, developer driven, mercantile government without soul. Its environment record is appalling and its notion of urban planning is to plan corridors for high rise developments which benefit the construction industry and the bankers.

Μ

I could show you a scenic escarpment in a semi rural/coastal setting in northern NSW which will soon have a shiny new 9 storey hospital with helipad, the cherry, on top, dominating the skyline, blocking views of Mt Warning and a meagre amount spent on road infrastructure to deal with the extra traffic. Rob and others giving the finger to Kingscliff and Cudgen.

The Waves

Perhaps Rob Stokes could demonstrate the beauty of development using his own electorate of Pittwater as an example? I'm sure the residents would hunger for design led development to beautify their quality of life. Nah, didn't think so... A good article btw.

andrew.conacher

planning documents have become bigger and dumber over the last 30 years. more words pictures charts information boxes and colours ie the full gamut of what microsoft word can do.

the result has taken away time spent on planning in exchange for more time on marketing.

one example among many;

wollongong councillors commissioned a strategy for the redevelopment of the inner city (which is really not that big) . combined, all the reports are heading for 1,000 pages.

result; political paralysis

expect a lot more development as we climb out of covid, you've seen nothing yet

sdunne

And the current residential property market boom has shown that many families aspire to the humble cottage with a backyard for the kids not the tiny box in the forty storey tower .How sad

Mapmaker

I work in government and I don't disagree with a lot of what you say. However I can assure you that public facing documents are not produced using Microsoft Word! The horror! Think of the children.

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