



## Media Release

26 March 2014

### **LORD MAYOR OPPOSES ROCKLEA PARK UPGRADE**

Flood affected residents in Rocklea have been dealt a second blow by the refusal of Lord Mayor, Graham Quirk and his LNP Council team to support a minor park upgrade at Rocklea.

Tennyson Ward Councillor, Nicole Johnston, said \$50,000 from the Tennyson Ward Park and Footpath Trust Fund had been allocated to the project this year but rejected by the LNP.

“Rocklea residents are still in the process of rebuilding their homes and lives following the devastating January 2011 floods. New parkland was approved on the corner of Melbourne St and Inskip St Rocklea last year, but now the Lord Mayor refuses to allow trees, a bin and even seating to be installed to help beautify the area.”

“The area is zoned as parkland and has only a 5% chance of flooding each year the same Ken Fletcher Park, Tennyson and Frew Park, Milton where Council has spent millions of dollars on massive park facilities.”

“Council’s open space and flood policy both support the parkland and recreation uses proposed and the area is not below the old Q2 flood level.”

“The Lord Mayor’s decision to oppose a minor parks upgrade for Rocklea residents simply doesn’t add up and cannot be justified on any legitimate policy grounds.”

“When the motion came before Council no one from the Administration, including Parks Chairman, Councillor Bourke, rose to explain why they did not support the motion. They simply used their superior numbers in Council to vote the motion down. As a result, they voted against planting trees and installing seats and a bin in a park for Rocklea residents.”

“The Lord Mayor has abandoned Rocklea residents who deserve the support of Brisbane City Council and a modest investment in new park facilities for their suburb.”

Attached excerpts:

- Motion to Council dated 25 March 2014.
- Flood Flag maps for Rocklea and Frew Park Milton, showing the same percentage chance of flooding – with Frew Park likely to have more water over the site.
- City Plan property reports stating that park facilities are appropriate for the Rocklea site.
- Council flood policy stating that environmental and recreational uses are suitable
- Council open space policy supporting facilities.

**For further information please call Nicole Johnston 34038605 or 0407039198**

