

The 4547 meeting of the Brisbane City Council Tuesday 13 February 2018

Councillor TOOMEY: Thank you, Madam Chairman. I rise to speak on item A, a presentation from last week on Gordon Road Detention Basin. Madam Chairman, at the beginning of the presentation, there was some discussion over whether it was a retention or detention basin. I was actually put straight by the officers and it will duly be noted that it will be referred to as a detention basin moving forward. I thank the officers for explaining the difference to me. Madam Chairman, the detention basin was primarily put in place to slow water coming off Mount Coot-tha into Ithaca Creek.

The catchment area for Mount Coot-tha that services the detention basin is some 40 hectares in area. The detention basin retains water from the catchment and controls the flow back into the storm network system and, by doing this, services a number of streets and prevents a number of streets in my ward from increased flooding. Some of those streets include Gordon Road, Barnett Road, Bowman Parade, Bardon Esplanade, Fletcher Parade and Coopers Camp Road. Madam Chairman, part of these works included remediation towards erosion.

There was significant erosion occurring at the top of Gordon Road and these works addressed that. Madam Chairman, I am really pleased to advise that there was extensive engagement with the community on this particular project, particularly the locals in Gordon Road and Bardon State School (and we had a change of Principal, so we did a double whammy on that one). It worked out really, really well.

We also had some environmental engagement with the local environmental group, SOWN (Save Our Waterways Now) and, as a result of that, I can report that the work that was done by the Council officers actually maintained the water level within the retention basin. There were a number of tusked frogs identified in the area, a number of the SOWN members identified a very unique form of rush growing in there as well. I'm happy to report that none of that was actually impacted on by the works. A number of times I actually went to site to do an inspection and the frogs appeared to be very, very happy.

Madam Chairman, I would really like to thank the Quirk Administration for delivering this piece of infrastructure. It's one of those pieces of work that we can all be very proud of. It services the residents of Bardon. It sends a clear message that we are an infrastructure Administration and we're delivering infrastructure that is very vital, not only to the streets

and our residents, but also, in this particular case, the way that it actually took consideration of the environment and the way that all the concerns around environmental impact were taken into consideration.

Madam Chairman, I want to thank the officers for the work that they did. I would like to thank Councillor MATIC as Chairman for the delivery and the presentation of the project and I commend item A to the Chamber. Thank you.