



02 May 2019

Cr Darren Grimwade
Division 11
Moreton Bay Regional Council
darren.grimwade@moretonbay.qld.gov.au

Re: Proposed Introduction of Residential Kerbside Waste and Recyclables Collection at Mt Nebo

Dear Darren

I write to urgently bring to your attention the concerns of residents in our community to the above proposal.

Many concerned residents attended our meeting last night as a result of receiving letters from Council dated 16 April 2019 advising of the proposed introduction of the "service" from 01 October 2019 and a short period of time to provide feedback.

It is regrettable you were unable to be in attendance to hear those concerns first hand.

Following extensive discussion, it was agreed that I write to you summarising the concerns raised and seeking response to questions asked.

A summary of the concerns include:

- Road safety associated with large garbage trucks adding to already potentially dangerous road conditions
- Inability of large garbage trucks being able to safely access the many narrow streets, roads and lanes in the district
- The blockage of these streets, roads and lanes by garbage trucks at collection times therefore impeding exit and egress of residents
- The inability of most residents being able to wheel the proposed large bins to the collection point for the trucks due to topography and distance from roadway
- The complete lack of kerbs in the district meaning bins will be placed on the road
- The road safety hazard the placing of bins on the road will cause though vehicles having to avoid them and the impeding of visibility on narrow streets, roads and lanes
- The visual amenity impact of bins remaining on roads and immediate verges due to the impossibility of residents to place them on their properties as per dot point four above
- The potential for the bins to be knocked over by vehicles thus creating litter and environmental problems in the area
- The potential for the bins and any spillages to be scavenged by wildlife adding to the above problems and creating new pest animal and weed spreading issues

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Some specific questions residents are seeking formal response to are as follows:

1. What is the driver for Council to implement the proposed changes?
2. Has Council considered other options prior to this decision?
3. If so, why did Council not share these options with the community and genuinely consult and engage with the community to ensure the optimum and agreed policy is implemented?
4. Does Council consider the lead time for the community to adjust should the proposal be implemented sufficient?
5. Does Council consider the short timeframe for receiving feedback on such a substantial change sufficient?
6. Can Council advise why not all residents, landholders/ratepayers received the letter from Council dated 16 April?
7. Can Council provide further information on the financial impacts on ratepayers and explain how they will be better off given that the information contained in the letter from Council shows an additional impost of \$130 per year with the changes implemented? This represents an increase of more than 100% of current charges.
8. How will Council deal with the road safety issues of adding the regular garbage truck presence on what are already potentially dangerous roads, streets and lanes?
9. What size collection trucks are proposed in residential areas?
10. What Council by-laws and enforcement procedures of same are in place regarding the placement of bins between collection times?
11. How are residents who have steep and long driveways due to the topography of the district and Council approved development configurations able to move large heavy bins from their residence to the collection point?
12. How will Council deal with the road safety, visual amenity, waste dispersal, feral, pest animal and weed dispersal issues that the inevitable permanent leaving of bins on the roadside create?
13. How will Council deal with the additional road safety hazards created by large bins being placed and remaining on the roadside?
14. Will the current transfer station continue to exist?
15. If so, how will it operate?
16. Could not changes to the operation of the current transfer station operations (such as improved security and resident access only) deal with non-resident or illegal dumping be implemented to achieve the same objective?

I am sure many more questions will result once people have had the chance to think more thoroughly about this hastily imposed and recently advised decision.

To ensure the above and any additional questions/issues are addressed prior to Council ending feedback and implementing this change, we would welcome your attendance at a meeting of community members.

The Association is happy to arrange such a meeting as a priority, provide the venue and advertise it widely to ensure maximum attendance as we believe it is very important for Council to hear community views prior to progressing any changes to the current arrangements.

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It will be scheduled around your availability so that you have the opportunity to hear community views first hand and respond to any concerns.

Could you please urgently advise suitable dates and times that you are available in order to commence planning?

Given the short window of opportunity given by Council for feedback on the proposal, the meeting should be held before 31 May 2019 and at a time that allows maximum participation.

Yours sincerely

Cathy Rough
Honorary Secretary