Dear Sir,

Opposition to SA draft Planning and Design Code

1) The advertisement placed by State Planning Commission in the Messenger newspaper of this week
   a. appears to express more of the opinion of your organisation than it does fact ("clear and consistent..." and "...more equitable etc" is subjective and not objective language)
   b. The advertisement provides neither a physical address nor a postal address for responses
   c. The advertisement does not nominate any person as bearing responsibility for its placement but invites responses via internet only
   d. An attempt to use the 1800 phone contact at this stage results in an "overload" message which indicates the general state of public consternation

2) Given the imminence of closing date for submissions together with the magnitude of the task of reviewing a "3000 page document" (City of Marion newsletter received 19th Feb 2020) this writer will limit this response to the following general comments:
   a. The general overtone of this "code" suggests the obliteration of the rights hitherto defended of individuals to dispute the unwelcome invasion of developments that in local circumstances are unique and unacceptable.
   b. The probable outcome will amount to a complete withdrawal from the basic premise of local government that is: the assembly and management of frameworks and statutes that are relevant and appropriate to local environmental, social and economic conditions by the people who pay rates and taxes to achieve communal ends.

3) The conduct of this whole affair appears to treat the public with utter disdain: whilst it seems to be an act of dismal futility, this writer is moved to protest if only to convey the sentiment of disillusionment with this instance of the so-called "democratic process" and an increasing suspicion for the true agendas of those who govern rather than represent the electorate.

I remain
Yours faithfully

Richard Grimshaw

26/2/2020