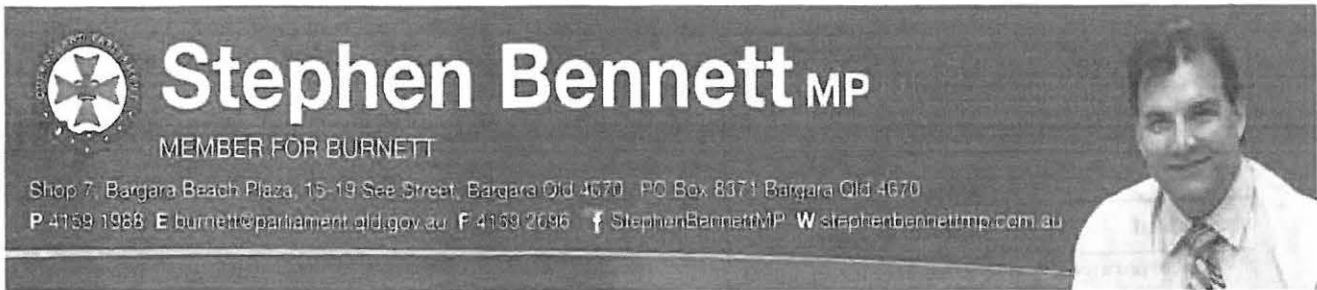


1/12/16



16 March 2016

Hon Jackie Trad MP
Minister for Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning
By email to: deputy.premier@ministerial.qld.gov.au

Dear Minister,

I write on behalf of the Burnett Heads community in my electorate who raise concerns about the lack of protection for breeding turtles under the new Bundaberg Development Planning Scheme, specifically the *Central Coast Urban Growth Area Local Plan*.

Residents are aware of a development application to develop five acres of land along the turtle trail. They are concerned that this residential development will have a negative impact on endangered turtles who are either nesting or hatching.

These ten x five acres blocks have been deemed to be an Emerging Community Zone. A number of them are very close to the waterfront.

Members of the community who are engaged in protecting endangered turtles believed that the area – bounded by Shelley and Dryden Streets and Sea Esplanade Burnett Heads – would remain as promised by previous councils as rural residential with restrictions in place regarding dwellings.

They are concerned about the impact of lighting from future housing development that may cause disorientation of nesting loggerhead turtles, and recently emerged hatchlings travelling south along the coastline.

On behalf of local staff and volunteers associated with turtle protection, I respectfully seek the Minister's assurance that the existing overlays will secure protection through lighting restrictions and other conditions to our endangered nesting turtles.

If you would like clarification or further information, don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

Stephen Bennett MP
Member for Burnett
Shadow Minister for Environment, Heritage Protection and National Parks

Copy to: Mr Peter Byrne
Chief Executive Officer
Bundaberg Regional Council
By email to: ceo@bundaberg.qld.gov.au