

I SUPPORT OPTION 2 .

Torquay infrastructure is not able to support the existing level of development and there are many of the approved estates within the Torquay boundaries that are only partially developed.

The current infrastructure under stress is:

- Water - Barwon Water recently reported that before the end of the current decade water consumption will exceed its production in the Torquay area.
- Schools - the new North Torquay Primary School is now bringing portables in to handle the student growth which is years ahead of schedule. All Torquay's primary schools are full. With substantial development housing yet to be completed and most of it being occupied by young families where will they obtain their education?
- Last week there were power blackouts in Torquay and these have recently become fairly common. The local power infrastructure clearly needs to be upgraded which will probably include the sub stations. Another substantial cost which will probably be borne by the community!
- Public transport hardly exists in Torquay and its' surrounding areas. On any beach day all parking which is considerable, is consumed and traffic conditions become hazardous. You are lucky if you can obtain parking within half a kilometre of any beach. Many of the beach goers come from the estates surrounding Torquay or even further afield. Again all these estates are still being developed so the existing problems are going to get a lot worse. A public transport plan for Torquay and all its surrounding areas is urgently required now.
- The storm water management of North Torquay is in crisis. The Sands that receives most of its storm water from the developments above it has been polluting the Karaaf wetlands with phosphorus, nitrogen and solids for the past 10 years. The Sands has an extensive wetland to treat storm water but has been unable to deal with the volumes and the pollutant levels that it receives from the developments above it. 10 years of water quality testing by the Sands support the above statements. This problem is going to get a lot worse because both Stretton and the Dunes estates are only partially developed and will soon be covered by impervious surfaces creating far greater storm water run off. Parks Victoria has already expressed its concern that the Karaaf which is meant to be a saline environment is becoming fresh water which is having a substantial impact on the wetland's flora and fauna.

Development around Torquay must cease and proper planning must be commenced to support the communities that currently exist and those that will exist when the existing developments are completed. Water, storm water, schooling, energy infrastructure, public transport and traffic management represent some of the areas that are currently not able to meet the demands of the growing population.