



Livingstone letter to make or break GKI rebuild

The GKI Progress Association, which was formed by island residents, local business owners and community leaders, has this week reached out to the broader community to come on board to support the rebuilding of the Great Keppel Island resort.

GKI Progress Association President Ross O'Reilly said: "Livingstone Shire Council is looking for feedback to help them make a decision about whether to support the proposed list of public, transport infrastructure put forward by the developer Altum Property Group as the priority for State Government investment. There is \$30m on the table. It's appreciated that Council is asking the Keppel community for our feedback and we all need to respond."

"Council's published alternative to prioritising the public, transport infrastructure proposed by Altum, which is made up of a ferry terminal, protective breakwall and barge ramp as well as a new wastewater treatment plant, is building walking trails and 4WD tracks on the island."

"Altum has advised the Association that the projects on the list that Council has drafted will be completed at Altum's cost during the resort re-building project, but the transport infrastructure needs to be prioritised at the beginning of the project for it to go ahead. Most of the infrastructure to be built will be publicly owned but maintained by Altum."

"The \$30m was originally intended to facilitate development on GKI and to attract investment to the region. Altum however, believes the island re-development can be self-sufficient for power and water through environmentally sensitive design and management."

"Altum has told the Association that is the reason why they have asked for the Queensland Government investment to be re-directed to early, on-island public infrastructure. Altum has a lot of experience with building sustainably and won awards for their sustainable building and waste management practices, which is great for GKI."

"The GKI Progress Association has been working closely with community members to try and keep them informed and create more transparency around the proposed re-development of the island resort."

"The public forum we hosted recently for around 150 attendees was a great opportunity to have all the questions about the project answered by the developer Altum and we had an excellent response to the event from everyone who attended."

"Altum has let us know that without the \$30m being spent on the right infrastructure, the financial return for the project is not commercially viable and Altum will not be able to go ahead with the project. Hence Central Queensland will miss out on this likely final and once in a generation opportunity for our

amazing island to be cleaned up and bought back to life by home grown Queensland family orientated developers.”

Mr O’Reilly continued: “Association members have been contacting the Councillors one on one but there’s also an option to send your feedback via a petition at: <https://www.change.org/p/mayor-livingstone-qld-gov-au-tell-livingstone-shire-council-we-want-the-gki-resort-re-built>.”

Livingstone Shire Councillors discussed the two alternatives for the \$30m State Government investment at a meeting last week and will make a decision about what they advise the Queensland Government at a Special Meeting to be held on Tuesday 2nd March.”

For further information please contact: Ross O’Reilly, 0418 757 097 or ross@rbwellness.com.au.

For Association photos please see the Dropbox link:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/2udxsm8cq69a6ei/AABa1oXIFRwfWSUcKiVgGBYJa?dl=0>