

Rising hopes for towers

PAUL WESTON AND
ANDREW POTTS

Councillors to defy warnings and approve Spit project

GOLD Coast councillors are likely to defy the warnings of council bureaucrats and approve the \$600 million redevelopment of Mariner's Cove, opening the door to super towers on The Spit.

The *Bulletin* has learned council officers have flagged warnings to the developer Sunland about the height of their planned twin 44-level towers.

A letter from senior council officers to the developers reveals officers "identified sig-

nificant conflict" with the Gold Coast planning scheme.

The fate of the development, which will determine the status of the three-level height restriction on the southern end of The Spit, is likely to depend on a final officer review and councillor support.

City councillors do not always accept the recommendations from planning officers, and several of them have been privately briefed by Sunland executive chairman Soheil Abedian before the application

was lodged. At least 10 of the city's 15 councillors are understood to back the project with Mayor Tom Tate also supportive but prepared to accept the verdict of his colleagues.

If councillors turn against the project, Sunland could launch an appeal or the State Government may "call in" the development like Jewel at Surfers Paradise because it was a significant project.

The community is split with the Main Beach Progress Association announcing its sup-

port and members of Save Our Spit last night strongly opposing any super towers on The Spit and wanting the three-level height limit maintained.

The proposal includes a cultural precinct, aquarium and museum, and facilities to be open to the public similar to Singapore's Marina Bay Sands.

In his letter to Sunland, the council's acting major assessment co-ordinator Michael Moran noted Mariner's Cove was north of the existing high-rise developments at Main

Beach and Surfers Paradise. "The site is considered to add to the role The Spit plays in the overall image of the city as being of low urban intensity providing a visual contrast to the nearby high rise spine of Surfers Paradise," he wrote.

The proposed towers would compromise the city's development pattern, which had previously stopped intensive high-rise buildings on The Spit, he added.

The city architect has acknowledged the benefits from

the development's ground-level plaza, which included a museum and aquarium.

"However the large scale of the plaza does not appear to deliver the subtropical experience expected from this size of development," Mr Moran wrote.

Burleigh councillor Greg Betts, who spearheaded the creation of the new City Plan 2015, indicated he had no objection to the towers' height.

Mayor Tom Tate believes the project is of world class standard, and will be guided by his councillors, but admits the State Government may determine the final outcome.

Cooling pyjamas? No sweat!

STEPHANIE BEDO

WE may have shivered through some chilly nights lately, but for some people it has still been stinking hot.

They are the Gold Coasters who suffer night sweats and hot flushes, going through cancer treatment or menopause.

But thanks to local cancer nurse Mary Louise Ryan, and the Cool-Jam sleepwear she is distributing, they no longer have to suffer.

"My initial desire was to introduce the sleepwear range to Australia to help provide relief to cancer patients who are unable to take hormone therapies," she said.

"Most are constantly searching for natural relief from the dreaded night sweats."

Initially designed for the Canadian Armed Forces, Cool-Jams are made from a special material which draws sweat and heat from the body, holds little to no odour and dries very quickly.

With celebrity doctor and internationally renowned author Dr John Tickell on board as an ambassador for Cool-Jams Sleepwear in Australia, Mrs Ryan said wanted to help those who suffered sleep more comfortably.

"That's why I did this, to provide fellow menopause sufferers, cancer patients or anyone else with night sweat issues with an affordable wicking sleepwear option," she said.

THE PYJAMAS ARE AVAILABLE AT
WWW.COOL-JAMS.COM.AU



Dr John Tickell in awe of the new Cool-Jams being modelled by oncology nurse Mary-Lou Ryan at the QT hotel in Surfers Paradise.

Picture: GLENN HAMPSON

LSD makes trip back as festival favourite Taped-up plane door seal brings claim

JESSICA ELDER

A HALLUCINOGENIC drug popular in the 1970s made a comeback at the weekend's Splendour in the Grass festival.

During the four-day festival which ended yesterday, several revellers were found with LSD,

one allegedly using a fruit tingle lolly to soak up the drug in liquid form, found wrapped in foil in his wallet.

Police arrested 92 people on drug offences and seized 468g of illicit substances.

Significant arrests included a man, 19, allegedly in possession of 92 MDMA tablets,

26 LSD tabs and 35g of cannabis on Friday and two 18-year-olds allegedly in possession of 398 tabs of LSD on Sunday.

Acting Superintendent Inspector Gary Cowan said it was alarming festival-goers weren't getting the message.

He said it was unusual to have LSD found at a festival.

MATTHEW BENNS

A QANTAS flight attendant suffered hearing loss after gaffer tape on a damaged A380 super jumbo door came off during a flight from Los Angeles to Sydney.

Maria Basile was on the

upper deck of the Nancy Bird Walton when a hastily repaired seal on a damaged door gave way and emitted a high-pitched whine.

She is suing Qantas for negligence for "allowing the door seal to be temporarily and ineffectively repaired by the application of sticky tape".

The flight crew tried to seal the door with wet towels while the plane flew on to Sydney in April, 2010.

By the time the plane landed Ms Basile, 49, who has since lost her job, suffered permanent hearing damage, shock, anxiety and depression, the claim says.