



**BRRAG**

**Belmont Resident and Ratepayer Action Group Inc.**

*“To provide an effective voice for the people of Belmont”*

21 October 2019

The Mayor and Councillors  
City of Belmont  
Belmont WA 6104

Dear Mayor Marks and Councillors

Congratulations to the re elected councillors. As the status quo remains the same, you should all be aware that the continued presence of BRRAG will also remain the same.

You may or may not be aware, that we made an application to be a third party in the application review of JNEID and City of Belmont at the State Administration Tribunal. As such we were at the conciliation process which occurred last Tuesday. We intend to go as far as we can in respect of this matter as we strongly believe the location is not only inappropriate but could potentially cause a fatality with respect to the traffic and ingress egress problems.

During the course of our investigations it has been discovered that the City of Belmont has been made aware of a potential contamination risk. As you would likely be aware, the Belmont Fire Station once existed on the current site that now houses the Country Comfort Motel. FESA have advised that the site of the motel is currently being investigated for potential PFAS from the fire extinguishers that use to be used. This investigation is likely to take six months to complete. We included this information in our submissions.

Given that the property at 49 Hardey Road is next door to the Country Comfort and you should all be aware of the risks of PFAS being highly persistent in the environment, moderately soluble, can be transported long distances (in some cases many kilometres) and transfer between soil, sediment, surface water and groundwater. <https://www.der.wa.gov.au/our-work/community-updates/416-pfas-investigations-in-western-australia> Our question and we do expect it answered is as follows:

***Why were the councillors not notified of this investigation when officers were advised of the situation and why hasnt there been a requirement of a environmental report given the circumstances?***

We have previously contacted you regarding omissions from the officers and one cant help wondering why the residents of Belmont have been potentially put as risk in relation to this issue? How many other things have been omitted from advice to councillors? We consider this a serious matter that is not going to be swept under the carpet. There are buildings going up everywhere and is there contamination issues PFAS or otherwise at other locations?

In terms of the development, we believe that the best solution would be that the City of Belmont negotiate with the Developer to find a more appropriate site for his community centre. We support

the centre itself it is just the location that is totally unsuitable. We should be encouraging an initiative like this and if it was in an appropriate area, it could have great benefits to the residents of Belmont. You should all be trying to get the best outcome possible for all concerned. I have already made our views clear at SAT on the City of Belmont negotiating for a more suitable premises.

With youngsters on bikes and the amount of traffic in the area, if a fatality was to occur, the community outcry would be justified as you have all been made so aware of the traffic issues. Cr Ryan has made it very clear it is “an accident waiting to happen” which is rightly on public record.

We look forward to a swift and favourable response.

Please be advised this letter as well as any response will be made available to the Residents of Belmont on the BRRAG website.

Kindest regards

Lisa Hollands  
Chairperson BRRAG