



22 February 2008

ELMES DISMISSES BOARDWALK

Following an onsite inspection of one of the last remaining strips of endangered marine ecosystems along the Noosa River and along which the developers of Settler's Cove are proposing to construct a boardwalk, the Member for Noosa Glen Elmes, has confirmed his complete opposition to the proposal.

"For the life of me I cannot see any justification for the construction of a timber boardwalk, 800m long, approximately 3m wide as well as a 200m concrete pathway, in what I believe is a highly sensitive and endangered marine habitat existing in a tidal zone" Glen Elmes said.

"This particular stretch of land along the south eastern bank of the Noosa River is the last remaining vestige of the mangrove habitat so close to Noosa's main population centre. When I inspected the area two weeks ago, I found an incredibly beautiful area of tidal wetland, full of bird and marine life. The really amazing feature was that, in some places, this vulnerable strip is so narrow that you can look straight through it.

"I am aware of the pending release of a report on the proposal, however I believe that the danger to this particular and special part of the river environment is so great that I have written to both Noosa Shire Council and Andrew McNamara, the Minister for Sustainability, Climate Change and Innovation, advising them of my concerns and opposition as well as a number of concerned Noosa residents who have contacted my office.

"I will certainly do whatever it takes to protect this wonderful wetland from this, or any other, development."

Further information: Glen Elmes MP - 5449 8988 or 0400 800 114

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