



# SUSTAINABILITY IN THE GAP

## Newsletter 1



Sincere thanks to those members of our community who attended our recent event in person, or attended by Zoom. We would like to express our particular thanks to the presenters, including Giovanna Hale from The Gap State High School, Professor Peta Ashworth from the University of Queensland, Professor Leone Barner from QUT, and our Councillor Steve Toomey.

It is important that we now follow up the event with communication to you as to the outcome of the evening. Clearly there is a lot of interest in the issues around sustainability in our suburb and the input of our presenters was valued. We are now better informed in relation to the issues concerning sustainability despite some matters being more complicated than others.

It is clear that the Brisbane City Council (BCC) is doing a lot and there are abundant resources that we should be utilising for sustainability. One example includes rebate for composting bin purchasing.

There are many actions we can already undertake as individuals to make our suburb more sustainable, including joining some of the existing groups which work to preserve our natural assets such as Men of the Trees and Sown. We can also tap into resources provided by the BCC in relation to their free tree program. We as individuals can also take steps to use and utilise our recycling and green waste bins and adopt an attitude in relation to doing our own recycling at home, particularly in relation to biodegradable waste and the use of compost bins.

The most important message that came out of the forum was to control and be disciplined around the broad issue of waste itself. We need to manage what we purchase so that there is not so much waste in the first place. As Councillor Toomey said to us during the meeting, approximately \$3,500 worth of food is thrown to waste by each household per year.

At the end of the evening the meeting attendees confirmed that there is sufficient appetite for sustainability in The Gap. It was also agreed that a steering committee be formed to determine the next steps to advance this valuable work. Finally, it was also determined that a further forum be convened on **4 February 2021** to discuss the outcome of the recommendations of the steering committee.

We are planning to build a **website** for information exchange—please send us **data** you may have about The Gap e.g. rainfall records over time; places where recyclable containers are collected; significant trees/vegetation; key natural sites to be sustained.

We look forward to working with the community to make our suburb an even more sustainable and better place to live.

Yours sincerely

CRAIG RAY AND MONIKA JANDA

### What is next?

Meeting on the  
**4th February 2021**  
**Taylor Range Club**  
Please spread the word!!

### Purpose?

Hear from two successful  
community energy projects  
Meet the steering committee

### Actions?

Reduce waste now!  
Start composting!  
Pick up rubbish!  
Plant trees free from BCC

**If you would like to volunteer for the steering committee, please contact us on:**  
**[mail@craigray.com.au](mailto:mail@craigray.com.au)**