

urbanrenewal - Fwd: Newcastle's Renewal

From: urbanrenewal
To: urbanrenewal
Date: 28/03/2013 11:49 AM
Subject: Fwd: Newcastle's Renewal

>>> "John Reid - NOM Office Solutions" <John@nom.com.au> 3/15/2013 9:24 am >>>
 Good morning,

When Newcastle Office Machines (NOM) started business in 1959 the city was alive with people as all of the services were located in the CBD and there were few empty shops.

NOM was initially located in the Latec House Building in Hunter Street West, and then moved into Denison Street and eventually to Parry Street West, Newcastle West where we continue trading today after 54 years in business.

For over 10 years I was involved with City West Precinct Committee, spending a number of years as Chairman, and also as Deputy Chair of the Newcastle Alliance.

I have seen a lot of different reports, reviews, and studies, and not a lot of implementation.

- Councils have allowed the retail heart of the city to move to suburban shopping malls without attracting enough offices to fill the space
- State & Federal Government Departments are under-represented in the CBD
- The Newcastle Mall Markets took 5 years to get off the ground and a determined campaign by the media ensured its demise
- Precinct Groups have sponsored tree plantings and seating and general beautification but various Government Departments & instrumentalities such as RTA, Electricity & Telstra, have refused to take responsibility for cleaning up their installations of Graffiti and general grime
- Honeysuckle has created a "new town" on the harbour and this has highlighted the lack of investment in the "old Town" along Hunter, King and Parry Streets
- Heavy rail continues to block harbour access from the old town
- We do not have a decent and effective, integrated transport system. A transport interchange with buses running radial routes, and continuation of the Free Shuttle Bus, but over longer hours is badly needed

But, even after all of this disappointment I am excited about the renewal plan and its implementation.

Minority groups have for too long tried to stall and block any progress in the city. They profess to be representing the people but in fact are trying to keep the city in "the good old days" of the 1950's. NOM was there then, and we recognise that the city, like retail trading, has to change and adapt to survive.

I strongly urge you to move forward with the plan.

Our children need us to show leadership.

Sincerely,



**John Reid,
 Managing Director**

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