



## Welcome to SEQCA's summer 2024 newsletter!

SEQCA is an umbrella organisation comprising not-for-profit organisations and individuals interested in planning and development issues across the SEQ region. If you care about a sustainable future for the communities, spaces and places of SEQ then SEQCA wants to hear from you!

The items in this newsletter reflect SEQCA's goals to promote development that: fast tracks to sustainability (water-wise and climate positive); pursues resilience; defends our greenspace and secures what we value locally. We advocate for more transparent forms of governance and meaningful participation to help realise these goals.

We are particularly grateful to our guest contributor, Dr Cameron Murray, for contributing an insightful article on Upzoning in California. There are some valuable lessons for our decision-makers in there! Many of you will know Dr Cameron's work from his ground-breaking book, *The Game of Mates*. Cameron has a new book for 2024, *The Great Housing Hijack*. You can view more of Cameron's work at his website, [Fresh Economic Thinking](#).

2024 is a big election year in Queensland and SEQCA has quite a few asks for our decision-makers. We have folded some of our ideas into the relevant articles in this newsletter – so you will have to read the articles to find them! Food for thought and some ideas you might want to raise with your election candidates in the next few weeks and months....

**In more great news, you can now keep up to date with SEQCA stories and events by following the [SEQCA Facebook page](#).**

Last but not least SEQCA, wishes a **VERY BIG HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Gecko Environment Council** on its 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary!! Keep up the great work – we have a feeling your contributions will be needed just as much over the next 35 years!

Happy reading everyone from the team at SEQCA.

### Short articles

[Reflections on the 2023 SEQ Regional Plan – Process and outcomes](#)

[The Future of SEQ: Is there light at the end of the housing crisis or just more of the same?](#) A critical reflection by Dr Neil Peach

[Upzoning: Predictions versus reality in California](#) Reproduced with kind permission of the author, Dr Cameron Murray

[Comparing local rates and charges in southeast Queensland](#) Chris Walker, SEQCA President

[Is the community being gouged on energy independence?](#) A short explainer by Dr Philippa England

20 February 2024

[Open Space Planning in SEQ 1994-2021](#) Link to an informative history by Dr Geoff Edwards posted on Parks and Recreation Collection /Narratives

[Nature positive development – what SEQCA wants](#) SEQCA

## **News and views from member organisations**

[Update from the Brisbane Flight Path Community Alliance](#) BFPCA

[Local Government Elections 2024 – OSCAR style](#) OSCAR

[A major development on Turbot Street shelved by MIRVAC](#) Spring Hill Community Group /BRU

[2024 a Year of Celebration for Gecko Environment Council](#) Gecko

## **Opportunities to comment**

Click [here](#) to view SEQCA's Have Your Say section

## **Date claimers**

### **Tuesday 27 February: Water Security: Dams, Desalination and Drinking**

An evening seminar organized by the Royal Geographical Society of Queensland. Further details available [here](#).

### **Friday 22 March: A Housing Crisis: Queensland Perspectives**

A public forum on the housing crisis with an excellent panel of speakers presenting some critical perspectives. This seminar and panel discussion is convened by the Royal Geographical Society of Queensland and the University of Queensland, School of the Environment. Further details available [here](#).

### **17-22 March: Brisbane's Urban Greening Walking Tour**

A free walking tour brought to you by the Queensland Museum as part of its World Science week events. Further details available [here](#).

### **Tuesday, 16 April: Power to the People: An update on the renewable energy transition in Queensland and a conversation about how to continue the journey**

A panel discussion convened by SEQCA in partnership with Solar Citizens featuring speakers from Rewiring Australia and Queensland Conservation Council. More details to follow.

### **Saturday, 25 May: SEQCA public forum on issues for the 2024 State elections**

More details to follow.