



Has Tom Tate bitten off more than he can chew?

MR THITS A SNAG

PLEASE join in for a Saturday sausage

Barbecue or tomato sauce? Onions, you say? Hang on, we'll cook them - have a chat.

What a week, with the Government announcing plans for Australia's biggest public-private partnership, estimated to be \$3.5 billion to build a cruise ship terminal, resort and casino on Wavebreak Island.

Almost as big as the announcement in July when Mayor Tom Tate - his colleagues call him "Mr T", you know announced plans for not one, two or three but five new casinos for the Coast.

And in the same month while in Miami, he announced two new terminal sites - one at Tugun and the other, from memory, on the ocean side of the Spit.

A month earlier, there was that report about a \$35 million cruise ship terminal at the Broadwater Parklands, where ships as big as the Queen Mary could dock.

Remember the Hail Mary headline? You didn't need to be Catholic to say it.

And in late May, another report suggested a boutique casino could be built on land south of Sea World.

Mr T backed the proposal because it could help fund a cultural centre . . . or a cruise ship terminal.

Do you remember just two days before the April 28 local government election?

The big announcement, plans for a \$30 million two-storey cruise ship terminal at The Spit. It would be in the Seaway, joined to the mainland by two piers.

To be fair, at least he put it on public record - a vote for me would be a vote for a cruise ship. But let's go back, even further.

Did you read his candidates' blog, titled: A few hundred questions over 450 sausages - written on January 10, after the campaign launch at the Palm Beach Parklands?

Candidate Tate wrote, after talking to voters: "The Cruise Ship terminal was mentioned but so was protecting The Spit, in equal proportions.

"I am for a cruise ship in the Broadwater, however, I think it should be placed on the Southport side, south of the Grand Hotel so that ship-board guests have immediate access to Southport and Surfers.

"We'll have to do a massive dredge effort initially and maintenance dredging yearI think we should leave The Spit for families, fishermen and surfers. But a few more toilet blocks on The Spit will be installed under my mayoralty. - Mr T, January 10

round but it will be worth it and docking fees can pay for it.

"I think we should leave The Spit for families, fishermen and surfers. But a few more toilet blocks on The Spit will be installed under my mayoralty.

facilities for wavebreak (sic) is a yes for me, but 50-storey hotels will be a 'no' for me."

So, lots of onions, one sausage is OK?

Oh, yes, in the business that's what they call a "barbecue stopper".

"Camp grounds and day-trip

Spit's most unlikely greenie

SOME final words, about The Spit, before tomorrow's protest.

"To put the terminal on the end of The Spit is absolute stupidity. They're going to bugger up the last piece of ocean front public land left on the Gold Coast. It should be

left as public open space." From the man who wore white shoes, embraced big projects and bulldozed greenies, the late Keith Williams, in 2005, in a rare interview when asked about a terminal.

Finally, Prince gets his Friday night lights

RECENTLY retired colleague Pat McLeod, who ghosted Scott Prince's column for this newspaper, is seeking directions to Red Hill in Brisbane.

As he has left the Bulletin, CC can report McLeod was a Dragons fan before buying season tickets at the Titans and developing a friendship with the Titans foundation captain.



Prince (above) received a text this week from McLeod, who is unhappy about having to drive to Suncorp Stadium each fortnight.

"But at least you get to play on a Friday night now," he told Prince.

Saturday Six Pack, P42

Horse power wins the day

THE race that stops a council.

Full council meetings, which are usually staged from lpm on Tuesday, will revert to Monday, just for next

MP's private pain

WHATEVER your position on under-siege Science Minister Ros Bates taking sick leave, the Mudgeeraba MP (pictured) has remained private about her health issues.

Two weeks ago while working, when asked how she was. Bates replied that her

operation for a "septic collarbone" had required "a drip in my heart".

Requests from colleagues who wanted to visit her in hospital were politely refused.

