



MEDIA RELEASE – Friday 19 August 2011

Subiaco gets ready to impress as the Australian Sustainable Cities Awards judge visits next week

As Keep Australia Beautiful Week activities kick off around the country, City of Subiaco representatives will be welcoming the Keep Australia Beautiful national Sustainable Cities judge, Dick Olesinski, on Monday as it vies to become the 2011 winner of the Australian Sustainable Cities Awards.

Mr Olesinski's visit coincides with the start of Keep Australia Beautiful Week, which focuses on reminding individuals that 'litter dropped on land, kills at sea' and the harmful impact it has marine mammals and other wildlife.

As part of his national judging tour, Mr Olesinski will visit a number of the key environmental projects and initiatives within the City of Subiaco that earned them the state winner's title for 2010/2011. Local initiatives that support the Keep Australia Beautiful Week message of keeping our streets and waterways litter free include their 'Bin your Butt' and 'Adopt-A-Spot' programs.

These and other initiatives that Mr Olesinski will visit include the city's rail reserve greenway project in Dalglish, a solar and wind generation trial at Renkin Gardens in Subiaco, wildlife and hydrozoning projects plus the city's work in sustainable waste management.

Mr Olesinski will evaluate these initiatives against the national awards criteria which encompasses environmental innovation and protection, resource recovery and waste management, water conservation and energy innovation, community action and partnerships, litter prevention, sustainable buildings and gardens, the protection of heritage and culture and a young legends category.

The City of Subiaco's efforts are typical of the finalists in the Sustainable Cities Awards, who all provide outstanding examples of how cities around the nation are implementing practical projects that help local communities achieve an efficient and sustainable future.

According to Mr Olesinski,

"I am very much looking forward to seeing first-hand the collaborative efforts of the City of Subiaco and the local community to help reduce litter and waste, as well as seeing how their efforts can help provide long term sustainability in the areas of water and energy conservation.

"Keep Australia Beautiful Week is also a great time to be out in the local community and seeing what is being done to help protect the environment. With up to 80% of marine litter coming from land based activities, we all need a constant reminder that litter can wash into local waterways through stormwater drains where it can then go on to harm or even kill wildlife. Initiatives such as the City of Subiaco's 'Bin your Butt' program is particularly important as cigarette butts continue to remain the number one litter item in all states and territories", he added.

Following his national tour to each of the state and territory finalists, Mr Olesinski will then face the tough task of deciding who will be crowned the national winner, taking over the title from The City of Stirling in WA. This will be announced at the 2011 Sustainable Cities Awards Ceremony, to be held in Perth on the 21st of November.

Other finalists already announced include the City of Burnie in Tasmania, Yarra City Council in VIC, City of Charles Sturt in SA, the CIT Sustainable Skills Training Hub in Bruce ACT and the Kogarah City Council in NSW.

The Keep Australia Beautiful Australian Sustainable Cities Awards are sponsored by Toys R Us, Replas Recycled Plastic Products and Tennant.



PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

What: National Judge visit on site with City of Subiaco representatives
When: 10am – Monday 22nd August
Where: McCallum Mini Park, Daglish, WA (Opposite Daglish Railway Station)

For further information about the judge's visit, or photo opportunities, please contact:

Subiaco Media Contact: Tim Trainor on (08) 9237 9294; communication@subiaco.wa.gov.au
National Judge: Dick Olesinski on 0413 750 681; ecomarketing@senet.com.au
KABNA Media: Alexandra Davy on (03) 9592 4001; media@kab.org.au

For further information about Keep Australia Beautiful Week visit www.kab.org.au

EDITOR'S NOTES:

About the Australian Sustainable Communities Awards

Keep Australia Beautiful seeks to lead, challenge and inspire all Australians to strive for a sustainable and litter free environment. It does this through research, communications programs and awards programs.

Its national awards are known as the Australian Sustainable Communities Awards which consist of the Tidy Towns and Sustainable Cities Awards. Each awards program commences with state and territory awards and culminates in a national Grand Final event.

The Sustainable Cities Awards are open to metropolitan communities. Cities contribute up to 80% of the world's greenhouse gas emissions.

About the judge – Richard (Dick) Olesinski

With 17 years under his belt as the Australian Tidy Towns Judge, it's fair to say that this man is a seriously passionate and committed individual. In 2011, Dick will add the role of national judge for the Australian Sustainable Cities Awards to his repertoire as well.

Dick conducts an environmental management support consultancy in South Australia for business, industry, community groups and government agencies. He also consults to the retail industry to initiate environment improvement policies, as well as to KESAB (Keep South Australia Beautiful) and Natural Resource Management boards in Adelaide.

His projects include implementing environmental initiatives for the construction industry together with coordinating business, industry and community environmental education programs.

Dick is the Keep Australia Beautiful National Association's longest serving Awards Judge.