

Copy of Article Text

Global Yimby initiative launched in Queensland to promote positive benefits to good development

Jane Pinder, News Corp Australia Network

April 25, 2016 8:00pm

BRISBANE is set to become a 'Yimby' city as the positives of good development are celebrated.

The international 'yimby' (yes, in my backyard) initiative originated in New York to discuss, document and promote good development, and has since spread to other US cities, Canada and through Europe.

Brisbane property consultancy, Wolter Consulting Group (WCG), has spearheaded #yimbyqld to bring balance to the development debate and counteract entrenched negativity towards development.

WCG senior associate Mitchell Hendricks said the initiative had been successful internationally in giving the community an understanding of new development, and the good things - direct and indirect - that would come from it.

"The lack of information and how that matches community expectations is one of the biggest areas where yimby can actually help," he said.

Mr Hendricks said yimby was not focused on individual buildings or projects, but highlighted a great "space, place or idea".

"(Recent) inner city urban renewal unlocked parks and urban spaces that people hadn't seen before, and also opened up heritage buildings and bits of lost Brisbane, and that's what we want to see," he said.

WCG director and planning manager Natalie Rayment said Brisbane had a track record of outstanding developments, including Gasworks precinct at Newstead as well as recent and proposed developments such as Howard Smith Wharves and South City Square at Woolloongabba.



Proposed renewal of Howard Smith Wharves.

“Development is anything but ad hoc. It is driven by the City Plan, a document prepared in conjunction with the people of Brisbane,” she said.

“It is misinformed to say that developers get to do what they like unchecked. The fact of the matter is there is an extremely rigorous system in place that takes into account every aspect of development as well as future planning.”

Mr Hendricks said residents could be involved in #yimbyqld.

“If people see something they like and they want to encourage, they should communicate that whether it be online, or share with their friends, (or) there are progress associations and things like that,” he said.