Mark Goldsworthy MP

Kavel News - Budget Edition

Above: Mark addresses a rally on apple imports amid concerns for our local growers about fireblight disease.

Goldsworthy questions Ministers on spending

In his role as Shadow Minister, Mark recently questioned Government Ministers over their spending and policy decisions with startling results.

New Minister for Local Government Relations, Russell Wortley, revealed his intention to ignore the Court's recommendations in relation to the million-dollar inquiry into alleged misconduct by the former Burnside Council.

Road Safety Minister Tom Kenyon showed his lack of empathy for the families and victims of road trauma by claiming that road conditions did not contribute to crashes.

The Minister for Emergency Services, Kevin Foley, outlined significant cuts to the Fire and Emergency Services Commission that will have the potential to reduce support for our vitally important CFS and SES volunteers.

The Budget process has shown the Government in a poor light, appearing to lack the capacity to manage its affairs efficiently.

A message from Mark

As the Member for Kavel I am fortunate to meet people from all sections of our community including families, small business, community and sporting groups.

Many people tell me they are struggling under a spiralling cost of living and that the carbon tax is adding to their uncertainty.

Unfortunately if you catch a bus, drive a car, consume water, pay insurance, are looking to purchase your first home, or work in the public sector, then the most recent State Budget will have made things even harder for you and your family.

This State Government has real difficulty in controlling its spending, with major infrastructure projects consistently running over budget.

The interest bill on debt is almost $2 million a day, on top of the forecast $1.1 million per day we must pay till 2046 for the railyards hospital.

See inside this Special Budget Edition newsletter for more information. Please contact me for further information or to discuss any matter of importance to you.

Mark Goldsworthy MP
Member for Kavel

Inside this issue: Secret documents reveal hospital bill - Road and transport upgrades abandoned
Cost of living to rise even further - Have Your Say: Kavel Community Survey

August 2011 Edition

Documents revealed:

Hospital bill over $1 million per day

A confidential document provided to corporate investors, and leaked to the media, has revealed the true cost of building the new Royal Adelaide Hospital.

It has since been revealed that the cost of delivering the hospital has nearly doubled and will now reach $3.2 billion.

This means the total cost to the taxpayer of the project will reach $12 billion over the 30 year life of the hospital consortium, making a mockery of reassurances before the 2010 election that the project presented value for money for South Australians.

Worse, it means the cost to taxpayers is now $1.1 million per day, every day for 30 years, before a single nurse or doctor is employed.

The shocking mismanagement of the health system has already forced the closure of the Blackwood Hospital and funding cuts to the Keith and District Hospital.

The need to plug the funding hole means millions of dollars that would have otherwise been spent on schools, roads and the environment must now be reallocated to completing the hospital plan.

Road and transport upgrades abandoned in State Budget

With the Budget heading further into deficit, the Government has abandoned investment in key infrastructure and raised taxes, charges and collections. Also, there has been no funding commitment made for the construction of the 2nd Freeway Interchange at Mt Barker.

Of major transport projects promised in recent years;

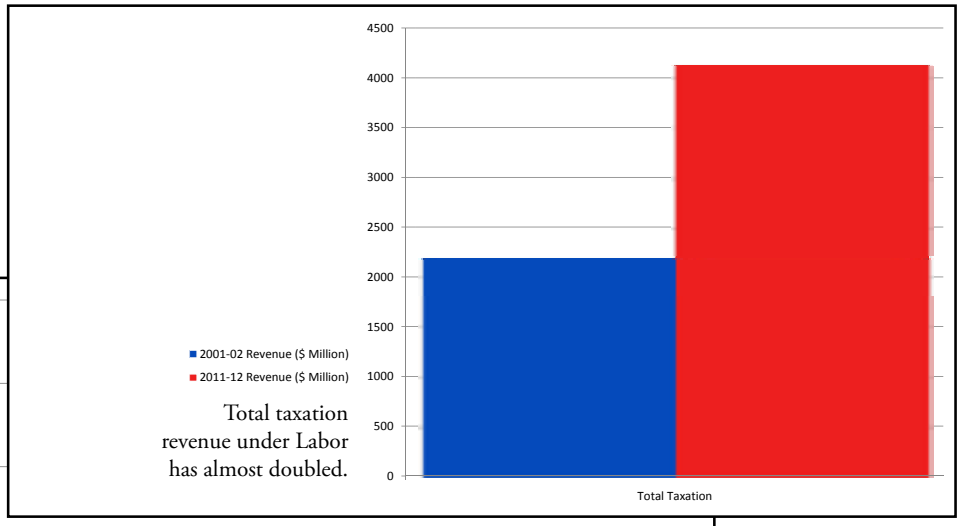
- $167 million promised for South Road upgrades in the 2005 Budget, including underpasses at Grange Road and Port Road, has failed to eventuate;
- Plans for the Sturt Road grade separation at South Road are still to be finalised;
- A $12.6 million upgrade to improve major bottlenecks at the Oaklands Park rail crossing has been scrapped in favour of another multi-million dollar project review; and
- The $193 million rail network standardisation to drive efficiency and investment has been delayed.

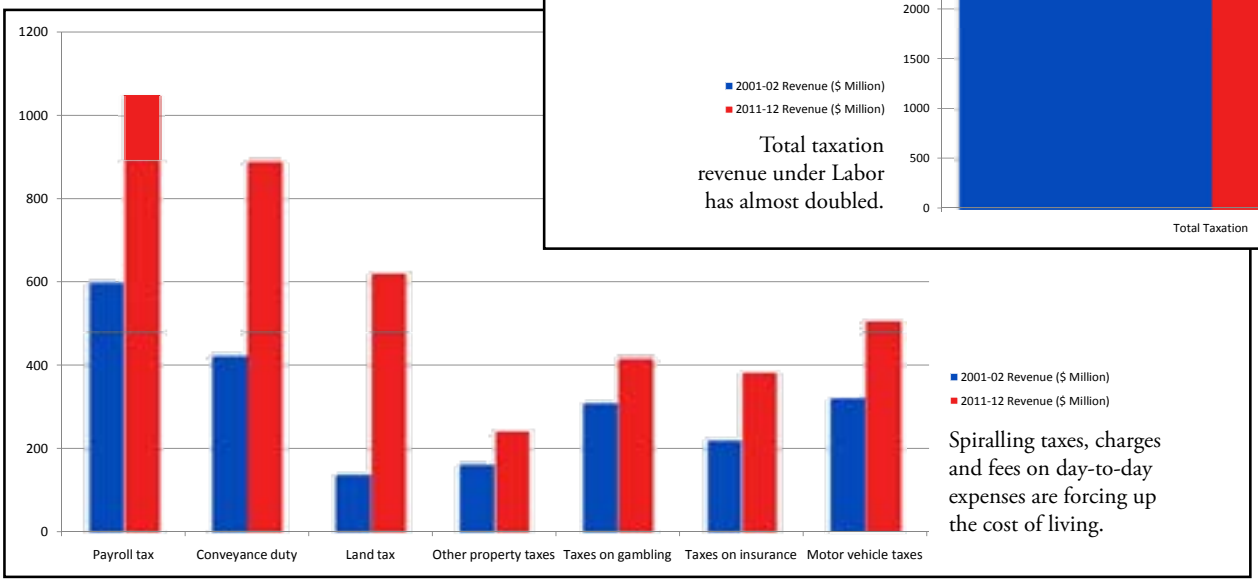
Worse is that these policy failures have occurred in the face of massive revenue windfalls; over the past 9 years the Government has collected $5 billion more in taxes, charges and fees than it expected to.

This special Budget Update has been produced by your strong voice in Parliament:

Mark Goldsworthy MP

South Australia: The highest taxing state





Cost of living up as taxes, charges and fees skyrocket under Labor

Official State Budget papers presented by Treasurer Jack Snelling show the cost of living in South Australia will continue to rise.

The papers show that cost blowouts, mismanaged projects and a failure to balance the Budget mean taxes, charges and fees have to rise to help make up the funding shortfall.

Since this Government came to office total state taxes have nearly doubled and South Australia is now the highest taxed state in the country.

Everyday basics like water, having already increased by 40% in the last year, are set to rise further.

On 1 July 2011 water prices rose by a further 40%, costing the average South Australian family an extra $190 per year.

"South Australia is now the highest taxed State in the country."

Families hoping for relief in the recent 'family friendly' State Budget will be disappointed.

Budget Papers also show the average family will pay $750 more per year in transport and utility charges and state government taxes.

Household budgets will be squeezed even more from next year when the Federal Government's proposed Carbon Tax commences on 1 July 2012.

A recent study by Deloitte Access Economics shows the Tax will almost double wholesale electricity prices and have a serious impact on jobs and wages.

Please contact Mark to have your say:

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Out and About in our Community

Pictured left:

Mark Goldsworthy MP talks with Harleigh Mason at the Rally at Lenswood to protest the Federal Government relaxing rules on the importation of New Zealand apples and pears.

Many local producers hold grave fears for the future of their industry in the event of an outbreak of fireblight.

Mark Goldsworthy said "this has the potential to be an absolute disaster for the Australian apple and pear industry" .

Pictured right:

Mark was pleased to present an Active Club cheque to Kerry Clark and Ross Leckie representing the Mt Torrens Centenary Park Inc for facilities upgrades at the oval.

Pictured above:

Mark was pleased to attend the Lions Club of Nairne and Districts handover dinner and is pictured with past Lions District Governor Bob Dewell and President Greg Smith.

Pictured above:

Local MP's Mark Goldsworthy and Jamie Briggs attended the Rotary Club of Mount Barker's annual changeover dinner at Auchendarroch.

Pictured with Rosalyn Chardon who was awarded with the Paul Harris Fellow.