

The ex DPI Site & Oxley Creek Common is presently used for:-

Agricultural Education - Corinda High, Agforce & Agaware training
Cattle and Sheep Grazing – by Corinda High and private individuals
Bird Watching by Enthusiasts – 150 known bird species sighted on the Common & cataloged
Walking and Bike Riding – by general public along constructed tracks
Community Events-Friends of Oxley Common and others regularly run events
Pelican Lagoon and Wetland Restoration- undertaken by Friends of Oxley Common & Dept of Public Works
Creek Riparian Zone Restoration-undertaken by Oxley Creek Catchment Group

Expressed Community Visions-taken from OCCCGA's Position Paper March 2005

- *Biodiversity conservation integrated into farming that acknowledges the need for open spaces and wildlife habitat in cities.*
- *A hub for community interaction and the exchange of ideas that promotes and facilitates innovation in business and local employment creation.*
- *Infrastructure development on the Common that supports sustainable urban development and a community hub.*
- *Partnership of the public, private and community spheres to oversee a long term proactive administration.*
- *A community supported city farm that demonstrates sustainable agriculture with organic production as the ultimate aim.*
- *Education in sustainable land management for local schools, tertiary sector and other forms of life long learning.*

The Common has lots of potential to incorporate some of the best initiatives from around the world and the above visions could very easily be showcased by:-

- *Best practice urban organic farming of vegetables, cattle, and sheep together with a small dairy all having an emphasis on sustainable education. (Set up an EGG-Educational Green Garden. Copy Peter Andrew's Natural Sequence Farming techniques. Incorporate working with Noel Pearson for training for Queensland's aboriginals and local community people)*
- *A sub-tropical fruit orchard planted with assistance from Sub-Tropical Fruit Club of Qld Inc.*
- *Hardwood and softwood trees planted similar to the hoop pines in Secret Forest area of the Common.*
- *A Community Hub Sustainability Centre. (Copy Jim McKnoulty's PPM's sustainable large house design at Seventeen Mile Rocks, Brisbane with architect design & solar panels, grey water etc and also copy commercial venture The Agridome Tourist Farm in Rotorua, N.Z. on ways to make things pay for themselves long term.*
- *Outlet for selling locally produced organic food, local crafts etc – perhaps in the Community Hub building (look at Denmark, W.A. where Community and Community Capital has been built all at the same time – talk with Basil Shur) or (copy Damanhur in Italy where a whole valley is heading towards sustainability and at the same time coming alive by becoming self sufficient and resilient again.)*

- *Micro Enterprise Development* started by encouraging community creativity and enterprise development-eg cheese making (Gain advice from DPI's community cheese maker and micro enterprise advice from expert Bob Neville.)
- *Lease office space in Community Hub* to New Economic Foundation, Vauxhall, UK who could be asked to set up an Australian office.
- *Warehouse space set aside* for community minded company *Food Connect* who supply boxes of food direct from small organic farmers surrounding Brisbane to households now. Will pay lease costs as they lease now at Salisbury – contact Robert Pekin.
- *Warehouse space set aside for a Green/Black Sustainable House Building Arm of Spiral Community Hub* of West End -contact architect Steph Zannakis (may work in conjunction with Noel Pearson &/or TAFE)
- *Warehouse space* for a woodworking group to operate.
- *Space for various community groups* to hold meetings – maybe in the Community Hub.
- *Affordable sustainable housing* (as indicated on Department of Public Works' Edaw/Skim's November 2003 draft strategic plan and look at UK's BedZED model for urban sustainability for some ideas)
- *Latest wind turbine & new energy technologies* which would complement the demonstration of local food production (copy CERES in Melbourne or copy Findhorn Foundation's Sustainable Village in Scotland)
- *Walking and riding tracts changed & extended* into several interesting connecting circuits so city folk could casually view and therefore better understand rural practices as they take a walk or ride.