

My name is Greg Rankine, and I have been a volunteer firefighter in the Perth Hills for near on 20 years. I am not representing my brigade, I am here with my own opinions based on my experience fighting fires.

The North Stoneville Plan 34 is Dangerous because

- It is at great risk of ember attack
- And the road network can not safety evacuate another 4000 people.

If this development is approved.... people will die.

The developer's strategy is to clear about 200 hectares of Australian bush, cut down the trees build 1450 houses call it a low risk fire zone. This is naive and irresponsible because this proposed development will come under ember attack from a fire in the surrounding extreme fire risk zone.

It only takes a slightly open wheelie bin...outdoor furniture...clothes on the line, kids plastic toys... nylon flyscreen's' or an air conditioner and the while place will burn. And once one house catches fire, others will catch fire due to radiant heat. The developer told me that these homes will be built 1m apart. Well as soon as one house catches fire, the radiant heat will ignite next door. And so on, and so on. So we will have the 1666 Great Fire of London all over again.

We need to learn from history.

So when all these houses start catching fire, and everyone is trying to get out, on these narrow streets with cars parked, there will be mass panic. Imaging a mother with kids in the car trying to get out. There's flames, noise, adrenaline, panic, kids are crying. This exact situation happened to my wife in the 2008 fire, which the Shire Officers report does not even mention.

Suddenly, the smoke comes in, you can't see and you rear end someone. This happened on the Ledge Point fire on Australia Day 2003, and Volunteer Fire Fighter, Captain of the Ocean Farm Brigade, Craig Sandy, lost his life.

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What's that mother going to do to preserve her life and the lives of her children? She will do whatever she can. And in this noisy, scary, adrenaline fueled panic, she will probably have an accident, running into cars, driving into a ditch, and she will be stuck with no way to escape.

This happened in the King Lake fire in Victoria, where out of the 180 deaths, 21 were found in, or next to their burnt out, crashed cars. These people either cooked to death in their cars, or died due to breathing in all the chemicals as the plastics in the cars melted.

History will judge, based on the decisions that are made.

We need to learn from history.

Remember the traffic chaos of the 2014 Stoneville fire?

We need to learn from history.

Plan 34 is dangerous.

There will be a fire in this area in the future and Fire doesn't follow a plan or instructions and People will die.

Lives are in your hands.