

SE Business
HD CITY BEAT
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WC 398 words
PD 10 December 2014
SN Courier Mail
SC COUMAI
ED CourierMail
PG 47
LA English
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PEACE REIGNS Peace, if not happiness, has returned to Kangaroo Point.

David Devine's Metro **Property** Development has reached a truce with the area residents' association, which waged a losing battle to stop one of the **company**'s planned unit towers.

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Devine revealed yesterday that he won't chase the **group** for his \$400,000 legal tab, while the residents pledged not to appeal against the Planning and Environment Court ruling last month which approved the project.

The residents have also agreed not to challenge any future amendments to the development approval.

That's a key point since Metro has **sold** the Lambert St **property** and another **site** for \$65 million to **Chinese** developers, who can now build the 20-storey high-rise.

Devine, in a barb aimed at his critics, said it was "disappointing that it has taken so long to get to this position".

Resident David Murray, a local architect who previously denounced the proposed tower as "an absolute town planning disgrace", declined to comment yesterday.

Murray and his neighbours had passed the hat to raise \$120,000 for a legal fighting fund in their ill-fated bid to stop the \$122 million Riverview Towers development.

MORRISON ON **BOARD** The Queensland Symphony Orchestra has added a bit of firepower to its **board**. Chair Greg Wanchap said legendary trumpeter James Morrison (pictured) and UQ music school head Margaret Barrett have both accepted roles as directors.

"It is an absolute coup to have them both," Wanchap said.

They join other heavy hitters on the **board**, including AEG Ogden's Rod Pilbeam and Australia Pacific LNG's Page Maxson.

PAYDAY SLAP DOWN More than 2000 consumers, including plenty in Queensland, will be getting money back from a payday lender pounced on by the corporate watchdog.

ASIC said yesterday that a mob known as Fast Easy Loans will cough up nearly \$478,000 that it had charged in prohibited brokerage fees.

Over nearly three years to last June, the **company** acted as the broker for a related lender, Easy Finance Loans, and charged fees above certain rate caps. It also operated without a required credit licence. ASIC has ramped up its campaign against the industry over the past four years and seen

nearly \$2 million paid back by various lenders to more than 10,000 consumers. Nearly \$120,000 in fines have also been levied.

NS gcat : Political/General News

RE austr : Australia | apacz : Asia Pacific | ausnz : Australia/Oceania

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