



### Cadet program soldiers on

THE search is on for new recruits at Southport Army Cadets.

Southport's 139 Army Cadet Unit offers those aged more than 12½ a chance to gain an insight into the defence forces through its recruitment program. This year the program will cater for up to 80 new recruits.

"We are looking for anyone who is keen to have a go," said Captain

(AAC) Jason Taylor. "Recruits learn a range of skills including navigation, first-aid, radio skills, drill, ceremonies and marching, customs and traditions of the defence forces."

The recruitment program will run every Wednesday at Currumb Palm Beach High School for one school term. Call Captain Jason Taylor on 0417 317 417 for details.

# Eddy furious at bid to 'pay for' developers

A FURIOUS finance chairman, Cr Eddy Sarroff, has hit out at movers to save developers tens of millions of dollars annually - at ratepayers' expense.

By MERILYN MacKENZIE

council candidates in a bid to get a developer-friendly team in council.

Cr Sarroff said if a moratorium was implemented by the city's new council, ratepayers would be picking up the tab for tens of millions of dollars in lost contributions.

Cr David Power also said Cr Sarroff's "inade was off the mark".

Cr Power said the main concern was some developers currently in the decision making process were being charged retrospectively.

transport infrastructure alone in coming years would top \$2 billion.

Deputy Mayor Alan Rickard said if the Gold Coast was to maintain its lifestyle, it would need to finance a large amount of new, upgraded and catch-up infrastructure in the future.



COSTLY ... for city, says Cr Eddy Sarroff.

Councillors Sarroff and Peter Young say they were astounded by a proposal for a moratorium on new infrastructure charges placed on developers.

Cr Sarroff said if a moratorium was implemented by the city's new council, ratepayers would be picking up the tab for tens of millions of dollars in lost contributions.

"A moratorium on charges that we have already implemented and many in the industry have started to pay is absolutely outrageous," said Cr Sarroff.

"The charge, if not picked up by the industry, will be picked up by the ratepayers."

"There was never any suggestion to have a moratorium. That was a suggestion written up by the officers after concerns were raised by the Mayor and myself and other councillors on the retrospective of charges," said Cr Power.

Developers have reportedly held meetings with some councillors in recent times, calling for new charges for roads, sewerage, water supply and recreational facilities to be reconsidered.

"At present our developer charges are lower than those interstate and we are recognised as a low-rated council in a low-rated state with a rapidly growing population," said Cr Rickard.

Ratepayers go to the polls this Saturday and a new council will in April pick up where the old council left off.

Rumours have run rife that developers are investing hundreds of thousands of dollars in

But Mayor Gary Baildon said there was no suggestion the infrastructure charges would be dropped - rather that some charges incurred by developers had been retrospective and therefore unfair.

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As your voice in Council over the past four years I have delivered honest and open representation for the residents of Division 12.

With your support and input I look forward to the challenge of continuing to create the balance that has made Division 12 the most sought after place to live on the Gold Coast.

**KEEP PETE**