

End of road for Joe's

By DENNIS CLOUGH

NEARLY 1000 people attended a rally in the car park of Farmer Joe's Country Market on Saturday to protest the business's forced closure and other resumptions in Kedron and Gordon Park due to the Airport Link and Northern Busway projects.

Spokesman for the Save Our Suburb 4031 (SOS4031) association Michael Brown said the group organised the rally to raise community awareness on the impact of the construction of both projects.

SOS4031 members addressed the crowd, as did Farmer Joe's co-owner David Vedelago.

Brisbane City Councillor Fiona King was the only elected official to attend.

Mr Brown said a petition with around 3000 signatures

would be presented to Premier Anna Bligh this week.

Mr Vedelago used his address to thank his staff and customers.

Mr Vedelago said his main concern was negotiating a settlement with the Department of Main Roads over the closure of his business, which will shut on August 15 after operating at the site for nearly 30 years.

He said he and cousins Julian and Christiaan were using business contacts to find jobs for as many of their 80 staff as possible.

A spokeswoman for State Planning and Infrastructure Minister and Member for Stafford Stirling Hinchliffe said Mr Hinchliffe had been invited to Saturday's rally but was unable to attend due to an earlier appointment.



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■ Unhappy . . . Peter Birt has his say.

