



## **TRANSIT ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT A NECESSARY RESPONSE TO SYDNEY'S HOUSING PRESSURES**

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Following the completion of its inquiry into the utilisation of rail corridors, the Transport and Infrastructure Committee has recommended that transit oriented development around train stations and along rail corridors should be actively encouraged by both state and local government in New South Wales.

The Chair of the Committee, Mr Charles Casuscelli RFD MP, said "It has been clear for many years that there is enormous demand in New South Wales for housing close to public transport centres as well as to schools, shops and workplaces. Through the Committee's inquiry into the possible uses of rail corridors for development, we have found that transit oriented developments, particularly those around public transport centres, can create liveable, walkable neighbourhoods which meet the needs of 21<sup>st</sup> century city dwellers."

"The time is now for Government to support transit oriented development as an essential component in both urban planning and urban renewal because of the clear social, economic and environmental benefits such development can provide."

Mr Casuscelli continued: "The recent decision by the NSW Government to integrate Landcom and the Sydney Metropolitan Development Authority into a new development focused organisation, UrbanGrowth NSW, is opportune and shows a commitment to urban renewal in our state. We believe UrbanGrowth NSW will be extremely well placed to promote specific opportunities for development, particularly at transport centres, and to work with developers, investors and the community to achieve a balance between commercial development and benefits to local communities."

The Committee also found that the airspace above and the land adjacent to rail corridors often exist as 'lazy' government assets that provide an insufficient return to the state. The Committee found that appropriately identified rail corridor areas, through correct planning and collaboration with the private sector, could be activated to generate funding for future transport infrastructure projects.

Copies of the report can be obtained from [www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/transportandinfrastructure](http://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/transportandinfrastructure) .

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