#### LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE NO. 7 – PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT

### **MEDIA RELEASE**

# SUBMISSIONS NOW OPEN FOR NEW INQUIRY INTO THE TRANSPORT ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 26 FEBRUARY 2024

An upper house committee is calling for submissions for its inquiry into the NSW government's Transport Oriented Development program.

Chair of the Committee, Ms Sue Higginson MLC, said: 'Increasing the supply of homes is critical to addressing the housing crisis in New South Wales. However, it is important that planning approaches are carefully thought out and respond to the needs of local communities. This inquiry will investigate how and why the government selected the eight accelerated precincts under the Transport Oriented Development Program, as well as the 31 precincts slated for the new Transport Oriented Development State Environmental Planning Policy'.

Ms Higginson continued: 'The committee will also be critically assessing how the Transport Oriented Development program was developed. This includes whether there was adequate consultation with affected stakeholders, including councils, regional communities, renters, key workers and young people, and whether impacts on heritage and environment have been properly considered. We will also be looking at how the Transport Oriented Development Program fits with other planning policies in NSW and nationally'.

Ms Higginson added: 'In addition, this inquiry will also scrutinise governance aspects of the Transport Oriented Development program, to make sure the right processes are in place. These include probity measures, information control protocols, property disclosure requirements and management, and the adequacy of measures to deter and punish the misuse of confidential market sensitive government information'.

### Have your say

The committee is calling for public submissions until **28 March 2024**. The committee intends to publish its final report by 27 September 2024.

Further information about the inquiry, including the full terms of reference, is available on the committee's <u>website</u>.

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For further information please contact Committee Chair, Ms Sue Higginson MLC, on (02) 9230 2273.