

INQUIRY INTO NEW SOUTH WALES PLANNING FRAMEWORK

Organisation: Campbelltown City Council
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27 March 2009

Ms Rachelle Simpson
Director - Standing Committee on State Development
Legislative Council
Parliament House Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Madam,

Inquiry into the New South Wales Planning Framework

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Inquiry being conducted into the NSW Planning Framework.

Campbelltown City Council has taken a strong interest in the recent amendments affecting the NSW Planning Legislation, and has provided detailed comments to the NSW Department of Planning as part of discussion paper process undertaken earlier this year. In this regard, Council has generally been supportive of the planning reform initiative, particularly where amendments are likely to result in improvements to the effectiveness of the overall planning system.

However, Council has previously raised a number of concerns with the Department regarding the implications of the NSW planning reforms, including such matters as:

- an absence of implementation details;
- reduced Local Council involvement in planning decisions;
- reduced accountability of private certifiers;
- increased resource impacts on Local Government; and
- the potential for increased complexity in the development approval process and the potential for associated process delays.

In addition, Council has also expressed concerns regarding the suspended commitment by the NSW Government to provide necessary public infrastructure to service the targeted urban growth areas identified under the Sydney Metropolitan Strategy. In particular, Council views with strong concern the recent decision of the government to defer the delivery of the South-West rail link to service the increased transport demands generated by the South-West Growth Centre. In this regard, it is requested that the standing committee investigates whether it would be appropriate for the NSW planning legislation to mandate the delivery of vital public infrastructure necessary for urban growth targets to be attained in accordance with the principles of sustainable development.

Whilst it is noted that no recommendations of the standing committee have been provided, it is requested that Council be given the opportunity to further comment on the findings and any recommendations resulting from this inquiry.

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Thank you again for consulting Campbelltown City Council on this matter. Should you have any further enquiries on the above, please contact Jeff Lawrence, Council's Director of Planning and Environment on (02) 4645 4575.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Tosi', followed by a long horizontal flourish.

Paul Tosi
General Manager