

Media Release



22 February 2008

UDIA NSW Policy Agenda 2008

UDIA NSW launched its Policy Agenda 2008 today. The policy is about creating affordable new communities for the people of NSW.

Mr Scott Woodcock, UDIA NSW Executive Director said that “the Policy Agenda contains 21 recommendations that if pursued will generate a more balanced and equitable regulatory and economic framework for the provision of new communities in NSW. The policy proudly advocates the interests of the developer and the homebuyer.”

“NSW’s economic recovery has been mired in a morass of regulation. Genuine reform is needed now to create the certainty, transparency and timeliness that other states and competing cities take for granted.”

The Policy Agenda demands that planning reform go further, that alternative equitable infrastructure financing methods be pursued, that public transport be improved and that government operate as a single voice.

Mr Ross Blancato, UDIA NSW President said “that the state government may not be able to achieve housing affordability in isolation. Infrastructure for the growth centres is estimated to cost \$7.8 billion. The Commonwealth Government will collect at least \$8 billion in GST from those new homebuyers. Why should new homebuyers be taxed twice for infrastructure? There is a better way.”

Mr Blancato continued, “urban development creates employment, critical infrastructure and housing. Contemporary estates often rehabilitate contaminated land, protect remnant vegetation and conserve energy and water by adherence to BASIX. This is our future. It is time to help new homebuyers by helping developers make it happen.”

The Policy Agenda 2008 was compiled by the UDIA NSW Council in consultation with its members and is a comprehensive representation of the views of the urban development industry. UDIA NSW is the Voice of Development.

For a copy of the submission, go to <http://www.udia-nsw.com.au/html/33022.cfm>

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