



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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**For immediate release**

## **PLANNING REVIEW ASKS THE RIGHT QUESTIONS**

The authors of the NSW Planning Review Issues Paper have done a thorough job in their consultation process and are posing the right questions about the way forward for development in NSW, the development industry says.

The Urban Development Institute of Australia NSW says the Issues Paper, released today, asks what planning framework can be established to ensure more effective co-operation between councils, government agencies, the community and developers.

“They have asked the right questions, to get the right answers,” said UDIA NSW CEO Stephen Albin.

UDIA NSW has advocated, in its submission to the Planning Review, that an efficient and transparent planning system is crucial to economic and housing growth in NSW.

Mr Albin said he welcomed the inclusion in the Issues Paper of numerous references to both strategic planning, and consultation during the plan-making stage.

“We argue that strategic development plans would play a crucial in a new planning system by providing clear policy direction and objectives that will foster economic growth in this state, while balancing this growth with positive social and environmental outcomes,” he said.

“UDIA also believes that a coordinated approach to this plan making, providing greater emphasis on consultation between State and local government agencies as well as the community, will increase the confidence for further investment by the development industry in this state.”

“The Issues Paper makes it clear both issues are being seriously considered, as well as the potential to enshrine in law the role of strategic plans.”

Mr Albin said UDIA NSW would be making a detailed submission to the questions contained in the issues paper, and praised the Planning Review co-chairs for a thorough consultation with industry stakeholders to date.

“All in all this is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to fix the Planning Act and the process is moving ahead,” he said.

“At the end of the day the questions posed are going to require some detailed thought behind them to ensure that we capitalize on this opportunity.”

For an interview with UDIA NSW CEO Stephen Albin, please call UDIA NSW Media and Communications Manager Kara Lawrence on (02) 9262 1214 or 0403 871 123.