



NEW SOUTH WALES

MEDIA RELEASE

The Hon Frank Sartor MP

Minister for Planning

Minister for Redfern Waterloo

Minister for the Arts

5 February 2008

VISION FOR PENRITH DELIVERED: 10,000 NEW JOBS

State Plan Priority E5: Jobs closer to home

State Plan Priority E6: Housing affordability

State Plan Priority E4: Better environmental outcomes

State Plan Priority E8: More people using parks, sporting and recreational facilities

The Lemma Government has delivered a 25-year plan for the Penrith city centre which is designed to support 10,000 new jobs, thousands of new homes and a new town square.

Planning Minister Frank Sartor said the plans for Penrith were part of an initiative to build a strong network of regional cities outside of the Sydney CBD.

Detailed visions have also been finalised for Liverpool, Parramatta, Wollongong, Gosford and Newcastle.

“The Government is committed to boosting job, housing and lifestyle opportunities in these cities to help families,” Mr Sartor said.

“This 25-year vision for Penrith will ensure it continues to grow as a key regional centre for business investment and an attractive riverside city.”

The Department of Planning, with input from Penrith Council, developed four key draft documents which were released for community comment.

A new Penrith Local Environmental Plan has been gazetted and a City Centre Vision, Development Control Plan and Civic Improvement Plan have also been completed.

Member for Penrith Karyn Paluzzano said the new plan for the city centre was great news for local families.

“This plan will be a boost to our local economy, create more jobs closer to home and help to address housing affordability locally,” Ms Paluzzano said.

“The NSW Government has already recognised Penrith as a key regional city, and improving our city centre – and the opportunities for local families – will benefit the entire Western Sydney region.”

Penrith City Mayor Greg Davies welcomed the gazettal of the LEP.

“Significant development proposals from major companies have been poised awaiting this decision and they can now be unleashed,” Cr Davies said.

“Penrith City is officially ‘open for business’ and council will start work on civic improvement initiatives, to make Penrith more attractive and a vibrant place that people will want to visit, live and work in.”

Key elements of the city centre plan include:

- 10,000 new jobs by 2031 with a focus on high growth industries such as business services, health, education, retail, tourism and cultural activities;
- 10,000 new residents in the city centre by 2031;
- A new town square and park between Henry and High Streets;
- Reconnecting Penrith to the Nepean River to create a riverfront leisure and entertainment precinct;
- Developing education precincts, including Nepean Hospital and the University of Western Sydney;
- Increased residential and commercial floor space in the city centre;
- Architectural design competitions for key sites;
- Reconnecting the city to the Nepean River through an extension of public space through Woodriff Gardens; and
- Building design to preserve views to the Blue Mountains from the city centre.

The Penrith LEP has undergone some minor changes following public exhibition including:

- A childcare centre will be permitted in a proposed 'community hub precinct' in the heart of the city centre where a new park and improved community facilities are proposed; and
- More hotel accommodation, commercial and some retail activities will be permitted on the northern section of the Parkview site.