



NEW SOUTH WALES

MEDIA RELEASE

The Hon Frank Sartor MP

Minister for Planning

Minister for Redfern Waterloo

Minister for Science and Medical Research

Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)

1 February, 2007

NSW GOVT DELIVERS WOLLONGONG PLAN TO 2031

State Plan Priority E5: Jobs closer to home. **State Plan Priority E6:** Housing affordability

State Plan Priority P6: Increased business investment in rural and regional NSW

State Plan Priority E4: Better environmental outcomes.

The NSW Government today delivered the final 25-year vision for the Wollongong City Centre, to generate new business, investment, cultural and recreational opportunities.

The final Wollongong City Centre Plan supports 10,000 jobs and an additional 6,000 new residents by 2031.

"This final vision aims to create a 'living city' with a thriving economy which is the engine-room of the Illawarra region," Mr Sartor said.

"It is a major step towards achieving Premier Morris Iemma's commitment to establish a strong network of six key regional cities in NSW.

"Together with the Illawarra Regional Strategy, the Wollongong vision will help to achieve key priorities in the State Plan, including supporting more jobs closer to home and increased business investment in regional NSW.

"It will also inform the State Infrastructure Strategy, which will be periodically reviewed, to determine future infrastructure priorities for the Illawarra."

Minister Sartor said Member for Wollongong Noreen Hay was integral to the development of the new City Centre vision, including the Local Environmental Plan.

"Noreen Hay provided invaluable input to this process, pushing hard to ensure Wollongong business opportunities expand into the future," Mr Sartor said.

"I would also like to thank Wollongong City Council for working cooperatively with the Department of Planning throughout this process.

"It is a good example of local and state governments achieving major wins for the local community."

Member for Wollongong Noreen Hay welcomed the release of the final Wollongong city centre vision, saying it would be a boost for families in the region.

"More local jobs will help to reduce the flow of commuters out of the region each day, meaning people can spend more time with their families," Ms Hay said.

“This is an important plan to help secure Wollongong’s long-term future as the capital of a prosperous region.”

The final City Centre Plan consists of four strategic documents: a City Centre Vision, Local Environmental Plan (LEP), Development Control Plan and Civic Improvement Plan.

The Civic Improvement Plan includes a range of major upgrades to the city, such as improvements to Crown Street, the City Beach waterfront and Wollongong Railway Station.

The final Development Control Plan sets urban design guidelines for new landscaping, heritage conservation works, tower separations and more.

The Wollongong City Centre vision was adjusted to reflect community feedback during public consultation, including:

- Six sites will now be subject to a design competition – with the addition of the North Wollongong Railway Station and the site at the corner of Keira and Flinders Streets;
- Increased maximum residential floor space ratio (FSR); and
- The formula used to calculate floor space ratio in the Commercial Core and City Edge zones has been simplified.